Liverpool Irish Festival

England & Wales · Charity number 1100126

Details

Other names	LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL SOCIETY COMPANY LIMITED
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	04800736
Registered	2003-10-17
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	The Black E 1 Great George Street Liverpool L1 5EW
Phone	01517222377
Website	www.liverpoolirishfestival.com

Activities

Objects: THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE ARTS OF MUSIC, DRAMA, LITERATURE AND THE PLASTIC ARTS, IN PARTICULAR BUT WITHOUT LIMITATION TO THE GENERALITY THEREOF THOSE ARTS ORIGINATING OR DEVELOPED IN THE ISLAND OF IRELAND

Activities: The principal activity of the Charity is to celebrate the links between Liverpool and Ireland via the development of a permanent, annual event to highlight the significance of Irish traditions, music, literature, theatre and art in defining Liverpool's culture and status as a great European city.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, The General Public/mankind

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Geography

- Knowsley
- Liverpool City
- Sefton
- St Helens
- Wirral

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£132,025	£168,302	-	-
2023-12-31	£108,292	£111,642	-	-
2022-12-31	£107,164	£127,790	-	-
2021-12-31	£117,775	£99,816	-	-
2020-12-31	£107,060	£57,424	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dr ANN HOSKINS	Chair	2023-12-12
Clare McGrath		2022-06-14
Gerard Martin Diver		2021-12-14
JOHN ANDRE CHANDLER		
Martin James Bond		2020-08-24
Mary Josephine Hickman		2016-02-24
Oliver Jordan Hall		2023-08-29
Patsy Anne Connor		2022-07-13

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Liverpool Irish Festival

England & Wales - Charity number 1100126

Accounts

Company Registration Number - 4800736

The Charity Registration Number is :- 1100126

Liverpool Irish Festival

Report and Accounts

31 December 2024

Liverpool Irish Festival

Report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

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Liverpool Irish Festival

Company Registration Number - 4800736

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

The Trustees present their Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024, which also comprises the Directors' Report required by the Companies Act 2006.

Reference and administrative details

The charity name.

The legal name of the charity is:- Liverpool Irish Festival.
The charity is also known by its operating name, Liverpool Irish Festival.

The charity's areas operation and UK charitable registration.

The charity is registered in England & Wales with the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW) with charity number 1100126.

The charity does not operate in any overseas jurisdictions.

Legal structure of the charity

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee, registered under the Companies Acts . The governing document of the charity is the Memorandum and Articles of Association establishing the company under company legislation.
There are no restrictions in the governing documents on the operation of the Charity or on its investment powers other than those imposed by Charity Law.

By operation of law all, trustees are directors under the Companies Act 2006 and all directors are trustees under Charities legislation and have responsibilities, as such, under both company and charity legislation.

The trustees are all individuals.

The principal operating address, telephone number, email and web addresses of the charity are:-

FF9 Northern Lights
5 Mann Street, Liverpool
L8 5AF
Telephone T: 01517222377
Email Address info@liverpoolirishfestival.com Web address www.liverpoolirishfestival.com
The registered office of the charity for Companies Act purposes is the same as the operating address shown above.

The Trustees in office on the date the report was approved were:-

Martin Bond
John Chandler (Chair until 29/2/2024)
Patsy Connor
Gerard Diver
Oliver Hall
Professor Mary Hickman
Dr Ann Hoskins (Chair from 01/3/2024)
Eamonn Lavin
Clare McGrath

Liverpool Irish Festival

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Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

The following persons served as Trustees during the year ended 31 December 2024 :-

The trustees who served as a trustee in the reporting period were as shown above, and there were no changes during the year, or in the period between the year end and the approval of the accounts.

At the Annual General Meeting Gerard Diver and Eamonn Lavin retire as trustees, but are eligible for reappointment.

All the trustees are also members of the charity.

Objects and activities of the charity

The purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document.

The advancement of the
* arts in music, drama, literature and the plastic arts, in particular but without limitation to the generality thereof those arts originating or developed in the island of Ireland
* education of the public in these arts by the encouragement of their performance and display
* education of the public in the arts of music, drama, literature and the plastic arts, in particular but without limitation to the generality thereof those arts originating or developed in the island of Ireland.

The main activities undertaken during the year to further the charity's purpose for the public benefit.

The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in managing the activities of the charity.

The main activities and achievements of the charity during the year and the difference the charity's performance has made to the beneficiaries of the charity and benefitted wider society.

Festival overview – programme and audiences

Liverpool Irish Festival's 2024 theme was "arrivals" drawing on Liverpool's status as a host city for Irish — and other — people over multiple generations. As ever, people were engaged by discussions, concepts and interactions intended to reduce isolation, embrace technology and acknowledge change. Our four strands of work continued, showcasing 1) *In:Visible Women,* 2) *Nook and Cranny Spaces* 3) *Family Days* and 4) the *Liverpool Irish Famine Trail*, enriching the programme.

Of 2024's 49 Festival events (2023: 51; 2022:60) plus seven exhibits (2023: 6; 2022: 9), eight were live virtual events (2024: 9; 2022:11). Though we worked hard on a further 11 events (not featured in the above counts), they were unable to proceed based on funding or other resourcing issues. The marginal decrease in event count reflects a lower budget and the continued loss of eight *Pride of Sefton* boat tours (these *may* return in 2025).

Our 2024 events offer generated an audience of **54,581** (+ 1,499 of app and online viewers = 56,080) without including all those that we walked with in Ireland (c. 1k) for *The Walk of the Bronze Shoes* (May 2024). (2023: 46,592 +148 views-to-date; 2022: 32,243+1,690 (40,933); 2021: 25,915+8,703 (34,621) and 2020: 23,323 (pre VTDs)). This is a year-on-year growth of 17% (over 20% if you include app users and *YouTube* viewers)!

Liverpool Irish Festival

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Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

Our longstanding vision of improving public realm, high-profile work was tested this year with seven public exhibitions and activism. Our continued partnership with Bluecoat Display Centre provided a physical, month-long exhibit. Whilst not in major galleries, our additional exhibits added valuable content for our audience. Combined, we developed 230 exhibition days, including *#GlobalGreening* (2023: 127; 2022: 237; 2021: 66; 2020: 87; 2019: 89). The Festival's primary difficulty in securing public realm and exhibition terms is the long lead times needed by venues versus the Festival's continued 'project' status.

We have returned to pre-COVID *#GlobalGreening* visitor figures returning to our 2019 standard population multiplier (0.39%), based on a return to pre-COVID figures in our sector. This presents a 2024 visitor figure of 41,968 compared with 2023's 37,586. Civic response remains active with 18 lightings (2023: 17).

LCR Pride expanded again, rising from 20k to 25k. We coordinated a march, with a cohort of Irish services, and — using a sight rate of 15% — believe we were seen by more than 3.5k people.

These figures mean the Festival attracted more than 7.7k (2023: 4.4k) people to its events, despite a volatile ticket buying climate, cost of living crisis and local/global politics.

Liverpool's October calendar remains competitive, with
- *Black History Month* throughout and *Liverpool Biennial* alternate years), followed closely by *Homotopia* and *DaDaFest*
- increasing numbers of Hallowe'en events, with commercial venues diluting city event messages
- football schedules
- and half-terms, affecting travel out of the city.

Funding news

Events were on-sale by early September. For green and economic reasons we changed printing approaches. We printed 25k A2 fold out leaflets and just 2.5k 40-page newspapers. (2023: 60k A2-folded leaflets delivered to 55k Merseyside homes atop 7k 56-page newspapers, delivered to participating venues; 2022: 30k 46-page newspaper run with 28k delivered to homes; 2021: 30k 36-page newspaper delivered into homes). With rising costs in materials, print and postage/distribution this cost the same as 2022. Funding was the key driver for the decrease, but without funding for PR it was important to maximise all channels.

We made 18 funding applications (2023:10), including two sponsorships, totalling £260,721.67 (2023: £274,819.6) and were awarded £59,809 or 22.94% (2023: £129,963 or 47%; 2022: £947,265 bringing in £110,380 or 14%; 2021: £1,068,372 bringing in £115,183 or 10.8%), before multiyear funding from City Council. Greater detail on this can be found in **Funding**. 8 of 18 bids (2023: 7 of 10) received funding. Importantly, our new Chair brought in £5k in 2024 from housing association Plus Dane, another direction for us to pursue.

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

It is worth noting 2024 was a resource heavy year. With the *National Lottery Heritage Fund* project, a large programme and several exhibitions — teamed with the quick turnaround *Walk of the Bronze Shoes* — restricted the time available for new applications, sky-scanning and income growth. In its place, we gained international reputational value, delivered on our grant outcomes and met funder output requirements.

After our 2023 *National Lottery Heritage Funds (NLHF)* success, work expanded the *Liverpool Irish Famine Trail.* A new book — worked on throughout 2024 — will be released in 2025, along with an Irish Government funded documentary (£11.5k). In 2024, we released a new app and maintained our incredible voluntary *History Research Group*, who have undertaken 1,780 hours+ of volunteer time since 2021. All this work has deepened our relationship with *Strokestown National Famine Museum* and Trail which led to *The Walk of the Bronze Shoes* and the beginning of the *Global Irish Famine Way*.

On HR management, we have sustained a volunteer Board, expanding to nine (2023:7); recruited and sustained a volunteer team of 15 across front-of-house and Liverpool Irish Famine Trail (2023: 13) roles and maintained a paid History Research Group lead. We have secured a new Chair, Dr Ann Hoskins, moving John Chandler to Board Secretary to keep his valuable experience nearby. We have sustained our part-time Festival Co-ordinator, following renewed funding from the Irish Government (£10k of a needed £15,725PA).

Year-on-year context

- 2024 18 grant applications including two sponsorships totalling an ask amount of £260,720
- 2023 nine grant applications and one sponsorship totalling an ask amount of £274,850 (this looks low, but in previous years we made multi-year *ACE NPO* and *UK Community Renewal Fund* applications, which vastly increased the total applied for)
- 2022 nine grant applications and one sponsorship totalling an ask amount of £947,265
- 2021 15 grant applications and one sponsorship totalling an ask amount of £1,068,372
- 2020 22 grant applications and one sponsorship totalling an ask amount of £393.7k.

Demonstrating our shift in ambition, time investment and energy, we have made more ambitious asks in the last few years, approaching fewer small funds/funders. Using an ‘ask to grant’ calculation, we have increased our success rate from 10.78% in 2021 (2022: 13.87%, 2023: 42%) to 22.94% in 2024.

2023’s increase was due to a largescale *National Lottery Heritage Fund* win. Anecdotally, our peers in the sector seem to run at about a 10% success rate.
Our *Arts Council England (ACE)* national portfolio approach of 2022 and unsuccessful 2023 and 2024 bids altered our **Business Plan**, marking our most significant year-on-year losses.

This follows a lobbying approach to ACE in 2023 — via *Irish In Britain* — after zero Irish organisations were awarded national portfolio status, following our in-depth conversations with them about Irishness as a protected characteristic. *Irish In Britain’s* findings were disappointing, so we have pursued further conversations with *ACE*, who outline their grant-making priority as redressing imbalances for Black and disabled people as their priority.

Using this learning, we are strategising new approaches to *ACE,* to begin early in 2025, which involve refocusing protected character status and applying for a higher number of smaller, discrete bids to fund parts of our project rather than the Festival as a whole.

Liverpool Irish Festival

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Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

Decision making and successes

At Board level we made the decision to deliver 2023 and 2024's Festival without *ACE* funding, which we would underwrite with our reserves, grown in previous years, but being as frugal as we could. Alternative approaches in 2025 will include more applications for smaller, specific projects within the Festival rather than a 'whole Festival' approach. Though this may mean more work in terms of application and evaluation counts, this allows us to split our risk and will ordinarily benefit from shorter decision periods.

In 2024, we were successful with
- sustaining *City Council Cultural Arts Investment Programme* (CAIP), being awarded a multi-year bid submitted for 2023-2026, including £20,347 in 2024. They also asked for consultation on their forms, naming us one of their best 'form fillers'
- an uplift in Irish Government *Emigrant Support Funding* from £25k to just under £29.7k across four applications. One continues core funding; one provides two-thirds funding for a part-time Festival Coordinator, another a contribution towards work on the *Liverpool Irish Famine Trail* and the last provides a contribution for running the *#CCEN*
- growing *Tourism Ireland* sponsorship and advertising to £3,500
- balanced the £99.5k grant from *The National Lottery Heritage Fund* to further develop assets for the *Liverpool Irish Famine Trail*. This has been a significant addition to our grant funding, and secures our *History Research Group* until Jan2025, when we will need to raise another application.

Ticket buying audiences continue to present concerns; a lack of industry evidence on Liverpool's ticketing means comparison is difficult, though anecdotally we know compared with football or celebrity names 'culture' is a hard sell in Liverpool, in part on account of the amount of free activity available.

Net ticket income generated via Eventbrite, for the 17 (2023: 17; 2022:30) events the Festival ticket-managed, raised £3,861(2023 and 2022: £2.5k; 2020: £528 across 15 events). Advertising garnered £2,000 (2023: £2,400; 2022: £1,850) up on COVID years, but still down on pre-COVID times. This included £1,000 from *St Helens Libraries*.

The Festival developed 24 programme related commissions, with a further 12 developed for the *Liverpool Irish Famine Trail* app, totalling 36. These include photo-stories, articles, podcasts, films and songs, whilst a book and documentary are in the making (2023: 32; 2022: 42; 2021: 34; 2020: 31; 2019: 21). All this on a turnover of £124,411 (2023: £114,869; 2022: £104,457; 2021: £89,050; 2020: £104,184; 2019: £78,228). Significant to this is c.£50k of *National Lottery Heritage Fund*, secured in 2023 but delivered in 2024.

Managing to apply for 18 funds in 2024 — on top of a heavy delivery schedule as outlined above — is noteworthy, especially in the context of reviewing our unrestricted reserves. Our success with bids in 2023 meant 2024 was primed for delivery, rather than fundraising. Such peaks and troughs in capacity are to be expected when it is so limited, forcing 'either-or' scenarios, e.g., delivery or fundraising. Weighing up delivery needs against fundraising capability should be factored for 2025's application, to mitigate risk of overwhelm and under-resourcing.

We continue to believe our Festival is unique in its field. We remain the only arts and culture *led* Irish festival in the world. Our specificity is critical: celebrating Liverpool's unique connection with Irish communities, our city's international standing and our commitment to addressing Irish representation (its diasporic peoples and Irish culture) engages audiences. We want to export this and feel our representation changes things for Irish people in England. *#CCEN* remains an instrument to achieve this.

As ever, 'go raibh maith agat' to everyone involved in the Festival and the organisation we have become. Artists; partners and sponsors; collaborators and networks; venues; volunteers; friends and every visitor and audience member that joins us, however you join us, thank you. We look forward to seeing you next year, 16-26 Oct 2025.

Liverpool Irish Festival

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Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

Finally

I am honoured to take on the role of Chair of the Irish Festival, my thanks to John Chandler, and the board for their support during this first year. It has been a steep learning curve but I am impressed by the dedication of the staff, the board and the wonderful programme delivered this year at the festival despite the financial challenges.

I especially want to thank our Director, Emma Smith, for her dedication and leadership, Pascal O'Loughlin for his support and the volunteers who help ensure the smooth running of the festival.

We thank our artists, partners and sponsors; collaborators and networks; venues, friends and every visitor and audience member for joining us for #LIF2024.

We hope you will join us this year, particularly between 16-26 October 2025

Dr Ann Hoskins

Liverpool Irish Festival

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The methods used to recruit and appoint new charity trustees.

People are able to apply for Board Trusteeship at any time by sending a personal statement and CV to our Chair. From time to time we will actively seek Trustees. We will make call outs via our website, using a recruitment pack which we will review every time it is employed. We will broadcast calls through our networks, particularly through **The Culture Network LCR CIC, Uncover Liverpool, LCVS, Arts Council England and Culture Liverpool.** We may also make special invites to networks beyond these to best support attracting Trustees from fields or demographics we hope hope to include.

On application, the Board will review the application and CV in a timely manner. If viewed positively, the application will be followed with an introductory meeting with the Chair (or Trustee/staff member as agreed by the Board and Chair). If both the applicant and appraiser agree to proceed, the applicant will be invited to observe a Board meeting, receiving viewer-only rights to meeting papers. At the end of the observation meeting, the applicant will be invited to leave to enable a Board recommendation. If a majority of the Board and the applicant remain willing, the applicant will become an official Trustee and their membership of the Board recorded with Companies House and the organisations 'About' page. All recruitment will be noted through the Board meeting minutes.

Bankers	National Westminster Bank PLC, 138 Allerton Road, Liverpool, L18 2JN

Liverpool Irish Festival

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Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

Financial review

The charity's financial position at the end of the year ended 31 December 2024

The financial position of the charity at 31 December 2024 and comparatives for the prior period, as more fully detailed in the accounts, can be summarised as follows:-

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net income	(36,277)	(3,349)
Unrestricted Revenue Funds available for the general purposes of the charity	537	17,451
Restricted Revenue Funds	23,277	42,640
Total Funds	23,814	60,091

Financial review of the position at the reporting date, 31 December 2024, including policies on reserves and funds in deficit.

The year ended 31st December 2024 saw incoming resources of £132,025 (2023: £108,292)

Total outgoing resources were £168,302 (2023: £111,641) giving rise to net outgoing resources of £36,277 (2023: outgoing resources of £3,349). Total fund balances were £23,814 (2023 £60,091), of which £23,277 (2023: £42,640) is restricted for future activity.

The level of free reserves as at 31st December 2024 is £537 (2023: £17,451). As previously, the trustees seek to ensure that sufficient funds are held in reserve following the Festival in order to fund the post of the Director for the following year’s festival. In accordance with funder needs, the Festival seeks to maintain unrestricted reserves at a level that covers 3-6 months of operational costs and plans to restore this level of reserves are in place.

Despite every attempt to retain Festival reserves, in a new financial/cost-of-living climate and with much higher PAYE* costs than anticipated, we have depleted reserves to ensure project compliance and agreed delivery across our services. The Board and Director acknowledge it is critical they work with great diligence to return these, to meet the requirements of some funders, but also our own professional standards. Further to our Director's requests, we are building new forecasting and projection capability, along with better reserves tracking, so that project-by-project spending is better understood.

* When moving to PAYE, it was understood by those handling the management accounts that 'Gross pay' represented the total liability to the employer, *including* pension and national insurance contributions. This is not the case; 'gross pay' is subject to the addition of the employers national insurance and pension contribution. This forecasting error error has caused on overspend, taken from the reserves.

With additional pressure caused by the absence of arts programme funding — but a Festival to deliver — we have eroded reserves. However, with a concerted effort on improving sponsorships, advertising and service sales (such as tailored walks, etc) we believe these can be restored.

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Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

Availability and adequacy of assets of each of the funds

The board of trustees is satisfied that the charity's assets in each restricted fund are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations in respect of each fund.

Details of The Independent Examiner

Matthew Brown
Member of CIPFA
Bluecoat Chambers
College Lane
Liverpool
L1 3BZ

Statement of the Directors' and Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Notwithstanding the explicit requirement in the extant statutory regulations,the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the SORP 2005, in view of the fact that the SORP 2005 has been withdrawn, the Trustees determined to interpret this responsibility as requiring them to follow current best practice and prepare the accounts according to the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2019, applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), .

In particular, the Companies Act 2006 and charity law require the Board of Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year 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 the surplus or deficit of the charity. In preparing those financial statements the Board is required to :-

- to prepare the accounts in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

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Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024

The law requires that the trustees must not approve the accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the surplus or deficit of the charity for the year.

The Trustees are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and comply with regulations made under the Charities Act. 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.

The Trustees are also responsible for the contents of the Trustees' report, and the statutory responsibility of the Independent Examiner in relation to the Trustees' report is limited to examining the report and ensuring that , on the face of the report, there are no material inconsistencies with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

Method of preparation of accounts - Small company provisions

The financial statements are set out on pages 12 to 26.

The financial statements have been prepared implementing the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2019, applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102, (effective 1st January 2016)

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006. applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

This report was approved by the board of trustees on 18 February 2025.

DR ANN HOSKINS
Director and Trustee

Liverpool Irish Festival

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees of the charitable company on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the charitable company on pages 12 to 26 for the year ended 31 December 2024 which have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) and with the Financial Reporting Standard 102, (effective 1st January 2016) as modified by FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2019, applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), published by the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW) , and under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page 17.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiner and the basis of the report

As described on page 8, you, the charitable company's Trustees, who are also the Directors of the Company for the purposes of Company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and all other applicable law and with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, applicable to smaller entities, and for being satisfied that the financial statements give a true and fair view.

The Trustees consider that the audit requirement of Section 144(1) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply, and that there is no requirement in the memorandum and articles of the charity for the conducting of an audit, and that the accounts do not require an audit in accordance with Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and that no member or members have requested an audit pursuant to Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. As a consequence, the Trustees have elected that the financial statements be subject to independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements are not required to be audited under any legal provision, or otherwise, and are eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:-

a) examine the financial statements of the charity under Section 145 of the Act;

b) follow the applicable procedures in the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement and scope of work undertaken

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under s145 of the Act. In carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act setting out the duties of an independent examiner in relation to the conducting of an independent examination. An independent examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charitable company and of the accounting systems employed by the charitable company and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you, as Trustees, concerning such matters. The purpose of the examination is to establish as far as possible that there have been no breaches of charity legislation and that, on a test basis of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures made, the financial statements comply with the SORP.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and information supplied by the Trustees in the course of the examination is not subjected to audit tests or enquiries and does not cover all the matters that an auditor would consider in arriving at an opinion. The planning and conduct of an audit goes beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide

Consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the financial statements, and in particular, I express no opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view of the affairs of the charity, and my report is limited to the matters set out in the statement below.

I planned and performed my examination so as to satisfy myself that the objectives of the independent examination are achieved and before finalising the report I obtained written assurances from the Trustees of all material matters.

Liverpool Irish Festival

Independent Examiner's Statement, Report and Opinion

Subject to the limitations upon the scope of my work as detailed above, I have completed my examination: and can confirm that:-

The accounts of this charitable company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006;

This is a report in respect of an examination carried out under 145 of the Act and in accordance with Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act which may be applicable;

and that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:-

accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by Section 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and Section 130 of The Charities Act 2011;

the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 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;

have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles set out in the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2019, applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP).

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 financial statements to be reached.

Signed:-

Matthew Brown - Independent Examiner
CIPFA

Bluecoat Chambers
College Lane
Liverpool
L1 3BZ

This report was signed on 18 February 2025

Liverpool Irish Festival - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024

Statement of Financial Activities (including the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 December 2024, as required by the Companies Act 2006)

	SORP Ref	Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
		2024	2024	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£
Income & Endowments from:					
Donations & Legacies	A1	56,636	69,292	**125,928**	101,516
Charitable activities	A2	6,097	-	**6,097**	6,776
Total income	**A**	**62,733**	**69,292**	**132,025**	**108,292**
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	B2	79,647	88,655	**168,302**	111,641
Total expenditure	**B**	**79,647**	**88,655**	**168,302**	**111,641**
Net income for the year		**(16,914)**	**(19,363)**	**(36,277)**	**(3,349)**
Net income after transfers	**A-B-C**	**(16,914)**	**(19,363)**	**(36,277)**	**(3,349)**
Net movement in funds		**(16,914)**	**(19,363)**	**(36,277)**	**(3,349)**
Reconciliation of funds:-	**E**				
Total funds brought forward		17,451	42,640	**60,091**	63,440
Total funds carried forward		**537**	**23,277**	**23,814**	**60,091**

The 'SORP Ref' indicated above is the classification of income set out in the formal SORP documents. As required by paragraph 4.60 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the Balance Sheet.

A separate Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses is not required as this statement includes all recognised gains and losses.

All activities derive from continuing operations

The notes attached on pages 17 to 26 form an integral part of these accounts.

Liverpool Irish Festival - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024

Liverpool Irish Festival - Analysis of prior year total funds, as required by paragraph 4.2 of the SORP

	SORP Ref	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Income & Endowments from:				
Donations & Legacies	A1	23,847	77,669	**101,516**
Charitable activities	A2	6,776	-	**6,776**
Investments	A4	-	-	**-**
Other	A5	-	-	**-**
Total income	**A**	30,623	77,669	**108,292**
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	B1	-	-	**-**
Charitable activities	B2	68,157	41,066	**111,641**
Tax on surplus on ordinary activit	B3	-	-	**-**
Other taxation	B3	-	-	**-**
Total expenditure	**B**	**68,157**	**41,066**	**111,641**
Net gains on investments	B4	-	-	-
Net income for the year		(37,534)	36,603	(3,349)
Transfers between funds	**C**	-	-	**-**
Net income after transfers		(37,534)	36,603	(3,349)
Net movement in funds		**(37,534)**	**36,603**	**(3,349)**
Reconciliation of funds:-	**E**			
Total funds brought forward		57,403	6,037	**63,440**
Total funds carried forward		**19,869**	**42,640**	**60,091**

All activities derive from continuing operations

A separate Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses is not required as this statement includes all recognised gains and losses.'

The notes attached on pages 17 to 26 form an integral part of these accounts.

Liverpool Irish Festival - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024

Movements in revenue and capital funds for the year ended 31 December 2024

Revenue accumulated funds

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Last year Total Funds 2023 £
Accumulated funds brought forward	17,451	42,640	60,091	**63,440**
Recognised gains and losses before transfers	(16,914)	(19,363)	(36,277)	(3,349)
	537	**23,277**	**23,814**	**60,091**
Closing revenue funds	**537**	**23,277**	**23,814**	**60,091**

Summary of funds	Unrestricted and Designated funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Last Year Total Funds 2023 £
Revenue accumulated funds	537	23,277	**23,814**	60,091

The notes attached on pages 17 to 26 form an integral part of these accounts.

Liverpool Irish Festival - Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024

Liverpool Irish Festival
Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 December 2024 as required by the Companies Act 2006

	2024	2023
	£	£
Income		
Income from operations	132,025	108,292
Investment income and interest		
Gross income in the year before exceptional items	**132,025**	**108,292**
Gross income in the year including exceptional items	**132,025**	**108,292**
Expenditure		
Charitable expenditure, excluding depreciation and amortisation	167,268	110,717
Governance costs	948	924
Interest payable	86	-
Realised losses on disposals of social investments which are programme related	-	-
Total expenditure in the year	**168,302**	**111,641**
Net income before tax in the financial year	**(36,277)**	**(3,349)**
Tax on surplus on ordinary activities	-	-
Net income after tax in the financial year	**(36,277)**	**(3,349)**
Retained surplus for the financial year	**(36,277)**	**(3,349)**

All activities derive from continuing operations

In accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006, the headings and subheadings used in the Income and Expenditure account have been adapted to reflect the special nature of the charity's activities.

The notes attached on pages 17 to 26 form an integral part of these accounts.

Liverpool Irish Festival - Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024

	Note	SORP Ref		2024		2023
				£		£
Current assets		B				
Debtors	11	B2	5,671		777	
Cash at bank and in hand		B4	25,259		64,995	
Total current assets			30,930		65,772	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	C1	(7,116)		(5,681)	
Net current assets				23,814		60,091
The total net assets of the charity				**23,814**		**60,091**
The total net assets of the charity are funded by the funds of the charity, as follows:-						
Restricted funds						
Restricted Revenue Funds	15	D2	23,277		42,640	
				23,277		42,640
Unrestricted Funds						
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	15	D3	537		17,451	
				537		17,451
Designated Funds				-		-
Total charity funds				**23,814**		**60,091**

The 'SORP Ref' indicated above is the classification of Balance Sheet items as set out in the formal SORP documents. As required by paragraph 4.60 of the SORP, the brought forward and carried forward funds above have been agreed to the SOFA..

The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The charity is subject to Independent Examination under charity legislation, and the report of the Independent Examiner is on page 11.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006. applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

DR ANN HOSKINS
Trustee
Approved by the board of trustees on 18 February 2025

The notes attached on pages 17 to 26 form an integral part of these accounts.

Liverpool Irish Festival

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

1 Accounting policies

Policies relating to the production of the accounts.

Basis of preparation and accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared on the accruals basis, under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102, (effective 1st January 2016) and 'FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2019, applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), published by the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW) , and in accordance with all applicable law in the charity's jurisdiction of registration, except that the charity has prepared the financial statements in accordance with the FRS 102 SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2019, applicable to all accounting periods beginning on or after 1st January 2019), (The SORP), in preference to the previous SORP, the SORP 2005, which has been withdrawn, notwithstanding the fact that the extant statutory regulations, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 refer explicitly to the SORP 2005. This has been done to accord with current best practice.

Going Concern

The charitable activities are entirely dependent on continuing grant aid and voluntary donations as well as trading revenues. As a consequence, the going concern basis is dependent on the future flow of these uncertain funding streams. Accordingly, the Trustees have obtained forecasts and, after reviewing the financial forecasts for future periods to 31 December 2025, the Trustees are satisfied that, at the time of approving the financial statements, it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Other than these matters, the Trustees are not aware of any material uncertainites about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Risks and future assumptions

The charity is a public benefit entity.

Debtors

Debtors are measured at their recoverable amounts at the balance sheet date.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade
discounts due.

Financial instruments including cash and bank balances

Bank balances, whether in credit or overdrawn, are shown at the amounts properly reconciled to the bank statements.

Fund Accounting

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

There are no designated funds.

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

There are no endowment funds.

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

2 Liability to taxation

The Trustees consider that the charity satisfies the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by chapter 3 part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively on the specific charitable objects of the charity and for no other purpose. Value Added Tax is not recoverable by the charity, and is therefore included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

3 Winding up or dissolution of the charity

If upon winding up or dissolution of the charity there remain any assets, after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, the assets represented by the accumulated fund shall be transferred to some other charitable body or bodies having similar objects to the charity.

4 Significance of financial instruments to the charity's position

There are no significant implications of such matters.

5 Net surplus before tax in the financial year

	2024	2023
	£	£
The net surplus before tax in the financial year is stated after charging:-		
Pension costs	1,868	1,367

6 Interest payable

	2024	2023
	£	£
Interest payable	86	-

7 The contribution of volunteers

The charity depends on the support of its volunteers, which is much valued. The charity recruited 10 front-of-house volunteers in Oct 2024 who donated roughly 85 hours of time to *#LIF2024* delivery. Our *History Research Group* (varying in size across the year between 7-10) delivered 485 hours and our artist's citizen groups submitted 66 hours. In addition, 27 people attended our Visioning Day (Feb 2024) giving 162 hours of time.Our Board have given at least 80 hours of volunteer time. Based on skilled rates of pay attracting c£25 per hour, we view this as a contribution of £21,950 (878 hours x £25). Without the help of volunteers, the Festival would need to find the equivalent of this to obtain similar services.

The arrangements with volunteers are difficult to value precisely in monetary terms. Volunteers agree to a code of conduct with us, but their contribution is not been recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. The volunteers and the charity accept and agree that no contract of employment is created by these arrangements.

8 Staff costs and emoluments

Salary costs	2024	2023
	£	£
Gross Salaries excluding trustees and key management personnel	62,264	45,580
Employer's National Insurance for all staff	2,337	349
Employer's operating costs of defined contribution pension schemes	1,868	1,367
Total salaries, wages and related costs	**66,469**	**47,296**

The estimated full time equivalent number of all staff employed in the year was	1	-
The estimated equivalent number of full time staff deployed in different activities in the year :-		
Engaged on charitable activities	1	-
The estimated full time equivalent number of all staff employed	**1**	-

Neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them have received any remuneration from the charity or any related entity, either in the current or prior year.

The number of employees whose emoluments including taxable benefits but excluding employer's pension contributions fall into the following bands were :-

	2024	2023
	£	£
£60,001 to £70,000	1	-
	1	-

Chief Executive Officer

The remuneration in the year year was	62,264	-
Pension contributions paid by the employer	1,868	-
Total remuneration package included in total salaries above	**64,132**	**-**

9 Remuneration and payments to Trustees and persons connected with them

No trustees or persons connected with them received any remuneration from the charity, or any related entity.

10 Deferred income - Unrestricted and Designated funds

Current Year	Opening Deferrals	Released from prior years	Received less released in year	Deferred at year end
	£	£	£	£
Liverpool City Council CAIP	3,052	-	(3,052)	-
Total	3,052	-	(3,052)	-

	2024	2023
	£	£
These deferrals are included in creditors	-	3,052

The deferrals included in creditors relate to funding specified by the funders as relating to specific periods and represent those parts of unrestricted funds which relate to periods subsequent to the accounting year end and are treated as grants in advance, or, alternatively, where there are conditions which must be fulfilled prior to entitlement or use of the unrestricted funds by the charity .

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

11 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	1,000	110
Prepayments and accrued income	4,671	667
	5,671	**777**

Included in accrued income is amount of £3950 from Liverpool BID Company Limited for undertaking a series of Liverpool Irish Famine Trail walks around the city. The total grant award is £5000 with £1050 more of costs to complete.

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals	5,743	440
Deferred Income - Unrestricted & designated funds	-	3,052
PAYE, NIC VAT and other taxes	1,373	1,774
Other creditors	-	415
	7,116	**5,681**

13 Related party transactions

There were no transactions with related parties in the year.

14 Particulars of how particular funds are represented by assets and liabilities

At 31 December 2024	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Current Assets	7,653		23,277	**30,930**
Current Liabilities	(7,116)	-	-	**(7,116)**
	537	**-**	**23,277**	**23,814**

At 1 January 2024	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Current Assets	23,132	-	42,640	**65,772**
Current Liabilities	(5,681)	-	-	**(5,681)**
	17,451	**-**	**42,640**	**60,091**

15 Change in total funds over the year as shown in Note 14 , analysed by individual funds

	Funds brought forward from 2023	Movement in funds in 2024	Transfers between funds in 2024	Funds carried forward to 2025
		See Note 16		
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds:-				
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	17,451	(16,914)	**-**	**537**
Total unrestricted and designated funds	**17,451**	**(16,914)**	**-**	**537**

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024

Restricted funds:-

Irish Government Emigrant Support Programme	6,340	5,000	-	**11,340**
National Lottery Heritage Fund	36,300	(24,363)	-	**11,937**
Total restricted funds	**42,640**	**(19,363)**	**-**	**23,277**
Total charity funds	**60,091**	**(36,277)**	**-**	**23,814**

16 Analysis of movements in funds over the year as shown in Note 15

	Income	Expenditure	Other Gains & Losses	Movement in funds
	2024	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted and designated funds:-				
Unrestricted Revenue Funds	62,733	(79,647)	-	**(16,914)**
Restricted funds:-				
Irish Government Emigrant Support Programme	29,456	(24,456)	-	**5,000**
National Lottery Heritage Fund	39,836	(64,199)	-	**(24,363)**
	132,025	**(168,302)**	**-**	**(36,277)**

17 The purposes for which the funds as detailed in note 15 are held by the charity are:-

Unrestricted and designated funds:-

Unrestricted Revenue Funds	These funds are held for the meeting the objectives of the charity, and to provide reserves for future activities, and , subject to charity legislation, are free from all restrictions on their use.

Restricted funds:-

Irish Government Emigrant Support Programme	The Irish Government's 2024 *Emigrant Support Programme* contributes to four areas of work: *#LIF2024* (£12,680), *Festival Support* (£10,000), *#CCEN* (£2,000) and *Liverpool Irish Famine Trail* (£5,000). Each is seen as a contribution to these areas.
National Lottery Heritage Fund	Project NM-23-00200 was awarded for the development of the *Liverpool Irish Famine Trail* , specifically an app, a book, a series of digital assets, the maintenance o the *History Research Group* and their training as well as ongoing administrative needs to service the project.

-

18 Ultimate controlling party

The charity is under the control of its legal members.

Every member of the charity is obliged to contribute such amount as may be required not exceeding £5 to the assets of the company in the event of its being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member.

Liverpool Irish Festival

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2024 as required by the SORP 2015

This analysis is classsified by conventional nominal descriptions and not by activity.

19 Donations, Grants and Legacies

	Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts from individuals				
Small donations individually less than £1000	6,631	-	**6,631**	1,000
Liverpool Great HU LGHC	1,000	-	**1,000**	-
Plus Dane Foundation	5,000	-	**5,000**	-
Tourism Ireland	3,500	-	**3,500**	2,500
Total donations and gifts from individuals	**16,131**	**-**	**16,131**	**3,500**

	Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Revenue grants from government and public bodies				
Liverpool City Council CAIP	23,399	-	**23,399**	20,347
Irish Government Emigrant Support Programme 2024-25	-	29,456	**29,456**	-
Irish Government Emigrant Support Programme 2023-24	-	-	**-**	24,680
National Lottery Heritage Fund	-	39,836	**39,836**	49,795
Northern Consulate's Strategic Diaspora Fund	11,656	-	**11,656**	3,194
Total public sector revenue grants	**35,055**	**69,292**	**104,347**	**98,016**

Revenue grants from government and public bodies - Prior Year analysis

	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds	Prior Year Restricted Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£
Prior Year	20,347	77,669	**98,016**

Liverpool Irish Festival

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2024 as required by the SORP 2015

		Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Total Funds 2024 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Revenue grants and donations from non public bodies					
Liverpool Charity and Voluntary Services		1,500	-	**1,500**	-
Total private sector revenue grants		**5,450**	**-**	**5,450**	**-**
Total Donations, Grants and Legacies					
Total Donations, Grants and Legacies	**A1**	**56,636**	**69,292**	**125,928**	**101,516**

Prior year		Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Total Donations, Grants and Legacies	**A1**	**23,847**	**77,669**	**101,516**

20 Income from charitable activities - Trading Activities

Current year	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Total Funds 2024 £	Prior Year Total funds 2023 £
Primary purpose and ancillary trading				
Event and merchandise income	6,097	-	**6,097**	6,776
Total Primary purpose and ancillary trading	**6,097**	**-**	**6,097**	**6,776**

21 Total Income from charitable activities

Current year	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Total Funds 2024 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Total income from charitable trading	6,097	-	**6,097**	6,776
Total from charitable activities	**6,097**	**-**	**6,097**	**6,776**

Liverpool Irish Festival

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2024 as required by the SORP 2015

22 Expenditure on charitable activities - Direct spending

Current Year		Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Total Funds 2024 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Gross wages and salaries - charitable activities		55,014	7,250	**62,264**	**45,580**
Employers' NI - Charitable activities		2,337	-	**2,337**	**349**
Defined contribution pension costs - charitable activities		1,868	-	**1,868**	**1,367**
Festival and event expenses		-	14,204	**14,204**	**13,810**
Research and evaluation		10,004	53,239	**63,243**	**19,279**
Freelance festival director		1,652	13,962	**15,614**	**23,359**
Total direct spending	**B2a**	**70,875**	**88,655**	**159,530**	**103,744**

All the expenditure in the prior year was unrestricted.

Prior Year		Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Gross wages and salaries - charitable activities		40,650	4,930	**45,580**
Festival and event expenses		5,245	8,565	**13,810**
Research and evaluation		779	18,500	**19,279**
Freelance festival director		14,288	9,071	**23,359**
Total direct spending	**B2a**	**62,678**	**41,066**	**103,744**

23 Expenditure on charitable activities - Charitable trading

Current Year		Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Total Funds 2024 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Reallocated from support costs		**7,824**	**-**	**7,824**	6,973
Total charitable expenses	**B2b**	**7,824**	**-**	**7,824**	**6,973**

Liverpool Irish Festival

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2024 as required by the SORP 2015

24 Support costs for charitable activities

Current Year	Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Employee costs not included in direct costs				
Travel and subsistence - staff	51	-	**51**	**44**
Premises Expenses				
Rent and parking space	4,416	-	**4,416**	**4,253**
Administrative overheads				
Telephone, fax and internet	259	-	**259**	**252**
Subscriptions and software licences	1,516	-	**1,516**	**960**
Insurance	1,125	-	**1,125**	**615**
Website and domain costs	96	-	**96**	**591**
Professional fees paid to the Auditor or Independent Examiner in addition to audit and examination fees				
As detailed in Note 25	*174*	-	**174**	**216**
Financial costs				
Bank charges	101	-	**101**	**42**
Interest payable	86	-	**86**	**-**
Support costs before reallocation	**7,824**	**-**	**7,824**	**6,973**
Less support costs reallocated to specific activities				
To charitable activities	(7,824)	-	**(7,824)**	**(6,973)**

25 Other Expenditure - Governance costs

Current Year	Current year Unrestricted Funds	Current year Restricted Funds	Current year Total Funds	Prior Year Total Funds
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Independent Examiner's fees	948	-	**948**	**924**
Total Governance costs	**948**	**-**	**948**	**924**

Detailed analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2024 as required by the SORP 2015

Professional fees paid to the Auditor or Independent Examiner in addition to audit and examination fees

	Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Total Funds 2024 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Other financial services	174	-	**174**	**216**
Total additional fees included in support costs at Note 24	**174**	**-**	**174**	**216**

	Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £

26 Total Charitable expenditure

Current Year

		Current year Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Restricted Funds 2024 £	Current year Total Funds 2024 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Total direct spending	**B2a**	70,875	88,655	**159,530**	**103,744**
Total charitable expenses	**B2b**	7,824	-	**7,824**	**6,973**
Total Governance costs	**B2e**	948	-	**948**	**924**
Total charitable expenditure	**B2**	**79,647**	**88,655**	**168,302**	**111,641**

Prior Year

		Prior Year Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Restricted Funds 2023 £	Prior Year Total Funds 2023 £
Total direct spending	**B2a**	62,678	41,066	**103,744**
Total charitable expenses	**B2b**	6,973	-	**6,973**
Total support costs	**B2d**	(2,418)	-	**-**
Total Governance costs	**B2e**	924	-	**924**
Total charitable expenditure	**B2**	**68,157**	**41,066**	**111,641**

Liverpool Irish Festival

England & Wales - Charity number 1100126

Accounts

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Company Number: 4800736
Charity Number: 1100126

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

TRUSTEES
John Chandler (Chair)
Martin Bond
Prof. Mary Hickman
Eamonn Lavin
Gerard Martin Diver
Clare McGrath (appointed 14/06/2022)
Patsy Connor (appointed 13/07/2022)
Oliver Hall (Finance Lead Trustee) (appointed 28th August 2023)
Dr Ann Hoskins (appointed 12th December 2023)
John Eustace (Treasurer) (retired 30th April 2023)
Siubhán Macauley (retired 22nd February 2023)
Siobhan Noble (retired 29th March 2023)

SECRETARY
John Chandler

REGISTERED OFFICE
5 Rutherford Road
Mossley Hill
Liverpool
L18 OHJ

COMPANY NUMBER
4800736

CHARITY NUMBER
1100126

BANKERS
NatWest Bank

ACCOUNTANTS
Adding Value Consultancy Ltd
Studio 6
Bluecoat Chambers
Liverpool L1 3BX

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023
TRUSTEES' REPORT

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activity of the charity is to bring Liverpool and Ireland closer together using arts and culture.

LEGAL STATUS

Liverpool Irish Festival is a company limited by guarantee with charitable status. It does not have a share capital.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

ln accordance with the charity's Articles of Association, the principal objectives are “the advancement of the

- arts in music, drama, literature and the plastic arts, in particular but without limitation to the generality thereof those arts originating or developed in the island of Ireland
- education of the public in these arts by the encouragement of their performance and display
- education of the public in the arts of music, drama, literature and the plastic arts, in particular but without limitation to the generality thereof those arts originating or developed in the island of Ireland”.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

Liverpool Irish Festival provides a high quality and wide-ranging Festival, within Liverpool and the surrounding area, open to all the community. Events range from music, film, education, literature, drama and performance. The programme is rich and varied and makes a serious attempt to create a Festival that showcases the breadth of contemporary Irish culture and the deep roots of Liverpool's relationship with Ireland.

ORGANISATION OF THE CHARITY

The charity has a board of trustees, who are also the members of the charity, who oversee the general management and control of the company. In setting policies, the trustees have complied with their duty in section 15 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. The board meets roughly 10 times per year to discuss and oversee the charity's financial, artistic and administrative activities. There are presently sub-committees for finance and development, which meet when necessary and report back to the main board.

The day-to-day operations management is carried out by members of the board in a voluntary capacity, supported by a contracted Artistic Director and CEO. A rolling contract for PR and Communications provision is in place, along with website management and security, each outsourced to trusted local contractors.

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023
TRUSTEES' REPORT

TRUSTEES

The names of the present trustees -and of all who held office during the year- are shown on Page 2 of these financial statements. No remuneration was paid to any trustee for their services as a trustee, nor did any trustee have a material interest in any of the charity's contracts.

INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

Trustees are selected based upon their professional skills to complement those of the existing trustees or replace those of retiring trustees. Current trustees bring their skills and experience from a wide range of professions. All are committed to or experienced in the arts and cultural sector. Board induction involves attending a trustees' interview prior to appointment, meeting the trustees and receiving copies of policies, business plans and accounts. Training needs are continually assessed and implemented as required.

CONTRIBUTION OF VOLUNTEERS

The charity is supported by highly experienced and dedicated volunteer Board members. Additionally, the annual Festival is supported in its sub-group planning and delivery of events by a team of volunteers.

REVIEW OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR

Liverpool Irish Festival*'s* 2023 theme was "anniversary" marking our 21st Festival and major event anniversaries, such as 25 years of The Good Friday Agreement, 100 years of Irish independence, and 175 years since the Irish Famine.

As ever, we drew people into discussions; shared new concepts and encouraged interaction to fight isolation, embrace technology and address change. The Festival programme was enriched by our perennial four strands of work: In:Visible Women, Nook and Cranny Spaces, Family Days and the Liverpool Irish Famine Trail.

The Festival was nominated for Best International Reach in the 2023 Liverpool City Region Creativity and Culture Awards and Emma Smith, the Festival's CEO/Artistic Director, has been nominated for the Best Artist/Creative of 2023, the result of which is to be announced in the spring.

Working with a reduced budget in 2023, we still delivered 51 Festival events and six exhibitions, yielding 127 exhibition days. Combined**,** they created an audience of 46,592 with 148 views-to-date, representing a growth of 14%!

This year's #GlobalGreening resulted in a 2023 visitor figure, doubled from 2021, of 37,586 (increased because of 17 venues being illuminated). Liverpool Pride expanded hugely in 2023, with a 20,000-strong march. We marched alongside other Irish services, and believe we were seen by more than 3.5k people. These figures mean the Festival attracted substantial numbers of people to its events, despite the ticket buying climate, cost of living crisis, and local/global politics.

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023
TRUSTEES' REPORT

We made 10 funding applications with a 47% success rate and with 7 of the bids receiving some funding. The percentage increase in awards shows we are travelling in the right direction.

For eco-friendly and economic reasons we changed our printing approaches, distributing 60k leaflets and just 7k 56-page newspapers this year. We achieved a much wider reach for the same costs as 2022

With a new PR consultant, in a short space of time, we achieved 4,500,638 (2021: almost 3m) in press reach and strengthened our social media representation.

Our audience surveys revealed that our #LIF2023 top 3 descriptors matched #LIF2022's as "fun", "interesting" and "inspiring"

We worked with 98 artists/contributors in 2023, presenting work from at least 110 more (dancers, musicians, filmmakers). The Festival developed 32 commissions, one of which included 40 individual pieces of art, given away to the public. These included photo-stories, articles, podcasts, films and songs on a turnover (to date) of £114,869 (2022: £104,457, 2021: £89,050). An additional lever to our turnover in 2023 was a contribution from the National Lottery Heritage Fund much of which will contribute to work in 2024.

We continue to view our Festival as unique in its field, being the only arts- and culture-led Irish festival in the world. Our specificity is key: celebrating Liverpool's unique connection to Irish communities, its international standing and our determination to address Irish representation (its diasporic peoples and Irish culture) that engages visitors. We aim to export this more and feel our representation helps change things for Irish people in England. The national Cultural Connectedness Exchange Network (#CCEN), a collective of Irish arts organisations chaired by our CEO/Artistic Director, is a marker of this.

To mark our 21st anniversary in 2023, and the success of the Famine Trail project, the Festival was given a reception at the Irish Embassy in London, attended by the ambassador. It was there that I publicly announced my intention to retire from the Board. I recall saying, at the inaugural meeting of our trustees in 2003, that I would serve for 3 years and I have well overstayed my welcome! I am pleased to say that we have an exceptional Board and Team and I am confident that my successor, to be elected in the forthcoming AGM, will have an abundance of experience and skills to take the Festival forward in the years to come.

So, 'go raibh maith agat' to all our stakeholders: the Board, Emma and her team, artists, partners and sponsors; collaborators and networks; venues, friends and every visitor and audience member that has joined us. We look forward to seeing you this year, particularly from 17-27 October 2024.

FUTURE PLANS

With a new Financial Lead, and the rollover of a new financial year, comes the opportunity to upgrade our financial processes. Our Finance Lead and Artistic Director and CEO have begun building a new management accounts package. This benefits from stream-lined systems, which auto-populate fund allocations, providing clearer expenditure forecasting. The system reduces errors and saves time. Additionally, it presents the organisation's working finances in a standard accounts format, rather than as a working cash book.

Alongside these new functions, the two will present and hone a new set of presentation formats for the trustees. Important within this, is the presentation of restricted funds versus earned income, accrual rather than cash views and improved annual planning that capitalises on what we *know* to inform and evidence what we *need*. This view will help us move from a project mindset to a year-on-year financial model. Trustee training will be given to read and query these new formats, adding to the robustness of the process, but also the quality of our oversight. During the year, we will build a case to present to the Board about funding and using a fully serviced proprietary accounting programme, such as Xero.

We'll make an ***Arts Council England*** grant application for 2024-25. Having had success in 2022 with a £56,000 bid, we anticipate a new bid will be in the £65-70,000 band, meaning a 14-week decision turnaround. This will need to go in Q1 or Q2 to allow time for reapplication and delivery.
We're fortunate to know that we have c.£20,000 in *Culture and Arts Investment Programme* money to come, subject to satisfactory reporting. We hold no concerns that we can complete such reporting. Based on previous experience and satisfactory reporting (submitted in Jan 2024) we can expect to receive c.£25,000+ from the Irish Government in Q3. However, we will apply to them for more than this in Feb 2024, with a view to:

- expand the Festival Coordinator's capacity (either in our existing role holder's hours or as an additional PT role)
- supports additional work towards the *Liverpool Irish Famine Trail*, not currently covered by the existing ***National Lottery Heritage Fund*** project grant.

With the increased capacity the Festival Coordinator brings, and the improved skill of our Financial Lead, it's intended we'll work to increase sponsorship and advertising revenues in 2024. These will mainly link with Festival delivery opportunities, such as our print, posters and events. If we could lift this to £5k in 2024 we'd be doing well.

A fast-turnaround pilgrimage programme (being developed whilst writing this review), may lead to a Crowdfund for c.£7-10,000, run March-April. The pilgrimage transports a set of bronze shoes — by hand — from Strokestown to Liverpool, via 165km of the ***National Famine Way*** and sea, which will then be walked from Clarence Dock to the *Liverpool Irish Famine Memorial*. This is under consideration at the time of writing.

With delivery of the ***Heritage Fund*** project in 2024-25, and our existing capacity being oversubscribed, the attainment of an ***Arts Council England*** grant is our biggest 2024 standalone funding goal. It's worth noting, that work we do now should be considered in view of submitting a national portfolio organisation application when the new three-year round opens in 2025-26. This will hinge on our lobbying for Irish representation and maintain/increasing our artistic credibility and reputation.

Ideally, we'd make a large-scale application to the ***Paul Hamlyn*** or ***Esmée Fairburn*** foundations, to support a five-year plan with Liverpool's Irish Travellers. However, a recent rejection of an expression of interest to the latter shows we need to spend some considerable time shaping project plans, aligning missions and finding common ground. This is a long-term goal, currently compromised by minimal capacity.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The charity confirms that the Board regularly review the major risks faced by the charity to ensure that procedures and controls established by the organisation are designed to mitigate those risks. The risk of shortfalls of funding and other income has been given serious consideration. Projects are only undertaken if financially viable.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The year ended 31st December 2023 saw incoming resources of £108,292 (2022: £107,164)
Total outgoing resources were £111,642 (2022: £127,790) giving rise to net outgoing resources of £3,494 (2022: outgoing resources of £20,626). Total fund balances were £60,091 (2022 £63,440), of which £42,640 (2022: £6037) is restricted for future activity.

RESERVES POLICY

The level of free reserves as at 31st December 2023 is £17,450 (2022: £57,403). As previously, the trustees seek to ensure that sufficient funds are held in reserve following the Festival in order to fund the post of the Director for the following year's festival. Under no circumstances will the charity be allowed to go into deficit and the Festival's programme will be adapted to reflect the level of funding received in any given year. In accordance with funder needs, the Festival seeks to maintain unrestricted reserves at a level that covers 3-6 months of operational costs which equates to a range of £18k to £32k.

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023
TRUSTEES' REPORT

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

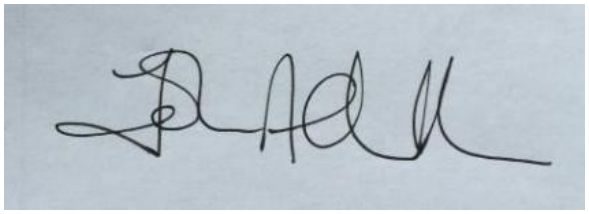
Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the net incoming or outgoing resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and they apply them consistently,
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practices (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 financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose -with reasonable accuracy, at any time- the financial position of the charity, enabling them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking responsible steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

APPROVAL

The report was prepared in accordance with the special provisions within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.
This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 12 February 2024.



John Chandler (Chair)
Trustee

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
I report to the trustees on our examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the *Charities Act* 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the *Charity Commission* under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement
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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the *Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations* 2008 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.

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.

Matthew Brown, CPFA
Adding Value Consultancy Ltd
Accountants and Financial Management Consultants

Date: 12 February 2024

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2023 Total	2022 Total
Income				
Income from charitable activities	30,623	77,669	108,292	107,164
Total Income and endowments	**30,623**	**77,669**	**108,292**	**107,164**
Expenses				
Expenditure on charitable activities	70,576	41,066	111,642	127,790
Total Expenses	**70,576**	**41,066**	**111,642**	127,790
Net income (expenditure) for the year	**(39,953)**	**36,603**	**(3,349)**	**(20,626)**
Net movement in funds for the year	**(39,953)**	**36,603**	**(3,349)**	**(20,626)**
Total funds brought forward	57,403	6,037	63,440	84,066
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-
Net funds carried forward	**17,450**	**42,640**	**60,091**	**63,440**

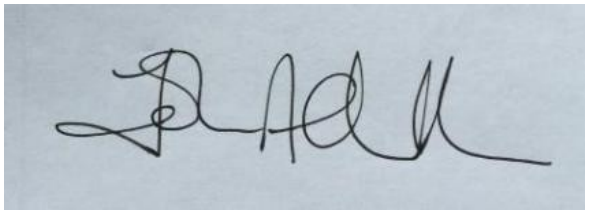
This statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors (amounts falling due within one year)	3	777	6,972
Cash at bank and in hand		64,995	57,486
		65,772	64,458
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	4	5,680	1,017
NET CURRENT ASSETS		60,091	63,440
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		60,091	63,440
RESERVES			
Unrestricted funds - General Fund	6	17,450	57,403
Restricted funds	7	42,640	6,037
		60,091	63,440

For the year ending 31 December 2023 the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the *Companies Act* 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the *Companies Act* 2006. The directors 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.

Approved by the board of trustees on 12 February 2024 and signed on their behalf by



John Chandler (Chair)
Trustee

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1a. Basis of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.
The accounts have been prepared in accordance with FRS102 - The *Financial Reporting Standard* applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland and the *Companies Act* 2006 and the requirements of the *Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities*.

1b. Incoming Resources

Total incoming resources -as shown in the Statement of Financial Activities- represents the amounts earned by the charity during the year for services rendered, project grants received and receivable, donations, sponsorship and other sundry income. The charity is not registered for VAT.

Income from donations and grants is included in incoming resources when receivable except as follows. When donors specify that donations and grants given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods. When donors impose conditions, which must be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the pre-conditions for use have been met.

When donors specify that donations and grants are for restricted purposes, which do not amount to pre-conditions regarding entitlement, this income is included in incoming resources as restricted funds when receivable.

1c. Resources Expended

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis. All amounts expended are in the furtherance of the charitable objectives of the charity and are therefore considered to be direct charitable expenditure except for accountancy costs shown as governance costs.

1d. Allocation and Apportionment of Costs

All costs relate to the single activity of the charitable company and are recognised accordingly.

1e. Fund Accounting

Funds held by the charity are either:

- unrestricted general funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees
- restricted funds which can only be used for restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for a particular purpose.

1f. Turnover

Turnover represents the invoiced value of goods and services supplied by the company.

1g. Income Recognition Policies

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all the following are met (1) the charity has entitlement to the funds; (2) any performance conditions attached to the income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity; (3) there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable and (4) the amount can be measured reliably.

1h. Debtor

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any discount due.

1i. Cash at Bank And ln Hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term liquid investments with a short maturity of 3 months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1j. Creditors and Provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation, resulting from a past event, that will probably result in a transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any discount due.

1k. Financial Instruments

The charity has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1l. Basis of Preparing the Accounts

At the time of preparing the accounts, the trustees have reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The trustees therefore continue to operate the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the accounts.

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

2. DIRECTORS AND EMPLOYEES

During the year the Artistic Director/CEO, previously employed on a freelance basis was made an employee. They were the only employee during the year (2022: nil) with the employment costs shown below:

	2023	*2022*
Employee costs during the year amounted to:	£	£
Salary Costs	*45,580*	-
National Insurance	*349*	-
Pension	*1,367*	-
	47,296	-

No remuneration was paid to any trustee for their services as a trustee.

3. DEBTORS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Prepayments	667	385
Other debtors and accrued income	110	6,585
	777	6,971

4. CREDITORS

Amounts falling due within one year:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Deferred Income	3,052	1,017
Other creditors	2,628	0
	5,680	1,017

5. LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. Each member gives a guarantee to contribute a sum not exceeding £5, to the company should it be wound up.

6. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	57,403	30,623	(70,576)	-	17,450
	57,403	30,623	(70,576)	-	17,450

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

7. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Transfers £	Carried forward £
Irish Government Emigrant Support Programme	*6,037*	24,680	24,377	*0*	6,340
National Lottery Heritage Fund	*0*	49,795	13,495	*0*	36,300
Irish Government Emigrant Support Programme (*Liverpool Irish Famine Trail*)	0	3,194	3,194	*0*	-
	6,037	77,669	41,066	*0*	42,640

With thanks to our grant funders:

Irish Government's *Emigrant Support Programme*:

- There are three strands of funding in 2023: the first provides core funds for the Liverpool Irish Festival (£12,680), the second contributes to the Festival Co-ordinator role (£10,000),whilst the final fund contributes £2,000 to the maintenance of the *Cultural Connectedness Exchange Network* and it's in-person practice day, held within the annual Festival

Arts Council England

- Provided the Festival with no funds for *#LIF2023*. We will attempt a new application to support the arts programme for *#LIF2024*.

Liverpool City Council

- The Council invests money via *Culture Arts Investment Programme* to the Festival's 'areas of greatest need', allowing us to choose where to invest their funds across our portfolio of work, meetings gaps between each funder's allowances (£20,347). This is a vitally important fund, given it's contribution to core. This funding is already secured for 2024. We will need to apply for the next 3-year round in 2025/26.

National Lottery Heritage Fund

- The 2021 grant of £45,600 (90% in 2021, with a 10% draw down in 2022 and majority spending in 2022) enabled us to commence the first of 5 planned stages of work for the *Liverpool Irish Famine Trail*.

- 2023's successful application — of £99,590 (of which 50% has been received in 2023) — advances this work; developing a second book, an app, 8 artworks and further research. The project dates cover 4 Sept 2023-8 Nov 2024.

8. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	General Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total Funds £
Net Current Assets	17,450	42,640	60,091

9. OUTGOING RESOURCES

	2023 £	*2022 £*
Direct Project Expenses:		
Direct Event Costs	13,810	*23,334*
	13,810	*23,334*
Indirect Project Costs:		
Marketing, PR and Advertising	1,500	*4,153*
Festival Brochure and Distribution & Design	14,354	*16,922*
Research and Evaluation Professional Fees	3,425	*16,498*
Domain licences and Website Design	591	*571*
	19,870	*38,144*
Other Support Costs:		
Freelance Staff - Festival Director , Content and Developr	23,359	*60,026*
Salaried Festival Director (Part of year)	47,296	*0*
Expenses - Manager and Volunteers	44	*157*
Board Development		*0*
Other Overheads	5,507	*4,295*
Insurance	615	*725*
	76,821	*65,202*
Total Costs of Charitable Activities	110,501	*126,680*
Governance costs - Accountancy	1,140	*1,110*
Total Outgoing Resources	111,642	*127,790*
Of which unresticted	70,576	
Of which resticted	41,066	
	111,642	

10. INCOMING RESOURCES

	2023 £	*2022* *£*
Unrestricted Funds:		
Merchandising and Events Income	3,654	*3,722*
LCC Business Relief Grant		*2,667*
Liverpool City Council CAIP	20,347	*20,347*
Donations	1,000	*6*
Tourism Ireland Sponsorship	2,500	*3,000*
Other	3,122	*2,755*
Total Incoming Resources Unrestricted	30,623	*32,497*
Restricted Funds - Grants and Donations:		
Irish Government Emigrant Support Programme	24,680	*12,075*
Arts Council National Lottery Project Grant	49,795	*58,032*
National Lottery Heritage Fund for Famine Trail	3,194	*4,560*
Total Incoming Resources - Restricted	77,669	*74,667*
Total Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities	108,292	*107,164*

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Incoming Resources for the year ending 31 December 2022	**2023**		***2022***
	£		**£**
Incoming Resources			
Incoming Resources from generated funds:			
Charitable Activity			
Merchandising and Events Income		*3,722*	
Unrestricted Grant		*23,014*	
Sponsorship Income and Donations		*5,761*	
Restricted Grants for Festival and Projects		*74,667*	
	108,292		*107,164*
	108,292		*107,164*
Expenses			
Cost of generating funds			
Charitable Activities			
Direct Event Costs	13,810		*20,357*
Salaried and Freelance Staff Costs	70,655		*50,261*
Insurance	615		*957*
Manager & Volunteer Expenses	44		*275*
Board Development	0		*274*
Office Expenses	4,488		*4,228*
Website	591		*1,102*
Marketing and PR	1,500		*1,000*
Subscriptions	1,019		*426*
Festival Brochure & Design	14,354		*12,666*
Research and Evaluation Professional Fees	3,425		*7,209*
	110,501		*98,754*

Liverpool Irish Festival

England & Wales - Charity number 1100126

Accounts

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Company Number: 4800736
Charity Number: 1100126

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

TRUSTEES
John Chandler (Chair)
John Eustace (Treasurer)
Martin Bond
Gerard Diver
Prof. Mary Hickman
Eamonn Lavin
Siubhán Macauley
Siobhan Noble
Patsy Connor (appointed 13/07/2022)
Clare McGrath (appointed 14/06/2022)

SECRETARY
John Chandler

REGISTERED OFFICE
5 Rutherford Road
Mossley Hill
Liverpool
L18 OHJ

COMPANY NUMBER
4800736

CHARITY NUMBER
1100126

BANKERS
NatWest Bank

ACCOUNTANTS
Adding Value Consultancy Ltd
Studio 6
Bluecoat Chambers
Liverpool L1 3BX

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022
TRUSTEES' REPORT

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES
The principal activity of the charity is to bring Liverpool and Ireland closer together using arts and culture.

LEGAL STATUS
Liverpool Irish Festival is a company limited by guarantee with charitable status. It does not have a share capital.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES
ln accordance with the charity's Articles of Association, the principal objectives are “the advancement of the

- arts in music, drama, literature and the plastic arts, in particular but without limitation to the generality thereof those arts originating or developed in the island of Ireland
- education of the public in these arts by the encouragement of their performance and display
- education of the public in the arts of music, drama, literature and the plastic arts, in particular but without limitation to the generality thereof those arts originating or developed in the island of Ireland”.

PUBLIC BENEFIT
Liverpool Irish Festival provides a high quality and wide-ranging Festival, within Liverpool and the surrounding area, open to all the community. Events range from music, film, education, literature, drama and performance. The programme is rich and varied and makes a serious attempt to create a Festival that showcases the breadth of contemporary Irish culture and the deep roots of Liverpool's relationship with Ireland.

ORGANISATION OF THE CHARITY
The charity has a board of trustees, who are also the members of the charity, who oversee the general management and control of the company. In setting policies, the trustees have complied with their duty in section 15 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. The board meets roughly 10 times per year to discuss and oversee the charity's financial, artistic and administrative activities. There are presently sub-committees for finance and development, which meet when necessary and report back to the main board.

The day-to-day operations management is carried out by members of the board in a voluntary capacity, supported by a contracted Artistic Director and CEO. A rolling contract for PR and Communications provision is in place, along with website management and security, each outsourced to trusted local contractors.

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022
TRUSTEES' REPORT

TRUSTEES

The names of the present trustees -and of all who held office during the year- are shown on Page 2 of these financial statements. No remuneration was paid to any trustee for their services as a trustee, nor did any trustee have a material interest in any of the charity's contracts.

INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

Trustees are selected based upon their professional skills to complement those of the existing trustees or replace those of retiring trustees. Current trustees bring their skills and experience from a wide range of professions. All are committed to or experienced in the arts and cultural sector. Board induction involves attending a trustees' interview prior to appointment, meeting the trustees and receiving copies of policies, business plans and accounts. Training needs are continually assessed and implemented as required.

CONTRIBUTION OF VOLUNTEERS

The charity is supported by highly experienced and dedicated volunteer Board members. Additionally, the annual Festival is supported in its sub-group planning and delivery of events by a team of volunteers.

REVIEW OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR

The Liverpool Irish Festival is unique in its field, as the only arts and culture-led Irish festival in the world. Celebrating Liverpool's unique connection gives us something exportable that 'brings Liverpool and Ireland closer together using arts and culture.'

Liverpool Irish Festival's 2022 theme was "hunger". We set the theme in 2019; who would have known we'd be experiencing a cost-of-living crisis and the impacts of war in Europe, just as we emerged from a global pandemic? As always, the Festival drew people into discussion; shared new concepts and encouraged interaction; fighting isolation, embracing technological advances and acknowledging change.

We continued to develop and expand our four programme trails 1) In:Visible Women, 2) Nook and Cranny Spaces 3) Family Days 4) Liverpool Irish Famine Trail, informing the programme and continuing to build assets in these areas.

We launched this year's Festival, with the support of The Irish World, at the Liverpool Irish Centre in the presence of the Consul General, Sarah Mangan, and Liverpool City Region's Metro Mayor: Steve Rotheram. Of 60 Festival events and 9 exhibits, over the year, 11 were live virtual events, with 2 wholly virtual (e.g. premières). Combined, they attracted a total audience of 39,243 (2021: 25,907) with an additional 1,689 (2021: 8,703) views-to-date, including films and events with extended accessibility. This provides a combined total audience of 40,933 (2021: 34,621) a substantial increase of 18%.

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022
TRUSTEES' REPORT

We developed our public realm, high-profile work this year with more exhibitions, in a stronger visual arts programme, delivering 237 exhibition days. A key pillar if this was the Irish Institute's partnership residency with Fion Gunn (Arrivals/Departures) which ran from Summer to the end of the year. Such expansion is ordinarily a challenge because of the long lead times needed by venues in contrast to the Festival's time-constrained 'project' status, but 2022 was an anomaly because of the amount of solo work (born of Covid downtime), partnerships and openness to using alternative venues and online methods.

#GlobalGreening visitor figures were down a little in 2022, with some buildings lighting in support of the Ukrainian plight against Russian attack. This removed them from our count, though they would otherwise have gone green. For the third year, there was no Liverpool City Council sponsored River Festival, though LCR Pride did run, with a staggering 12,000 audience, which we attended.

Following on from our successful bid to National Lottery Heritage Fund in 2021, work began on the Liverpool Irish Famine Trail. This generated a book publication in summer 2022 and the recruitment of a remarkable voluntary History Research Group, who have undertaken over 1,300 hours of volunteer time since their group's establishment. The project received support from international partners (e.g., Strokestown National Famine Museum and Trail, and the Great Famine Voices Roadshow). The Festival continues to make attempts to attract additional funds for the ongoing development of the Liverpool Irish Famine Trail.

We welcomed two new members to the Board, now 10-strong, in the summer, recruited a volunteer team of 13 (to front-of-house and Liverpool Irish Famine Trail roles); hosted two internships, recruited a new PR and Communications Lead (Anna Franks, Anna Franks Marketing) and sustained the History Research Group lead (John Maguire, Arts Groupie CIC). The Board has ordinarily met via Zoom for its meetings across the year, with occasional in-person meetings, as required.

We retain our ambition to expand the Festival's management team and support the Director in further Festival development, increasing its content and our engagement with this action. This is despite not yet being able, in a fiercely competitive field, to become an Arts Council England (ACE) National Portfolio Organisation (NPO). We are working with our peer network of other Irish organisations to strengthen the representation of Irish culture within the national portfolio. Nevertheless, the work invested in the NPO application has considerably strengthened the organisation and we will renew our strategies to progress ambitions in 2023. We were, however, successful, in gaining sizeable support (£58k) from ACE to develop new creative and cultural work for this year's Festival programme.

In total, we made funding applications of £947,265 (2021: £1,068,372), landing £110,380 (2021: £115,183) or 14% (2021: 10.78%) of our bids, to date. Regular funders included Liverpool City Council, the Irish Government's Emigrant Support Programme and Tourism Ireland, to whom we are greatly indebted.

The Festival continues membership in and support of numerous networks (e.g., Cultural Connectedness Exchange, Creative Organisations of Liverpool, Baobab, and the Irish Government's Emigrant Service Advisory Committee).

We thank our Director, Emma Smith, for her prodigious efforts, and the Festival Board and our volunteers. Emma, incidentally, accompanied the Metro Mayoral Mission to Dublin to help strengthen the northwest's strategic relationship with Ireland. We thank our artists, partners and sponsors; collaborators and networks; venues, friends and every visitor and audience member for joining us for #LIF2022. We hope you will join us this year, particularly during 19th-29th October 2023.

FUTURE PLANS

The Liverpool Irish Festival's business plan is entering its third delivery year and it remains central to operations. As outlined there, we must innovate, build organisational capacity and secure multiyear funding - grant and private. The incorporation of digital events in a diversified programme will be sustained and we intend to develop and manage the Liverpool Irish Famine Trail. We have developed a year-round presence and funding for year-round posts remains a priority. If the Festival is to grow, or even stand still, we must generate additional capacity, particularly as another opportunity to achieve ACE NPO status will not now surface for another three-years.

Our Business Plan still has two+ years to guide us (given that Covid extended the 2020-2025 plan by a year) and lays out our intention to secure and grow the Festival. As a cultural producer, we need investment to sustain our unique role in celebrating and representing the exceptional creativity of the Irish in Britain, particularly in Liverpool, addressing important issues that face our community. This year, in line with the Plan, we will address the following five points:

1. Capacity. Unless the management team grows, the Festival has hit its limit. Currently it is overstretched, yet managing to over-perform. The skill the team requires is growing and external pressures to become involved in other things is increasing rapidly (e.g., ESAC, Festival Forum, #CCEN, etc). To reflect the wants of the audience and keep pace with a changing world it is vital to engage new team members. Ideally, we would engage a Festival-, Development- and Content- Coordinator and expand the Board to improve diversity, capability and delivery functions.

2. Content is king. We are increasingly well regarded for our programme, but need to build capacity, comprehension and direction in this area, to make customised content and deeper community impact. The Liverpool Irish Famine Trail and work on its development must dovetail with the Festival's work. Integrating the Trail content into our year-round programme will be critical.

3. More public realm work. 2022 has shown that public realm work contributes to cohesive programmes and greatly increases visitor numbers. The development of the Liverpool Irish Famine Trail will add new public realm possibilities and cross-selling opportunities in coming years, but a focus on developing art for public spaces should be a priority of the Festival in 2023 and beyond.

4. Press and PR. For a micro-organisation we hit big in terms of our reach and reputation, but we need to move earlier and more strategically on long-lead times and campaign delivery. In 2023, we will run with the theme of 'anniversary'. Knowing this means we can look at how we strategise, locate calendar events to link with and identify the story we want to tell.

5. Advocacy. As a representational voice for Irishness in Britain and for tolerance, humanity and care we must sustain our labours. That no Irish organisation made it in to the Arts Council England's National Portfolio is a case in point for this. Our work on the Liverpool Irish Famine Trail, with dual-heritage communities, Baobab and the Race Equality Task Group are unique to us and a part of growing our EDI capability and reputation. We must embed this position in our programme, storytelling and interactions. We need to improve our work with, by and for groups who experience isolation (including racism, xenophobia or other protected characteristic concerns) and be better at encouraging monitoring from these groups -particularly with our artists- so we can advocate for better funding, representation and connectedness.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The charity confirms that the Board regularly review the major risks faced by the charity to ensure that procedures and controls established by the organisation are designed to mitigate those risks. The risk of shortfalls of funding and other income has been given serious consideration. Projects are only undertaken if financially viable.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The year ended 31st December 2022 saw incoming resources of £107,164 (2021: £117,775)
Total outgoing resources were £127,790 (2021: £99,816) giving rise to net outgoing resources of £20,626 (2021: incoming resources of £17,959), of which £6,037 is restricted for future activity.

RESERVES POLICY

The level of free reserves as at 31st December 2022 is £57,403 (2021: £67,263). As previously, the trustees seek to ensure that sufficient funds are held in reserve following the Festival in order to fund the post of the Director for the following year's festival. Under no circumstances will the charity be allowed to go into deficit and the Festival's programme will be adapted to reflect the level of funding received in any given year. In accordance with funder needs, the Festival seeks to maintain unrestricted reserves at a level that covers 3-6 months of operational costs.

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022
TRUSTEES' REPORT

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

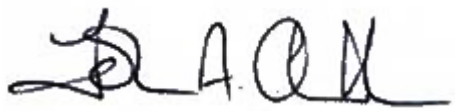
Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the net incoming or outgoing resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and they apply them consistently,
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practices (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 financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose -with reasonable accuracy, at any time- the financial position of the charity, enabling them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking responsible steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

APPROVAL

The report was prepared in accordance with the special provisions within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.
This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 22 February 2023.



John Chandler (Chair)
Trustee

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
I report to the trustees on our examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the *Charities Act* 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the *Charity Commission* under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement
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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the *Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations* 2008 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.

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.

Matthew Brown, CPFA
Adding Value Consultancy Ltd
Accountants and Financial Management Consultants

Date: 22 February 2023

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022 Total	2021 Total
Income				
Income from charitable activities	32,497	74,667	107,164	117,775
Total Income and endowments	**32,497**	**74,667**	**107,164**	**117,775**
Expenses				
Expenditure on charitable activities	42,357	85,433	127,790	99,816
Total Expenses	**42,357**	**85,433**	**127,790**	99,816
Net income (expenditure) for the year	**(9,860)**	**(10,766)**	**(20,626)**	**17,959**
Net movement in funds for the year	**(9,860)**	**(10,766)**	**(20,626)**	**17,959**
Total funds brought forward	67,263	16,803	84,066	66,107
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-
Net funds carried forward	**57,403**	**6,037**	**63,440**	**84,066**

This statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

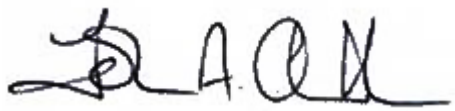
LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

Company Number: 4800736

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors (amounts falling due within one year)	**3**	6,972	3,185
Cash at bank and in hand		57,486	87,445
		64,458	90,629
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	**4**	1,017	6,563
NET CURRENT ASSETS		63,440	84,066
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		63,440	84,066
RESERVES			
Unrestricted funds - General Fund	**6**	57,403	67,263
Restricted funds	**7**	6,037	16,803
		63,440	84,066

For the year ending 31 December 2022 the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the *Companies Act* 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the *Companies Act* 2006. The directors 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.

Approved by the board of trustees on 22 February 2023 and signed on their behalf by



John Chandler (Chair)
Trustee

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1a. Basis of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.
The accounts have been prepared in accordance with FRS102 - The *Financial Reporting Standard* applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland and the *Companies Act* 2006 and the requirements of the *Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities*.

1b. Incoming Resources

Total incoming resources -as shown in the Statement of Financial Activities- represents the amounts earned by the charity during the year for services rendered, project grants received and receivable, donations, sponsorship and other sundry income. The charity is not registered for VAT.

Income from donations and grants is included in incoming resources when receivable except as follows. When donors specify that donations and grants given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods. When donors impose conditions, which must be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the pre-conditions for use have been met.

When donors specify that donations and grants are for restricted purposes, which do not amount to pre-conditions regarding entitlement, this income is included in incoming resources as restricted funds when receivable.

1c. Resources Expended

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis. All amounts expended are in the furtherance of the charitable objectives of the charity and are therefore considered to be direct charitable expenditure except for accountancy costs shown as governance costs.

1d. Allocation and Apportionment of Costs

All costs relate to the single activity of the charitable company and are recognised accordingly.

1e. Fund Accounting

Funds held by the charity are either:

- unrestricted general funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees
- restricted funds which can only be used for restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for a particular purpose.

1f. Turnover

Turnover represents the invoiced value of goods and services supplied by the company.

1g. Income Recognition Policies

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all the following are met (1) the charity has entitlement to the funds; (2) any performance conditions attached to the income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity; (3) there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable and (4) the amount can be measured reliably.

1h. Debtor

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any discount due.

1i. Cash at Bank And ln Hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term liquid investments with a short maturity of 3 months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1j. Creditors and Provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation, resulting from a past event, that will probably result in a transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any discount due.

1k. Financial Instruments

The charity has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1l. Basis of Preparing the Accounts

At the time of preparing the accounts, the trustees have reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The trustees therefore continue to operate the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the accounts.

2. DIRECTORS AND EMPLOYEES

There were no employees and no employee costs during the year (2021: nil). No remuneration was paid to any trustee for their services as a trustee. The charity engages the Artistic Director / CEO on a freelance basis.

3. DEBTORS

	2022	**2021**
	£	**£**
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Prepayments	385	485
Other debtors and accrued income	6,585	2,700
	6,971	3,185

4. CREDITORS

Amounts falling due within one year:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Deferred Income	1,017	1,017
Other creditors	0	5,546
	1,017	6,563

5. LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. Each member gives a guarantee to contribute a sum not exceeding £5, to the company should it be wound up.

6. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	67,263	32,497	(42,357)	-	57,403
	67,263	32,497	(42,357)	-	57,403

7. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Irish Government Emigrant Support Programme	-	12,075	(6,038)	-	6,037
Arts Council England National Lottery Project Grant (*#LIF2022*)	-	58,032	(58,032)	-	-
National Lottery Heritage Fund (*Liverpool Irish Famine Trail*)	16,803	4,560	(21,363)	-	-
	16,803	74,667	(85,433)	-	6,037

With thanks to our grant funders:

Irish Government's *Emigrant Support Programme*:

- Provides core funds for roles within Liverpool Irish Festival (£12,075)

Arts Council England

- Provided funds that supported the artistic programme, artist time and print and distribution of the festival's 30,000 46-page newspapers, including 20 commissions. The #LIF2022 grant was valued at £58,301, with 10% to draw down in 2023.

Liverpool City Council

- Invests money via *Culture Arts Investment Programme* to the Festival's 'areas of greatest need', allowing us to choose where to invest their funds across our portfolio of work, meetings gaps between each funder's allowances (£20,347).

National Lottery Heritage Fund

- The 2021 grant of £45,600 (90% in 2021, with a 10% draw down in 2022 and majority spending in 2022) enabled us to commence the first of 5 planned stages of work for the Liverpool Irish Famine Trail. By its conclusion, we will have a strong volunteer cohort and lead; an archive and creative asset portfolio (including promotional films, artworks, recordings and documents); a set of books and a presentation map as well as -if all funding plans in the coming years work- an internationally accessibly digital app.

8. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	General Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£
Net Current Assets	57,403	6,037	63,440

9. OUTGOING RESOURCES

	2022	*2021*
	£	*£*
Direct Project Expenses:		
Direct Event Costs	23,334	*20,357*
	23,334	*20,357*
Indirect Project Costs:		
Marketing, PR and Advertising	4,153	*1,000*
Festival Brochure and Distribution & Design	16,922	*12,666*
Research and Evaluation Professional Fees	16,498	*7,209*
Domain licences and Website Design	571	*1,102*
	38,144	*21,977*
Other Support Costs:		
Freelance Festival Director	60,026	*50,261*
Expenses - Manager and Volunteers	157	*275*
Board Development	0	*274*
Other Overheads	4,295	*4,654*
Insurance	725	*957*
	65,202	*56,421*
Total Costs of Charitable Activities	126,680	*98,754*
Governance costs - Accountancy	1,110	*1,062*
Total Outgoing Resources	127,790	*99,816*

10. INCOMING RESOURCES

	2022 £	*2021* *£*
Unrestricted Funds:		
Merchandising and Events Income	3,722	*4,354*
LCC Business Relief Grant	2,667	*8,000*
Liverpool City Council CAIP	20,347	*20,347*
Donations	6	*1,890*
Tourism Ireland Sponsorship	3,000	*3,000*
Other	2,755	*644*
Total Incoming Resources Unrestricted	32,497	*38,235*
Restricted Funds - Grants and Donations:		
Irish Government Emigrant Support Programme	12,075	*11,500*
Arts Council National Lottery Project Grant	58,032	*27,000*
National Lottery Heritage Fund for Famine Trail	4,560	*41,040*
Total Incoming Resources - Restricted	74,667	*79,540*
Total Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities	107,164	*117,775*

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Incoming Resources for the year ending 31 December 2022		**2022** £		***2021*** £
Incoming Resources				
Incoming Resources from generated funds:				
Charitable Activity				
Merchandising and Events Income	3,722		*4,354*	
Unrestricted Grant	23,014		*28,347*	
Sponsorship Income and Donations	5,761		*5,533*	
Restricted Grants for Festival and Projects	74,667		*79,540*	
		107,164		*117,775*
		107,164		*117,775*

Expenses for the year ending 31 December 2022	**2022** £	***2021*** £
Expenses		
Cost of generating funds		
Charitable Activities		
Direct Event Costs	23,334	*20,357*
Freelance Festival Director	60,026	*50,261*
Insurance	725	*957*
Manager & Volunteer Expenses	157	*275*
Board Development	0	*274*
Office Expenses	0	*4,228*
Website	571	*1,102*
Marketing and PR	4,153	*1,000*
Subscriptions	4,295	*426*
Festival Brochure & Design	16,922	*12,666*
Research and Evaluation Professional Fees	16,498	*7,209*
	126,680	*98,754*
Governance Costs		
Governance Costs - Accountancy	1,110	*1,062*
	1,110	*1,062*
	127,790	*99,816*
Net Income	(20,626)	*17,959*

Liverpool Irish Festival

England & Wales - Charity number 1100126

Accounts

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Company Number: 4800736
Charity Number: 1100126

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

TRUSTEES
John Chandler (Chair)
John Eustace (Treasurer)
Tony Birtill (Resigned 4 October 2021)
Patrick Donnelly (Resigned 14 December 2021)
Prof. Mary Hickman
Prof. Peter Shirlow (Resigned 14 December 2021)
Paul Hogan (Resigned 2 November 2021)
Eamonn Lavin
Siobhan Noble
Siubhán Macauley
Martin Bond
Gerard Diver (appointed 14 December 2021)

SECRETARY
John Chandler

REGISTERED OFFICE
5 Rutherford Road
Mossley Hill
Liverpool
L18 OHJ

COMPANY NUMBER
4800736

CHARITY NUMBER
1100126

BANKERS
NatWest Bank

ACCOUNTANTS
Adding Value Consultancy Ltd
Studio 19
Bluecoat Chambers
Liverpool L1 3BX

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

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Balance Sheet	12
Notes to the Accounts	13-17
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	18

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021
TRUSTEES' REPORT

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES
The principal activity of the charity is to bring Liverpool and Ireland closer together using arts and culture.

LEGAL STATUS
Liverpool Irish Festival is a company limited by guarantee with charitable status. It does not have a share capital.

ORGANISATION OF THE CHARITY
The charity has a board of trustees, who are also the members of the charity, who oversee the general management and control of the company. In setting policies, the trustees have complied with their duty in section 15 of the *Charities Act* 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the *Charity Commission*. The board meets roughly 10 times per year to discuss and oversee the charity's financial, artistic and administrative activities. There are presently sub-committees for finance and development, which meet when necessary and report back to the main board.

The day-to-day operations management is carried out by members of the board in a voluntary capacity, supported by a contracted Artistic Director and CEO. A rolling contract for PR and Communications provision is in place, along with website management and security, each outsourced to trusted local contractors.

TRUSTEES
The names of the present trustees -and of all who held office during the year- are shown on Page 2 of these financial statements. No remuneration was paid to any trustee for their services as a trustee, nor did any trustee have a material interest in any of the charity's contracts.

INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES
Trustees are selected based upon their professional skills to complement those of the existing trustees or replace those of retiring trustees. Current trustees bring their skills and experience from a wide range of professions. All are committed to or experienced in the arts and cultural sector. Board induction involves attending a trustees' interview prior to appointment, meeting the trustees and receiving copies of policies, business plans and accounts. Training needs are continually assessed and implemented as required.

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements in accordance with the *United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice* (*United Kingdom Accounting Standards* and applicable law). Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the net incoming or outgoing resources of the charity for that period. ln preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and they apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles of the *Charities Statement of Recommended Practices* (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 financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose -with reasonable accuracy, at any time- the financial position of the charity, enabling them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the *Companies Act* 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking responsible steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The charity confirms that the Board regularly review the major risks faced by the charity to ensure that procedures and controls established by the organisation are designed to mitigate those risks. The risk of shortfalls of funding and other income has been given serious consideration. Projects are only undertaken if financially viable.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

ln accordance with the charity's *Articles of Association*, the principal objectives are “the advancement of the

- arts in music, drama, literature and the plastic arts, in particular but without limitation to the generality thereof those arts originating or developed in the island of Ireland
- education of the public in these arts by the encouragement of their performance and display
- education of the public in the arts of music, drama, literature and the plastic arts, in particular but without limitation to the generality thereof those arts originating or developed in the island of Ireland”.

CONTRIBUTION OF VOLUNTEERS

The charity is supported by highly experienced and dedicated volunteer Board members. Additionally, the annual Festival is supported in its sub-group planning and delivery of events by a team of volunteers.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

Liverpool Irish Festival provides a high quality and wide-ranging Festival, within Liverpool and the surrounding area, open to all the community. Events range from music, film, education, literature, drama and performance. The programme is rich and varied and makes a serious attempt to create a Festival that showcases the breadth of contemporary Irish culture and the deep roots of Liverpool's relationship with Ireland.

REVIEW OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR

The *Liverpool Irish Festival* is unique in its field, as the only arts and culture-led Irish festival in the world. Celebrating Liverpool's unique connection gives us something exportable that 'brings Liverpool and Ireland closer together using arts and culture'.

The 2020 Festival's theme "exchange" was extended to 2021, allowing deeper exploration of the topic under the restrictions Covid-19 imposed. We delivered 63 Festival events over the year, 12 of which were live virtual/hybrid events, with 5 wholly virtual (e.g., premières). A few events were cancelled because of weather, illness or Covid. In total we attracted an audience total of 25,907 with a further 8,703 viewing films and events.

Even with Covid dominating the media, we attained a press reach of almost 3m; and impressions of close to 2m on *Facebook* and 279,000 on *Twitter*. Of our local audiences, we had representation from 70% of Liverpool's residential postcodes. Overall, 68% of 2021's audiences were local, 28% national and 4% international. 92.54% of audiences rated the Festival as 8/10 or above, with an impressively high average score of 9.18/10.

The annual *#GlobalGreening* (Mar) programme was heavily impacted by Covid-19, but still considerably boosted our overall visitor figures. The Festival also contributed to the national St. Brigid's Day events (Feb). Liverpool City Council was unable to run the *River Festival* (normally attracting 5-6k visitors) or host *Liverpool Pride* this year, due to ongoing pandemic restrictions, affecting some of our event counts and potential revenue.

We worked with 81 partners and 174 active contributors in the delivery of commissions (2020: 107); presenting work from many more dancers, musicians and filmmakers. The Festival developed 34 commissions (photo-stories, articles, podcasts, films and songs; on a turnover of £117,775. It is important to recognise the funding boost we received in Oct 2020 from the *Arts Council England*'s *Cultural Recovery Fund* (£45,450), which brought an additional £5,050 to 2021's income and continued to support services throughout the year.

REVIEW OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR (continued)

We entered the year with £30,506 in unrestricted funds and leave the year with £67,263. Maintaining this reserve is extremely important for our sustainability and resilience, alongside a compliance requirement for certain funders (who only provide grants based on an organisation's ability to prove a minimum of six months' worth of reserves). Sustaining this reserve is a considerable achievement within the current fundraising landscape. Prudent cash handling and financial planning is at the root of this. Whilst maintaining an FTE Artistic Director and CEO (1 post) throughout the year, we have additionally paid for 157 FTE artist days, bringing added value to the sector, whilst continuing our business.

The successful *National Lottery Heritage Fund* bid enabled work to begin on the *Liverpool Irish Famine Trail*, opening a programme of future public realm work that will develop our profile; grow city, regional and international influence and connection, whilst additionally building a year 'round offer. In this enterprise we are acquiring local and international partners; a volunteer cohort and History Research Group lead; volumes of research/content assets as well as legacy materials that may develop income streams.

The Festival is overseen by the eight-strong Board, which now welcomes Councillor Harry Doyle, Cabinet Member for Culture and Visitor Economy, who replaces Councillor Wendy Simon as the Council's observer. We greatly appreciate the support that Wendy has given the Festival over many years.

Towards the end of the year, we had two sad losses: Tony Birtill, who was -after the Chair- the longest standing Board member and Clive Pownceby, the Board's first Treasurer. Both gave the Festival great service and were held in immense esteem for their services in the community. They will be sorely missed by many.

The Board reappraised the Festival Director's role, as a consequence of the increased span of responsibility, re-designating it as 'Artistic Director and Chief Executive Officer'. She, Emma Smith, recruited a volunteer team of 18 (across front-of-house and *Liverpool Irish Famine Trail* roles). Despite best efforts, we have not yet been able to expand the team to include Development, Content and Engagement Coordinators. This will be readdressed in 2022 due to the ongoing concern capacity presents to resilience and delivery.

We made funding applications totalling £1,068,372, landing £115,183 (or just over 10%) of our bids in public grants; 14% more than in 2020. Regular funders included Liverpool City Council (£20.4k) and the Irish Government's *Emigrant Support Programme* (£11.5k). We are fortunate to have received £8k from the UK Government's *Small Business Relief Support* and £47k from the *National Lottery Heritage Fund* bid (£41k in 2021 with the rest to follow in 2022). We succeeded, too, in obtaining £27k from *Arts Council England*, for *#LIF2021* arts programming, and reinstated support from *Tourism Ireland*. Net ticket income generated via *Eventbrite*, for the 30 events the Festival ticket-managed, raised £2,870. This is a major advance on last year, when 15 ticketed events had raised £528.

REVIEW OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR (continued)

The Festival Board ran a successful *Fundraising Ceílí* late in the year and is thankful for the support of the *Ullet Road Unitarian Church* and its Minister, the Rev. Philip Waldron, Mike Stoddart at *Oddbins* (Allerton Road) and *The Philharmonic Dining Rooms*.

Finally, we should highlight our sustained involvement in *CARA*, the North West's community cohesion network initiated in 2020 and the continuing significance of the *Cultural Connectedness Exchange Network* of Irish and Northern artists, along with those who commission Irish work in England. Initiated, hosted and managed by the Festival (and chaired by Emma Smith), the group held an exchange day, as part of *#LIF2021*, which scored highly in our surveys. Both the day and Festival launch, at *the Liverpool Irish Centre*, were attended by Sarah Mangan, the new Consul General.

We thank our artists, partners and sponsors; collaborators and networks; venues, friends and every visitor and audience member for joining us for *#LIF2021.* We hope you will and join us next year – 20-30 Oct 2022.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The year ended 31st December 2021 saw incoming resources of £117,775 (2020: £107,060)
Total outgoing resources were £99,816 (2020: £57,424) giving rise to net incoming resources of £17,959 (2020: £49,636), of which £16,803 is restricted for future activity.

RESERVES POLICY

The level of free reserves as at 31st December 2021 is £67,623 (2020: £30,507). As previously, the trustees seek to ensure that sufficient funds are held in reserve following the Festival in order to fund the post of the Artistic Director and CEO for the following year's festival. Under no circumstances will the charity be allowed to go into deficit and the Festival's programme will be adapted to reflect the level of funding received in any given year. In accordance with funder needs, the Festival seeks to maintain unrestricted reserves at a level that covers 3-6 months of operational costs.

FUTURE PLANS

At the time of writing, the impact of Covid-19 continues to disrupt the operating environment, with restrictions on public gatherings, social distancing and high competition for funds. At the time of writing, the bank balance is relatively healthy, with funding in hand for the roll out of existing projects. However, the Director and trustees are continually reviewing the nature and timing of all Festival events and activities, and budget planning accordingly.

The Festival continues to work hard on securing multi-year funds (such as those received under the city council's 'Culture and Arts Investment Programme', under review in 2022), moving from a 'project' offer/reputation to a year-round organisation. Ideally, we'd secure a 5-year project with a long-term funder that allowed us to work on deep community engagement.

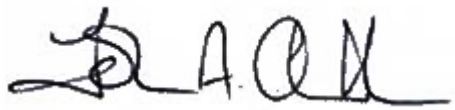
FUTURE PLANS (continued)

We have worked hard to pull in the timing of the completion of our accounts to meet certain funding needs, chiefly the *Emigrant Support Programme* application to the Irish Government. We hope that doing this will be viewed positively, acknowledging this has been a stumbling block in the past.

Key to work in 2022 is our *Arts Council England* application for National Portfolio Organisation status. We have done much already to align ourselves in readiness for making this application, including changing our monitoring surveys, reviewing our policy pack, reappraising our trustee recruitment materials and strengthening our website and data infrastructures. If successful, we will secure funding through to 2025. As the lowest application to be made is £50,000 per year, we plan to expand our team, generating capacity for development, content creation and event delivery. As decisions for this will not be made until October 2022 or delivered until April 2023, we will additionally apply for *Arts Council England* grant funding in Q1-Q2 of 2022 and *National Lottery Heritage Funding* in Q2-Q3 (both c.12-week fund turnarounds), ready for Q3-Q4. The latter must follow the successful conclusion of the first *National Lottery Heritage Fund* project, which we intend to complete in April.

APPROVAL

The report was prepared in accordance with the special provisions within Part 15 of the *Companies Act* 2006.
This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 7 February 2022.



John Chandler (Chair)
Trustee

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
I report to the trustees on our examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the *Charities Act* 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the *Charity Commission* under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement
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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the *Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations* 2008 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.

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.

Matthew Brown, CPFA
Adding Value Consultancy Ltd
Accountants and Financial Management Consultants

Date: 7 February 2022

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2021 Total	*2020 Total*
Income				
Income from generated funds				
Income from charitable activities	38,235	79,540	117,775	*107,060*
Total Income and endowments	**38,235**	**79,540**	**117,775**	***107,060***
Expenses				
Cost of generating funds				
Expenditure on charitable activities	1,478	98,338	99,816	*57,424*
Total Expenses	**1,478**	**98,338**	**99,816**	*57,424*
Net gains on investments				
Net income	**36,757**	**(18,798)**	**17,959**	***49,636***
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets				
Net movement in funds:				
Net income for the year	**36,757**	**(18,798)**	**17,959**	***49,636***
Total funds brought forward	30,506	35,601	66,107	*16,471*
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-
Net funds carried forward	**67,263**	**16,803**	**84,066**	***66,107***

This statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

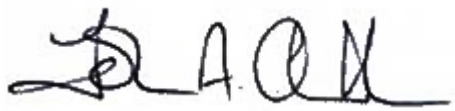
LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

Company Number: 4800736

	Notes		2021		*2020*
		£	£	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors (amounts falling due within one year)	**3**	3,185		*7,409*	
Cash at bank and in hand		87,445		*64,505*	
		90,629		*71,914*	
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	**4**	6,563		*5,807*	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			84,066		*66,107*
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			84,066		*66,107*
RESERVES					
Unrestricted funds	**6**				
General fund			67,263		*30,506*
Restricted funds	**7**		16,803		*35,601*
			84,066		*66,107*

For the year ending 31 December 2021 the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the *Companies Act* 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the *Companies Act* 2006. The directors 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.

Approved by the board of trustees on 7 February 2022 and signed on their behalf by



John Chandler (Chair)
Trustee

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1a. Basis of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.
The accounts have been prepared in accordance with FRS102 - The *Financial Reporting Standard* applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland and the *Companies Act* 2006 and the requirements of the *Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities*.

1b. Incoming Resources

Total incoming resources -as shown in the Statement of Financial Activities- represents the amounts earned by the charity during the year for services rendered, project grants received and receivable, donations, sponsorship and other sundry income. The charity is not registered for VAT.

Income from donations and grants is included in incoming resources when receivable except as follows. When donors specify that donations and grants given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods. When donors impose conditions, which must be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the pre-conditions for use have been met.

When donors specify that donations and grants are for restricted purposes, which do not amount to pre-conditions regarding entitlement, this income is included in incoming resources as restricted funds when receivable.

1c. Resources Expended

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis. All amounts expended are in the furtherance of the charitable objectives of the charity and are therefore considered to be direct charitable expenditure except for accountancy costs shown as governance costs.

1d. Allocation and Apportionment of Costs

All costs relate to the single activity of the charitable company and are recognised accordingly.

1e. Fund Accounting

Funds held by the charity are either:

- unrestricted general funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees
- restricted funds which can only be used for restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for a particular purpose.

1f. Turnover

Turnover represents the invoiced value of goods and services supplied by the company.

1g. Income Recognition Policies

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all the following are met (1) the charity has entitlement to the funds; (2) any performance conditions attached to the income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity; (3) there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable and (4) the amount can be measured reliably.

1h. Debtor

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any discount due.

1i. Cash at Bank And ln Hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term liquid investments with a short maturity of 3 months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1j. Creditors and Provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation, resulting from a past event, that will probably result in a transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any discount due.

1k. Financial Instruments

The charity has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1l. Basis of Preparing the Accounts

At the time of preparing the accounts, the trustees have reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The trustees therefore continue to operate the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the accounts.

2. DIRECTORS AND EMPLOYEES

There were no employees and no employee costs during the year (2020: nil). No remuneration was paid to any trustee for their services as a trustee. The charity engages the Artistic Director and CEO on a freelance basis.

3. DEBTORS

	2021	***2020***
	£	**£**
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Prepayments	485	*324*
Other debtors	2,700	*7,085*
	3,185	*7,409*

4. CREDITORS

	2021	*2020*
	£	£
Deferred Income	1,017	*5,087*
Other creditors	5,546	*720*
	6,563	*5,807*

5. LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. Each member gives a guarantee to contribute a sum not exceeding £5, to the company should it be wound up.

6. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	30,506	38,235	(1,478)	-	67,263
	30,506	38,235	(1,478)	-	67,263

7. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Irish Government Emigrant Support Programme	5,750	11,500	(17,250)	-	-
Arts Council England Cultural Recovery Fund	29,851	-	(29,851)	-	-
Arts Council England National Lottery Project Grant (*#LIF2021*)	-	27,000	(27,000)	-	-
National Lottery Heritage Fund (*Liverpool Irish Famine Trail*)	-	41,040	(24,237)	-	16,803
	35,601	79,540	(98,338)	-	16,803

With thanks to our grant funders:

Irish Government's *Emigrant Support Programme*:

- Provides core funds for roles within Liverpool Irish Festival (£11,500)

Arts Council England

- Provided funds for the artistic programme, artist time and print and distribution of the Festival's 30,000 newspapers, including 15 commissions (£27,000)

Liverpool City Council

- Invests money via *Culture Arts Investment Programme* to the Festival's 'areas of greatest need', allowing us to choose where to invest their funds across our portfolio of work, meetings gaps between each funder's allowances (£20,347)

National Lottery Heritage Fund

- Has enabled us to begin work on the first of 5 planned stages of work for the *Liverpool Irish Famine Trail.* By its conclusion, we will have a strong volunteer cohort and lead; an archive and

asset register; a short promotional film, book and map; a brief for a digital application and content to populate an app with (£41,040).

8. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	General Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£
Net Current Assets	67,263	16,803	84,066

9. OUTGOING RESOURCES

	2021	*2020*
	£	*£*
Direct Project Expenses:		
Direct Event Costs	20,357	*3,507*
	20,357	*3,507*
Indirect Project Costs:		
Marketing, PR and Advertising	1,000	*2,130*
Festival Brochure and Distribution & Design	12,666	*7,710*
Research and Evaluation Professional Fees	7,209	-
Domain licences and Website Design	1,102	*311*
	21,977	*10,151*
Other Support Costs:		
Freelance Festival Director	50,261	*38,644*
Expenses - Manager and Volunteers	275	-
Board Development	274	*250*
Other Overheads	4,654	*4,152*
Insurance	957	-
	56,421	*43,046*
Total Costs of Charitable Activities	98,754	*56,704*
Governance costs - Accountancy	1,062	*720*
Total Outgoing Resources	99,816	*57,424*

10. INCOMING RESOURCES

	2021 £	*2020* *£*
Unrestricted Funds:		
Merchandising and Events Income	4,354	*658*
LCC Business Relief Grant	8,000	*10,000*
Liverpool City Council CAIP	20,347	*15,260*
Donations	1,890	*6,083*
Tourism Ireland Sponsorship	3,000	-
Other	644	*2,675*
Total Incoming Resources Unrestricted	38,235	*34,676*
Restricted Funds - Grants and Donations:		
Irish Government Emigrant Support Programme	11,500	*21,295*
Arts Council Cultural Recovery Fund	-	*50,500*
Arts Council National Lottery Project Grant	27,000	-
National Lottery Heritage Fund for Famine Trail	41,040	-
Writing on the Wall	-	589
Total Incoming Resources - Restricted	79,540	*72,384*
Total Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities	117,775	*107,060*

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL
DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Incoming Resources for the year ending 31 December 2021		**2021**		***2020***
		£		**£**
Incoming Resources				
Incoming Resources from generated funds:				
Charitable Activity				
Merchandising and Events Income	4,354		*658*	
Unrestricted Grant	28,347		*25,260*	
Sponsorship Income and Donations	5,533		*8,758*	
Restricted Grants for Festival and Projects	79,540		*72,384*	
		117,775		*107,060*
		117,775		*107,060*

Expenses for the year ending 31 December 2021	**2021**	***2020***
	£	**£**
Expenses		
Cost of generating funds		
Charitable Activities		
Direct Event Costs	20,357	*3,507*
Freelance Festival Director	50,261	*38,644*
Insurance	957	-
Manager & Volunteer Expenses	275	-
Board Expenses	-	-
Board Development	274	250
Office Expenses	4,228	*3,714*
Website	1,102	*311*
Marketing and PR	1,000	*2,130*
Subscriptions	426	*438*
Festival Brochure & Design	12,666	*7,710*
Research and Evaluation Professional Fees	7,209	-
	98,754	*56,704*
Governance Costs		
Governance Costs - Accountancy	1,062	*720*
	1,062	*720*
	99,816	*57,424*
Net Income	17,959	49,636

Liverpool Irish Festival

England & Wales - Charity number 1100126

Accounts

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL

UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Company Number: 4800736

Charity Number: 1100126

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

TRUSTEES
John Chandler (Chair)
John Eustace (Treasurer) (appointed 24/08/2020)
Tony Birtill
Patrick Donnelly
Prof. Mary Hickman
Prof. Peter Shirlow
Emma Walsh (resigned 3/11/2020)
Paul Hogan
Eamonn Lavin
Michelle Rushforth (resigned 20/01/2020)
Siobhan Noble (appointed 24/08/2020)
Siubhán Macauley (appointed 24/08/2020)
Martin Bond (appointed 24/08/2020)

SECRETARY
John Chandler

REGISTERED OFFICE
5 Rutherford Road
Mossley Hill
Liverpool
L18 OHJ

COMPANY NUMBER
4800736

CHARITY NUMBER
1100126

BANKERS
NatWest Bank

ACCOUNTANTS
Adding Value Consultancy Ltd
The 2030 Hub, 23 Argyle Street
Liverpool L1 5BL

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL

ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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Independent Examiner's Statement	8
Statement of Financial Activities	9
Balance Sheet	10
Notes to the Accounts	11-15
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	16

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activity of the charity is to bring Liverpool and Ireland closer together using arts and culture.

LEGAL STATUS

Liverpool Irish Festival is a company limited by guarantee with charitable status. It does not have a share capital.

ORGANISATION OF THE CHARITY

The charity has a board of trustees, who are also the members of the charity, who oversee the general management and control of the company. In setting policies, the trustees have complied with their duty in section 15 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. The board meets roughly 10 times per year to discuss and oversee the charity's financial, artistic and administrative activities. There are presently sub-committees for finance and heritage development, which meet when necessary and report back to the main board.

The day-to-day operations management is carried out by members of the board in a voluntary capacity, supported by a contracted Festival Director. A rolling contract for PR and Communications provision is in place, along with website management and security, each outsourced to trusted local contractors.

TRUSTEES

The names of the present trustees and of all who held office during the year are shown on Page 2 of these financial statements. No remuneration was paid to any trustee for their services as a trustee, nor did any trustee have a material interest in any of the charity's contracts.
Patrick Donnelly, Prof. Mary Hickman and Prof. Peter Shirlow and were re-elected at the Festival's Annual General Meeting in keeping with the Festival's Articles of Association.

INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

Trustees are selected based upon their professional skills to complement those of the existing trustees or replace those of retiring trustees. Current trustees bring their skills and experience from a wide range of professions. All are committed to or experienced in the arts and cultural sector. Board induction involves attending a trustees' interview prior to appointment, meeting the trustees and receiving copies of policies, business plans and accounts. Training needs are continually assessed and implemented as required.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

In accordance with the charity's Articles of Association, the principal objectives are:

- The advancement of the arts in music, drama, literature and the plastic arts, in particular but without limitation to the generality thereof those arts originating or developed in the island of Ireland.

- The advancement of the education of the public in these arts by the encouragement of their performance and display.

- The advancement of the education of the public in the arts of music, drama, literature and the plastic arts, in particular but without limitation to the generality thereof those arts originating or developed in the island of Ireland.

CONTRIBUTION OF VOLUNTEERS

The charity is supported by highly experienced and dedicated volunteer Board members. Additionally, the annual Festival is supported in its sub-group planning and delivery of events by a team of volunteers.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

Liverpool Irish Festival (LIF) provides a quality and wide-ranging Festival within Liverpool and the surrounding area, open to all of the community. Events range from music, film, education, literature, drama and performance. The programme is rich and varied and makes a serious attempt to create a Festival that showcases the breadth of contemporary Irish culture and the deep roots of Liverpool's relationship with Ireland.

REVIEW OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR

This year has been undoubtedly one of the most challenging in the Festival's 18-year history; fraught with immense difficulties including social distancing, isolation, technological advances and change. The impact of Covid-19 necessitated a complete overhaul of the planned programme and it is a tribute to our Director, Emma Smith, her team, the Board and our stakeholders that we were still able to deliver a strong set of events, discussions and written commissions. The world we live in continues to change rapidly, undeniably now more than ever with the recent global spread of coronavirus and its far-reaching and unpredictable consequences. The global economy faces further recession and uncertainty rules the roost.

Liverpool Irish Festival's 2020 theme "exchange" moved on from "unique stories, creatively told", "migration", "what does it mean to be Irish?" and "conviviality". We simplified the programme, reducing total events to 31 reflecting Covid-19 funding limitations, but also what can be expected of digital audiences during a 10-day period. Despite the difficulties, events were on-sale by mid/late September, with 20,000 newspapers distributed. The newspaper was a significant success because it created non-digital reach, made a gift to people in lockdown and extended storytelling with over 15

commissions, in-depth articles and event cross-sells. The paper provides a Festival legacy, speaking to local and international audiences.

Like most things in 2020, our other events in the year, such as #GlobalGreening were C-19 affected, with visits down on 2019, not helped by government announcements causing confusion for some of our venues. Liverpool City Council was forced to cancel the River Festival, where we usually obtain a further 5000-6000 visitors, and Liverpool Pride was also cancelled.

In 2018 we developed the ambition to improve public realm, high-profile work, which improved in 2019 with In:Visible Women at Tate Exchange and our Palm House artistic residency with Art Arcadia. Social distancing suspended work on this in 2020, though our continued partnership with Bluecoat Display Centre and Design and Craft Council of Ireland, always provides a physical month-long exhibit, this year featuring the work of ceramicist Mike Byrne.

Our public realm ambition was to have begun work on the Liverpool Irish Famine Trail*,* opening a five project/five-year programme, growing the Festival's profile, developing city influence and inter/national links and events, growing a year-round offer. Potential international partners, such as the Strokestown National Famine Museum and Trail, were poised to come alongside us but Coronavirus caused the National Lottery Heritage Fund to close just as we intended to submit our application. The ambition remains on hold but, in the interim, involvement in the Festival's online Great Famine Voices Roadshow proved tremendously successful, with over 4,000 watching the collected entries.

2020's difficulties did bring some advances in community cohesion. The Festival helped create CARA - a network of Irish service providers for the North West, which was formed to create an activated network that signposts to member services and links communities.

The Festival undertook a recruitment drive in the summer and achieved its ambition to attract four new trustees, including a new trustee with financial responsibility, strengthening the Board's ability to guide and support the organisation. We launched our new Business Plan and Black Lives Matter solidarity statement, made a significant and successful challenge to a national agency regarding Irish representation within arts and culture and created the Cultural Connectedness Network.

We made a substantial fundraising effort in 2020, making 22 applications requesting a total of £394k, up from £143k in 2019. Of those, we achieved total grants of £101k, including regular City Council funds (£20.4k) and Irish Government funding (£11.5k). We also received the UK Government's small business relief support (£10k) and DCMS's Cultural Recovery Funding (£50.5k) as well as four funds from the Irish Government's emergency, reconciliation, Christmas and creative community fund programmes (£9.6k). £5,907 was donated to the Festival by its Director using the first HMRC SEISS drawdowns and a further £3860 was saved in December, on account of access to the third round of the SEISS.

The Liverpool Irish Festival, despite being the smallest of its comparator local arts organisations, features in the top half of the 'league table' in terms of its partnerships, number of events, audience

reach, percentage of income spent on performing/visual arts specialist services and in-kind support. These are extraordinary achievements.

We continue to believe we are unique in our field, as the only arts and culture *led* Irish festival in the world. Our specificity is our USP. Liverpool's unique connection to Irish communities, its international standing and our determination to address Irishness, diasporic peoples and Irish culture as a spectrum of ideas and abilities really engages people. The location harnesses the stories, but the generosity of sharing them takes us beyond city perimeters. We have something exportable and meaningful that develops exchanges that 'bring Liverpool and Ireland closer together using arts and culture'.

We thank our artists, partners and sponsors; collaborators and networks; venues, friends and every visitor and audience member for joining us for *#LIF2020.* We hope you will and join us next year - 21-31 Oct 2021.

FUTURE PLANS

At the time of writing, the impact of Covid-19 continues to disrupt the operating environment, with continued restrictions on public gatherings, the need for social distancing and uncertainty over future funding. However, fundraising success during 2020 has grown reserves to enable LIF to navigate this disruption with confidence. Activity and events will shift according to what is possible within government guidelines. The Director and Trustees are continually reviewing the nature and timing of all future Festival events and activities and budget planning accordingly. With a new treasurer in place, a financial plan is being developed that will map out core and project projections and align growth plans with relevant funds to pursue. A range of grant funding opportunities are being pursued, and we are also looking to diversify our income by re-establishing and improving our corporate sponsorship opportunities, advertising sales, and donation opportunities.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The year ended 31st December 2020 saw incoming resources of £107,060 (2019: £78,330)
Total outgoing resources were £57,424 (2019: £89,837) giving rise to net incoming resources of £49,637 (2019: net outgoing resources of £11,507), of which £35,601 is restricted for future activity.

RESERVES POLICY

The level of free reserves as at 31st December 2020 is £30,507 (2019: £16,471). As previously, the trustees seek to ensure that sufficient funds are held in reserve following the Festival in order to fund the post of a Festival Director for the following year's work. Under no circumstances will the charity be allowed to go into deficit and the Festival programme will be adapted to reflect the level of funding received in any given year.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The charity confirms that the Board regularly review the major risks faced by the charity to ensure that procedures and controls established by the organisation are designed to mitigate those risks. The risk of shortfalls of funding and other income has been given serious consideration. Projects are only undertaken if financially viable.

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the net incoming or outgoing resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

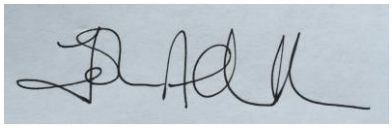
- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently,
- Observe the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP)
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- State whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements,
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and 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. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking responsible steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

APPROVAL

The report was prepared in accordance with the special provisions within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 2nd March 2021.



John Chandler (Chair)
Trustee

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL

I report to the trustees on our examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

Matthew Brown, CPFA
Adding Value Consultancy Ltd
Accountants and Financial Management Consultants

Date: 2nd March 2021

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2020 Total	2019 Total
Income				
Income from generated funds				
Income from charitable activities	34,676	72,384	107,060	78,330
Total Income and endowments	**34,676**	**72,384**	**107,060**	**78,330**
Expenses				
Cost of generating funds				
Expenditure on charitable activities	20,641	36,783	57,424	89,837
Total Expenses	**20,641**	**36,783**	**57,424**	89,837
Net income (expenditure)	**14,036**	**35,601**	**49,637**	**(11,507)**
Net movement in funds:				
Total funds brought forward	16,471	-	16,471	27,978
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-
Net funds carried forward	**30,507**	**35,601**	**66,108**	**16,471**

This statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL

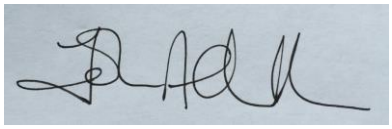
BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors (amounts falling due within one year)	**3**	7,409	4,643
Cash at bank and in hand		64,505	12,548
		71,914	17,191
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	**4**	5,807	720
NET CURRENT ASSETS		66,108	16,471
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		66,108	16,471
RESERVES			
Unrestricted funds	**6**		
General fund		30,507	16,471
Restricted funds	**7**	35,601	-
		66,108	16,471

For the year ending 31 December 2020 the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. The directors 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.

Approved by the board of trustees on 2 March 2021 and signed on their behalf by



John Chandler (Chair)
Trustee

LIVERPOOL IRISH FESTIVAL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1a. Basis of Accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with FRS102 - The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland and the Companies Act 2006 and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

1b. lncoming Resources

Total incoming resources as shown in the Statement of Financial Activities represents the amounts earned by the charity during the year for services rendered, project grants received and receivable, donations, sponsorship and other sundry income. The charity is not registered for VAT.

lncome from donations and grants is included in incoming resources when receivable except as follows. When donors specify that donations and grants given to the charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods. When donors impose conditions that must be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the pre-conditions for use have been met. When donors specify that donations and grants are for particular restricted purposes, which do not amount to pre-conditions regarding entitlement, this income is included in incoming resources as restricted funds when receivable.

1c. Resources Expended

Resources expended are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis. All amounts expended are considered to be in the furtherance of the charitable objectives of the charity and are therefore considered to be direct charitable expenditure with the exception of accountancy costs shown as governance costs.

1d. Allocation and Apportionment of Costs

All costs relate to the single activity of the charitable company and are recognised accordingly.

1e. Fund Accounting

Funds held by the charity are either:

Unrestricted general funds, which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds, which can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for a particular purpose.

1f. Turnover

Turnover represents the invoiced value of goods and services supplied by the company.

1g. lncome Recognition Policies

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all the following are met (1) The charity has entitlement to the funds; (2) Any performance conditions attached to the income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity; (3) There is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable and (4) The amount can be measured reliably.

1h. Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any discount due.

1i. Cash at Bank And ln Hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term liquid investments with a short maturity of 3 months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1j. Creditors and Provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in a transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any discount due.

1k. Financial lnstruments

The charity has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1l. Basis of Preparing the Accounts

At the time of preparing the accounts, the trustees have reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The trustees therefore continue to operate the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the accounts.

2. DIRECTORS AND EMPLOYEES

There were no employees during the year. No remuneration was paid to any trustee for their services as a trustee. The charity engages the Festival Director on a freelance basis.

	2020	***2019***
	£	**£**
Employee costs during the year amounted to:	-	-

3. DEBTORS

	2020	**2019**
Amounts falling due within one year:	**£**	**£**
Prepayments	324	-
Other debtors	7,085	4,643
	7,409	4,643

4. CREDITORS

Amounts falling due within one year:	2020	2019
	£	£
Deferred Income	5,087	0
Other creditors	720	720
	5,807	720

5. LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. Each member gives a guarantee to contribute a sum not exceeding £5, to the company should it be wound up.

6. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	16,471	34,676	(20,641)	-	30,507
	16,471	34,676	(20,641)	-	30,507

7. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Irish Government Emigrant Support Programme	-	21,295	(15,545)	-	5,750
Arts Council England Cultural Recovery Fund	-	50,500	(20,649)	-	29,851
Writing on the Wall	-	589	(589)	-	-
	-	72,384	(36,783)	-	35,601

With thanks to our grant funders:

Irish Government Emigrant Support Programme:

- Core funds supporting Liverpool Irish Festival as an organisation (£11,500)
- Emergency Fund (£1,875)
- Reconciliation Fund (£2,650)
- Creative Community Fund (£4,500)
- CARA #Operation Nollaig contribution (£520)
- St Brigid's commission (£1,250)

DCMS via Arts Council England

- Cultural Recovery Funding (£50,500)

Writing on the Wall

- Black History Month contribution (£589)

Liverpool City Council

- Culture Arts Investment Programme, CAIP (£20,347)

8. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	General Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total Funds £
Net Current Assets	30,507	35,601	66,108

9. OUTGOING RESOURCES

	2020 £	*2019 £*
Direct Project Expenses:		
Direct Event Costs	3,507	*33,172*
	3,507	*33,172*
Indirect Project Costs:		
Marketing, PR and Advertising	2,130	*2,403*
Festival Brochure and Distribution & Design	7,710	*7,444*
Domain licences and Website Design	311	*284*
	10,151	*10,131*
Other Support Costs:		
Freelance Festival Director	38,644	*40,605*
Expenses - Manager and Volunteers	-	*157*
Board Development	250	-
Other Overheads	4,152	*4,170*
Insurance	-	*822*
	43,046	*45,754*
Total Costs of Charitable Activities	56,704	*89,057*
Governance costs - Accountancy	720	*780*
Total Outgoing Resources	57,424	*89,837*

10. INCOMING RESOURCES

	2020 £	2019 £
Unrestricted Funds:		
Merchandising and Events Income	658	12,035
LCC Business Relief Grant	10,000	-
Liverpool City Council CAIP	15,260	23,560
Sponsorship Income	-	4,436
Donations	6,083	-
Tourism Ireland Sponsorship	-	2,500
Other	2,675	-
Total Incoming Resources Unrestricted	34,676	42,531
Restricted Funds:		
Irish Government Emigrant Support Programme	21,295	12,500
Arts Council England	50,500	17,299
Liverpool City Council annual commission programme	-	6,000
Writing on the Wall	589	-
Total Incoming Resources - Restricted	72,384	35,799
Total Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities	107,060	78,330

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Incoming Resources for the year ending 31 December 2020		**2020** £		**2019** £
Incoming Resources				
Incoming Resources from generated funds:				
Charitable Activity				
Merchandising and Events Income	658		12,035	
Unrestricted Grant	25,260		23,560	
Sponsorship Income and Donations	8,758		6,936	
Restricted Grants for Festival and Projects	72,384		35,799	
		107,060		78,330
		107,060		78,330

Expenses for the year ending 31 December 2020	**2020** £	**2019** £
Expenses		
Cost of generating funds		
Charitable Activities		
Direct Event Costs	3,507	33,172
Freelance Festival Director	38,644	40,605
Insurance	-	822
Manager & Volunteer Expenses	-	78
Board Expenses	-	79
Board Development	250	-
Office Expenses	3,714	4,170
Website	311	284
Marketing and PR	2,130	2,040
Subscriptions	438	363
Festival Brochure & Design	7,710	7,444
Sundry Expenses	-	-
	56,704	89,057
Governance Costs		
Governance Costs - Accountancy	720	780
	720	780
Total Expenditure	57,424	89,837