

**Company Registration Number: 04566484**  
**Charity Registration Number: 1105174**

**CREATIVE FOLKESTONE**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Year ended 31 March 2025**

# CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

## Strategic Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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The Trustees, (who are also directors of the Charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of Creative Folkestone for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the Charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Charity's governing document, the Charity Act 2011 and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" including FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". As Creative Folkestone is a company limited by guarantee, the report and statements also comply with the Companies Act 2006.

Pages 1 to 4 comprise the Strategic Report as required by company law, as well as providing the information required by the SORP for the Trustees' Annual Report.

## Reference and administrative details

<b>Registered company number</b>	04566484 (England and Wales)
<b>Registered charity number</b>	1105174 (England and Wales)
<b>Registered office</b>	Quarterhouse Mill Bay, Folkestone Kent CT20 1BN
<b>Trustees</b>	Sir Roger De Haan (Chair) Cathy Beare (resigned 30 April 2024) Lady Alison De Haan Sir Stephen Deuchar CBE Paul Hudson Andrew Ironside Judith Nesbitt The Earl of Radnor David Shriver (appointed 26 June 2024) Vanessa Stone Alastair Upton Mark Watkins (appointed 23 September 2024)
<b>Chief Executive</b>	Alastair Upton
<b>Deputy Chief Executive</b>	Sebastian Cater
<b>Company Secretary</b>	Stephen Ansell
<b>Auditor</b>	RSM UK Audit LLP 25 Farringdon Street London EC4A 4AB
<b>Solicitors</b>	Withers LLP 20 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7AN
<b>Bankers</b>	NatWest Bank Folkestone Branch, Europa House 49 Sandgate Road Folkestone Kent CT20 1RU

# CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

## Strategic Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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### Investment Brokers

Rathbones Investment Management  
8 Finsbury Circus  
London EC2M 7AZ

### Website

[www.creativefolkestone.org.uk](http://www.creativefolkestone.org.uk)

### Objectives and activities

Established in 2002, Creative Folkestone is an arts charity dedicated to producing and enabling the very best creative activity to help transform Folkestone and the surrounding area of Kent. Working with the people of Folkestone, our partners and other stakeholders, we aim to make the town a better place to live, work, play, study and visit.

The Charity's objectives, as set out in the governing document, are "The fostering of knowledge and appreciation of art, music and literature; the relief of poverty by assisting individuals who are in need, in particular by assisting artists to become self-supporting through their art; the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for the inhabitants of Folkestone and the surrounding district; the promotion of regeneration in areas of social and economic deprivation."

Creative Folkestone believes that everyone is creative, and that creativity has the power to change people and places for the better. With a passion for creativity at its heart, the Charity will enable people's creativity to flourish, enriching the town and those who live in it, or visit it, and transform Folkestone's reputation.

All our Board and staff are committed to enabling the very best work to be created. We always appoint skilled and ambitious curators and programmers who are empathetic to art, artists, place and community. Creativity drives the goals we set ourselves and which continue to guide the organisation:

- Goal 1: Creatively engage the people of Folkestone
- Goal 2: Creatively transform the look of Folkestone
- Goal 3: Creatively change the economy of Folkestone
- Goal 4: Change the reputation of Folkestone as a creative town
- Goal 5: Create a sustainable Creative Folkestone

A principal focus for the Charity in achieving these goals is the development of the Creative Quarter, in the historic old town area of Folkestone, through a process of property acquisition, refurbishment and letting. The Charity benefits from a collaboration with the Roger De Haan Charitable Trust (RDHCT), which shares many of the Charity's goals. Typically, RDHCT funds the acquisition and refurbishment costs of properties and after the renovation works are complete leases them to the Charity on a long term basis at a peppercorn rent. Creative Folkestone then proceeds to let the refurbished property at affordable rates to artists, education providers and a wide range of creative organisations.

Creative Folkestone has a remarkable record of success having already transformed the most run down part of Folkestone. Around ninety buildings have been restored in the Creative Quarter and the area is populated by artists and creative industries. We use the Quarterhouse, our performance venue that we built in 2008, to stage our annual Folkestone Book Festival and a full programme of music, theatre, dance and comedy. The area has been animated by five internationally acclaimed Folkestone Triennials when we commissioned site specific artworks to be exhibited in the public realm around the town. After each show we kept many of the exhibits and added them to Folkestone Artworks which have then been kept on permanent display. As our collection has grown, so has Folkestone's reputation as a unique destination for those who enjoy contemporary art. In 2021 we took on the stewardship of Prospect Cottage, Derek Jarman's former home in Dungeness, along with a commitment to open its doors to the public through visits and a residency programme.

The Charity continues to work with a range of public and private sector organisations on a number of strategically important initiatives which are helping us to have a profound regenerative impact on the community.

## **CREATIVE FOLKESTONE**

### **Strategic Report**

**For the year ended 31 March 2025**

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The creative transformation of Folkestone is being achieved through a number of core projects developed and managed by Creative Folkestone: the Creative Quarter, Quarterhouse, Folkestone Book Festival, Folkestone Triennial, Folkestone Artworks and Prospect Cottage; all these initiatives are underpinned by our Learning and Engagement programme.

#### **Public benefit**

The Charity's Trustees have complied with their duties under the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance (PB1, PB2 and PB3) published by the Charity Commission. They are aware of the public benefit requirement, its implications for charities and their duty to report how they have carried out the Charity's purposes for the public benefit and take the public benefit guidance into account when making decisions.

The Charity's particular public benefit activities are included later in this report under Achievements and Performance. Our activities, and particularly our Learning and Engagement work and co-produced festivals, are deeply embedding Creative Folkestone in the local community. Folkestone Triennial, and many other activities, are free of charge to the public.

The Charity continues to contribute to the overall social and economic regeneration of deprived areas in Folkestone through the advancement of the arts, culture, heritage, learning and the establishment of a community of over 800 creative individuals and businesses.

#### **Structure, governance and management**

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee with no share capital, and a registered charity. The Charity's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Charity.

Creative Folkestone has a supportive Board of highly skilled and committed Trustees. The Trustees during the year were those set out on page 1. Trustees are also members of the Charity. The Trustees have complied with the duties described under the Charities Act 2011, and with proper regard to the guidance published by the Charity Commission.

The Creative Folkestone Board provides the statutory governance and also governance over artistic vision and quality. The Board is supported by four Sub Committees that oversee Management, Visual Arts, Performing Arts and Learning and Engagement and Creative Quarter Regeneration, and report back their recommendations to the main Board.

We actively advertise for new members of sub-committees of the Board and applicants are interviewed by the CEO and another Trustee. They are invited to join the sub committees and if appropriate can move on to the main board. Our induction process includes Trustees being given a copy of our constitution, audited accounts and copies of trustee meeting minutes, together with the Charity Commission's guidelines for charity trustees. The new Trustee is also given a detailed tour of the Creative Quarter and an introduction to all the projects being undertaken by the Charity.

Although there is no formal training policy in place, the Trustees are encouraged to participate in training programmes either through their principal employer or through participation in ad hoc training courses.

## CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

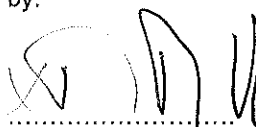
### Strategic Report For the year ended 31 March 2025

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#### Key management personnel and pay policy

The Charity considers its key management personnel to be its Board of Trustees, the Chief Executive and the Deputy Chief Executive. The remuneration is normally set annually in accordance with the pay policy, with any changes taking effect from the 1 April each year. The Chief Executive and the Deputy Chief Executive are the only paid key management personnel. The pay policy for the Chief Executive and the Deputy Chief Executive is the same as for other staff.

This Strategic Report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 29/9/25 and signed on their behalf by:



Sir Roger De Haan – Chair of Trustees

## CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

### Report of Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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#### Achievements and performance

##### Creative Folkestone overview

Much of the twelve-month period between April 2024 and March 2025 was dedicated to preparing for our flagship event: the sixth edition of the Creative Folkestone Triennial, scheduled to take place from 19 July to 19 October 2025. This is the largest exhibition in the UK featuring newly commissioned works. The majority of the 18 commissioned artworks are positioned outside, in prominent locations across the town, such as the Harbour Arm and The Stade, which exemplifies how Creative Folkestone has positioned itself as the nation's leading force in creative placemaking.

The Folkestone Triennial highlights how creativity plays a central role in the long-term transformation of the town: improving the public realm, stimulating the local economy, enhancing its national and international reputation as a leading destination in the UK for contemporary art, and, ultimately, making the town a better place to live, work, study, play, and visit for ALL.

At the end of March 2025, preparations were nearing completion, with artworks beginning to appear at their designated sites throughout Folkestone's public realm.

The Creative Quarter has been going from strength to strength: by the end of the financial year, it achieved 100% occupancy for residential spaces. In total, we welcomed 34 new tenants, with 8 occupants moving within the Quarter, demonstrating how we are adapting to changed business requirements.

We continued to bring together business owners, artists and start-ups based in the Creative Quarter and beyond to network and share their skills and knowledge. The quarterly *Connecting Creatives* events not only offers guest speakers the opportunity to showcase their work, but also served as a launchpad for new activities, such as the community festival Open Art 2024.

Our comprehensive Learning and Engagement Programme continued to be in high demand, particularly amongst young Folkestone residents, offering a growing range of diverse workshops for schools, families, young people, adults, and individuals with special educational needs and disabilities. The programme delivered 322 sessions, along with end-of-term exhibitions and other activities, offering around 8,200 opportunities for participation.

The Quarterhouse continued to deliver a bold and ambitious engagement programme, reflecting and celebrating Folkestone's diversity. A total of 136 events took to the stage over the 12-month period, attracting approximately 15,000 people.

We were pleased to reintroduce family, theatre and dance programming, after cutting back in this area of the programme in 2023/24 in order to prioritise the more popular late-night music events. We brought back a selection of fun and interactive family shows, specifically tailored for early years audiences and their accompanying adults.

From 14-24 November 2024 our annual festival of books, ideas, writing and literature returned to Quarterhouse. It featured 40 events involving 89 authors, journalists and speakers, both local and national. A total of 3,932 tickets were sold, an increase of 45% on 2023, and many events, such as David Nicholls and Steven Moffat, were sold out.

The 2024 festival was the first to be curated by local resident, Sophie Haydock, an award-winning author and journalist. As a full-time member of staff, she brought deep-investment in the local community, and repositioned the festival as a vibrant hub for writers, readers, lenders and storytellers. Her new curatorial concept paired hyper-local engagement with national excellence, resulting in a dynamic programme that spanned topics "from comedy and curiosity to motherhood and mayhem, life and loss to rogues and royalty, and everything in between".

The guided tours at Prospect Cottage remained highly popular, with most time slots fully booked. In 2024/25, 1,520 visitors took the opportunity to explore Derek Jarman's life and work in-depth, and to reflect on the profound significance of this unique place.

We continued with our Prospect Cottage Residencies and Research and Development Programme, giving a total of 29 writers, film-makers and other creatives the opportunity to spend time at the cottage and use it as a space to think, reflect and be inspired.

## CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

### Report of Trustees For the year ended 31 March 2025

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As a result of a successful funding application to Arts Council England's Place Partnership Fund, planning has begun for the launch of a bold and ambitious new project called *Folkestone is a Library*. This town-wide programme will turn streets, schools, shops and public spaces into hot-spot places for reading, writing and storytelling. While the town's public library remains closed, *Folkestone is a Library* will inspire an imaginative, inclusive response that reimagines what a library could and can be. Rooted in 25 years of cultural transformation, this three-year initiative builds on Creative Folkestone's commitment to long-term creativity and collaboration.

For the past 12 months, Creative Folkestone has continued to secure national and international media coverage, contributing to a growing profile for the organisation and the town. Media interest has focused on our cultural programming, the wider regeneration narrative, and Folkestone's reputation as a leading destination for visitors and creatives alike with Folkestone appearing in *The Sunday Times* and *Time Out's* 'Best places to live in the UK'.

The Board of Trustees would like to express their appreciation for the continued generosity of its benefactors, in terms of both committed funding and in-kind assistance with the work of the charity, including Arts Council England (ACE), Kent County Council (KCC), Folkestone and Hythe District Council (FHDC), Canterbury Christ Church University, Saga, Eurotunnel, Linbury Trust, Lord Glendonbrook Trust, Rockefeller, Oak Foundation, Culture Ireland, Hollaway, The Kingdom of the Netherlands, Mondriaan Fund and Art Fund.

The Board of Trustees would like to convey special thanks to the Trustees of RDHCT for their continued support for the work of Creative Folkestone. The Board of Trustees would also like to express their appreciation for the dedication and hard work of both the Charity's staff and its committee members who are not Trustees. Their continued flexibility and willingness to adapt to changing conditions, due to the energy crisis and other inflationary increases, have made it possible to continue delivering an ambitious and challenging arts and performance programme.

#### Folkestone Triennial and Folkestone Artworks

In autumn 2024, the sixth Folkestone Triennial was announced, alongside its curatorial theme: *How Lies the Land?* Curator Sorcha Carey invited 18 artists from more than 15 countries to create bold new public artworks for the town, reimagining Folkestone's landscape and reflecting on how we live within it, across time, memory and change.

The route starts at Quarterhouse and takes visitors to the harbour and to East Cliff, home to many of Folkestone's most important archaeological and geological sites.

Artworks are located in prominent and unusual spaces, including on an abandoned section of the railway track along Tram Road, which had not been previously used. Other new sites include a WW1 gun shelter on East Cliff, the interior of Martello 3, Folkestone Central Railway Station, and upon the Dolphins at the Harbour Arm. These sites carry powerful stories of migration, environmental change and resilience, which reflect local experiences and contribute to global conversations.

A full list of the artists involved was revealed at the end of March 2025. It includes installations by Céline Condorelli, Monster Chetwynd, Dineo Seshee Bopape, Cooking Sections, Dorothy Cross, John Gerrard, J Maizlish Mole, Rubiane Maia, Emeka Ogboh, Prabhakar Pachpute, Katie Paterson, Laure Prouvost, Emilija Škarnulytė, Rae-Yen Song 宋瑞渊, Jennifer Tee, Sara Trillo, Hanna Tuulikki and Sarah Wood.

Throughout the year, the team continued to collaborate with several prospective partner organisations – such as Whitecliffs Countryside Project, Napier Friends, Eco Park, Canterbury Archaeological Trust, the RSPB, MIND, and Kent Downs, to explore their participation in the Triennial Public Programme. In April 2025, a freelance public programmer was recruited to help drive the final stages of programme development, and will remain in place throughout the Triennial period, until October 2025.

As part of our involvement in the Levelling-Up project *Folkestone – A Brighter Future*, two Triennial artists continued to develop new public works. The first, Monster Chetwynd, is currently creating a fantastical children's playground that will form the centrepiece of Bouverie Square. Designed as both an artwork and a playspace, it features salamanders, portals and other surreal elements that together form what Chetwynd describes as a "magical kingdom". The salamander's power of regeneration is a central motif, reflecting Folkestone's own ongoing story of renewal.

## CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

### Report of Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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The second, Céline Condorelli, designed four sculptures that celebrate Folkestone's meaningful connection to the sea. Part flag, part marker, part weathervane, Condorelli's work lays a trail between the harbour and town centre. Designed to move in response to the wind, like the sea itself, the experience of these markers will be determined by the weather.

As part of this collaboration, we also connected the project's main contractor, Aecom, with The Beacon Plus and The Edge School of Creative Business, and arranged a visit for 20 young people from Folkestone to Aecom's London headquarters.

The Folkestone Artworks exhibition remains a vibrant attraction, drawing interest from visitors, students and the local community. We have continued to offer a range of tours, guided walks and talks, with the intention of enriching viewers' experiences of the artworks.

The collection is maintained to a consistently high standard, with regular upkeep, repairs and essential renovations. In 2024/25, key highlights included the complex task of renumbering each of the 19,240 stones in Mark Wallinger's iconic piece *Folk Stones* (2008) on The Leas and a full repaint of *Casa Anacaona* (2017), Sol Calero's vibrant beachside pavilion at the harbour.

In preparation for the 2025 Triennial, we have been updating existing signage, renewing leases for new artworks, in partnership with the Council, and carefully removing pieces whose display agreements have ended. As with any evolving outdoor collection, some works are added while others make way. The exhibition now features 87 artworks by 52 artists, each contributing to Folkestone's changing creative landscape.

#### Creative Quarter

Among new tenants who moved into the Creative Quarter during the last financial year, many are remarkably successful creatives raising the bar for artistic excellency. Emelie Mahdavian is an Emmy, Peabody, and Sundance Award-winning filmmaker, who recently relocated to Folkestone from America. Her work explores the grandeur of our planet and the beauty of human connection.

Fabia Goff, a linoprint and fabric designer specialising in floral patterns, opened her first shop and studio on the Old High Street in 2024, offering items such as tea-towels, custom-made wall-hangings and upholstery. In February 2025, she was awarded *Young Entrepreneur of the Year 2025* and named finalist for *Business of the Year* by The Kent Foundation.

Rachel Leigh, a former nurse who now supplies Folkestone with sweet treats, moved from her Harbour Arm stall into a shop on the Old High Street. She is already looking to expand her businesses as demand is outstripping supply.

In June 2024, Beton Collective, a curatorial and artistic duo, opened their eclectic art centre, *kollektive*, at the Gallery space within the Red Fin building, hosting a programme of exciting, diverse and thought-provoking events. The Beton team has become an intrinsic part of the creative community, working in partnership with several event organisers, offering space for performances, installations and other activities.

The demand for retail and residential properties has remained high, and the number of units listed as vacant was down by 22% from 2023/24 levels, indicating that businesses are doing well and that people are happy to stay. In a survey as part of the application form, many indicated that they heard of available properties by word of mouth, suggesting that current tenants are promoting the Creative Quarter as a desirable location to live and work.

Short term pop-up tenancies have also been in high demand, although they were down by 40% on the previous year, as we had less space available to offer.

Older buildings in need of renovation continue to offer valuable opportunities to strengthen and adapt our property portfolio in response to market demand. A recent example is on Tontine Street, where underused offices were converted into small, affordable studios, attracting strong interest from artists looking to test ideas before moving into larger workshop spaces.

Our regular monthly meetings are increasingly well-received by Creative Quarter tenants and other Folkestone creatives, consistently drawing an average attendance of 50 people. These gatherings provide networking opportunities and platforms for testing new ideas.



## CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

### Report of Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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The monthly *Under the Moon Art Market* in digital glassworks is another example of a tenant-led adaption of a Creative Folkestone initiative, to help build a healthy creative community. Every month, makers, designers and artists offer a diverse range of creativity and products to the public to promote their businesses and commercial practice.

The lower atrium within digital glassworks was freely available to our tenants throughout the year, and they have welcomed a space to exhibit their artwork, offer workshops and hold networking events. SD Projects, a multidisciplinary studio established by the artist Simon Davenport, held a communal Iftar together with the Folkestone Islamic Cultural Centre. People of all backgrounds came together to share a meal that marked the end of Ramadan.

The annual free *Christmas Carol Concert* was held in December 2024 in partnership with St Mary & St Eanswythe's Church. This evening has become a traditional Creative Quarter celebration of the festive season, featuring a programme of live music, readings and festive performances. In 2024/25, seven local artists attracted an audience of 200 people.

#### Open Art 2024

The annual *Open Quarter*, the festival celebrating the hidden spaces in the Creative Quarter and the creatives behind them, was replaced by *Open Art 2024*, Folkestone's first artist-led festival showcasing the town's extraordinary breadth of creativity.

The festival was organised by the *Folkestone Artists' Collective*, a committee of local artists – most of whom are based in the Creative Quarter. With support from the Festivals Fund, they secured funding to bring in two professional curators. This partnership helped elevate the festival, enabling the committee to attract additional financial and in-kind backing, and to collaborate with local stakeholders and venues. Creative Folkestone was proud to support the project as a key partner.

The inaugural event ran from 13-22 September 2024, and involved 145 local artists, the majority from Folkestone, but also including some from neighbouring towns such as Ashford and Dover. Over 10 days, 78 artist studios and shops across the Creative Quarter and beyond opened their doors, Folkestone came alive with creativity, offering visitors a range of outdoor activities, workshops and artistic performances.

An estimated 10,000 people attended. The feedback was positive, indicating that the festival attracted a spectrum of audiences, ranging from those traditionally interested in art and culture, to those who think "that art is not for them".

#### Learning and Engagement

Our programme of family workshops remained popular with young Folkestone residents. Nine sessions were attended by a total of 566 children and their families.

The workshops in Block 67 are designed to encourage exploration, free play and creativity. Local artists from various disciplines worked with families to experiment with techniques and materials, including projections, sound, cyanotypes, crown making, collage, sewing, dance, storytelling, instrument making and singing.

Interest in our school workshops continues to grow, with 30 primary and secondary schools now taking part. Over the course of the year, 977 children attended one of 34 lively and engaging sessions.

During the workshops, participants explored topics including: identity and how to create a personal logo through printing; portraiture through movement; how to visually represent themselves; and made shadow puppets to create stories that were brought to life in a show.

Our adult programme included two terms of evening classes, each offering a seven-week course. With 10 places per term, the classes were designed for beginners or anyone looking to develop their drawing skills and explore printmaking techniques such as monoprinting, lino printing, drypoint etching and screen printing. Together, the two terms ran across a seven-month period. Each course culminated with a group exhibition, offering participants the opportunity to celebrate their work with friends and family. These courses are typically oversubscribed, and many make repeat booking, indicating their popularity.

## CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

### Report of Trustees

#### For the year ended 31 March 2025

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Our popular Neon After School Club continued offering children and young people aged 5–16 the chance to explore a wide range of visual and performing arts. Across the year, three seasonal courses in summer, autumn and spring each delivered 12 weekly workshops. All were fully booked, with more than 240 participants taking part.

The courses were led by in-house practitioners who grouped participants by age and delivered a total of 144 sessions. Their teaching was enriched by guest artists specialising in spoken word, visual arts, puppetry, costume, special effects and digital arts, giving young people the chance to explore new skills, build confidence and spark their imagination. Each course culminated in a final performance, showcasing their original works.

During the autumn term, the groups created and produced an installation that was shown during the Folkestone Living Advent Calendar festival, which ran from 1-24 December 2024, opening a different door each evening to reveal a new unique live performance. The Neon performance was received by an audience of nearly 500 people.

The Neon Summer School took place during the school holidays, offering five days of creativity and fun for three age groups. In total, 45 participants attended, who explored theatre, movement, visual arts, music and interactive digital technology. Each course produced a short performance/installation, shared at the end of the week.

There were two free places per year group, available for each Neon activity, for children claiming pupil premium, with proof from the school, on a first come first served basis.

The Young Animators Club, run by practitioner Lydia Hibbert, continued to offer workshops for children and young people with social engagement difficulties and anxiety conditions. A series of five courses were fully booked, attracting 182 participants, aged 8-25.

During the autumn term, the Young Animators collaboratively produced a short narrative film, which they wrote, directed, designed, and animated themselves. They were supported throughout the process by musician and writer Randolph Matthews, composer Tom Adams, and artist Hayley Restall.

In the spring term, the Young Animators built 3D sets, based on their version of Folkestone Harbour and experimented with projection mapping animations onto the sets to bring the installation to life.

In preparation for summer term 2025, Lydia collaborated with the Folkestone Leas Lift. Her plan is for the young participants to produce animations to display in the new Leas Lift visitor centre, which accompanies the recently refurbished funicular railway, connecting Folkestone's seafront and promenade.

The Young Animators Club expanded to create a studio space every Wednesday during term-time for young creatives aged 16-25, giving them opportunity to work on their own projects with the support of professional practitioners. This space is set up with young neurodivergent people in mind, and those with anxiety conditions and needing support with social and communication skills. An exhibition in autumn showcased their work and earlier this year they launched themselves as YAP Studios, with the plan to take commissions from local businesses in 2026.

#### Quarterhouse

Quarterhouse is our unique and fully accessible performing arts venue that showcases a wide-ranging programme including music, comedy, dance, film, festivals, and community events. We delivered 132 events and welcomed approximately 15,000 individuals from all backgrounds and protected characteristic groups. With an inclusive and varied lineup, Quarterhouse provides something for everyone in the community, at affordable prices.

#### Family

The reinstated early years programme was well received. A total of 30 shows and gatherings took to the stage, attended by 1,254 young children and adults.

This included *Mrs H & the Sing-along Band*, a band of musicians whose shows were packed with "catchy tunes and playful mischief"; the London-based Out of the Bag Theatre company, bringing stories to the stage in *Tales for Tots and Toddlers*; and immersive sessions titled *Teeny Tiny Creatives*, delivered by local community arts organisation On Solid Ground, which is dedicated to fostering well-being through creativity and movement.

## CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

### Report of Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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#### Comedy

Our growing programme of comedy shows was again one of the most popular performance categories. The 17 shows that took place attracted a total audience of 3,630.

In June, we launched the Quarterhouse Comedy Club, which was the start of a series of new regular comedy nights, presenting some of the best touring comedies around. The club nights featured well-known names, as well as offering new talent an opportunity to showcase their potential.

In January 2025, the Comedy Club received a boost as the series continued in collaboration with Chumps Comedy from Margate. In recent years, they have gained a reputation as one of the UK's most exciting stand-up comedy nights, combining a mix of new acts with household names.

#### Music

In the past year, Quarterhouse hosted 12 live musical performances, attracting a total audience of 2,093 people.

Five of the gigs were organised through a well-established partnership with the Brighton-based independent live-music promotion company, Melting Vinyl. This included American song-writing duo The Handsome Family; Welsh singer-songwriter Gruff Rhys, known for his work with the Super Furry Animals; and five musicians of the English folk scene who collaboratively performed *Awake Arise*, a Christmas show celebrating winter traditions.

We hosted 12 Saturday late-night dance and music events, in collaboration with local promoters and international DJs, attended by 2,659 people. These included the popular local LGBTQ+ Disco Collective, Joe Goddard & Damp Disco, as well as the legendary DJ Norman Jay MBE, who brought his *Good Times* party to Folkestone.

The Folkestone Electronic Dance Music Weekender took over the town to celebrate summer solstice on 21 and 22 June 2024, with multiple venues hosting the biggest names in Underground Electronic Music. Quarterhouse provided the stage for the kick-off event with Havin It Crew, and for Saturday's headliner Matthew Bushwacka B, a percussionist in the London School Symphony Orchestra.

Also in July, we hosted the sold-out Folkestone Pride's official after party, to celebrate our local LGBTQ+ community, with a line-up of performers and special guests from drag artists to DJs.

We continued with Quarterhouse Lates, offering DJs, producers, artists and music collectives from across the region a regular platform to invite revellers on Friday night to start the weekend with hip-hop, electronic, drum and bass and house music. The focus was not only on young upcoming artists but also on experienced and well-connected freelance programmers, labels, promoters, or artists to broaden the weekend offer to Quarterhouse. The Performing Arts Team supported 35 events that attracted 3,188 people.

#### Live Screening

We showed seven National Theatre, 11 Royal Ballet and Opera live screenings and a live performance of the musical *Kiss me, Kate*, filmed at the Barbican in London. Leading up to Christmas, we also hosted a special screening of the iconic film *It's a Wonderful Life*. The 20 live screenings attracted a total audience of 1,935 people.

There was a 25% boost in audience numbers in 2024/25 compared to 2023/24, largely due to an increase in the number of events. The average ticket sales remained approximately the same, with several sold-out screenings. This included a repeat of *Prima Facie*, the popular one-woman theatre play starring the renowned Jodie Cromer, the classic festive ballet *The Nutcracker*, and Oscar Wilde's most celebrated comedy *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

#### Community Engagement

We continued to make Quarterhouse and Block 67 available for artists' development and community engagement through working in partnership. This included the dance companies Confidance and Confico (weekly in term time), and the Folkestone Performing Arts Company, an artist-led international theatre ensemble (on an ad hoc basis). Smoking Apples, a Folkestone-based, award-winning puppetry and visual theatre company used our space for a week of research and development.

## CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

### Report of Trustees

#### For the year ended 31 March 2025

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We worked in partnerships with festival organisers, including the comedy and theatre festival Folkestone Live, Folkestone Pride, the Compass Music Festival, and SALT + EARTH 2024: Festival of Landscape, Seascape & The Environment, who utilised Quarterhouse as a venue for performances, panel discussions, and other activities.

#### Festivals

In January 2024, Creative Folkestone reopened applications for the Festivals Fund, offering grants of up to £5,000 to support community-led festivals in the Creative Quarter. Artists, arts groups and organisations with bold ideas were encouraged to apply.

The application process for the grant scheme, funded by the Roger De Haan Charitable Trust, was managed, as in previous years, by Creative Folkestone. Applicants had the opportunity to submit their projects to one of three annual deadlines in March, April and July, giving them time and opportunity to seek matching funding, if necessary, with larger organisation such as Arts Council England or other Trusts and Foundations.

Across the three grant rounds, the Festival Fund received 22 applications, the highest number so far, of which 18 were rewarded, allocating a total of £50,000. The projects took place between April 2024 and March 2025, and our Performance Team provided marketing and technical support to the funded initiatives.

Among successful projects were well-established festivals, such as *Music in May*, the *Sacconi Music Chamber Festival*, *SALT + EARTH: Festival of Landscape, Seascape & Environment*, *Folkestone Documentary Festival 2024* and the *Folkestone Living Advent Calendar 2024*, as well as new initiative *Open Art 2024*, about which we report above.

#### Folkestone Book Festival

The 2024 festival was a success, featuring great literary names such as Ali Smith, Alan Hollinghurst, Tracy Chevalier and David Nicholls.

The programme was designed to appeal to a broad demographic of people, with 30% of the audience attending for the first time. Authors such as Roberto Sendoya Escobar, Steven Moffat and Jay Rayner attracted a noticeably younger and more diverse demographic. Seven of the 40 events (17.5%) touched on environmental issues, exceeding our goal by 2.5%. An audience survey returned very encouraging results, with 94% rating the overall experience as very good/good.

The *Folkestone Authors Showcase*, a highlight of the book festival, celebrated Folkestone's vibrant literary talent. Fifteen local authors offered quickfire three-minute presentations, showcasing an impressive range of genres. The event drew an audience of more than 50 people, including the Mayor of Folkestone. This unique celebration of storytelling underscored Folkestone's thriving literary scene and its role in nurturing local talent.

The Book Festival schools programme offered a series of events designed to spark the imagination of young readers from across Folkestone and beyond, aimed at inspiring the authors and creative thinkers of the future. Four well-known authors and writers presented events for children and young people from 14 primary schools from Folkestone and the surrounding area, with 1,548 young people (and their teachers) attending for free.

The Book Festival was promoted through newsletters to more than 12,500 contacts. Large posters were displayed on train stations in the Southeast. Smaller posters were distributed to cultural/art/literature institutions and cafés/restaurants/bars in Folkestone and surrounding areas, and flyers were delivered locally to Folkestone residents.

The webpages dedicated to the Book Festival 2024 were launched, as in previous years, with the first announcement of the dates, on 18 July 2024 and the total number of visits until the end of the festival was 236,402. Compared to 2023/24, 2024/25 traffic increased by 350%.

## CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

### Report of Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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Through our advertising campaigns on Facebook and Instagram, we reached a total of 189,570 people and adverts taken out on websites run by the KM Media Group were distributed to a total of 25,000 people. KMFM Radio run regular adverts for a week which reached approximately 187,000 listeners. Printed adverts were placed in magazines such as Deal Dispatch (6,000), Ramsgate Recorder (6000), Folkestone Foghorn (6,000), CommunityAd Magazine (Folkestone) (22,000), Inside Kent (25,000) and the Big Issue (100,000).

Secured features of the accompanying Media Campaign included:

- a feature about the son of drug lord Pablo Escobar, announcing Folkestone Book Festival, in the Cene Magazine
- an interview with curator Sophie Haydock on the curation of Folkestone Book Festival on BBC Radio Kent
- an interview with Sophie Haydock on the highlights of the festival in the Folkestone Foghorn
- an interview with curator Sophie Haydock aired on Academy FM

### Prospect Cottage

Participants of the guided tours to the cottage continued to greatly value the opportunity to explore Derek Jarman's home and legacy and the visitor survey showed that the feedback remained positive and encouraging.

*I really enjoyed the experience and just wanted to thank Claire & Keith for guiding us around the cottage, Claire had a lovely friendly manner and was brilliantly informative. Many thanks...*

In 2024, 10 additional artists, who were granted a two-week residency through the Prospect Cottage Residency Programme, completed their stay at the cottage. Among them were film writers, directors, producers, garden designers and curators seeking inspiration for their own creative work by time spent amongst Jarman's art and writing and the garden that was so meaningful to him.

The programme intended to be fully inclusive, ensuring participation from individuals with protected characteristics, as well as those facing social and economic disadvantages. A survey revealed that the selected artists represented a range of diversity, in terms of race and ethnicity, gender, sex, age, and physical and mental disabilities.

In addition to the residencies, 19 successful applicants to the Research and Development Programme have spent one or two days at the cottage between September 2023 and March 2025. Open to academics, artists, writers, researchers, gardeners, environmentalists and other creatives, the programme offered an opportunity to explore Jarman's life, his artworks, writings, and garden. Most participants focussed on a specific topic they wished to study in greater depth.

Our long-term gardener, Jonny Bruce, dedicated five weekends to working in the cottage garden. During one of those weekends, he invited a small group of students and volunteers to provide them with an opportunity to explore the garden and its distinctive postmodern design in greater depth. He also reinstalled the beehive. Wild bees have been encouraged to use it, with an artificial 'Queen' scent.

### Diversity

At Creative Folkestone, diversity and equality are at the heart of everything we do. We are committed to ensuring that everyone in our community, regardless of their racial background, social circumstances, or abilities, has the opportunity to live a full cultural and creative life. We believe that by fully embracing diversity, our work becomes stronger, richer, and more meaningful.

Our goal is to reflect the diversity of Britain through our creative programming, performances, and exhibitions. We are equally dedicated to ensuring that our organisation, across our team, governance, staff, volunteers, tenants, and audiences, represents the diversity of our local community.

We are continually working to better understand and address the barriers that prevent people from engaging with our work. Through targeted action, outreach and partnerships, we aim to deepen relationships within the community. We are focused on removing barriers and expanding access, opportunity, participation, and inclusion in all areas of our work.

# CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

## Report of Trustees

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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### Environment

Creative Folkestone continued to assess its environmental performance, with a strong focus on minimising waste and reducing energy and water usage. When direct reductions were not possible, we were looking into sustainable alternatives.

These aims and objectives are outlined in detail in the Environmental Action Plan and Policy, updated in 2023. The plan is guided by the Theatre Green Book, which establishes sustainability benchmarks for theatre buildings, productions, and day-to-day operations.

The Environmental Action Plan was regularly reviewed throughout the year by the Environmental Working Group, comprising of members of all departments.

We continued to work in partnership with the charity Julie's Bicycle, who collected environmental data of our performance space, Quarterhouse. The data was entered into a free online carbon calculator to record, measure and understand the environmental impact.

Creative Folkestone's overall environmental impact, measured in carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e), remained the same as in 2024/25 and 2023/24, at 64 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e. Of this, 26 tonnes related to energy use, which was down by 25% compared to the previous year (34 tonnes). The reduction was partly due to the generation of renewable energy from solar panels operating year-round, saving approximately 7 tonnes. The previous year, they'd only been installed for part of the year.

Water and sewage were up to 489kg CO<sub>2</sub>e, compared to 273kg the previous year. Waste remained the same at 21 tonnes. Audience travel was up to 17 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e, compared to 10 tonnes the previous year. Audience travel appears to have increased this year, because, for the first time, we included participants from our Learning and Engagement Programme, which took place at Quarterhouse, such as Neon activities and the schools' programme, which is part of Folkestone Book Festival.

### Press and Media

National and international media coverage in 2024/25 reflected a clear shift in how Folkestone is perceived, aligning with our broader strategic aim to promote the town as a place to live, work, play, study and visit. The announcement of the upcoming Folkestone Triennial 2025 generated renewed interest in the town's cultural infrastructure and long-term vision.

This year saw particularly impactful features that elevated both Creative Folkestone and the town in national rankings and lifestyle media:

- Time Out named Folkestone the *UK's Best Place to Visit in 2025*, citing its creative community, galleries and seaside location  
[Read article](#)
- Harper's Bazaar UK profiled the town as *Kent's most underestimated seaside destination*, with specific reference to the Creative Quarter and Prospect Cottage  
[Read article](#)
- The Financial Times highlighted Folkestone's cultural resurgence, describing it as "a beacon of contemporary art and seaside revitalisation"  
[Read article](#)
- The Times and The Guardian covered the announcement of the Folkestone Triennial 2025, noting the curatorial vision and new commissions set to animate public space across the town.

Prospect Cottage also continued to attract attention, with feature pieces in design, film and heritage publications. Residencies and partnerships, including collaborations with the British Film Institute, offered strong media hooks, reinforcing our role as stewards of this iconic site.

### Future Plans

The 2024/25 period has demonstrated the continued value of Creative Folkestone's work in shaping national narratives about place-based regeneration, cultural production and community development. It also shows the long-term return on investment in press relations, content development and strategic messaging.

## CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

### Report of Trustees

#### For the year ended 31 March 2025

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We enter the Triennial year with momentum and visibility at a national level. Our challenge and opportunity in 2025 will be to capitalise on this position to deepen engagement and broaden reach.

The Creative Folkestone Triennial will start on 19 July 2025 and will continue to run until 19 October 2025. It features 18 artists from 16 countries. The charity is pleased with this international focus, especially as most of the works are new commissions.

For the first time, the Quarterhouse auditorium will host an artwork, which will naturally enhance its role as a visitor centre. This has led to a break in programming our usual music, dance and other events. There will be a busy programme from October onwards, including a very strong book festival line up.

Plans are well underway for the 2025 edition of the Folkestone Book Festival, which is set to take place over 14 days in November, with more than 50 events currently in development. We plan to launch the programme ahead of the Triennial, in order to capitalise on increased visitor numbers and awareness across the town. This year, we hope to attract major literary names and cultural figures, and to build on the festival's reputation for bold, thoughtful programming. We've set fresh targets to increase ticket sales, grow community participation, and deepen engagement with schools, local authors, and underrepresented audiences.

The three-year project *Folkestone is a Library* will launch in October with an ambitious Guinness World Record attempt, for the most books exchanged in an hour, held on the beach to place the campaign firmly on the local and national radar. This bold opening will kick off a programme of book, literacy and lending activities delivered by Creative Folkestone and its partners, transforming streets, schools, shops and public spaces into a living, breathing library. It will be one strand of an especially rich year of community and learning activity during the Triennial.

The Creative Quarter will invest in a new database to support our care for tenants, maintenance of buildings, and smoother administration for leases, both new and renewals. This will improve efficiency, so time can be invested in bringing vibrancy to our cluster of creative tenants in the area around Payers Park that we are calling the Creative Campus.

The Creative Campus is one of several forward-looking initiatives shaping Creative Folkestone's next Business Plan for 2026-2031. This ambitious roadmap, currently in development, builds on the charity's belief in the transformative power of creativity. It will define the next phase of leadership as Creative Folkestone moves from its pioneering first generation of regeneration into a bold new chapter. Through both direct delivery and empowering others, the organisation remains firmly committed to making Folkestone a better place to live, work, study, play and visit for everyone.

### Financial review

The financial position of the Charity is as set out in the financial statements for the year. During the financial year ended 31 March 2025, the Charity reported a deficit of £266,706 (2024: surplus of £422,497).

As a response to the challenges of high levels of inflation and the high rises in the cost of, insurance, utilities and building maintenance the Charity reduced its costs, wherever possible, while continuing to provide support to its staff and tenants.

The Charity held long leasehold properties with a balance sheet value at 31 March 2025 of £15.1 million. These properties are owned by the Roger De Haan Charitable Trust and leased to Creative Folkestone at a peppercorn rent for 125 years. They provide a rental income for the Charity which is used to satisfy its charitable objectives.

These properties will only be rented for creative and educational purposes, and their capital value may never be realised by the Charity.

The high level of restricted funds shown in the balance sheet as at 31 March 2025 relates principally to properties in the Creative Quarter.

The organisation has agreed with the Arts Council to deliver a set of objectives and focuses its performance to deliver them. In addition, it has set a number of high level financial KPI's and it ensures, through its reporting and governance structures, that its performance is scrutinised regularly.

## CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

### Report of Trustees For the year ended 31 March 2025

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#### Reserves policy

Since 2016, the charity has built a cash reserve in addition to its property assets. As a result of a risk-based assessment on what is needed, the Creative Folkestone Board of Trustees has set a target range of between £250,000 and £400,000 for its free reserves. This figure was raised temporarily to £600,000 in response to the difficult economic environment. The reserves are set out in note 20 of the financial statements. An update of the reserves policy will be conducted once a more normal economic environment is reestablished.

#### Designated funds

Each Folkestone Triennial incurs costs beyond the charity's usual annual expenditure. In the years between preparation for the Triennials the Board designates reserves for future exhibitions. The cost of a Triennial is circa £2,300,000.

The Trustees have designated a total of £521,000 to Triennial 2025. A further £351,000 is designated to the 2028 Triennial.

#### Investment policy

During the year the charity looked to maximise its income whilst taking a low risk on its investment. It kept minimal funds for working capital in its NatWest interest account and places funds with a Rathbones Bank Time Deposit.

#### Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the Charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. Regular formal Trustee and management meetings were held to review progress towards achieving the Charity's objectives. The Senior Management Team regularly addressed the schedule of risks identified by the Trustees and put in place procedures and controls to ensure those risks were adequately managed. The principal risks were a) economic downturn b) loss of key Board members and staff and c) failure to hit earned income and fundraising targets. The mitigating actions were identified in Creative Folkestone's business plan, including setting aside appropriate reserves, good property management, succession planning and investing in fundraising.

#### Equal opportunities and diversity policy

The Trustees recognised that ensuring equal opportunities for all is an integral part of good practice within the workplace and Creative Folkestone remained committed to its comprehensive Equality and Diversity Policy. The Charity ensured that the buildings it occupied complied with the statutory regulations in place in relation to disabled access.

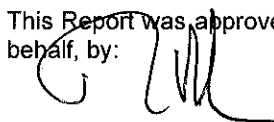
#### Auditor

Creative Folkestone's current contract for audit services from RSM comes to an end with the completion of the 2024/25 annual report and accounts. The organisation will undertake a competitive tender exercise during late 2025 in order to appoint new auditors.

#### Strategic report

The matters which the Trustees deem to be of strategic importance have been included within the Report of Trustees on pages 1 to 4 in accordance with section 414c(11) of the Companies Act 2006.

This Report was approved by the Board of Trustees on ..... 29/9/25 ..... and signed on their behalf, by:



Sir Roger De Haan – Chair of Trustees



## **CREATIVE FOLKESTONE**

### **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

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The Trustees (who are also directors of Creative Folkestone for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Strategic Report, Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

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

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

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company 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 charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

# **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CREATIVE FOLKESTONE**

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## **Opinion on financial statements**

We have audited the financial statements of Creative Folkestone (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (including the Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

## **Basis for opinion**

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

## **Conclusions relating to going concern**

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

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

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

## **Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

# **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CREATIVE FOLKESTONE**

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## **Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of Trustees, which includes the Directors' Report and the Strategic Report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors' Report and the Strategic Report included within the Report of Trustees have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

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

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report or the Strategic Report included within the Report of Trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

## **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' responsibilities set out on page 16, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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

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

## **The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud**

Irregularities are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The objectives of our audit are to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding compliance with laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, to perform audit procedures to help identify instances of non-compliance with other laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements, and to respond appropriately to identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations identified during the audit.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

In relation to fraud, the objectives of our audit are to identify and assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud, to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud through designing and implementing appropriate responses and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit.

However, it is the primary responsibility of management, with the oversight of those charged with governance, to ensure that the entity's operations are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations and for the prevention and detection of fraud.

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, the audit engagement team:

- obtained an understanding of the nature of the sector, including the legal and regulatory framework that the charitable company operates in and how the charitable company is complying with the legal and regulatory framework;
- inquired of management, and those charged with governance, about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, including any known actual, suspected or alleged instances of fraud;
- discussed matters about non-compliance with laws and regulations and how fraud might occur including assessment of how and where the financial statements may be susceptible to fraud.

As a result of these procedures we consider the most significant laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements are FRS 102, Charities SORP (FRS 102), Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011 and the charitable company's governing document. We performed audit procedures to detect non-compliances which may have a material impact on the financial statements which included reviewing the financial statements including the Report of Trustees and remaining alert to new or unusual transactions which may not be in accordance with the governing documents.

The most significant laws and regulations that have an indirect impact on the financial statements are those in relation to health and safety and tenancy laws. We performed audit procedures to inquire of management and those charged with governance whether the charitable company is in compliance with these law and regulations.

The audit engagement team identified the risk of management override of controls and revenue recognition as the areas where the financial statements were most susceptible to material misstatement due to fraud. Audit procedures performed included but were not limited to testing manual journal entries and other adjustments, evaluating the business rationale in relation to significant, unusual transactions and transactions entered into outside the normal course of business and challenging judgements and estimates applied through the financial statements and testing of revenue cut off around the year end.

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

### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

*RSM UK Audit LLP*

Nicholas Sladden (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of RSM UK AUDIT LLP  
Statutory Auditor, Chartered Accountants  
25 Farringdon Street  
London, EC4A 4AB

22 December 2025

# CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

## Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure Account)

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	4,910	87,200	92,110	54,962
Charitable activities	4	2,577,275	130,000	2,707,275	2,779,350
Other trading activities	5	188,428	-	188,428	199,567
Investments	6	25,613	-	25,613	44,538
Total income		<u>2,796,226</u>	<u>217,200</u>	<u>3,013,426</u>	<u>3,078,417</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds		4,684	-	4,684	164
Charitable activities	7	2,801,770	445,389	3,247,159	2,584,404
Other trading activities	10	77,519	-	77,519	77,666
Total expenditure		<u>2,883,973</u>	<u>445,389</u>	<u>3,329,362</u>	<u>2,662,234</u>
<b>Net (expenditure)/income</b>		<u>(87,747)</u>	<u>(228,189)</u>	<u>(315,936)</u>	<u>416,183</u>
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net gains on investments	16	49,230	-	49,230	6,314
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>(38,517)</u>	<u>(228,189)</u>	<u>(266,706)</u>	<u>422,497</u>
<b>Total funds at 1 April</b>		<u>1,827,870</u>	<u>19,490,538</u>	<u>21,318,408</u>	<u>20,895,911</u>
<b>Total funds at 31 March</b>		<u>1,789,353</u>	<u>19,262,349</u>	<u>21,051,702</u>	<u>21,318,408</u>

# CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

## Balance Sheet

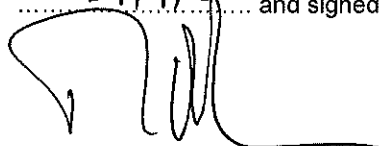
At 31 March 2025

Company Registration Number: 04566484

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	14	19,500,930	19,612,193
Investment in subsidiary	15	1	1
		<hr/> 19,500,931	<hr/> 19,612,194
<b>Current assets</b>			
Investments	16	1,689,593	1,623,809
Debtors	17	247,100	177,009
Cash at bank and in hand		114,289	363,511
		<hr/> 2,050,982	<hr/> 2,164,329
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	18	(500,211)	(458,115)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<hr/> 1,550,771	<hr/> 1,706,214
<b>Net assets</b>		<hr/> 21,051,702	<hr/> 21,318,408
<b>Funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds	21	1,789,353	1,827,870
Restricted funds	21	19,262,349	19,490,538
<b>Total funds</b>		<hr/> 21,051,702	<hr/> 21,318,408

The financial statements on pages 20 to 35 were approved by the board and authorised for issue on

29/9/25 and signed on its behalf by:



Sir Roger M De Haan – Chair of Trustees

# CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

## Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Cash from operating activities:</b>			
Net cash (used in)/generated from operating activities	23	(258,281)	581,047
Interest received		25,613	44,538
<b>Cash generated from operations:</b>		<u>(232,668)</u>	<u>625,585</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	(42,970)
Net purchase of other investments		(18,758)	(1,598,774)
<b>Cash used in investing activities:</b>		<u>(18,758)</u>	<u>(1,641,744)</u>
<b>Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<u>(251,426)</u>	<u>(1,016,159)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents 1 April		382,232	1,398,391
Cash and cash equivalents 31 March		<u>130,806</u>	<u>382,232</u>
<b>Relating to:</b>			
Cash at bank and in hand		114,289	363,511
Current asset investments		16,517	18,721
		<u>130,806</u>	<u>382,232</u>

# CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 March 2025

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### 1 Accounting policies

#### Legal status

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the Charity.

The Charity's objectives and aims are disclosed in the Report of Trustees.

#### Accounting convention

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain fixed assets at fair value. The financial statements have also been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in more detail below, to comply with the Charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (the FRS 102 Charities SORP 2019).

The financial statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the charitable company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

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

#### Going concern

The Trustees confirm that at the time of approving the financial statements, there is a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for at least 12 months from signing these financial statements. In arriving at this conclusion, the Trustees have taken account of current and anticipated financial performance in the current economic conditions, and the Charity's reserves position. The Trustees have reviewed in detail the Charity's position and the appropriate basis on which to prepare the financial statements.

The stress testing of the Charity's financial position has satisfied the Trustees that it has adequate reserves and mitigation strategies available to deal with issues as they unfold. The cash position is strong, the Charity has no debt, the rental income has so far held up well. Funding from the Arts Council has been secured for the next year. The Trustees recognise that 2025/2026 will be another challenging year and have structured the budget accordingly while assessing what further actions can be taken if needs be and they have concluded that it remains appropriate to prepare the financial statements of the Charity on the going concern basis.

#### Consolidation

The financial statements present information about the Charity as an individual undertaking and not about its group. The Charity has taken advantage of section 402 of the Companies Act 2006 not to prepare consolidated financial statements as the directors consider that the Charity's subsidiary may be excluded from consolidation as it is immaterial for the purpose of a true and fair view.

#### Income

Income is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the items(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donated facilities and gifts in kind are included at the value to the Charity where this can be quantified, and a third party is bearing the cost. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.



# CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

## Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the year ended 31 March 2025

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### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants relating to tangible fixed assets or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

#### **Expenditure**

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Governance costs include those costs incurred in the governance of the Charity and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Support costs represent finance, administration and other indirect central costs. The support costs have been allocated in proportion to the direct costs incurred in respect of each activity.

#### **Fund accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds is charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

#### **Taxation**

Creative Folkestone is a registered charity and as such its income and gains falling within Sections 471 to 489 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 are exempt from corporation tax to the extent that they are applied to its charitable objectives.

#### **Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation and impairment losses. Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life:

Freehold property	150 years straight line
Long leasehold and leasehold improvements	250 years straight line
Plant and machinery	15 – 33% on cost straight line
Computer equipment	33% on cost straight line
Fixtures and fittings	15% on cost straight line

A full year of depreciation is charged in the year of purchase and no depreciation is charged in the year of disposal.

At each reporting end date, the Trustees review the carrying amounts of its freehold and leasehold assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

# CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

## Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the year ended 31 March 2025

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### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

#### Investments

Listed investments are stated at market value in the balance sheet with net gains and losses on revaluation and disposal being taken to the Statement of Financial Activities.

#### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

#### Financial instruments

The charitable company applies the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments. Financial instruments are recognised when the charitable company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charitable company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument and are offset only when the charitable company currently has a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets, including trade and other receivables (including accrued income) which are receivable within one year and which do not constitute a financing transaction are initially measured at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost, being the transaction price less amounts settled and any impairment losses.

Basic financial liabilities, including trade and other payables are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

#### Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

### 2 Accounting estimates and areas of judgement

In application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

The Trustees considers there to be no significant judgements or accounting estimates in the year.

## CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

### Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the year ended 31 March 2025

3 Donations and legacies	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Restricted</b>		
Roger De Haan Charitable Trust: Folkestone Festivals Fund	87,200	50,000
<b>Total restricted</b>	<u>87,200</u>	<u>50,000</u>
<b>Unrestricted</b>		
Other	4,910	4,962
<b>Total unrestricted</b>	<u>4,910</u>	<u>4,962</u>
<b>Total donations and legacies</b>	<u>92,110</u>	<u>54,962</u>

#### 4 Charitable activities

	Rental income £	Grants £	Other sources of income £	Total £
Creative Quarter	1,703,989	-	-	1,703,989
Folkestone Triennial	-	-	273,386	273,386
Folkestone Artworks	-	-	105,723	105,723
Prospect Cottage	-	-	103,032	103,032
Quarterhouse	17,637	50,000	124,997	192,634
Arts Programme Festivals and events	-	-	31,449	31,449
Learning & Engagement	-	-	16,792	16,792
Development	-	244,693	35,577	280,270
<b>2025 Total activities</b>	<u>1,721,626</u>	<u>294,693</u>	<u>690,956</u>	<u>2,707,275</u>
<b>2024 Total activities</b>	<u>1,564,181</u>	<u>337,011</u>	<u>878,158</u>	<u>2,779,350</u>

Of the £2,707,275 income received in the period to 31 March 2025, £130,000 was attributable to restricted funds and £2,577,275 was attributable to unrestricted funds.

Of the £2,779,350 income received in the period to 31 March 2024, £291,651 was attributable to restricted funds and £2,487,699 was attributable to unrestricted funds.

5 Other trading activities	Unrestricted 2025 £	2024 £
Bar income	122,488	135,468
Parking income	37,652	42,407
Film and other sundry income	28,288	21,692
	<u>188,428</u>	<u>199,567</u>

## CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

### Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the year ended 31 March 2025

6 Investments	Unrestricted	
	2025 £	2024 £
Deposit account interest	4,374	26,880
Income from investments	21,239	17,658
	<u>25,613</u>	<u>44,538</u>

7 Charitable activities	Direct costs £	Grants & donations payable £	Support costs £	Total £
Creative Quarter	1,179,276	-	275,392	1,454,668
Arts programme festivals and events	85,450	87,200	21,265	193,915
Folkestone Triennial	381,534	-	94,950	476,484
Folkestone Artworks	106,084	-	26,401	132,485
Prospect Cottage	88,865	-	22,115	110,980
Quarterhouse	551,700	-	188,171	739,871
Learning & Engagement	40,236	-	10,014	50,250
Development	88,506	-	-	88,506
<b>2025 Total activities</b>	<u>2,521,651</u>	<u>87,200</u>	<u>638,308</u>	<u>3,247,159</u>
<b>2024 Total activities</b>	<u>1,903,035</u>	<u>103,400</u>	<u>577,969</u>	<u>2,584,404</u>

Of the £3,247,159 charitable activities expenditure in the period to 31 March 2025, £445,389 was attributable to restricted funds and £2,801,770 was attributable to unrestricted funds.

Of the £2,584,404 charitable activities expenditure in the period to 31 March 2024, £318,366 was attributable to restricted funds and £2,266,038 was attributable to unrestricted funds.

8 Grants and donations payable	2025 £	2024 £
Arts programme festivals and events	87,200	50,000
Folkestone Artworks	-	53,400
	<u>87,200</u>	<u>103,400</u>

The grants and donations payable to the Arts programme festivals and events of £87,200 (2024: £50,000) are attributable to restricted reserves.

The £53,400 within grants and donations payable above relates to the donation of the Heritage assets to the Folkestone Town Council.

# CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

## Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the year ended 31 March 2025

### 9 Support costs

Support costs represent finance, administration, and other indirect central costs. The support costs have been allocated in proportion to the direct costs incurred in respect of each activity excluding depreciation and gifts in kind.

10 Other trading activities	Unrestricted	
	2025 £	2024 £
Bar expenditure	77,519	77,666
11 Auditor's remuneration	2025 £	2024 £
Audit services – statutory audit of the Charity	28,000	26,000
Other services:		
Auditor's non-audit services	6,950	6,650
	34,950	32,650
12 Net income	2025 £	2024 £
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation	111,263	111,263
13 Staff costs and remuneration of key management personnel	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	874,085	793,287
Social security costs	78,065	68,186
Pension costs	76,934	70,168
	1,029,084	931,641
The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:		
	2025 no.	2024 no.
Creative Quarter	7	5
Arts programme festivals and events	1	1
Development	1	1
Marketing	2	2
Learning and engagement	1	1
Management and administration	4	5
Quarterhouse	2	2
Triennial	1	1
Visitor Experience	6	6
Prospect Cottage	1	1
	26	25

## CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

### Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the year ended 31 March 2025

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#### 13 Staff costs and remuneration of key management personnel (continued)

The number of employees whose emoluments for the year fell within the following bands was:

£90,001 – £100,000	-	1
£100,001 - £110,000	1	-

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All employees earning more than £60,000 in the current and previous year participated in the pension scheme. Contributions for the year totalled £14,364 (2024: £13,538).

The Chief Executive Officer, Mr A Upton, was also a member of the Board of Trustees during the year and received remuneration and benefits for his services in that office, through an employment contract with the Charity, of £102,553 (2024: £95,449) and pension contributions for the period of £14,364 (2024: £13,538). Mr A Upton was also reimbursed expenses in his role as Chief Executive Officer totalling £5,413 (2024: £3,815) which relate to travel, subsistence and telephone costs.

The Deputy Chief Executive Officer, from 21 November 2023 was Mr S Cater. Remuneration and benefits for his services in that office, through an employment contract with the Charity, of £54,249 (2024: £18,733) and pension contributions for the period of £4,807 (2024: £260).

The Deputy Chief Executive Officer, to 31 October 2023 was Mrs F Kingsman. Remuneration and benefits for her services in that office, through an employment contract with the Charity, of £nil (2024: £32,602) and pension contributions for the period of £nil (2024: £3,260).

The Charity considers its Board of Trustees, including the Chief Executive and Deputy Chief Executive Officer, as their key management personnel. No other members of the key management personnel received remuneration during the current period or previous year.

## CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

### Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the year ended 31 March 2025

14	Tangible fixed assets	Freehold property £	Long leasehold and leasehold improvements £	Plant and machinery £	Furniture & Fixtures £	Computer equipment £	Total £
	<b>Cost</b>						
	At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025	5,992,909	16,579,329	172,193	9,595	24,978	22,779,004
	<b>Depreciation</b>						
	At 1 April 2024	1,582,044	1,413,973	136,221	9,595	24,978	3,166,811
	Charge for the year	39,952	64,313	6,998	-	-	111,263
	At 31 March 2025	1,621,996	1,478,286	143,219	9,595	24,978	3,278,074
	<b>Net book value</b>						
	31 March 2025	4,370,913	15,101,043	28,974	-	-	19,500,930
	31 March 2024	4,410,865	15,165,356	35,972	-	-	19,612,193

## CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

### Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the year ended 31 March 2025

15 Investment in subsidiaries	Shares in group undertakings £
<b>Market value</b>	
At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025	<u>1</u>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025	<u>1</u>

The Charity's investment at the balance sheet date was held in the following company:

	Registered Office	Class of share	% held Directly	% held Indirectly	Nature of business
The Creative Foundation (Trading) Limited	Quarterhouse, Mill Bay, Folkestone, Kent CT20 1BN	Ordinary A	100%	-	Dormant

16 Investments	2025 £
<b>Movement in fixed asset listed investments:</b>	
<b>Market value</b>	
At 1 April 2024	1,605,088
Net additions at cost	18,758
Net gains on investments	49,230
	<u>1,673,076</u>
Cash	16,517
At 31 March 2025	<u>1,689,593</u>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 1 April 2024	<u>1,623,809</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>1,689,593</u>

The historical cost of the investments is £1,686,055 (2024: £1,600,000).



## CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

### Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the year ended 31 March 2025

<b>17 Debtors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade debtors	46,773	44,211
Other debtors	51,836	48,998
Prepayments and accrued income	148,491	83,800
	<u>247,100</u>	<u>177,009</u>
<b>18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade creditors	154,593	99,470
Amounts owed to group undertakings	647	647
Social security and other taxes	-	21,096
Other creditors	187,694	171,967
Accruals	64,726	75,330
Deferred income (note 18a)	92,551	89,605
	<u>500,211</u>	<u>458,115</u>
<b>18a Deferred income</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Deferred income as at 1 April	89,605	55,923
Income received requiring deferment	92,551	89,605
Release of income during the year	(89,605)	(55,923)
Deferred income as at 31 March	<u>92,551</u>	<u>89,605</u>

Deferred income of £47,747 (2024: £48,218) represents income received in advance for property rentals and £44,804 (2024: £41,387) represents income received in advance in relation to grants.

### 19 Pension

The Charity operates a defined contribution scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Charity to the fund and amounted to £76,934 (2024: £70,168). The total contributions outstanding at the year-end were £nil (2024: £nil).

# CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

## Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the year ended 31 March 2025

20	Analysis of net assets between funds – 31 March 2025	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
	Fixed assets	238,581	19,262,349	19,500,930	19,612,193
	Investment in subsidiary	1	-	1	1
	Current assets	2,050,982	-	2,050,982	2,164,329
	Current liabilities	(500,211)	-	(500,211)	(458,115)
		<u>1,789,353</u>	<u>19,262,349</u>	<u>21,051,702</u>	<u>21,318,408</u>
	<b>Analysis of net assets between funds – 31 March 2024</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds £</b>	<b>Restricted funds £</b>	<b>Total Funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £</b>
	Fixed assets	247,392	19,364,801	19,612,193	19,733,886
	Investment in subsidiary	1	-	1	1
	Current assets	2,038,592	125,737	2,164,329	1,602,936
	Current liabilities	(458,115)	-	(458,115)	(440,912)
		<u>1,827,870</u>	<u>19,490,538</u>	<u>21,318,408</u>	<u>20,895,911</u>
21	<b>Movement in funds</b>		<b>At 1 April 2024 £</b>	<b>Net movement in funds £</b>	<b>At 31 March 2025 £</b>
	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
	General fund		716,089	(8,341)	707,748
	Designated funds		900,363	(28,363)	872,000
	Freehold property		211,418	(1,813)	209,605
			<u>1,827,870</u>	<u>(38,517)</u>	<u>1,789,353</u>
	<b>Restricted funds</b>				
	Triennial		125,737	(125,737)	-
	Freehold properties		4,199,447	(38,139)	4,161,308
	Leasehold properties		15,165,354	(64,313)	15,101,041
			<u>19,490,538</u>	<u>(228,189)</u>	<u>19,262,349</u>
	<b>Total funds</b>		<u>21,318,408</u>	<u>(266,706)</u>	<u>21,051,702</u>

## CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

### Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 21 Movement in funds (continued)

Net movement in funds, included in the above, are as follows:

	Income	Expenditure	Gain on investments	Transfer	Movement in funds
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General fund	2,796,226	(2,626,413)	49,230	(227,384)	(8,341)
Designated funds	-	(255,747)	-	227,384	(28,363)
Freehold property	-	(1,813)	-	-	(1,813)
	<u>2,796,226</u>	<u>(2,883,973)</u>	<u>49,230</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(38,517)</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Triennial	95,000	(220,737)	-	-	(125,737)
Quarterhouse	25,000	(25,000)	-	-	-
Freehold Properties	-	(38,139)	-	-	(38,139)
Leasehold Properties	-	(64,313)	-	-	(64,313)
Arts Programme	87,200	(87,200)	-	-	-
Festivals & Events	10,000	(10,000)	-	-	-
Prospect Cottage Residencies	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>217,200</u>	<u>(445,389)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(228,189)</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>3,013,426</u>	<u>(3,329,362)</u>	<u>49,230</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(266,706)</u>

Details on funds are as follows:

<b>Triennial</b>	Money raised to organise the Triennial festival.
<b>Quarterhouse</b>	The ownership and operation of the Quarterhouse Performing Arts Centre.
<b>Freehold Property</b>	Represents grants received by the Charity for capital projects. These are depreciated over the estimated useful economic life of the asset the grant was used to purchase.
<b>Leasehold Properties</b>	Represents the transfer of leasehold properties from the Roger De Haan Charitable Trust to the Charity.
<b>Arts Programme Festivals &amp; Events</b>	Festival ticket and fundraised income.
<b>Prospect Cottage Residencies</b>	Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors has allocated a grant of £30,000 to support the residency programme at Prospect College. The grant will be recognised in instalments of £10,000 per year over a three-year period.
<b>Designated funds</b>	The Trustees have designated a total of £521,000 to Triennial 2025. A further £351,000 is designated to the 2028 Triennial.

## CREATIVE FOLKESTONE

### Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the year ended 31 March 2025

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#### 22 Related party disclosures

The Roger De Haan Charitable Trust (RDHCT), a charity of which Sir Roger De Haan is a Trustee, made a payment of £105,723 (2024: £85,800) to the Folkestone Artworks.

At the year end, the Charity owed £647 (2024: £647) to its subsidiary, The Creative Foundation (Trading) Limited.

Details of trustees' remuneration and benefits can be found in note 13.

#### 23 Net cash flow from operations

	2025 £	2024 £
Net (deficit)/surplus for the year	(266,706)	422,497
Realised gain on investments	(52,006)	-
Unrealised loss/(gain) on investments	2,776	(6,314)
Loss on disposal of heritage assets	-	53,400
Depreciation	111,263	111,263
Investment income	(25,613)	(44,538)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(70,091)	27,537
Increase in creditors	42,096	17,202
Net cash inflow from operating activities	(258,281)	581,047