

# ARTS FOR RECOVERY IN THE COMMUNITY

England & Wales - Charity number 1107607

## Details

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Other names	ARC
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	<a href="#">05288784</a>
Registered	2005-01-13
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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Hat Works  
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Wellington Road South  
Stockport  
SK3 0EU

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**Email** [jacqui@arc-centre.org](mailto:jacqui@arc-centre.org)

**Website** [www.arc-centre.org](http://www.arc-centre.org)

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO RELIEVE SICKNESS AND PROTECT MENTAL GOOD HEALTH THROUGH THE USE OF THE ARTS AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY IN NORTH WEST ENGLAND, IN PARTICULAR BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY IN STOCKPORT.

**Activities:** VISUAL ARTS, LIFE DRAWING, SCULPTURE, CREATIVE WRITING, ANIMATION, PHOTOGRAPHY, FILM MAKING, GRAPHIC DESIGN, WEB DESIGN, OUTREACH AND PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS, MOSAIC COMMISSIONS AND GRAPHICS COMMISSIONS, EXHIBITIONS, SOCIAL ENTERPRISE (I.E PRODUCING ARCWARE FOR THE ARC GALLERY SHOP)

## Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NORTH WEST ENGLAND, IN PARTICULAR STOCKPORT
- Stockport

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£443,131	£382,355	-	-
2024-03-31	£373,219	£325,883	-	-
2023-03-31	£302,528	£314,463	-	-
2022-03-31	£342,341	£322,016	-	-
2021-03-31	£265,376	£250,159	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Paul Davies</b>	Chair	2023-02-02
Adelia Jewell Rye Greenway		2025-02-13
Arman Hemani		2025-03-29
David Milligan Croft		2021-10-28
Elizabeth Anne Lister		2025-03-27
Ellen Jane Page		2025-07-31
Hayley Louise Lightfoot		2024-09-12
Lucy Anne Wallace		2020-02-10
Thomas Urwin		2024-07-18

**ARTS FOR RECOVERY IN THE COMMUNITY**

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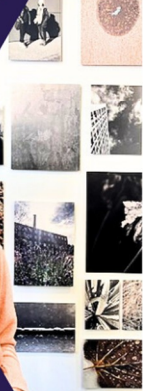
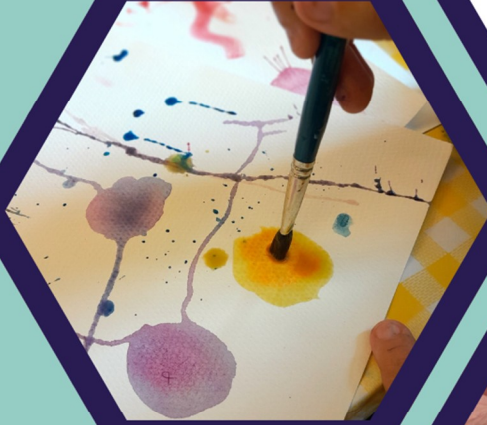
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# Accounts

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Create, connect,  
feel better



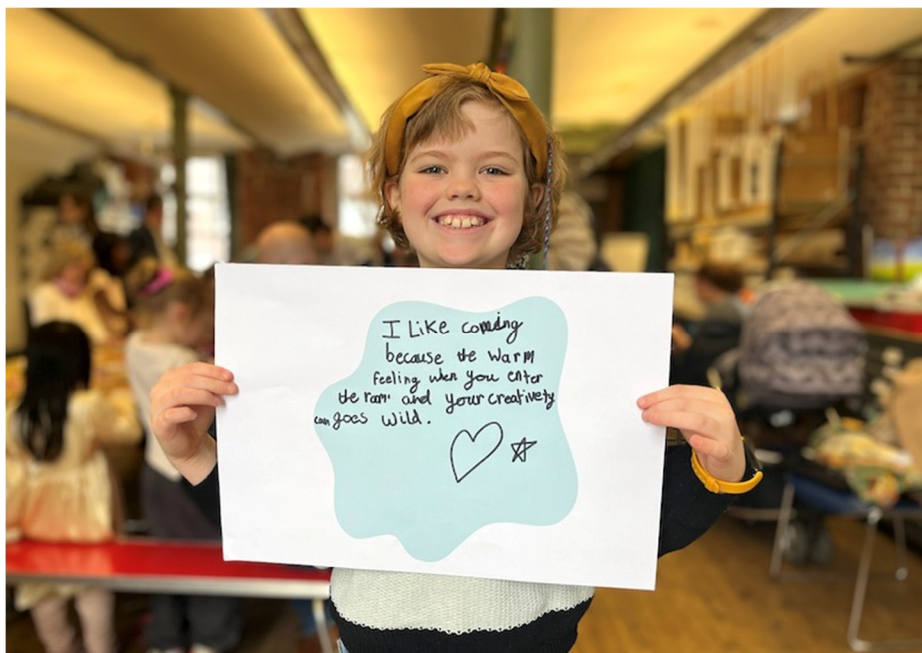
# Arts For Recovery in the Community

## Annual Report & Financial Statement for year ending 31 March 2025

Arc is a registered charity no. 1107607  
A limited company no. 05288784  
registered in England and Wales

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## 1) Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name	Arts for Recovery in the Community
Charity Registration Number	1107607
Company Registration Number	05288784
Registered Office	Hat Works, Wellington Mill, Wellington Road South, Stockport, SK3 0EU

### Directors

Paul Davies	Chair	
Lucy Wallace	Director	
David Milligan-Croft	Director	
Tom Urwin	Finance Director	Appointed 18 July 2024
Hayley Lightfoot	Director	Appointed 19 September 2024
Adelia Greenway	Director	Appointed 13 February 2025
Arman Hemani	Director	Appointed 29 March 2025
Liz Lister	Director	Appointed 27 March 2025
Safia Griffin	Chair	Resigned 26 September 2024
Graeme Draper	Director	Resigned 26 September 2024
Robert Morris	Director	Resigned 27 March 2025

### Company Secretary

Jacqui Wood

### Staff

Jacqui Wood	Chief Executive Officer
Nuala Ryan	Finance Manager
Annette Naor Hilton	Creative Wellbeing Lead
Harriet Wilson	Operations Manager
Lydia Walker	Volunteer and Engagement Co-ordinator
Ellen Samuel	Wellbeing Support Worker

With thanks to our freelance team of Lucie Fitzpatrick, Jo Flint, Tom Leah, Richard Kankondo and all the Associate Artists.

### Independent Examiner

Paul Cowham MA FCA DChA  
Withington Works, Withington Baths  
30 Burton Road, Manchester, M20 3EB

### Bankers

Virgin Money 34 Princess Street, Stockport, SK1 1RE	Shawbrook Bank Lutea House, Warley Hill Business Park, Brentwood, Essex, CM13 3BE
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## 2) Trustees' Report

### Welcome

It has been a remarkable year for Arc, marked by inspiring creative delivery, well-considered growth, and strengthened collaboration with a firm focus on our core mission. As we celebrate three decades of impact we can proudly reflect on the difference this organisation continues to make across Stockport and beyond.

This year, the Board has witnessed firsthand the transformative power of Arc's work, whether through the *Art Spa* fundraiser which kicked off the year, powerful exhibitions like *Made to Make a Difference*, or the renewed success of programmes supporting both young people and adults. It is especially heartening to see participants stepping into more prominent roles, sharing their stories and lived experience, developing products, and helping to shape Arc's future direction.

We've also seen significant organisational development. The team has navigated challenges with professionalism and compassion, forging new partnerships, looking to strengthen financial resilience, and embedding the values and vision of our new Strategic Plan into daily practice.

The Board has also undergone change. Following the end of terms of office for three longstanding trustees in 2024, including the Chair and Finance Director, much of the year has seen a focus on succession planning and recruitment. This process has helped us identify skills gaps and areas of need, leading to an increase in the overall number of trustees. This will provide added support and resilience in decision-making at a time when charities face increased external pressures and demand as well as economic uncertainty.

On behalf of the Board, I extend deep thanks to our staff, volunteers, funders, and partners. Your passion and belief in Arc's mission makes our shared success possible. As we enter this milestone year, we are excited for what lies ahead and confident in the team's ability to keep delivering meaningful, inclusive and life changing creative health work.

Thank you.

*Paul Davies, Arc Chair*



## Aims and Objectives

The Company and Charity is established to relieve sickness and protect mental good health through the use of the arts and creative activity in North West England, in particular but not exclusively in Stockport. The aims of the Company are to support the wellbeing of people with mental ill health by developing confidence in their abilities through engagement with Arc, enhancing recovery and encouraging them to gain skills and experience which lead to a better quality of life. Arc provides a rich and varied programme of creative activities in a safe and supportive environment, organises training and support in the arts, provide services and undertakes commissions, promoting positive images of mental health through high quality arts projects.

## Mission Statement

### Vision, Mission & Values

**Our vision** is of happy & healthy communities, where creativity is at the heart of supporting and strengthening everyone's mental health.

**Our mission** is to offer participant-centred creative wellbeing programmes that are accessible where and when people need them.

**Our work is underpinned by key values & behaviours:**

We believe that creativity has a transformative impact on mental health recovery.

We reinforce the value of the arts for everyone, every day, in protecting and maintaining good health, wellbeing and resilience.

We create welcoming spaces – which are inclusive, friendly and non-judgemental, where people connect and feel they belong.

We are resourceful and responsive, working collaboratively and supportively to achieve the most we can with what we have.

## Activities undertaken for public benefit in relation to objectives

In planning our activities for the year, we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. Regular reports on activities are submitted to the Directors at Board meetings by the Chief Executive Officer to enable the Directors to monitor progress. This and other mechanisms, such as the annual rolling strategic plan, enabled the Directors to ensure that new and current activities are in line with the organisation's aims and objectives, the Charity Commission's guidance and Companies House regulation.

### Main activities undertaken to further the charity's purposes for the public benefit

- Structured creative programmes to support the mental health of adults and young people facing a mental health crisis
- Accessible, inclusive & welcoming programmes for anyone who wants to use the arts to improve or maintain their mental health in our town centre cultural venue and through outreach projects
- Services for health partners and commissioners to refer in to, providing effective, reliable, specialist support to people for recovery from mental ill health
- Volunteering opportunities for those who have previously participated in our programmes and others with lived experience of mental ill health, as well as those wishing to give their time to a charity
- Partnership projects for communities and organisations in the VCSFE, private and statutory sectors to collaborate with us, and engage their service users and staff in creative wellbeing activities
- Professional development, training, networking, resources, commissioning and residencies for artists and healthcare professionals (and facilitators of all levels of experience)
- Exhibitions, events and products for members of the public with an interest in the arts and/or mental health
- An affordable, welcoming cafe run in a space shared with Hat Works Museum, meeting the needs of visitors and presenting Arc with income generation opportunities.

## Achievements and Performance

### 2025 – Celebrating 30 Years of Arts and Health

In 2025, we celebrate 30 years of leading arts and mental health engagement in Stockport and Greater Manchester. From our roots as the Mind Arts Project in 1995 to becoming Arc in 2004, we've grown into a trusted provider of creative programmes supporting mental health across the spectrum—from prevention to acute care.

*"I've worked in many services, but I often come across doubt and unease, with people unsure of whether they can make a difference. What was striking about Arc was that, because of the confidence everyone had in the process, there was a shared feeling of hope and commitment."*

*MSc Psychology placement student*

A major achievement this year was completing the Weston Charity Awards' Pilotlight programme, which helped us strengthen strategic planning and income generation. This led to:

- A refreshed Arc Strategic Plan
- Updated Mission, Vision and Values
- Launch of our 2024–2029 Income Generation and Fundraising Plan
- A new Social Value Statement

These tools will guide our sustainable growth and deepen our impact.

Here is how we've already started putting that strategy into action:

### Strategic Goal 1

**To be the leading arts and mental health organisation in the region, delivering the most effective, evidence-based creative health programmes**

#### ***Continuously adapting and developing our core offer to address increases in demand and evolving need***

The need for accessible mental health support is more urgent than ever. Our creative, inclusive programmes help people build resilience, connect, and improve wellbeing. In 2024/25, we expanded our adult Arts for Wellbeing programme, increasing entry-level engagement by 40%. [A short film](#) was created to introduce new participants to our service.

To improve support, we expanded our volunteer team and introduced Inclusive Best Practice training for artists and volunteers, now embedded in our Safeguarding and Boundaries training.

We also adapted our Creative Mums perinatal programme to offer a shared space for mums and babies, removing barriers to engagement.

*"The balance worked really well, I felt I had control over my baby, whilst being able to do something for me and relax." Creative Mums participant*

Due to the end of specific grant funding, we delivered only one Men's Music Programme this year, which resulted in reduced male engagement in our entry level programmes. However, we saw stronger male participation in monthly photography and writing sessions, and through a new partnership with Stockport County FC's Community Trust, which engaged 20 people - 56% of them men.

Our youth offer included the Shine programme (supporting 40+ young people, in collaboration with Beacon Counselling) and a re-launch of MusicSpace, now more focused on inclusion and participant voice. While partnership-based young people's music and wellbeing work thrived, in-house MusicSpace sessions struggled with attendance - reflecting wider sector trends. To address this, Young People's Arc project manager Richard Kankondo is launching a Youth Voice project in 2025 with Stockport Academy to shape more inclusive and impactful youth programmes.

#### ***Extending our services & impact, building on our many years' experience and successes***

This year, we expanded our reach through training, partnerships, and new delivery models rooted in our experience in creative mental health.

We hosted training and CPD sessions for local creatives and continued our partnership with the Listen Youth Alliance, supporting young people through regular meetings and creative events.

*"It has been great to develop a working partnership with the team at Arc this year. As organisations, we have a shared ethos and a shared vision—not only for young people but for the work we do to enhance the provision"*

*across the sector. The team are not only reliable and professional, but are welcoming, supportive and friendly in everything they do."*

*Beth Collins, CEO, PIE & L!sten Youth Alliance*

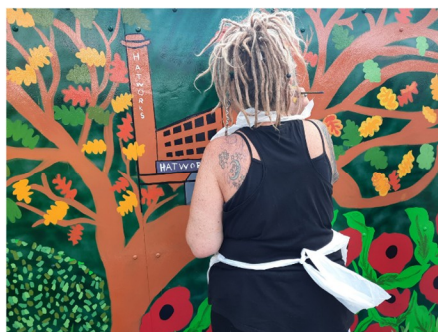
We supported children and families with Pennine Care's Stockport Mental Health Support Team and delivered regular artist-led sessions at Stepping Hill Hospital, increasing our programme to include artist-led sessions in the Intensive Care Psychiatric Unit. A six-month training and engagement project at Tameside Hospital led to a creative wellbeing toolkit for ongoing staff use.

*"It has given me so much confidence to deliver art sessions with the patients." Staff member*

*"The art room gives me a reason to come out of my room... and gives me the ability to express myself through art." Patient, Taylor Ward*

This toolkit model offers a sustainable way to extend Arc's impact across schools, workplaces, and healthcare settings.

We also continued partnerships with Tameside, Oldham & Glossop Mind and Gallery Oldham, and developed a corporate partnership offer. We delivered wellbeing sessions for staff teams at the Ahmed Iqbal Ullah RACE Centre & Education Trust, Manchester Metropolitan University, Kier Construction, and GM NHS.



## ***Engaging and supporting a more diverse range of people through our participatory programmes***

We remain committed to inclusive practice, listening and responding to our participants' needs. This year, we built relationships with groups like the Hong Kong Fellowship in order to help us co-create culturally relevant programmes going forward.

A key outreach project involved delivering therapeutic art sessions at temporary accommodation for refugees and asylum seekers in Stockport, with participants from over 15 countries.

*"In my room there are no windows, I feel stuck - this was good for my mind." Participant*

With UKSPF funding, we ran Arts and Health Week, engaging over 250 people, and launched *Arc in the Park*, encouraging over 50 participants to explore wellbeing through creative walks and activities.

*"The park walk made me see Stockport from a totally new perspective... something I rarely feel in new group situations." Participant*

We continued to lead in the regional creative health space, contributing to GM Creative Health Place Partnership, VCFSE Alliance, and Culture Stockport.

*"Having Arc as a partner has transformed not only the building but the museum offer. It was the first stage of our turnaround, making it more inclusive and vibrant, massively increasing visitor numbers and helping us dynamically change the service. It's a brilliant case study—and there's more to come."*

*Peter Ashworth, Head of Culture and Leisure, Stockport MBC*

Our *Making Art Happen* exhibition showcased six micro-commissioned projects on themes including infertility, brain health, and LGBTQ+ isolation, welcoming many first-time visitors to Arc. A standout moment was when a 100-year-old woman featured in one project attended Saturday Art Club with her carer and had a wonderful time. This exhibition highlighted Arc's ability to reach new audiences and support a wide range of arts and health work beyond our core programmes.

## Strategic Goal 2

### To increase organisational efficiency, capability, reach and capacity

#### **Optimising our organisational structure**

Through the Pilotlight Programme, we began refining our structure - updating appraisals, line management, and meetings to align with strategic goals. Staffing remains a challenge due to short-term funding, so we're embedding staffing costs into funding bids and exploring sustainable income models. To build resilience, fundraising consultant Claire Turner delivered fundraising training to staff and Board members. We also explored LinkedIn and AI tools to improve communication and efficiency.

#### **Developing and resourcing appropriate systems to support the organisation**

Finance Manager Nuala Ryan led CRM research, with a decision due in 2025/26. The new system could help manage data and demonstrate impact. We're also exploring pro bono support from businesses like SQW and engaging with Stockport MBC on Social Value.

Staff and trustees are exploring AI for admin, bid writing, and reporting. Lydia Walker joined as Volunteer and Engagement Coordinator, updating processes to ensure a meaningful experience for volunteers.

*"Arc has benefited me in so many ways... I'd lost passion for everything in life, but Arc gave me a love for art again and a reason to leave my house. From participant to volunteer, I've grown in confidence and skills. I now have a better outlook on life."*

Carl, previous participant, now volunteer

*"Volunteering at Arc ignited a passion for arts and mental health, and inspired my health and social care degree. Now, as Arc's Wellbeing Support Worker, I use my lived experience and training to support others with empathy and authenticity."*

Ellen, previous volunteer, now staff member

Support from The Vernon Building Society, Asda, and The National Lottery helped strengthen our volunteering programme. Volunteers play a vital role—supporting sessions, running the café, leading art clubs, and welcoming visitors.

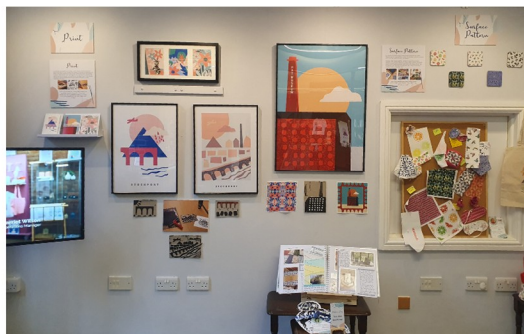
*"As a full-time carer for an autistic child who has poor mental health and anxiety, it is easy to be isolated. Arc's Saturday Art sessions have been a lifeline for me and my children, primarily because of the volunteers that run the sessions. They are not just helpers; they become friends, a safe space, and an integral part of the families' support systems."* Saturday Art Club regular

This dedication was recognised with eight volunteers shortlisted at the Stockport Rocks Volunteer Awards, and Arc's nomination for a King's Award for Voluntary Service.

#### **Ensuring our organisation is more reflective of the communities we support**

Participant voice continues to shape our services. A new partnership with the Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Centre & Education Trust is helping us address inequalities and diversify our team and participants. This relationship began after we delivered creative wellbeing support to their team following their personal experience of racism during the 2024 riots. *"We loved our time at Arc right from the start... I particularly liked the fact that we did individual and collective designs: this allowed us to express our own ideas but to also connect them as a team."* Maya Sharma, Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Centre

We're proud that many staff and trustees have lived experience of mental health. An EDI survey showed 81% of volunteers do too. However, we recognise there's more to do to ensure our full team reflects the communities we serve.



Creative Wellbeing Lead, Annette Naor Hilton, led Arc's involvement in the GM Myriad programme for global majority artists. Despite this, diversifying our delivery team remains a challenge. We've submitted a bid to Arts Council England for a dedicated artist development programme.

We also continued partnerships with North West universities. A highlight was our collaboration with Manchester Metropolitan University on *Making Endometriosis Visible*, which led to a powerful exhibition and a visual toolkit for health professionals.

## Strategic Goal 3

### To be financially resilient, with greater stability and reduced risk

#### ***Reinforcing our value through everything we do, communicating our impact and brand***

The Pilotlight Programme reminded us that our greatest strength is our story—and the stories of those we support. The transformative power of creativity, and the life-changing impact of our programmes are what truly resonate with stakeholders, funders, donors, and supporters. This year, we've shared those stories more boldly across our media, products, and venue.

The Hat Works Café is a prime example. More than a café, it's a training ground and safe space for neurodivergent young people, those with mental health challenges, and others facing barriers to employment. Volunteers gain real-world hospitality skills, confidence, and community, at their own pace, with full support. Visitors, in turn, get a richer understanding of our work, seeing firsthand how a creative and inclusive space can change lives. Under Harriet Wilson's leadership, it embodies Arc's values—supporting mental health, building skills, and connecting people.

Our Creative Enterprise group also thrived. Fifteen participants progressed into facilitation and employment, showcased their work at the *Green Walk Arts & Crafts Fair*, and launched their first exhibition, *Made to Make a Difference*. The programme has become a lesson in storytelling and impact - with participants sharing their experiences through [film](#), staffing stalls, and presenting at a GM Creative Health conference.

*"I have grown in so many ways since I joined the programme... I would not be where I am now without having found Arc."*

*Kelly, now working as an Art Activity Co-ordinator*

We raised £6,700 through the Big Give Kind2Mind campaign and used our 30th birthday to amplify our story. Led by Marketing Officer, Lucie Fitzpatrick, the whole team contributed to sharing Arc's impact. We also commissioned a new Marketing Plan to guide future communications.



#### ***Developing systems & processes which underpin our fundraising & income generation***

Financial resilience is not just about raising funds - it's about the systems that support and sustain that work. This year we created a Fundraising Action Plan to support our five-year strategy, focusing on:

- Building multi-year strategic partnerships
- Diversifying income beyond trusts and foundations
- Maximising income from our venue, café, shop, events, and public programme

We're preparing for a new CRM system to better manage donor relationships and personalise engagement.

Project Manager Jo Flint led on initiatives including refreshed fundraising packs, expanded LinkedIn presence, an exploration of legacy giving, and new fundraising events like *Art Spa* evenings and *Time Out* photography sessions for businesses. Our venue is increasingly used for events, generating unrestricted income, and our café continues to balance purpose with revenue. Membership of Marketing Stockport has opened doors to new donors and partners, many now supporting Arc through fundraising, volunteering, or pro bono work.

### **Broadening our funding portfolio**

We've fostered a culture of income generation across Arc, with trustees, staff, volunteers, and supporters all contributing to our financial sustainability.

In 2024/25, we:

- Strengthened community fundraising with support from local schools, businesses, and groups like Stockport Soroptimists
- Grew our social enterprise through café, retail, and events, underpinned by Harriet Wilson's training at the School of Social Entrepreneurs
- Advanced strategic leadership through CEO Jacqui Wood's work building relationships with Arts Council England, GM NHS, and the GM Combined Authority
- Secured delivery-level grants through staff-led bids
- Launched a Corporate Partnership programme, working with MMU, Kier Construction, John Lewis, BASF, and others.

We ended the year on a high, being named Charity of the Year by Spectrum Brands UK.

Our focus remains on diversifying income, balancing grants with earned income, and building long-term partnerships to ensure Arc's continued impact in Greater Manchester.

## **What our participants told us:**

### **Adults:**

*I thought I wasn't going to go but I said to myself just do one, just do two and then I wanted to keep coming back. This is something that's saved my life.*

*This has helped me more in 12 weeks than 18 months of counselling.*

*I'm more confident just driving the car here every week and walking to here - up until 6 months ago, I wasn't even leaving the house. Everyone's encouragement helped me travel abroad on my own!*

*What I've learnt here, I've put into practice at home - nothing has really helped like this before.*

*Sharing and connecting with people who have their own things going on gives you hope - a human connection.*

*Honestly, I'm so glad I did it. It's great to be able to share experiences and realise I'm not the only one. It's the highlight of my week and a chance for me and my daughter to do something together. It's helped me get out of the house and has done wonders for my mental health. My daughter is happy too.*

*It's been an escape, a chance to be me, not just a mum. I've built confidence in myself, just being me, and have realised I'm enough as I am.*

*It's life changing, it's helped me channel my feelings into art. I feel invincible - I can do anything!*

*I now have a little journal which I carry everywhere - it's my space - sometimes I draw at work at break when I'm stressed. It's helped me so much.*

*I was in pain in the night...started drawing mandalas - it took my mind off the pain. I'm doing so much at home now... I'm being creative not on my phone or overthinking."*

*It has given me a sense of community, belonging & support- I would not be where I am now without having found Arc.*

*I feel I am finding my own voice.*

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*You don't know what this has done for me. It's given me a clear direction. For a long time it was the thing that got me out of the house.*

**Young People & their Carers:**

*I think most importantly I've learnt to be myself, just to believe in myself and have more confidence.*

*It helped me be less stressed, calmer and forget about my worries. Since I've come here I've stopped harming myself.*

*Art doesn't have to be good, it just has to be yours!*

*The fact that she's wanted to come back is in itself progress, because it can be overwhelming for her doing new things. She's really embraced this.*

*After the first day she was proudly presenting a photo of her artwork on her phone which is quite unusual as she usually keeps her herself to herself.*

*My daughter said that she can actually be herself here. That's what she said to me the other day. She feels that at school she can't be who she wants to be, so here she feels that freedom, and it's nice that she's been able to experience that in her life, to know that beyond school there is an avenue where she can actually express herself. For me as a parent, that is huge.*

*Initially we nearly gave up, because A didn't think she was getting anything, so I had a chat, and the week after they were all talking, and it was just the light bulb moment. She went out to a gig last night, and once we got in there, she was at the front, and she was making friends with people, and she said don't worry about me. We wouldn't have got that a few weeks ago, she feels comfortable in herself now.*



# Arc - Key Statistics

2024/25



## Adult Arts for Wellbeing Programmes

Engaged

**380**

adults

experiencing mental ill-health

from Stockport, Oldham & Tameside



**97%**

of participants reported

improved mental health & wellbeing

**91%**

of participants reported

reduced social isolation



## Young People's Arc Programme

**114**

children & young people took part in

arts and music projects



to help them overcome mental health challenges

**88%**

of participants reported

increased confidence

**76%**

of participants reported

increased friendships



## Engagement and Volunteering

**13,020**

visitors welcomed to Hat Works

for arts & health focused exhibitions, workshops and events



**78**

volunteers gave Arc 5,081 hours of their time

Giving a value of **£64,020\***

*\*based on the real living wage*

**1,786**

people created together



at our family focused

**Saturday Art Clubs**

Created by **SQW**

### **Additionally:**

#### ***Adult Arts for Wellbeing Programmes***

- **102** people took part in monthly follow-on opportunities, some of whom were new participants, others who progressed through earlier programmes. Monthlies included photography for wellbeing walks and creative writing.
- We received **166** new adult referrals from **30** referrers in Stockport and **7** agencies in Oldham and Tameside, and an additional **136** self referrals, totalling **302** referrals during the year.
- **33** people moved on to the Creative Challenge programme, building independence, resilience and confidence.
- **15** people took part in our Creative Enterprise strand, building transferable skills, experience and confidence to take positive steps forward beyond Arc back into work, education or in developing their own creative practice.
- **19** people aged over 60 took part in our Age Well and Art Wise programmes.
- We completed a 6-month staff development and patient engagement programme for 2 mental health wards at Tameside Hospital.
- **124** adult wellbeing programme participants accessed our wellbeing support and **38** were signposted to appropriate mental health services to help them deal with issues including anxiety, depression, suicide ideation, domestic violence, bereavement, housing and debt.

#### ***Young People's Arc***

- Outreach partnership projects included Adoption Counts, the Proud Trust, Stockport Academy, Primary Jigsaw, Werneth School and Tameside, Oldham & Glossop Mind
- We partnered with voluntary and statutory agencies to deliver support to a further **400+** young people and their families including Pennine Care, PIE, SMBC, Proud 2B Parents
- Many young people presented with complex mental health needs. Of those referred, **82%** had 2 or more conditions/diagnoses putting them at risk of poor mental health, **39%** had 3 or more.

#### ***Creative wellbeing in Stockport town centre***

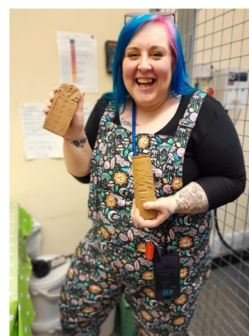
- **82** people attended volunteer-led drop in creative social sessions, which were public-facing but aimed at addressing loneliness and isolation, and preventing mental ill health.
- **24** partner organisations and **26** artists worked with us on delivering Stockport Arts & Health Week, engaging over 500 people over 6 days.
- We completed 2 public art projects – a mural with Cheshire Wildlife which involved our volunteers, corporate partners and local artists, and a series of panels for the Edgeley approach to Stockport Train Station, with artwork from our adult and young people's wellbeing programmes.

#### ***Training, volunteering and work experience for people in arts & wellbeing sectors***

- Volunteer roles included delivering activities at Stepping Hill Hospital, supporting our wellbeing programmes with adults and young people, marketing and social media, exhibition curation, facilitating our Saturday Art Clubs, staffing the café, being a Trustee, running stalls at makers markets and welcoming visitors to the Arc Centre.
- **33** people joined as new volunteers, **14** left to take up education, volunteering or employment opportunities.
- **43** volunteers undertook training whilst with us
- **42** volunteers facilitated activities - leading drop-in art and textiles socials in the Centre, Saturday Art Club sessions for local families, affordable art sessions for the public, Age Well projects for isolated older people and our programme at Stepping Hill Hospital – all supporting people to connect and create.
- **71** people took part in CPD & networking events as part of the Arts and Health week programme.
- Arc employed **65** freelance creatives during the year.
- We delivered input to the Myriad training programme for artists from Global Majority Communities
- **5** students from North West Universities undertook placements at Arc, we participated in the Industry Advisory panel at Bolton University and continued to lead a module on the award-winning University of Chester Nursing Creative Health Placement, training **183** students across the BA and MA cohorts to use creative practice within their healthcare careers.

## Future Projects for 2025/2026

- Undertake research, consultancy and pilot projects to develop a culturally appropriate creative wellbeing offer
- Explore a heritage and wellbeing strand, through better use of our location, collaboration with the museum team and connection to archives, heritage spaces and collections
- Launch a Volunteer Strategy which maximises the potential of our dedicated volunteer team to increase capacity and impact, and offers opportunities to those with lived experience of mental ill-health
- Write a new Young People's Arc strategy, to enable us to bid for investment in the sustainable development of our arts programmes for under 18s.
- Develop our earned income potential through improvements to our online shop, donations platform and corporate supporters package.
- Implement a training and development programme for café and front of house volunteers.



## Structure, governance and management

### Company status

The company is a charitable company, incorporated under the Companies Act of 1985 as a private limited company on the 17 November 2004 and entered into the Central Register of Charities on the 13 January 2005. The company is limited by guarantee and all members have agreed to contribute a sum not exceeding £1 in the event of a winding-up. The number of guarantees at 31 March 2025 was eight.

### Governing document

The company is controlled via its Memorandum and Articles of Association, which was amended by special resolution to update the wording in 21 November 2024. The Members of the company are Directors of the company and Trustees of the charity. The number of members must be a minimum of three and a maximum of twelve.

An AGM is held by the company and the Board of Directors meet at least six times per year. The Board is responsible for the annual report and accounts, and overseeing policy, personnel, and the strategic direction of the Charitable Company. It ensures company documents and key policies are reviewed on a regular basis.

### Recruitment and appointment of Directors

Directors are recruited from a number of sources, including personal recommendation, Reach Volunteering, LinkedIn, and ex-participants of Arc. The Board undertook a review of skill profiles required in 2024/25 and actively seeks to establish a diversity of backgrounds and experience of its members and this along with Board discussions, inform succession planning.

Prospective Directors are invited to submit an application, to tour the premises, and to meet key people. They are subsequently interviewed by members of the Board and required to present a personal statement of their potential contribution to Arc. They are made aware of their responsibilities and are also required to provide two referees who are contacted before appointment is approved. Directors' suitability

and eligibility is checked via the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), and by following Companies House and the Charity Commission rules on disqualification.

## Induction and training of Directors

New directors are given access to Arc's Microsoft 365 system which contains governance documents, a current listing of policies and procedures and previous Annual Reports, Accounts and Board meeting minutes. Directors are given information on their roles and responsibilities and invited to attend internal and external training courses relevant to their roles, including being an ambassador, their role in income generation and also mandatory safeguarding and annual data protection and cyber security training.

## Organisational structure

The Chair leads the Board and undertakes regular supervision with the Chief Executive Officer, There are two sub-committees that oversee key areas of governance and report back to the full Board with matters for approval and discussion. These are:

- Finance (includes Fundraising)
- Personnel, Policy and Quality

The minimum expected attendance for any sub-committee is at least one principal staff member and two Directors, unless there have been changes in membership such as people leaving. All Directors are encouraged to attend sub-committee meetings and are expected to when their specialist expertise is required.

Strategy is discussed at Board meetings, additional development sessions and in sub-committees when relevant. A rolling strategic plan sets out the objectives and priorities for each 3-5-year period and is developed with key stakeholders including staff and Directors. This is operationalised annually through delegated responsibility to staff under the leadership of the Chief Executive Officer, overseen by the Board of Directors. Working groups are formed, as required, to work on specific areas of strategic development.

## Risk management

The Directors regularly review and assess the risks faced by the charity in all areas of its work and plan for the management of those risks. Major risks are assessed through a risk register and policy overseen by the Board and Chief Executive Officer, to which staff report, and operationalised through risk assessments and procedure.

The Directors have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and satisfied themselves that systems and procedures are established to manage those risks.

Major risks are those risks that have a major impact and a probable or highly probable likelihood of occurring. If they occurred, they would have a major impact on some or all the following areas:

- governance
- operations
- finances
- environmental or external factors such as public opinion or relationship with funders
- Arc's compliance with law or regulation
- health and safety.

Arc's policy document and risk register sets out to:

- Identify the major risks that apply to our charity and their impacts
- Provide a basis to make decisions about how to respond to the risks we face
- State and rationalise our risk tolerance in uncertain times and in line with strategy and values
- Provide records to write an appropriate risk management statement in our annual report.

Assessing and management of risk is a whole team effort, and while the Board of Directors holds ultimate responsibility for this, appropriate and proportionate responsibility is delegated to staff. Arc is able to state that there have been no major incidents or risks in 2024/2025 that required reporting to the Charity Commission.

Arc will continue to implement its Risk Management Policy to ensure that the organisation complies with the Charity Commission's requirements as outlined in their guidance on Risk Management for Charities (CC26).

## **Related parties**

The Company operates independently and there are no unmanaged related party transactions. Board members and their immediate relatives have no undeclared contractual relationships, with any suppliers or fund providers. Each Director is asked to sign a Declaration of Interests register and Code of Conduct form and Directors are also asked to declare any interests at the beginning of Board meetings relating to an agenda item, or third party relationship, to manage interests and maintain independent judgement. Should an interest be declared in an agenda item, the Board members will consider if the interested director is capable of taking part in the decision making related to that agenda item in a manner that is compliant with the Company's articles of association and applicable legal and regulatory standards. All such decision making is recorded and a register of declared interests is updated at least annually (or sooner when the Board becomes aware of an interest).

## Financial Review

### Principal funding sources

For 2024/2025 the principal income sources were:

The National Lottery (£70,955)	Youth Music (£24,250)
NHS Stockport CCG (£63,390)	A4A (£18,934)
GMCA (£44,000)	Commissions (£16,824)
SMBC UKSPF (£37,355)	Beacon – Shine Project (£9,810)
Henry Smith (£44,000)	CRH - (£5,000)

Principal sources of funding carried forward into 2024/2025 were:

Henry Smith (£20,457)	Ralph Pendlebury (£1,564)
Big Give (£2,286)	SMBC ASC Capital (£4,088)
	Youth Music (£20,217)

### How funding has supported key priorities

Our donors have supported us by funding us in the following ways:

- GM NHS Stockport provides core funding to underpin all our work at Arc. The funding enables our programmes to continue to help improve the mental health needs of Stockport residents
- Arc has received its fourth year of funding from a five-year grant from The National Lottery to fund staffing and core costs of the organisation until March 2026. This will ensure that Arc can continue to flourish and develop a more sustainable model for future financial stability
- GMCA have provided Arc funding to support Culture and Wellbeing in the GM region
- Arc have also received another grant from Youth Music to continue the work that has been developed in this area. The ongoing project is called MusicSpace which aims to improve wellbeing, confidence and resilience of young people not receiving support through mainstream services
- The YPA programme is all about partnerships and providing tailored programmes of short creative projects for targeted groups of disadvantaged and vulnerable children and young people. Arc is continuing to collaborate with local organisations such as Primary Jigsaw, the Proud Trust, Tameside, Oldham and Glossop Mind, Adoption Counts and Stockport Academy on partnership projects which complement the main offering from YPA. Arc are also continuing to deliver an Early Help and Wellbeing Service for 11–18-year-olds in partnership with Beacon Counselling
- Henry Smith have provided funding to deliver a 3-year programme of activities supporting people facing a mental health crisis in communities across Stockport and Oldham. This funding ends August 2026
- Arc received a grant via SMBC from UKSPF for 'Stockport: Our Arts and Health' which included an Arts & Health Week portfolio, a wide range of public facing workshops, drop ins and a new Arc in the Park activity programme
- CRH have funded follow on programmes and volunteer expenses for 2023/2024 and 2024/2025- a previously underfunded but essential part of our work. This funding has enabled us to provide experienced artists and facilitators to support creative activities to participants who have benefited from previous programmes
- Commissions and fees are continuing to provide income for Arc, and we anticipate this will continue to increase in 2025/2026.

The budget for 2025/2026 currently shows a potential shortfall of £59,000, we are confident that this can be raised during the year from ad-hoc funding sources and through increased sales and services during the year. The overhead costs paid by Arc have remained stable and this has helped the team to accurately plan future funding streams and requirements. The budget continues to support the costs of a larger staff team and Arc have planned for a full and diverse programme supplemented by commissions that are delivered so well by the organisation. Arc is aiming to continue to deliver these programmes at current

levels with plans to approach new funding sources, trusts and charitable organisations. One of our future financial aims is continue to gain multi-year funding which will enable more effective planning of delivery.

Arc are also continuing to develop new streams of income that will help to sustain the organisation in the long term. Our future Fundraising plan was launched in September 2024 and clearly outlines steps to diversify and survive. Challenges remain, but Arc will seek to meet all its commitments with regard to staff remuneration and other increasing costs over which we do not have control. Arc will maintain healthy reserves to ensure we can meet our ongoing obligations.

Arc has continued to allocate funds (Forge Funds) to develop new projects for the 2025/2026 financial year. This will enable Arc to continue to develop new and exciting projects where mainstream funding may not be immediately available.

Arc will continue to maintain a level of reserves in compliance with our reserves policy. This is intended to meet any unforeseen risk and financial threat to the organisation. The reserves to be held have been determined by the Board and are identified below.

Future funding campaigns and strategies are under consideration to enable Arc to diversify funding and mitigate risks from any shortfalls in funding and to protect the level of safe reserves determined by the Board.

Income sources for 2025/26 include:

CCG (£60,220)	Big Give (£6,770)
The National Lottery (£70,955)	Beacon / Shine (£9,810)
GMCA (£44,000)	Youth Music (£24,250)
Henry Smith (£22,700)	Awards for All (£15,814)

## Reserves policy

The Board will ensure that adequate reserves are held by Arc to cover emergencies Principally:

1. To ensure that any shortfall in income can be covered over a reasonable period to ensure that management and the Board can take effective action to minimise any detrimental effects on staff and the organisation and to meet any contractual obligations.
2. To cover any unforeseen emergencies concerning property or facilities.
3. To cover any emergencies due to force majeure.
4. Retaining healthy reserves enables the board to undertake investment issues with some confidence.

## General Note on Reserves

Arc's reserves are the cornerstone of good financial management and governance. They are in place to protect Arc from major risks such as unforeseeable loss of income, reputation or force majeure events. Our reserves would enable Arc to operate (on a smaller scale) until funding sources become available. This would give Arc six to nine months secure funding and allow a smooth continuation of service to our participants. Having strong liquid reserves help Arc to buy time to respond and react.

The amount of reserves determined by the Board for the financial year 2024/ 2025 has been calculated as follows:

### Reserves amount calculated as of 31 August 2025

Employee redundancy & notice costs	£57,398
Equipment lease commitments – check re: phone lease	£11,083
Property lease commitment	£5,500
Three months fixed running costs	£20,737
Accountancy fees	£2,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£96,718</b>

The reserves calculation has increased slightly for the year due to the following:

Employee redundancy calculations have increased in 2024/2025 with more permanent staff reaching the two-year threshold for redundancy. Arc currently has a six-year lease of Hat Works space, it has been agreed that it would be prudent to set aside the remaining cost of this lease as stated above. The equipment lease commitments have increased with new leases for phone system and copiers. The three months fixed running costs have also been reviewed and stated as per costs on the ledger for 2024/2025, it is anticipated that these costs will remain constant. Overall total reserves required have increased to £96,179 in 2024/2025 from £94,435 in 2023/2024.

**Note 19 of the accounts shows that unrestricted current assets** less current liabilities, as of 31 March 2025, to be £237,069.

This policy is reviewed annually. The amount is calculated each year and when there are major changes, such as changes in the staffing levels and the taking on of additional leases.

### Investment policy

The company will hold funds in accordance with the sum identified in our reserves policy within a savings and investment secure portfolio.

## Statement of Directors' responsibilities

### Statement of Responsibilities of the Trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (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 income and expenditure of the charity for that period.

In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

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

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

The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Approved by the Directors and signed on its behalf by:

*Paul Davies*

Paul Davies (Chair)      Date: 25th September 2025

### 3) Independent Examiner's Report to the Directors of Arts for Recovery In the Community

I report to the Directors on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Directors of the Company (and also its Directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

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

#### Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeds £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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

*Paul Cowham*

Paul Cowham MA FCA DChA  
Withington Works, Withington Baths  
Burton Road, Manchester, M20 3EB

Date: 06/10/2025  
.....

Arts for Recovery in the Community  
Statement of Financial Activities  
(including Income and Expenditure account)  
for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
<b>Income</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	9,073	10,582	19,655	17,070
Charitable activities	4	68,390	277,401	345,791	303,074
Fees and other income	5	74,238	-	74,238	52,108
Investments	6	3,447	-	3,447	967
<b>Total income</b>		<b>155,148</b>	<b>287,983</b>	<b>443,131</b>	<b>373,219</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Raising funds	7	44,626	-	44,626	28,463
Charitable activities	8	80,056	257,673	337,729	297,420
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>124,682</b>	<b>257,673</b>	<b>382,355</b>	<b>325,883</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year</b>	9	<b>30,466</b>	<b>30,310</b>	<b>60,776</b>	<b>47,336</b>
Transfer between funds		(1,482)	1,482	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds for the year</b>		<b>28,984</b>	<b>31,792</b>	<b>60,776</b>	<b>47,336</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		229,167	50,997	280,164	232,828
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>258,151</b>	<b>82,789</b>	<b>340,940</b>	<b>280,164</b>

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

Arts for Recovery in the Community  
Company number 05288784

Balance sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	14		767		1,535
<b>Total fixed assets</b>			<b>767</b>		<b>1,535</b>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	15	21,061		5,791	
Cash at bank and in hand		341,258		289,860	
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>362,319</b>		<b>295,651</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	16	(22,146)		(17,022)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b>340,173</b>		<b>278,629</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			340,940		280,164
<b>Net assets</b>			<b>340,940</b>		<b>280,164</b>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>					
Restricted income funds	17		82,789		50,997
Unrestricted income funds	18		258,151		229,167
<b>Total charity funds</b>			<b>340,940</b>		<b>280,164</b>

For the year in question, the company was entitled to exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

The notes on pages 25 to 38 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the trustees on .....<sup>25th September 2025</sup> and signed on their behalf by:

*Thomas Urwin*

Thomas Urwin - Finance Director

# Arts for Recovery in the Community

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025

### **1 Accounting policies**

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

#### **a Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity has applied Update Bulletin 1 as published on 2 February 2016 and does not include a cash flow statement on the grounds that it is applying FRS 102 section 1A.

Arts for Recovery in the Community meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

#### **b Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice**

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of comparative items was required. No such restatement was required.

#### **c Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

There are no key judgments which the trustees have made which have a significant effect on the accounts.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

### Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

#### **d Income**

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

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants 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.

Income received in advance of a provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

#### **e Donated services and facilities**

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), general volunteer time is not recognised; refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

#### **f Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

# Arts for Recovery in the Community

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

### **g Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

### **h Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

### **i Operating leases**

Operating leases are leases in which the title to the assets, and the risks and rewards of ownership, remain with the lessor. Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

### **j Tangible fixed assets**

Individual fixed assets costing £2,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

Motor vehicles:	4 years
Office fixtures and equipment	4 years
Improvements to premises:	10 years

### **k Debtors**

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

### **l Cash at bank and in hand**

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

### **m Creditors and provisions**

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

# Arts for Recovery in the Community

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

### n Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

### o Pensions

Arc operates a work place pension scheme with NEST as well as making contributions to an employee's own scheme which is a Qualifying Workplace Pension Scheme (QWPS).

## 2 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales and has no share capital. 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 registered office address is disclosed on page 1.

## 3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2024 £
Donations	9,073	10,582	19,655	6,281	10,789	17,070
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,073</b>	<b>10,582</b>	<b>19,655</b>	<b>6,281</b>	<b>10,789</b>	<b>17,070</b>

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

### 4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2024 £
Grants						
Awards for All	-	18,934	18,934	-	-	-
Beacon Counselling	-	9,810	9,810	-	9,810	9,810
CRH Charitable Trust	-	5,000	5,000	-	5,000	5,000
Chester University	-	7,326	7,326	-	-	-
The National Lottery	-	70,955	70,955	-	69,981	69,981
Garfield Weston	5,000	-	5,000	6,500	-	6,500
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	-	44,000	44,000	-	44,000	44,000
Henry Smith	-	44,000	44,000	-	42,000	42,000
Kao Seed Funding	-	2,283	2,283	-	-	-
NHS Stockport CCG	63,390	-	63,390	63,390	-	63,390
School for Social Entrepreneurs	-	3,000	3,000	-	2,000	2,000
SMBC - CSS Business Support	-	-	-	-	10,942	10,942
SMBC - UK SPF	-	37,355	37,355	-	20,723	20,723
Tameside Hospital	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pennine Care	-	8,418	8,418	-	-	-
Youth Music	-	24,250	24,250	-	28,728	28,728
Grants < £2,000	-	2,070	2,070	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>68,390</b>	<b>277,401</b>	<b>345,791</b>	<b>69,890</b>	<b>233,184</b>	<b>303,074</b>

### 5 Fees and other income

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2025 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 £
Café income	33,887	-	33,887	14,237	-	14,237
Student placements	1,000	-	1,000	728	-	728
Public programme (Sales & events)	17,604	-	17,604	15,844	-	15,844
Commissions & fees	21,747	-	21,747	21,299	-	21,299
	<b>74,238</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>74,238</b>	<b>52,108</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>52,108</b>

# Arts for Recovery in the Community

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

### 6 Investment income

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2025 £	<i>Unrestricted</i> £	<i>Restricted</i> £	2024 £
Income from bank deposits	3,447	-	3,447	967	-	967
	3,447	-	3,447	967	-	967

All of the charity's investment income arises from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts. All investment income is unrestricted.

### 7 Analysis of expenditure on raising funds

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Fundraising costs	44,626	28,463

### 8 Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Staff costs	173,405	154,579
Depreciation/loss on disposal of assets	768	768
Premises costs	24,795	24,571
General running costs	23,150	22,915
Programme costs	113,268	92,505
Other governance costs		
Independent examination	1,300	1,300
Trustee meeting costs	1,043	782
	337,729	297,420
	2025 £	2024 £
Restricted expenditure	257,673	208,949
Unrestricted expenditure	80,056	88,471
	337,729	297,420

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

### 9 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging/(crediting):	2025 £	2024 £
Depreciation	768	768
Independent examiner's remuneration		
- accountancy	500	500
- independent examination	800	800
	1,068	1,068

### 10 Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	155,411	140,484
Social security costs	9,119	7,029
Employers pension contributions	6,462	5,813
Staff expenses and training	2,413	1,253
	173,405	154,579

No employee has employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2024: Nil).

The average number of staff employed during the period was 6 (2024: 6).

The average full time equivalent number of staff employed during the period was 5 (2024: 4.77).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the trustees, the Chief Executive Officer and the Finance Manager. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £74,313 (2024: £68,979).

### 11 Trustee remuneration and expenses, and related party transactions

Neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them received any remuneration during the year (2024: Nil). One trustee claimed £92.79 travel expenses in the year (2024 two trustees claimed £159.47).

Aggregate donations from related parties were £nil (2024: £nil).

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity, including guarantees, during the year (2024: nil).

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

### Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

#### 12 Government grants

The government grants recognised in the accounts were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
NHS Stockport	63,390	63,390
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	44,000	44,000
SMBC - UKSPF	37,355	20,723
	144,745	128,113
	144,745	128,113

There were no unfulfilled conditions and contingencies attaching to the grants.

#### 13 Corporation tax

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within Chapter 3 of Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

#### 14 Fixed assets: tangible assets

	Office equipment & furniture £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2024	21,484	21,484
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
	21,484	21,484
At 31 March 2025	21,484	21,484
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 April 2024	19,949	19,949
Charge for the year	768	768
Disposals	-	-
	20,717	20,717
At 31 March 2025	20,717	20,717
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2025	767	767
	767	767
At 31 March 2024	1,535	1,535
	1,535	1,535

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

### 15 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Accrued income	20,011	5,791
Prepayments & other debtors	1,050	-
	21,061	5,791
	21,061	5,791

### 16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	19,539	14,727
Other creditors and accruals	2,607	2,295
	22,146	17,022
	22,146	17,022

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

### 17 Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Action Together Oldham	-	990	(990)	-	-
Art Pen Pals A4A	9	-	(9)	-	-
ASDA	1,110	800	(1,645)	487	752
Awards for All	-	18,935	(3,121)	-	15,814
Big Give 2023	2,286	-	(1,565)	-	721
Big Give 2024	-	6,878	(108)	-	6,770
Chester University	-	7,326	(5,397)	995	2,924
CRH Charitable Trust	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Restricted donations	1,473	2,903	(3,603)	-	773
The National Lottery	523	70,955	(69,886)	-	1,592
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	-	44,000	(44,000)	-	-
Henry Smith Charity	20,457	44,000	(43,209)	-	21,248
Kao Seed Funding	-	2,283	-	-	2,283
Shine - Beacon Counselling	-	9,810	(9,810)	-	-
Sir Ralph Pendlebury Charity for the Aged	1,564	-	(42)	-	1,522
SMBC ASC Capital	4,088	-	(1,241)	-	2,847
SSE	830	3,000	(2,983)	-	847
Stepping Hill PICU	-	1,080	(1,458)	-	(378)
Tameside Hospital - Pennine Care	(1,560)	8,418	(6,491)	-	367
UKSPF - A&H Week 2023	-	37,355	(36,605)	-	750
Youth Music 4	20,217	24,250	(20,510)	-	23,957
	<b>50,997</b>	<b>287,983</b>	<b>(257,673)</b>	<b>1,482</b>	<b>82,789</b>

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

### 17 Analysis of movements in restricted funds (continued)

Previous reporting period	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Action Together Oldham	1,123	-	(1,123)	-	-
Art Pen Pals A4A	968	-	(959)	-	9
ASDA	1,152	-	(42)	-	1,110
BBC Children in Need	500	-	(500)	-	-
Biq Give	-	6,922	(4,636)	-	2,286
CRH Charitable Trust	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Restricted donations	-	3,867	(2,394)	-	1,473
The National Lottery	1,443	69,981	(70,901)	-	523
Greater Manchester Combined	-	44,000	(44,000)	-	-
Henry Smith Charity	-	42,000	(21,543)	-	20,457
Shine - Beacon Counselling	1,160	9,810	(10,970)	-	-
Sir Ralph Pendlebury Charity for the Aged	1,585	-	(21)	-	1,564
SMBC ASC Capital	5,999	-	(1,911)	-	4,088
SMBC - Local Mens Music	-	9,960	(9,960)	-	-
SMBC - Warm Spaces	-	982	(982)	-	-
SSE	-	2,000	(1,170)	-	830
Tameside Hospital - Pennine Care	-	-	(1,560)	-	(1,560)
UKSPF - A&H Week 2023	-	20,723	(20,723)	-	-
Youth Music 3	2,043	4,478	(6,521)	-	-
Youth Music 4	-	24,250	(4,033)	-	20,217
	15,973	243,973	(208,949)	-	50,997

Name of	Description, nature and purposes of the fund
Action Together Oldham	Grant to provide perinatal art workshops for mums in Oldham
Art Pen Pals A4A	Continuation of postal art programme developed in lockdown, funded by A4A
Asda	Funds from Asda to purchase various equipment for Arc Centre
Awards for All	A grant to enhance volunteer offering providing training DBS checks and expenses
BBC Children in Need	A three year grant to fund a tailored programme of short creative projects for targeted groups of disadvantaged children and young people.

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

### 17 Analysis of movements in restricted funds (continued)

Big Give 2023	Restricted fundraising campaign for YPA
Big Give 2024	Restricted fundraising campaign for programme delivery
Chester University	To provide art sessions for trainee nurses and MA students
CRH	A one year grant for follow on programme
KAO Seed Funding	To provide funds for development of enterprise
The National Lottery	A grant to provide salaried costs and overheads for 5 years to develop the ARC Centre (2021-26).
Restricted donations	From Soroptomists, a donation for creative mums. Hewer White donation for equipment.
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	A grant for Arc to strengthen and extend our high impact arts and wellbeing offer into communities across Greater Manchester, whilst developing a 'centre of excellence for arts and mental health' from our base at Stockport's Hat Works museum.
Henry Smith Charity	Running costs of the project providing a community outreach programme.
Pendlebury Shine	Programme of creative projects for older, isolated residents of Stockport Creative sessions delivered on behalf of Beacon Counselling
SMBC Capital	Expanding and refurbishment of our studios into an Arts Centre accessible to all, development of a town centre venue and other capital expenditure to enable the growth and expansion of Arc's service to the community.
SMBC	2 grants were received, a local grant for men's music and a for warm spaces (2024), a grant from UKSPF for arts and health week was also received (2024/25).
SSE School for Social Entrepreneurs	Grant to help develop café and retail
Tameside Hospital	A 12 week programme on the wards at Tameside Hospital
Youth Music	Grant for a Young People's Arc programme called Musicspace

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

### 18 Analysis of movement in unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2025 £
General fund	208,852	155,148	(124,682)	(1,482)	237,836
FORGE	20,315			-	20,315
	<b>229,167</b>	<b>155,148</b>	<b>(124,682)</b>	<b>(1,482)</b>	<b>258,151</b>
<b>Previous reporting period</b>	<b>Balance at 1 April 2023 £</b>	<b>Income £</b>	<b>Expenditure £</b>	<b>Transfers £</b>	<b>As at 31 March 2024 £</b>
General fund	179,561	126,146	(96,855)	-	208,852
FORGE	17,294	3,100	(79)	-	20,315
2023/24 contingency	20,000		(20,000)	-	-
	<b>216,855</b>	<b>129,246</b>	<b>(116,934)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>229,167</b>

Name of	Description, nature and purposes of the fund
General Fund	This represents the free reserves of the charity.
FORGE	Funds designated for new pilot projects at Arc and costs not covered by current funders.
2023/24 contingency	This has been designated to fund gaps in 2023/2024 budget

### 19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General fund £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	767	-	-	767
Net current assets/(liabilities)	237,069	20,315	82,789	340,173
<b>Total</b>	<b>237,836</b>	<b>20,315</b>	<b>82,789</b>	<b>340,940</b>

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)

### 20 Lease commitments

The charity had the following annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	Land and buildings		Equipment	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Leases expiring in:				
One year	5,500	14,667	-	3,920
Two to five years	-	-	11,083	1,275

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**ARTS FOR RECOVERY IN THE COMMUNITY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1107607

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# Accounts

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Create, connect,  
feel better



**Arts For  
Recovery  
in the  
Community**

**Annual Report  
& Financial  
Statement  
for year ending  
31 March 2024**

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## 1) Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name	Arts for Recovery in the Community
Charity Registration Number	1107607
Company Registration Number	05288784
Registered Office	Hat Works, Wellington Mill, Wellington Road South, Stockport, SK3 0EU

### Directors

Safia Griffin	Chair	
Graeme Draper	Director	
Robert Morris	Finance Director	
Lucy Wallace	Director	
David Milligan-Croft	Director	
Paul Davies	Director and Vice Chair	
Linda Bushell	Director	Resigned 18 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
Lindsay Adams	Director	Resigned 29 <sup>th</sup> December 2023

### Company Secretary

Jacqui Wood

### Staff

Jacqui Wood	Chief Executive Officer
Nuala Ryan	Finance Manager
Annette Naor Hilton	Creative Wellbeing Lead
Harriet Wilson	Operations Manager
Noreen McCole Bridge	Volunteer and Engagement Co-ordinator
Ellen Samuel	Wellbeing Support Worker

With thanks to our freelance team of Lucie Fitzpatrick, Phill Howley, Jo Flint, Tom Leah and all the Associate Artists.

### Independent Examiner

Paul Cowham MA FCA DChA  
Withington Works  
Withington Baths  
30 Burton Road  
Manchester, M20 3EB

### Bankers

Virgin Money	Barclays Bank PLC	Shawbrook Bank
34 Princess Street	Leicester	Lutea House, Warley Hill Business Park
Stockport, SK1 1RE	LE87 2BB	Brentwood, Essex, CM13 3BE

## 2) Trustees' Report

### Welcome

I am delighted to present our annual report for the year 2023 / 24. This demonstrates our reach, the impact of our work in arts and health in Stockport and across the North West and our commitment to Charity Commission and Companies House regulation.

We have tested new approaches through our arts and health micro-commissions, undertaken a deep-dive into our strategic and financial position through a Pilotlight 10-month programme and delivered another full week of creative and cultural activities during October's annual Arts & Health Week.

As Arc goes into a new financial year, we are aware of numerous challenges. We are seeing grant funding become more and more competitive, with some long-standing funder criteria changing. There is increasing demand on mental health services and our programmes of support coupled with a more volatile political, legal and social environment.

We are responding to these challenges and aim to increase our other streams of income, as well as maintaining current and new partnerships to meet this demand sustainably. We will also increase our efforts in diversity and inclusion in both who delivers and accesses our support.

There are increasing expectations placed upon Arc's Board, and the Trustees who volunteer their time and skill to ensure that the organisation has strong governance processes, robust decision making and documentation. Trustee recruitment and governance reviews have been an ongoing focus under my leadership and will continue to be a focus, when I step down in September 2024 after serving 8 years on the Board. This is a planned succession, and I am delighted to say that the new Chair will be our current Vice-Chair Paul Davies.

As Trustees (and Directors) governing and overseeing the organisation's mission, strategy and alignment to our core values, we have a lot of responsibility. It is an honour to see and hear what people say about how the support we provide has impacted them, and the sense of connection and community they feel when they step into our spaces.

I am proud to be Chair of such a trusted, impactful and responsive organisation and invite you now to read and see more of what we have been doing over the past 12 months, as we detail this in our Annual Report and Accounts for the year 2023/2024.

Thank you.

*Safia Griffin, Arc Chair*



## Aims and Objectives

The Company and Charity is established to relieve sickness and protect mental good health through the use of the arts and creative activity in North West England, in particular but not exclusively in Stockport. The aims of the Company are to support the wellbeing of people with mental ill health by developing confidence in their abilities through engagement with Arc, enhancing recovery and encouraging them to gain skills and experience which lead to a better quality of life. Arc provides a rich and varied programme of creative activities in a safe and supportive environment, organises training and support in the arts, provide services and undertakes commissions, promoting positive images of mental health through high quality arts projects.

## Mission Statement

### Vision & Mission

Our vision is one of healthy and happy communities, in which people can achieve sustainable wellbeing inspired by creative projects and connected through shared experiences.

Our mission is to offer high impact creative experiences, skills and opportunities which promote individual and communal wellbeing, reaching the most vulnerable within communities, recognising the value of creativity to self-worth, resilience and confidence.

### Values

#### **Connectivity**

The arts have an amazing ability to bring people together, enabling us to find strength in ourselves and each other. By connecting through creativity to people and place, we support each other, and develop a genuine sense of belonging. This has a profound impact on our mental health.

#### **Creativity**

Creativity transforms lives - we can be inspired to flourish, to express ourselves, to be more confident and articulate. To take control of our future and to celebrate our journey.

#### **Sharing stories and listening**

There is tremendous power in being given the space to tell your story and to listen to others'. Exploring and sharing narratives help us make sense of our experiences and our world, reinforcing that we are not alone.

#### **Accessibility**

Creative projects need to be open, welcoming, easily accessed and responsive to the needs and interests of participants, but also ambitious, striving for the highest artistic outcomes/values.

#### **Efficiency, value and impact**

We always seek to improve our model, increase our impact and focus the use of our valuable human and financial resources.

## Activities undertaken for public benefit in relation to objectives

In planning our activities for the year, we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. Regular reports on activities are submitted to the Directors at Board meetings by the Chief Executive Officer to enable the Directors to monitor progress. This and other mechanisms, such as the annual rolling strategic plan, enabled the Directors to ensure that new and current activities are in line with the organisation's aims and objectives, the Charity Commission's guidance and Companies House regulation.

### Main activities undertaken to further the charity's purposes for the public benefit

- Structured creative programmes to support the mental health of adults and young people facing a mental health crisis

- Accessible, inclusive & welcoming programmes for anyone who wants to use the arts to improve or maintain their mental health in our town centre cultural venue and through outreach projects
- Services for health partners and commissioners to refer in to, providing effective, reliable, specialist support to people for recovery from mental ill health
- Volunteering opportunities for those who have previously participated in our programmes and others with lived experience of mental ill health, as well as those wishing to give their time to a charity
- Partnership projects for communities and organisations in the VCSFE, private and statutory sectors to collaborate with us, and engage their service users and staff in creative wellbeing activities
- Professional development, training, networking, resources, commissioning and residencies for artists and healthcare professionals (and facilitators of all levels of experience)
- Exhibitions, events and products for members of the public with an interest in the arts and/or mental health
- An affordable, welcoming cafe run in a space shared with Hat Works Museum, meeting the needs of visitors and presenting Arc with income generation opportunities.



## Achievements and Performance

Arc works across the spectrum of mental health, finding ways to support individuals wherever they are in their mental health journey, when they need it most. From the acute mental health wards at Stepping Hill and our core referral programmes, to drop-ins to tackle loneliness or a workshop programme attended by hundreds of families, our message is the same – that creativity can be an effective tool to protect and maintain mental health, prevent relapse and promote recovery from illness.

With a history of arts and health stretching back to the mid 90s, Stockport has been at the forefront of investment of creative health in practice. We are proud to be a major part of that story; our work reaches across local health and culture agendas, and our relationship with GM NHS is a model of good practice, envied in other areas of the country. 2023/24 was the year when we benefitted from the increased profile of Stockport as the Greater Manchester Town of Culture, alongside a huge investment in Stockport town centre's regeneration and the opening of a new transport interchange and urban park. Although Stockport being called 'the new Berlin' may have raised a wry smile, the Borough won several awards during the year (for being the best place to live, to buy your first home, to shop and to retire) and in this, the role and benefits of culture for health were evident. In March 2024 Hat Works had an influx of visitors and a spike in media coverage as the Hat Museum fully reopened after years of redevelopment. Many more people discovered Arc for the first time as a result, enjoying the welcoming, inclusive and inspiring environment we have created.

March 2024 marked the end of the period covered by our current 2021-24 Strategic Plan. This is how we met our strategic goals in 2023/2024:

## **Goal 1: Deliver high impact creative programmes which improve the mental health and wellbeing of more than 750 vulnerable, isolated adults and young people in Stockport and Greater Manchester by March 2024.**

Throughout 2023/24, our evidenced-based arts for wellbeing programmes were delivered to more than 400 residents of Stockport, Oldham and Tameside, in our centre, in hospitals and healthcare settings, in community venues and at home.

We provided a structured creative programme to meet the needs of vulnerable adults, young people and children at a critical moment in their mental health, helping them to support and maintain their mental health. Our programmes improve mental health, wellbeing and resilience through the learning of self-care techniques, confidence building, sociability and connection with other people and services.

In Stockport the most recent JSNA, published in the [One Stockport Mental Health Strategy](https://democracy.stockport.gov.uk/mgConvert2PDF.aspx?ID=200337#:~:text=Enable%20people%20to%20look%20after,improve%20the%20health%20and%20wellbeing) (<https://democracy.stockport.gov.uk/mgConvert2PDF.aspx?ID=200337#:~:text=Enable%20people%20to%20look%20after,improve%20the%20health%20and%20wellbeing>) found that the number of people diagnosed by Stockport GPs with serious mental illness has risen by 41% since 2004/05. Data from GP registers also shows that between 2016 and 2020, there has been a rise in the number of people diagnosed with anxiety of 30%, and in those with depression of 63%. It is therefore no surprise that in 2023/24 we saw an increase in referrals to our core Arts for Wellbeing programmes in both Stockport and Oldham (where there was a 93% increase).

The complexity and severity of mental health difficulties experienced by participants joining our adult programmes was noticeable this year, with referrals of adults including individuals experiencing schizophrenia, PTSD, anxiety, depression, self-harm, suicide ideation, bereavement, OCD, and neurodivergence as well as chronic health conditions affecting mental health including MS, Parkinsons and long COVID. Monitoring revealed that 43% of our Stockport adult participants had 3 or more factors affecting their mental health.

The adult Arts for Wellbeing programme continued to offer a wide range of tailored progression opportunities through our Next Steps follow on projects. These included personal and creative development and resilience through Creative Enterprise and Creative Challenge, a range of monthly activities ranging from movement to writing to photography, and the pilot project for potential volunteers, Aspire. We also provided monthly Create & Connect sessions to support our most vulnerable adults.



We worked creatively with young people experiencing a range of mental health challenges including neurodiversity, family mental and physical illness (including terminal diagnosis), bullying, domestic violence, sexual assault, family breakdown, epilepsy, selective mutism, school refusal and acute anxiety.

Many young people presented with complex and multiple mental health needs. Of those referred to our Shine programme, 67% had 2 or more conditions/diagnoses putting them at risk of poor mental health. Shine continued to be a consistently impactful programme for young people, delivered with partners Beacon Counselling and has been extended for a further year.

We measured our impact by collecting a range of qualitative and quantitative data at the beginning, end and throughout the lifetime of each project. We used our bespoke 'Outcomes Scale', developed to generate open responses, helping participants to recognise changes in their mental health, social connections and other areas of their lives.

In addition, we used:

- 1 to 1 conversations with all service users at key milestones
- weekly group dialogue sessions and check-ins
- the 'Participant Voice' group
- facilitator & creative practitioner feedback
- creative exhibitions at the end of each project
- case studies
- photographic evidence and use of film and audio.

In September 2023 we presented 'Art is Medicine', an exhibition showcasing artwork and writing by patients on Stepping Hill Hospital's acute Mental Health wards, where Arc has been working for many years.

Leaders from Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust attended the preview, including CEO Anthony Hassell - Head of Allied Health Professionals, Jackie Kindell, and several staff from Tameside Hospital mental health wards. This resulted in commissioning Arc to develop an arts for wellbeing programme to be delivered in Tameside Hospital. A 6-month project began in February 2024, with Arc Creative Wellbeing associate artist Alison Waters working closely with Tameside Hospital staff to understand the needs and interests of patients on the 2 mental health wards and shape an appropriate programme of therapeutic creative activities. Activity co-ordinators were able to experience first-hand the therapeutic impact of the creative activities before working with the artist to design and practice them with the ward patients. An iterative process of reflection and refinement will now be used to evaluate the engagement and impact of each activity on the ward before developing them further.

*"This has given me so much confidence to deliver art sessions with patients. We've had paints and other materials sat in the cupboard for months and never used them because we didn't know what to do. Now we're using them almost every day with patients."*

Tameside hospital staff member

We also developed a new programme specifically for the Arden & Norbury wards at Stepping Hill Hospital. A 12-week rolling plan of activities, including help sheets and resources, has enabled the team of Arc volunteers to feel confident and supported in their delivery, engaging 89 patients over the year and working closely with the OT team

**In total, between April 2021 and March 2024 we supported over 1165 adults and young people through these programmes.**

**Goal 2 - Address the effects of loneliness and isolation, providing services which connect with and build a sense of belonging for 6,000 people across Stockport & GM by March 2024.**

Our location in the Hat Works building placed arts and health at the centre of cultural developments in Stockport this year, as part of the Town of Culture programme.

Although we have been in residence at Hat Works since November 2019, the pandemic and redevelopment of the museum meant that the building only became fully operational on all 3 floors in early 2024. Alongside the added profile and dynamism which Stockport Town of Culture provided, the re-opening of the popular Hat Museum led to a massive increase in visitors, many of them engaging with Arc for the first time.

Our café and exhibition space benefitted from the extra exposure, hosting networking events, showcases and stakeholder meetings. Free creative drop ins and socials, a huge volunteering programme, popular

family-friendly Saturday Art Clubs, our Arts & Health Week programme, public courses, events and workshops and monthly creative wellbeing activities for our participants and members of the public have all contributed to a growth in our engagement with a preventative mental health focus. Over the course of the year many people became regular faces, returning time and again to engage with and experience a space where conversations about mental health are open, frequent and safe.

*"Coming to Saturday Art Club means the world to me; it allows my daughter to detach from the stress of choice, demands, performance, and many other stresses surrounding her autism. It also gives me, her mum, some time to refill my cup with special friends. The volunteers and staff and the support offered here is amazing as are the activities and groups. A wonderful place!"*  
Attendee at Saturday Art Club

*"Arc is a warm and welcoming space for participants, volunteers, and staff. It was evident immediately that there is a compassionate approach underpinning the work at this organisation. The language used by staff and in the participant-facing resources echo this compassion."*  
Post graduate psychology placement student



We reinforced our position as sector leader by providing growth and developmental opportunities, nurturing and supporting our participants and volunteers, as well as local grass roots organisations and individual creatives. Following on from a micro commission we awarded in 2022, Self Care Creatives established their own CIC and, with some of their delivery now based at Arc, stated, *"the training and resources offered by Arc have been instrumental in equipping us with the necessary skills and knowledge to navigate the complexities of funding applications and project management. The insights gained from the training sessions have empowered us to effectively communicate our mission and secure additional support from organisations such as The National Lottery and local authorities. Your dedication to building a creative community in Stockport and nurturing emerging initiatives like ours has been truly inspiring. We are immensely grateful for the opportunities you have provided us and look forward to continuing our collaboration in the future."*

Our public exhibition programme of work by Arc participants and guests raised awareness of mental health issues and provided a platform for a range of inventive and inspirational creative responses to health challenges including endometriosis, menopause, isolation and severe mental illness.

Volunteering flourished this year with a step-change in the roles and support being offered, a focus on inclusion and a targeted offer to previous participants. The Aspire programme grew from feedback shared by Arc's Participant Voice group who described their aspiration to become volunteers, but felt their lack of confidence and skills held them back. They also described the perception of a big jump from participation to volunteering, and the need to tailor some volunteer roles and responsibilities around their needs and challenges. Aspire was a successful pilot programme, designed and delivered as a bridge between participation and volunteering by several members of the Arc staff team. It introduced 10 participants to a wide range of practical skills through informal experiential training to enable them to build sufficient confidence to volunteer.

*"Since I started at Arc, I'm a different person. I've gone from being in a very dark place and feeling isolated to being part of community and having new confidence! Volunteering has changed my life dramatically, it*

*has given me a sense of purpose, focus and responsibility and has increased my confidence and motivation. It has really turned my life around and given me a future to aim for."*

Aspire participant

In 2023 /24 we completed the change in how we deliver wellbeing support to our participants, moving from a model of a team of managed social work students to one single member of staff, our Wellbeing Support Worker. The consistent and appropriate support she has provided has made a huge impact on participants' experience, enabling them to feel listened to, part of a person-centred approach and, ultimately to being able to trust in the process and the organisation.

*"This is someone I would have felt nervous about referring to any other group, but I know this programme really understands mental health and the barriers people face. Anyone can run an art group, but this is different. From the outset, in the welcome chat before the programme was due to start, the Wellbeing Programme Support Worker was so caring, compassionate and understanding. Her friendly and warm approach put the service user at ease and she went from feeling incredibly anxious and nervous to leaving excited and looking forward to the first session.*

Social prescriber

**When we set our original strategic target of connecting with and building a sense of belonging for 6,000 GM residents, we included visitors, audiences and participants in that figure. This year alone we welcomed over 7,000 visitors to Arc and reached many more through our wellbeing & public programmes, outreach activities, networking and hosting events, and presentations to external organisations. Visitor numbers for 2021 – 2024 are over 13,000.**

### **Goal 3 - Become more inclusive, with service users, staff and volunteers more accurately reflecting our GM communities by March 2024.**

The Board and staff have continued to work collaboratively and with a detailed approach on improving EDI across all aspects of the service, through the annual EDI self-assessment and action planning, review & revision of policies & procedures, developing access audits, issuing guidance for accessible delivery and design, updating our website and promotional material and undertaking a range of training.

Delivery was adapted and redesigned to respond to demand or to address gaps in provision. Partnership working, exhibitions and public events provided opportunities to engage a more diverse range of artists and audiences. However we recognise that we need to do more to support those not currently accessing our service and will continue to work closely with Stockport Race Equality Partnership, the Caribbean and African Health Network and Sector 3 to ensure we develop culturally appropriate creative programmes.

At key points across the year we worked closely with our 'Participant Voice' group, to understand the barriers in joining and engaging in our core entry programmes. Their recommendations led to a range of changes to help create a more inclusive and accessible service and environment, from the terminology we use to the development of welcome packs and video walkthroughs of the centre. Session content and resources were broadened to meet the wide range of needs and engagement/learning styles. This feedback helped to shape our programmes & deliver a user centric, accessible & inclusive service. Trustees were also involved, ensuring our governance decisions are based on lived experience.

We celebrated lived experience of mental health at all levels of the organisation, providing progression pathways from participant to volunteer, facilitator and advocate.

*"Having struggled with my mental health for as long as I can remember, my world had gradually become smaller and smaller and my life more and more rigid as a means of self-preservation. Volunteering has been both scary and liberating, but I am so thankful for the opportunity and the journey of self-discovery and reflection that I have found myself on"*

*"My gut was telling me to volunteer on the psychiatric wards but this was a massive challenge for me, as I had been an inpatient just a few years ago. I was scared it would trigger me to become unwell. But with training and fabulous support from Arc I absolutely flew and knew it was definitely the right thing for me. I'm loving my volunteering on the wards - it helps to give me a voice when I didn't have one. I volunteer to give others hope, just by being me, listening non-judgmentally and sharing my lived experience if appropriate."*

Our exhibition programme increased the range of diverse voices represented in the building and attracted new audiences to experience art, often for the first time. 68% of the audience for our Arts & Health Week exhibitions stated that this was the first time they have engaged with arts and creative activities. Our Saturday Art Clubs regularly drew well over 100 visitors of all ages and backgrounds and spread to the Museum activity room in addition to our studios.

We awarded 6 arts and health Micro Commissions to a diverse range of emerging artists and facilitators to lead projects supporting those facing or at increased risk of mental ill-health, including creative writing with members of the LGBTQ+ community, photographic portraits of residents who had reached the milestone of 100 years, recycled art with refugees, visual art with people unable to have children, intergenerational music with care home residents and sculpture exploring the experience and impact of multiple sclerosis. The commissioned artists, many of whom had a very personal connection to the project they were leading, received mentoring, training and support as part of our ongoing investment in professional and sector development, with the aim of developing and engaging a more diverse workforce.

*"I was excited and very nervous, but the Arc team have been amazing, supporting me with really clear training, expectations, paperwork and guidance and being my biggest cheerleader. I'm loving leading the sessions - my anxiety and self-doubt just melt away. I'm enjoying managing the budget, troubleshooting and my confidence has increased off the scale. I'm feeling so, so mentally well. I now believe in my work and that it has value."*

This short film (<https://youtu.be/8zvWYtlgqj8>) illustrates the impact of the Micro Commissions.

In addition, this year we became Living Wage accredited, and began using the Charity Excellence Framework to support our quality assurance.

## **Goal 4 - Increase Arc's profile, reach, organisational resilience and income streams, creating a more dynamic and sustainable organisation by March 2024.**

Stockport Town of Culture was launched at Hat Works in May 2023 by the Mayor of Greater Manchester, The Leader of Stockport Council, Blossoms and... Arc!

We were central to the programme, having been involved in the bid through our role on the Culture Stockport steering group, and we certainly benefitted from the increased focus, profile and investment in culture in the Borough.

Website engagement doubled this year with 62,500 page views. Visits to our main social media pages rose by 59%, where we gained more followers month on month in the second half of the year, saw a noticeable increase in likes, comments, shares and video watches, and we had a total reach on Facebook of 127,000 people (up by 44.8% on 2022/2023).

With government levelling-up funding (UKPSF) via GMCA and SMBC, we were able to programme an impressive Arts and Health Week, hosting and partnering as well as directly delivering performances, workshops, exhibitions and events. Arc's role and reputation as a sector leader reached a national audience as a result, with requests for input to similar schemes in other parts of the country. At the end of Town of Culture, the One Stockport One Future plan was also launched at Hat Works, Arc leading presentations about the vision for the Borough, alongside the leadership team from Stockport MBC.

We increased our organisational resilience through building our team of freelance facilitators and project managers, investing in the key Wellbeing Support Worker and Volunteer Co-ordinator roles, and developing teams of volunteers to increase capacity across all aspects of the charity's operations.

With the aim of diversifying our income streams, we took part in our first match funding fundraising campaign with The Big Give Kind2Mind, raising over £6k for partnership projects with young people. We developed a fundraising pack for the website, saw an increase in individual giving and fundraising on our behalf and also in community fundraising through the generous support of the Stockport Soroptimists, Hazel Grove High School and Cheadle Hulme School.

We were successful in new bids for targeted work including Youth Music for Young People's Arc, CRH Trust for our adult Next Steps programmes and Stockport Local mental health fund for Men's Music for Mental Health.

The cafe continued to grow and earn income for the charity, which has been bolstered by the reopening of the refurbished Hat Museum in March 2024. Participants and visitors remark upon and enjoy the welcoming, calm and creative atmosphere. The cafe is still mainly staffed by volunteers who develop workability skills in hospitality, food preparation and barista training. At least one has been employed due to their experience with Arc. The opening of the new Viaduct Park and transport interchange boosted our visibility and footfall. We are adapting to accommodate larger groups visiting the museum by offering pre-ordered food and drinks.

We continued to develop and adapt our Creative Enterprise retail offer to reflect Arc's mission and values and have seen an increase in sales and interest from this. As with the cafe, this has benefitted similarly from the increase in footfall to the Museum. We made changes to the Creative Enterprise delivery model to allow more artist development, mentorship opportunities and new participants joining the group. We are continually working on the storytelling of the products, aiming to show clearly the making process, participant stories and the impact of the charitable support given when products are purchased, reflecting our core mission.

Match funding and CPD opportunities from the School of Social Entrepreneurs (SSE) allowed the Operations Manager to receive training in business modelling, developing our customer base and business growth, along with investment in facilitators, materials for sessions and raising the quality of products made.

We launched our Corporate Partnerships, with a dedicated page on the website and downloadable pack. Working with Willmott Dixon, Sky, Manchester Metropolitan University, John Lewis, Stockport MBC and SQW consultants we began to deliver corporate volunteering, workplace fundraising and donating, pro bono work and employee wellbeing.

*'The session brought together colleagues from across various departments and created an opportunity to turn off from the day job. I'm looking forward to the chance to do more!'*

SMBC staff

*"Thanks for providing engaging and thoughtful sessions during our Academic Services Great Place to Work Festival - the positive feedback has been rolling in"*

MMU staff

Part way through the year we began our 10-month Pilotlight project, after winning a Weston Charity Award. With the input, generosity and expertise of four highly skilled business professionals we began a review of the organisation, examining our impact, language, vision and messaging. The Pilotlight project focussed on developing a new Strategic Plan, which will be completed in 2024/2025 and followed by a fundraising and income generation plan, and a marketing strategy. The whole team, staff and trustees, are working proactively together on this – giving us confidence about the future and a clear direction of travel for the charity.

Sometimes it takes an external perspective to help you see and value what's right in front of you. The Pilotlight project has shown us that we have created a genuinely safe welcoming space providing consistent support and encouragement, which has such a huge impact on our participants. As one of the Pilotlighters commented, *"what you offer is... happiness!"* It has helped us appreciate our unique position – a well-known, trusted and respected service, embedded in the core mental health pathway for adults & young people in Stockport and Greater Manchester, based in a beautiful, high profile culturally iconic building. And we have delighted in showing evidence that, in this space, people are able to achieve remarkable, and often surprising, things.

*"It's a testament to Arc's success that many people who first came for help are now actively supporting others and giving back to the community."*

Caroline Dewing, Co-founder of Future Agenda & Pilotlighter

## What our participants told us:

### Adults:

*"It's done me the world of good. I began the programme stressed, I now feel more confident – I am doing art with my kids and am in a better place."*

*"It's been good to feel part of something, I've felt better every week, I've found a bit of myself."*

*"When people shared things about themselves, it felt like 'I'm not alone'. Their bravery inspired me"*

*"I've enjoyed the company and creative process....just to get involved has been a real honour."*

*"I'm usually anxious in a group but Arc have created a friendly space which felt ok to be in."*

*"I feel very proud to be part of creative enterprise. It has made me feel like a proper human again and given me purpose and direction. You always leave feeling better than when you came. It has made me much more confident in myself and my abilities. It definitely builds my self-belief. It feels like it has become part of who I am."*

*"It's art with a purpose and I feel useful, valued and needed which is not something I often feel."*

*"To have someone believe in you when you've been unwell makes a big difference. It was a step into the real world - it feels like a safety net to take the next steps."*

*"I've started to see the value in myself, skills and ideas, there's more to me than what's going on with my mental health."*

### Young People & their Carers:

*"It's helped me feel more confident because the people here really make this feel like a safe space."*

*"I love art – I've done it since I was little, drawing really helps me. I've not been in school for a while now, and these art materials and ideas will help me to carry on at home until I go to a new school."*

*"It's an output for my emotions and to get out and be myself."*

*"She's not self-harmed since coming here."*

*"This is their environment, they belong, they feel grown up, trusted, it feels like their space – which is so different to the school environment."*

*"It's changed how she is at home, everything's less of a struggle. Usually she won't go anywhere but **she's** reminding **us** it's music night."*



# Arc - Key Statistics

2023/24



## Adult Arts for Wellbeing Programmes

Engaged

**268**

adults

experiencing mental ill-health

from Stockport, Oldham & Tameside



**98%**

of participants reported

improved mental health & wellbeing

**94%**

of participants reported

reduced social isolation



## Young People's Arc Programme

**144**

children & young people took part in

arts and music projects



to help them overcome mental health challenges

**85%**

of participants reported

increased confidence

**83%**

of participants reported

increased friendships

## Engagement and Volunteering

**7,829**

visitors welcomed to Arc's centre

for arts & health focussed exhibitions, workshops and events



**103**

volunteers gave Arc 4,036 hours of their time

Giving a value of **£48,423\***

*\*based on the real living wage*

**1,505**

people created together



at our family focused

**Saturday Art Clubs**

Created by **SQW**

## Additionally:

### Adult Wellbeing Programmes

- **362** people engaged across all adult wellbeing programmes
- **79** people joined our entry-level adult Arts for Wellbeing Programmes in Stockport and Oldham
- **32** people moved on to the Creative Challenge programme, building independence, resilience and confidence
- The Art Pen Pals project came to an end, having connected **18** isolated house-bound adults with an Arc volunteer for postal creative conversations
- **21** people aged over 60 took part in our Age Well programme
- **21** men completed Men's Music for Wellbeing programmes. Our work in this field was a case study in the Baring Foundation's publication [Creatively Minded Men.](https://baringfoundation.org.uk/resource/creatively-minded-men/) <https://baringfoundation.org.uk/resource/creatively-minded-men/>

### Referrals

- We received **215** new adult referrals from more than **30** referrers in Stockport and **7** agencies in Oldham and Tameside, and an additional **101** self-referrals

### Creative Enterprise

- **14** people took part in our Creative Enterprise strand, building transferable skills, experience and confidence to take positive steps forward beyond Arc back into work, education or in developing their own creative practice

### Next Steps/Follow On programmes

- **82** people took part in monthly follow-on opportunities, including photography walks, creative writing, reflective journaling, and movement for mental health in partnership with dance company 'Company Chameleon'
- These sessions enabled wider cultural and community connections - in January 2024 Arc hosted '[Click and Connect](https://arc-centre.org/exhibition-click-and-connect/)' (<https://arc-centre.org/exhibition-click-and-connect/>), an exhibition by members of the photography walks; and in March the movement for mental health group performed in the town centre as part of Town of Culture Big Weekend

### Progression through participation

- **23** participants moved into employment, **32** to volunteering and **10** to education

### Wellbeing support

- **118** adults accessed our wellbeing support, **43** were signposted on to specialist mental health services

### Young People's Arc

- The Kind2Mind fundraising campaign enabled YPA partnerships to be delivered this year with Primary Jigsaw, Tameside Oldham & Glossop Mind, The Proud Trust, Starling CIC and Signpost Young Carers
- In addition we delivered our first Youth Arts and Wellbeing Day in collaboration with Pennine Care Young People's Mental Health Team
- The Shine programme, run in partnership with Beacon Counselling, was extended for a further year
- A new MusicSpace programme was initiated, with Youth Music funding

### Volunteering

- **38** people joined as new volunteers, **14** left to take up education, volunteering or employment opportunities
- **79 volunteers** facilitated activities - leading drop-in art and textiles socials in the Centre, Saturday Art Club sessions for local families, affordable art sessions for the public, Age Well projects for isolated older people and our programme at Stepping Hill Hospital – all supporting people to connect and create

### Greater Manchester Initiatives

- Arc joined the Myriad steering group, contributing to the development of a training and support programme for GM creatives from Global Majority communities and was active in several GM Creative Health working groups
- Arc played an active role in the GM Creative Health working groups
- We delivered work on 2 GM-wide projects as part of our YPA programme– the Bee Well Young Health Champions (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?si=cyrzaFvyVT5Ygkn-&v=ZCLZMFjOmLs&feature=youtu.be>) & iThrive Creative Health Project with Primary Jigsaw ( <https://padlet.com/gmthrive/creative-health-projects-khwq373m2rhal8ax> )

### Arts and Health Week

- More than **5,500** people took part in our second Stockport Arts & Health Week as participants and audiences for a comprehensive programme of workshops, performances and creative walks alongside sector-building stakeholder events which began in October but extended over the following 6 months
- **31** partner organisations worked with us to deliver this dynamic programme

### Supporting local creatives

- We employed **55** freelance artists and facilitators
- **147** people took part in networking events as part of Arts and Health week
- We facilitated **6** Arts and Health Micro Commissions, supporting and mentoring emerging artists to develop participatory projects with 132 participants; developing bodies of work around health themes including MS, infertility, ageing beyond 100 and intergenerational music for emotional, social and cognitive wellbeing
- [This short film https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8zvWYtlgqj8&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8zvWYtlgqj8&feature=youtu.be) illustrates the impact on the practitioners of these commissions
- A free CPD training programme for creatives covering subjects including inclusive working, finance & fundraising, boundaries and safeguarding, and marketing was accessed by **130** people

### Links with education & training

- **4** students from North West Universities undertook placements at Arc, we presented to students of Bolton and Manchester Metropolitan Universities, and we continued to lead a module on the award-winning University of Chester Nursing Creative Health Placement, training **133** students across the BA and MA cohorts to use creative practice within their healthcare careers
- **31** volunteers undertook training whilst with us
- We worked closely with Manchester Metropolitan University on a research project around the experience of endometriosis which culminated in an exhibition, '[Making Endometriosis Visible](https://arc-centre.org/exhibition-making-endometriosis-visible/)', (<https://arc-centre.org/exhibition-making-endometriosis-visible/>)
- 



## Future Projects for 2024 / 2025

- Complete a new strategic plan, income generation & fundraising plan and marketing strategy which includes everyone in the organisation working to find solutions to the challenges ahead
- Develop an effective volunteering strategy which maximises on the potential of our dedicated volunteer team to increase capacity and impact, and offers opportunities to those with lived experience of mental ill-health
- Work closely with Stockport and GM partners to explore culturally appropriate delivery to a more diverse range of participants
- Develop training & resources based on what we know works, to widen our impact & reach, delivering to culture, health and social care settings
- Invest in our Creative Enterprise strand, connecting products to the stories of our makers, improving our online shop and maximising the increased footfall in the Hat Works
- Explore CRM & other systems to support our drive for efficiency
- Increase donors & individual / community giving campaigns, to relieve the pressure on grant-based fundraising
- Support people in work, developing and promoting our growing offer to businesses, building on the pilots undertaken so far in workplace wellbeing services, pro bono/corporate volunteering and sponsorship.



## Structure, governance and management

### Company status

The company is a charitable company, incorporated under the Companies Act of 1985 as a private limited company on the 17 November 2004 and entered into the Central Register of Charities on the 13 January 2005. The company is limited by guarantee and all members have agreed to contribute a sum not exceeding £1 in the event of a winding-up. The number of guarantees at 31 March 2024 was six.

### Governing document

The company is controlled via its Memorandum and Articles of Association, which was amended by special resolution to update the wording 27 April 2023. Members of the company are volunteers, Directors of the company and trustees of the charity. The number of members must be a minimum of three and a maximum of twelve.

An AGM is held by the company and the Board of Directors meet at least six times per year. The Board is responsible for the annual report and accounts, and overseeing policy, personnel, and the strategic direction of the Charitable Company. It ensures company documents and key policies are reviewed on a regular basis.

### Recruitment and appointment of Directors

Directors are recruited from a number of sources, including personal recommendation, GMCVO, Reach, Manchester User Network (MUN), and ex-participants of Arc. The Board has defined the skill profiles required and actively seeks to establish a diversity of backgrounds and experience of its members and this and, Board discussions, inform succession planning.

Prospective Directors are invited to submit an application, to tour the premises, and to meet key people. They are subsequently interviewed by members of the Board and required to present a personal statement of their potential contribution to Arc. They are made aware of their responsibilities and are also required to provide two referees who are contacted before appointment is approved. All Directors are checked via the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

### Induction and training of Directors

New directors are given access to Arc's SharePoint which contains governance documents, a current listing of policies and procedures and previous Annual Reports, Accounts and Board meeting minutes. Directors are given information on their roles and responsibilities and invited to attend training courses relevant to their roles, including safeguarding and annual data protection training.

### Organisational structure

The Chair leads the Board and line manages the Chief Executive Officer, and in 2023/2024 a Vice Chair was appointed to shadow the role of Chair with a view to becoming Chair in September 2024 when the current Chair steps down. There are two sub-committees that oversee key areas of governance and report back to the full Board with matters for approval and discussion. These are:

- Finance (includes Fundraising and Risk)
- Personnel, Policy and Quality

The minimum expected attendance for any sub-committee is at least one principal staff member and two Directors, unless there have been changes in membership such as people leaving. All Directors are encouraged to attend sub-committee meetings and are expected to when their specialist expertise is required.

Strategy is discussed at Board meetings, additional development sessions and in sub-committees when relevant. A rolling strategic plan sets out the objectives and priorities for each 3-5 year period and is developed with key stakeholders including staff and Directors. This is operationalised annually through delegated responsibility to staff under the leadership of the Chief Executive Officer, overseen by the Board of Directors. Working groups are formed, as required, to work on specific areas of strategic development.

## Risk management

The Directors regularly review and assess the risks faced by the charity in all areas of its work and plan for the management of those risks. Major risks are assessed through a risk register and policy overseen by the Board and Chief Executive Officer, to which staff report, and operationalised through risk assessments and procedure.

The Directors have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and satisfied themselves that systems and procedures are established to manage those risks.

Major risks are those risks that have a major impact and a probable or highly probable likelihood of occurring. If they occurred, they would have a major impact on some or all the following areas:

- governance
- operations
- finances
- environmental or external factors such as public opinion or relationship with funders
- Arc's compliance with law or regulation
- health and safety.

Arc's policy document and risk register sets out to:

- Identify the major risks that apply to our charity and their impacts
- Provide a basis to make decisions about how to respond to the risks we face
- Provide records to write an appropriate risk management statement in our annual report.

Assessing and management of risk is a whole team effort, and while the Board of Directors holds ultimate responsibility for this, appropriate and proportionate responsibility is delegated to staff. Arc is able to state that there have been no major incidents or risks in 2023/2024 that required reporting to the Charity Commission.

Arc will continue to implement its Risk Management Policy to ensure that the organisation complies with the Charity Commission's requirements as outlined in their guidance on Risk Management for Charities (CC26).

## Related parties

The Company operates independently and there are no unmanaged related party transactions. Board members and their immediate relatives have no undeclared contractual relationships, with any suppliers or fund providers. Each Director is asked to sign a Declaration of Interests register and Code of Conduct form and Directors are also asked to declare any interests at the beginning of Board meetings relating to an agenda item, or third party relationship, to manage interests and maintain independent judgement. Should an interest be declared in an agenda item, the Board members will consider if the interested director is capable of taking part in the decision making related to that agenda item in a manner that is compliant with the Company's Articles of Association and applicable legal and regulatory standards. All such decision making is recorded and a register of declared interests is updated at least annually (or sooner when the Board becomes aware of an interest).

## Financial Review

### Principal funding sources

For 2023/ 2024 the principal income sources were:

- The National Lottery (£69,981)
- NHS Stockport CCG (£63,390)
- GMCA (£44,000)
- SMBC UKSPF (£20,723)
- Henry Smith (£42,000)
- Garfileld Weston/Pilot Light (£6,500)
- Youth Music (£28,728)
- SMBC Mens Music (£9,960)
- Commissions (£22,027)
- Beacon – Shine Project (£9,811)
- CRH - (£5,000)

Principal sources of funding carried forward into 2023/ 2024 were:

- Action Together (£1,123)
- Shine (£1,160)
- Art Pen Pals (£968)
- ASDA (£1,152)
- Ralph Pendlebury (£1,585)
- SMBC ASC Capital (£5,999)
- TNL (£1,443)
- Youth Music (£2,043)

### How funding has supported key priorities

Our donors have supported us by funding us in the following ways:

- GM NHS Stockport locality provides core funding to underpin all our work at Arc. The funding enables our programmes to continue to help improve the mental health needs of Stockport residents
- Arc has received its third year of funding from a five-year grant from The National Lottery to fund staffing and core costs of the organisation until March 2026. This will ensure that Arc can continue to flourish and develop a more sustainable model for future financial stability
- GMCA have provided Arc funding to support Arts and Wellbeing in the GM region
- Arc have also received another grant from Youth Music to continue the work that has been developed in this area. The ongoing project is called MusicSpace which aims to improve wellbeing, confidence and resilience of young people not receiving support through mainstream services
- The YPA programme is all about partnerships and providing tailored programmes of short creative projects for targeted groups of disadvantaged and vulnerable children and young people. Arc is continuing to collaborate with local organisations such as Primary Jigsaw, the Proud Trust, Tameside, Oldham and Glossop Mind and Highfields School on one off projects which complement the main offering from YPA. Arc are also continuing to deliver an Early Help and Wellbeing Service for 11-18-year-olds in partnership with Beacon Counselling
- Henry Smith have provided new funding to deliver a 3-year programme of activities supporting people facing a mental health crisis in communities across Stockport and Oldham. This funding ends August 2026
- Arc received a grant via SMBC from UKSPF to provide an Arts & Health Week portfolio, this year built on previous years successes and included our successful Micro commission programme encouraging local artists and creatives to apply for funding to develop new and innovative projects
- We also received funding from SMBC for our developing Men's Music programme, this is a very exciting strand of work which encourages more participation from men who have previously not engaged in our mainstream programmes
- CRH have funded follow on programmes and volunteer expenses for 2023/2024 - a previously underfunded but essential part of our work. This funding has enabled us to provide experienced artists and facilitators to support creative activities to participants who have benefited from previous programmes
- Commissions and fees are continuing to provide income for Arc, and we anticipate this will continue to increase in 2024/2025.

The budget for 2024/2025 currently shows a potential shortfall of £10,000, we are confident that this can be raised during the year from ad-hoc funding sources and through increased sales and services during the year. The overhead costs paid by Arc have remained stable and this has helped the team to accurately plan future funding streams and requirements. The budget continues to support the costs of a larger staff team and Arc have planned for a full and diverse programme supplemented by commissions that are delivered so well by the organisation. Arc is aiming to continue to deliver these programmes at current levels with plans to approach new funding sources, trusts and charitable organisations. One of our future financial aims is continue to gain multi-year funding which will enable more effective planning of delivery.

Arc are also continuing to develop new streams of income that will help to sustain the organisation in the long term. Our future Fundraising plan will be launched in September and will clearly outline steps to diversify and survive. Challenges remain, but Arc will seek to meet all its commitments with regard to staff remuneration and other increasing costs over which we do not have control. Arc will maintain healthy reserves to ensure we can meet our ongoing obligations.

Arc has continued to designate funds (Forge Funds) to develop new projects for the 2024/2025 financial year. This will enable Arc to continue to develop new and exciting projects where mainstream funding may not be immediately available.

Arc will continue to maintain a level of reserves in compliance with our reserves policy. This is intended to meet any unforeseen risk and financial threat to the organisation. The reserves to be held have been determined by the Board and are identified below.

Future funding campaigns and strategies are under consideration to enable Arc to diversify funding and mitigate risks from any shortfalls in funding and to protect the level of safe reserves determined by the Board.

New income sources for 2024/25

- CCG (£63,390)
- The National Lottery (£70,955)
- GMCA (£44,000)
- Henry Smith (£42,000)
- Tameside Hospital (£8,418)
- CRH TBC (£5,000)
- Kind To Mind (£7,000)
- Beacon / Shine (£9,810)
- Youth Music (£27,050)

## Reserves policy

The Board will ensure that adequate reserves are held by Arc to cover emergencies Principally:

1. To ensure that any shortfall in income can be covered over a reasonable period to ensure that management and the Board can take effective action to minimise any detrimental effects on staff and the organisation and to meet any contractual obligations.
2. To cover any unforeseen emergencies concerning property or facilities.
3. To cover any emergencies due to force majeure.
4. Retaining healthy reserves enables the board to undertake investment issues with some confidence.

## General Note on Reserves

Arc's reserves are the cornerstone of good financial management and governance. They are in place to protect Arc from major risks such as unforeseeable loss of income, reputation or force majeure events. Our reserves would enable Arc to operate (on a smaller scale) until funding sources become available. This would give Arc six to nine months secure funding and allow a smooth continuation of service to our participants. Having strong liquid reserves help Arc to buy time to respond and react.

The amount of reserves determined by the Board for the financial year 2023/ 2024 has been calculated as follows:

### Reserves amount calculated as of 31 August 2024

Employee redundancy & notice costs	£45,050
Equipment lease commitments	£1,275
Property lease commitment	£27,500
Three months fixed running costs	£18,610
Accountancy fees	£2,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£94,435</b>

The reserves calculation has increased for the year due to the following:

Employee redundancy calculations have increased in 2023/2024 with more permanent staff reaching the two-year threshold for redundancy. Arc currently has a six-year lease of Hat Works space, it has been agreed that it would be prudent to set aside the remaining cost of this lease as stated above. The equipment lease commitments have reduced with further repayments made during the year. The three months fixed running costs have also been reviewed and stated as per costs on the ledger for 2023/2024, it is anticipated that these costs will remain constant. Overall total reserves required have increased to £94,435 in 2023/2024 from £79,768 in 2022/2023.

**Note 19 of the accounts shows that unrestricted current assets** less current liabilities, as of 31 March 2024, to be £207,317.

This policy is reviewed annually. The amount is calculated each year and when there are major changes, such as changes in the staffing levels and the taking on of additional leases.

### Investment policy

The company will hold funds in accordance with the sum identified in our reserves policy within a savings and investment secure portfolio.

## Statement of Directors' responsibilities

### Statement of Responsibilities of the Trustees

The trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

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

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

Approved by the Directors and signed on its behalf by:

*Safia Griffin*

Safia Griffin (Chair)

Date: 26/09/2024

### 3) Independent Examiner's Report to the Directors of Arts for Recovery In the Community

I report to the Directors on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Directors of the Company (and also its Directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

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

#### Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeds £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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

*Paul Cowham*

Paul Cowham MA FCA DChA  
Withington Works, Withington Baths  
Burton Road, Manchester, M20 3EB

Date: 2/10/2024

Arts for Recovery in the Community  
Statement of Financial Activities  
(including Income and Expenditure account)  
for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
<b>Income</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	6,281	10,789	17,070	11,301
Charitable activities	4	69,890	233,184	303,074	230,010
Fees and other income	5	52,108	-	52,108	60,686
Investments	6	967	-	967	531
<b>Total income</b>		<b>129,246</b>	<b>243,973</b>	<b>373,219</b>	<b>302,528</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Raising funds	7	28,463	-	28,463	26,631
Charitable activities	8	88,471	208,949	297,420	287,832
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>116,934</b>	<b>208,949</b>	<b>325,883</b>	<b>314,463</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year</b>	9	<b>12,312</b>	<b>35,024</b>	<b>47,336</b>	<b>(11,935)</b>
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds for the year</b>		<b>12,312</b>	<b>35,024</b>	<b>47,336</b>	<b>(11,935)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		216,855	15,973	232,828	244,763
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>229,167</b>	<b>50,997</b>	<b>280,164</b>	<b>232,828</b>

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

Arts for Recovery in the Community  
Company number 05288784

Balance sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Note	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	14		1,535		2,303
<b>Total fixed assets</b>			<b>1,535</b>		<b>2,303</b>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	15	5,791		5,598	
Cash at bank and in hand		289,860		238,535	
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>295,651</b>		<b>244,133</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	16	(17,022)		(13,608)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b>278,629</b>		<b>230,525</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			280,164		232,828
<b>Net assets</b>			<b>280,164</b>		<b>232,828</b>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>					
Restricted income funds	17		50,997		15,973
Unrestricted income funds	18		229,167		216,855
<b>Total charity funds</b>			<b>280,164</b>		<b>232,828</b>

For the year in question, the company was entitled to exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

The notes on pages 25 to 38 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the trustees on ..... 2nd october 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

*RAMorris*

Robert Morris - Finance Director

# Arts for Recovery in the Community

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

### **1 Accounting policies**

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

#### **a Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity has applied Update Bulletin 1 as published on 2 February 2016 and does not include a cash flow statement on the grounds that it is applying FRS 102 section 1A.

Arts for Recovery in the Community meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

#### **b Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice**

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of comparative items was required. No such restatement was required.

#### **c Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

There are no key judgments which the trustees have made which have a significant effect on the accounts.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

### Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

#### **d Income**

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

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants 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.

Income received in advance of a provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

#### **e Donated services and facilities**

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), general volunteer time is not recognised; refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

#### **f Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

# Arts for Recovery in the Community

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

### **g Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

### **h Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

### **i Operating leases**

Operating leases are leases in which the title to the assets, and the risks and rewards of ownership, remain with the lessor. Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

### **j Tangible fixed assets**

Individual fixed assets costing £2,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

Motor vehicles:	4 years
Office fixtures and equipment	4 years
Improvements to premises:	10 years

### **k Debtors**

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

### **l Cash at bank and in hand**

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

### **m Creditors and provisions**

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

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

### Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

#### n Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### o Pensions

Arc operates a work place pension scheme with NEST as well as making contributions to an employee's own scheme which is a Qualifying Workplace Pension Scheme (QWPS).

### 2 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales and has no share capital. 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 registered office address is disclosed on page 1.

### 3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2023 £
Donations	6,281	10,789	17,070	11,301	-	11,301
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,281</b>	<b>10,789</b>	<b>17,070</b>	<b>11,301</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,301</b>

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

### Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

#### 4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2023 £
Grants						
BBC Children in Need	-	-	-	-	20,000	20,000
Beacon Counselling	-	9,810	9,810	-	9,810	9,810
CRH Charitable Trust	-	5,000	5,000	-	-	-
The National Lottery - Reaching Communities	-	69,981	69,981	-	69,026	69,026
Garfield Weston	6,500	-	6,500	-	-	-
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	-	44,000	44,000	-	40,000	40,000
Henry Smith	-	42,000	42,000	-	18,400	18,400
NHS Stockport CCG	63,390	-	63,390	60,834	-	60,834
School for Social Entrepreneurs	-	2,000	2,000	-	-	-
SMBC - CSS	-	-	-	-	-	-
Business Support	-	10,942	10,942	-	-	-
SMBC - UK SPF	-	20,723	20,723	-	-	-
Youth Music	-	28,728	28,728	-	11,940	11,940
<b>Total</b>	69,890	233,184	303,074	60,834	169,176	230,010

#### 5 Fees and other income

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £
Café income	14,237	-	14,237	6,965	-	6,965
Student placements	728	-	728	4,200	-	4,200
Public programme (Sales & events)	15,844	-	15,844	19,496	-	19,496
Commissions & fees	21,299	-	21,299	30,025	-	30,025
	52,108	-	52,108	60,686	-	60,686

# Arts for Recovery in the Community

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

### 6 Investment income

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 £	<i>Unrestricted</i> £	<i>Restricted</i> £	<i>2023</i> £
Income from bank deposits	967	-	967	531	-	531
	967	-	967	531	-	531

All of the charity's investment income arises from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts. All investment income is unrestricted.

### 7 Analysis of expenditure on raising funds

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Fundraising costs	28,463	26,631

### 8 Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Staff costs	154,579	138,068
Depreciation/loss on disposal of assets	768	2,095
Premises costs	24,571	23,956
General running costs	22,915	21,102
Programme costs	92,505	100,964
Other governance costs		
Independent examination	1,300	1,300
Trustee meeting costs	782	347
	297,420	287,832
	2024 £	2023 £
Restricted expenditure	208,949	206,229
Unrestricted expenditure	88,471	81,603
	297,420	287,832

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

### 9 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging/(crediting):	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation	768	2,095
Independent examiner's remuneration		
- accountancy	500	500
- independent examination	800	800

### 10 Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	140,484	123,790
Social security costs	7,029	6,062
Employers pension contributions	5,813	5,117
Staff expenses and training	1,253	3,099

No employee has employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2023: Nil).

The average number of staff employed during the period was 6 (2023: 6).

The average full time equivalent number of staff employed during the period was 4.77 (2023: 4.41).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the trustees, the Chief Executive Officer and the Finance Manager. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £68,979 (2023: £60,632).

### 11 Trustee remuneration and expenses, and related party transactions

Neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them received any remuneration during the year (2023: Nil). Two trustees claimed £159.47 travel expenses in the year (2023 one trustee claimed £72.40).

Aggregate donations from related parties were £nil (2023: £nil).

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity, including guarantees, during the year (2023: nil).

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

### Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

#### 12 Government grants

The government grants recognised in the accounts were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
NHS Stockport	63,390	60,834
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	44,000	40,000
	107,390	100,834
	107,390	100,834

There were no unfulfilled conditions and contingencies attaching to the grants.

#### 13 Corporation tax

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within Chapter 3 of Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

#### 14 Fixed assets: tangible assets

	Office equipment & furniture £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2023	21,484	21,484
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
	21,484	21,484
At 31 March 2024	21,484	21,484
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 April 2023	19,181	19,181
Charge for the year	768	768
Disposals	-	-
	19,949	19,949
At 31 March 2024	19,949	19,949
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2024	1,535	1,535
	1,535	1,535
At 31 March 2023	2,303	2,303
	2,303	2,303

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

### 15 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Accrued income	5,791	5,227
Prepayments & other debtors	-	371
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5,791	5,598
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

### 16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	14,727	10,805
Other creditors and accruals	2,295	2,803
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	17,022	13,608
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

### 17 Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Action Together Oldham	1,123	-	(1,123)	-	-
Art Pen Pals A4A	968	-	(959)	-	9
ASDA	1,152	-	(42)	-	1,110
BBC Children in Need	500	-	(500)	-	-
Big Give	-	6,922	(4,636)	-	2,286
CRH Charitable Trust	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Restricted donations	-	3,867	(2,394)	-	1,473
The National Lottery	1,443	69,981	(70,901)	-	523
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	-	44,000	(44,000)	-	-
Henry Smith Charity	-	42,000	(21,543)	-	20,457
Shine - Beacon Counselling	1,160	9,810	(10,970)	-	-
Sir Ralph Pendlebury Charity for the Aged	1,585	-	(21)	-	1,564
SMBC ASC Capital	5,999	-	(1,911)	-	4,088
SMBC - Local Mens Music	-	9,960	(9,960)	-	-
SMBC - Warm Spaces	-	982	(982)	-	-
SSE	-	2,000	(1,170)	-	830
Tameside Hospital - Pennine Care	-	-	(1,560)	-	(1,560)
UKSPF - A&H Week 2023	-	20,723	(20,723)	-	-
Youth Music 3	2,043	4,478	(6,521)	-	-
Youth Music 4	-	24,250	(4,033)	-	20,217
	15,973	243,973	(208,949)	-	50,997

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

### 17 Analysis of movements in restricted funds (continued)

Previous reporting period	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Action Together Oldham	3,254	-	(2,131)	-	1,123
Art Pen Pals A4A	9,790	-	(8,822)	-	968
ASDA	1,152	-	-	-	1,152
BBC Children in Need	-	20,000	(19,500)	-	500
The National Lottery	1,836	69,026	(69,419)	-	1,443
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	202	40,000	(40,202)	-	-
Hart Donation	819	-	(819)	-	-
Henry Smith Charity	10,557	18,400	(28,957)	-	-
John Grant Davies Trust	443	-	(443)	-	-
Morrisons Foundation	3,470	-	(3,470)	-	-
Shine	2,311	9,810	(10,961)	-	1,160
Sir Ralph Pendlebury Charity for the Aged	2,991	-	(1,406)	-	1,585
SMBC ASC Capital	8,018	-	(2,019)	-	5,999
SMBC Culture & Leisure, Local Fund (Stockport Local Mums)	1,365	-	(1,365)	-	-
Youth Music 3	6,818	11,940	(16,715)	-	2,043
	53,026	169,176	(206,229)	-	15,973

Name of	Description, nature and purposes of the fund
Action Together Oldham	Grant to provide perinatal art workshops for mums in Oldham
Art Pen Pals A4A	Continuation of postal art programme developed in lockdown, funded by A4A
Asda Reddish	Funds from Asda to purchase various equipment for Arc Centre
BBC Children in Need	A three year grant to fund a tailored programme of short creative projects for targeted groups of disadvantaged children and young people.

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

### 17 Analysis of movements in restricted funds (continued)

Big Give	Restricted fundraising campaign for YPA
CRH	A one year grant for follow on programme
The National Lottery	The was a grant to provide salaried costs and overheads for 5 years to develop the ARC Centre (2021-26).
JG Davies Trust	Contribution towards the Creative Mums Programme
Restricted donations	From Soroptomists, a donation for creative mums. Hewer White donation for equipment.
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	A grant for Arc to strengthen and extend our high impact arts and wellbeing offer into communities across Greater Manchester, whilst developing a 'centre of excellence for arts and mental health' from our base at Stockport's Hat Works museum.
Henry Smith Charity	Running costs of the project providing a community outreach programme.
Morrisons	Creative Mums programme
Pendlebury Shine	Programme of creative projects for older, isolated residents of Stockport
SMBC Capital	Creative sessions delivered on behalf of Beacon Counselling
SMBC	Expanding and refurbishment of our studios into an Arts Centre accessible to all, development of a town centre venue and other capital expenditure to enable the growth and expansion of Arc's service to the community.
Stockport Local Mums	2 grants were received, a local grant for mens music and a for warm spaces, also a grant from UKSPF for arts and health week.
SSE School for Social Entrepreneurs	Grant to provide perinatal art workshops for mums in Stockport
Tameside Hospital	Grant to help develop café and retail
Youth Music	A 12 week programme on the wards at Tameside Hospital
	Grant for a Young People's Arc programme called Musicspace

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

### 18 Analysis of movement in unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2024 £
General fund	179,561	126,146	(96,855)	-	208,852
FORGE	17,294	3,100	(79)	-	20,315
2023/24 contingency	20,000	-	(20,000)	-	-
	<b>216,855</b>	<b>129,246</b>	<b>(116,934)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>229,167</b>
<b>Previous reporting period</b>	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2023 £
General fund	167,126	133,352	(100,917)	(20,000)	179,561
FORGE	24,611	-	(7,317)	-	17,294
2023/24 contingency	-			20,000	20,000
	<b>191,737</b>	<b>133,352</b>	<b>(108,234)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>216,855</b>

<b>Name of</b>	<b>Description, nature and purposes of the fund</b>
General Fund	This represents the free reserves of the charity.
FORGE	Funds designated for new pilot projects at Arc and costs not covered by current funders.
2023/24 contingency	This has been designated to fund gaps in 2023/2024 budget

### 19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General fund £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	1,535	-	-	1,535
Net current assets/(liabilities)	207,317	20,315	50,997	278,629
Total	<b>208,852</b>	<b>20,315</b>	<b>50,997</b>	<b>280,164</b>

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (continued)

### 20 Lease commitments

The charity had the following annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	Land and buildings		Equipment	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Leases expiring in:				
One year	-	14,667	1,275	3,920
Two to five years	27,500	-	-	1,275

**ARTS FOR RECOVERY IN THE COMMUNITY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1107607

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# Accounts

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Create, Connect, Feel Better

# Arts for Recovery in the Community

Annual Report and  
Financial Statement  
for the year ended  
**31 March 2023**

Arc is a registered charity no. **1107607**  
A limited company no. **05288784** - registered in Cardiff

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## 1) Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name	Arts for Recovery in the Community
Charity Registration Number	1107607
Company Registration Number	05288784
Registered Office	Hat Works, Wellington Mill, Wellington Road South, Stockport SK3 0EU

### Directors

Safia Griffin	Chair
Graeme Draper	Director
Robert Morris	Finance Director
Lucy Wallace	Director
David Milligan-Croft	Director
Linda Bushell	Director (appointed 28 <sup>th</sup> April 2022)
Lindsay Adams	Director (appointed 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2023)
Paul Davies	Director (appointed 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2023)
Kevin Brosnahan	Director (resigned 2nd May 2022)
Rachel Lake	Director (resigned 28th April 2022)

### Company Secretary

Jacqui Wood

### Staff

Jacqui Wood	Chief Executive Officer
Nuala Ryan	Finance Manager
Annette Naor Hilton	Creative Wellbeing Lead
Harriet Wilson	Operations Manager
Noreen McCole Bridge	Volunteer and Engagement Co-ordinator

With thanks to staff members Jane Wilkinson and Hannah Flint (who left Arc during this year) and to our freelance team of Lucie Fitzpatrick, Phill Howley, Jo Flint, Ellen Samuel and all the Associate Artists.

### Independent Examiner

Paul Cowham MA FCA DChA  
Green Fish Resource Centre  
46 – 50 Oldham Street, Manchester M4 1LE

### Bankers

Yorkshire Bank plc 34 Princess Street Stockport SK1 1RE	Barclays Bank PLC Leicester LE87 2BB	Shawbrook Bank Lutea House, Warley Hill Business Park Brentwood, Essex, CM13 3BE
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## 2) Trustees' Report

### Welcome

I am delighted to present our annual report for the year 2022/23. Our work demonstrates the importance and impact of Arts and Health on people's sense of purpose and place in this world, on connection and community.

It has been a fantastic year in terms of delivery – post pandemic we have seen referrals to our adult and young people's programmes double. We have increased our capacity to meet this demand wherever possible but have been mindful of the need to keep a focus on high quality delivery, with less funds available. The shortfall in our annual income needed to cover all our outgoings reported in this document is a reflection of this increased pressure, and it challenges us to seek innovative ways to design our service, raise the funds necessary and diversify our income sources to ensure that we are a healthy and robust organisation, capable of supporting our beneficiaries for years to come.

Our work aims to enrich and support Stockport and Greater Manchester residents, families and workplaces, and reach more people, especially those under-represented in arts and wellbeing services. This year we have welcomed new delivery partners, team members and trustees. We continue to proactively seek partnerships and outreach projects that connects us to more diverse communities and work to progress our EDI strategic objectives through imbedding practice, learning and inclusion throughout our delivery, operations and governance functions. We recognise that we are on an ongoing journey with no end point and that this is crucial to realising all our strategic objectives and increasing our effectiveness and impact.

As trustees (and Directors) governing and overseeing the organisation's mission, vision and strategy, we have the honour to see and hear first-hand what people say about and experience through accessing this vital support and service. Despite the challenges of demand and budgets, our impact is clear and illustrated most vividly by the feedback from our participants and key referral partners.

I am proud to be Chair of such a dynamic and responsive organisation and invite you now to read and see more of what we have been doing, as we detail this in our annual report and accounts for the year 2022 - 2023.

Thank you.

*Safia Griffin, Arc Chair*



## Aims and Objectives

The Company and Charity is established to relieve sickness and protect mental good health through the use of the arts and creative activity in North West England, in particular but not exclusively in Stockport. The aims of the Company are to support the wellbeing of people with mental ill health by developing confidence in their abilities through engagement with Arc, enhancing recovery and encouraging them to gain skills and experience which lead to a better quality of life. Arc provides a rich and varied programme of creative activities in a safe and supportive environment, organises training and support in the arts, provide services and undertakes commissions, promoting positive images of mental health through high quality arts projects.

## Mission Statement

### Vision & Mission

Our vision is one of healthy and happy communities, in which people can achieve sustainable wellbeing inspired by creative projects and connected through shared experiences.

Our mission is to offer high impact creative experiences, skills and opportunities which promote individual and communal wellbeing, reaching the most vulnerable within communities, recognising the value of creativity to self-worth, resilience and confidence.

## Values

### **Connectivity**

The arts have an amazing ability to bring people together, enabling us to find strength in ourselves and each other. By connecting through creativity to people and place, we support each other, and develop a genuine sense of belonging. This has a profound impact on our mental health.

### **Creativity**

Creativity transforms lives - we can be inspired to flourish, to express ourselves, to be more confident and articulate. To take control of our future and to celebrate our journey.

### **Sharing stories and listening**

There is tremendous power in being given the space to tell your story and to listen to others'. Exploring and sharing narratives help us make sense of our experiences and our world, reinforcing that we are not alone.

### **Accessibility**

Creative projects need to be open, welcoming, easily accessed and responsive to the needs and interests of participants, but also ambitious, striving for the highest artistic outcomes/values.

### **Efficiency, value and impact**

We always seek to improve our model, increase our impact and focus the use of our valuable human and financial resources.

## Activities undertaken for public benefit in relation to objectives

In planning our activities for the year, we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. Regular reports on activities are submitted to the Directors at Board meetings by the Chief Executive Officer to enable the Directors to monitor progress. This and other mechanisms, such as the annual rolling strategic plan, enabled the Directors to ensure that new and current activities are in line with the company's aims and objectives and the Charity Commission's guidance.

### Main activities undertaken to further the charity's purposes for the public benefit!

- Structured creative programmes to support the mental health of vulnerable adults and young people.
- Accessible programmes for anyone who wants to use the arts to improve or maintain their mental health in our town centre cultural venue and through digital delivery.
- Services for health partners and commissioners to refer in to, providing effective, reliable specialist support for recovery from mental ill health.

- Volunteering opportunities for those who have previously participated in our programmes, as well as those wishing to give their time to a charity.
- Partnership projects for communities and organisations in the VCSE, private and statutory sectors to collaborate with us, and engage their service users and staff in creative wellbeing activities.
- Professional development, training, networking, resources, commissioning and residencies for artists and facilitators of all levels of experience.
- Exhibitions, events and products for members of the public with an interest in the arts and/or mental health.



## Achievements and Performance

How we met our strategic goals in 2022/2023

**Goal 1 - Deliver high impact creative programmes which improve the mental health and wellbeing of more than 750 vulnerable, isolated adults and young people in Stockport and Greater Manchester, by March 2024.**

*"Mental health is the pandemic after the pandemic"*

**Professor Sandeep Ranote, Executive Lead for Mental Health - NHS GM Integrated Care, speaking at the launch of the GM Creative Health Strategy, November 2022**

In 2022/2023 we saw an unprecedented level of referrals to our service due to the ongoing impact of the pandemic and the cost of living crisis. In 12 months our adult referrals have doubled, reflecting the sharp increase in mental ill health and isolation. We have responded by being flexible with our programme design, enabling us to accommodate additional groups and more participants. We have continued to extend our adult programmes into Oldham in partnership with Gallery Oldham, and additionally offer participation to Tameside residents. Our growing network of referrers and health contacts are ensuring that we are a valued service in these Boroughs.

*"Your programmes have had such a huge impact on those we refer, which is why we keep referring. Everyone has benefitted. The whole team will agree, we feel confident in what you deliver, your understanding and support of people with mental health difficulties really brings those barriers down. Your whole approach is different to any other group or support and is just what people need."*

**Referrer, Oldham Arts for Wellbeing Programme**

We measure the impact of each of our programmes using a range of evaluation tools – registers, observations, verbal and written feedback from participants, scoring at the start and end of programmes; case studies & testimonies, partner organisation & parent/carer feedback and creative outputs such as exhibitions and films.

We are confident that our model of adapting programmes based on participant testimony results in ensuring that we maximise the powerful impact we are having on the mental health and lives of our participants. To this end we instigated a more formal Participant Voice strand to our evaluation toolkit this year, inviting participants from across our adult programmes to directly contribute to the development of the programmes and organisation.

There has been a clear increase in the mental health needs of the young people that we work with, as they face difficulties accessing statutory support, a lack of capacity within mainstream education and ongoing social isolation as a result of the pandemic.

We have focused on ensuring our workshops for children and young people are safe and inclusive spaces, where they can express themselves without pressure. For many it is the only place outside school where they encounter other young people, and so it helps to know that they are not alone in the struggles that they face. This year, young people reported that their mental health, confidence and wellbeing had improved as a result of attending our projects. Many spoke of how coming to Arc lifted their mood and helped them feel less isolated.



The main challenge to the mental health support we can offer participants has been capacity. We work closely with sector partners, and having a Stockport town centre base, presence at networking events in Stockport and Oldham, and an increased profile have all helped to cement our relationships with other mental health services. We now support participants to access more local groups and specialist services, provide them with accessible signposting materials and monitor the outcomes of that signposting.

From August 2022 we began redesigning our wellbeing support, moving from managing a team of social work students to a single Wellbeing Support role, providing a more consistent point of contact from initial referral meeting to end-of-programme evaluations. The positive impact of this consistency was reported by participants and by referrers.

*"From the outset, in the welcome chat before the programme was due to start, the Wellbeing Support Worker was so caring, compassionate and understanding. Her friendly and warm approach put the service user at ease, and she went from feeling incredibly anxious and nervous to leaving excited and looking forward to the first session. She attended every week – it helped her so much in giving her something to look forward to and to stay alive for. She has many teams involved in her care from psychiatrists to support workers, but she feels like a number. This is different, she feels like a person – the creativity and support of this programme has had a powerful impact on her confidence and self-esteem."*

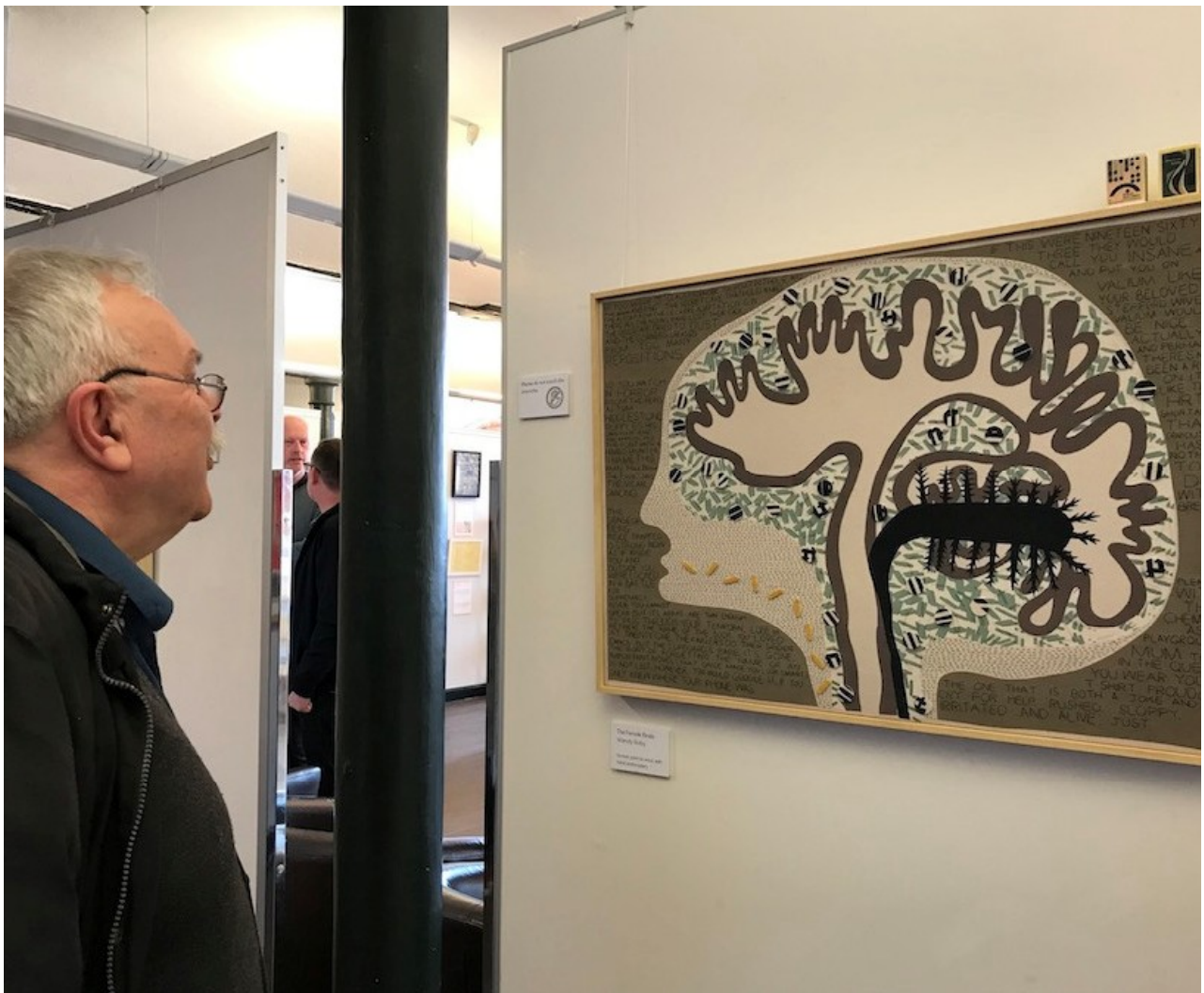
**Referrer (Action Together)**

**Goal 2 - Address the effects of loneliness and isolation, providing services which connect with and build a sense of belonging for 6,000 people across Stockport & GM by March 2024.**

*"We want to be the place where making and taking part in our culture is the first way people think of to get and stay well. We're using every opportunity to raise awareness of the role culture and creativity can play in positive health and wellbeing amongst the health professionals, cultural and creative organisations and Stockport residents"*

**Stockport Cultural Strategy, October 2022**

Hat Works is now a busy town centre venue and becoming a hub for anyone interested in creativity and health – including mental health services users, artist practitioners, health professionals, students, community leaders and policy champions. High quality displays of health-focused artwork by Arc participants and guest artists contribute to making a vibrant, dynamic space where conversations about mental health are the norm.



From an ambitious Arts and Health Week, to volunteer-led drop-in sessions for those facing loneliness and isolation, and family art clubs attended by well over 100 local people each month, our public-facing centre has reached out and engaged an increasingly diverse range of people. We have encompassed prevention work through to acute mental illness through exhibitions and events, showcases and networking sessions, stakeholder discussions and training, and by developing a genuinely welcoming and inclusive space.

The new programme of monthly follow-on activities connects our participants to a wider cultural and community-based offer in Stockport, taking them to other venues and building the confidence required to access other services.

*"Going out as a group was good, I might not have felt comfortable to take pictures on my own."*

*"I find beauty in more places which has improved my mental health, wider wellbeing and ability to be more present."*

### **Creative Challenge participants**

Using funding from Awards for All, and working with partners including Stockport Homes, Age UK and Home-Start, an Art Pen Pals project was developed to support and communicate with adults who are unable to attend face to face sessions and are not digitally active.

We led the second Stockport Arts and Health Week in October 2022, with partnership events including a showcase day for 12 local mental health and community-based services. 68% of people attending the week had never taken part in such activities before. 98% said that taking part had helped them understand how the arts can benefit wellbeing and 97% said that taking part had helped them feel more connected to other people. Promoting opportunities to create, connect and feel better, the week provided hundreds of residents with a chance to engage in workshops, performances and walks involving a range of creative media and experiences. In addition, Arts and Health Week was a development, discussion and networking platform for people working in the health and cultural sectors.

Across 2022/2023 we engaged in collaborative projects, providing opportunities for participation in a broad range of cultural and health experiences. The Arc spaces are part of Hat Works Museum and this has proved an ideal venue for networking, sharing and engagement events with a creative health focus, and has been used by partners this year including SMBC Public Health, SK Inc and Curious Minds.

The improved café offer, along with Arcware retail, workshops and courses open to the public and the launch of 'Handmade@Hat Works' events, have all contributed to a massive increase in users of the Centre, visiting us for many different reasons. As Hat Works Museum gets nearer to fully reopening, we look forward to even greater visitor numbers and collaborative working with Museum staff with whom we share a vision for a welcoming, inclusive and active building.

*"The space at Arc is light, airy and friendly, the art on the wall is often moving and always inspiring"*  
**Saturday Art Club visitor**

Most importantly, it continues to be a warm, safe and inviting space for our those accessing our service; members of the Age Well group (targeting socially isolated older people) often meet for lunch here before the session, and parents of young people in our Shine project find that they can stay and support each other whilst their young people are in the studio.

*"I've realised that this is not just my problem, there are other people going through the same thing with their child. This has ended up not just being support for the young people but for us parents too. There's a little group of us, we chat in the cafe, and we're here for each other, someone to talk to. It's just easier to talk to people who've also got kids who are struggling."*  
**Parent of Shine participant**

*"Arc for me is a place of peace, of safety where you can meet friends and where there is always someone to talk to if needed. It lifts you up."*  
**Age Well participant**

**Goal 3 - Become more inclusive, with service users, staff and volunteers more accurately reflecting our GM communities, by March 2024.**

This year we have shown a commitment to EDI through dedicated planning and discussion, training and objective setting across all levels of the organisation. We have ensured that inclusion and equity of opportunity shape the differentiation of delivery methods (e.g. face to face, virtual, postal), our reach to partner organisations and those less likely to access our programmes. We also encourage feedback through consultation about the core service.

Our new Participant Voice group, established in 2022/2023, contains a diverse range of adult participants representing different ages, ethnic backgrounds and mental health needs. Participants are offered a variety of engagement and feedback mechanisms from 1-to-1s to group sessions. Sessions have a very specific theme, such as 'coming to Arc for the first time' and feedback is recorded and presented to Arc's staff team and board; with the resulting actions shared back with participants, who can clearly see how Arc is responding to their ideas. There have been immediate changes to language, design of the space and the website so far, and it's still early days for this initiative!

*"I feel that it was a really positive experience for me to feedback something that wasn't working for me."*

*"Some organisations say that but don't actually act on it or meant it, it's just a tick box [At Arc] that wasn't my experience at all, and I feel really happy saying anything positive or negative now because of that response."*  
**Participant Voice**

Aware that our adult participant demographic is majority white female, we partnered with Stockport Without Abuse, to reach a more culturally diverse group of families who had experienced domestic abuse through a series of short ceramics projects. We also partnered with AWAD Global on textile printing and hair braiding workshops, and a major exhibition of African Textiles in our gallery space.



Recognising that we needed to address the mental health needs of men in Stockport, we developed further the Men's Music for Wellbeing programme, dedicated to addressing the barriers men face accessing support services. It brought more men into Arc, with 100% of participants reporting an increase in wellbeing, confidence and social connections. The pilot project led to a successful bid for a year-long programme for 2023-2024, supported by the Stockport Local Fund.

The Arts and Health Micro Commissions, launched during Arts and Health Week, supported artists experiencing a range of health issues to generate new artwork, share via the exhibition space and Arc's networks, and lead participatory projects. Arc was able to offer free CPD and mentoring to the micro commission artists and others, many of whom have gone on to fundraise for projects and set up organisations themselves.

*"This has been highly therapeutic for me personally. It has led me to make connections with other sufferers of endometriosis and establish a mutual support network of women in a similar situation as myself."*

**Lucy Gee, Micro Commission artist**

*"In examining my own experience and those of others - and properly engaging with the rage, terror and anxiety these hormonal changes can provoke - I've been able to better understand my own experience."*

**Wendy Roby, Micro Commission artist**

We have developed effective delivery partnerships with local young people's mental health services such as Jigsaw/CAMHS, the Complex Safeguarding Team, Tameside, Oldham and Glossop Mind, Starling CIC and the Startwell Family Hub as well as continuing to deliver our Shine project in partnership with Beacon Counselling.

As a result, we have worked with young people dealing with a huge range of mental health issues including severe anxiety, self-harm and suicide ideation, caring responsibilities, bereavement and serious family illness, neurodiversity, family breakdown, substance abuse in the family, domestic violence, bullying, school refusal and gender dysphoria.

Volunteers have always been at the heart of Arc, and we currently have 89 people on our books. In 2022/2023 67 volunteers gave more than 3,000 hours of support to Arc, to deliver arts and wellbeing activities across all our programmes with vulnerable adults and young people, to help with marketing and social media, curate exhibitions, facilitate our Saturday Art Clubs, staff the café, act as Trustees, run stalls at makers markets and welcome visitors to the Arc Centre. In addition, new volunteer-led activities at the Centre were developed to address loneliness and isolation. Drop-in free art and textiles socials taking place in the Gallery café space supported over 40 people of all ages to connect and create, and feel welcome in a safe, creative environment.

We are proud to say that we have always had at least one ex-participant on our Board of Trustees, able to provide insight and a sense-check at the highest level. Many of our current volunteers also have lived experience of mental ill health, some have been participants. Their perspective on volunteering is invaluable to us.

*"After a couple of years of personal loss and grief, my life came to a standstill in terms of moving forward, socialising, and creating art again. Being at Arc has given me the courage to network and socialise again - I feel so much more confident and productive now and I find myself in touch with friends again and putting myself forward for opportunities I'd previously shy away from. Volunteering has also given me valuable hands-on, real life experience and provided me with the opportunity to work in both studio and hospital settings, with real people who benefit from the services they provide. I feel connected and confident in being an artist again, and I am well prepared to begin my education and career thanks to my opportunities and relationships here at Arc."*

**Lizzie, volunteer**

*"When I first came to volunteer at Arc in the café I felt very comfortable and the environment felt calm and friendly, and this was important to me as I am a neurodivergent person. Since I started volunteering I have found that my confidence has skyrocketed. I am now able to do a lot more things than I used to be able to do, such as travelling to get here independently. I have learnt how to take orders, make coffee, and learn new skills that will hopefully help me find work in the future."*

**Luke, volunteer**

*"On a personal level it's the only place when I have been so low that I have felt connected, and in a safe environment, without judgement and it's uplifting being creative with likeminded people. Where I felt lost, I was broken and felt like an imposter, this has given me the confidence to follow a creative path and come back to being me."*

**Denise, volunteer**

The Board and staff worked collaboratively on improving EDI across all aspects of the service, with a thorough review of our annual EDI self-assessment, team training delivered by our Chair and external providers, activating a more inclusive recruitment procedure, from writing and sharing guides to accessible design and delivery, and a staff EDI action plan reviewed at monthly team meetings.

We recognise that there is still so much more to do, and that we need to focus on the diversity of our delivery team so that participants can see themselves reflected in the service which they attend. We know that this is about more than a call out, and that we must look to support people to enter this field from a wider range of backgrounds through mentoring, training, bursaries and work experience. This will need the help of key partners and proper resourcing.

### **Goal 4 - Increase Arc's profile, reach, organisational resilience and income streams, creating a more dynamic and sustainable organisation by March 2024.**

Our work is built on a platform of networking, partnerships and collaboration. In 2022-2023 we worked with organisations in Stockport, Oldham, Tameside, Manchester and Trafford. As well as the delivery partnerships mentioned earlier in this report, this year we have been active in the development of the Stockport Cultural Strategy which led to the successful Town of Culture bid, the Stockport All Age Mental Health Strategy, the North West Craft Development Network and the Local Education Cultural Partnership.

We have benefitted from the raised awareness of the impact and credibility of both arts and health and social prescribing, particularly in Greater Manchester. Arc was referenced by several keynote speakers at the launch of the *GM Creative Health Strategy* (<https://gmintegratedcare.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/gm-creative-health-strategy-exec-summary.pdf>) and this is part of a wider recognition of our longevity, reputation and impact. Strategic partners now include us in the narrative of Stockport and GM, visiting us or calling on us for case studies, evidence and presentations.

*"Compelling evidence exists that engaging with creativity, culture and heritage helps us to lead longer, healthier, happier lives. At all ages, creative health approaches can help to restore and maintain our mental health and wellbeing."*

**GM Creative Health Strategy, GM Integrated Care Partnership, 2022**

Our reach into Oldham & Tameside is developing, with increasingly successful networking and presence at a referral and service delivery level. The next step is to work at a more strategic level, consolidating our relationships with key partners such as Gallery Oldham/OMBC, Tameside and Glossop Mind and others; ensuring that the partnership projects we deliver are more widely understood, valued and embedded in local strategy.

This year we strengthened our links with North West universities. Arc joined the Industry Advisory panel at Bolton University School of Art, hosted post graduate Gallery & Museum Studies students from Manchester University, delivered on an award-winning programme for Nursing students at Chester University and embarked on a research collaboration with Manchester Metropolitan University Department of Psychology.

Increased footfall in the café and centre generally, our presence at events including craft fairs, a clearer and more accessible website and high levels of social media coverage have all combined to raise our profile with the general public. The income generated by our enterprises such as Arcware, the café, public workshops, from commissions and donations is steadily increasing.

We are delighted to be supported by a greater range of small businesses and charitable organisations than ever before (many with a personal connection), who see the value in contributing to our work through donating, fundraising on our behalf or volunteering. In the second half of 2022/2023 we developed our *Corporate Partnership* (<https://arc-centre.org/become-corporate-partner/>) offer and piloted activities with staff and professional teams at Manchester University and Beacon Counselling.

## What our participants told us:

### Adult Wellbeing Programmes:

*"I have realised how resilient I am. I have learned self-acceptance. Doing art is an easy way to open up."*

*"It's blown me away, the things I have been able to do – I've loved it and feel so proud! It really affects your self-esteem. You feel much better about yourself."*

*"I've often felt that it's a space where I can talk to people and be honest about things and you know, it really is one of the very, very few non-judgement zones, safe places"*

*"I really enjoy Art Pen Pals – it's a lovely surprise each time the envelope arrives with new artwork to do, it is really therapeutic to me, a good distraction and great fun!"*

*"I've got to admit, I couldn't imagine myself sat here talking to people like this. There's such respect in the group, we're all here from different backgrounds and it's really non-judgemental."*

*"The process of learning creative skills, understanding how my brain works now, and being more comfortable with this, learning not to overthink and to focus on one thing at a time - I've been able to use this in other places now. Yes, I'm amazed at what I can do, and I understand myself better."*

### Young People's Arc:

*"After the first week I came home and said, 'I don't have to wear my mask Mum, I can be me.' No-one here thinks I'm weird."*

*"I've learnt you need to make the first move to make friends and step up... if I talk to people there's a higher chance of making friends. This will help when I start back at school."*

*"I was worried about being with people I didn't know, worried I'd not be able to talk to people. But the atmosphere here is really great, it's really welcoming and friendly."*

*"It has really boosted her confidence. 4 weeks ago she got herself a Saturday job, serving in a local bakery – she never would have done that before!"*



## Adult Arts for Wellbeing Programmes

- We engaged a total of 238 adults experiencing mental ill-health from Stockport, Oldham & Tameside in our wellbeing programmes.
- 98% of our Community Programme participants reported improved mental health and wellbeing as a result of the programme, 87% reported reduced social isolation.
- 100% of Creative Challenge participants reported improved mental health and wellbeing as a result of the programme, 92% reported reduced social isolation. 100% of the last cohort reported readiness to take positive/active steps forward.
- 100% of Creative Mums participants reported improved mental health and reduced social isolation as a result of the programme.
- 98 people took part in monthly follow-on opportunities, some of whom were new participants, others who progressed through earlier programmes. Monthlies included photography walks, creative writing and movement for mental health in partnership with dance company Company Chameleon.
- We received over 120 new adult referrals from 17 referrers in Stockport and 6 agencies in Oldham and Tameside, and an additional 80 self referrals.
- 80 people joined our entry-level adult Community Programmes in Stockport and Oldham.
- 25 participants moved on to the Creative Challenge programme, building independence, resilience and confidence.
- 26 women took part in 5 Creative Mums projects in Stockport and Oldham, with many forming new friendships and support networks with peers in the group.
- 10 people at the recovery end of their journey took part in our Creative Enterprise strand, building transferable skills, experience and confidence to take positive steps forward beyond Arc back into work and education or in developing their own creative practice.
- The Art Pens project connected 27 isolated house-bound adults with an Arc volunteer for creative conversations through the post.
- 14 participants in the Age Well studio for isolated older people took part in sessions across the year, completing their animation project with Creative Industries Trafford which resulted in a film <https://youtu.be/Ur-gZEUUGFI> and exhibition in Stockport and in Sale.
- Working alongside the OT team in the Mental Health Unit, we delivered creative sessions to more than 80 patients at Stepping Hill Hospital, providing valuable positive activities and signposting them to our programmes on discharge.
- 10 adults and 7 children from Stockport Without Abuse took part in a ceramics project at Arc, supporting families who had experienced domestic abuse, some of whom then moved onto Arc's adult wellbeing programme.
- 46 people came to new volunteer-led drop-in sessions, public-facing but aimed at addressing loneliness and isolation.
- 41 adults and 6 young people from our wellbeing programmes took part in a mural commission project for the Manchester and Cheshire community rail partnership, leading to artworks that will be displayed outside Stockport train station.
- 19 service users took part in our first Participant Voice sessions in Stockport and Oldham, contributing towards the shaping of Arc's delivery, space and direction through sharing their experiences and feedback.
- All adult wellbeing programme participants were offered wellbeing support from initial referral meeting to end-of-programme evaluations, including access to 1-to-1 emotional support, regular check-ins and signposting to appropriate mental health services.

## Young People's Arc

- 228 vulnerable children and young people took part in our Young People's Arc (YPA) programme, an increase of over 100 from last year through the ongoing development of our in-house Shine & MusicSpace projects and a greater number of partnership projects than previously delivered.
- 95% of YPA participants showed an increase in confidence.
- 92% showed an increase in positive relationships with others.
- 15 YPA projects were delivered this year, including ceramics with young people at risk through a partnership with the Complex Safeguarding team, songwriting with neurodivergent young people in partnership with Starling CIC, and a young mums and babies music project with the Family Nursing team.
- Young people from our Shine and MusicSpace groups also took part in additional projects including a digital art workshop with renowned gaming artist Dan Hett, the train station mural commission and work experience in the Centre.

## Training, volunteering and work experience for people in arts & wellbeing sectors

- 67 people volunteered with Arc giving 3,078 hours of their time to enable us to deliver our service.
- 30 volunteers were recruited and trained to be Art Pen Pals.
- 4 volunteers led drop-in art and textiles socials in the Centre, supporting people to connect and create.
- We employed 12 artists as facilitators in our Arts for Wellbeing adult programmes, 15 in Young People's Arc, 14 in the Arts and Health Week and 13 in our wider public programmes.
- 200+ people took part in networking and skills sessions as part of Arts and Health week, with 7 new/emerging artists supported by the Micro Commission programme.
- Free CPD training events for creatives were provided on subjects including fundraising, boundaries and safeguarding and social media.
- 3 Social Work students from GM Universities undertook 70-day placements and 2 post-graduate Museum & Gallery studies students did 20-day placements.
- Arc helped develop and deliver the first creative health placement for nursing students at the University of Chester, training 122 students in visual art and creative writing techniques appropriate for patient care.
- We joined the Industry Advisory Panel at Bolton University School of Art.

## Creative wellbeing in Stockport town centre

- We welcomed 4460 visitors to the Arc Centre for arts and health focused exhibitions, activities and events, with 610 people taking part in public workshops – 150% increase on the previous year.
- 1126 local people, including part and present participants, came to our family focused Saturday Art Clubs, more than double the number in 2021-2022.
- Our second Stockport Arts & Health Week engaged with 290+ people as participants, 800+ as audiences and had an overall reach of over 1,200 GM residents, including volunteer and paid employment opportunities.
- We facilitated Arts and Health Micro Commissions, supporting and mentoring 7 emerging artists to develop participatory projects with more than 50 local people and several exhibitions of new work around mental health themes.

## Future Projects for 2023 / 2024

- Conduct more sessions with the Participant Voice group, and respond to participants' concerns and feedback, developing our service accordingly; increasing inclusivity and equity throughout all aspects of the participant's journey.
- Pilot new streams of work e.g. evening wellbeing programmes for those in work but struggling with their mental health, creative wellbeing resources and training to support school pastoral teams.
- Embed our work more strategically in Oldham & Tameside, increasing partnerships and developing relationships with key stakeholders to increase impact for residents of those areas.
- Develop our volunteering offer to meet our improved profile in Stockport town centre, increasing opportunities for participants to move into volunteer roles, offering volunteer-led activities in the Centre to combat loneliness and supporting others who find us, whose mental health can benefit from volunteering with us.
- Increase the diversity of our delivery team through a targeted training and mentoring programme, so that it is more representative of our community.
- Undertake and learn from fundraising campaigns and launch our corporate partnership strand, to build our financial portfolio and security.
- Continue to source multi-year funding for our delivery programme and core costs to improve the long-term financial stability of the organisation.



## Structure, governance and management

### Company status

The company is a charitable company, incorporated under the Companies Act of 1985 as a private limited company on the 17 November 2004 and entered into the Central Register of Charities on the 13 January 2005. The company is limited by guarantee and all members have agreed to contribute a sum not exceeding £1 in the event of a winding-up. The number of guarantees at 31 March 2022 was seven.

### Governing document

The company is controlled via its Memorandum and Articles of Association. Members of the company are volunteers, Directors of the company and trustees of the charity. The number of members must be a minimum of three and a maximum of twelve.

An AGM is held by the company and the Board of Directors meet at least six times per year. The Board is responsible for the annual report and accounts, and overseeing policy, personnel, and the strategic direction of the Charitable Company. It ensures company documents and key policies are reviewed on a regular basis.

### Recruitment and appointment of Directors

Directors are recruited from a number of sources, including personal recommendation, GMCVO, Reach, Manchester User Network (MUN), and ex-participants of Arc. The Board has defined the skill profiles required and actively seeks to establish a diversity of backgrounds and experience of its members.

Prospective Directors are invited to submit an application, to tour the premises, and to meet key people. They are subsequently interviewed by members of the Board and required to present a personal statement of their potential contribution to Arc. They are made aware of their responsibilities and are also required to provide two referees who are contacted before appointment is approved. All Directors are checked via the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

### Induction and training of Directors

New directors are given access to Arc's SharePoint which contains governance documents, a current listing of policies and procedures and previous Annual Reports, Accounts and Board meeting minutes. Directors are given information on their roles and responsibilities and invited to attend training courses relevant to their roles.

### Organisational structure

The Chair leads the Board and line manages the Chief Executive Officer. There are two sub-committees that oversee key areas of governance and report back to the full Board with matters for approval and discussion. These are:

- Finance (includes fundraising and risk)
- Personnel, Policy and Quality

The minimum expected attendance for any sub-committee is at least one principal staff member and two Directors. All Directors are encouraged to attend sub-committee meetings and expected to when their specialist expertise is required.

Strategy is discussed at Board meetings and as relevant in sub-committees as it relates to these areas. A rolling strategic plan sets out the objectives and priorities for each 3-year period and is developed with key stakeholders including staff and Directors. This is operationalised annually through delegated responsibility to staff under the leadership of the Chief Executive Officer, overseen by the Board of Directors. Working groups are formed, as required, to work on specific areas of strategic development.

### Risk management

The Directors regularly review and assess the risks faced by the charity in all areas of its work and plan for the management of those risks. Major risks are assessed through a risk register and policy overseen by the Board and Chief Executive Officer, to which staff report, and operationalised through risk assessments and procedure.

The Directors have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and satisfied themselves that systems and procedures are established in order to manage those risks.

Major risks are those risks that have a major impact and a probable or highly probable likelihood of occurring. If they occurred, they would have a major impact on some or all the following areas:

- governance.
- operations.
- finances.
- environmental or external factors such as public opinion or relationship with funders.
- Arc's compliance with law or regulation.

Arc's policy document and risk register sets out to:

- Identify the major risks that apply to our charity and their impacts.
- Provide a basis to make decisions about how to respond to the risks we face.
- Provide records to write an appropriate risk management statement in our annual report.

Assessing and management of risk is a whole team effort, and while the Board of Directors holds ultimate responsibility for this, appropriate and proportionate responsibility is delegated to staff. Arc is able to state that there have been no major incidents or risks in 2022/2023 that required reporting to the Charity Commission.

Arc will continue to implement its Risk Management Policy to ensure that the organisation complies with the Charity Commission's requirements as outlined in their guidance on Risk Management for Charities (CC26).

## Related parties

The Company operates independently and there are no related party transactions. Board members and their immediate relatives have no contractual relationships, other than at arm's length, with any suppliers or fund providers. Each Director is asked to sign a Declaration of Interests register and Code of Conduct form. These are held on file and the Declaration of Interests form is updated at least annually and when informed of a change.

## Financial Review

### Principal funding sources

For 2022/ 2023 the principal income sources were:

- The National Lottery (£69,026)
- NHS Stockport CCG (£60,834)
- GMCA (£40,000)
- BBC Children in Need (£20,000)
- Henry Smith (£18,400)
- Youth Music (£11,940)
- Commissions and fees (£30,025)
- Social Work Student Placement Income (£4,200)
- Beacon – Shine Project (£9,811)

Principal sources of funding carried forward into 2022 / 2023 were:

- Art Pen Pals A4A (£9,790)
- Henry Smith (£10,557)
- Shine (£2,311)
- Action Together (£3,254)
- Morrisons Foundation (£3,470)
- Ralph Pendlebury (£2,991)
- SMBC ASC Capital (£8,018)
- Youth Music (£6,818)

## How funding has supported key priorities

Our donors have supported us by funding us in the following ways:

- GM NHS Stockport locality provides core funding to underpin all our work at Arc. The funding enables our programmes to continue to help improve the mental health needs of Stockport residents.
- Arc has received its second year of funding from a five-year grant from The National Lottery to fund staffing and core costs of the organisation until March 2026. This will ensure that Arc can continue to flourish and develop a more sustainable model for future financial stability.
- GMCA have provided Arc funding to support Arts and Wellbeing in the GM region.
- BBC Children in Need funding was secured for further year, due to end in March 2023. Funding from Children in Need enabled Arc to continue to offer a diverse and exciting programme offered to young people in Stockport and Tameside.
- Arc have also received second year funding from Youth Music to continue the work that has been developed in this area. The ongoing project is called MusicSpace which aims to improve wellbeing, confidence and resilience of young people not receiving support through mainstream services.
- The YPA programme is all about partnerships and providing tailored programmes of short creative projects for targeted groups of disadvantaged and vulnerable children and young people. Arc is continuing to collaborate with local organisations such as Tameside College, Stockport Homes and Moat House on one off projects which complemented the main offering from YPA. Arc are also delivering an Early Help and Wellbeing Service for 11–18-year-olds in partnership with Beacon Counselling.
- Henry Smith continued to provide funding to deliver a 3-year programme of activities supporting people facing a mental health crisis in communities across Stockport and Oldham. This funding ended in September 2022.
- Arc received a grant from Awards for All (at the end of 2021/2022) to continue to deliver our postal art scheme (Art Pen Pals) which was developed during lockdown for isolated people without an internet connection.
- Commissions and fees are continuing to provide income for Arc, and we anticipate this will continue in 2023/2024.

The budget for 2023/2024 currently shows a potential shortfall of £20,000 and the Board has decided it would be prudent to designate this amount from our reserves for the next financial year. The overhead costs paid by Arc have remained stable and this has helped the team to accurately plan future funding streams and requirements. The budget continues to support the costs of a larger staff team and Arc have planned for a full and diverse programme supplemented by commissions that are delivered so well by the organisation. Arc is aiming to continue to deliver these programmes at current levels with plans to approach new funding sources, trusts and charitable organisations. One of our financial aims is to gain multi-year funding which will enable continuity and more effective planning of income streams.

Arc are also developing new streams of income that will help to sustain the organisation in the long term. Challenges remain with increased cost of living which is hard to factor into new bids. Arc will seek to meet all its commitments with regard to staff remuneration and other increasing costs over which we do not have control. Arc will maintain healthy reserves to ensure we can meet our ongoing obligations.

Arc has continued to designate funds (Forge Funds) to develop new projects for the 2023/2024 financial year. This will enable Arc to continue to develop new and exciting projects where mainstream funding may not be immediately available.

Arc will continue to maintain a level of reserves in compliance with our reserves policy. This is intended to meet any unforeseen risk and financial threat to the organisation. The reserves to be held have been determined by the Board and are identified below.

Future funding campaigns and strategies are under consideration to enable Arc to diversify funding and mitigate risks from any shortfalls in funding and to protect the level of safe reserves determined by the Board.

New income sources for 2023 / 24

- CCG (£60,034)
- The National Lottery (£69,981)
- GMCA (£44,000)
- Henry Smith (£24,500)
- Weston Pilot Light (£6,500)
- CRH (£5,000)
- Mens Music (£9,960)
- Kind To Mind (£6,832)
- Beacon / Shine (£9,810)
- Youth Music (£4,478)

## Reserves policy

The Board will ensure that adequate reserves are held by Arc to cover emergencies Principally:

1. To ensure that any shortfall in income can be covered over a sufficient period to ensure that management and the Board can take effective action to minimise any detrimental effects on staff and the organisation and to meet any contractual obligations.
2. To cover any unforeseen emergencies concerning property or facilities.
3. To cover any emergencies due to force majeure.

The amount of reserves determined by the Board for the financial year 2022/ 2023 has been calculated as follows:

### Reserves amount calculated as of 31 August 2023

Employee redundancy & notice costs	£42,854
Equipment lease commitments	£5,196
Property lease commitment	£14,667
Three months fixed running costs	£15,051
Accountancy fees	£2,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£79,768</b>

The reserves calculation has decreased for the year due to the following:

Employee redundancy and notice costs are at a similar level to 2021/2022 but will increase in 2023/2024 with permanent staff reaching the two-year threshold for redundancy. Arc currently has a six-year lease of Hat Works space with two break clauses during the term. It has been agreed that it would be prudent to set aside the cost of this lease until the next break clause, as stated above. The equipment lease commitments have reduced with further repayments made during the year. The three months fixed running costs have also been reviewed and stated as per costs on the ledger for 2022/2023, it is anticipated that these costs will remain constant. Overall total reserves required have decreased from £96,685 in 2021/2022 to £79,768 in 2022/2023.

**Note 20** of the accounts shows that unrestricted current assets less current liabilities, as of 31 March 2023, to be £177,258.

This policy is reviewed annually The amount is calculated each year and when there are major changes, such as changes in the staffing levels and the taking on of additional leases.

## Investment policy

The company will hold funds in accordance with the sum identified in our reserves policy within a savings and investment secure portfolio.

## Statement of Directors' responsibilities

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Report of the Directors and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities). Under company law the Directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements the Directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable it 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 taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Directors, who are Directors for the purposes of company law, and trustees for the purposes of charity law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 2. This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (issued in March 2005) and in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Directors and signed on its behalf by:

*Safia Griffin*

28 September 2023

Safia Griffin (Chair)      Date: .....



### 3) Independent Examiner's Report to the Directors of Arts for Recovery In the Community

I report to the Directors on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Directors of the Company (and also its Directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

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

#### Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeds £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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

*Paul Cowham*

Paul Cowham FCA DChA  
Green Fish Resource Centre  
46 – 50 Oldham Street  
Manchester  
M4 1LE

Date: 12 October 2023

Arts for Recovery in the Community  
Statement of Financial Activities  
(including Income and Expenditure account)  
for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
<b>Income</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	11,301	-	11,301	5,756
Charitable activities	4	60,834	169,176	230,010	268,605
Fees and other income	5	60,686	-	60,686	67,521
Investments	6	531	-	531	459
<b>Total income</b>		<b>133,352</b>	<b>169,176</b>	<b>302,528</b>	<b>342,341</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Raising funds	7	26,631	-	26,631	21,546
Charitable activities	8	81,603	206,229	287,832	300,470
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>108,234</b>	<b>206,229</b>	<b>314,463</b>	<b>322,016</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year</b>	9	<b>25,118</b>	<b>(37,053)</b>	<b>(11,935)</b>	<b>20,325</b>
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds for the year</b>		<b>25,118</b>	<b>(37,053)</b>	<b>(11,935)</b>	<b>20,325</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		191,737	53,026	244,763	224,438
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>216,855</b>	<b>15,973</b>	<b>232,828</b>	<b>244,763</b>

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

Arts for Recovery in the Community  
Company number 05288784

Balance sheet as at 31 March 2023

	Note	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	14		2,303		1,328
<b>Total fixed assets</b>			<b>2,303</b>		<b>1,328</b>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	15	5,598		3,019	
Cash at bank and in hand		238,535		278,763	
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>244,133</b>		<b>281,782</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	16	(13,608)		(38,347)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b>230,525</b>		<b>243,435</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			232,828		244,763
<b>Net assets</b>			<b>232,828</b>		<b>244,763</b>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>					
Restricted income funds	17		15,973		53,026
Unrestricted income funds	18		216,855		191,737
<b>Total charity funds</b>			<b>232,828</b>		<b>244,763</b>

For the year in question, the company was entitled to exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

The notes on pages 23 to 36 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the trustees on ..... 28 September 2023 ..... and signed on their behalf by:



Robert Morris - Finance Director

# Arts for Recovery in the Community

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023

### **1 Accounting policies**

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

#### **a Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity has applied Update Bulletin 1 as published on 2 February 2016 and does not include a cash flow statement on the grounds that it is applying FRS 102 section 1A.

Arts for Recovery in the Community meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

#### **b Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice**

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of comparative items was required. No such restatement was required.

#### **c Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

There are no key judgments which the trustees have made which have a significant effect on the accounts.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

### Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

#### **d Income**

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

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants 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.

Income received in advance of a provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

#### **e Donated services and facilities**

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), general volunteer time is not recognised; refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

#### **f Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

# Arts for Recovery in the Community

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

### **g Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

### **h Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

### **i Operating leases**

Operating leases are leases in which the title to the assets, and the risks and rewards of ownership, remain with the lessor. Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

### **j Tangible fixed assets**

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

Motor vehicles:	4 years
Office fixtures and equipment	4 years
Improvements to premises:	10 years

### **k Debtors**

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

### **l Cash at bank and in hand**

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

### **m Creditors and provisions**

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

# Arts for Recovery in the Community

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

### n Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

### o Pensions

Arc operates a work place pension scheme with NEST as well as making contributions to an employee's own scheme which is a Qualifying Workplace Pension Scheme (QWPS).

## 2 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales and has no share capital. 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 registered office address is disclosed on page 1.

## 3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £
Donations	11,301	-	11,301	5,756	-	5,756
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,301</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,301</b>	<b>5,756</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,756</b>

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

### 4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £
Grants						
Awards for All	-	-	-	-	9,790	9,790
BBC Children in Need	-	20,000	20,000	-	19,500	19,500
Beacon Counselling	-	9,810	9,810	-	6,411	6,411
The National Lottery	-	69,026	69,026	-	68,090	68,090
ESF Workers' Educational Trust	-	-	-	-	7,994	7,994
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	-	40,000	40,000	-	42,700	42,700
Henry Smith	-	18,400	18,400	-	36,750	36,750
NHS Stockport CCG	60,834	-	60,834	59,950	-	59,950
Youth Music	-	11,940	11,940	-	17,420	17,420
<b>Total</b>	<b>60,834</b>	<b>169,176</b>	<b>230,010</b>	<b>59,950</b>	<b>208,655</b>	<b>268,605</b>

### 5 Fees and other income

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 £
Café income	6,965	-	6,965	2,360	-	2,360
Student placements	4,200	-	4,200	10,780	-	10,780
Public programme (Sales & events)	19,496	-	19,496	12,611	-	12,611
Commissions & fees	30,025	-	30,025	41,730	-	41,730
Other income	-	-	-	40	-	40
	<b>60,686</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>60,686</b>	<b>67,521</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>67,521</b>

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

### Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

#### 6 Investment income

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £	<i>Unrestricted</i> £	<i>Restricted</i> £	2022 £
Income from bank deposits	531	-	531	459	-	459
	531	-	531	459	-	459

All of the charity's investment income arises from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts. All investment income is unrestricted.

#### 7 Analysis of expenditure on raising funds

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Fundraising costs	26,631	21,546

#### 8 Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Staff costs	138,068	133,322
Depreciation/loss on disposal of assets	2,095	1,705
Premises costs	23,956	22,858
General running costs	21,102	24,672
Programme costs	100,964	116,538
Other governance costs		
Independent examination	1,300	1,375
Trustee meeting costs	347	-
	287,832	300,470
	2023 £	2022 £
Restricted expenditure	206,229	205,838
Unrestricted expenditure	81,603	94,632
	287,832	300,470

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

### 9 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging/(crediting):	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation	2,095	1,705
Independent examiner's remuneration		
- accountancy	500	500
- independent examination	800	800
	138,068	133,322

### 10 Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	123,790	120,460
Social security costs	6,062	6,018
Employers pension contributions	5,117	4,144
Staff expenses and training	3,099	2,700
	138,068	133,322

No employee has employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2022: Nil).

The average number of staff employed during the period was 6 (2022: 5.4).

The average full time equivalent number of staff employed during the period was 4.41 (2022: 4.31).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the trustees, the Chief Executive Officer and the Finance Manager. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £60,632 (2022: £56,572).

### 11 Trustee remuneration and expenses, and related party transactions

Neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them received any remuneration during the year (2022: Nil). One trustee claimed £72.40 travel expenses in the year (2022: £nil).

Aggregate donations from related parties were £nil (2022: £nil).

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity, including guarantees, during the year (2022: nil).

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

### Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

#### 12 Government grants

The government grants recognised in the accounts were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
NHS Stockport	60,834	59,950
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	40,000	42,700
	100,834	102,650
	100,834	102,650

There were no unfulfilled conditions and contingencies attaching to the grants.

#### 13 Corporation tax

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within Chapter 3 of Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

#### 14 Fixed assets: tangible assets

	Office equipment & furniture £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2022	18,414	18,414
Additions	3,070	3,070
Disposals	-	-
	21,484	21,484
At 31 March 2023	21,484	21,484
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 April 2022	17,086	17,086
Charge for the year	2,095	2,095
Disposals	-	-
	19,181	19,181
At 31 March 2023	19,181	19,181
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2023	2,303	2,303
	2,303	2,303
At 31 March 2022	1,328	1,328
	1,328	1,328

# Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

## 15 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accrued income	5,227	1,437
Prepayments & other debtors	371	1,582
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5,598	3,019
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

## 16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	10,805	35,014
Other creditors and accruals	2,803	3,333
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	13,608	38,347
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

### 17 Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Action Together Oldham	3,254	-	(2,131)	-	1,123
Art Pen Pals A4A	9,790	-	(8,822)	-	968
ASDA	1,152	-	-	-	1,152
BBC Children in Need	-	20,000	(19,500)	-	500
The National Lottery	1,836	69,026	(69,419)	-	1,443
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	202	40,000	(40,202)	-	-
Hart Donation	819	-	(819)	-	-
Henry Smith Charity	10,557	18,400	(28,957)	-	-
John Grant Davies Trust	443	-	(443)	-	-
Morrisons Foundation	3,470	-	(3,470)	-	-
Shine	2,311	9,810	(10,961)	-	1,160
Sir Ralph Pendlebury Charity for the Aged	2,991	-	(1,406)	-	1,585
SMBC ASC Capital	8,018	-	(2,019)	-	5,999
SMBC Culture & Leisure, Local Fund (Stockport Local Mums)	1,365	-	(1,365)	-	-
Youth Music 3	6,818	11,940	(16,715)	-	2,043
	53,026	169,176	(206,229)	-	15,973

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

### 17 Analysis of movements in restricted funds (continued)

Previous reporting period	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Action Together Oldham	3,254	-	-	-	3,254
Art Pen Pals A4A	-	9,790	-	-	9,790
ASDA	1,152	-	-	-	1,152
BBC Children in Need	-	19,500	(19,500)	-	-
The National Lottery	-	68,090	(66,254)	-	1,836
ESF Workers' Educational Trust	(7,992)	7,994	(2)	-	-
Garfield Weston	20,000	-	(20,000)	-	-
Greater Manchester Combined	6,185	40,000	(45,983)	-	202
Hart Donation	819	-	-	-	819
Henry Smith Charity	8,214	36,750	(34,407)	-	10,557
John Grant Davies Trust	443	-	-	-	443
Manchester University	2,358	-	-	(2,358)	-
Morrisons Foundation	3,470	-	-	-	3,470
Shine	-	6,411	(4,100)	-	2,311
Sir Ralph Pendlebury Charity for	2,991	-	-	-	2,991
SMBC ASC Capital	26,183	-	(3,499)	(14,666)	8,018
SMBC Culture & Leisure, Local Fund	1,440	-	(75)	-	1,365
Stockport Culture Champions	-	2,700	(2,700)	-	-
Youth Music 2	(1,284)	2,495	(1,211)	-	-
Youth Music 3	-	14,925	(8,107)	-	6,818
	67,233	208,655	(205,838)	(17,024)	53,026

Name of	Description, nature and purposes of the fund
Action Together Oldham	Grant to provide perinatal art workshops for mums in Oldham
Art pen pals A4A	Continuation of postal art programme developed in lockdown, funded by A4A. One year grant
Asda Reddish	Funds from Asda to purchase various equipment for Arc Centre
BBC Children in Need	A three year grant to fund a tailored programme of short creative projects for targeted groups of disadvantaged children and young people.

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

### 17 Analysis of movements in restricted funds (continued)

The National Lottery	The was a grant to provide salaried costs and overheads for 5 years to develop the ARC Centre (2021-26).
JG Davies Trust	Contribution towards the Creative Mums Programme
Donations (Hart group)	A donation of £1,449 towards our Creative Mums' project designed to support Stockport Mothers experiencing perinatal depression.
European Social Fund	A one year grant to provide Creative Challenge programme with personalised pre-employment support and training
Garfield Weston	One year grant towards core costs for the financial year 21/22, enabling Arc to plan with confidence and provide high impact therapeutic support to 150 adults and 100 young people who are experiencing acute mental ill health
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	A two year grant for Arc to strengthen and extend our high impact arts and wellbeing offer into communities across Greater Manchester, whilst developing a 'centre of excellence for arts and mental health' from our base at Stockport's Hat Works museum.
Henry Smith Charity	Running costs of the project providing a community outreach programme.
Morrisons	Creative Mums programme
Pendlebury Shine	Programme of creative projects for older, isolated residents of Stockport Creative sessions delivered on behalf of Beacon Counselling
SMBC Capital	Expanding and refurbishment of our studios into an Arts Centre accessible to all, development of a town centre venue and other capital expenditure to enable the growth and expansion of Arc's service to the community.
Stockport Local Mums	Grant to provide perinatal art workshops for mums in Stockport
Manchester University - Tameside	To provide art workshops in conjunction with local GP surgeries in Tameside
Youth Music	Grant for a Young People's Arc programme called Musicspace

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

### 18 Analysis of movement in unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2023 £
General fund	167,126	133,352	(100,917)	(20,000)	179,561
FORGE	24,611	-	(7,317)		17,294
2023/24 contingency	-	-	-	20,000	20,000
	<b>191,737</b>	<b>133,352</b>	<b>(108,234)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>216,855</b>

<b>Previous reporting period</b>	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2022 £
General fund	157,205	133,686	(116,178)	(7,587)	167,126
FORGE	-	-	-	24,611	24,611
	<b>157,205</b>	<b>133,686</b>	<b>(116,178)</b>	<b>17,024</b>	<b>191,737</b>

<b>Name of</b>	<b>Description, nature and purposes of the fund</b>
General Fund	This represents the free reserves of the charity.
FORGE	Funds designated for new pilot projects at Arc and costs not covered by current funders.
2023/24 contingency	This has been designated to fund gaps in 2023/2024 budget

### 19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General fund £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	2,303	-	-	2,303
Net current assets/(liabilities)	177,258	37,294	15,973	230,525
	<b>179,561</b>	<b>37,294</b>	<b>15,973</b>	<b>232,828</b>

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 (continued)

### 21 Lease commitments

The charity had the following annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	Land and buildings		Equipment	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Leases expiring in:				
One year	14,667	-	3,920	-
Two to five years	-	36,667	1,275	10,652

**ARTS FOR RECOVERY IN THE COMMUNITY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1107607

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# Accounts

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Create, Connect, Feel Better

# Arts for Recovery in the Community

Annual Report and  
Financial Statement  
for the year ended  
31 March 2022

Arc is a registered charity no. **1107607**  
A limited company no. **05288784** - registered in Cardiff

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## 1) Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name	Arts for Recovery in the Community
Charity Registration Number	1107607
Company Registration Number	05288784
Registered Office	Hat Works, Wellington Mill, Wellington Road South, Stockport SK3 0EU

### Directors

Safia Griffin	Chair
Graeme Draper	Director
Robert Morris	Finance Director
Lucy Wallace	Director
David Milligan-Croft	Director (appointed 28th October 2021)
Kevin Brosnahan	Director (resigned 2nd May 2022)
Rachel Lake	Director (resigned 28th April 2022)
Jamie Poplewell	Director (resigned 20th November 2021)

### Company Secretary

Jacqui Wood

### Principal staff

Jacqui Wood	Artistic Director and Lead Officer
Nuala Ryan	Finance Manager

### Staff

Annette Naor Hilton	Creative Programme Manager
Harriet Wilson	Operations Manager
Jane Wilkinson	Mental Health Support Officer
Hannah Flint	Volunteer and Engagement Co-ordinator

### Independent Examiner

Paul Cowham MA FCA DChA  
Green Fish Resource Centre  
46 – 50 Oldham Street, Manchester M4 1LE

### Banker

Yorkshire Bank plc 34 Princess Street Stockport SK1 1RE	Barclays Bank PLC Leicester LE87 2BB	Shawbrook Bank Lutea House, Warley Hill Business Park Brentwood, Essex, CM13 3BE
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## 2) Trustees' Report

### Welcome

Welcome to our annual report for the year 2021/22. This has been another significant year to document. As COVID-19 restrictions eased many workplaces, models of delivery and meetings returned to in person but with the national government still urging caution and the recognition of the benefits of 'blended' approaches things were never going to be the same. It was with this in mind that we wrote our strategic plan and built on our ambitions for the year, which we are pleased to report on here.

In this year we have welcomed new members to our team, seen the 'buzz' come back to our centre as we reopened to the public and participants, and continued conversations around developing Stockport's culture corridor with key partners and supporters.

Last year we spoke of how much the recognition of the benefits of arts and health had grown, against a backdrop of unprecedented change and upheaval in both our personal and work lives. For some, this was alongside mental distress and wider challenges to accessing healthcare, with COVID-19 still limiting access and causing staff shortages across the healthcare system.

We will continue to develop our offer and delivery model to meet both needs and ambitions that people have for themselves and their loved ones. We will work with partners and supporters to widen access and participation in arts and health for the many different communities in Stockport, Greater Manchester and beyond.

As trustees (and volunteers ourselves), we feel privileged to oversee and govern such a respected and crucial charity. A charity and team that continues to work at the heart of Stockport's growing and thriving offer around arts and health. We are part of an amazingly dynamic movement – which has found its time. We invite you now to read and see more of what we have been doing with yours and others' support, time and participation as we detail this in our annual report and accounts.

Thank you.

*Safia Griffin, Arc Chair*



## Aims and Objectives

The Company is established to relieve sickness and protect mental good health through the use of the arts and creative activity in North West England, in particular but not exclusively in Stockport. The aims of the Company are to support the wellbeing of people with mental ill health by developing confidence in their abilities through engagement with Arc, enhancing recovery and encouraging them to gain skills and experience which lead to a better quality of life. Arc will provide a rich and varied programme of creative activities in a safe and supportive environment, organise training and support in the arts, provide services and undertake commissions, promoting positive images of mental health through high quality arts projects.

## Mission Statement

### Vision & Mission

Our vision is one of healthy and happy communities, in which people can achieve sustainable wellbeing inspired by creative projects and connected through shared experiences.

Our mission is to offer high impact creative experiences, skills and opportunities which promote individual and communal wellbeing, reaching the most vulnerable within communities, recognising the value of creativity to self-worth, resilience and confidence.

### Values

#### **Connectivity**

The arts have an amazing ability to bring people together, enabling us to find strength in ourselves and each other. By connecting through creativity to people and place, we support each other, and develop a genuine sense of belonging. This has a profound impact on our mental health.

#### **Creativity**

Creativity transforms lives - we can be inspired to flourish, to express ourselves, to be more confident and articulate. To take control of our future and to celebrate our journey.

#### **Sharing stories and listening**

There is tremendous power in being given the space to tell your story and to listen to others'. Exploring and sharing narratives help us make sense of our experiences and our world, reinforcing that we are not alone.

#### **Accessibility**

Creative projects need to be open, welcoming, easily accessed and responsive to the needs and interests of participants, but also ambitious, striving for the highest artistic outcomes/values.

#### **Effective & efficient resourcing**

We always seek to improve our model, increase our impact and focus the use of our valuable human and financial resources.

## Activities undertaken for public benefit in relation to objectives

In planning our activities for the year, we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. Regular reports on activities are submitted to the Directors at Board meetings by the Lead Officer to enable the Directors to monitor progress. This and other mechanisms, such as the annual rolling strategic plan, enabled the Directors to ensure that new and current activities are in line with the company's aims and objectives and the Charity Commission's guidance.

### Main activities undertaken to further the charity's purposes for the public benefit

- Structured creative programmes to support the mental health of vulnerable adults and young people.
- Accessible programmes for anyone who wants to use the arts to improve or maintain their mental health in our town centre cultural venue and through digital delivery.
- Services for health partners and commissioners to refer in to, providing effective, reliable specialist support for recovery from mental ill health.

- Volunteering opportunities for those who have previously participated in our programmes, as well as those wishing to give their time to a charity.
- Partnership projects for communities and organisations in the VCSE, private and statutory sectors to collaborate with us, and engage their service users and staff in creative wellbeing activities.
- Professional development, training, networking, resources, commissioning and residencies for artists and facilitators of all levels of experience.
- Exhibitions, events and products for members of the public with an interest in the arts and/or mental health.



## Achievements and Performance

How we met our strategic goals in 2021/2022

**Goal 1: Deliver high impact creative programmes which improve the mental health and wellbeing of more than 750 vulnerable, isolated adults and young people in Stockport and Greater Manchester, by March 2024.**

*"Over 25 years Arc has demonstrated the power of art on mental wellbeing. We're going to need more of that going forwards"* Cllr Adrian Nottingham, Mayor of Stockport

This year we faced unprecedented challenges with the ongoing impact of COVID-19: digital exclusion, social anxiety and increased mental ill health impacting on engagement, vulnerable adults and young people struggling to access services, and referral partners being affected by staff shortages. We also saw the effects of poverty and cost of living increases on the mental health of many residents of Greater Manchester.

After so much restriction, isolation and anxiety, 2021/2022 has been a year of gradual readjustment, with a huge development in the content and range of our offer to support the mental health needs and creative interests of our participants.

At the start of the year we were still offering remote delivery. Responding to the ongoing pandemic and the impact of lockdown on mental health and creativity, reflective projects such as My Lockdown Story, We Are Mini Dreamers and Keeping Us Together offered creative interaction beyond our geographical boundary.

Our Arts for Wellbeing Programme offered in person delivery as well as digital and blended, to accommodate the needs of a range of vulnerable adults and young people. Whilst initially there was a lot of anxiety about returning to the centre, by the end of the year most participants wanted face to face sessions.

This short film illustrated the impact of our Creative Mums Programme this year

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GKlv2XDsxKg>

We continued to review, evaluate and adapt our delivery model according to the responses of participants. This year we introduced a new programme of monthly activities, extending our offer to previous participants. This has proved an effective way to sustain vital contact with participants who feel safe in our Centre beyond the core programmes, whilst also encouraging greater independence. As some of these 'monthlies' take place in other settings and involve the wider public too, we have found that they connect people, open horizons, build trust and introduce participants to services and venues beyond Arc – they are a real step towards a more inclusive creative Stockport community.

In 2021/2022 we reached out to people not accessing our core service through successful partnerships, which ranged from collaborative delivery through to training partner organisation staff in using Arc resources with their clients.

Our mental health support team provided holistic support for participants, to ensure that they could get the most out of the projects we offered. They dealt with concerns around anxiety, depression, suicide ideation, domestic violence, bereavement, housing and debt.

Participants were signposted to appropriate support services including Healthy Minds, Stockport Without Abuse, Oakwood Eating Disorder Unit, Stockport Women's Centre and Citizens Advice.

### **Goal 2: Address the effects of loneliness and isolation, providing services which connect with and build a sense of belonging for 6,000 people across Stockport & GM by March 2024**

We are delighted to be reaching and connecting with more people than ever before for events, workshops, and exhibitions, with the Centre now fully open to the public. As an example, our monthly Saturday Art Clubs are now regularly attended by well over 100 people of all ages and are a mix of those who use our service, those who are discovering Arc for the first time, and regular attendees of our wider community offer.

*"The sessions are great for children with additional needs, very inclusive, friendly and relaxing for all"*

A central, easily accessed location and higher local profile has encouraged hundreds of people to attend our public workshops such as pottery evening classes and one off craft workshops. Photography and movement monthlies brought new people to Arc as participants – connecting them to our core wellbeing offer. A programme of exhibitions, a shop area stocked with products designed and made by participants and volunteers, and a friendly café space draw visitors in who have no prior knowledge of the organisation.

*"Great space, great people and a real escape from all outside pressures"*

This is the vision we have for the Centre – that every visitor feels welcome when they arrive and feels better in some way by the time they leave.

In 2021/2022 we saw our 2 large scale place-based Love Letter projects express a sense of belonging in Oldham and Macclesfield this year. The 3 year "Love Letter to Oldham" commission for Gallery Oldham, which had engaged 667 local people through town centre festivals and events, and a community workshop programme culminated in the exhibition of the final communal poem in the new Oldham Stories exhibition at Gallery Oldham. The huge textile panels are accompanied by a film and recording produced by Oldham Theatre Workshop and the work helps direct people to our weekly sessions taking place in the studio downstairs. <https://lovelettertooldham.wordpress.com>

And our 2016 project 'Love Letter to Macc' came back to life as lines from the poem were used in public realm improvements in the centre of Macclesfield.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=paeO6q4tkoM>

[https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/business/major\\_regeneration\\_projects/town\\_centre\\_vision/town-centre-public-realm-works.aspx](https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/business/major_regeneration_projects/town_centre_vision/town-centre-public-realm-works.aspx)



This year we undertook a major COVID-19 response commission for Stockport Metropolitan Council, **Stockport Together Again**. The project had 3 elements – an exhibition across all 3 spaces at Stockport War Memorial Art Gallery, the first Stockport Arts and Health Week and a series of Micro Commissions for new arts and health projects. It invigorated and inspired, celebrating the arts and health activity that had helped the Borough to cope and heal during the pandemic, and instigating future partnerships and collaborations.

*"The variety of narrative, media and imagery on display was inspiring, and I found it sincerely moving. I was blown away with the way that the exhibition managed to reflect such different experiences of the pandemic, yet find commonality in the benefits of engaging with, and connecting through, art and creative pursuits."*  
Jennifer Connolly, Director of Public Health, Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council



Volunteering once again made a massive contribution to Arc, providing meaningful and fulfilling roles and a sense of community for our volunteers. New roles and teams were developed – including Centre Hosts, welcoming and engaging with all our visitors, an Enterprise Team designing and making projects for the

shop, Arc Ambassadors capable of speaking at external events and market stalls and a Public Art Team who painted 17 large fibre glass frogs!

*"Arc is an excellent place to begin volunteering and to help build personal confidence, especially if you have any mental health issues or have gone through some of Arcs programmes, as it is a very safe and supportive environment"*

*"Volunteering at Arc has had a dramatic effect on my self-confidence and improved my skill sets, which has helped enable me back into full time employment."*

### **Goal 3: Become more inclusive, with service users, staff and volunteers more accurately reflecting our GM communities, by March 2024.**

Arc provides access to high quality arts for people with long term mental and physical health conditions: as participants, volunteers and freelancers.

In 2021/2022 our Wellbeing Programmes continued to reach out to a wide range of participants by promoting referrals to our ever-growing network of neighbourhood & community workers and new agencies / professionals, as well as through significant public promotion. We prioritized areas of socio-economic disadvantage and worked with participants affected not only by COVID-19 but also poverty and debt due to cost of living increases. We offered remote/virtual programmes as well as face to face and supported participants to use the technology required to access our programmes. We were successful in bidding for funding to develop our postal art project, now known as Art Pen Pals, connecting isolated, house-bound adults with an Arc volunteer for creative dialogue.

We designed bespoke partnership projects to reach those not attending our current offer, including victims of domestic abuse from a diverse range of ethnic backgrounds, and developed a new programme specifically for men, to begin to address the imbalance in gender of our core programmes.

Film-maker John Grey made a short film about the Men's Music Project:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jEabnf-ezKw>

Our YPA Shine & MusicSpace programmes have proved to be safe spaces for young people who are neurodivergent or who are exploring gender identity, as well as those who have experienced violence in the home or bullying at school.

Arc took on the role of providing support, mentoring, hosting and a critical friend through projects including Stockport Culture Champions and Stockport Together Again. The Arts and Health Micro Commissions we managed, encouraged people with lived experience of ill-health to lead pilot projects.

*"The exhibition showed just how creative and inclusive Stockport is as a town and made me proud to live here."* Audience member, Stockport Together Again exhibition.

We launched a programme of health-focussed exhibitions at the Arc Centre, providing a platform for emerging local artists and underrepresented groups who often find it hard to access exhibition space as well as promotional opportunities. The initial season featured Culture Bridge, led by Kurdish women who have been refugees and asylum seekers, and emerging local artist Wendy Roby. The exhibitions have brought new audiences to Arc but, more importantly, connected visitors and exhibitors to our Wellbeing Programmes.

We continued our Equality, Diversity & Inclusion work, undertaking a review and revisiting our self-assessment document to check progress against our aim to embed EDI in our strategic planning and operational activities. This work included being more visible and active in equality conversations and networks, joining the Sector 3 Equity Network and the Stockport Youth Voice group, as well as attending local networks including One Stockport Borough Plan sessions.

We recognise that this is an ongoing process and are committed to building on what we are already doing to become more inclusive and representative.

We want to get the best out of our teams and people and be more representative of communities we work with, and so this year we will seek to:

- Increase the diversity in our delivery team through more inclusive recruitment practices.
- Plan and launch call outs for facilitators and volunteers from communities which are under-represented and build in this into 2022/2023 to reach, engage with, support and employ a wider range of artists and volunteers in appropriate settings.
- In 2022/2023 continue to review key plans, policy and operational activities with an equalities and representation lens.
- Develop workplace understanding and commitment to EDI through dedicated planning and discussions, training and objective setting.

## **Goal 4. Increase Arc's profile, reach, organisational resilience and income streams, creating a more dynamic and sustainable organisation by March 2024.**

In 2021/2022 Arc's profile and reach was increased by a number of factors.

The year began with recruitment for new staff posts, following an organisational review and restructure. The new team had to be flexible and respond fast to a changing environment, offering digital and home-based (postal) delivery alongside face to face, changing location when necessary, and working closely with partners to ensure that we were supporting the maximum number of beneficiaries.

Having stability at our core had a massive impact on our capacity to adapt our service to meet a growing and complex need.

The new staff team worked incredibly hard across all fronts – networking, developing the venue offer of retail, exhibition, public programme and refreshments, as well as fundraising and nurturing partnerships.

Our town centre location helped raise our profile locally, easily accessed by public transport from all over GM. Projects and commissions including the Stockport Frogs, Stockport Together Again, the Shine service with Beacon Counselling ensured that we were associated with successful public artwork and engagement at a significant scale.

We reviewed and updated our strategic plan to reflect the significance of our change in location in late 2019, our increasingly embedded position in the regeneration of Stockport Town centre, and our role in the ongoing development of the arts and mental health agenda across Greater Manchester. We have been instrumental in the development and launch of the [Stockport Cultural Strategy](https://www.culturestockport.com) (<https://www.culturestockport.com>) with arts and health as a priority area. We have also been involved in the new Local Cultural Education Partnership and the North West Craft Network, advocating for health and wellbeing as key targets.

We continued to invest in workforce development with CPD sessions open to all, successful volunteer recruitment and the offer of student placements to 4 North West Universities.

We increased our network of referrers in Stockport, Oldham and Tameside, regularly presenting to health and social care teams about how they and their clients can access our programmes.

And we began to explore workplace wellbeing for the private sector, developing relationships with local corporate teams involved in the regeneration of Stockport town centre, including Glenbrook Property (<https://www.glenbrookproperty.co.uk/>) and Willmott Dixon (<https://www.willmott Dixon.co.uk/>).

*"Mental fitness is as important as physical well-being to Willmott Dixon which is why we have chosen to partner with Stockport charity Arc. Momentum continues to build around the issue of mental health in the construction sector and working together is a significant step forward in offering our workforce the best possible chance at improved mental fitness through innovative and creative initiatives."*

Beth Hodder, Willmott Dixon

## **What our participants told us:**

*"Arc is not just a programme – it's a community where people come together. It's a place where you can feel free, where you feel supported and safe"*

*"By making art, you are putting something new in to the world, into the universe, that has never existed before and that makes you feel better about yourself, you feel you are part of the world, you are part of society"*

*"It has really helped with my loneliness and isolation and gives me a sense of purpose"*

*"When I first came in I didn't speak, I don't think I opened my mouth. On this 8<sup>th</sup> week I've written a song and I've stood up in front of people I don't know and I've actually sang this song...I couldn't of even imagined me ever doing anything like that but it's inspired me. These guys running it have given me the confidence, it's amazing, I'm very, very happy. I've come a long way, even I can see that."*

*"Art has been the only thing to help with my mental health, it really relaxes me"*

*"Art makes me feel centred when I do it, makes me feel better"*

*"I think coming here has really helped with my socialisation, I'm much more comfortable here because I am doing so much art and it's easy to talk to the others. I've enjoyed learning new skills and being able to express myself."*

*"Art is her outlet, how she expresses herself. She never used to speak to other young people, she didn't know how. Now she comes home & says 'I've spoken to a new person and is excited about that! I've not seen this child for so long.....'"*

*"Many thanks again for providing such a wonderful, safe place for my kids to thrive in."*

*"It's helped me see there is a future ahead, new beginnings"*



## Key achievements in 2021/2022:

### Adult Wellbeing Programmes

- We engaged a total of **171** adults with mental ill-health from Stockport, Oldham and Tameside in creative activities through a mix of virtual and face to face delivery.
- **89%** of participants in our Adult Wellbeing Programmes reported improved mental health and wellbeing.
- **91%** reported reduced isolation, as a result of participation in the programmes.
- **8** Community Programmes built connections and confidence in 12 week artist led projects.
- **3** Creative Challenge programmes, each lasting 4 months, developed further skills and independence, towards volunteering and other work-related opportunities.
- **5** Perinatal Creative Mums projects supported **27** women in Stockport and Oldham.
- All Adult Wellbeing Programmes resulted in exhibitions in our Centre, where participants shared their work with friends, family and the wider public.

- We ran a successful pilot Men's Music Project, to specifically target and support men who were not accessing other mental health services, **100%** of participants said that attending had improved their wellbeing and also their social connections.
- Weekly creative writing and visual art sessions, delivered in partnership with the Occupational Therapy team on both mental health wards at Stockport's Stepping Hill Hospital engaged in-patients and signposted them to our programmes upon discharge.
- **14** participants from the Age Well Studio for isolated older people created visual art work for two exhibitions and worked with Creative Industries Trafford on an intergenerational animation project.
- The #KeepingUsTogether programme, originally designed during the pandemic, continued to connect with hundreds of people, with activities designed by participants from the Creative Challenge Programme.
- A new wide-ranging follow-on creative resilience programme was accessed by **50+** adults, keeping vital connections through monthly peer-led groups, drop-ins, new artforms & skills-building.
- We completed the Stockport Culture Champions scheme, in which **150** older people engaged as artists, facilitators, participants, volunteers, advocates, contributors & supporters with partners such as Men In Sheds, Disability Stockport and Age UK.
- New partnerships included: training nursing staff from Tameside Hospital to use our resources to deliver creative sessions with dementia patients, working with **28** women and children from Stockport Without Abuse on therapeutic ceramics activities, and collaborating with Manchester-based dancers, Company Chameleon, on a series of Movement for Mental Health workshops.

### Young People's Arc

- **116** vulnerable children and young people took part in our Young People's Arc (YPA) programme, young people facing issues such as having to care for family members, bullying at school, bereavement, domestic violence, neglect, severe anxiety and autism diagnosis.
- We launched Shine, a new early help service offering 12 week artist-led studio projects to 11 – 18 year olds, partnering with Beacon Counselling.
- YPA projects this year included music and lyric writing with young people from Tameside and Glossop Mind, visual art and photography to explore identity with young carers, music technology at a pupil referral unit, and art journaling with pregnant teenagers and young mums at a local Startwell hub.
- Young people from YPA were commissioned to produce photographic art work for the Department of Psychological Therapies at Stepping Hill Hospital.

### Training, volunteering and work experience for people in arts & wellbeing sectors

- **74** people volunteered with Arc giving **2,215** hours to projects ranging from public art commissions and hanging exhibitions to supporting our Wellbeing Programmes and leading activities for families in the Centre.
- New volunteer roles developed in social media, exhibition curation, Arc Ambassadors, and Centre Hosts.
- We employed **10** artists as facilitators in our Arts for Wellbeing adult programmes, **13** in Young People's Arc and **19** in our wider Public Programmes (including Culture Champions).
- We engaged **3** trainee artists in our Young People's programme.
- **120** people took part in networking and skills sessions in our first Arts and Health week
- CPD training events were provided, on subjects including project fundraising, creative facilitation and finance for freelancers.
- **9** Social Work students from 3 Universities undertook 70 day placements and 2 post-graduate Museum & Gallery studies students completed 20 days placements.
- Arc staff led seminars and units of work as part of public health, arts and social care degree courses with the Universities of Chester, Manchester and Bolton and presented at the first of a series of "Meet the Employer" creative sector events run by Brightersound.

## Creative wellbeing in Stockport town centre

- **1550** people visited our reopened Arc Centre for arts and health focussed exhibitions and events with 246 people taking part in public workshops.
- **575** local people, including past and present participants, came to our family focussed Saturday Art Clubs.
- Arc worked with SMBC on a number of town centre regeneration projects, including the **Stockport Frog Trail**.
- **52** artists, and a further **300** residents, members of community groups and Arc participants exhibited at Stockport Art Gallery as part of a major commission from Stockport MBC '**Stockport Together Again**', drawing an audience of over **2,000** people.
- **160** people benefitted from a series of arts and health micro commissions.



## Future Projects for 2022 / 2023

- Continue strategic/leadership role for arts and mental health through the Stockport Cultural Strategy, the All Age Mental Health Strategy and the GM Live Well Strategy, delivering a major stakeholder event as part of Arts and Health Week.
- Develop the Arc Centre as a local and regional Arts & Health Hub as part of the Culture Stockport strategy.
- Develop our workplace wellbeing offer to the corporate sector, starting with a large-scale photography project with Stockport Interchange developers, Willmott Dixon.
- Increase the diversity of our facilitation team to be more representative of our community, through mentoring and support.
- Launch call outs for facilitators and volunteers from communities which are under-represented to reach, engage with, support and employ a wider range of artists and volunteers in appropriate settings.
- Build on strategic partnerships to extend our specialist services to adults and children experiencing mental ill health in the community.

## Structure, governance and management

### Company status

The company is a charitable company, incorporated under the Companies Act of 1985 as a private limited company on the 17 November 2004 and entered into the Central Register of Charities on the 13 January 2005. The company is limited by guarantee and all members have agreed to contribute a sum not exceeding £1 in the event of a winding-up. The number of guarantees at 31 March 2022 was seven.

### Governing document

The company is controlled via its Memorandum and Articles of Association. Members of the company are volunteers, Directors of the company and trustees of the charity. The number of members must be a minimum of three and a maximum of twelve.

An AGM is held by the company and the Board of Directors meet at least six times per year. The Board is responsible for the annual report and accounts, and overseeing policy, personnel, and the strategic direction of the Charitable Company. It ensures company documents and key policies are reviewed on a regular basis.

### Recruitment and appointment of Directors

Directors are recruited from a number of sources, including personal recommendation, GMCVO, Reach, Manchester User Network (MUN), and ex-participants of Arc. The Board has defined the skill profiles required and actively seeks to establish a diversity of backgrounds and experience of its members.

Prospective Directors are invited to submit an application, to tour the premises, and to meet key people. They are subsequently interviewed by members of the Board and required to present a personal statement of their potential contribution to Arc. They are made aware of their responsibilities and are also required to provide two referees who are contacted before appointment is approved. All Directors are checked via the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

### Induction and training of Directors

New directors are given access to Arc's SharePoint which contains governance documents, a current listing of policies and procedures and previous Annual Reports, Accounts and Board meeting minutes. Directors are given information on their roles and responsibilities and invited to attend training courses relevant to their roles.

### Organisational structure

The Chair leads the Board and line manages the Lead Officer. There are two sub-committees that oversee key areas of governance and report back to the full Board with matters for approval and discussion. These are:

- Finance (includes fundraising and risk)
- Personnel, Policy and Quality

The minimum expected attendance for any sub-committee is at least one principal staff member and two Directors. All Directors are encouraged to attend sub-committee meetings and expected to when their specialist expertise is required.

Strategy is discussed at Board meetings and as relevant in sub-committees as it relates to these areas. A rolling strategic plan sets out the objectives and priorities for each 3-year period and is developed with key stakeholders including staff and Directors. This is operationalised annually through delegated responsibility to staff under the leadership of the Lead Officer, overseen by the Board of Directors. Working groups are formed, as required, to work on specific areas of strategic development.

### Risk management

The Directors regularly review and assess the risks faced by the charity in all areas of its work and plan for the management of those risks. Major risks are assessed through a risk register and policy overseen by the Board and Lead Officer, to which staff report, and operationalised through risk assessments and procedure.

The Directors have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and satisfied themselves that systems and procedures are established in order to manage those risks.

Major risks are those risks that have a major impact and a probable or highly probable likelihood of occurring. If they occurred, they would have a major impact on some or all the following areas:

- governance.
- operations.
- finances.
- environmental or external factors such as public opinion or relationship with funders.
- Arc's compliance with law or regulation.

Arc's policy document and risk register sets out to:

- Identify the major risks that apply to our charity and their impacts.
- Provide a basis to make decisions about how to respond to the risks we face.
- Provide records to write an appropriate risk management statement in our annual report.

Assessing and management of risk is a whole team effort, and while the Board of Directors holds ultimate responsibility for this, appropriate and proportionate responsibility is delegated to staff. Arc is able to state that there have been no major incidents or risks in 2021/2022 that required reporting to the Charity Commission.

Given the ongoing risk of COVID-19 and any impact on staff and participant's health Arc will continue to monitor the situation and adapt accordingly, Arc has revised its Risk Analysis to take account of the circumstances and the safety policies it has had to implement as a result. Arc will continue to implement its Risk Management Policy to ensure that the organisation complies with the Charity Commission's requirements as outlined in their guidance on Risk Management for Charities (CC26).

## Related parties

The Company operates independently and there are no related party transactions. Board members and their immediate relatives have no contractual relationships, other than at arm's length, with any suppliers or fund providers. Each Director is asked to sign a Declaration of Interests register and Code of Conduct form. These are held on file and the Declaration of Interests form is updated at least annually and when informed of a change.

## Financial Review

### Principal funding sources

For 2021 / 2022 the principal income sources were:

- The National Lottery (68,090)
- NHS Stockport CCG (£59,950)
- GMCA (£42,700)
- BBC Children in Need (£19,500)
- Henry Smith (£36,750)
- European Social Fund (£7,994)
- Youth Music (£17,420)
- Awards for All (£9,790)
- Social Work Student Placement Income (£10,780)
- Beacon – Shine Project (£6,411)

Principal sources of funding carried forward into 2021 / 2022 were:

- GMCA (£6,185)
- Henry Smith (£8,214)
- Stockport Local (£1,440)
- Action Together (£3,254)
- Morrisons Foundation (£3,470)
- Ralph Pendlebury (£2,991)
- SMBC ASC Capital (£26,183)
- Garfield Weston (£20,000)
- Baring (£20,000)
- CAF (£2,475)

## How funding has supported key priorities

Our donors have supported us by funding us in the following ways:

- NHS Stockport CCG provides core funding to underpin all our work at Arc. The funding enables our programmes to continue to help improve the mental health needs of Stockport residents.
- Arc secured a further 5-year grant from The National Lottery to fund staffing and core costs of the organisation till March 2026. This will ensure that Arc can continue to flourish and develop a more sustainable model for future financial stability of the organisation.
- GMCA have provided Arc a further year's extension funding to support Arts and Wellbeing in the Greater Manchester region.
- BBC Children in Need funding was secured for further year, due to end in March 2023. Funding from Children in Need enables Arc to continue to offer a diverse and exciting programme offered to young people in Stockport and Tameside.
- Arc have also secured another grant from Youth Music to continue the work that has been developed in this area. The on-going project is called MusicSpace which aims to improve wellbeing, confidence and resilience of young people not receiving support through mainstream services.
- The YPA programme is all about partnerships and providing tailored programmes of short creative projects for targeted groups of disadvantaged and vulnerable children and young people. Arc have continued to collaborate with local organisations such as Stockport Homes and Pennine on one off projects during the year which complemented the main offering from YPA. Arc are also delivering an Early Help and Wellbeing Service for 11 to 18 year olds in partnership with Beacon Counselling and delivered a photographic commission for Stepping Hill Hospital Psychological Therapies team.
- Henry Smith provides funding to deliver a 3-year programme of activities supporting people facing a mental health crisis in communities across Stockport and Oldham. This funding ends in September 2022.
- CAF provided an emergency grant of £4,000 to assist towards COVID-19 related costs during 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.
- Baring and Garfield Weston paid grants during 2020/2021. These funds supported our programme delivery for 2021/2022.
- European Social Fund was a 1-year grant to provide a Creative Challenge programme with personalised pre-employment support and training. This was delivered in 2020/2021 with final funds being released in 2021/2022.
- Arc have also secured a grant from Awards for All to continue to deliver our postal art scheme (Art Pen Pals) which was developed during lockdown for isolated people without an internet connection.

The budget for 2022/2023 balances and there is no need to use our reserves for this financial year. The overhead costs paid by Arc have remained stable and this has helped the team to accurately plan future funding streams and requirements. 2022/2023 will prove to be an exciting time for Arc, the budget has been developed to include the costs of a larger staff team and Arc have planned for a full and diverse programme supplemented by commissions that are delivered so well by the organisation.

Arc are also developing new streams of income that will help to sustain the organisation in the long term. Challenges remain with increased cost of living which is hard to factor into new bids. Arc will seek to meet all its commitments with regard to staff remuneration and other increasing costs over which we do not have control. Arc will maintain healthy reserves to ensure we can meet our ongoing obligations.

Arc has designated funds to develop new projects for the 2022/2023 financial year. This is to enable Arc to be able to develop new and exciting projects where mainstream funding may not be immediately available. Arc will continue to maintain a level of reserves in compliance with our reserves policy. This is intended to meet any unforeseen risk and financial threat to the organisation. The reserves to be held have been determined by the Board and are identified below.

Future funding campaigns and strategies are under consideration to enable Arc to diversify funding and mitigate risks from any shortfalls in funding and to protect the level of safe reserves determined by the Board.

## New income sources for 2022 / 23

- CCG (£59,950)
- The National Lottery (£69,026)
- GMCA (£40,000)
- Henry Smith (£18,400)
- BBC Children in Need (£19,500)
- Beacon / Shine (£9,810)
- Youth Music (£15,225)

## Reserves policy

The Board will ensure that adequate reserves are held by Arc to cover emergencies. Principally:

1. To ensure that any shortfall in income can be covered over a sufficient period to ensure that management and the Board can take effective action to minimise any detrimental effects on staff and the organisation and to meet any contractual obligations.
2. To cover any unforeseen emergencies concerning property or facilities.
3. To cover any emergencies due to force majeure.

The amount of reserves determined by the Board for the financial year 2021 / 2022 has been calculated as follows:

### Reserves amount calculated as of 31 August 2022

Employee redundancy & notice costs	£41,482
Equipment lease commitments	£10,652
Property lease commitment	£27,500
Three months fixed running costs	£15,051
Accountancy fees	£2,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£96,685</b>

The reserves calculation has increased for the year due to the following:

Employee redundancy and notice costs have increased due to more permanent staff working at Arc. Arc currently has a six-year lease of Hat Works space with two break clauses during the term. It has been agreed that it would be prudent to set aside the cost of this lease until the next break clause. The equipment lease commitments have reduced with repayments during the year. The three months fixed running costs have also been reviewed and stated as per costs on the ledger for 2021/2022, it is anticipated that these costs will remain constant. Overall total reserves required have increased from £90,387 in 2020/2021 to £96,685 in 2021/2022.

**Note 20** of the accounts shows that unrestricted current assets less current liabilities, as of 31 March 2022, to be £165,798.

This policy is reviewed annually. The amount is calculated each year and when there are major changes, such as changes in the staffing levels and the taking on of additional leases.

## Investment policy

The company will hold funds in accordance with the sum identified in our reserves policy within a savings and investment secure portfolio.

## Statement of Directors' responsibilities

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Report of the Directors and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities). Under company law the Directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements the Directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable it 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 taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Directors, who are Directors for the purposes of company law, and trustees for the purposes of charity law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 2. This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (issued in March 2005) and in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Directors and signed on its behalf by:

*Safia Griffin*

Safia Griffin (Chair)      Date: 22th September 2022

### 3) Independent Examiner's Report to the Directors of Arts for Recovery In the Community

I report to the Directors on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Directors of the Company (and also its Directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

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

#### Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeds £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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

*Paul Cowham*

Paul Cowham FCA DChA  
Green Fish Resource Centre  
46 – 50 Oldham Street  
Manchester  
M4 1LE

*Date: 30 September 2022*

Arts for Recovery in the Community  
Statement of Financial Activities  
(including Income and Expenditure account)  
for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
<b>Income</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	5,756	-	5,756	3,741
Charitable activities	4	59,950	208,655	268,605	230,953
Fees and other income	5	67,521	-	67,521	30,237
Investments	6	459	-	459	445
<b>Total income</b>		<b>133,686</b>	<b>208,655</b>	<b>342,341</b>	<b>265,376</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Raising funds	7	21,546	-	21,546	12,980
Charitable activities	8	94,632	205,838	300,470	237,179
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>116,178</b>	<b>205,838</b>	<b>322,016</b>	<b>250,159</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year</b>	9	<b>17,508</b>	<b>2,817</b>	<b>20,325</b>	<b>15,217</b>
Transfer between funds		17,024	(17,024)	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds for the year</b>		<b>34,532</b>	<b>(14,207)</b>	<b>20,325</b>	<b>15,217</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		157,205	67,233	224,438	209,221
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>191,737</b>	<b>53,026</b>	<b>244,763</b>	<b>224,438</b>

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

Arts for Recovery in the Community  
Company number 05288784

Balance sheet as at 31 March 2022

	Note	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	14		1,328		3,033
<b>Total fixed assets</b>			<b>1,328</b>		<b>3,033</b>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	15	3,019		39,834	
Cash at bank and in hand		278,763		214,665	
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>281,782</b>		<b>254,499</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	16	(38,347)		(33,094)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b>243,435</b>		<b>221,405</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			244,763		224,438
<b>Net assets</b>			<b>244,763</b>		<b>224,438</b>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>					
Restricted income funds	17		53,026		67,233
Unrestricted income funds	19		191,737		157,205
<b>Total charity funds</b>			<b>244,763</b>		<b>224,438</b>

For the year in question, the company was entitled to exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

The notes on pages 21 to 34 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the trustees on 22 September 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

*Robert Morris*

Robert Morris - Finance Director

# Arts for Recovery in the Community

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022

### **1 Accounting policies**

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

#### **a Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity has applied Update Bulletin 1 as published on 2 February 2016 and does not include a cash flow statement on the grounds that it is applying FRS 102 section 1A.

Arts for Recovery in the Community meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

#### **b Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice**

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of comparative items was required. No such restatement was required.

#### **c Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. Covid 19 has impacted on ARC's activities, however emergency funding has been received from CAF and the other funders have been flexible in allowing their funds to be used for on-line activities where they were originally for group classes. The trustees are happy that ARC is a going concern despite the challenges presented by Covid 19.

There are no key judgments which the trustees have made which have a significant effect on the accounts.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

### Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

#### **d Income**

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

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants 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.

Income received in advance of a provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

#### **e Donated services and facilities**

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), general volunteer time is not recognised; refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

#### **f Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

# Arts for Recovery in the Community

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

### **g Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

### **h Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

### **i Operating leases**

Operating leases are leases in which the title to the assets, and the risks and rewards of ownership, remain with the lessor. Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

### **j Tangible fixed assets**

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

Motor vehicles:	4 years
Office fixtures and equipment	4 years
Improvements to premises:	10 years

### **k Debtors**

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

### **l Cash at bank and in hand**

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

### **m Creditors and provisions**

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

# Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

## n Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

## o Pensions

Arc operates a work place pension scheme with NEST as well as making contributions to an employee's own scheme which is a Qualifying Workplace Pension Scheme (QWPS).

## 2 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales and has no share capital. 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 registered office address is disclosed on page 1.

## 3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £
Donations	5,756	-	5,756	3,741	-	3,741
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,756</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,756</b>	<b>3,741</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,741</b>

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

### 4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £
Grants						
Awards for All	-	9,790	9,790	-	-	-
Baring Foundation	-	-	-	12,000	-	12,000
BBC Children in Need	-	19,500	19,500	-	19,308	19,308
Beacon Counselling Big Lottery Fund - Reaching Communities Charities Aid Foundation	-	6,411	6,411	-	-	-
ESF Workers' Educational Trust	-	68,090	68,090	-	32,000	32,000
Garfield Weston	-	-	-	4,000	-	4,000
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	-	7,994	7,994	-	6,995	6,995
Henry Smith	-	-	-	-	20,000	20,000
NHS Stockport CCG	59,950	-	59,950	59,950	-	59,950
Youth Music	-	17,420	17,420	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>59,950</b>	<b>208,655</b>	<b>268,605</b>	<b>75,950</b>	<b>155,003</b>	<b>230,953</b>

### 5 Fees and other income

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 £
Café income	2,360	-	2,360	-	-	-
Student placements	10,780	-	10,780	4,200	-	4,200
Public programme (Sales & events)	12,611	-	12,611	1,646	-	1,646
Commissions & fees	41,730	-	41,730	24,389	-	24,389
Other income	40	-	40	2	-	2
	<b>67,521</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>67,521</b>	<b>30,237</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>30,237</b>

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

### Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

#### 6 Investment income

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 £	<i>Unrestricted</i> £	<i>Restricted</i> £	2021 £
Income from bank deposits	459	-	459	445	-	445
	459	-	459	445	-	445

All of the charity's investment income arises from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts. All investment income is unrestricted.

#### 7 Analysis of expenditure on raising funds

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Fundraising costs	21,546	12,980

#### 8 Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Staff costs	133,322	53,071
Depreciation/loss on disposal of assets	1,705	1,924
Premises costs	22,858	22,977
General running costs	24,672	17,738
Programme costs	116,538	140,169
Other governance costs		
Independent examination	1,375	1,300
	300,470	237,179
	2022 £	2021 £
Restricted expenditure	205,838	175,609
Unrestricted expenditure	94,632	61,570
	300,470	237,179

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

### 9 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging/(crediting):	2022	2021
	£	£
Depreciation	1,705	1,924
Independent examiner's remuneration		
- accountancy	500	500
- independent examination	800	800

### 10 Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	120,460	49,702
Social security costs	6,018	438
Employers pension contributions	4,144	1,690
Staff expenses and training	2,700	1,241

No employee has employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2021: Nil).

The average number of staff employed during the period was 5.4 (2021: 2).

The average full time equivalent number of staff employed during the period was 4.31 (2021: 1.48).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the trustees, the Artistic Director/Lead Officer and the Finance Manager. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £56,572 (2021: £51,392).

### 11 Trustee remuneration and expenses, and related party transactions

Neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them received any remuneration during the year (2021: Nil), in addition no travel expenses were claimed in the year (2021: £nil).

Aggregate donations from related parties were £nil (2021: £nil).

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity, including guarantees, during the year (2021: nil).

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

### Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

#### 12 Government grants

The government grants recognised in the accounts were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
NHS Stockport	59,950	59,950
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	42,700	40,000
	102,650	99,950
	102,650	99,950

There were no unfulfilled conditions and contingencies attaching to the grants.

#### 13 Corporation tax

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within Chapter 3 of Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

#### 14 Fixed assets: tangible assets

	Office equipment & furniture £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2021	18,414	18,414
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
	18,414	18,414
At 31 March 2022	18,414	18,414
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 April 2021	15,381	15,381
Charge for the year	1,705	1,705
Disposals	-	-
	17,086	17,086
At 31 March 2022	17,086	17,086
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2022	1,328	1,328
	1,328	1,328
At 31 March 2021	3,033	3,033
	3,033	3,033

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

### 15 Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Accrued income	1,437	38,252
Prepayments & other debtors	1,582	1,582
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3,019	39,834
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

### 16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	35,014	30,827
Other creditors and accruals	3,333	2,267
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	38,347	33,094
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

### 17 Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Action Together Oldham	3,254	-	-	-	3,254
Art Pen Pals A4A	-	9,790	-	-	9,790
ASDA	1,152	-	-	-	1,152
BBC Children in Need	-	19,500	(19,500)	-	-
The National Lottery - Reaching Communities	-	68,090	(66,254)	-	1,836
ESF Workers' Educational Trust	(7,992)	7,994	(2)	-	-
Garfield Weston	20,000	-	(20,000)	-	-
Greater Manchester Combined	6,185	40,000	(45,983)	-	202
Hart Donation	819	-	-	-	819
Henry Smith Charity	8,214	36,750	(34,407)	-	10,557
John Grant Davies Trust	443	-	-	-	443
Manchester University	2,358	-	-	(2,358)	-
Morrisons Foundation	3,470	-	-	-	3,470
Shine	-	6,411	(4,100)	-	2,311
Sir Ralph Pendlebury Charity for the Aged	2,991	-	-	-	2,991
SMBC ASC Capital	26,183	-	(3,499)	(14,666)	8,018
SMBC Culture & Leisure, Local Fund (Stockport Local Mums)	1,440	-	(75)	-	1,365
Stockport Culture Champions	-	2,700	(2,700)	-	-
Youth Music 2	(1,284)	2,495	(1,211)	-	-
Youth Music 3	-	14,925	(8,107)	-	6,818
	67,233	208,655	(205,838)	(17,024)	53,026

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

### 17 Analysis of movements in restricted funds (continued)

Previous reporting period	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Action Together Oldham	3,254	-	-	-	3,254
ASDA	1,152	-	-	-	1,152
BBC Children in Need	190	19,308	(19,498)	-	-
Big Lottery - Reaching	19,537	32,000	(51,537)	-	-
Equity Foundation	634	-	(634)	-	-
ESF Workers' Educational Trust	4,996	6,995	(19,983)	-	(7,992)
Garfield Weston	-	20,000	-	-	20,000
Greater Manchester Combined	-	40,000	(33,815)	-	6,185
Hart Donation	819	-	-	-	819
Henry Smith Charity	4,240	36,700	(32,726)	-	8,214
John Grant Davies Trust	443	-	-	-	443
Manchester University	2,358	-	-	-	2,358
Morrisons Foundation	3,470	-	-	-	3,470
Sir Ralph Pendlebury Charity for	2,991	-	-	-	2,991
SMBC ASC Capital	26,183	-	-	-	26,183
SMBC Culture & Leisure, Local Fund	5,775	-	(4,335)	-	1,440
Youth Music	11,797	-	(13,081)	-	(1,284)
	87,839	155,003	(175,609)	-	67,233

Name of	Description, nature and purposes of the fund
Action Together Oldham	Grant to provide perinatal art workshops for mums in Oldham
Art pen pals A4A	Continuation of postal art programme developed in lockdown, funded by A4A. One year grant
Asda Reddish	Funds from Asda to purchase various equipment for Arc Centre
BBC Children in Need	A three year grant to fund a tailored programme of short creative projects for targeted groups of disadvantaged children and young people.

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

### 18 Analysis of movements in restricted funds (continued)

Big Lottery – Reaching Communities	A five year grant to partly fund the Arc Challenge Model 2020 which covers the Challenge, Community Outreach & Volunteer Project Management posts, contributes 50% of the CEO salary, contributes to consultancy and other programme related costs and overheads.
JG Davies Trust	Contribution towards the Creative Mums Programme
Donations (Hart group)	A donation of £1,449 towards our Creative Mums' project designed to support Stockport Mothers experiencing perinatal depression.
European Social Fund	A one year grant to provide Creative Challenge programme with personalised pre-employment support and training
Garfield Weston	One year grant towards core costs for the financial year 21/22, enabling Arc to plan with confidence and provide high impact therapeutic support to 150 adults and 100 young people who are experiencing acute mental ill health
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	A two year grant for Arc to strengthen and extend our high impact arts and wellbeing offer into communities across Greater Manchester, whilst developing a 'centre of excellence for arts and mental health' from our base at Stockport's Hat Works museum.
Henry Smith Charity	Running costs of the project providing a community outreach programme.
Morrisons	Creative Mums programme
Pendlebury Shine	Programme of creative projects for older, isolated residents of Stockport Creative sessions delivered on behalf of Beacon Counselling
SMBC Capital	Expanding and refurbishment of our studios into an Arts Centre accessible to all, development of a town centre venue and other capital expenditure to enable the growth and expansion of Arc's service to the community.
Stockport Local Mums	Grant to provide perinatal art workshops for mums in Stockport
Manchester University - Tameside	To provide art workshops in conjunction with local GP surgeries in Tameside
Youth Music	Grant for a Young People's Arc programme called MusicSPACE

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

### 19 Analysis of movement in unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2022 £
General fund	157,205	133,686	(116,178)	(7,587)	167,126
FORGE	-	-	-	24,611	24,611
	<b>157,205</b>	<b>133,686</b>	<b>(116,178)</b>	<b>17,024</b>	<b>191,737</b>
<b>Previous reporting period</b>	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2021 £
General fund	121,382	110,373	(74,550)	-	157,205
	<b>121,382</b>	<b>110,373</b>	<b>(74,550)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>157,205</b>

<b>Name of</b>	<b>Description, nature and purposes of the fund</b>
General Fund	This represents the free reserves of the charity.
FORGE	Funds designated for new pilot projects at Arc and costs not covered by current funders.

### 20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General fund £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	1,328	-	-	1,328
Net current assets/(liabilities)	165,798	24,611	53,026	243,435
Total	<b>167,126</b>	<b>24,611</b>	<b>53,026</b>	<b>244,763</b>

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 (continued)

### 21 Lease commitments

The charity had the following annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	Land and buildings		Equipment	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Leases expiring in:				
One year	27,500	-	-	-
Two to five years	-	27,500	10,652	16,958

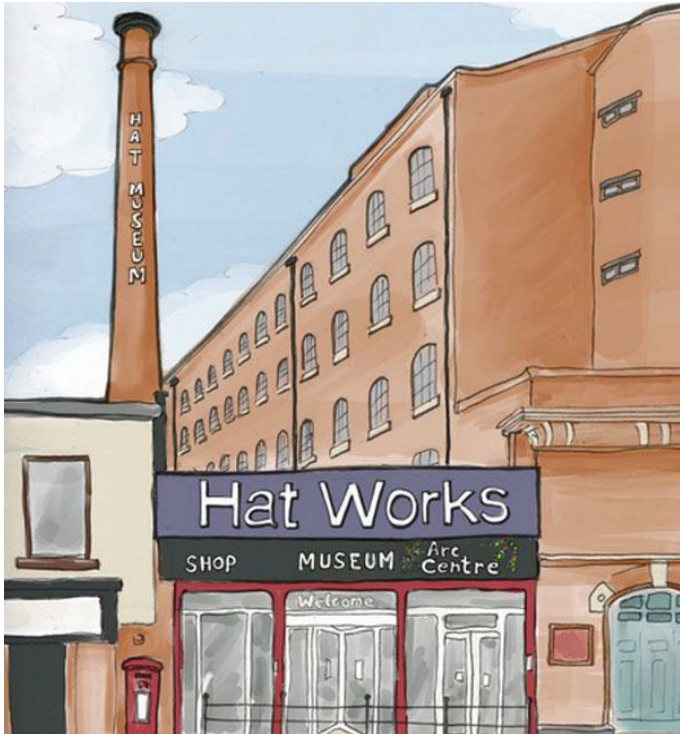
**ARTS FOR RECOVERY IN THE COMMUNITY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1107607

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# Accounts

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Creativity, Connectivity, Sharing Stories

# Arts for Recovery in the Community

Annual Report and  
Financial Statement  
for the year ended  
31 March 2021



Arts for Recovery in the Community  
is a registered charity no. 1107607

A limited company no. 05288784  
Registered in Cardiff

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## 1) Reference and administrative information

Charity Name	Arts for Recovery in the Community
Charity Registration Number	1107607
Company Registration Number	05288784
Registered Office	Hat Works, Wellington Mill, Wellington Road South, Stockport SK3 0EU

### Directors

Julia McBryde	Chair ( <i>Resigned 10/09/20</i> )
Safia Griffin	Chair ( <i>Appointed 10/09/2020, acting Chair as Vice-Chair from 25/06/20</i> )
Kevin Brosnahan	Director
Rachel Lake	Director
Graeme Draper	Director
Robert Morris	Finance Director
Lucy Wallace	Director
Jamie Popplewell	Director ( <i>Appointed 18/02/2021</i> )

### Company Secretary

Rachel Lake

### Principal staff

Jacqui Wood	Artistic Director and Lead Officer
Nuala Ryan	Finance Manager

### Independent Examiner

Paul Cowham MA FCA DChA  
Green Fish Resource Centre  
46 – 50 Oldham Street, Manchester M4 1LE

### Bankers

Yorkshire Bank plc 34 Princess Street Stockport SK1 1RE	Barclays Bank PLC Leicester LE87 2BB	Shawbrook Bank Lutea House, Warley Hill Business Park Brentwood, Essex, CM13 3BE
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## 2) Trustees' Report

### Welcome

Welcome to our annual report for the year 2020/21. What a year to document. Like many of you, we have experienced unprecedented change and upheaval in both our personal and work lives. However, we have seen that the impact and effectiveness of creativity on mental health has never been more widely acknowledged and publicly evidenced. We are part of an amazingly dynamic movement – which has found its time.

We have a team of volunteers, artists, participants and staff who are skilled, caring and responsive, who turn up every single day, come what may.

We have adapted and grown our offer, been gifted with funds, volunteer time and support, brought in new faces and said fond farewell to some of our old team. During all this, we have kept the values of Arc of - connectivity - creativity - a voice for mental health - accessibility- effective and efficient resourcing - close to who we are as an organisation and how we operate.

We invite you now to read and see more of what we have been doing with yours and others' support, time and participation as we detail this in our annual report and accounts.

Thank you.

*Safia Griffin, Arc Chair and Jacqui Wood, Artistic Director / Lead Officer*

### Aims and Objectives

The Company is established to relieve sickness and protect mental good health through the use of the arts and creative activity in North West England, in particular but not exclusively in Stockport. The aims of the Company are to support the wellbeing of people with mental ill health by developing confidence in their abilities through engagement with Arc, enhancing recovery and encouraging them to gain skills and experience which lead to a better quality of life. Arc will provide a rich and varied programme of creative activities in a safe and supportive environment, organise training and support in the arts, provide services and undertake commissions, promoting positive images of mental health through high quality arts projects.

### Mission Statement

#### **Vision & Mission:**

Our vision is one of healthy and happy communities, in which people can achieve sustainable wellbeing inspired by creative projects and connected through shared experiences.

Our mission is to offer high impact creative experiences, skills and opportunities which promote individual and communal wellbeing, reaching the most vulnerable within communities, recognising the value of creativity to self-worth, resilience and confidence.

#### **Values:**

##### ***Connectivity***

The arts have an amazing ability to bring people together, enabling us to find strength in ourselves and each other. By connecting through creativity to people and place, we support each other, and develop a genuine sense of belonging. This has a profound impact on our mental health.

##### ***Creativity***

Creativity can transform lives - we can be inspired to flourish, to express ourselves, to be more confident and articulate. To take control of our future and to celebrate our journey.

## ***Sharing stories and listening***

There is huge power in being given the space to tell your story and to listen to others'. Exploring and sharing narratives help us make sense of our experiences and our world, reinforcing that we are not alone.

## ***Accessibility***

Creative projects need to be open, welcoming, easily accessed and responsive to the needs and interests of participants, but also ambitious, striving for the highest artistic outcomes/values.

## ***Effective & efficient resourcing***

We can always seek to improve our model, increase our impact and focus the use of our valuable human and financial resources.

## **Activities undertaken for public benefit in relation to objects**

In planning our activities for the year, we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. Regular reports on activities are submitted to the Directors at Board meetings by the Lead Officer to enable the Directors to monitor progress. This and other mechanisms, such as the annual rolling strategic plan, enabled the Directors to ensure that new and current activities are in line with the company's aims and objectives and the Charity Commission's guidance.

### **Main activities undertaken to further the charity's purposes for the public benefit**

- Structured creative programmes to support the mental health of vulnerable adults and young people
- Accessible programmes for anyone who wants to use the arts to improve or maintain their mental health in our town centre cultural venue and through digital delivery
- Services for health partners and commissioners to refer in to, providing effective, reliable specialist support for recovery from mental ill health
- Volunteering opportunities for those who have previously participated in our programmes, as well as those wishing to give their time to a charity
- Partnership projects for communities and organisations in the VCSE, private and statutory sectors to collaborate with us, and engage their service users and staff in creative wellbeing activities
- Professional development, training, networking, resources, commissioning and residencies for artists and facilitators of all levels of experience
- Exhibitions, events and products for members of the public with an interest in the arts and/or mental health.

## **Achievements and Performance**

### **How we met our strategic priorities in 2020/21**

#### **Improving mental health**

*Creative programmes reaching vulnerable, isolated adults and young people.*

In the midst of a pandemic, Arc continued to provide life-changing support for people of all ages across Stockport who are experiencing mental ill-health. We worked online, in neighbourhoods, in hospital, and from our new base at Hat Works. We transformed our delivery multiple times to ensure we kept people connected - not just those already engaged with Arc, but thousands more Stockport and Greater Manchester residents new to us, who were seeking ways to cope with the mental health challenges of the pandemic.

As a result, we have gained many new connections, partnerships, and ways of working which we can build on as restrictions end and we move back to face to face delivery.

To enable remote working, participants in our core adult Arts for Wellbeing programmes received a pack with all the art materials needed for their particular programme. They were offered weekly virtual workshops, video tutorials, or Facebook live events. Having art materials at home and with access to our bespoke arts for wellbeing web platform hosting resources, help sheets and tutorial videos, participants were able to be creative independently of the sessions, in their own time and at their own pace. This is something we would not have tried if not for the pandemic, but it has improved engagement and self-led creativity so will remain part of our offer from now on.

We offered regular emotional and practical support to participants who were shielding via zoom and telephone during the restrictions. In addition, we helped participants get support with debt, housing, benefits, and access to psychological therapies, counselling and CBT. Our support team provided advocacy and liaised with Adult Social Care, Housing, Community Mental Health Teams, GPs, supported living and Probation Services.

### **Partnerships**

*Cross sector working and collaborations with those who share our values.*

We worked more strategically than ever this year across key local agendas, contributing our perspective on creativity and health to the One Stockport Borough Plan, a new Local Education and Cultural Partnership (LCEP) and Stockport Cultural Strategy, as well as to the development of regional initiatives including GMCA Creative Care Kits, Creative Wellbeing Tameside and the GM Culture Champions programme. Despite having to suspend 'normal' delivery we still collaborated with many voluntary and statutory organisations in the delivery of virtual and blended projects. Delivery partners included Stepping Hill Hospital Mental Health Unit, Stockport Homes, Signpost Young Carers, Abacus Childrens' Centre, NK Theatre, After Adoption, The Writing Squad and Reddish Vale Men in Sheds.

We continued to hold regular meetings and give presentations to health partners so that they understood our revised offer and could signpost effectively. Referral partners included Community Mental Health Teams, Beacon Counselling, Stockport Advocacy, Health Visitors in Stockport and Oldham, Healthy Young Minds, Open Door, The Prevention Alliance, Stockport Women's Centre, the Department for Work and Pensions and Viaduct Healthcare.

We signposted and made referrals for our participants to Welfare Rights, CAB, Adult Social Care, Healthy Minds, Signpost for Carers, Sparc, Respect for All, The Prevention Alliance, Stockport Women's Centre, and housing support.

### **Creating a sense of belonging**

*Addressing the effects of loneliness, poverty & isolation, providing services which connect people, and developing safe, welcoming, inclusive spaces.*

At the beginning of the year our focus was to make our new base, the Arc Centre at Hat Works, a safe, inclusive & inspiring space - a place where anyone could feel that they belonged. Lockdowns undoubtedly challenged that but also galvanised us, revealing the strength of the arts to keep people connected, releasing the potency of what we offer – creative engagement which can lead to better health outcomes for everyone.

Through the #Keeping Us Together programme, virtual sessions for vulnerable adults and young people, postal art projects, art pack deliveries, telephone support, socially distanced in-person delivery at Hat Works when appropriate and a massive push on communication via social media, our programme redesign ensured that people still felt personally connected to Arc.

The Arc team helped people learn how to use the technology and feel as comfortable as possible with interacting this way and so, whilst not working for everyone, the virtual studio space was effective for many – enabling participants to connect and feel less isolated.

We introduced a limited public programme via Zoom, which flourished with projects reaching a wider audience, not limited by geography. At one Drawing Social at a Distance session, we had participants in Stockport, the Peak District, Moscow and Texas! The family-focussed Saturday Art Clubs drew a new audience of teenagers who were happier to be creative in their own homes via a screen than if they had been asked to come to the studio.

In place-based work across GM Boroughs, Arc facilitated a series of Creative Conversations with the Creative Wellbeing Network in Tameside and completed the writing of A Love Letter to Oldham, a community poem which will be displayed later in 2021.

## Sustainability

*Securing our future through adequate funding, effective resourcing and workforce development.*

All of this programme delivery coincided with huge pressures on staffing, management, finances and operations for Arc as a small charity. We had to cope with loss of some income streams, safeguarding of staff and volunteers whilst pivoting to remote working and still continuing to engage with hundreds of acutely vulnerable adults and young people, collaborating with partner organisations under huge pressure, and responding to a fast-changing external environment. We are extremely proud of our team, including our volunteers and trustees, who went above and beyond to ensure Arc's impact was sustained and extended over the year.

All our current funders supported the redesigned and blended programmes, and we were successful in a number of new funding bids. The Keeping Us Together campaign was sustained through supporters' donations and we began to earn income from an online shop and virtual courses for the public.

Following an internal review process and the confirmation of multi-year lottery funding, Arc undertook a staff restructure, bringing key functions in house as PAYE roles, and strengthening our operational management capacity. External expertise in HR and training for staff will build on this in 2021/2022.

### Our participants told us:

*Even in isolation due to COVID-19 I don't feel isolated. I still feel a part of something as I get regular emails, phone calls and accessing the Keeping Us together online stuff. It feels good to be included in something.*

*I achieved things I didn't think I could – really surprised myself and been impressed by my own ability. I hadn't realised the connection between wellbeing and arts before.*

*It was nice to know it was there even if I didn't have time to do the activity until later or not at all. Knowing it was there was a source of comfort in a really anxious time with the pandemic.*

*Art now relaxes me when my head is feeling bad. I have focused on creative activities during lockdown as it has been a good outlet for my mental health struggles. Arc got my creative juices flowing and I got back into doing illustrations and drawing. I plan to reopen a website to share my work.*

*Since starting at Arc I have become more confident, I'm more centred and calmer and this has been a lifesaver since lockdown due to COVID-19.*

*I developed my artistic skills and personal skills. Every skill I've learned can be used again in the future.*

*Arc smashed it with keeping people creative in these rather strange times.*

*This has been life changing for me.*

### Key achievements in 2020/2021:

- **Sharing our Impact:** a film showcasing how our work reached people in creative and inventive way over the year can be found [here. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SgukllUQZGI&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SgukllUQZGI&feature=emb_logo)
- **Arts for Wellbeing:** we provided intensive, sustained support to **176** acutely vulnerable adults across **183** sessions at the Arc studios, community and healthcare settings and via digital delivery. **100%** of participants in our Community Programme and Creative Challenge reported improved mental health and wellbeing as a result of the programme and **94%** reported reduced social isolation.
- **Young People's Arc:** we worked intensively with **131** children and young people in Arc and with **8** partner organisations. Through **12** separate projects, we ensured families were better supported and equipped to avoid problems worsening and developing life-long mental health challenges.
- **Partnerships and Commissioning:** together with Beacon Counselling we successfully bid to Stockport CCG to be the main partner in a 3-year young person's early help service, with a creative studio as one of the key

components of this service.

- **Creativity in Lockdown:** within a week of lockdown Arc had launched #KeepingUsTogether (<http://www.keepingustogether.org.uk>) to ensure consistent support to our vulnerable participants via Zoom, phone, email, postal packs, online materials. We then developed this programme more widely, into a publicly accessible online resource for people experiencing mental health challenges but who may not be in contact with statutory services (or who's support has been reduced). **2000+** people visited the website, **339** signed up for our regular emails and activities curated by our volunteers and professional arts facilitators and over 170 pieces of art were shared with us via the Gallery page.
- **Creative Mums:** through our online Creative Mums programme and a closed Facebook group page we worked with **61** women experiencing perinatal mental illness. During the pandemic this became a lifeline for very isolated mums and their families.
- **Arts for Ageing Well:** we delivered **30** weekly sessions to isolated older people to reduce loneliness and increase wellbeing through therapeutic art activities. The artist-led sessions were delivered face-to-face and virtually. Participants without digital access received weekly calls and took part in Arc's Culture Buddies Programme
- **Stockport Culture Champions** (<https://arc-centre.org/events-and-workshops/stockport-culture-champions/>) we led a programme of cultural engagement projects for 121 people over the age of 50. Partnerships and projects included Culture Buddies, Men in Sheds - bike sculpture, NK Theatre – script reading, Stockport Storytellers, Threads of Creativity - quilting and The Keenagers - Hula dance.
- **Culture Buddies** (<http://www.culturebuddies.keepingustogether.org.uk>) **Postal Art:** we devised a new mailart project which reached **19** isolated older people, connecting them to a team of **13** volunteers.
- **Using digital platforms:** we developed **2** new bespoke platforms for delivery - our use of new and existing digital platforms: <http://www.keepingustogether.org.uk> and <http://www.artsforwellbeing.org.uk> and utilised our YouTube, Instagram, Twitter and Facebook channels with a reach in excess of **7,000** people.
- **Exhibitions:** **42** people exhibited in **9** virtual exhibitions, using our [artsforwellbeing gallery](http://www.artsforwellbeing.org.uk/gallery.php) <http://www.artsforwellbeing.org.uk/gallery.php> and the ArtSteps platform.
- **Social Enterprise:** we launched an [online shop](https://arc-centre.org/shop/) through our website <https://arc-centre.org/shop/> with Arcware created by participants and volunteers, and a new line of downloadable 'Arc On Demand' courses, developed as part of our programme redesign.
- **Greater Manchester connections:** we were part of a GM-wide programme to design and circulate Creative Care packs to 20,000 vulnerable families and 15,000 older isolated people.
- **Public wellbeing and creativity offer:** our programme of virtual activities included exhibitions; Creative Professional Development for mums; Zoom family art clubs; Artists' networking and training; Live online events; Drawing Socials and Pottery courses, providing the opportunity for anyone to get creative and socialise from home. This engaged **240** people as participants, **470** people viewing Facebook and YouTube sessions, and **1750** audience members for our virtual exhibitions
- **Volunteering:** **34** people volunteered **2637** hours over the year. Volunteers helped in many ways including calling Age Well participants for check-ins, delivering art packs, creating Keeping Us Together activities, building the new online platforms used to deliver the virtual service, supporting Young People's Arc sessions, posting to social media, collating images for Keeping Us Together's online gallery, running Zoom socials, making ceramics and becoming Culture Buddies.
- **Supporting local artists:** we contracted **24** artists across our programmes.
- **Supporting the next generation:** **8** social work and **2** post grad Gallery & Museum studies students from **4** regional universities undertook placements at Arc. In addition, we provided opportunities for **3** trainee music facilitators as part of YPA.

## Future Projects for 2021/2022

- Take learning from the rapid development of remote and virtual delivery models into our ongoing wellbeing programmes, improving access to and engagement with our service.
- Respond to increased demand on mental health services by widening our professional networks with referrers.
- Build on strategic partnerships to extend our specialist services to adults and children experiencing mental ill health in the community.
- Reopen our town centre venue, building public engagement and recognising the increased desire for participation in the arts as a way of maintaining wellbeing.
- Continue strategic/leadership role for arts and mental health through the Stockport Cultural Strategy, Stockport's LCEP, the One Stockport Borough Plan and the arts and health ecology in Stockport and GM, leading the Stockport Together Again project.
- Design activities which support the mental health of healthcare staff.
- Maximise the potential of our incredible team of volunteers to genuinely impact on the development of the organisation.
- Develop our freelance workforce, to increase scale and quality of practice, and mentor and support freelancers from diverse backgrounds.
- Refresh our strategic plan, with particular focus on reach and inclusion.

## Structure, governance and management

### Company status

The company is a charitable company, incorporated under the Companies Act of 1985 as a private limited company on the 17 November 2004 and entered into the Central Register of Charities on the 13 January 2005. The company is limited by guarantee and all members have agreed to contribute a sum not exceeding £1 in the event of a winding-up. The number of guarantees at 31 March 2021 was seven.

### Governing document

The company is controlled via its Memorandum and Articles of Association. Members of the company are volunteers, Directors of the company and trustees of the charity. The number of members must be a minimum of three and a maximum of twelve.

An AGM is held by the company and the Board of Directors meet at least six times per year. The Board is responsible for the annual report and accounts, and overseeing policy, personnel, and the strategic direction of the Charitable Company. It ensures company documents and key policies are reviewed on a regular basis.

### Recruitment and appointment of Directors

Directors are recruited from a number of sources, including personal recommendation, GMCVO, Reach, Manchester User Network (MUN), and ex-participants of Arc. The Board has defined the skill profiles required and actively seeks to establish a diversity of backgrounds and experience of its members.

Prospective Directors are invited to submit an application, to tour the premises, and to meet key people. They are subsequently interviewed by the Board and required to present a personal statement of their potential contribution to Arc. They are made aware of their responsibilities and are also required to provide two referees who are contacted before appointment is approved. All Directors are checked via the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).

## Induction and training of Directors

New directors are given access to Arc's SharePoint which contains governance documents, a current listing of policies and procedures and previous Annual Reports, Accounts and Board Meeting minutes. Directors are given information on their roles and responsibilities and invited to attend training courses relevant to their roles.

## Organisational structure

The Chair leads the Board and line manages the Lead Officer. There are two sub-committees that oversee key areas of governance and report back to the full Board with matters for approval and discussion. These are:

- Finance (includes fundraising and risk)
- Personnel, Policy and Quality

The minimum expected attendance for any sub-committee is at least one principal staff member and two Directors. All Directors are encouraged to attend sub-committee meetings and expected to when their specialist expertise is required.

Strategy is discussed at Board meetings and as relevant in sub-committees as it relates to these areas. A rolling strategic plan sets out the objectives and priorities for each 3-year period and is developed with key stakeholders including staff and Directors. This is operationalised annually through delegated responsibility to staff under the leadership of the Lead Officer, overseen by the Board of Directors. Working groups are formed, as required, to work on specific areas of strategic development.

## Risk management

The Directors regularly review and assess the risks faced by the charity in all areas of its work and plan for the management of those risks. To this purpose, a Risk Management Policy and register has been adopted, (last reviewed and approved by the Board – 24 June 2021) and is overseen by the Board and Lead Officer, to which staff report, and operationalised through risk assessments and procedure.

The Directors have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and satisfied themselves that systems and procedures are established in order to manage those risks.

Major risks are those risks that have a major impact and a probable or highly probable likelihood of occurring. If they occurred, they would have a major impact on some or all the following areas:

- governance
- operations
- finances
- environmental or external factors such as public opinion or relationship with funders
- Arc's compliance with law or regulation

Arc's policy document and risk register sets out to:

- Identify the major risks that apply to our charity and their impacts
- Provide a basis to make decisions about how to respond to the risks we face
- State and rationalise our risk tolerance in uncertain times and in line with strategy and values
- Provide records to write an appropriate risk management statement in our annual report

Assessing and management of risk is a whole team effort, and while the Board of Directors holds ultimate responsibility for this, appropriate and proportionate responsibility is delegated to staff. Arc is able to state that there have been no major incidents or risks in 2020/2021 that required reporting to the Charity Commission.

Given the exceptional circumstances 2020/2021 with regard to COVID and the safety of staff and beneficiaries, Arc has revised its Risk Analysis to take account of the circumstances and the safety policies it has had to implement as a result. Arc will continue to implement its risk management policy to ensure that the organisation complies with the charity commission's requirements as outlined in their guidance on risk management for charities (CC26).

## COVID Response

It should be noted that Covid-19 has impacted on our methods of delivery. We believe our systems have responded well to this evolving situation and we have adapted our delivery methods to safely engage with all participants. Our premises are continually risk assessed, taking into account changing government guidelines and all hygiene and safety protocols have been followed. Further details regarding the response to Covid-19 can be found in the main body of the report.

## Related parties

The Company operates independently and there are no related party transactions. Board members and their immediate relatives have no contractual relationships, other than at arm's length, with any suppliers or fund providers. Each Director is asked to sign a Declaration of Interests register and Code of Conduct form. These are held on file and the Declaration of Interests form is updated at least annually and when informed of a change.

## Financial Review

### Principal funding sources

For 2020 / 2021 the principal income sources were:

- Big Lottery Reaching Communities (£32,000)
- NHS Stockport CCG (£59,950)
- GMCA (£40,000)
- BBC Children in Need (£19,308)
- Henry Smith (£36,700)
- Baring (£12,000)
- Stockport Homes (£5,250)
- Garfield Weston (£20,000)
- European Social Fund (£6,995)
- CAF (£4,000)
- Stockport Culture Champions (£14,714)
- Social Work Student Placement Income (£4,200)
- Pennine – Healthy Young Minds (£3,278)

Principal sources of funding carried forward into 2020 / 2021 were:

- Big Lottery Reaching Communities (£19,537)
- Action Together Oldham (£3,254)
- Equity (£634)
- ESF (£4,996)

- Morrisons Foundation (£3,470)
- Henry Smith (£4,240)
- Ralph Pendlebury (£2,991)
- SMBC ASC Capital (£26,183)
- SMBC (£5,775)
- Youth Music (£11,797)

### How Funding has Supported Key Priorities

Our donors have supported us to work towards our 4 key priorities of:

- Improving Mental Health
- Partnerships
- Creating a sense of belonging
- Sustainability

They have done this by funding us in the following ways:

- NHS Stockport CCG provides core funding to underpin all our work at Arc. The funding enables our programmes to continue to help improve the mental health needs of Stockport residents. This year we are also looking to support the mental health of NHS staff, in recognition of the strain of the past 15 months.
- The BIG Lottery 5-year grant ended in May 2020, the funding allowed Arc to continue the work with the "Arc Challenge 2020" enabling Challenge, Community Outreach and volunteering to work seamlessly together to support vulnerable people. It's contribution to key staff was vital to the organisation. Our grant was extended to December 2020 to ensure that we could respond to the challenge of COVID-19 by developing new COVID responsive programmes that engaged our most vulnerable participants. Arc have now secured a further 5-year grant from The National Lottery to fund staffing and core costs of the organisation. This will ensure that Arc can continue to flourish and develop a more sustainable model for future financial stability of the organisation.
- GMCA have provided Arc with two years of funding to support Arts and Wellbeing in the Greater Manchester region. The funding totals £80,000 and ends in March 2022.
- BBC Children in Need funding is the bedrock of our Young People's Arc programme. The Children in Need grant is for 3 years and ends in March 2022.
- Arc have also secured another grant from Youth Music to continue the work that has been developed in this area. The on-going project is called MusicSpace which aims to improve wellbeing, confidence and resilience of young people not receiving support through mainstream services.
- The YPA programme is all about partnerships and providing tailored programmes of short creative projects for targeted groups of disadvantaged and vulnerable children and young people. Arc also collaborated with Stockport Homes and Pennine on one off projects during the year which complemented the main offering from YPA. Arc will continue to work with partners to enhance the work of YPA and have already secured funding for some exciting projects in 2021/2022 including an Early Help and Wellbeing Service for 11–18 year olds in partnership with Beacon Counselling and a photographic commission for Stepping Hill Hospital Psychological Therapies team.
- Henry Smith provides funding to deliver a 3-year programme of activities supporting people facing a mental health crisis in communities across Stockport and Oldham.
- Stockport Culture Champions was a true collaborative effort during 2020/2021 with funding from SMBC and contributions from GMCA and Synergy/Sector 3 Stockport to deliver an exciting and innovative programme to engage Stockport residents.
- CAF provided an emergency grant of £4,000 to assist towards COVID related costs during 2020/2021.
- Baring and Garfield Weston paid grants during 2020/2021. These funds will support our programme delivery for 2021/2022.
- European Social Fund was a 1-year grant to provide a Creative Challenge programme with personalised pre-employment support and training. This has been delivered in 2020/2021.

The budget for 2021/2022 balances and there is no need to use our reserves for this financial year. The relocation to Hat Works has continued to help reduce the overhead costs paid by Arc and has enabled the organisation to streamline or eliminate many of the costs incurred with the old premises. 2021/2022 will prove to be an exciting time for Arc, the budget reflects the growing staff team and diversity of programmes and commissions that are delivered so well by the organisation. It also will enable Arc to develop new streams of income that will help to sustain the organisation in the long term.

Arc does not need to designate any funds for the 2020/2021 financial year. Arc will continue to maintain a level of reserves in compliance with our reserves policy. This is intended to meet any unforeseen risk and financial threat to the organisation. The reserves to be held have been determined by the Board and are identified below.

Future funding campaigns and strategies are under consideration to enable Arc to diversify funding and mitigate risks from any shortfalls in funding and to protect the level of safe reserves determined by the Board.

## New income sources for 2021/22

- CCG (£59,950)
- The National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund (£75,000)
- GMCA (£40,000)
- Henry Smith (£36,750)
- BBC Children in Need (£19,500)
- Stepping Hill Art Project (£900)
- Stockport Culture Champions (£3,578)
- Future Fires – GMCA (£2,600)
- EHWBS (£7,691)
- Placements (£8,400)
- Stockport Frogs - SMBC & sponsors (£7,350)
- Youth Music new funding (£14,625)

## Reserves policy

The Board will ensure that adequate reserves are held by Arc to cover emergencies. Principally:

1. To ensure that any shortfall in income can be covered over a sufficient period to ensure that management and the Board can take effective action to minimise any detrimental effects on staff and the organisation and to meet any contractual obligations.
2. To cover any unforeseen emergencies concerning property or facilities.
3. To cover any emergencies due to force majeure

The amount of reserves determined by the Board for the financial year 2020/2021 has been calculated as follows:

## Reserves amount calculated as of 31 August 2021

Employee redundancy & notice costs	£36,792
Equipment lease commitments	£16,416
Property lease commitment	£22,000
Three months fixed running costs	£13,179
Accountancy fees	£2,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£90,387</b>

The reserves calculation has increased for the year due to the following:

Arc currently has a six-year lease of Hat Works space with two break clauses during the term. It has been agreed that it would be prudent to set aside one year's cost of this lease for the reserves calculation. To note the current years lease payments are covered within the 2021/2022 budget. The equipment lease commitments are at a similar amount as last

year's figure of £16,957. The three months fixed running costs have also been reviewed and stated as per costs on the ledger for 2020/2021, it is anticipated that these costs will remain constant. Overall total reserves required have increased from £88,000 in 2019/2020 to £90,387 in 2020/2021.

Note 20 of the accounts shows that unrestricted current assets less current liabilities, as of 31 March 2021, to be £154,172.

This policy is reviewed annually. The amount is calculated each year and when there are major changes, such as changes in the staffing levels and the taking on of additional leases. For 2021/2022 Arc have employed 4 new members of staff as PAYE and the above calculation reflects this.

### **Investment policy**

The company will hold funds in accordance with the sum identified in our reserves policy within a savings and investment secure portfolio.

### **Statement of Directors' responsibilities**

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Report of the Directors and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities). Under company law the Directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements the Directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable it 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 taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Directors, who are Directors for the purposes of company law, and trustees for the purposes of charity law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 2. This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (issued in March 2005) and in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Directors and signed on its behalf by:

Safia Griffin (Chair)      Date: 9th September 2021

*Safia Griffin*

### 3) Independent Examiner's Report to the Directors of Arts for Recovery In the Community

I report to the Directors on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2021.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Directors of the Company (and also its Directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

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

#### Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeds £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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

Paul Cowham FCA DChA  
Green Fish Resource Centre  
46 – 50 Oldham Street  
Manchester

*Paul Cowham* M4 1LE

09 / 14 / 2021

Date: .....

Arts for Recovery in the Community  
Statement of Financial Activities  
(including Income and Expenditure account)  
for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
<b>Income</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	3,741	-	3,741	2,898
Charitable activities	4	75,950	155,003	230,953	229,010
Fees and other income	5	30,237	-	30,237	26,131
Investments	6	445	-	445	124
<b>Total income</b>		<b>110,373</b>	<b>155,003</b>	<b>265,376</b>	<b>258,163</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Raising funds	7	12,980	-	12,980	13,099
Charitable activities	8	61,570	175,609	237,179	249,284
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>74,550</b>	<b>175,609</b>	<b>250,159</b>	<b>262,383</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year</b>	9	<b>35,823</b>	<b>(20,606)</b>	<b>15,217</b>	<b>(4,220)</b>
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds for the year</b>		<b>35,823</b>	<b>(20,606)</b>	<b>15,217</b>	<b>(4,220)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		121,382	87,839	209,221	213,441
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>157,205</b>	<b>67,233</b>	<b>224,438</b>	<b>209,221</b>

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

Arts for Recovery in the Community  
Company number 05288784

Balance sheet as at 31 March 2021

	Note	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	14		3,033		4,957
<b>Total fixed assets</b>			<b>3,033</b>		<b>4,957</b>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	15	39,834		12,455	
Cash at bank and in hand		214,665		207,843	
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>254,499</b>		<b>220,298</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due in less than one year	16	(33,094)		(16,034)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b>221,405</b>		<b>204,264</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			224,438		209,221
<b>Net assets</b>			<b>224,438</b>		<b>209,221</b>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>					
Restricted income funds	16		67,233		87,839
Unrestricted income funds	19		157,205		121,382
<b>Total charity funds</b>			<b>224,438</b>		<b>209,221</b>

For the year in question, the company was entitled to exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

The notes on pages 16 to 29 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the trustees on 9 September 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

*RA Morris*

Robert Morris - Finance Director

# Arts for Recovery in the Community

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021

### **1 Accounting policies**

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

#### **a Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity has applied Update Bulletin 1 as published on 2 February 2016 and does not include a cash flow statement on the grounds that it is applying FRS 102 section 1A.

Arts for Recovery in the Community meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

#### **b Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice**

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of comparative items was required. No such restatement was required.

#### **c Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. Covid 19 has impacted on ARC's activities, however emergency funding has been received from CAF and the other funders have been flexible in allowing their funds to be used for on-line activities where they were originally for group classes. The trustees are happy that ARC is a going concern despite the challenges presented by Covid 19.

There are no key judgments which the trustees have made which have a significant effect on the accounts.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

### Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

#### **d Income**

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

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants 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.

Income received in advance of a provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

#### **e Donated services and facilities**

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), general volunteer time is not recognised; refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

#### **f Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

# Arts for Recovery in the Community

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

### **g Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

### **h Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

### **i Operating leases**

Operating leases are leases in which the title to the assets, and the risks and rewards of ownership, remain with the lessor. Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

### **j Tangible fixed assets**

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

Motor vehicles:	4 years
Office fixtures and equipment	4 years
Improvements to premises:	10 years

### **k Debtors**

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

### **l Cash at bank and in hand**

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

### **m Creditors and provisions**

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

# Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

## n Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

## o Pensions

Arc operates a work place pension scheme with NEST as well as making contributions to an employee's own scheme which is a Qualifying Workplace Pension Scheme (QWPS).

## 2 Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales and has no share capital. 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 registered office address is disclosed on page 1.

## 3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £
Donations	3,741	-	3,741	2,898	-	2,898
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,741</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,741</b>	<b>2,898</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,898</b>

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

### Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

#### 4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £
Grants						
Action Together	-	-	-	-	3,884	3,884
ASDA	-	-	-	-	964	964
Baring Foundation	12,000	-	12,000	-	-	-
BBC Children in Need	-	19,308	19,308	-	19,117	19,117
Big Lottery Fund - Reaching Communities Charities Aid Foundation	-	32,000	32,000	-	80,812	80,812
ESF Workers' Educational Trust	4,000	-	4,000	-	-	-
Garfield Weston	-	6,995	6,995	-	4,996	4,996
	-	20,000	20,000	-	-	-
 Greater Manchester Combined Authority	-	40,000	40,000	-	-	-
Henry Smith	-	36,700	36,700	-	18,350	18,350
NHS Stockport CCG	59,950	-	59,950	59,590	-	59,590
SMBC Culture & Leisure	-	-	-	-	9,840	9,840
SMBC Children's services	-	-	-	-	5,000	5,000
University of Manchester	-	-	-	-	4,000	4,000
Youth Music	-	-	-	-	22,457	22,457
<b>Total</b>	<b>75,950</b>	<b>155,003</b>	<b>230,953</b>	<b>59,590</b>	<b>169,420</b>	<b>229,010</b>

#### 5 Fees and other income

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 £
Student placements	4,200	-	4,200	8,400	-	8,400
Public programme (Sales & events)	1,646	-	1,646	8,457	-	8,457
Commissions & fees	24,389	-	24,389	9,134	-	9,134
Other income	2	-	2	140	-	140
	<b>30,237</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>30,237</b>	<b>26,131</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>26,131</b>

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

### 6 Investment income

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 £	<i>Unrestricted</i> £	<i>Restricted</i> £	2020 £
Income from bank deposits	445	-	445	124	-	124
	445	-	445	124	-	124

All of the charity's investment income arises from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts. All investment income is unrestricted.

### 7 Analysis of expenditure on raising funds

	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Fundraising costs	12,980	13,099

### 8 Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Staff costs	53,071	47,816
Depreciation/loss on disposal of assets	1,924	28,506
Premises costs	22,977	32,577
General running costs	17,738	27,919
Programme costs	140,169	111,166
Other governance costs		
Independent examination	1,300	1,300
	237,179	249,284
	2021 £	2020 £
Restricted expenditure	175,609	154,328
Unrestricted expenditure	61,570	94,956
	237,179	249,284

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

### 9 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging/(crediting):	2021	2020
	£	£
Depreciation	1,924	5,705
Independent examiner's remuneration		
- accountancy	500	500
- independent examination	800	800
	<hr/>	<hr/>

### 10 Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	49,702	44,503
Social security costs	438	766
Employers pension contributions	1,690	1,486
Staff expenses and training	1,241	1,061
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	53,071	47,816
	<hr/>	<hr/>

No employee has employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2020: Nil).

The average number of staff employed during the period was 2 (2020: 2).

The average full time equivalent number of staff employed during the period was 1.48 (2020: 1.42).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the trustees, the Artistic Director/Lead Officer and the Finance Officer. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £51,392 (2020: £45,989).

### 11 Trustee remuneration and expenses, and related party transactions

Neither the trustees nor any persons connected with them received any remuneration during the year (2020: Nil), in addition no travel expenses were claimed in the year (2020: £nil).

Aggregate donations from related parties were £nil (2020: £nil).

There are no donations from related parties which are outside the normal course of business and no restricted donations from related parties.

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity, including guarantees, during the year (2020: nil).

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

### Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

#### 12 Government grants

The government grants recognised in the accounts were as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
NHS Stockport	59,950	59,590
Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council	-	14,840
	59,950	74,430
	59,950	74,430

There were no unfulfilled conditions and contingencies attaching to the grants.

#### 13 Corporation tax

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within Chapter 3 of Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the charity.

#### 14 Fixed assets: tangible assets

	Office equipment & furniture £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 April 2020	18,414	18,414
Additions		-
Disposals		-
	18,414	18,414
At 31 March 2021	18,414	18,414
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 April 2020	13,457	13,457
Charge for the year	1,924	1,924
Disposals	-	-
	15,381	15,381
At 31 March 2021	15,381	15,381
<b>Net book value</b>		
At 31 March 2021	3,033	3,033
	3,033	3,033
At 31 March 2020	4,957	4,957
	4,957	4,957

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

### 15 Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accrued income	38,252	10,751
Prepayments & other debtors	1,582	1,704
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	39,834	12,455
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

### 16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	30,827	13,891
Other creditors and accruals	2,267	2,143
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	33,094	16,034
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

### 16 Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Action Together Oldham	3,254	-	-	-	3,254
ASDA	1,152	-	-	-	1,152
BBC Children in Need	190	19,308	(19,498)	-	-
Big Lottery - Reaching Communities	19,537	32,000	(51,537)	-	-
Equity Foundation	634	-	(634)	-	-
ESF Workers' Educational Trust	4,996	6,995	(19,983)	-	(7,992)
Garfield Weston	-	20,000	-	-	20,000
Greater Manchester Combined	-	40,000	(33,815)	-	6,185
Hart Donation	819	-	-	-	819
Henry Smith Charity	4,240	36,700	(32,726)	-	8,214
John Grant Davies Trust	443	-	-	-	443
Manchester University	2,358	-	-	-	2,358
Morrisons Foundation	3,470	-	-	-	3,470
Sir Ralph Pendlebury Charity for the Aged	2,991	-	-	-	2,991
SMBC ASC Capital	26,183	-	-	-	26,183
SMBC Culture & Leisure, Local Fund (Stockport Local Mums)	5,775	-	(4,335)	-	1,440
Youth Music	11,797	-	(13,081)	-	(1,284)
	<b>87,839</b>	<b>155,003</b>	<b>(175,609)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>67,233</b>

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

### 17 Analysis of movements in restricted funds (continued)

Previous reporting period	Balance at 1 April 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2020 £
Action Together Oldham	-	3,884	(630)	-	3,254
Ardonagh Trust	2,100	-	(2,100)	-	-
ASDA	871	964	(683)	-	1,152
BBC Children in Need	-	19,117	(18,927)	-	190
Big Lottery - Awards for all	3,505	-	(3,505)	-	-
Big Lottery - Reaching	15,361	80,812	(76,636)	-	19,537
Equity Foundation	3,428	-	(2,794)	-	634
ESF Workers' Educational Trust	-	4,996	-	-	4,996
Hart Donation	819	-	-	-	819
Henry Smith Charity	-	18,350	(14,110)	-	4,240
John Grant Davies Trust	443	-	-	-	443
Live Well Make Art	139	-	(139)	-	-
Manchester University	-	4,000	(1,642)	-	2,358
Morrisons Foundation	4,002	-	(532)	-	3,470
Sir Ralph Pendlebury Charity for	5,000	-	(2,009)	-	2,991
SMBC - Arts for Aging Well	-	-	(3,600)	3,600	-
SMBC ASC Capital	26,183	-	-	-	26,183
SMBC Capital	6,796	-	(6,796)	-	-
SMBC Children's services	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
SMBC Culture & Leisure, Local Fund (Stockport Local Mums)	-	9,840	(4,065)	-	5,775
Youth Music	500	22,457	(11,160)	-	11,797
	69,147	169,420	(154,328)	3,600	87,839

Name of	Description, nature and purposes of the fund
Action Together Oldham	Grant to provide perinatal art workshops for mums in Oldham
Ardonagh	Contribution to arts and wellbeing programme
Asda Reddish	Funds from Asda to purchase various equipment for Arc Centre
Arts for Ageing Well – SMBC	Programme of creative projects for older, isolated residents of Stockport
BBC Children in Need	A three year grant to fund a tailored programme of short creative projects for targeted groups of disadvantaged children and young people.

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

### 18 Analysis of movements in restricted funds (continued)

Big Lottery – Reaching Communities	A five year grant to partly fund the Arc Challenge Model 2020 which covers the Challenge, Community Outreach & Volunteer Project Management posts, contributes 50% of the CEO salary, contributes to consultancy and other programme related costs and overheads.
JG Davies Trust	Contribution towards the Creative Mums Programme
Donations (Hart group)	A donation of £1,449 towards our Creative Mums' project designed to support Stockport Mothers experiencing perinatal depression.
Equity Foundation	Health & wellbeing grants for our Young Peoples ArtSpace programme. £1,000 grant for a pilot in 2018 & £10,130 for a full programme in 2019.
European Social Fund	A one year grant to provide Creative Challenge programme with personalised pre-employment support and training
Garfield Weston	One year grant towards core costs for the financial year 21/22, enabling Arc to plan with confidence and provide high impact therapeutic support to 150 adults and 100 young people who are experiencing acute mental ill health
Greater Manchester Combined Authority	A two year grant for Arc to strengthen and extend our high impact arts and wellbeing offer into communities across Greater Manchester, whilst developing a 'centre of excellence for arts and mental health' from our base at Stockport's Hat Works museum.
Henry Smith Charity	Running costs of the project providing a community outreach programme.
Live Well Make Art	Consultation and creative resource pack for women across Greater Manchester
Morrisons Oldham	Creative Mums programme Large scale participatory writing project as part of the HLF funded new Arts and Heritage Centre
Pendlebury SMBC Adult Social Care	Programme of creative projects for older, isolated residents of Stockport Transition funding, to be spent from April 2015 onwards, to support Arc's future development, including the development of an Arts centre venue.
SMBC Adult Social Care – Capital	Expanding and refurbishment of our Reddish studios into an Arts Centre accessible to all, development of a town centre venue and other capital expenditure to enable the growth and expansion of Arc's service to the community.
SMBC ASC Capital	Expanding and refurbishment of our Reddish studios into an Arts Centre accessible to all, development of a town centre venue and other capital expenditure to enable the growth and expansion of Arc's service to the community.
SMBC Capital	General capital purchases
SMBC Children's Services	A grant to support Young People's Arc
Stockport Local Mums	Grant to provide perinatal art workshops for mums in Stockport
Manchester University - Tameside	To provide art workshops in conjunction with local GP surgeries in Tameside
Youth Music	Grant for a Young People's Arc programme called MusicSpace

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

### 19 Analysis of movement in unrestricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2021 £
General fund	121,382	110,373	(74,550)	-	157,205
	121,382	110,373	(74,550)	-	157,205

<b>Previous reporting period</b>	Balance at 1 April 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2020 £
General fund	123,080	88,743	(105,403)	14,962	121,382
Creative mums (designated fund)	533	-	(533)	-	-
Overhead costs in 19/20	10,681	-	(1,081)	(9,600)	-
Relocation costs for 19/20	10,000	-	(1,038)	(8,962)	-
	144,294	88,743	(108,055)	(3,600)	121,382

**Name of**            **Description, nature and purposes of the fund**

General Fund    This represents the free reserves of the charity.

### 20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	General fund £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	3,033	-	-	3,033
Net current assets/(liabilities)	154,172	-	67,233	221,405
Total	157,205	-	67,233	224,438

## Arts for Recovery in the Community

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 (continued)

### 21 Lease commitments

The charity had the following annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	Land and buildings		Equipment	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Leases expiring in:				
One year	22,000	-	-	-
Two to five years	-	27,500	16,416	16,958