

STRETCH

(Charity Number: 1109851)

Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements for the year ended

30th September 2024

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Charity accounts preparation &
independent examination service

STRETCH

(Charity Number: 1109851)

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Trustees' Annual Report

From:	01/10/2023	To:	30/09/2024
Charity's full name	STRETCH		
Registered Charity number	1109851		

Objectives and activities

Summary of the purposes of the charity set out in its governing document

To advance the education and promote the rehabilitation of disadvantaged communities by promotion of the arts, in particular but not exclusively involving museums and galleries. To provide or assist in the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life.

We aim to promote the creative arts amongst marginalized groups, particularly the offending community, young people who are struggling with formal education, young people in local authority care, including those with physical and learning difficulties, the poor and those in need of rehabilitation and reintegration into the community. Stretch achieves its objectives by delivering a variety of innovative and bespoke arts projects, enhancing the rehabilitation and education of the marginalized communities and in so doing, enabling their reintegration into the community. The objectives are further achieved through advocacy of the benefits of arts education in engaging into society those that have suffered social exclusion of many sorts.

Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts

Our main activities and who we help are described elsewhere in this report. All our charitable activities are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit. The Committee have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit throughout the year when deciding on the activities of the charity.

The trustees consider that they have complied with their duties to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.

Directors Account

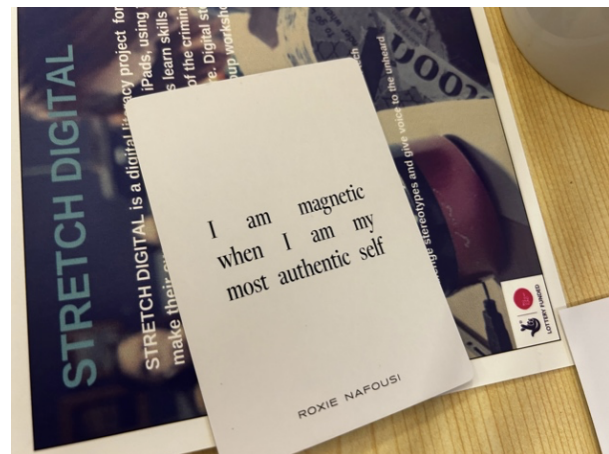
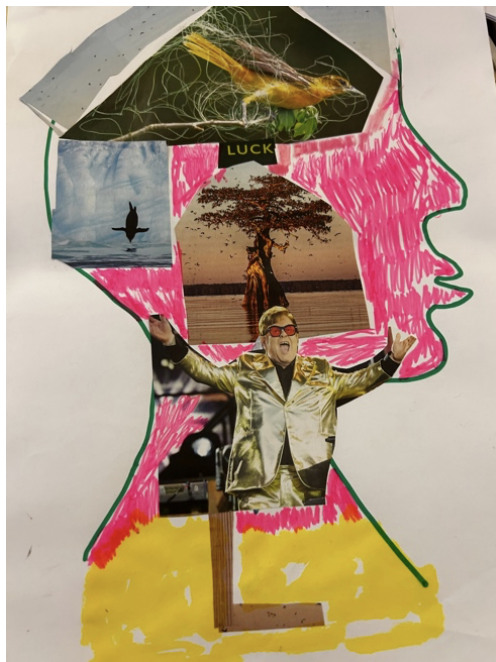
It has been a difficult few years for Stretch, seemingly harder to get funding and Stretch Director Carlotta Allum busy trying to finish her PHD. The work we have done we are very proud of, but it feels like a struggle.

Violence against women and girls

Some funding from Islington Council was very timely and opened doors to a new group of clients where we really found we can make a difference. We ran a specific storytelling project with Women and Girls affected by Violence called WEHeal. We delivered workshops where the girls and women told their stories creatively and felt empowered to speak up, the stories can then be used in the wider community. This led to a great partnership with Bethany House and we are fundraising to continue this work

We were well supported by Fahima Begum at Bethany House supported accommodation. They were having an open day so I went and gave a presentation. We started a delivery of sessions at the accommodation that went well and were well attended. This was an easier place to work as we were visiting them in their homes, and it was easier for them to get there. The hostel had a good room for projects and lots of art materials and the women were engaged. We delivered 8 sessions that always had a minimum of 4 people and a maximum of 9. The women there have multiple disadvantages and have all experienced violence in some way. It was a diverse group of different ages, ethnic origins and stories. All the participants lived on site.

Bethany House, 13 Lloyd Square, Islington, London, WC1X 9AR



From Fahima Begum:

We received many good feedback from our residents. They have asked if you will be returning.

Feedback from residents:

" A resident said the first time someone asked her to share her story without asking any questions"

" A resident said enjoyed cutting pictures from the magazine and found it therapeutic"

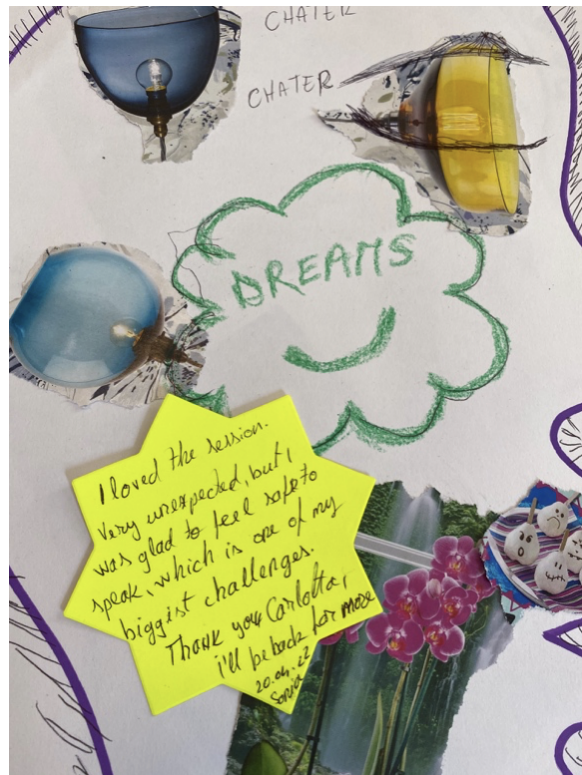
"A resident said the Storytelling workshop helped her to reflect on her life"

I would like to say Thank you for allowing our residents to express and share their journey without any pressure or judgement. We had attendance because you made them feel you were willing to listen to their story.

We hope you can do another workshop at Bethany House.

The Art Council – Stories that Heal

Continuing our storytelling for mental health, we secured some money to run projects with MIND in Camden and Downview Prison. This too ran successfully with very positive outputs under quite difficult conditions. We were wanting to do some work under 'social prescribing' but had missed the application deadline. We already had some groups lined up for Storytelling with mental health. All these groups we would like to continue to work with, funding depending.



Stretch Development - Margate

Our development has still mainly been spent on Margate Newgate gap project. We had a series of artist led installations on the art box which attracted some interest, and we were very pleased with. We have tried to make some connections with other communities to collaborate on the box with mixed success.



The Art Box must come down now, so we are looking at the feasibility of a proper outdoor gallery as seen in other seaside towns. We are still looking for partner for this.



We have built a strong partnership with Brixton Prison and Pentonville Prison, and we are fundraising to continue this work. Our team that worked in Margate have found a property in St Leonards in Hastings and have set up a new venture for Stretch. A community-led theatre and gallery. Stretch Hot Tap Theatre. We think this will be a successful venture and have already had a lot of interest



We thank all our supporters and regular funders. Special mention to Goldsmiths 'Open Book' project who have employed us on various occasions to work with their alumni. Thanks to Dean Stalham and his tireless energy and community work. Thanks to the Arts Council for their advice, although we have been unlucky recently, we have faith they will come good.

Thanks

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Financial review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period

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Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held

It is the new policy of the Trust to build some unrestricted reserves. As it stands we have very few unrestricted funds and we are looking at a new fundraising strategy to rectify this. Our work is project funded and there for 'general overheads' would be low. It has been a very difficult year and we did not hit our fundraising targets from the year before. We hoped to maintain 3 months running costs by 2018. Reserves would be held so that the charity can fulfill its financial obligations to staff and creditors in the event of an unexpected cessation of activity.

Amount of reserves held

Reasons for holding zero reserves

Funds materially in deficit

none

Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern

The risks to which the charity are exposed are monitored on a regular basis by the Board and appropriate action is taken to mitigate and manage those risks, and to minimize any possible disruption to the effectiveness of the charity's work from them. We have an extensive insurance policy that includes Trustee indemnity insurance. We work to specific project funders risk assessments.

Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document
(e.g. trust deed, royal charter)

Constitution Deed of Trust

How the charity is constituted
(e.g. unincorporated association, CIO)

Association

Trustee selection methods including
details of any constitutional
provisions e.g. election to post or
name of any person or body entitled
to appoint one or more trustees

Elected at the AGM, selected and interviewed by other Trustees -
invited to apply

Reference and administration details

Charity's full name

STRETCH

Charity's principal address

The Centre
Margate

Postcode CT9 1JG

Names of the trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Matthew Meadows	Chair		
Matthew Marshall	Treasurer		
Gregg McGee			
Andrew Kidger			

Names and addresses of advisers

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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**Independent
Examiner**

Karen Wood ACMA

Outsource Accounting Services & IE's
2 Galligao Lane
Osbalwick, York
YO10 3NR

Bankers

HSBC, 13 Parliament York YO1 8RS

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members

Carlotta Allum

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees Annual Report and Accounts

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature



Full Name Matthew Meadows

Position Chair

Date 29th July 2025

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Stretch

I report on the accounts of: **Stretch (the Charity)**
for the year ended: **30th September 2024** which are set out on pages 8 to 10.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records

There has been absence of supporting documentation for the payments, other than seeing them leave the bank account on the statements.



Karen Wood (ACMA)

Outsource independent examination
service

2 Galligap Lane

Osbalwick

York YO10 3NR

29/07/2025

Date:

STRETCH
(Charity Number: 1109851)

Receipts & Payments Accounts for the year ended: 30th September 2024				
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2024 Total funds	2023 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Grants	1,000	28,080	29,080	18,405
Donations & fundraising	50	-	50	50
Bank interest	-	-	-	1
Total receipts	1,050	28,080	29,130	18,456
Payments				
Grant delivery	1,000	23,005	24,005	18,544
Running costs & equipment	-	1,239	1,239	93
Marketing & promotion	-	300	300	528
Website		2,825	2,825	
Insurance	463	-	463	222
Membership & subscriptions	-	208	208	198
Accountancy & governance	542	348	890	500
Travel	-	155	155	70
Bank charges	215	-	215	163
Total payments	2,220	28,080	30,300	20,318
Net of receipts/(payments)	(1,170)	-	(1,170)	(1,862)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Balance brought forward	1,234	-	1,234	3,095
Balance carried forward	64	-	64	1,233

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Statement of Assets and Liabilities at:	30th September 2024
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	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Assets				
Cash at bank and in hand				
Current bank account	63	-	63	1,232
Savings bank account	1	-	1	1
	<u>64</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>1,233</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Liabilities				
Independent Examination fee	250	-	250	90
	<u>250</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>90</u>

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Notes to the Accounts for the year ended:

30th September 2024

1. Basis of Accounts

The Trustees have taken advantage of section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 and prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

2. Restricted income funds

Fund name

Purpose

Arts Council

Storytelling for mental health, projects with MIND in Camden and Downview Prison.

Islington Borough Council

Storytelling project with women and girls affected by violence called WEHeal.

	Balance b/fwd	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance c/fwd
	£	£	£	£
Arts Council	-	27,000	27,000	-
Islington Borough Council	-	1,080	1,080	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>28,080</u>	<u>28,080</u>	<u>-</u>

Approval of Accounts for the year ended:

30th September 2024

The report and accounts were approved at a meeting of the Trustees held on:

29th July 2025

Date



29 th July 2025

Signed for and on behalf of the Trustees

Date

Matthew Meadows

Chair

Print Name

Position (e.g. Chair etc)