

The Ascendance Repertory Company Limited

Charity number 1110747

A company limited by guarantee number 05496869

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024



The Ascendance Repertory Company Limited

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

Contents	Page
Trustees' report	2 to 6
Examiner's report	7
Statement of financial activities	8
Balance sheet	9
Notes to the accounts	10 to 14

Prepared by West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

The Ascendance Repertory Company Limited

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 March 2024

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisors

The trustees during the financial year and up to and including the date the report was approved were:

Name	Position	Dates
Jan Petrus Maria Costima	Chair	
Janet Mitchell	Treasurer / Secretary	
Samantha McCormick		
Quentin Krang	Treasurer	Resigned 20 August 2024
Hayley Marsden		Appointed 12 June 2023
		Resigned 29 February 2024
Teresa Widera		Appointed 2 October 2023
Terence Hyde		Resigned 17 April 2023
Charity number	1110747	Registered in England and Wales
Company number	05496869	Registered in England and Wales

Registered and principal address	Bankers
10 Ashville Terrace	The Co-operative Bank
Farsley	PO Box 101
Leeds	1 Balloon St
LS28 5AT	Manchester, M60 4EP

Independent examiner

E J Beverley FCCA

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and was formed on 1 July 2005. It is governed by a memorandum and articles of association amended 6 June 2022 and 17 May 2023. The liability of the members in the event of the company being wound up is limited to a sum not exceeding £1.

Method of recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees of the charity are also the directors for the purposes of company law and are appointed at a duly convened meeting of the trustees.

The Ascendance Repertory Company Limited

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects

To advance the education of the public by the promotion of the Arts, in particular but not exclusively the art of dance.

The charity's main activities

The charity currently works in the local community, providing high-quality arts projects and classes, which seek to bring positive change to health and wellbeing.

Public benefit statement

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our trustees have given serious consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular the advancement of the arts, dance and health.

Achievements and performance

In 2023/24, Ascendance has explored its artistic potential, developing new opportunities for participants and artists to expand their skills and showcase their talents. Ascendance has continued to establish new partnerships and expanded its in-person and digital class and workshop provision across Leeds and Bradford, reaching new participants from a diverse range of backgrounds. Ascendance has also developed its community performance company Fuse Dance Collective, a company with professional dancers and members with Parkinson's, attracting audiences at regional theatres and events.

Organisational Development:

Ascendance is proud to have taken on Artistic Director Rachel Wesson on a full-time basis together with maintaining a flexible freelance workforce, Creative Director Emma Clayton, Izzy Brittain, Emma Hindley, and trainee teachers Sharon Fountain, Josephine Pass, Sophie Atkinson and Becky Firth. In addition, Natalie Haslam has a new role as Development, People and Culture Manager providing fundraising, organisational and marketing support on a consultancy basis. The organisation has also supported five volunteers to help the outreach team.

Key Achievements this year include:

Developing our National Lottery Community Fund project 'No One Left Behind'.

Securing Bradford 2025 funding to develop a new mini film series and exhibition.

Securing Leeds Council funding to support core activities.

Piloting a new Choreographic development project, 'Training Ground', for our participants with Parkinson's, to develop their skills and become dance artists.

Developing a new community company model for 'Fuse Dance Collective' after successfully launching in the previous year.

Providing opportunities for five volunteers to assist with classes, events and outreach activity.

Providing 7 placements students work experience to Leeds Trinity University and Leeds College of Music.

Providing training and talent development for 8 freelance dance artists.

Hosting an Away Day for Board and Team at Yorkshire Sculpture Park, and a Team Creatives Day at Meanwood Urban Valley Farm.

Undertaking business planning, including strategy development, with a focus on marketing, fundraising and the artistic model.

Undertaking a review of all Ascendance's policies and updating them in line with current guidelines and best practices.

The Ascendance Repertory Company Limited

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2024

Outreach & Digital Inclusion.

This year Ascendance has undertaken important outreach and digital inclusion work with key partners and community groups, enabling more diverse participants to be included in regular work and projects. It continues a successful online dance class and runs Hybrid sessions through Leeds Care Delivery Service.

Ascendance has 130 regular class members over 9 regular dance community groups.

Key achievements this year include:

Increasing provision with 10 regular neuro dance sessions per week across hospices, care homes, community centres and at home provision via Zoom. This has resulted in 380 Face to Face Dance Sessions (across Leeds, Bradford, Halifax) and 38 Zoom Dance Sessions, as well as 8 Hybrid dance sessions from Care Homes and Hospices reaching over 200 people with conditions such as Dementia and Parkinson's.

New audience development with sports organisations, including Leeds Rhinos Community Foundation, engaging participants through their wellbeing programme.

Reaching Asian elders with PUK initiatives and events at Karmand Community Centre.

Reaching people with complex needs at Links Care Home, Bradford.

Undertaking digital inclusion work across Leeds, reaching those who can't leave their homes and upskilling participants to take part in Zoom sessions.

Partnering with Abilitynet and 100% Digital Leeds to upskill participants. And joining the Digital Inclusion Network to help people get access to, and benefit from, the online world.

Developing new and existing partnerships with Sense, Parkinson's UK Halifax branch, New Wortley Community Centre and Morley Town Council reaching new and diverse participants.

Providing activity as part of the 'Arts in Care Home Day 2023' at Leeds City Library and offering workshops as part of 'Wellbeing Wednesdays', reaching 6 Care Homes / Day Centres.

Performances:

This year Ascendance has expanded its performance strand, showcasing work at seven venues as part of its Arts Council Funded 'Pillars' Project. Performances featured a new music commission by acclaimed film composer Laura Rossi.

Community Showcase at The Riley Theatre, March 15th 2024 - True Yorkshire Grit

Winter Celebration at Morley Town Hall, December 4th 2023 - A True Yorkshire

Parkinson's UK Leeds branch meeting at St Chad's Parish Centre, November 8th 2023 - True Yorkshire Grit

Living Well with Parkinson's at Bradford Town Hall, June 17th 2023 - Journey

Leeds 2023 Celebration at Meanwood Community Centre, August 12th 2023 - Orchard

Expressions Festival at Stanley & Audrey Burton Theatre, July 13th 2023 - El Nino

Moving with Joy at Leeds Playhouse, June 2nd 2023 - El Nino

Financial review

The net income for the year was £11,176, including net income of £12,827 on unrestricted funds and net expenditure of £1,651 on restricted funds after transfers.

The Ascendance Repertory Company Limited

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2024

Reserves policy

The charity's free reserves, excluding fixed assets, at the year end were £20,816.

The reserves policy is to ensure there are sufficient reserves available to finance adequately, for at least three months, the operation of the company in the event of unforeseen circumstances. This reserve may be depleted to satisfy scheduled temporary liquidity deficiencies. Currently three months trading equates to £15,000 and this is updated on a monthly basis and is calculated on a rolling annual timeline.

This is a minimum requirement to mitigate an unexpected financial emergency. The Management recognise that in times of particular funding uncertainty around our core funder, it is prudent to build reserves above this to enable the company to survive and deliver our mission in the event of loss of a major element of our grant income and it has therefore been a stated aim to rebuild company reserves over the current Arts Council funding period, to bring them to a level which would withstand such longer-term changes to our business model.

The ambition is to sustain reserves that allow the company to function for a six month period and this has been set at £30,000.

The Ascendancy Repertory Company Limited

Trustees' report (continued) for the year ended 31 March 2024

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees report and the financial statements in accordance with the applicable law and UK Accounting Standards.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for the year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;

- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company 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 to enable them to ensure that the financial accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (Charities SORP (FRS102)), and in accordance with the special provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by the board of trustees on 11/11/2024

Janet Mitchell (Trustee)

The Ascendance Repertory Company Limited

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Ascendance Repertory Company Limited

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 8 to 14.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the charitable 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 charitable 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 ('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

WYCAS conduct the bookkeeping and complete the independent examination for the charity.

The following criteria are met:

- 1) the independent examiner is a member of an approved body that has applied the FRC's Revised Ethical Standard;
- 2) there is documentary evidence in respect of the bookkeeping arrangements that the trustees were "informed management" and have made such judgements and decisions that are needed in relation to the presentation and disclosure of information in the financial statements;
- 3) the independent examiner was not the book-keeper nor does the examiner report directly to the book-keeper.

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the 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.

E J Beverley FCCA

19/11/2024

West Yorkshire Community Accountancy Service CIO

Stringer House
34 Lupton Street
Leeds
LS10 2QW

The Ascendance Repertory Company Limited
Statement of Financial Activities
(including summary income and expenditure account)
for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Income from:					
Grants	(2)	500	105,680	106,180	47,775
Earned income		16,574	-	16,574	9,981
Donations		4,343	-	4,343	4,951
Total income		21,417	105,680	127,097	62,707
Expenditure on:					
Salaries	(3)	6,623	20,972	27,595	-
Artistic programme		525	47,177	47,702	34,619
Freelance administration staff		-	2,331	2,331	14,844
Other overheads		-	888	888	232
Freelance marketing and fundraising staff		60	12,478	12,538	7,447
Advertising and consultancy		144	1,219	1,363	2,480
Organisational development		-	4,086	4,086	3,870
Personal access		-	1,620	1,620	200
Minor equipment		-	402	402	352
Depreciation		1,090	-	1,090	2,152
Insurance		128	228	356	256
Independent examination		120	660	780	660
Accountancy work		-	4,958	4,958	543
Evaluation		-	1,440	1,440	50
Travel		-	3,257	3,257	1,974
Venue hire		-	5,515	5,515	4,415
Total expenditure		8,690	107,231	115,921	74,094
Net income / (expenditure)		12,727	(1,551)	11,176	(11,387)
Transfers between funds		100	(100)	-	-
Net movement in funds		12,827	(1,651)	11,176	(11,387)
Fund balances brought forward		8,446	34,775	43,221	54,608
Fund balances carried forward	(4)	21,273	33,124	54,397	43,221

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

The Ascendance Repertory Company Limited

Balance sheet

as at 31 March 2024

	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	(5) 457	-	457	1,547
Total fixed assets	<u>457</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>457</u>	<u>1,547</u>
Current assets				
Debtors and prepayments	(6) -	270	270	447
Cash at bank and in hand	(7) 24,606	32,854	57,460	42,235
Total current assets	<u>24,606</u>	<u>33,124</u>	<u>57,730</u>	<u>42,682</u>
Current liabilities:				
amounts falling due within one year				
Creditors and accruals	(8) 3,790	-	3,790	1,008
Total current liabilities	<u>3,790</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,790</u>	<u>1,008</u>
Net current assets	<u>20,816</u>	<u>33,124</u>	<u>53,940</u>	<u>41,674</u>
Net assets	<u>21,273</u>	<u>33,124</u>	<u>54,397</u>	<u>43,221</u>
Funds				
Unrestricted funds	21,273	-	21,273	8,446
Restricted funds	-	33,124	33,124	34,775
Total funds	<u>21,273</u>	<u>33,124</u>	<u>54,397</u>	<u>43,221</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2024 the charitable company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476. The trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and with FRS 102 (effective January 2019).

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 11/11/2024

Janet Mitchell (Trustee)

The Ascendance Repertory Company Limited

Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) and with the Charities Act 2011.

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

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year.

No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

Going concern

The trustees are satisfied that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, if it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Where grants are related to performance and specific deliverables, they are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

Expenditure and liabilities

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out the resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Taxation

As a charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £250 are capitalised and included at cost including any incidental expenses of acquisition. Gifted assets are shown at the value to the charity on receipt. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost on a straight line basis over their expected useful economic lives as follows:

IT equipment: over 3 years

Fund accounting

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

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

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

The Ascendance Repertory Company Limited
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

2 Grants	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Arts Council England	-	27,750	27,750	39,845
Household Support Fund	-	1,000	1,000	-
Opera North	500	-	500	-
Parkinson's UK	-	3,000	3,000	2,420
Sport England	-	9,828	9,828	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	-	64,102	64,102	-
Leeds Older People Forum	-	-	-	1,300
Versus Arthritis	-	-	-	4,210
	<u>500</u>	<u>105,680</u>	<u>106,180</u>	<u>47,775</u>

3 Staff costs and numbers	2024 £	2023 £
Gross salaries	27,000	-
Social security costs	2,785	-
Employment allowance	(2,785)	-
Pensions	595	-
	<u>27,595</u>	<u>-</u>

The average number of employees during the year was 0.8, being an average of 0.8 full time equivalent (2023: 0, 0 FTE). There were no employees with emoluments above £60,000.

Defined contribution pension scheme	2024 £	2023 £
Costs of the scheme to the charity for the year	595	-

4 Restricted funds	Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfers £	Balance c/f £
Pillars PUK	335	3,000	563	-
Pillars ACE	34,440	27,750	50,775	-
Pillars Sport England	-	9,828	1,513	-
NL Community Fund	-	64,102	53,480	-
Household Support Fund	-	1,000	900	(100)
	<u>34,775</u>	<u>105,680</u>	<u>107,231</u>	<u>(100)</u>
				<u>33,124</u>

Fund name	Purpose of restriction
Pillars PUK	To deliver activities to help people with Parkinson's become and stay physically active in Bradford.
Pillars ACE	To support participants with Neurodisabilities The project will enable 50 neuro-disabled participants from local communities across Leeds to co-create, rehearse & perform 6 shows with guidance from 5 freelance artists.
Pillars Sport England	To deliver a dance and yoga-based exercise project for individuals with neuro disabilities such as Parkinson's and MS in a deprived area of Bradford.

The Ascendance Repertory Company Limited
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

4 Restricted funds (continued)

Fund name	Purpose of restriction
NL Community Fund	To widen the reach of the Ascendance Repertory's support to people living with long term health conditions in West Yorkshire.
Household Support Fund	To provide 20 participants £50 food vouchers to help with the cost of living. Transfer relates to reallocating funds to unrestricted fund to cover overhead expenses.

5 Tangible assets

	IT equipment	Total
<u>Cost</u>	£	£
At 1 April 2023	7,871	7,871
Additions	-	-
At 31 March 2024	<u>7,871</u>	<u>7,871</u>
<u>Depreciation</u>		
At 1 April 2023	6,324	6,324
Charge for year	1,090	1,090
At 31 March 2024	<u>7,414</u>	<u>7,414</u>
<u>Net book value</u>		
At 31 March 2024	<u>457</u>	<u>457</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>1,547</u>	<u>1,547</u>

6 Debtors and prepayments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Debtors	-	175
Prepayments	270	272
	<u>270</u>	<u>447</u>

7 Cash at bank and in hand

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash at bank	57,450	42,225
Cash in hand	10	10
	<u>57,460</u>	<u>42,235</u>

8 Creditors and accruals

	2024	2023
	£	£
Creditors	1,080	-
Accruals	780	1,008
Taxation and social security	1,756	-
Other creditors	174	-
	<u>3,790</u>	<u>1,008</u>

The Ascendance Repertory Company Limited
Notes to the accounts continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

9 Related party transactions

Trustee expenses

No trustee received any expenses during this year or the previous year.

Trustee remuneration and benefits

No trustee received any remuneration or benefit during this or the previous year.

The Ascendance Repertory Company Limited
Statement of Financial Activities including comparatives for all funds
(including summary income and expenditure account)
for the year ended 31 March 2024

	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	funds	funds	funds	funds	funds	funds
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income						
Grants	500	-	105,680	47,775	106,180	47,775
Earned income	16,574	9,981	-	-	16,574	9,981
Donations	4,343	4,951	-	-	4,343	4,951
Total income	21,417	14,932	105,680	47,775	127,097	62,707
Expenditure						
Salaries	6,623	-	20,972	-	27,595	-
Artistic programme	525	10,870	47,177	23,749	47,702	34,619
Freelance administration staff	-	5,751	2,331	9,093	2,331	14,844
Other overheads	-	210	888	22	888	232
Freelance marketing and fundraising	60	1,212	12,478	6,235	12,538	7,447
Advertising and consultancy	144	714	1,219	1,766	1,363	2,480
Organisational development	-	3,518	4,086	352	4,086	3,870
Personal access	-	-	1,620	200	1,620	200
Minor equipment	-	127	402	225	402	352
Depreciation	1,090	2,152	-	-	1,090	2,152
Insurance	128	-	228	256	356	256
Independent examination	120	-	660	660	780	660
Accountancy work	-	62	4,958	481	4,958	543
Evaluation	-	-	1,440	50	1,440	50
Travel	-	144	3,257	1,830	3,257	1,974
Venue hire	-	692	5,515	3,723	5,515	4,415
Total expenditure	8,690	25,452	107,231	48,642	115,921	74,094
Net income / (expenditure)	12,727	(10,520)	(1,551)	(867)	11,176	(11,387)
Transfers between funds	100	-	(100)	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	12,827	(10,520)	(1,651)	(867)	11,176	(11,387)
Fund balances brought forward	8,446	18,966	34,775	35,642	43,221	54,608
Fund balances carried forward	21,273	8,446	33,124	34,775	54,397	43,221