



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## **Trustees' Annual Report for the period**

**From 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024**

Charity name: **Furness Music Centre**

Charity registration number: **1112934**

### **Objectives and Activities**

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	a) to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the trustees see fit, including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals.  b) To assist and support such charitable institutions or purposes as the trustees shall from time to time determine.
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.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	Furness Music Centre continued to hold weekly rehearsals for all ensembles in term time and a public performance at the end of each term.  Further opportunities for members to make music and audiences to enjoy it were provided over the Christmas period, and 40 members joined a successful tour of North Wales in the summer of 2024.  Furness Music Centre also provided instrument lessons in orchestral instruments for more than 45 children and adults throughout the year
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Throughout this period the trustees have taken due regard of the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission

### **Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	Furness Music Centre is generally not a grant-making charity, and no grants were made in this period by the charity
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	Furness Music Centre does not make social investments

Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>All of Furness Music Centre trustees, who carry out all of the administrative activities that support the charity, are unpaid volunteers. Without the contribution of its trustees, Furness Music Centre would not be able to operate.</p> <p>A number of members also volunteer their services at concerts and in organising the tour each year</p>
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
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.	Para 1.20	<p>Making music in an ensemble, whether this be playing in an orchestra, singing in a choir or both, has multiple positive effects on both children's education and adults' education and mental well-being.</p> <p>The improvement in playing of all of the ensembles over time is evident for all to see and hear.</p> <p>A number of studies have demonstrated a statistically significant improvement in general educational outcome where children also learn to play an instrument (e.g., <a href="#">Does learning to play an instrument have an impact on change in attainment from age 11 to 16?</a>).</p> <p>Playing in an ensemble also improves teamwork, teaches collaboration skills, develops confidence and involves almost every sense and motor function in the body</p> <p>The health benefits of singing are also well documented, and Furness Music Centre is registered with the local social prescribing practitioner team.</p> <p>Our members also gain socially, with plentiful reference to the 'Furness Music Centre family'. Some of our older members live alone and have significantly improved social lives from participating in the activities offered by Furness Music Centre.</p> <p>Finally our concerts educate the general public and bring pleasure to our audience members, many of whom attend all of our concerts throughout the year.</p>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	The trustees set no formal objectives for the period
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	Furness Music Centre does not raise funds from the public, and no fundraising objectives were set by the trustees

Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	Furness Music Centre does not make financial investments and the trustees therefore did not make any such objectives
Other		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>The financial records together with the information held on the website enabled Gift Aid to be claimed on members' subscriptions.</p> <p>A Production Company, FMC ProdCo Ltd., with three trustees as directors, enabled Orchestra Tax Relief to be claimed for the first time. Resulting in additional funds of approximately £6,000 to the charity.</p> <p>The charity achieved an income of £55,515 during the period of operation, with an expenditure of £51,185. This does not include the cost of coach hire for the tour in the summer of 2024, which was £2,590, resulting in an effective surplus of £1,740.</p> <p>A balance of £15,950 was held in the charity's account at the end of the year, with the liability for tour coach hire of £2,590 effectively reducing this to £13,360</p> <p>A balance of £1,528 was held in the production company's account at the end of the year</p> <p>The charity also owns a significant number of musical instruments which are used to support instrumental teaching and are available for members to loan. These are valued at approximately £14,000</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The reserves policy of the charity over this period was changed to hold a minimum of £15,000 in reserves (an increase of £5,000 from the previous policy of £10,000. These are held in the charity's and production company's bank accounts
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Total cash reserves of £15,950 were held, with a liability of £2,590
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Not applicable
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	No funds held by the charity have been in deficit during the period
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	The trustees believe that there are no material uncertainties about their charity's ability to continue as a going concern

**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	<p>The charity's principal sources of funds supporting the operation of the charity during this period are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Membership Subscriptions</li><li>• Grant funding from Cumbria Music Hub</li><li>• Grant funding from local charitable trusts</li><li>• Personal donations</li><li>• Proceeds raised by concerts</li><li>• Gift Aid</li><li>• Orchestra Tax Relief</li><li>• Fees for the provision of instrument lessons</li><li>• Member's tour fees</li></ul>
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	<p>Furness Music Centre does not have any financial investments, and therefore an investment policy is not required</p>
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	<p>The two variable elements in terms of income and expenditure are concerts and the annual tour and these represent the main financial risks to the charity.</p> <p>In practice, concerts have always generated more income than they cost to stage, with both income and expenditure being relatively small and so this risk is considered minimal.</p> <p>The tour often represents over one third of the total turnover of the charity and so is the primary risk to the charity.</p> <p>The trustees manage this risk by setting budgets and monitoring member's take-up of the tour. Risks are minimised by the fact that the financial commitment up to one month ahead of the tour is less than the cancelation insurance held by the charity.</p>
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		Furness Music Centre holds no funds as trusts
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	The governing document for Furness Music Centre is its Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Furness Music Centre is constituted as an unincorporated 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	Para 1.25	Trustees are nominated at the Annual General Meeting and elected by the members. No person or body is entitled to nominate or appoint a trustee

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	Furness Music Centre has a 'welcome pack' for new trustees and offers an induction session. The charity commission guidance for new trustees is also signposted
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	Furness Music Centre has a number of trustee roles, including Chair, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Secretary, and Membership Secretary.  A number of sub-groups, made up of trustees, including finance, concerts, safeguarding and publicity also support the work of the charity  The charity engages a Musical Director and a Choral Director to lead the musical activities of the charity. It also engages instrument teachers to provide lessons.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Furness Music Centre is a founder partner organisation within Cumbria Music Hub
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Furness Music Centre
Other name the charity uses	FMC
Registered charity number	1112934
Charity's principal address	Furness Music Centre, Dunnerholme Crossing, Kirkby-in-Furness Cumbria LA17 7TU

### Names of the charity 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)
1	Fiona Mary Roberts	Chair		
2	Harriet Louise Hampshire			
3	Madelaine Heslop			
4	Simone Bernadette Huitson			
5	Judith Mary Wray			
6	Janet Elizabeth Heffernan			
7	Janet Aitken		Until 14 March 2024	
8	Graham John Wood			
9	Jean Ashworth			
10	David John Gillam			
11	Timothy John Baxter	Secretary		
12	Peter Fitzpatrick	Treasurer		
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

[illegible]

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

[illegible]

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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#### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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### Exemptions from disclosure Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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### Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees’ report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Fiona Mary Roberts	Peter Fitzpatrick
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Treasurer

Date

16<sup>th</sup> January 2024



Charity Name	No (if any)
Furness Music Centre	1112934

## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01/09/2023		31/08/2024

CC16a

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
A1a Donations, legacies and other minor receipts	17,100	-	-	17,100	20,149
A1b(i) Operating activities to further charity's objects	38,348	-	-	38,348	37,876
A1b(ii) Operating activities to generate funds	-	-	-	-	-
A1c Investment income receipts	-	-	-	-	-
A1d Other receipts (not counting as Gross Income)	67	-	-	67	269
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>55,515</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>55,515</b>	<b>58,294</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>55,515</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>55,515</b>	<b>58,294</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
A2a Payments for Generating Funds	-	-	-	-	-
A2b(i) Charitable Payments - Grants Paid	-	-	-	-	-
A2b(ii) Charitable Payment - Charitable Activities	49,398	-	-	49,398	51,916
A2b(iii) Charitable Payments - Support Costs	807	-	-	807	2,922
A2b(iv) Charitable Payments - Management & Administration	-	-	-	-	-
A2c Other payments (not counting as "Expenditure")	980	-	-	980	220
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>51,185</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>51,185</b>	<b>55,059</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases</b>					
Instruments to support tuition	755	-	-	755	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>755</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>755</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>51,940</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>51,940</b>	<b>55,059</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>3,575</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,575</b>	<b>3,236</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>12,376</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,376</b>	<b>9,140</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>15,951</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15,951</b>	<b>12,376</b>

### Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories

Details

Unrestricted funds

Restricted funds

Endowment funds

B1 Cash funds

Current Account	to nearest £ 15,951	to nearest £ -	to nearest £ -
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>15,951</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-



B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
FMCJuniors Musical Instruments - Flutes	Unrestricted Funds	-	2,800
FMCJuniors Musical Instruments - Viollins	Unrestricted Funds	-	3,250
FMCJuniors Musical Instruments - Clarinets	Unrestricted Funds	-	2,100
FMC Musical Instruments - Violin	Unrestricted Funds	-	500
FMC Musical Instruments - Cellos	Unrestricted Funds	-	3,850
FMC Musical Instruments - Double Bass	Unrestricted Funds	-	700
FMC Musical Instruments - Trumpets	Unrestricted Funds	-	700
FMC Musical Instruments - Xylophone	Unrestricted Funds	-	150
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
Payment for Tour Coach Transport	Unrestricted Funds	2,590	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Peter Fitzpatrick, Treasurer	25/03/2025
	Simone Huitson, Assistant Treasurer	25/03/2025



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Furness Music Centre

On accounts for the year  
ended

31<sup>st</sup> August 2024

Charity no  
(if any)

1112934

Set out on pages

1 & 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2024.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

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

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

Independent  
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination.

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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

*DK Aitken*

Date:

23/01/2025

Name:

David Aitken

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

- i) Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.
- ii) Association of International Certified Professional Accountants

Address:

29 Ainslie St, Barrow in Furness

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**