

SICK! PRODUCTIONS LTD.

England & Wales · Charity number 1116008

Details

Other names	BASEMENT SOUTH EAST LIMITED, BRIGHTON FRINGE LIMITED
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	04622154
Registered	2006-09-04
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	SICK! Productions Ltd Unit 3 The Sharp Project Thorp Road Manchester
Phone	01616966410
Email	info@sickfestival.com
Website	www.sickfestival.com

Activities

Objects: TO FOSTER AND PROMOTE THE IMPROVEMENT, DEVELOPMENT, MAINTENANCE AND ADVANCEMENT OF ARTISTIC KNOWLEDGE, UNDERSTANDING AND APPRECIATION BY PROVIDING RESOURCES, FACILITIES AND A CREATIVE SPACE FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE FIELDS OF VISUAL, PERFORMING AND LIVE ARTS AND FILM.

Activities: To foster and promote the improvement, development, maintenance and advancement of artistic knowledge, understanding and appreciation by providing resources, facilities and a creative space for the education of the public in the fields of Live Art, experimental performance and visual art.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Economic/community Development/employment, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£421,359	£579,972	-	-
2024-03-31	£371,409	£414,537	-	-
2023-03-31	£390,057	£372,942	-	-
2022-03-31	£404,645	£417,712	-	-
2021-03-31	£432,994	£323,810	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
CHRISTINE ANN D'CRUZ	Chair	2023-10-05
Eddie Berg		2024-03-04
Emma Barnes		2025-09-10
Patrick Carroll-Fogg		2025-02-03
Paul Brian Russ		2023-10-05
Rosanna Stanbury		2025-03-12

SICK! PRODUCTIONS LTD.

England & Wales - Charity number 1116008

Accounts

Company registration number: 4622154

Charity registration number: 1116008

SICK! Productions Ltd

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Menzies LLP
One Express
1 George Leigh Street
Manchester
M4 5DL

SICK! Productions Ltd

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SICK! Productions Ltd

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	Christine D’Cruz, Chair
	Paul Russ
	Emma Barnes, (appointed 10 September 2025)
	Edward Berg
	Rosanna Stanbury, (appointed 12 March 2025)
Senior Management / Leadership Team	Patrick Carroll Fogg, (appointed 3 February 2025)
	Tracy Gentles, Chief Executive
Charity Registration Number	1116008
Company Registration Number	4622154
Registered Office	The charity is incorporated in England and Wales.
	Red 3
	Sharp Project
	Thorp Road
	Manchester
Independent Examiner	M40 5BJ
	Menzies LLP
	One Express
	1 George Leigh Street
	Manchester
Bankers	M4 5DL
	The Co-operative Bank Plc
	Skelmersdale

SICK! Productions Ltd

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The principal activity of SICK! Productions is to foster and promote the improvement, development, maintenance, and advancement of artistic knowledge, understanding, and appreciation. This is achieved by providing resources, facilities, and creative spaces for public education in the fields of visual and performing arts and film.

Each year, the trustees review the charity's aims, objectives, and activities. This report highlights the charity's achievements and the outcomes of its work during the reporting period. The trustees acknowledge the success of key activities and the positive impact the charity has had on the communities it serves. This review ensures that the charity's aims, objectives, and activities remain aligned with its stated purpose.

Public benefit

The trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and planning future activities. Specifically, they consider how proposed activities will contribute to achieving the set aims and objectives.

In setting objectives for the year and planning activities, the trustees have also considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the document 'Public Benefit: Running a Charity (PB2)'.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Achievements and performance

Creative Programme

SICK! Festivals 2024

The 7th biennial Festival, 'Where's the Media Now...?' was held throughout the month of May 2024. It was delivered under the leadership of our new Artistic Director/CEO, Tracy Gentles. The whole Festival was presented in North Manchester and online, embedding our 10 year + commitment which commenced in 2021 to the communities of North Manchester. This approach has strengthened our relationships with local stakeholders and helped establish new partnerships. It has also given us the opportunity to test innovative ideas and develop new commissioning models. Feedback from the communities of Harpurhey, Charlestown and Moston have been positive, and particularly from local partners appreciating the authenticity of the collaboration. The 2024 Festival has marked a significant step towards deeper acceptance and trust in the communities..

"You just get it. You get what we're trying to do and that's why it's a great collaboration...You've given us ideas on different ways we can use the space."

- Carol Slade, Simpson Memorial Hall, SICK! Festival 2024 Venue Partner

At a Glance

Programme

- 14 artworks commissioned, including full and joint commissioned work
- 23 projects presented
- 19 projects took place in person, 2 online (digital), 2 live broadcasts distributed online, including via social media.

SICK! Productions Ltd

Trustees' Report

- 51 in-person events took place in total (excluding the 28 days that SAFE public installation was presented).
- 8 community co-produced projects.
- 2 international commissions.

Partnerships:

- New working partnership developed with Contact Theatre offering ticketing and box office support.
- New local presenting partnerships developed with:
 - North West Theatre Arts Company
 - Miner Community Arts Centre
 - Harpurhey Neighbourhood Project
 - Amazing Grace Launderette
 - YMCA
- New national partnerships supporting the presentation of work:
 - Unlimited
 - Soho Theatre.

Audience and participants:

- 144 local participants involved in community co-produced projects.
- 5,502,938 public engagements, a five-fold increase from the 2022 festival's reach of 1,137,701 due to local artist commissioned billboards.
- 3,133 live events audience (performances, events, and workshops).
- 457,404 digital audience including 175,651 views of our Where's the Media Now..? film and 10,537 views of digital venues access guides.
- New audiences generated by local venues, including 51% new audiences at North West Theatre Arts Company.

Artists:

- SICK! worked with 53 artists
- 68% of artists were based in Greater Manchester
- 25% in North Manchester
- 43% in other areas in Greater Manchester
- 28% based nationally
- 4% based internationally (Finland and the Netherlands).

Budget;

- £213,823 total Festival budget
- £146,598 - 71% of budget was invested in artists and creatives, £101,856 - 47% was invested in Greater Manchester based artists.
- £64,246 - 30% was directly invested into North Manchester, including £24,896 - 12% in local community assets (including space hire, ticket subsidy, and commissioning) and £39,350 -18% in creatives and artists.

SICK! Productions Ltd

Trustees' Report

Festival Commissioning

Community-led and Lifting Community Voice

The 2024 Festival amplified local voices. Poor Lass and Creation Foundation, with links to the area, created live recordings and streamed podcasts from the ground by interviewing performers, participants, and audiences. Poor Lass and Creation Foundation contributed significantly to public discussion about the local area and the work presented within the Festival.

The Festival has strengthened ties with the community, and we have gained insights for future development. All collaborators aligned with our Festival's aims, and we ensured that work from outside of North Manchester was suitable, and partners understood the opportunities and risks involved in these communities.

The Festival included several key commissions that had been co-produced with community members:

SAFE - was created by our Young Ambassadors with artists Rachel Shore and Ria Righteous. Through a series of community dinners reaching over 50 people from the local community, the Young Ambassadors held conversations on what makes people feel safe and unsafe in North Manchester. Together they created an installation that was installed at Harpurhey Shopping Centre to platform local people's perspectives.

Mindgames IRL - was a video gaming event that launched the full-length game "Never, Forever, Always," which was created by 4 young people from Manchester, 4 from Finland and Finnish games designer and artist Eetu Rantanen. The game explores how young people navigate their everyday mental health with the launch event presented at Harpurhey Neighbourhood Project, co-created with young people from the area.

No Us and Them - was a community co-produced dance piece between a group of adult North Manchester residents, a children's beginners dance group, and contemporary dance outfit Company Chameleon. Created with a diverse group of local residents, the work explored themes of what keeps people apart and what brings them together. The work was performed at Harpurhey Market.

Channel/2049 - was co-created by the residents of Whitebeck Court (supported housing for the over 60s), artists Alan Dunn, Claire Nolan, Sh!t Theatre and Maria Stukoff. In Channel/2049 they imagine what Manchester in year 2049 might look like.

Four documentary style video episodes were created featuring guest academics and FC United's Women's Football Manager, released during the festival 2024 online via vastaflive.com and on Instagram.

SICK! Productions Ltd

Trustees' Report

Themes

Themes explored in the festival emerged directly from community conversations, they included public safety, knife crime, gender, sexuality, poverty and the cost-of-living crisis, FOMO, doom scrolling, gaming and online culture, grime and drill music culture, OCD and anxiety, climate anxiety, environmental sustainability and biodiversity, ageing and dementia, fractured communities, HIV/Aids and neurodiversity.

The unifying theme that straddled all projects was mental health and how we look after it. Supporting community mental health, the festival included a series of Open Mental Health Workshops, both widening community conversations around mental health and profiling our year-round support and opportunities.

SMASH! Open presented highlights from our SMASH! social prescribing programme including artists talks and workshops. This series of activities was made available to anyone who wanted to attend and although mental health related, did not have to identify as having any problems.

For the Mandem launched our 2024-25 men's mental health programme the North Manchester Talking Circles. Teaming up with men's mental health support organisation Mandem Meet Up for a day highlighting men's mental health, advocating for greater understanding and to break stigma.

Appetite Building

We see engaging in the arts as a journey and wanted to present a diverse programme with something for everyone, supporting people in building an appetite for meaningful art. Key festival events and programming strands which supported this were:

In Our Nature, a large family-friendly event held at Boggart Hole Clough, attracting over 1,500 local residents. The day was filled with activities including live mural painting, children's games, face painting, community music, youth markets, and sports events, introducing locals to art, biodiversity, and SICK! Festival.

Public realm presentations taking place in and around Harpurhey Shopping Centre, a key hub for SICK! Festival 2024 with over 150,000 visitors in May. Presentations taking place within this area included: The Launderette Sessions, by Dutch artist Merel Smitt, held at the Amazing Grace Launderette, offering intimate one-on-one performances exploring local lives.

Our programme presented at North West Theatre Arts Company in Moston, including:

- RENT the musical, exploring themes including the cost-of-living crisis and HIV/AIDS.
- Dementia Street by Smug Roberts, a reflective work on his mother's diagnosis.
- Tones: A Hip Hop Opera by Gerel Falconer, portraying his journey growing up mixed-race and his immersion in grime and drill music.

Our live art programme at Simpson Memorial Hall in Moston, with a programme exploring the intersection of art, health, and community.

This included presentations of:

- Benched by Tink Flaherty, a personal exploration of identity through an eccentric journey across the UK.
- Famehungry, by Louise Orwin, tackling TikTok culture and mental health.
- Brotherly, Otherly, Disorderly by Vijay Patel exploring neurodiversity and family relationships.
- CAtts by Frankie Thompson, examining queer culture, clowning, and mental health.

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Digital

Recognising the need and value of digital programming, SICK! offered online content for those unable to attend live events. Channel/2049 presented episodes on staflive.com, while podcasts from Poor Lass and Creation Foundation provided socially conscious content, reaching regional, national, and international audiences through live recorded and streamed events.

Community-led and Lifting Community Voice

The Festival provided an opportunity to strengthen ties with the community and gain insight for future development. With a focus on North Manchester, all collaborators were aligned with the festival's aims, ensuring the work brought in from outside was suitable and partners understood both the opportunities and risk involved.

Local voices were amplified through live recordings and streamed podcast from the ground. Poor Lass and Creation Foundation interviewed performers, participants, and audience, which contributed significantly to public discussions about the area and the work presented within the Festival.

The Festival included several key commissions that had been co-produced with community members.

Other Achievements

Strategic Review

After completing the first SICK! Festival under new leadership, a comprehensive strategic review was undertaken. The review was independently led by Something to Aim For and included interviews with all staff members. The review focused on four areas:

- strategy
- the shape of the organisation
- Resources
- people

Leadership accepted the recommendations of the strategic review:

- Adapting a tiered organisational structure, including re-introducing the role of Executive Director to the organisations structure.
- Strengthening communications across the organisation, including changing the regularity and structure of team meetings.
- Establishing Standard Operating Procedures and Build Organisational Knowledge, including implementing a new CRM project management tool.

Business Development

International was a key fundraising priority in 2024/25, with the Artistic Director/CEO and International Development Consultant working closely together to build pan-European partnerships for our innovative new Beyond Survival and Status Labs Programmes.

Building on the 2024-26 funding commitment from long-term partners the Finnish Institute UK+IRE, in 2024/25 we achieve a 20,000 euro grant from Oulu2026 European Capital of Culture 2026 towards an exciting commissioning programme for Oulu, Finland and Manchester, UK based artists.

Further, in 2024/25 we continued to grow our Year-round Programme, achieving new funding from:

- Manchester City Council/Shared Prosperity Fund toward the Ambassadors Programme.

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Trustees' Report

- Community Health Equality Manchester towards Mandem Meet Ups a new social prescribing programme in North Manchester.
- GMCA/UK Government towards a new addition of Mindgames focused on youth employability and mental health.

Data Collection, Evaluation and Monitoring

For SICK! Festival 2024, we have invested in establishing new systems for collecting environmental data, audience survey data and introducing a new Counting What Count's qualitative survey. We purchased four new tablets for use on site and provided staff with training.

38% of audience respondents identified as non-heterosexual, with 17% specifically identifying as bisexual. Around 32% of respondents identified as neurodivergent, and 22% as deaf or disabled, reflecting our success in engaging these communities. Most respondents were based in Greater Manchester (92.73%). Of these, 51% lived in the northern areas of Harpurhey, Blackley, and Moston. 87% of respondents rated their experiences as "Good" or "Very Good".

Financial Review

Grants and Donations

Despite a challenging fundraising environment, SICK! has gained significant new grants in 2024/25 building on the support of multi-year funders.

Core income has remained stable since 2023/24 with thanks to the multi-year core support of Arts Council England National Portfolio and Oglesby Charitable Trust.

Demonstration strong strategic alignment with local authority priorities, in 2024/25 we have increased grant income from Manchester City Council by 21% to £33,075 and GMCA income by 250% to £26,378.

The organisation continued to benefit from multi-year project grants from Pilgrim Trust, Manchester City Council (Our Manchester Fund), the Finnish Institute UK+IRE, the University of Manchester, and Historic England.

New grants include:

- Manchester City Council (Shared Prosperity Fund)
- Manchester City Council (Community Health Equality Manchester)
- Greater Manchester Combined Authority/UK Government.

We are hugely grateful for the support of all our funders.

SICK! Productions Ltd

Trustees' Report

Other Income

In 2024/25, we received new consultancy income, box office revenue for festival 2024 presentations while gaining donation income, showing a modest but notable increase in new funding streams.

Assets

In 2024/25, two cars used in the 2022 project and exhibition SICK! Cars were sold for £549.

Within restricted funding for the Mindgames project, the organisation purchased four laptops and software at the cost of £2,410.46 to support young people to participate in the video game design programme.

Expenditure

2024 was a biennial festival year, with significant expenditure in addition to our growing year-round programme.

The total festival spend was £213,823, including an investment of £146,498 in artists and creatives and £64,246 directly invested into North Manchester.

There was also an increase in temporary staffing costs to underpin the newness of the 2024 festival and relevantly new staff team, including bringing in two temporary/part-time Festival Assistants, a temporary/part-time Communications Assistant, Engagement Manager and freelance Production Manager and team at the cost of £77,419.

The Year-round programme expenditure has grown from £49,451 in 2023/24 to £66,302 in 2024/25 (34%).

Risk Management

Trustees review risk and mitigations as part of quarterly board meetings, with any extraordinary meetings called if necessary. Key risks identified in 2024/25 include:

- Loss of Arts Council funding
- Staffing capacity not fit for purpose
- Not meeting financial targets

Financial Stability

Inflation by 31 March 25 reduced to 2.6% from the 2023 high of 7.1%, which had demonstrably stretched budgets leading into the festival year.

The organisation has continued to diversify its portfolio of funding, gaining strong uplifts in local authority support and seeding new box office, consultancy, and donations income streams. Increasing its income by 13.4% on the previous year.

Staff Stability & Team Wellbeing

The Strategic Review in part aimed to improve the staffing structure of the SICK! team and increase its stability. Recognising the problem of burnout within the arts sector and the disruption of redundancies after the strategic review, we have increased our staff welfare budget, introduced “human check ins” into our team meet structures and continue to embed the principles of care across all aspects of operations and delivery.

SICK! Productions Ltd

Trustees' Report

Policy on reserves

SICK! Productions Ltd aims to hold a minimum of three months' base operating costs in cash, currently set at £80,000 in the 2024/25 budget. This reserve ensures the organisation can meet its liabilities in the event of ceasing operations.

At the year-end, total funds were £71,359, of which £11,176 were restricted and £2,093 held in fixed assets, leaving £58,090 in free reserves.

Plans for future periods

In 2025/26, we will launch our 2025-30 Business Plan, with the following priorities:

Foster Global Connectivity: Establish mutual, accountable exchanges between local and international communities through frameworks like Beyond Survival and Status Lab.

Promote Community Wellbeing: Embed creative health programmes to improve mental wellbeing, such as SMASH! and Mindgames.

Reinforce Community Resilience: Strengthen local cultural infrastructure and leadership, particularly in North Manchester.

Drive Inclusive Future-Building: Support intersectional storytelling and shift dominant narratives to amplify marginalized voices.

Expand National and International Significance: Build reciprocal, community-led exchanges with international partners, ensuring collaborations are mutually beneficial and amplify local voices globally.

Key programme for 2025/26:

Beyond Survival is a new project that brings together diverse themes and goals under one cohesive vision. Offering a unique opportunity for artists, collectives, and companies to place their work at the forefront of an innovative new international commissioning consortium for intra-local co-operation, exploring socially engaged practice, healthcare, and shared local and global challenges. In 2025/26 will launch a partnership with Finnish Institute UK+IRE and Oulu2026 European City of Culture 2026.

Status Lab will feature a robust residency programme for early to mid-career artists, designed to support and empower them in their creative journeys. It will prioritise socially engaged artists committed to exploring specific topics within their work-subjects often connected to their identities and lived experiences.

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Organisational Goals

Strengthen Financial Stability: Focus on securing multi-year, unrestricted funding, diversifying income sources, and expanding reserves to ensure sustainable growth.

Enhance Governance and Capacity: Strengthen systems, governance, and team capacity to support the delivery of the plan.

Embed Ethical Practices: Ensure all projects are collaborative, centered on lived experiences, transparent, equitable, and guided by principles of relevance, solidarity, and intersectionality.

Measure and Adapt Impact: Continuously evaluate and adapt programmes to ensure they foster fairer, healthier futures and achieve systemic change.

These priorities aim to position SICK! as a national centre of excellence in creative health practice and an international leader in ethical, participatory arts by 2030.

Structure, governance and management

In January 2024, Tracy Gentles was appointed as Artistic Director/CEO with the 2024 Festival being the first under her leadership.

The trustees appoint the Artistic Director/CEO to be responsible for the day-to-day management of the organisation. The Artistic Director/CEO is supported by the Executive Director, forming the Leadership Team.

The Board of Trustees administers the charity. They meet at least four times a year, with additional extraordinary meetings scheduled if held as required.

Changes in Board and Governance

Board Development was a priority in 2024/25, with a focus on diversifying the board and ensuring skills and expertise reflect the requirements of the changing organisation under new leadership. In this financial year, Patrick Carroll-Fogg, an employment and HR specialist, was appointed as trustee on 3 February 2025 and Rosie Stanbury, a Creative Consultant and Coach, was appointed as trustee 12 March 2025.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Trustees are recruited to reflect the diversity and needs of our beneficiaries. Regular Board discussions address recruitment, with members receiving an induction covering their roles, financial responsibilities, and operational frameworks.

Organisational structure

SICK! Productions Ltd is a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, established in 2002 and registered as a charity in 2006. The Board of Trustees governs the organisation, reviewing strategy, risks, and financial management.

SICK! Productions Ltd

Trustees' Report

Staff Team

The Strategic Review resulted in significant changes to the organisations team, unfortunately resulting in the Creative Producer (Commissioning) and Communications Manager roles made redundant in October 2024.

In February 2024, the Head of Business Development was promoted to the role of Executive Director. Also in February, a new temporary Administrative Producer was recruited to support the operations function to underpin the transition.

As of 31 March 2025, the staff team consists of: Artistic Director/CEO, Executive Director, Creative Producer, General Manager, Engagement Manager (part-time/temporary) and Administrative Producer (part-time/temporary).

Independent Examiners

The trustees review the appointment of the Independent Examiners annually. In the 10 September 2025 board meeting, a resolution was proposed and agreed to appoint Beever Struthers as Independent Examiners, with responsibility including to prepare the end of year financial statement 2024/25. In October 2025, Beever Struthers completed its merger with Menzies LPP.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of SICK! Productions Ltd 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 (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". The report and accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees 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 of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. 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 accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 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 charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

SICK! Productions Ltd

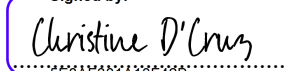
Trustees' Report

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 17/12/25 and signed on its behalf by:

Signed by:


.....
Christine D'Cruz
Chair, Trustee

SICK! Productions Ltd

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of SICK! Productions Ltd 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 (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". The report and accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

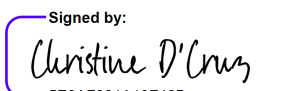
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- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 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 charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

Approved by the trustees of the charity on ~~17/12/25~~..... and signed on its behalf by:

Signed by:

 5E8AF981A18F42B.....
 Christine D'Cruz
 Chair, Trustee

SICK! Productions Ltd

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of SICK! Productions Ltd ('the Company')

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees 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 exceeded £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 , 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 SICK! Productions Ltd 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.

Signed by:

.....
E98C15CE224496...
Helen Binns FCA
Menzies LLP
One Express
1 George Leigh Street
Manchester
M4 5DL

17-Dec-2025
Date:.....

SICK! Productions Ltd

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025
(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	269,091	-	269,091	264,093
Charitable activities	4	<u>8,659</u>	<u>143,609</u>	<u>152,268</u>	<u>107,316</u>
Total income		<u>277,750</u>	<u>143,609</u>	<u>421,359</u>	<u>371,409</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	(23,850)	-	(23,850)	(23,850)
Charitable activities	6	<u>(356,397)</u>	<u>(199,725)</u>	<u>(556,122)</u>	<u>(390,687)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(380,247)</u>	<u>(199,725)</u>	<u>(579,972)</u>	<u>(414,537)</u>
Net expenditure		(102,497)	(56,116)	(158,613)	(43,128)
Transfers between funds		<u>1,050</u>	<u>(1,050)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		(101,447)	(57,166)	(158,613)	(43,128)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>161,631</u>	<u>68,342</u>	<u>229,973</u>	<u>273,101</u>
Total funds carried forward	16	<u><u>60,184</u></u>	<u><u>11,176</u></u>	<u><u>71,360</u></u>	<u><u>229,973</u></u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2024 is shown in note 16.

The notes on pages 17 to 29 form an integral part of these financial statements.

SICK! Productions Ltd
(Registration number: 4622154)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	2,093	688
Current assets			
Debtors	13	18,398	1,200
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>72,830</u>	<u>240,918</u>
		91,228	242,118
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(21,961)</u>	<u>(12,833)</u>
Net current assets		<u>69,267</u>	<u>229,285</u>
Net assets		<u><u>71,360</u></u>	<u><u>229,973</u></u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds	16	11,177	68,342
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>60,183</u>	<u>161,631</u>
Total funds	16	<u><u>71,360</u></u>	<u><u>229,973</u></u>

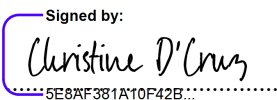
For the financial year ending 31 March 2025 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements on pages 15 to 29 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on ..17.12/25..... and signed on their behalf by:

Signed by:

.....5E8AF381A10F42B.....
Christine D'Cruz
Chair, Trustee

SICK! Productions Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

Red 3
Sharp Project
Thorp Road
Manchester
M40 5BJ

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

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)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

SICK! Productions Ltd 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 notes.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

SICK! Productions Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

SICK! Productions Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £100.00 or more are initially recorded at cost.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Fixtures / fittings	25% straight line
Computer equipment	25% straight line

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Foreign exchange

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are reported at the rates of exchange prevailing at that date.

Fund structure

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

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

SICK! Productions Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

Financial instruments

Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Grants, including capital grants;			
Grants from other charities	269,091	269,091	264,093
	269,091	269,091	264,093

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Box office income	3,281	-	3,281	-
Other festival and hire income	5,378	-	5,378	-
Project specific funding	-	143,609	143,609	107,316
	8,659	143,609	152,268	107,316

SICK! Productions Ltd**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025****5 Expenditure on raising funds**

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Staff Costs	<u>23,850</u>	<u>23,850</u>	<u>23,850</u>

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Note	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Production costs		60,900	24,101
Artists		119,500	46,649
Marketing / website		15,934	100
International development		40,922	-
Depreciation, amortisation and other similar costs		492	254
Staff costs		239,944	236,420
Allocated support costs	7	68,084	75,239
Governance costs	7	<u>10,346</u>	<u>7,924</u>
		<u>556,122</u>	<u>390,687</u>

Included in the expenditure above is £199,725 (2024: £145,790) relating to restricted funds.

SICK! Productions Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

7 Analysis of governance and support costs

Charitable activities expenditure

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Rent, rates, utilities	12,551	12,551	12,686
Telephone & broadband	1,465	1,465	1,617
IT / office equipment	2,904	2,904	-
Subscriptions	4,011	4,011	3,627
Insurance	2,200	2,200	1,555
Travel & expenses	21,192	21,192	8,086
Staff welfare	3,880	3,880	3,316
Marketing	7,025	7,025	9,426
Bank charges	27	27	1
Consultancy	7,250	7,250	27,098
Sundries	5,580	5,580	7,827
	68,085	68,085	75,239

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Independent examiner fees			
Examination of the financial statements	1,500	1,500	2,250
Other fees paid to examiners	1,500	1,500	900
Legal fees	3,274	3,274	4,774
Other governance costs	4,072	4,072	-
	10,346	10,346	7,924

8 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

SICK! Productions Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

9 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	231,757	247,481
Social security costs	27,331	-
Pension costs	4,706	12,789
	<u>263,794</u>	<u>260,270</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2025 No	2024 No
Festival / Programme	5	3
Administration	2	2
	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £56,320 (2024 - £54,232).

10 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2025 £	2024 £
Examination of the financial statements	<u>1,500</u>	<u>2,250</u>
Other fees to examiners		
All other services	<u>1,500</u>	<u>900</u>

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

SICK! Productions Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2024	5,076	14,802	19,878
Additions	-	1,895	1,895
At 31 March 2025	5,076	16,697	21,773
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2024	4,500	14,689	19,189
Charge for the year	-	491	491
At 31 March 2025	4,500	15,180	19,680
Net book value			
At 31 March 2025	576	1,517	2,093
At 31 March 2024	576	113	689

13 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	18,398	1,200

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	6,894	9,684
Other taxation and social security	9,727	-
Other creditors	2,340	24
Accruals	3,000	3,125
	21,961	12,833

15 Pension and other schemes

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £4,706 (2024 - £12,789).

SICK! Productions Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

16 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General fund	86,631	277,750	(380,247)	76,050	60,184
<i>Designated</i>					
Designated funds	<u>75,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(75,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>161,631</u>	<u>277,750</u>	<u>(380,247)</u>	<u>1,050</u>	<u>60,184</u>
Restricted funds					
Greater Manchester Integrated Care	4,500	-	(4,500)	-	-
University of Manchester (Creative Health)	1,050	-	-	(1,050)	-
Three Monkeys Trust	2,500	-	(2,500)	-	-
David Family Foundation	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
Manchester City Council	2,000	-	(2,000)	-	-
Granada Foundation	2,000	-	(2,000)	-	-
Unlimited	3,500	-	(3,500)	-	-
Manchester City Council NIF	7,415	-	(7,415)	-	-
Pilgrim Trust	24,877	30,400	(51,401)	-	3,876
GM High Sheriff Police Trust	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
GMCA Violence Reduction Unit	7,500	-	(7,500)	-	-
Historic England	6,000	12,000	(18,000)	-	-
University of Manchester (Creative Track)	5,000	5,000	(5,000)	-	5,000
Manchester City Council - Culture Team (Ambassadors)	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Manchester City Council OMVCS - SMASH	-	20,000	(19,382)	-	618
GMCA - Shared Prosperity	-	26,378	(26,378)	-	-
Manchester City Council OMVCS - Mandem Meetup	-	8,075	(8,075)	-	-
Oulu2026	-	16,074	(16,074)	-	-
Finnish Institute	<u>-</u>	<u>20,682</u>	<u>(19,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,682</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>68,342</u>	<u>143,609</u>	<u>(199,725)</u>	<u>(1,050)</u>	<u>11,176</u>
Total funds	<u>229,973</u>	<u>421,359</u>	<u>(579,972)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,360</u>

SICK! Productions Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General fund	56,990	264,093	(268,747)	34,295	86,631
<i>Designated</i>					
Designated funds	<u>109,295</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(34,295)</u>	<u>75,000</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>166,285</u>	<u>264,093</u>	<u>(268,747)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>161,631</u>
Restricted					
Arts Society	3,000	-	(3,000)	-	-
Peter Sowerby Foundation	9,450	-	(9,450)	-	-
Wikdwuch Festival	21,428	-	(21,428)	-	-
Finnish Institute	39,103	-	(39,103)	-	-
Greater Manchester Integrated Care	9,500	4,500	(9,500)	-	4,500
Co-operative Bank	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
University of Manchester	730	-	(730)	-	-
Oglesby Charitable Trust	20,000	-	(20,000)	-	-
MCR Active/Winning Hearts & Minds	2,605	-	(2,605)	-	-
Manchester City Council NIF	-	2,250	(2,250)	-	-
University of Manchester (Creative Health)	-	1,050	-	-	1,050
Three Monkeys Trust	-	2,500	-	-	2,500
David Family Foundation	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Manchester City Council	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
Granada Foundation	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
Unlimited	-	3,500	-	-	3,500
Manchester City Council NIF	-	7,415	-	-	7,415
Big Life Group	-	1,500	(1,500)	-	-
Pilgrim Trust	-	30,126	(5,249)	-	24,877
Manchester City Council OM Fund	-	20,000	(20,000)	-	-
GM High Sheriff Police Trust	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
GMCA Violence Reduction Unit	-	7,500	-	-	7,500
National Lottery Heritage Fund	-	9,975	(9,975)	-	-
Historic England	-	6,000	-	-	6,000
University of Manchester (Creative Track)	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Total restricted funds	<u>106,816</u>	<u>107,316</u>	<u>(145,790)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>68,342</u>
Total funds	<u>273,101</u>	<u>371,409</u>	<u>(414,537)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>229,973</u>

SICK! Productions Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership

Supporting the development of a creative workshop series aimed at disabled participants in North Manchester.

University of Manchester (Creative Health)

Supporting SICK!'s core team to feed into the development of Greater Manchester's Creative Health strategy.

Three Monkeys Trust

Supporting the development of a creative workshop led by leading disabled artists Dan Daw aimed at young disabled participants in North Manchester.

David Family Foundation

Supporting the development of a creative workshop led by leading disabled artists Dan Daw aimed at young disabled participants in North Manchester.

Manchester City Council

Supporting the creation of No Us And Them, a new artwork created by Company Chameleon and North Manchester residents, for presentation at SICK! Festival 2024.

Granada Foundation

Supporting the creation of No Us And Them, a new artwork created by Company Chameleon and North Manchester residents, for presentation at SICK! Festival 2024.

Unlimited

Supporting the presentation of Vijay Patel's Brotherly, Otherly, Disorderly, as part of SICK! Festival 2024.

Manchester City Council NIF

Supporting the In Our Nature event at Boggart Hole Clough, presented as part of SICK! Festival 2024.

Pilgrim Trust

Supporting the development and delivery of the SMASH (Women & Girls), mental health arts programme in North Manchester.

GM High Sheriff Police Trust

Supporting the creation of the SAFE installation, presented as part of SICK! Festival 2024.

GMCA Violence Reduction Unit

Supporting the creation of the SAFE installation, presented as part of SICK! Festival 2024.

Historic England

Supporting the development of the shared heritage murals project in North Manchester.

University of Manchester (Creative Track)

Supporting final year degree student to participate in a paid creative media internship at SICK!

Manchester City Council OMVCS - SMASH

Towards SMASH the arts-based social prescribing programme.

Oulu2025

International Time Travel - a programme intersecting with ILME's 'Travel Agency.

SICK! Productions Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Finnish Institute - Long term development partnership

Long term development collaboration.

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	766	1,327	2,093
Current assets	81,379	9,849	91,228
Current liabilities	(21,961)	-	(21,961)
Total net assets	<u>60,184</u>	<u>11,176</u>	<u>71,360</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	688	-	688
Current assets	173,776	68,342	242,118
Current liabilities	(12,833)	-	(12,833)
Total net assets	<u>161,631</u>	<u>68,342</u>	<u>229,973</u>

18 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

SICK! Productions Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

19 Prior year Statement of Financial Activities

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	264,093	-	264,093
Charitable activities	4	-	107,316	107,316
Total income		<u>264,093</u>	<u>107,316</u>	<u>371,409</u>
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	5	(23,850)	-	(23,850)
Charitable activities	6	<u>(244,897)</u>	<u>(145,790)</u>	<u>(390,687)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(268,747)</u>	<u>(145,790)</u>	<u>(414,537)</u>
Net expenditure		<u>(4,654)</u>	<u>(38,474)</u>	<u>(43,128)</u>
Net movement in funds		(4,654)	(38,474)	(43,128)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>166,285</u>	<u>106,816</u>	<u>273,101</u>
Total funds carried forward	16	<u><u>161,631</u></u>	<u><u>68,342</u></u>	<u><u>229,973</u></u>

SICK! PRODUCTIONS LTD.

England & Wales - Charity number 1116008

Accounts

Company number 4622154
Charity number 1116008

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2024

Breckman & Company Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
49 South Molton Street
London W1K 5LH

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

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SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Reference and Administrative Details

Constitution

The charitable company is a private company limited by guarantee registered in EW - England and Wales, company number 4622154, incorporated under the Companies Act and its governing document is its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The company is a registered charity, number 1116008.

Directors and Trustees

The Directors of the Charitable Company ("the Charity") are its Trustees for the purpose of Charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

As set out in the Articles of Association, at every AGM, one-third of the Trustees in office must retire. A Trustee who retires by rotation is eligible for reappointment if he/she is willing to continue to act as Trustee. The Trustees to retire by rotation are those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or re-appointment. Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees are ongoing and incorporated indirectly into the regular Trustees meetings.

The Trustees during the year and since the year end, were :

Christine Ann D'Cruz (Chair)	appointed 5 October 2023
Charmaine Connor	resigned on 5 October 2023
Joseph Strickland	resigned on 17 October 2023
Paul Ferry	resigned 5 October 2023
Prof. Sandeep Ranote	resigned 5 October 2023
John McLuckie	resigned 5 October 2023
Peter Bulkley	resigned 5 October 2023
Paul Brian Russ	appointed 5 October 2023
Edward Berg	appointed on 4 March 2024

Chief executive / day to day management

Tracy Gentles

Independent examiners

Breckman & Company Ltd, Chartered Certified Accountants, 49 South Molton Street, London W1K 5LH.

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank, P.O. Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT.

Registered office and operation address

Unit 3, The Sharp Project, Thorp Road, Manchester M40 5BJ.

Name

SICK! Productions Ltd is also known as "SICK! Festival".

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Report

The trustees present their annual report, alongside the financial statements of the charity, for the year ended 31 March 2024. These statements are also prepared in accordance with the requirements for a directors' report and accounts under the Companies Act.

The reference and administrative information on page 1 forms an integral part of this report. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, and the *Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities* (SORP), applicable to charities preparing accounts under the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES, PURPOSE AND AIMS

The principal activity of SICK! Productions is to foster and promote the improvement, development, maintenance, and advancement of artistic knowledge, understanding, and appreciation. This is achieved by providing resources, facilities, and creative spaces for public education in the fields of visual and performing arts and film.

Each year, the trustees review the charity's aims, objectives, and activities. This report highlights the charity's achievements and the outcomes of its work during the reporting period. The trustees acknowledge the success of key activities and the positive impact the charity has had on the communities it serves. This review ensures that the charity's aims, objectives, and activities remain aligned with its stated purpose.

The trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and planning future activities. Specifically, they consider how proposed activities will contribute to achieving the set aims and objectives.

In setting objectives for the year and planning activities, the trustees have also taken into account the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the document 'Public Benefit: Running a Charity (PB2)'.

ACTIVITIES

The main activities of SICK! Productions include:

- **A biennial international festival** held across Greater Manchester, with a particular focus on the communities of Moston, Harpurhey, and Charlestown.
- **An innovative cross-artform commissioning programme** that brings together artists, local communities with lived experience, the health sector, community groups and charities, and researchers to create impactful work.
- **A growing year-round programme** of neighbourhood engagement and community projects based in North Manchester.

All activities are undertaken to advance the charitable purposes of SICK! Productions for the public benefit.

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Report

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

STRATEGIC PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

In 2023/24, SICK! Productions made significant progress in planning the 2024 Festival: Where's the Media Now!? This marked the first festival with 100% of its activities based in the North Manchester wards of Moston, Harpurhey, and Charlestown, and presented in May.

Additionally, throughout 2023/24, we expanded our year-round programming by implementing the new SMASH Women & Girls initiative and revitalising the Young Ambassadors programme. A key focus was strengthening relationships with local partners, including North Manchester-based arts, cultural, and community organisations, as well as venues, many of which were engaged in the 2024 Festival—many for the very first time.

In addition to its strong hyperlocal presence, Festival 2024 expanded its digital and public realm outputs. Initiatives included podcasts, a digital series, and a North Manchester-focused art billboard and social media campaign, designed to engage a wider audience with national and international reach.

The 2024 Festival also marked the first under the leadership of new CEO/Artistic Director Tracy Gentles, who took up the role in January 2024 after spending 12 months with SICK! as a Creative Consultant.

Building on the success of the 2022 Festival—the first aligned with our 10+ year commitment to Moston, Harpurhey, and Charlestown—the 2024 Festival delivered:

1. 100% of its activities within Moston, Harpurhey, and Charlestown, utilising the area's rich cultural assets such as Simpson Memorial Hall, North West Theatre Arts, Miners Community Art and Music, Harpurhey Neighbourhood Project, No 93 Wellbeing Centre, North City Library, and Harpurhey Shopping Centre.
2. Co-produced its programme and commissions with the local community, directly responding to themes emerging from community conversations. The programme aimed to cultivate an appetite for innovative, cutting-edge performance and visual art that resonates with the lives and experiences of local residents.

COMMISSIONING PROGRAMME

Commissions developed for 2023/24 included:

Where's the Media Now!?

This commission was inspired by North West Theatre Arts Company (NWTAC) Director Prab Singh's reflection on the negative media portrayals of North Manchester. Singh highlighted that the good work happening in the area is often overshadowed by negative news stories. The commission also served as the central promotional campaign for SICK! Festival, which featured a North Manchester billboard and social media initiative. It included graphics and imagery created by Harpurhey-based artists and a short film by filmmaker Jay Gearing, that showcased inspirational community figures and what makes local people proud of Moston, Harpurhey, and Charlestown.

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Trustees' Report

No Us and Them

A co-produced dance piece involving adult residents from North Manchester, a children's beginner dance group, and contemporary dance company Company Chameleon. Created with a diverse group of local residents, the piece explored themes of division and connection. It was performed at Harpurhey Market engaging residents where they live with high-quality performances made by, with, and for the local community.

Never, Forever, Always 2.0

This project re-engaged young people from Finland and Manchester to develop their concept video game, originally created for SICK! Festival 2022, into a full-length play-art video game. Led by artist Eetu Rantanen and supported by the Finnish Institute, the project helped young people develop skills in game design while exploring themes affecting their mental health.

SAFE

SAFE was co-created by our Young Ambassadors with artists Rachel Shore and Ria Righteous. Through community dinners involving over 50 local residents, conversations explored what makes people feel safe or unsafe in North Manchester. Together, they created an installation displayed at Harpurhey Shopping Centre, showcasing local perspectives.

Channel/2049

This project was co-created with residents of Whitebeck Court (supported housing for those over 60) and artists Alan Dunn, Claire Nolan, Sh!t Theatre, and Maria Stukoff. It envisioned what Manchester might look like in 2049. The project produced four documentary-style video episodes featuring guest academics and FC United's Women's Football Manager. These were released online via staflive.com and Instagram during the 2024 Festival.

YEAR-ROUND PROJECTS

SMASH

Launched at the Peace Gardens in Moston during Diverse-City North Manchester (July 2023) and later redisplayed at No 93 Wellbeing Centre (October 2023), this exhibition showcased the photography of six men exploring mental wellbeing, emotions, and self-management through walking and nature. Sessions were supported by a mental health practitioner, as is standard in all our creative health work.

SMASH Explore Exhibition – Reflect with Me

Launched at the Peace Gardens in Moston during Diverse-City North Manchester (July 2023) and later redisplayed at No 93 Wellbeing Centre (October 2023), this exhibition showcased the photography of six men exploring mental wellbeing, emotions, and self-management through walking and nature. Sessions were supported by a mental health practitioner, as is standard in all our creative health work.

Shutters Project

In 2023/24, the second phase of the Moston Lane Shutters Project progressed with support from the National Lottery Heritage Fund. Moston-born artist Evan Barlow created a mural at Headhunters barbers inspired by LS Lowry and the area's coal mining heritage. Two additional murals are planned for delivery after Festival 2024.

New support from Historic England has enabled us to expand the project to include a mural at Boggart Hole Clough and Miners Community Arts and Music. In March 2024, the project was featured on BBC North West Tonight.

SICK! Productions Ltd

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Trustees' Report

Young Ambassadors

This programme has evolved into a co-production model between artists and communities. The SAFE commission, developed with artists Ria Righteous and Rachel Shore, exemplifies this new approach.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Led by our Creative Producer (Communities), the people of Moston, Harpurhey, and Charlestown remain the central focus of our work. In 2023/24, year-round activities increased significantly, including **Mindgames 2.0, SMASH Mixed, SMASH Women & Girls, Young Ambassadors, SMASH Explore: Reflect with Me, and Community Dinners.**

Community Dinners have proven to be a powerful way of bringing people together who might not otherwise meet, fostering discussions about mutual concerns, priorities, hopes, and visions for the area. Many themes, presentations, and commissions for Festival 2024 emerged directly from these dinners.

In late 2023/24, we recruited a part-time temporary Community Engagement Manager, seconded from Manchester Central Foodbank. This role focuses on engaging foodbank users, charity service users, and grassroots community groups in festival activities, events, and performances.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

In April 2023, we were pleased to have our Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) status renewed for 2023–2026. Additionally, we secured several significant multi-year grants, including from Manchester City Council and the Pilgrim Trust, which provide vital funding to sustain the growing Creative Health Programme throughout the NPO period. We also obtained significant investment from various trusts and foundations to support Festival commissions and presentations, which will be carried forward into the next financial year ahead of the May 2024 delivery.

Our thanks go to all our 2023/24 funders, including:

- **Arts Society**
- **Peter Sowerby Foundation**
- **Wildwuch Festival**
- **Finnish Institute**
- **Greater Manchester Incorporated Care Partnership**
- **Co-operative Bank**
- **University of Manchester**
- **Oglesby Charitable Trust**
- **MCR Active/Winning Hearts & Minds**
- **Manchester City Council**
- **University of Manchester**
- **Three Monkeys Trust**
- **David Family Foundation**
- **Leche Trust**
- **Granada Foundation**
- **Unlimited**
- **Big Life Group**
- **Pilgrim Trust**
- **GM High Sheriff Police Trust**

SICK! Productions Ltd

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Trustees' Report

- **GMCA Violence Reduction Unit**
- **National Lottery Heritage Fund**
- **Historic England**

Total income for the year was **£371,409**, of which **£107,316** was restricted and **£264,093** was unrestricted.

Expenditure

Expenditure for the period remained broadly within budget, with total spending of **£414,537**, of which **£145,790** was restricted and **£268,747** was unrestricted.

Year-End Position

The charity ended the 2023/24 financial year with a net **deficit** of **£43,128** across all funds. Funds carried forward into 2024/25 total **£229,973**, comprising **£68,342** restricted and **£225,473** unrestricted.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The organisation employs a comprehensive risk management strategy, reviewed regularly and incorporated as a standing agenda item at quarterly Board meetings. These meetings also assess the systems and procedures in place to mitigate risks, balancing ambition with financial and artistic considerations. The charity's risk appetite is carefully evaluated alongside these assessments.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The primary risks and uncertainties for the charity during this period include:

1. **Funding shortfalls** impacting the delivery of artistic and charitable programmes.
2. **Cost of living crisis** affecting partners and funders.
3. **Audience development challenges**, particularly given our focus on Moston, Harpurhey, and Charlestown—areas with historically low engagement in the arts.

Other identified risks include financial pressures on external partners, safeguarding concerns, difficulties in attracting and retaining staff, and managing staffing capacity effectively.

RESERVES POLICY AND GOING CONCERN

SICK! Productions Ltd aims to hold a minimum of three months' base operating costs in cash, currently set at £80,000 in the 2023/24 budget. This reserve ensures the organisation can meet its liabilities in the event of ceasing operations. The current unrestricted reserves stand at £161,643 incorporating £150,473 reserves and the remaining £75,000 allocated towards Festival delivery.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

In January 2024, Tracy Gentles was appointed Artistic Director/CEO, succeeding founder Helen Medland. Tracy curated SICK! Festival for the first time in 2024, which included experimental elements that informed the 2025–2030 Business Plan. This plan will guide the organisation into the next ACE NPO period, anticipating recovery and growth in the cultural sector following years of austerity.

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Trustees' Report

All activities for the 2024 Festival took place in Moston, Harpurhey, and Charlestown, deepening our roots within the local community after three years of building trust, knowledge, and connections. Looking ahead to 2026, we aim to expand across Manchester while continuing to spotlight North Manchester's artists, venues, and community concerns.

Festival Aims:

1. Create a festival by, with, and for the community of Moston, Harpurhey, and Charlestown.
2. Positively impact community health and connectedness.
3. Provide meaningful arts experiences relevant to local contexts.
4. Offer participants opportunities to engage in the arts.
5. Activate new spaces.
6. Support cultural and community venues in North Manchester.

COMMISSIONING PROGRAMME

Over the next period, we will deliver newly commissioned projects in three areas:

International

Biennially, we will present 2–3 ambitious projects by internationally recognised artists, fostering national and international legacy. These projects will engage local communities while connecting with other international communities facing similar challenges. For example, in Festival 2024 we presented:

- Dutch artist Merrill Smit explored anti-poverty themes with local communities.
- Finnish artist/game designer Eetu Rantanen, developed a full-length video game with young people in Manchester and Finland, building on a prototype from SICK! Festival 2022.

National

Every two years, we will deliver 2–3 *Connect Commissions* in partnership with UK commissioning bodies. These mid-scale projects, aimed at early-to-mid-career artists, focus on local community engagement and cross-sector collaboration. For example, in Festival 2024 we presented:

- **Vijay Patel's "Brotherly, Otherly, Disorderly"**, was a celebration of neurodiversity and brotherhood through pop music (in partnership with Unlimited).
- **"No Us and Them"**, was a co-produced dance work with Company Chameleon and community performers, staged at Harpurhey Shopping Centre.

Moston, Harpurhey, and Charlestown

Biennially, two major commissions will directly reflect the experiences of these communities, developed collaboratively with local representatives. For example, in Festival 2024 we presented:

- **"SAFE"**: was a visual arts commission by Young Ambassadors and artists Ria Righteous and Rachael Shore, which featured reflections from Community Dinners, presented at Harpurhey Shopping Centre.
- **"Where's the Media Now!?"**: was a project that celebrated community pride and used local visuals and stories, showcased via billboards and social media.

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Report

CONNECTING TO OUR COMMUNITY

SICK! continues to expand its year-round Creative Health Programme, including:

- **Community Dinners:** Five artist-led dinners annually, bringing together over 50 residents for meaningful conversations.
- **Young Ambassadors:** Supporting young people from diverse backgrounds to co-create community art projects and host their own dinners.
- **SMASH!:** Engaging 100 local residents annually through SMASH Mixed and SMASH Women & Girls, improving mental wellbeing by an average of 22% (Edinburgh Warwick Scale).

AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT

SICK! Festival 2024 aimed to engage two primary audiences:

1. Local residents in Moston, Harpurhey, and Charlestown, focusing on those with little or no prior arts engagement.
2. Traditional arts festival audiences, drawing them to North Manchester to experience its thriving yet under-recognised communities.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

In 2023/24, efforts focused on securing support for Festival 2024 and sustaining the Creative Health Programme. In 2024/25, priorities include finalising the 2025–2030 Business Plan and developing a strategic fundraising plan to achieve multi-year support and diversify funding streams.

In late 2023/24, former CEO/Artistic Director Helen Medland transitioned to a freelance role to lead fundraising and the international Beyond Survival programme, reconnecting with European funders and addressing global challenges through local and international collaboration.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE, AND MANAGEMENT

Organisation Structure

SICK! Productions Ltd is a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, established in 2002 and registered as a charity in 2006. The Board of Trustees governs the organisation, reviewing strategy, risks, and financial management.

Recruitment of Trustees

Trustees are recruited to reflect the diversity and needs of our beneficiaries. Regular Board discussions address recruitment, with members receiving an induction covering their roles, financial responsibilities, and operational frameworks.

Management Team

The Senior Management Team, consisting of the CEO/Artistic Director and Head of Business Development, oversees day-to-day operations, supported by a General Manager, Communications Manager, and Creative Producers for Communities and Commissioning. Temporary festival assistants bolstered the team in the lead-up to Festival 2024.

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Report

SMALL COMPANY EXEMPTIONS

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to small companies.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 31 January 2025.

Signed on behalf of SICK! Productions Ltd by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'GAB' followed by a stylized flourish.

Christine D'Cruz

Chair, Board of Trustees

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of SICK! Productions Ltd

I report on the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 11 to 26.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Trustees (who are also the Directors of the Company for the purposes of Company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

Having satisfied myself that the Charity is not subject to an audit under Company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Richard Nelson

**Richard Nelson FCCA
Breckman & Company Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants**

49 South Molton Street
London W1K 5LH

31 January 2025

SICK! Productions Ltd**(Limited by Guarantee)****Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total £
Income and endowments from:	2						
Donations and legacies - page 12 - 13		264,093	-	264,093	329,906	-	329,906
Charitable activities:							
Festival and hire income - page 12 - 13		-	107,316	107,316	29,402	30,749	60,151
Total		<u>264,093</u>	<u>107,316</u>	<u>371,409</u>	<u>359,308</u>	<u>30,749</u>	<u>390,057</u>
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds:							
Fundraising		23,850	-	23,850	22,800	-	22,800
Charitable activities:							
Festival - page 14		244,897	145,790	390,687	350,142	-	350,142
Total		<u>268,747</u>	<u>145,790</u>	<u>414,537</u>	<u>372,942</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>372,942</u>
Net income / (expenditure)	3	<u>(4,654)</u>	<u>(38,474)</u>	<u>(43,128)</u>	<u>(13,634)</u>	<u>30,749</u>	<u>17,115</u>
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		<u>166,285</u>	<u>106,816</u>	<u>273,101</u>	<u>179,919</u>	<u>76,067</u>	<u>255,986</u>
Total funds carried forward	13, 14	<u><u>161,631</u></u>	<u><u>68,342</u></u>	<u><u>229,973</u></u>	<u><u>166,285</u></u>	<u><u>106,816</u></u>	<u><u>273,101</u></u>

The notes on pages 17 to 26 form an integral part of these financial statements.

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

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Year ended 31 March 2024

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Income from donations and legacies				
Grants				
Arts Council England, NPO		254,093		254,091
Oglesby Charitable Trust		10,000		54,000
Big Life Group		-		1,500
Postcode Neighbourhood Trust		-		20,315
		<u>264,093</u>		<u>329,906</u>
Income from charitable activities				
Festival and hire income				
Box office income	-		79	
Other income	-		29,323	
	<u>-</u>	-	<u>29,402</u>	29,402
Project specific funding				
Grants/donations				
University of Manchester (Creative Track)	1,050		-	
University of Manchester	-		730	
Manchester City Council NIF	2,250		-	
Three Monkeys Trust	2,500		-	
David Family Foundation	1,000		-	
Leche Trust	2,000		-	
Granada Foundation	2,000		-	
Unlimited	3,500		-	
Manchester City Council NIF	8,915		-	
Pilgrim Trust	30,126		-	
Manchester City Council OM Fund	20,000		-	
GM High Sheriff Police Trust	1,000		-	
GMCA Violence Reduction Unit	7,500		-	
National Lottery Hertigae Fund	9,975		-	
Historic England	6,000		-	
University of Manchester (Creative Track)	5,000		-	
Wildwuchs Festival	-		3,798	
Finnish Insititute	-		10,116	
Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership	4,500		9,500	
Co-Operative Bank	-		1,000	
Arts Society	-		3,000	
MCR Active/Winning Hearts & Minds	-		2,605	
	<u>-</u>	107,316	<u>30,749</u>	30,749

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

107,316

60,151

SICK! Productions Ltd**(Limited by Guarantee)****Year ended 31 March 2024**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Expenditure on charitable activities		
Festival		
Production/running costs		
Production costs	24,101	110,530
Wages/salaries	223,631	138,012
Pension	12,789	2,819
Artists	46,649	35,061
Marketing/website	100	9,773
	<u>307,270</u>	<u>296,195</u>
 Support and governance costs - page 15	 83,417	 53,947
	<u>390,687</u>	<u>350,142</u>
 Unrestricted	 244,897	 350,142
Restricted	145,790	-
	<u>390,687</u>	<u>350,142</u>

SICK! Productions Ltd**(Limited by Guarantee)****Year ended 31 March 2024**

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Support and governance costs				
Support costs				
Office overheads				
Rent	11,726		7,864	
Premises costs	960		4,280	
Telephone/stationery/computer	1,617		7,733	
Insurance	1,555		-	
Depreciation of fixtures/fittings	110		17	
Depreciation of computer equipment	144		48	
		16,112		19,942
Administration costs				
Staff welfare	3,316		1,684	
Travel/accommodation/subsistence	7,211		6,443	
Entertaining	875		143	
Marketing	9,426		-	
Sundries/tickets	7,827		3,766	
		28,655		12,036
Professional/financial - Jubilee Square				
Consultancy fees	27,098		13,198	
Bank charges	1		-	
		27,099		13,198
		71,866		45,176
Governance costs				
Professional/financial				
Legal/accountancy/consultancy	7,924		7,790	
Subscriptions/licences	3,627		981	
		11,551		8,771
		83,417		53,947

SICK! Productions Ltd**(Limited by Guarantee)****Balance Sheet
31 March 2024**

		2024		2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	9		688		942
Current assets:					
Debtors	10	1,200		2,658	
Cash at bank and in hand		240,918		272,650	
		<u>242,118</u>		<u>275,308</u>	
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(12,833)		(3,149)	
Net current assets			<u>229,285</u>		<u>272,159</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>229,973</u>		<u>273,101</u>
The funds of the charity:					
Unrestricted funds	13		86,631		56,990
Designated funds			75,000		109,295
			<u>161,631</u>		<u>166,285</u>
Restricted funds	14		68,342		106,816
Total charity funds			<u>229,973</u>		<u>273,101</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2024 the Company was entitled to exemption from 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 financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 31 January 2025 and signed on its behalf by



Christine D ' Cruz
Chair, Board of Trustees

The notes on pages 17 to 26 form an integral part of these financial statements.

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

1. Accounting policies

1.1. Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (issued October 2019) 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity 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 notes.

1.2. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Individual fixed assets costing £100 or more are capitalised at cost.

Depreciation is provided at annual rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures/fittings	-	25% straight line
Computer equipment	-	25% straight line

1.3. Debtors

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

1.4. Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and 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.

1.5. 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.

1.6. Fund accounting

Funds held by the Charity are either:

- Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the Charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.
- Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

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

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

1.7. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when:

- the Charity is legally entitled to the funds
- any performance conditions attached to the income have been met or are fully within the control of the Charity
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable
- the amount can be reliably measured

Donations and legacies

Grants/donations are recognised in incoming resources in the year in which they are receivable, except as follows:

- when donors specify that grants/donations given to the Charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods
- when donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the Charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the preconditions for use are met.

Donated services and facilities

Donated services or 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. On receipt, donated services and 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.

Investment income

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.

SICK! Productions Ltd**(Limited by Guarantee)****Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024****1.8. Expenditure**

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered and is recognised when:

- there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment
- it is probable that settlement will be required
- the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably

Costs of raising funds

Costs incurred in attracting donations, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

Festival costs - costs incurred in production and running of festivals in the year.

Support costs

The administrative and overhead costs associated with running the office from which the Company operates as well as governance costs. Support costs are wholly attributable to production costs.

Governance costs

Costs associated with the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity.

1.9. Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. Contributions payable are recognised as expenditure when due.

1.10. Significant Accounting Estimates and Judgements

In determining the carrying amounts of certain assets and liabilities, the charity makes assumptions of the effects of uncertain future events on those assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The charity's estimates and assumptions are based on historical experience and expectation of future events and are reviewed annually. Further information about key assumptions concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation of uncertainty, are set out in the notes.

2. Incoming resources

The total incoming resources for the year have been derived from the principal activity undertaken wholly in the UK.

**3. Net income/(expenditure) for the year is
stated after charging:**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	254	65
Independent examiners fees:		
- Independent examination	2,250	2,250
- Other services		250
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

4. Trustees' emoluments and reimbursed expenses

The Trustees received no remuneration during the year (2023 - £nil).

The aggregated amount reimbursed to Trustees during the year was £nil (2023 - £nil).

5. Staff costs and numbers

	2024	2023
	£	£
Staff costs		
Salaries and wages	245,027	158,358
Pension costs	12,789	2,819
	<u>257,816</u>	<u>161,177</u>

No employee earned £60,000 or more during the year (2023 - nil).

The trustees did not receive any remuneration during the year.
The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees and the Senior Management Team. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £54,232 (2023 - £52,898).

Staff numbers

The average numbers of employees (including casual and part time staff) during the year was made up as follows:

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Festival/programme	3	3
Administration	2	2
	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>

6. Pension costs

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme in respect of its employees. The scheme and its assets are held by independent managers. The pension charge represents contributions due from the company and amounted to £12,789 (2023 - £2,819).

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

7. Grants - Manchester City Council

In accordance with sub-section 37(4) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, this grant has been fully utilised in accordance with the terms under which it was originally granted and has been fully expended on revenue items in the normal course of the company's business.

8. Corporation taxation

The Charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 and section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its Charitable objects.

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

9. Fixed assets - tangible assets

	Fixtures/ fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost			
1 April 2023 / 31 March 2024	4,931	14,946	19,877
Depreciation			
1 April 2023	4,517	14,418	18,935
Charge for year	110	144	254
31 March 2024	4,627	14,562	19,189
Net book values			
31 March 2024	304	384	688
31 March 2023	414	528	942

SICK! Productions Ltd**(Limited by Guarantee)****Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

10. Debtors	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	1,200	1,098
Other debtors	-	1,560
	<u>1,200</u>	<u>2,658</u>

11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	9,684	-
Other creditors	24	24
Accruals	3,125	3,125
	<u>12,833</u>	<u>3,149</u>

12. Limited by guarantee

The private limited company is registered in EW - England & Wales, is limited by guarantee, and does not have a share capital. Each Member gives a guarantee to contribute a sum, not exceeding £Granada Foundation, to the Company should it be wound up. At 31 March 2024 there were Unlimited Members.

13. Unrestricted funds	Brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
General fund	56,990	264,093	(268,747)	34,295	86,631
Designated funds:	109,295	-		(34,295)	75,000
	<u>166,285</u>	<u>264,093</u>	<u>(268,747)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>161,631</u>

SICK! Productions Ltd**(Limited by Guarantee)****Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

14. Restricted funds	Brough forward £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Carried forward £
Arts Society	3,000	-	(3,000)	-
Peter Sowerby Foundation	9,450	-	(9,450)	-
Wildwuch Festival	21,428	-	(21,428)	-
Finnish Institute	39,103	-	(39,103)	-
Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership	9,500	4,500	(9,500)	4,500
Co-operative Bank	1,000	-	(1,000)	-
University of Manchester	730	-	(730)	-
Oglesby Charitable Trust	20,000	-	(20,000)	-
MCR Active/Winning Hearts & Minds	2,605	-	(2,605)	-
Manchester City Council NIF		2,250	(2,250)	-
University of Manchester (Creative Health)		1,050	-	1,050
Three Monkeys Trust		2,500	-	2,500
David Family Foundation		1,000	-	1,000
Manchester City Council		2,000	-	2,000
Granada Foundation		2,000	-	2,000
Unlimited		3,500	-	3,500
Manchester City Council NIF		7,415	-	7,415
Big Life Group		1,500	(1,500)	-
Pilgrim Trust		30,126	(5,249)	24,877
Manchester City Council OM Fund		20,000	(20,000)	-
GM High Sheriff Police Trust		1,000	-	1,000
GMCA Violence Reduction Unit		7,500	-	7,500
National Lottery Heritage Fund		9,975	(9,975)	-
Historic England		6,000	-	6,000
University of Manchester (Creative Track)		5,000	-	5,000
	<u>106,816</u>	<u>107,316</u>	<u>(145,790)</u>	<u>68,342</u>

Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership- £4,500

Supporting the development of a creative workshop series aimed at disabled participants in North Manchester.

University of Manchester (Creative Health)

Supporting SICK!'s core team to feed into the development of Greater Manchester's Creative Health strategy.

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

Three Monkeys Trust- £2,500

Supporting the development of a creative workshop led by leading disabled artists Dan Daw aimed at young disabled participants in North Manchester.

David Family Foundation- £1,000

Supporting the development of a creative workshop led by leading disabled artists Dan Daw aimed at young disabled participants in North Manchester.

Manchester City Council- £2,000

Supporting the creation of No Us And Them, a new artwork created by Company Chameleon and North Manchester residents, for presentation at SICK! Festival 2024.

Granada Foundation- £2,000

Supporting the creation of No Us And Them, a new artwork created by Company Chameleon and North Manchester residents, for presentation at SICK! Festival 2024.

Unlimited- £3,500

Supporting the presentation of Vijay Patel's Brotherly, Otherly, Disorderly, as part of SICK! Festival 2024.

Manchester City Council NIF- £7,415

Supporting the In Our Nature event at Boggart Hole Clough, presented as part of SICK! Festival 2024.

Big Life Group- £1,500

Supporting the continuation of men's mental health and arts provision in North Manchester

Pilgrim Trust- £30,126

Supporting the development and delivery of the SMASH (Women & Girls), mental health arts programme in North Manchester.

Manchester City Council OMFund- £20,000

Supporting the delivery of the SMASH (Mixed), mental health arts programme in North Manchester.

GM High Sheriff Police Trust- £1,000

Supporting the creation of the SAFE installation, presented as part of SICK! Festival 2024.

GMCA Violence Reduction Unit- £7,500

Supporting the creation of the SAFE installation, presented as part of SICK! Festival 2024.

Historic England- £6,000

Supporting the development of the shared heritage murals project in North Manchester.

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

University of Manchester (Creative Track)

Supporting final year degree student to participate in a paid creative media internship at SICK!

15. Analysis of net assets between funds

	General funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fund balances at 31 March 2024 are represented by:			
Tangible fixed assets	688	-	688
Net current assets	160,943	68,342	229,285
	<u>161,631</u>	<u>68,342</u>	<u>229,973</u>

16. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions requiring disclosure.

SICK! PRODUCTIONS LTD.

England & Wales - Charity number 1116008

Accounts

Company number 4622154
Charity number 1116008

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Amended Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2023

**Breckman & Company Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
49 South Molton Street
London W1K 5LH**

SICK! Productions Ltd
(Limited by Guarantee)

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SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Reference and Administrative Details

Constitution

The charitable company is a private company limited by guarantee registered in EW - England and Wales, company number 4622154, incorporated under the Companies Act and its governing document is its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The company is a registered charity, number 1116008.

Directors and Trustees

The Directors of the Charitable Company ("the Charity") are its Trustees for the purpose of Charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

As set out in the Articles of Association, at every AGM, one-third of the Trustees in office must retire. A Trustee who retires by rotation is eligible for reappointment if he/she is willing to continue to act as Trustee. The Trustees to retire by rotation are those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or re-appointment. Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees are ongoing and incorporated indirectly into the regular Trustees meetings.

The Trustees during the year and since the year end, were :

Christine Ann D'Cruz (Chair)	appointed 5 October 2023
Charmaine Connor	appointed 19 July 2023/resigned 5 October 2023
Craig Duncan	resigned 10 August 2022
Paul Ferry	resigned 5 October 2023
Prof. Sandeep Ranote	resigned 5 October 2023
John McLuckie	resigned 5 October 2023
Peter Bulkley	resigned 5 October 2023
Paul Brian Russ	appointed 5 October 2023
Joseph Strickland	resigned 17 October 2023

Chief executive / day to day management

Helen Medland - CEO/Artistic Director

Independent examiners

Breckman & Company Ltd, Chartered Certified Accountants, 49 South Molton Street, London W1K 5LH.

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank, P.O. Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT.

Registered office and operation address

Unit 3, The Sharp Project, Thorp Road, Manchester M40 5BJ.

Name

SICK! Productions Ltd is also known as "SICK! Festival".

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Report

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The reference and administrative information on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES PURPOSE AND AIMS

The principal activity of SICK! Productions is to foster and promote the improvement, development, maintenance and advancement of artistic knowledge, understanding and appreciation by providing resources, facilities and a creative space for the education of the public in the fields of visual and performing arts and film.

The trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work in the reporting period. The trustees acknowledge the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the trustees ensure the charity's aims, objectives and activities remain focused on its stated purposes.

The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'

ACTIVITIES

The main activities of SICK! Productions are: a biennial international festival which takes place across Greater Manchester with a focus on the communities of Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown; an innovative cross-artform commissioning programme which brings artists together with local communities with lived experience, the health sector, community groups/charities and researchers; and a growing year-round programme of neighbourhood engagement and projects in Manchester.

All charitable activities are undertaken to further SICK! Productions charitable purposes for the public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE STRATEGIC PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

SICK! Productions has made significant progress in 2022/23 towards realising its ambitions detailed in our Business Plan 2021 to 2023, including in its successful delivery of SICK Festival 2022 in May (last was October 2019) and in delivering year-round work in the community. Key highlights have been set out below.

FESTIVAL 2022

SICK! Festival 2022 took place throughout May, with activities taking place in Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown, in the City Centre, at venues in South Manchester/Hulme, and across the GM Metrolink network.

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Report

The 2022 Festival marks a major change in the way that the organisation presented the festival programme. It was significantly different from previous festivals in three key ways:

- 1) The majority of the programme comprised public realm projects or projects taking place in community venues, rather than focusing on presenting with major cultural institutions.
- 2) Around 70% of the programme was presented in the North Manchester wards of Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown.
- 3) The majority of the festival programme was focused on commissioning work, which was created with participants and organisations from the community in which we work.

Key Facts and Figures:

- " 22 projects/activities
- " 164 days of artwork/project presentation
- " 40 artists
- " 13 artists commissioned to produce 9 new artworks
- " 752 participations across 83 sessions with 30 participants
- " Public engagement audiences of 1,131,800
- " Events audiences of 4,601
- " Interactive digital audience of 1,300

98% of audiences rated their experience as "Very Good" or "Good" and 94% said that they would recommend SICK! Festival to a friend. One audience said about their experience:

"To hear such open, honest, sensitive, raw discussions being held in such a safe and instructive arena was beautiful. The artists were outstanding, the audiences were beautiful and having a singer was incredible. I will attend more events based on this experience tonight. Well done SICK! Festival".

COMMISSIONING PROGRAMME

Commissions presented as part of SICK! Festival 2022 included:

I Am:

Opened by Camilla, Queen Consort (then the Duchess of Cornwall), I Am was a new collection of portraits by award-winning photographer Allie Crewe. It was commissioned by SICK! Festival and developed in partnership with domestic abuse charity, SafeLives. Her bold and powerful images bear witness to the lives and experiences of survivors of domestic violence from Manchester and across the UK.

Twelve images were installed as a public exhibition in St Peter's Square and across Greater Manchester's Metrolink network. Taking the project into the heart of the city, they aim to challenge the narratives around domestic abuse and the perceptions of those affected..

SICK! Cars and LOVE Letters to Moston Lane:

LOVE Letters to Moston Lane and SICK! Cars were presented at the Green, a central hub for SICK! Festival 2022 installation work, located nearby to Harpurhey Shopping Centre. The commissions were presented alongside Jimmy Cauty's MDZ Estate and the Mindgames Arcade featuring the Never, Forever, Always prototype video game.

SICK! Cars was a new project that challenged stereotypes about masculinity and looks at the pressures we put on people to "be a man". Two "vinyl-wrapped" cars were covered in amazing artwork created by artists Woodrow Phoenix, Courtney Hayles and a group of young men based in North Manchester.

LOVE Letters to Moston Lane was created by Jack Poole and members of the local community of Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown who decorated the installation over the course of the festival with colourful art materials. Thousands of local people left their mark and shared their feelings about where they live, who and what they love.

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Report

Soundpaths:

Supported by Dutch Culture, Soundpaths is an immersive sounds-walk developed with Brighter Sounds. Soundpaths takes the sounds and voices of the community and transforms them into an unforgettable atmospheric journey. The audio is accompanied by a beautiful original orchestral score and uses an audio App for phones created by musician Yonatan Collier.

Soundpaths MHC leads audiences around the vibrant streets of Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown with local memories, ambient recordings and sounds from local musicians.

Soundpaths Boggart Hole captures sounds of nature and conversations with the Boggart Hole Ramblers who know and love this beautiful park.

Soundpaths was shortlisted for a 2022 Manchester Culture Award and is still available to download and experience.

YEAR-ROUND PROJECTS

SMASH: Mental Health Arts Programme

After the successful delivery of the festival in May, achieving long term funding to secure the future of the highly successful SMASH programme became the main development priority. In September 2022, we received two small grants from Big Life Group and Manchester Local Care Organisation to deliver a SMASH Explore, targeted at men struggling with their mental health and living in North Manchester. SMASH Explore uses group walking and photography blended with mental health support. The first phase of this project was delivered in October 2022 with the second due to commence in April 2023. An exhibition of participants photography is also planned for July 2023.

In December 2022, we were delighted to have been successful in our application to the Pilgrim Trust to introduce a new Women & Girls focused version of the SMASH Programme, which will run from April 2023 to March 2026 and delivered in partnership with Manchester Youth Zone

In January 2023, we achieved further funding from Manchester City Council to secure the future of the mixed SMASH Programme from April 2023 to March 2026, which will continue to be delivered in partnership by No 93 Wellbeing Centre, Harpurhey.

MENOPAUSE BUS

Funded by Pro Helvetia and developed with WildWuchs (Switzerland), Menopause Bus was an international collaboration around the themes of menopause. Two choirs of women, from Manchester and Zurich, shared their experiences and thoughts about ageing and the menopause through a WhatsApp-based pen-pal system. From this online collaborative process, songs were written by two composers and then performed by the choirs aboard an open top double decker bus. The project was presented in five locations in Manchester in October 2022: Harpurhey Shopping Centre, The Lowry, the University of Manchester and Piccadilly Gardens.

MOSTON LANE SHUTTERS PROJECT

Moston Lane is a central hub of the area with a large number of shops catering for the diverse and vibrant local community. The shutters project aims to improve the look and feel of the lane after shops have closed. In December 2022, the first shutter, by artist Hammo and funded by Winning Hearts & Minds/Manchester Active, was unveiled. The shutter artwork was informed by research into local history and heritage. In March 2023, we learnt that we had been successful in our application to the Heritage Fund to co-produce three new shutter artworks with local shop keepers and young people.

NEIGHBOURHOOD ENGAGEMENT

In 2021, we made a 10-year commitment to the North Manchester communities of Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown. In 2022, post festival, activating deeper neighbourhood engagement in Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown was the key focus of the Creative Team.

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Report

Our Ambassadors Scheme was re-launched with a greater focus on engaging young people (18 to 30) who live and work in Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown. The young people work with our team to help them understand local priorities, sensitivities and communities. Through regular meetings, the Ambassadors help shape commission and projects that are relevant, exciting and important for local people. Through their participation, young people develop agency, confidence and skills, while increasing their exposure and understanding of art and performance. The Ambassadors are currently supporting the generation of ideas for 2024 commissions.

Community partner engagement continued to grow, connecting with local service providers to support presentation and delivery, local partners includes Moston Matters, Moston Clean-Ups, No 93 Wellbeing Centre, Manchester Youth Zone, Simpson Memorial Hall, Boggart Hole Clough, Harpurhey Shopping Centre, The shopkeepers of Moston Lane, Manchester College and FC United of Manchester.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Historically, SICK! Festival's biennial model has seen restricted and unrestricted grant funding secured for a festival in the previous financial year, with expenditure against these restricted funds taking place in the following financial year. This business model has resulted in significant restricted and designated fund balances carried forward in non-festival financial years, and net expenditure in financial years where festivals take place. These fluctuations have been partly mitigated through the growth in year-round activity (such as SMASH), meaning that extensive restricted funds have been rolled forward due to greater spending for Festival 2022.

In January 2023, we were delighted to receive a conditional offer from Arts Council England to continue in the National Portfolio (Let's Create), which was confirmed in March 2023. This means that we will continue to receive vital standstill core funding that we support SICK! between 2023-26

Support from the Postcode Neighbourhood Trust has also strengthened our core funding position, enabling us to recruit a second Creative Producer who started with us in March 2023. We are grateful for the continued support of the Oglesby Charitable Trust, who provide valuable core funding.

Significant new multi-year grants from Manchester City Council and the Pilgrim Trust will provide vital funding to sustain the growing SMASH Programme throughout the new NPO period between 2023-26.

INCOME

SICK! received £254,091 over the reporting period from Arts Council England NPO funding. Other funds were secured from a number of charitable foundations from within the UK, as well as cultural funders from the EU. Our thanks go to all our funders in 2022/23, including:

- " Arts Council England
- " Manchester City Council
- " Pilgrim Trust
- " Oglesby Charitable Trust
- " Postcode Neighbourhood Trust
- " Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership
- " The Finnish Institute
- " Arts Society
- " Heritage Fund
- " Big Life Group
- " Manchester Local Care Organisation
- " Co-op Bank
- " Winning Hearts & Minds

Total income for the year was £390,057, of which £30,749 was restricted, and £359,308 was unrestricted.

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Report

Total expenditure came in generally within budget, with the final out-turn of spending for the period of £372,942 of which £0 was restricted and £372,942 was unrestricted.

YEAR-END POSITION The charity finished the 2022/23 financial year with net surplus of £17,115. Funds carried forward to 2023/24 total £273,101 of which £106,816 is restricted and £166,285 is unrestricted.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The organisation has a risk management strategy which is reviewed on a regular basis, with risk management being a regular agenda item at quarterly board meetings. Board meetings also serve to establish systems and procedures to mitigate ambition at the heart of risk assessment. Consideration is given to the charity's appetite for such risks and the balance of financial and artistic risk.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The main risks and uncertainties faced by the charity in the current period are identified as (1) a shortfall in funding to deliver the artistic programme and other charitable activities; (2) the impact of the cost of living crisis on partners and funders; and (3) challenges regarding audience development relating in particular to our shift of focus towards presenting the majority of the festival in Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown, areas with historically low engagement with the arts. Our risk management processes identified risks including the future financial position of external partners, safeguarding risks, attracting and retaining staff and managing staffing capacity.

RESERVES POLICY AND GOING CONCERN

The reserves policy of SICK! Productions Ltd is to hold a minimum of three months' base operating costs in cash at the bank, currently calculated to be £70,000 in the 2022/23 budget. This is deemed sufficient to meet all liabilities in the event of SICK! Productions Ltd ceasing to operate as a going concern (current unrestricted reserves is £166,285 which incorporates £70,000 reserves plus the remaining £106,816 which is allocated towards festival delivery).

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

SICK! Productions is in the process of writing its 2023-26 Business Plan which is informed and closely aligned to our successful Arts Council England National Portfolio application. The Arts Council England's Let's Create Investment Principles are also closely aligned to our own strategic priorities. Those Arts Council England's principles of:

- " Ambition and Quality
- " Dynamism
- " Environmental Responsibility
- " Inclusivity & Relevance

This work will be supported by an increased level of engagement and input from our Trustees. Through our 2023-26 Business Plan, we aim to:

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Report

CONNECT, forging supportive relationships in diverse communities. Working with local residents, healthcare and charities partners, we connect with communities affected by subjects we address that face socio-economic disadvantage.

CREATE powerful and engaging work by international, national and local artists, who make their work with, alongside and for local communities, people with lived experience, health workers, charities and researchers.

COMMUNICATE, sharing the experiences, knowledge and understanding generated through our engagements in ways that are powerful, thought provoking and accessible. Through our festival, year-round activity, presentations and online, we stimulate, challenge, inform and inspire large, diverse audiences.

We will achieve this by addressing the following priorities:

FESTIVAL

We will present festivals in May 2024 and 2026, which will be increasingly rooted and developed by and for the communities of Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown. The festival will continue to present innovative, high-quality work by local, national and international artists in a high-profile, cross-art form programme.

The festivals in 2022 had more presentations in the public realm than previous years, which was partial due to the disruption to arts venues by the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2024, we will continue to present work in the public realm but will also reinstate venue-based work, however we will aim to support and build capacity in Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown based venues including North West Theatre Arts, The Miners Community Arts & Music and Simpson Memorial Hall. Some presentations within city centre cultural venues will still occur. Through the festival programme we will collaborate with non-arts partners from healthcare, the charities sector and academia, which will remain fundamental to the delivery of the programme.

We will present a highly diverse programme in 2024 with at least 50% of presented artists representing protected characteristics or lower socio-economic backgrounds. The programme will be developed with, and designed to engage the diverse communities of Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown, taking into account the demographics and cultural habits of people living in these areas.

Additionally, the long-term vision of the festival's growth, development and plans for international showcasing and commissioning will be defined and developed during this year for 2024 and beyond.

- COMMISSIONING PROGRAMME

Over the next period we will deliver newly commissioned projects in three areas:

INTERNATIONAL

Every two years we will deliver 2-3 ambitious (public realm, performance, digital) projects by artists of international calibre and profile with significant potential for national and international legacy, extending the reach and recognition of our work. We will invite international artists to come and engage directly with our own local communities, bringing new perspectives and, where possible, connecting with other communities internationally that share similar experiences or challenges.

Work currently in development includes Never, Forever, Always 2.0, funded by the Finnish Institute, which will take the prototype games developed for SICK! Festival 2022 by a group of young people from Finland and North Manchester into a full-length art video game.

SICK! Productions Ltd

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Trustees' Report

NATIONAL

Every two years we will deliver 2-3 Connect Commissions in collaboration with other commissioning partners in the UK. In each location the projects will engage the local community and healthcare/grassroots partners. We will provide mentoring in cross-sectoral collaboration practices for the commission recipients. Aimed at early-to-mid-career artists, these mid-scale commissions will provide opportunities for the artists to extend their networks and reach new audiences nationally as well as in Manchester.

Work currently in developed includes an untitled work by Dan Daw, who will work with young people from Manchester Youth Zone to co-produce a new work exploring what it is like to be young and disabled in Manchester. The project has so far received funding from Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership.

MOSTON, HARPURHEY AND CHARLESTOWN

Each 2-year cycle we will produce two major commissions responding to contexts/experiences of communities in Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown, developed in collaboration with neighbourhood representatives, reflecting urgent issues these communities face. Projects will be presented in community venues and public spaces during SICK! Festival.

Work currently in development includes the SAFE commission, which will explore what makes people feel safe or unsafe in Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown. The commission will be led by the Ambassador group.

CONNECTING TO OUR COMMUNITY

SICK! will continue and expand delivery of its 10-year plan to embed our work in Moston Harpurhey and Charlestown. We will bring together local people and organisations to better understand the issues affecting these areas, directly involving the community in the shaping and delivery of our activity in order to maximise social benefit. We will consult diverse and marginalised groups in an area that face economic, social and health challenges, working across boundaries to increase social cohesion.

Ambassadors Scheme: We will work with 10-15 local ambassadors, aged 18- 30, to help us better understand the diverse communities of the area. They will offer community-specific knowledge and insight, attending monthly meetings on different aspects of programming and delivery, from website and social media content to strategic planning and project development. They will work with us to deliver three community dinners per year, welcoming 30-50 members of the local community to join us for food and conversation. These will provide opportunities to share our plans with a wider cross-section of the community, an informal context to discuss matters of importance to the community and a chance to listen to the concerns and aspirations of our neighbours.

We will create a year-round programme of live and online, thematically-focused Community Conversations, exploring issues identified as most urgent in the local community. This will enable us to engage more deeply with our community around these themes, as well as generating ideas for future activity, offering a public forum for debate, and providing a space for reflection on past activities.

We will expand delivery of SMASH, our Mental Health Arts Programme that offers a range of creative and cultural experiences for people experiencing mental health problems in North Manchester developed with leading cross-artform artists with experience of mental health problems and cultural institutions in the city. With the programme now secured for 2023-26, we will seek to deepen our evaluation and model the programme with the aim of growing the programme further and sustaining it beyond 2026. We will continue to work with No.93 Wellbeing Centre and other referring organisations from health and social care.

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Report

AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT

Growing diverse audiences for our activities has been identified as a key strategic opportunity for the next few years. Over the next year we will:

- " Focus on growing our audience and participant engagement in Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown, putting audiences and communities in North Manchester at the centre of programming.
- " Increase year-round engagement with audiences and participants in North Manchester.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

We will increase our work around fundraising and business development by securing further funding for Festival 2024 and 2026, enabled by a mix of community project bids, large scale trust and foundation bids. In 2023/24 there will be particular focus on achieving multi-year core funding to increase and embed our year-round activity, which will increasingly inform commissions and festival presentations. This will be supported by the development of advocacy and partnership relationships. Additionally, work will take place on producing an international development plan, exploring further partnerships, consultancy and export models.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

SICK! Productions Ltd is a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, incorporated on 16 December 2002 and registered as a charity on 4 September 2006. The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the Company and is governed by its Articles of Association. All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 4 to the accounts. The organisation's staffing structure for 2022/23 consisted of CEO/Artistic Director, Head of Business Development, Creative Producer, Operations Manager and Marketing Officer

RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

The Directors of the Company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, a third of the trustees retire by rotation every year and may then seek re-appointment by members at the Company's Annual General Meeting. All the trustees are also members of the Company. There are no other members. The members of the Company are keen to ensure that the needs of its beneficiaries are appropriately reflected through the diversity of the Trustee body. To enhance the potential pool of trustees, the charity has sought to identify key members with specialist experience and Board recruitment is discussed regularly at Board meeting. Trustees receive an induction pack on joining the organisation, providing:

Outline of trustees' role and obligations

The main documents which set out the operational framework for the charity, including the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

An outline of the charity's financial model and the current financial position as set out in the latest published accounts.

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Report

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Company is governed by a board of trustees, who are also the sole members of the Company. At present, the board has five members with a variety of experience relevant to the work of the charity, with an aim to increase this number to ten Trustees. Sub-groups and Board champions will also be identified and implemented within this next financial year.

Trustees regularly review the progress of the charity and its funding, as well as reviewing the risks, controls and financial management of the charity. Trustees are responsible for approving the strategy for SICK! Productions and ensuring both the public benefit delivered through its outcomes and impact and the sustainability of the charity. The trustees are responsible for the appointment of the Chief Executive/Artistic Director.

MANAGEMENT

A system of delegation is in place and day-to-day responsibility for the provision of the services rests on the Senior Management Team: CEO/Artistic Director, Head of Business Development and Creative Producer with the CEO/Artistic Director having overall responsibility for ensuring the charity delivers its objectives. This Senior Team is supported by an Operations Manager and Marketing Officer. We are also supported by one Kickstart role supporting digital communications and festival production.

SMALL COMPANY EXEMPTIONS

The above report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 12 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by



Christine D'Cruz
Chair

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of SICK! Productions Ltd

I report on the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 12 to 24.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Trustees (who are also the Directors of the Company for the purposes of Company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

Having satisfied myself that the Charity is not subject to an audit under Company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**Richard Nelson FCCA
Breckman & Company Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants**

49 South Molton Street
London W1K 5LH

12 December 2023

SICK! Productions Ltd**(Limited by Guarantee)****Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total £
Income and endowments from:	2						
Donations and legacies - page 13		329,906	-	329,906	263,591	-	263,591
Charitable activities:							
Festival and hire income - page 13		29,402	30,749	60,151	22,714	118,340	141,054
Total		<u>359,308</u>	<u>30,749</u>	<u>390,057</u>	<u>286,305</u>	<u>118,340</u>	<u>404,645</u>
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds:							
Fundraising		22,800	-	22,800	2,454	-	2,454
Charitable activities:							
Festival - page 14		350,142	-	350,142	243,935	171,323	415,258
Total		<u>372,942</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>372,942</u>	<u>246,389</u>	<u>171,323</u>	<u>417,712</u>
Net income / (expenditure)	3	(13,634)	30,749	17,115	39,916	(52,983)	(13,067)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		179,919	76,067	255,986	140,003	129,050	269,053
Total funds carried forward	12, 13	<u>166,285</u>	<u>106,816</u>	<u>273,101</u>	<u>179,919</u>	<u>76,067</u>	<u>255,986</u>

The notes on pages 17 to 24 form an integral part of these financial statements.

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

SICK! Productions Ltd**(Limited by Guarantee)****Year ended 31 March 2023**

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
Income from donations and legacies				
Grants				
Arts Council England, NPO		254,091		254,091
Oglesby Charitable Trust		54,000		9,500
The Big Life Company		1,500		-
Postcode Neighbourhood Trust		20,315		-
		<u>329,906</u>		<u>263,591</u>
Income from charitable activities				
Festival and hire income				
Hire income - Jubilee Square	-		20,230	
Box office income	79		-	
Partner contributions	-		800	
Other income	<u>29,323</u>		<u>1,684</u>	
		29,402		22,714
Project specific funding				
Grants/donations				
Manchester CC	730		14,950	
Peter Sowerby Foundation	-		21,000	
Creative & Cultural Skills	-		6,206	
Dutch Culture	-		17,436	
Oglesby Charitable Trust	-		35,500	
Wildwuchs Festival	3,798		-	
Finnish Insititute	10,116		23,248	
GMCVO	9,500		-	
Co-Op Bank	1,000		-	
Arts Society	3,000		-	
MCR Active/Winning Hearts & Minds	<u>2,605</u>		<u>-</u>	
		30,749		118,340
		<u>60,151</u>		<u>141,054</u>

SICK! Productions Ltd**(Limited by Guarantee)****Year ended 31 March 2023**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Expenditure on charitable activities		
Festival		
Production/running costs		
Production costs	110,530	114,825
Wages/salaries	138,012	186,671
Pension	2,819	11,151
Artists	35,061	58,450
Marketing/website	9,773	8,508
	<u>296,195</u>	<u>379,605</u>
 Support and governance costs - page 15	 53,947	 35,653
	<u>350,142</u>	<u>415,258</u>
 Unrestricted	 350,142	 243,935
Restricted	-	171,323
	<u>350,142</u>	<u>415,258</u>

SICK! Productions Ltd**(Limited by Guarantee)****Year ended 31 March 2023**

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
Support and governance costs				
Support costs				
Office overheads				
Rent	7,864		5,440	
Premises costs	4,280		8,328	
Telephone/stationery/computer	7,733		3,384	
Depreciation of fixtures/fittings	17		-	
Depreciation of computer equipment	48		-	
		19,942		17,152
Administration costs				
Staff welfare	1,684		1,966	
Travel/accommodation/subsistence	6,443		1,360	
Entertaining	143		570	
Sundries/tickets	3,766		179	
		12,036		4,075
Professional/financial - Jubilee Square				
Consultancy fees	13,198		369	
Bank charges	-		231	
Discounts allowed	-		4,000	
		13,198		4,600
		45,176		25,827
Governance costs				
Professional/financial				
Legal/accountancy/consultancy	7,790		8,028	
Subscriptions/licences	981		1,798	
		8,771		9,826
		53,947		35,653

SICK! Productions Ltd**(Limited by Guarantee)****Balance Sheet
31 March 2023**

		2023		2022	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	8		942		-
Current assets:					
Debtors	9	2,658		1,261	
Cash at bank and in hand		272,650		288,483	
		<u>275,308</u>		<u>289,744</u>	
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(3,149)		(33,758)	
Net current assets			<u>272,159</u>		<u>255,986</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>273,101</u>		<u>255,986</u>
The funds of the charity:					
Unrestricted funds	12		56,990		161,212
Designated funds			109,295		-
			<u>166,285</u>		<u>161,212</u>
Restricted funds	13		106,816		94,774
Total charity funds			<u>273,101</u>		<u>255,986</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2023 the Company was entitled to exemption from 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 financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 12 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by



Christine D ' Cruz
Trustee

The notes on pages 17 to 24 form an integral part of these financial statements.

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

1. Accounting policies

1.1. Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (issued October 2019) 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity 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 notes.

1.2. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Individual fixed assets costing £100 or more are capitalised at cost.

Depreciation is provided at annual rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures/fitings	-	25% straight line
Computer equipment	-	25% straight line

1.3. Debtors

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

1.4. Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and 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.

1.5. 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.

1.6. Fund accounting

Funds held by the Charity are either:

- Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the Charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.
- Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

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

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

1.7. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when:

- the Charity is legally entitled to the funds
- any performance conditions attached to the income have been met or are fully within the control of the Charity
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable
- the amount can be reliably measured

Donations and legacies

Grants/donations are recognised in incoming resources in the year in which they are receivable, except as follows:

- when donors specify that grants/donations given to the Charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods
- when donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the Charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the preconditions for use are met.

Donated services and facilities

Donated services or 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. On receipt, donated services and 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.

Investment income

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.

SICK! Productions Ltd**(Limited by Guarantee)****Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023****1.8. Expenditure**

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered and is recognised when:

- there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment
- it is probable that settlement will be required
- the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably

Costs of raising funds

Costs incurred in attracting donations, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

Festival costs - costs incurred in production and running of festivals in the year.

Support costs

The administrative and overhead costs associated with running the office from which the Company operates as well as governance costs. Support costs are wholly attributable to production costs.

Governance costs

Costs associated with the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity.

1.9. Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. Contributions payable are recognised as expenditure when due.

1.10. Significant Accounting Estimates and Judgements

In determining the carrying amounts of certain assets and liabilities, the charity makes assumptions of the effects of uncertain future events on those assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The charity's estimates and assumptions are based on historical experience and expectation of future events and are reviewed annually. Further information about key assumptions concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation of uncertainty, are set out in the notes.

2. Incoming resources

The total incoming resources for the year have been derived from the principal activity undertaken wholly in the UK.

3. Net income/(expenditure) for the year is stated after charging:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	65	-
Independent examiners fees:		
- Independent examination	2,250	2,250
- Other services	250	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

SICK! Productions Ltd**(Limited by Guarantee)****Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023****4. Trustees' emoluments and reimbursed expenses**

The Trustees received no remuneration during the year (2022 - £nil).

The aggregated amount reimbursed to Trustees during the year was £nil (2022 - £nil).

5. Staff costs and numbers

	2023	2022
	£	£
Staff costs		
Salaries and wages	158,358	186,410
Pension costs	2,819	11,151
	<u>161,177</u>	<u>197,561</u>

No employee earned £60,000 or more during the year (2022 - nil).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees and the Senior Management Team. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £54,232 (2022 - £52,898).

Staff numbers

The average numbers of employees (including casual and part time staff) during the year was made up as follows:

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Festival/programme	3	3
Administration	2	2
	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>

6. Pension costs

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme in respect of its employees. The scheme and its assets are held by independent managers. The pension charge represents contributions due from the company and amounted to £2,819 (2022 - £11,151).

7. Corporation taxation

The Charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 and section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its Charitable objects.

SICK! Productions Ltd**(Limited by Guarantee)****Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023****8. Fixed assets - tangible assets**

	Fixtures/ fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost			
1 April 2022	4,500	14,370	18,870
Additions	431	576	1,007
31 March 2023	<u>4,931</u>	<u>14,946</u>	<u>19,877</u>
Depreciation			
1 April 2022	4,500	14,370	18,870
Charge for year	17	48	65
31 March 2023	<u>4,517</u>	<u>14,418</u>	<u>18,935</u>
Net book values			
31 March 2023	<u>414</u>	<u>528</u>	<u>942</u>
31 March 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

SICK! Productions Ltd**(Limited by Guarantee)****Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

9. Debtors	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	1,098	1,098
Other debtors	1,560	163
	<u>2,658</u>	<u>1,261</u>

10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2023	2022
	£	£
Other creditors	24	-
Accruals	3,125	33,758
	<u>3,149</u>	<u>33,758</u>

11. Limited by guarantee

The private limited company is registered in EW - England & Wales, is limited by guarantee, and does not have a share capital. Each Member gives a guarantee to contribute a sum, not exceeding £1, to the Company should it be wound up. At 31 March 2023 there were 5 Members.

12. Unrestricted funds	Brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
General fund	179,919	359,308	(372,942)	(109,295)	56,990
Designated funds:	-	-		109,295	109,295
	<u>179,919</u>	<u>359,308</u>	<u>(372,942)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>166,285</u>

SICK! Productions Ltd**(Limited by Guarantee)****Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

13. Restricted funds	Brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Carried forward £
Arts society	-	3,000	3,000
Peter Sowerby Foundation	9,450	-	9,450
Wildwuchs x 2	17,630	3,798	21,428
Finnish Institute	28,987	10,116	39,103
GMCVO	-	9,500	9,500
Co-op bank	-	1,000	1,000
University of manchester	-	730	730
Oglesby Charitable Trust	20,000	-	20,000
MCR Active/Winning Hearts & Minds	-	2,605	2,605
	<u>76,067</u>	<u>30,749</u>	<u>106,816</u>

Arts society

Supporting a new project working with young people around issues of violence

Peter Sowerby Foundation

Peter Sowerby Foundation funding towards the SMASH programme

Finnish Institute

Supporting the youth digital project Never, Forever, Always 2.0

GVMCO

Supporting a new inclusion commission that will co-produce a new work of dance theatre with disabled young people

Co-op Bank

Supporting a new project working with young people around issues of violence

Oglesby Charitable Trust

Funding for Commissions and Community programme.

MCR Active/Winning Hearts & Minds

Supporting us to explore local heritage as part of the Moston Lane Shutters Project.

SICK! Productions Ltd**(Limited by Guarantee)****Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023****14. Analysis of net assets between funds**

	General funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 are represented by:			
Tangible fixed assets	942	-	942
Net current assets	165,343	106,816	272,159
	<u>166,285</u>	<u>106,816</u>	<u>273,101</u>

15. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions requiring disclosure.

SICK! PRODUCTIONS LTD.

England & Wales - Charity number 1116008

Accounts

Company number 4622154
Charity number 1116008

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2022

**Breckman & Company Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
49 South Molton Street
London W1K 5LH**

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

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SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Reference and Administrative Details

Constitution

The charitable company is a private company limited by guarantee registered in EW - England and Wales, company number 4622154, incorporated under the Companies Act and its governing document is its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The company is a registered charity, number 1116008.

Directors and Trustees

The Directors of the Charitable Company ("the Charity") are its Trustees for the purpose of Charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

As set out in the Articles of Association, at every AGM, one-third of the Trustees in office must retire. A Trustee who retires by rotation is eligible for reappointment if he/she is willing to continue to act as Trustee. The Trustees to retire by rotation are those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or re-appointment. Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees are ongoing and incorporated indirectly into the regular Trustees meetings.

The Trustees during the year and since the year end, were :

Rowena Burns	resigned 14 April 2021
Paul Ferry (Interim Chair)	
Prof. Sandeep Ranote	
Duncan Craig	resigned 10 August 2022
Seren Hughes	resigned 7 December 2021
Joseph Strickland	
Alaknanda Ruia	appointed 30 July 2021/resigned 2 February 2022
John McLuckie	appointed 30 July 2021
Peter Bulkley	appointed on 28 February 2022

Chief executive / day to day management

Helen Medland - CEO/Artistic Director

Independent examiners

Breckman & Company Ltd, Chartered Certified Accountants, 49 South Molton Street, London W1K 5LH.

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank, P.O. Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT.

Registered office and operation address

Unit 3, The Sharp Project, Thorp Road, Manchester M40 5BJ.

Name

SICK! Productions Ltd is also known as "SICK! Festival".

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Report

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The reference and administrative information on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

PURPOSE AND AIMS

The principal activity of SICK! Productions is to foster and promote the improvement, development, maintenance and advancement of artistic knowledge, understanding and appreciation by providing resources, facilities and a creative space for the education of the public in the fields of visual and performing arts and film.

The trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work in the reporting period. The trustees acknowledge the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the trustees ensure the charity's aims, objectives and activities remain focused on its stated purposes.

The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'

ACTIVITIES

The main activities of SICK! Productions are: a biennial international festival which takes place across Greater Manchester; an innovative cross-artform commissioning programme which brings artists together with local communities with lived experience, the health sector, community groups/charities and researchers; and a growing year round programme of neighbourhood engagement and projects in Manchester.

All charitable activities are undertaken to further SICK! Productions charitable purposes for the public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

STRATEGIC PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

SICK! Productions has made significant progress in 2021/22 towards its strategic goals detailed in our Business Plan 2021 to 2023, and in the lead up to presenting SICK Festival 2022 in May (last was October 2019) after the disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Festival's main focus will be in Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown, as part of our 2021,10-year commitment to these North Manchester wards, with 70 to 80% of the programme delivered locally.

Since Manchester unlocked after the COVID-19 pandemic on 29 March 2021, we have quickly moved forward with our year-round projects and neighbourhood engagement in Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown with local community leaders, residents and a wide range of local organisations, including Manchester Youth Zone and FC United. We also began to deliver SMASH a mental health based social prescribing activity, developed in partnerships No 93 Wellbeing Centre.

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Report

Over the last four years, SICK! has undertaken considerable work to begin to grow year-round provision and strategic project delivery in Manchester and beyond. This work enables SICK! to develop new audiences outside the Festival periods; grow its presence and reach in the Manchester area (particularly in relation to cultural partners and local communities); the chance to grow brand awareness and new partnerships in GM; and take advantage of new opportunities. In addition, it provides financial input into central costs and enables us to sustain our core staff team.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONING PROGRAMME

During 2021/22 we also researched and developed proposals with new and former partners for the possibility of new commissions for the 2022 Festival. These include:

Mindgames:

Funded by the Finnish Institute, Mindgames is a new project that explores mental health through game design. Working together with professional game designers, a group of five young men from North Manchester and five young men from Finland will learn new skills and create a prototype game that reflects the Mental Health experiences of the group. Through a series of online workshops, participants will learn about visual design, creating stories, music and sound design, coding and all the other skills required to make a game from scratch. The finished prototype console game will be part of our Mental Health Arcade presented in the public art space, The Green, Harpurhey as part of SICK! Festival 2022.

Menopause Bus:

Funded by Pro Helvetia and developed with WildWuchs (Switzerland), Menopause Bus is an international collaboration around the themes of menopause. Two choirs of women, from Manchester and Zurich, will share their experiences and thoughts about ageing and the menopause through a WhatsApp-based pen-pal system. From this online collaborative process, songs will be written by two composers and then performed by the choirs aboard an open top double decker bus. This will be presented in Manchester and Zurich in Spring and Autumn 2022.

Ejaculation Falls:

Ejaculation Falls is a major new performance commission by Finnish artist Essi Rossi, exploring sexual diversity and pleasure with six local non-performers from Manchester to present a contemporary performance drawn from their own personal experiences. This project will be presented at STUN studios in SICK! 2022 and was funded by The Finnish Institute.

Micro Commissions:

We will invite theatre maker, Toni-Dee Paul to undertake a residency on Moston Lane between August 2021 and May 2022, engaging with who lives, works, eats, shops there, in order to get to know the place and the community. Toni-Dee will make a presentation of this research and host a conversation over dinner for the community of Moston in SICK! Festival 2022. She will facilitate discussions, captured by visual minutes, about what makes this place tick, what people love about it, and what they would like to change.

DICE: Inherited Resilience:

After securing British Council funding for a four month R & D project in partnership with Western Cape-based KKNK Festival. The online project brings together two cohorts of black and dual heritage young women writers from Moston & Harpurhey and Oudtshoorn (Western Cape) to explore issues that are important to them and their communities and develop shared solutions and future projects. The online sessions were led and facilitated by black-led organisations, Manchester-based Young Identity and SA based Empatheatre. The resulting collaborative work produced a short documentary film, available on our website, and a published printed book of poetry written by the participants.

SICK! Productions Ltd

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Trustees' Report

YEAR-ROUND PROJECTS

SMASH: Mental Health Arts Programme

In April 2021, with the support of the Peter Sowerby Foundation, we commenced a new arts-based social prescribing project SMASH, which was delivered from No 93 Wellbeing Centre in Harpurhey. The project supported 35 people from North Manchester struggling with their mental health through bespoke sessions. On average participants reporting a 19% increase in mental wellbeing on the Edinburgh Warwick Mental Wellbeing Scale (a leading wellbeing evaluation tool) and 72% of participants come back and go on to attend multiple sessions.

Key audience facts and figures for 2021-22:

- 189 engagements over 35 SMASH sessions
- 5,000 people attended the SMASH Birds of a Feather exhibition
- 752 commission participations across 83 sessions with 30 participants
- 13 artists commissioned to produce 9 new works

NEIGHBOURHOOD ENGAGEMENT

After an extensive period of research and partnership development, in 2021 we committed to working in Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown for the next 10 years. This decision was made in recognition of the social, economic and health challenges faced in these diverse communities and the limited funding and cultural infrastructure that are accessible to people living there. It also recognises that some cultural, social and health resources do exist in the area, that would benefit greatly from greater support and investment.

We have committed to working in those areas for a 10-year period in order to demonstrate genuine commitment, build trust, deliver our ambitions plans and to understand better what kind of social impact is feasible for an organisation of our scale and level of resources. In 2021/22, as society began to open up again after the COVID-19 pandemic, we were able to commence in person delivery.

In 2021/22, as society began to open up again after the COVID-19 pandemic, we were able to commence in person delivery. A Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown Ambassador's group was initiated, including representatives of community organisations, healthcare services, charities, social and cultural groups, local businesses and people who live in these neighbourhoods. The meetings were held quarterly and provided an opportunity for us to present our work and our plans for Moston, Harpurhey & Charlestown to the group and to gather feedback about these plans, and to explore the most important social issues faced by the community. After trialling this format, we have re-imagined the role of the Ambassadors and have decided to enroll and pay 10 young people who live in the area to further deepen our engagement and support the development of SICK! activity in Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown.

Community partner engagement was undertaken, connecting with local service providers to support presentation and delivery of the North Manchester SMASH social prescribing project, including Crisis Café team, No. 93 Wellbeing Centre, Community Inclusion, Resettlement and Linkworker Services, Manchester Psychological Therapies (North), Be Well and Healthy Me Healthy Communities.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Historically, SICK! Festival's biennial model has seen restricted and unrestricted grant funding secured for a festival in the previous financial year, with expenditure against these restricted funds taking place in the following financial year. This business model has resulted in significant restricted and designated fund balances carried forward in non-festival financial years, and net expenditure in financial years where festivals take place. These fluctuations have been partly mitigated through the growth in year round activity (such as SMASH), meaning that extensive restricted funds have been rolled forward this year. Unrestricted funds of £140,003 were brought forward at the start of the 2021/22 financial year to fund core delivery, and restricted funds of £129,050 were brought forward to fund the delivery of MINDSCAPES. In September 2021, we submitted an application for an extension to our Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) funding, in line with the Arts Council England COVID recovery policy, which was granted in December 2021.

SICK! Productions Ltd

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Trustees' Report

In May 2022, we will submit an application to continue Arts Council NPO funding for 2023-26.

INCOME

SICK! received £254,091 over the reporting period from Arts Council England NPO funding. Other funds were secured from a number of charitable foundations from within the UK, as well as cultural funders from the EU. Our thanks go to all our funders in 2021/22:

- Arts Council England
- Manchester City Council
- Peter Sowerby Foundation
- Finnish Institute
- Oglesby Charitable Trust
- Pro Helvetia (via Wildwuchs)

Total income for the year was £404,645, of which £118,340 was restricted, and £286,305 was unrestricted.

EXPENDITURE

Expenditure came in generally within budget, with the final out-turn of spending for the period of £417,712 of which £171,323 was restricted and £246,389 was unrestricted.

YEAR-END POSITION

The charity finished the 2021/22 financial year with net deficit on all funds of £13,067.

Funds carried forward to 2022/23 total £255,986 of which £76,067 is restricted and £179,919 is unrestricted.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The organisation has a risk management strategy which is reviewed on a regular basis, with risk management being a regular agenda item at quarterly board meetings. Board meetings also serve to establish systems and procedures to mitigate ambition at the heart of risk assessment. Consideration is given to the charity's appetite for such risks and the balance of financial and artistic risk.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The main risks and uncertainties faced by the charity in the current period are identified as (1) a shortfall in funding to deliver the artistic programme and other charitable activities; (2) The long-term impact of the Covid crisis on our partnerships and delivery and (3) challenges regarding audience development relating in particular to our shift of focus towards presenting the majority of the festival in Moston & Harpurhey, areas with historically low engagement with the arts. Our risk management processes identified risks including the future financial position of external partners, safeguarding risks, the impact of Brexit on future international activity, staffing capacity and the failure to comply with all statutory requirements.

RESERVES POLICY AND GOING CONCERN

The reserves policy of SICK! Productions Ltd is to hold a minimum of three months' base operating costs in cash at the bank, currently calculated to be £70k in the 2021/22 budget. This is deemed sufficient to meet all liabilities in the event of SICK! Productions Ltd ceasing to operate as a going concern (current unrestricted reserves is £179,919 which incorporates £70,000 reserves plus the remaining £109,919 which is allocated towards festival delivery).

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Trustees' Report

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

SICK! Productions produced a new business plan for 2021-2023, responding to the new challenges of COVID-19, which was signed off by the Board in January 2021. The plan identified 6 key strategic priorities for the business:

- SICK! Festival
- Commissioning
- Neighbourhood engagement
- Year-round projects
- SICK! Digital
- Audience development

In May 2022, SICK! will submit its application for further funding from Arts Council England for the next NPO round commencing in 2023-2026. The programme that we submit will take particular account of the priorities set out in Arts Council England's Let's Create strategy, which are closely aligned to our own strategic priorities. Development of our NPO application will incorporate a new business plan, programme for 2023-2024, outline programme for 2024-2025 and forward budgets for 2023-26, as well as identifying strategic objectives. The application will reflect Arts Council England's principles of:

- Ambition and Quality
- Dynamism
- Environmental Responsibility
- Inclusivity & Relevance

This work will be supported by an increased level of engagement and input from our Trustees.

FESTIVAL

We will present festivals in May 2022 and 2024. The 2022 festival will demonstrate a significant re-imagining of the form that the festival takes. The festival programme will continue to focus on themes related to physical and mental wellbeing and their social determinants. It will continue to present innovative, high-quality work by local, national and international artists in a high-profile, cross-art form programme. The festivals in 2022 will move away from primarily presenting within established cultural venues towards more presentation in the public realm, focusing in particular on presenting within the neighbourhoods of Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown. Some presentation within cultural venues will still occur. Through the festival programme we will collaborate with non-arts partners from healthcare, the charities sector and academia, which will remain fundamental to the delivery of the programme. Public realm installations will be presented throughout May 2022 with a three week-long programme of performances and other events occurring within this period. We will review and evaluate the success of this new festival format before committing to the shape of the 2024 festival.

We will present a highly diverse programme in 2022 with 50% of presented artists representing protected characteristics or lower socio-economic backgrounds. The programme has been developed with, and designed to engage the diverse communities of Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown, taking into account the demographics and cultural habits of people living in these areas.

Additionally, the long-term vision of the festival's growth, development and plans for international showcasing and commissioning will be defined and developed during this year for 2024 and beyond.

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Trustees' Report

COMMISSIONING PROGRAMME

Over the next period we will deliver newly commissioned projects in three areas:

SICK! Export:

Every two years we will commission ambitious projects by artists of international calibre and profile with significant potential for national and international touring, extending the reach and recognition of our work.

We will commission three new projects/performances with Z-Arts, Contact and The Lowry in 2022/23, for presentation in SICK! 2024. We envisage that these projects/performances will tour nationally/internationally following the presentation at SICK! Festival 2024.

Moston, Harpurhey & Charlestown Commissions:

Each two year cycle, we will produce a minimum of two commissions responding to contexts/experiences of communities in Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown. This year we will aim to deliver Mindgames and SICK! Cars: a programme of creative workshops and public installations with young men from Moston, Harpurhey, Charlestown and Finland developing a prototype console game and two vinyl wrapped cars which will be presented at SICK! Festival 2022.

Micro Commissions:

Building on our planned work with Toni-Dee Paul to undertake a residency on Moston Lane between August 2021 and May 2022, recognising the value of localised engagement and the great outcomes that can be achieved, we will expand this programme for SICK! Festival 2024. We will offer one to three bursaries in Autumn 2022 from a budget of £15,000, designed to support and give a good timeframe to early career artists in Greater Manchester and the North West working in performance, music, visual art, film, digital and interdisciplinary practices. We will support artists whose work is rooted in the experiences and concerns of the communities with creative and professional guidance.

NEIGHBOURHOOD ENGAGEMENT

We aim to increase our presence in Moston and Harpurhey, redesigning and expanding our Ambassador's Group programme to 10 young people living/working in Moston and Harpurhey. With a new focus on youth engagement the group will provide long-term advice, guidance and advocacy for the programme, the group includes community representatives, healthcare services, charities, social and cultural groups and local businesses.

We will continue to develop and deliver participatory commissions and social prescribing projects reflecting the key issues that the ambassadors have identified as being challenges for the area:

- Making the neighbourhood a nicer place to live.
- Improving connections between different groups in the community that rarely engage with each other.
- Contributing to improved mental health of young people in the neighbourhood.

As part of this, SICK! will develop partnerships with local health, community and cultural partners to deliver projects responding to these challenges.

SMASH

We will continue to deliver the North Manchester SMASH programme, incorporating over 40 creative activities for over 50 participants. An exhibition of photos taken by the first cohort was presented in October 2021. The programme is proving to be highly popular and successful. In 2022/23 we will seek to respond to opportunities to grow the programme through trust and foundation funding and its long-term continuation through funding from the healthcare sector and local authorities.

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Trustees' Report

STRATEGIC AND YEAR-ROUND PROJECTS

Our key strategic project for 2021/22 will be the programming and preparation for Festival 2022. Furthermore, plans will be developed for increasing higher education, community and NHS partnerships.

SICK! DIGITAL

In the next two years we intend to deliver a step change in SICK! Digital, embedding it as an integral part of all of our programmes, including commissioning and community programmes. Key priorities for 2021/22 are:

- Ensuring that SICK! has a clear digital presence and is incorporating digital work in programme planning and commissions.
- Ensuring that we engage appropriate expertise and seek appropriate support and training to drive our digital ambitions and to ensure that we invest in the right infrastructure.
- Finding appropriate methods for disseminating our existing content in order to drive digital engagement, build our profile, highlight thematic priorities and drive the development of new content and artist engagement (e.g. by Facebook Live and Twitter/Instagram takeovers).
- Documenting our ongoing community engagement, programmes, and thematic work linked to our 2022 Festival.

AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT

Growing diverse audiences for our activities has been identified as a key strategic opportunity for the next two years. Over the next year we will:

- Focus on growing our audience and participant engagement in Moston, Harpurhey and Charlestown, putting audiences and communities in North Manchester at the centre of programming.
- Increase year round engagement with audiences and participants in North Manchester.
- Embed digital delivery across all our artistic programmes, marketing planning and activity
- Implement a fit for purpose marketing/comms staffing structure, including accessing external support as required.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

We will increase our work around fundraising and business development by securing further funding for Festival 2024, enabled by a mix of community project bids, large scale trust and foundation bids. This will be supported by the development of advocacy and partnership relationships. Additionally, work will take place on producing an international development plan, exploring further partnerships, consultancy and export models. In 2022 we will recruit a Head of Business Development to dedicate the necessary skills and resources to growth and development in line with our business plan.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

SICK! Productions Ltd is a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, incorporated on 16 December 2002 and registered as a charity on 4 September 2006. The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the Company and is governed by its Articles of Association. All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 4 to the accounts. Between July 2021 and February 2022 we commissioned Life Unlymmited to review our organisations requirements and subsequent support the redesign of our organisational structure to meet our operational needs and requirements for planned growth and development. The new structure co-designed by the existing team consists of Artistic Director/CEO, Head of Business Development, Head of Operations, Creative Producer (Commissioning), Creative Producer (Community) and Marketing and Communications Officer.

SICK! Productions Ltd

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Trustees' Report

RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

The Directors of the Company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, a third of the trustees retire by rotation every year and may then seek re-appointment by members at the Company's Annual General Meeting. All the trustees are also members of the Company. There are no other members. The members of the Company are keen to ensure that the needs of its beneficiaries are appropriately reflected through the diversity of the Trustee body. To enhance the potential pool of trustees, the charity has sought to identify key members with specialist experience and Board recruitment is discussed regularly at Board meeting.

Trustees receive an induction pack on joining the organisation, providing:

- Outline of trustees' role and obligations
- The main documents which set out the operational framework for the charity, including the Memorandum and Articles of Association.
- An outline of the charity's financial model and the current financial position as set out in the latest published accounts.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Company is governed by a board of trustees, who are also the sole members of the Company. At present, the board has six members with a variety of experience relevant to the work of the charity, with an aim to increase this number to ten Trustees at the end of the 2022/23 financial year. Sub-groups and Board champions will also be identified and implemented within this financial year. Trustees regularly review the progress of the charity and its funding, as well as reviewing the risks, controls and financial management of the charity. Trustees are responsible for approving the strategy for SICK! Productions and ensuring both the public benefit delivered through its outcomes and impact and the sustainability of the charity. The trustees are responsible for the appointment of the Chief Executive/Artistic Director.

MANAGEMENT

A system of delegation is in place and day-to-day responsibility for the provision of the services rests on the Senior Management Team: CEO/Artistic Director, Head of Business Development and Creative Producers with the CEO/Artistic Director having overall responsibility for ensuring the charity delivers its objectives. This Senior Team is supported by an Operations Manager and Communications Manager. We are also supported by one Kickstart role supporting digital communications and festival production.

SMALL COMPANY EXEMPTIONS

This report is prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small Companies.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 22 November 2022 and signed on its behalf by



Paul Ferry (Nov 22, 2022 18:27 GMT)

Paul Ferry (Interim Chair)
Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of SICK! Productions Ltd

I report on the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set out on pages 11 to 23.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Trustees (who are also the Directors of the Company for the purposes of Company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

Having satisfied myself that the Charity is not subject to an audit under Company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**Richard Nelson FCCA
Breckman & Company Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants**

49 South Molton Street
London W1K 5LH

22 November 2022

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31 March 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total £
Income and endowments from:	2						
Donations and legacies - page 12		263,591	-	263,591	313,327	-	313,327
Charitable activities:							
Festival and hire income - page 12		22,714	118,340	141,054	18,143	101,524	119,667
Total		<u>286,305</u>	<u>118,340</u>	<u>404,645</u>	<u>331,470</u>	<u>101,524</u>	<u>432,994</u>
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds:							
Fundraising		2,454	-	2,454	11,250	-	11,250
Charitable activities:							
Festival - page 13		243,935	171,323	415,258	225,288	87,272	312,560
Total		<u>246,389</u>	<u>171,323</u>	<u>417,712</u>	<u>236,538</u>	<u>87,272</u>	<u>323,810</u>
Net income / (expenditure)	3	39,916	(52,983)	(13,067)	94,932	14,252	109,184
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		140,003	129,050	269,053	45,071	114,798	159,869
Total funds carried forward	12, 13	<u>179,919</u>	<u>76,067</u>	<u>255,986</u>	<u>140,003</u>	<u>129,050</u>	<u>269,053</u>

The notes on pages 16 to 23 form an integral part of these financial statements.

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

SICK! Productions Ltd

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Year ended 31 March 2022

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
Income from donations and legacies				
Grants				
Arts Council England, NPO		254,091		254,091
Oglesby Charitable Trust		9,500		-
HMRC JRS funding		-		18,707
MCC Business Rates relief		-		11,954
Trafford CCG		-		9,750
Manchester City Council		-		9,050
		<u>263,591</u>		<u>303,552</u>
Donations				
Donations in kind		-		9,775
		<u>263,591</u>		<u>313,327</u>
Income from charitable activities				
Festival and hire income				
Hire income - Jubilee Square	20,230		18,047	
Partner contributions	800		-	
Other income	<u>1,684</u>		<u>96</u>	
		22,714		18,143
Project specific funding				
Grants/donations				
Manchester CC	14,950		-	
Peter Sowerby Foundation	21,000		-	
Creative & Cultural Skills	6,206		-	
Dutch Culture	17,436		25,323	
Oglesby Charitable Trust	35,500		25,000	
British Council	-		7,750	
Wildwuchs Festival	-		28,451	
Finnish Insititute	<u>23,248</u>		<u>15,000</u>	
		118,340		101,524
		<u>141,054</u>		<u>119,667</u>

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Year ended 31 March 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Expenditure on charitable activities		
Festival		
Production/running costs		
Production costs	114,825	36,217
Wages/salaries	186,671	195,048
Pension	11,151	10,870
Artists	58,450	17,764
Marketing/website	8,508	11,606
Marketing - in kind	-	632
	<u>379,605</u>	<u>272,137</u>
 Support and governance costs - page 14	 35,653	 40,423
	<u>415,258</u>	<u>312,560</u>
 Unrestricted	 243,935	 225,288
Restricted	171,323	87,272
	<u>415,258</u>	<u>312,560</u>

SICK! Productions Ltd

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Year ended 31 March 2022

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
Support and governance costs				
Support costs				
Office overheads				
Rent	5,440		22,230	
Premises costs	8,328		3,621	
Telephone/stationery/computer	3,384		2,285	
	<u> </u>	17,152	<u> </u>	28,136
Administration costs				
Staff welfare	1,966		3,551	
Travel/accommodation/subsistence	1,360		43	
Entertaining	570		-	
Sundries/tickets	179		1,040	
	<u> </u>	4,075	<u> </u>	4,634
Professional/financial - Jubilee Square				
Consultancy fees	369		3,861	
Bank charges	231		-	
Discounts allowed	4,000		500	
	<u> </u>	4,600	<u> </u>	4,361
		<u>25,827</u>		<u>37,131</u>
Governance costs				
Professional/financial				
Legal/accountancy/consultancy	8,028		2,163	
Subscriptions/licences	1,798		1,129	
	<u> </u>	9,826	<u> </u>	3,292
		<u>35,653</u>		<u>40,423</u>

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Balance Sheet
31 March 2022**

		2022		2021	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets:					
Tangible assets	7		-		-
Current assets:					
Debtors	9	1,261		19,183	
Cash at bank and in hand		288,483		258,202	
		<u>289,744</u>		<u>277,385</u>	
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(33,758)</u>		<u>(8,332)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>255,986</u>		<u>269,053</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>255,986</u>		<u>269,053</u>
The funds of the charity:					
Unrestricted funds	12		179,919		140,003
Restricted funds	13		<u>76,067</u>		<u>129,050</u>
Total charity funds			<u>255,986</u>		<u>269,053</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2022 the Company was entitled to exemption from 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 financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 22 November 2022 and signed on its behalf by


Paul Ferry (Nov 22, 2022 18:27 GMT)

**Paul Ferry (Interim Chair)
Trustee**

The notes on pages 16 to 23 form an integral part of these financial statements.

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

1. Accounting policies

1.1. Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (issued October 2019) 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity 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 notes.

1.2. Debtors

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

1.3. Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and 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.

1.4. 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.

1.5. Fund accounting

Funds held by the Charity are either:

- Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the Charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.
- Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

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

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2022**

1.6. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when:

- the Charity is legally entitled to the funds
- any performance conditions attached to the income have been met or are fully within the control of the Charity
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable
- the amount can be reliably measured

Donations and legacies

Grants/donations are recognised in incoming resources in the year in which they are receivable, except as follows:

- when donors specify that grants/donations given to the Charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods
- when donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the Charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the preconditions for use are met.

Charitable activities

SICK! Festival income - income from box office, performance fees and sundry other festival income is included in incoming resources in the period in which the relevant show takes place.

Hire income - income from Jubilee Square is included in incoming resources when receivable.

Project specific funding - when donors specify that donations and grants are for particular restricted purposes, which do not amount to pre-conditions regarding entitlement, this income is included in incoming resources of restricted funds when receivable.

Donated services and facilities

Donated services or 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. On receipt, donated services and 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.

Investment income

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.

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

1.7. Expenditure

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered and is recognised when:

- there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment
- it is probable that settlement will be required
- the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably

Costs of raising funds

Costs incurred in attracting donations, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

Festival costs - costs incurred in production and running of festivals in the year.

Support costs

The administrative and overhead costs associated with running the office from which the Company operates as well as governance costs. Support costs are wholly attributable to production costs.

Governance costs

Costs associated with the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity.

1.8. Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. Contributions payable are recognised as expenditure when due.

1.9. Significant Accounting Estimates and Judgements

In determining the carrying amounts of certain assets and liabilities, the charity makes assumptions of the effects of uncertain future events on those assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The charity's estimates and assumptions are based on historical experience and expectation of future events and are reviewed annually. Further information about key assumptions concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation of uncertainty, are set out in the notes.

2. Incoming resources

The total incoming resources for the year have been derived from the principal activity undertaken wholly in the UK.

3. Net income/(expenditure) for the year is stated after charging:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Independent examiners fees:		
- Independent examination	2,250	2,250
- Other services	250	-
	<u>2,500</u>	<u>2,250</u>

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2022**

4. Trustees' emoluments and reimbursed expenses

The Trustees received no remuneration during the year (2021 - £nil).

The aggregated amount reimbursed to Trustees during the year was £nil (2021 - £nil).

5. Staff costs and numbers

	2022	2021
	£	£
Staff costs		
Salaries and wages	186,671	194,506
Pension costs	11,151	10,870
	<u>197,822</u>	<u>205,376</u>

No employee earned £60,000 or more during the year (2021 - nil).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees and the Senior Management Team. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £54,232 (2021 - £52,898).

Staff numbers

The average numbers of employees (including casual and part time staff) during the year was made up as follows:

	2022	2021
	Number	Number
Festival/programme	3	3
Administration	2	2
	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>

6. Pension costs

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme in respect of its employees. The scheme and its assets are held by independent managers. The pension charge represents contributions due from the company and amounted to £11,151 (2021 - £10,870).

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2022**

7. Fixed assets - tangible assets

	Fixtures/ fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost			
1 April 2021 / 31 March 2022	<u>4,500</u>	<u>14,370</u>	<u>18,870</u>
Depreciation			
1 April 2021 / 31 March 2022	<u>4,500</u>	<u>14,370</u>	<u>18,870</u>
Net book values			
31 March 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
31 March 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2022**

8. Corporation taxation

The Charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 and section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its Charitable objects.

9. Debtors	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade debtors	1,098	13,010
Other debtors	163	6,173
	<u>1,261</u>	<u>19,183</u>

10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2022	2021
	£	£
Accruals	33,758	8,332
	<u>33,758</u>	<u>8,332</u>

11. Limited by guarantee

The private limited company is registered in EW - England & Wales, is limited by guarantee, and does not have a share capital. Each Member gives a guarantee to contribute a sum, not exceeding £1, to the Company should it be wound up. At 31 March 2022 there were 6 Members.

12. Unrestricted funds	Brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Carried forward
	£	£	£	£
General fund	<u>140,003</u>	<u>286,305</u>	<u>(246,389)</u>	<u>179,919</u>

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2022**

13. Restricted funds	Brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Carried forward £
Manchester City Council	-	14,950	(14,950)	-
Peter Sowerby Foundation	-	21,000	(11,550)	9,450
Wildwuchs x 2	25,651	-	(8,021)	17,630
Finnish Institute	15,000	23,248	(9,261)	28,987
Dutch Culture	61,050	17,436	(78,486)	-
Creative and Cultural Skills	-	6,206	(6,206)	-
Oglesby Charitable Trust	19,599	35,500	(35,099)	20,000
British Council	7,750	-	(7,750)	-
	<u>129,050</u>	<u>118,340</u>	<u>(171,323)</u>	<u>76,067</u>

Manchester City Council towards the SMASH programme and SICK! Festival 2022.

Peter Sowerby Foundation funding towards the SMASH programme.

Pro Helvetia (Wildwuchs) funding for the 2022 Menopause Bus Commission.

Finnish Institute funding towards the Essi Rossi and Mindscapes Commissions.

Dutch Culture funding for Mindscapes Project.

Creative and Cultural Skills towards job creation.

Oglesby Charitable Trust Funding for Commissions and Community programme.

British Council funding for the DICE programme.

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	General funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fund balances at 31 March 2022 are represented by:			
Net current assets	179,919	76,067	255,986
	<u>179,919</u>	<u>76,067</u>	<u>255,986</u>

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2022**

15. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions requiring disclosure.

SICK! PRODUCTIONS LTD.

England & Wales - Charity number 1116008

Accounts

Company number 4622154
Charity number 1116008

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2021

**Breckman & Company Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
49 South Molton Street
London W1K 5LH**

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

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SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Reference and Administrative Details

Constitution

The charitable company is a private company limited by guarantee registered in EW - England and Wales, company number 4622154, incorporated under the Companies Act and its governing document is its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The company is a registered charity, number 1116008.

Directors and Trustees

The Directors of the Charitable Company ("the Charity") are its Trustees for the purpose of Charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

As set out in the Articles of Association, at every AGM, one-third of the Trustees in office must retire. A Trustee who retires by rotation is eligible for reappointment if he/she is willing to continue to act as Trustee. The Trustees to retire by rotation are those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or re-appointment. Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees are ongoing and incorporated indirectly into the regular Trustees meetings.

The Trustees during the year and since the year end, were :

Rowena Burns	resigned 14 May 2021
Paul Ferry (Interim Chair)	
Jon Rouse	resigned 1 May 2020
Elizabeth Treacy	resigned 8 June 2020
Prof. Sandeep Ranote	
Duncan Craig	
Seren Hughes	appointed 22 March 2021
Joseph Strickland	appointed 22 March 2021
Alaknanda Ruia	appointed 31 July 2021
John McLuckie	appointed 30 July 2021

Chief executive / day to day management

Helen Medland - CEO/Artistic Director

Independent examiners

Breckman & Company Ltd, Chartered Certified Accountants, 49 South Molton Street, London W1K 5LH.

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank, P.O. Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT.

Registered office and operation address

Unit 3, The Sharp Project, Thorp Road, Manchester M40 5BJ.

Name

SICK! Productions Ltd is also known as "SICK! Festival".

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Report

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The reference and administrative information on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

PURPOSE AND AIMS

The principal activity of SICK! Productions is to foster and promote the improvement, development, maintenance and advancement of artistic knowledge, understanding and appreciation by providing resources, facilities and a creative space for the education of the public in the fields of visual and performing arts and film.

The Trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work in the reporting period. The trustees acknowledge the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the trustees ensure the charity's aims, objectives and activities remained focused on its stated purposes.

The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'

ACTIVITIES

The main activities of SICK! Productions are: a biennial international festival which takes place across Greater Manchester; an innovative cross-artform commissioning programme which brings artists together with local communities with lived experience, the health sector, community groups/charities and researchers; and a growing year round programme of neighbourhood engagement and projects in Manchester.

All charitable activities are undertaken to further SICK! Productions charitable purposes for the public benefit.

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Report

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

STRATEGIC PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

Over the last three years SICK! has undertaken considerable work to begin to grow year-round provision and strategic project delivery in Manchester and beyond. This work enables SICK! to develop new audiences outside the Festival periods; grow its presence and reach in the Manchester area (particularly in relation to cultural partners and local communities); the chance to grow brand awareness and new partnerships in GM; and take advantage of new opportunities. In addition, it provides financial input into central costs and enables us to sustain our core staff team.

MINDSCAPES

Our key strategic project for 2020-21 was Mindscapes, a 2-year programme of co-operation and co-production between cultural institutions in The Netherlands and Manchester, funded by DutchCulture and running to May 2021. Working with Manchester communities and Dutch artists and arts organisations spanning performance, visual arts and digital media, the project explored the impact that our environment has on our mental wellbeing.

The aims of the project were:

- To support the development of new projects spanning performance, visual and digital arts that contribute to the physical, mental, and social wellbeing of cities.
- To increase understanding of ways in which cultural and creative industries can contribute to the physical, mental, and social wellbeing of Manchester and Cities in the Netherlands.
- To stimulate dialogue, knowledge-sharing, and network-building between organisations from across a wide range of sectors in Manchester and the Netherlands.
- To establish cultural links between Manchester and cities in the Netherlands facing similar challenges.
- To lay the foundations for future collaborations, creations, and sustainable partnerships.

UK partners included Manchester City Council, Design Manchester, Urban Psyche, Brighter Sound, FutureEverything, Young Identity, TFGM and Manchester Metropolitan University. Dutch Partners included Theater Zuidplein, Kunstinstituut Melly and Theater DEGASTEN.

Additional support was provided by Swiis Foster Care, TiPP, Cheetham Hill Welcome Centre, Yes Manchester, Buzz Manchester, No 93 Community Centre, the Men's Room, and Greater Manchester Mental Health Partnership.

The project delivered 5 new commissions developed by Dutch artists working in neighbourhoods and with communities in Manchester.

- Jan Rothuizen:

Visual artist Jan Rothuizen worked with local residents to explore diverse experiences of mental health and illness in neighbourhoods across Greater Manchester, representing these experiences in his unique graphic style on large format poster sites across the Greater Manchester Metrolink network.

- Theater DEGASTEN:

Amsterdam-based theatre company DEGASTEN worked with young people growing up in care institutions to create and present an online Zine.

- Merel Smitt:

Interdisciplinary artist and performance-maker Merel Smitt developed a participatory gaming portal to explore how unemployment, job centres and the benefits system affect the mental health of the individuals involved.

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Report

- Elten Kiene & Sjaan Flikweert:

Two Dutch performance poets worked with Manchester-based poetry collective Young Identity and migrant communities in North Manchester, to create a collection of powerful new poems. Using stencils, the poems were then blast-cleaned into the streets of Moston & Harpurhey & Piccadilly Gardens in Central Manchester.

- Yonatan Collier:

Sound Artist and composer Yonatan Collier worked with artists and musicians from North Manchester to create a soundscape, reflecting and shaping people's emotional experiences of Moston and Harpurhey. The composition is accessed through a mobile app whilst walking or jogging in these neighbourhoods. This project was produced by Brighter Sound.

Mindscapes includes:

- Presentation of these 5 works in Manchester and online in April - May 2021 and, in the case of the online projects, indefinitely thereafter.
- A two-day online conference, comprising of six panels and 25 panellists, presented with Kunstinstituut Melly, discussing the subjects explored by Mindscapes.
- A series of online workshops and public engagement activities including:
 - The Great Debate: Mind & The City (presented with Design Manchester)
 - Welcome to my World (presented with Theatre Zuidplein)
 - Moston & Harpurhey Meets Zuidplein (presented with Urban Psyche)

SMASH: Mental Health Arts Programme

Due to COVID, the planned Mental Health Arts Programme to be delivered in partnership with the Greater Manchester Student Mental Health Service did not go ahead. However, the planning, the research and the work done work to ensure the project would comply with NHS supplier requirements contributed to the re-development and implementation of the project in Moston & Harpurhey. We were successful in securing funding and excellent referral partnerships for this project, with workshops beginning in July 2021.

4OFUS

In response to the Covid pandemic, we delivered a new digital programme: 4 weekly episodes of 30 minutes, created using Zoom and disseminated through our websites and other social media platforms. Co-hosted by Lucy Burke and Andy Wilkinson, each episode included four guests drawn from a pool of contributors affected by the pandemic, discussing subjects such as disability, faith & support, mental health and health care.

Key audience facts and figures for 2020-21:

- 2,971 engagements with online & digital products
- Presentation of 8 new online products
- 45 participation events & workshops with 175 attendees
- 13 co-productions/co-commissions with international partners
- 13 commissioned artists (UK and non-UK)

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONING PROGRAMME

During 20-21 we also researched and developed proposals with new and former partners for the possibility of new commissions for the 2022 Festival. These include:

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Report

- **DICE: Inherited Resilience:**

We were successful in securing British Council funding for a 4-month R & D project in partnership with Western Cape-based KKNK Festival. The online project brings together two cohorts of black and dual-heritage young women writers from Moston & Harpurhey and Oudtshoorn (Western Cape) to explore issues that are important to them and their communities and develop shared solutions and future projects. The online sessions were led and facilitated by black-led organisations, Manchester-based Young Identity and SA based Empatheatre, with the resulting work to be presented in August 2021.

- **Mindgames:**

Funded by the Finnish Institute, Mindgames is a new project that explores mental health through game design. Working together with professional game designers, a group of five young men from North Manchester and five young men from Finland will learn new skills and create a prototype game that reflects the Mental Health experiences of the group. Through a series of online workshops, participants will learn about visual design, creating stories, music and sound design, coding and all the other skills required to make a game from scratch.

- **Old Devils:**

Funded by Pro Helvetia and developed with WildWuchs (Switzerland), Old Devils is an international collaboration around the themes of women, ageing, radicalism and the menopause.

- **Ejaculation Falls:**

Ejaculation Falls is a major performance commission by Finnish artist Essi Rossi exploring sexual diversity and pleasure, funded by The Finnish Institute.

Further international collaborative partnerships and opportunities were explored with partners in Denmark, Norway, South Africa and Kenya.

OTHER COMMISSIONING

New commissioning programmes were developed this year, to be released in 2021-22

- **Micro Commissions:**

We will offer two flexible bursaries from a total of £6,000, designed to support early career artists in Greater Manchester working in performance, music, visual art, film, digital and interdisciplinary practices. We will support artists whose work is rooted in the experiences and concerns of the communities.

NEIGHBOURHOOD ENGAGEMENT

After an extensive period of research and partnership development, in 2020 we committed to working in Moston and Harpurhey for the next 10 years. This decision was made in recognition of the social, economic and health challenges faced in these diverse communities and the limited funding and cultural infrastructure that are accessible to people living there. It also recognises that some cultural, social and health resources do exist in the area, that would benefit greatly from greater support and investment.

We have committed to working in both those areas for a 10-year period in order to demonstrate genuine commitment, build trust, deliver our ambitions plans and to understand better what kind of social impact is feasible for an organisation of our scale and level of resources. In 2020 we secured five-year funding to support this activity.

SICK! Productions Ltd

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Trustees' Report

A Moston & Harpurhey Ambassador's group was initiated, including representatives of community organisations, healthcare services, charities, social and cultural groups, local businesses and people who live in these neighbourhoods. The first meeting was held in September 2020 and have been held quarterly. The group provides an opportunity for us to present our work and our plans for Moston & Harpurhey to the group and to gather feedback about these plans, and to explore the most important social issues faced by the community.

Community engagement activity this year included workshops and participation sessions aimed at connecting community members with Dutch artists to support the development of commissions for MINDSCAPES. Young Identity supported a series of workshops with young women writers in Moston & Harpurhey to develop the Inherited Resilience project, to be presented in August 2021.

Community partner engagement was undertaken, connecting with local service providers to support presentation and delivery of the North Manchester SMASH social prescribing project, including Crisis Café team, No. 93 Wellbeing Centre, Community Inclusion, Resettlement and Linkworker Services, Manchester Psychological Therapies (North), Be Well and Healthy Me Healthy Communities.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Historically, SICK! Festival's biennial model has seen restricted and unrestricted grant funding secured for a festival in the previous financial year, with expenditure against these restricted funds taking place in the following financial year. This business model has resulted in significant restricted and designated fund balances carried forward in non-festival financial years, and net expenditure in financial years where festivals take place. These fluctuations have been partly mitigated through the growth in year round activity (such as MINDSCAPES), meaning that extensive restricted funds have been rolled forward this year. Unrestricted funds of £45,071 were brought forward at the start of the 2020/21 financial year to fund core delivery, and restricted funds of £114,798 were brought forward to fund the delivery of MINDSCAPES.

INCOME

SICK! received £254,091 (reflecting an inflationary increase of 1.84%) over the reporting period from Arts Council England NPO funding. Other funds were secured from a number of charitable foundations from within the UK, as well as cultural funders from the EU. Our thanks go to all our funders in 2020-21:

- Arts Council England
- British Council DICE
- Dutch Culture
- Finnish Institute
- Manchester City Council
- Oglesby Charitable Trust
- Pro Helvetia (via Wildwuchs)

Total income for the year was £432,994, of which £101,524 was restricted, and £331,470 was unrestricted.

SICK! Productions Ltd

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Trustees' Report

COVID-19

The Covid crisis had an immediate effect on the start of the financial year, resulting in several delayed remittances. Subject to successful application, ACE will be extending their current funding agreement until the end of the 2022-23 financial year, providing vital stability to the organisation. Earned income from rentals from Jubilee Square was also affected due to Covid restrictions and the closure of the Square for most of the year, therefore the income target was reduced from £40k to £10k. However, we were able to access support from Manchester City Council in the form of a Small Business Relief Grant. To counter fundraising challenges during this time, we were also able to secure Business Rates Relief, Discretionary Additional Restrictions Grants and a Covid Recovery Grant from Manchester City Council as well as support from the HMRC Job Retention Scheme.

EXPENDITURE

Expenditure came in generally within budget, with the final out-turn of spending for the period of £323,810 of which £87,272 was restricted and £236,538 was unrestricted.

YEAR-END POSITION

The charity finished the 2020/21 financial year with net income of £109,184. Funds carried forward to 2021/22 total £269,053 of which £129,050 is restricted and £140,003 is unrestricted. This was due to:

- Delay in spending restricted funds, both for MINDSCAPES and for 2022 Commissions. These funds have been rolled forward.
- Continued Covid restrictions meaning that core budget spending remained low in areas such as travel and community engagement.
- Contingency not being used and some core spend being moved into the next financial year.

FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

We formally relinquished the lease for Enterprise House, Manchester Science Park with effect from 6th April 2021. On 30th September 2021 we will formally relinquish our management agreement with Jubilee Square, Brighton.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The organisation has a risk management strategy which is reviewed on a regular basis, with risk management being a regular agenda item at quarterly board meetings. Board meetings also serve to establish systems and procedures to mitigate those risks and implement procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise. Trustees recognise that the charity operates in an area where reputation and financial risk is inherent, and place artistic ambition at the heart of risk assessment. Consideration is given to the charity's appetite for such risks and the balance of financial and artistic risk.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The main risks and uncertainties faced by the charity in the current period are identified as (1) a shortfall in funding to deliver the artistic programme and other charitable activities; (2) The long-term impact of the Covid crisis on our partnerships and delivery and (3) challenges regarding audience development relating in particular to our shift of focus towards presenting the majority of the festival in Moston & Harpurhey, areas with historically low engagement with the arts. Our risk management processes identified the need to move the Festival date from Autumn 2021 to May 2022, providing additional time for fundraising, arranging visa sponsorship status and ensure that the festival does not clash with other major events. Other risks were identified, including the future financial position of external partners, safeguarding risks, the impact of Brexit on future international activity and the failure to comply with all statutory requirements.

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Report

RESERVES POLICY AND GOING CONCERN

The reserves policy of SICK! Productions Ltd is to hold a minimum of three months' base operating costs in cash at the bank, currently calculated to be £70k in the 2021-22 budget. This is deemed sufficient to meet all liabilities in the event of SICK! Productions Ltd ceasing to operate as a going concern. Trustees have ensured that plans are in place for the charity to build reserves to this level over the course of the next three years, while recognising that Covid will present a challenge in achieving this. (current unrestricted reserves is £140,003 which incorporates £70,000 reserves plus the remaining £70,003 which is allocated towards festival delivery).

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

SICK! Productions produced a new business plan for 2020-2023 which was signed off by the Board in February 2020. The plan identified 6 key strategic priorities for the business:

- SICK! Festival
- Commissioning
- Neighbourhood engagement
- Year-round projects
- SICK! Digital
- Audience development

In October 2021, SICK! will start the process of applying for further funding from Arts Council England for the next NPO round commencing in 2023-2026. The programme that we submit will take particular account of the priorities set out in Arts Council England's Let's Create strategy, which are closely aligned to our own strategic priorities. Development of our NPO application will incorporate a new business plan, programme for 2023-2024, outline programme for 2024-2025 and forward budgets for 2023-26, as well as identifying strategic objectives. The application will reflect Arts Council England's principles of:

- Ambition and Quality
- Dynamism
- Environmental Responsibility
- Inclusivity & Relevance

This work will be supported by an increased level of engagement and input from our Trustees.

FESTIVAL

We will present festivals in May 2022 and in 2024. These will demonstrate a significant re-imagining of the form that the festival takes. The festival programme will continue to focus on themes related to physical and mental wellbeing and their social determinants. It will continue to present innovative, high-quality work by local, national and international artists in a high-profile, cross-art form programme. The festivals in 2022 and 2024 will move away from primarily presenting within established cultural venues towards more presentation in the public realm, focussing in particular on presenting within the neighbourhoods of Moston and Harpurhey. Some presentation within cultural venues will still occur. The festival programme will Collaboration with non-arts partners from healthcare, the charities sector and academia will remain fundamental to the delivery of the programme. We anticipate that public realm installations will be presented throughout May 2022 with a week-long programme of performances and other events occurring within this period. Whilst some opportunities for conversation and discussion will remain within the festival programme, the 'debate / symposium' activity that previously took place within the festival period has been shifted to Autumn 2021.

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Trustees' Report

We will present a highly diverse programme in 2022 with 50% of presented artists representing protected characteristics or lower socio-economic backgrounds. The programme has been developed with, and designed to engage the diverse communities of Moston & Harpurhey, taking into account the demographics and cultural habits of people living in these areas.

Additionally, the long-term vision of the festival's growth, development and plans for international showcasing and commissioning will be defined and developed during this year.

COMMISSIONING PROGRAMME

Over the next period we will deliver newly commissioned projects in three areas:

SICK! Export:

Every two years we will commission ambitious projects by artists of international calibre and profile with significant potential for national and international touring, extending the reach and recognition of our work. We will commission deliver three new projects for presentation in SICK! 2022 with a potential for at least two national/international touring opportunities following presentation at the Festival.

Moston and Harpurhey Commissions:

Each 2-year cycle we will produce two commissions responding to contexts/experiences of communities in Moston & Harpurhey. This year we will aim to deliver Mindgames and Boys N Cars: a programme of creative workshops and public installations with young men from Moston & Harpurhey and Finland developing a prototype computer game and an 2-3 vinyl wrapped cars which will provide a community transport service for 6 months following presentation at SICK! 2022.

Micro Commissions:

We will offer 1-3 bursaries from a budget of £6000, designed to support early career artists in Greater Manchester and the North West working in performance, music, visual art, film, digital and interdisciplinary practices. We will support artists whose work is rooted in the experiences and concerns of the communities with creative and professional guidance.

NEIGHBOURHOOD ENGAGEMENT

We aim to increase our presence in Moston and Harpurhey, by creating an office base in the local community and expanding our Ambassador's Group programme to 20 people living/working in Moston and Harpurhey. Providing long-term advice, guidance and advocacy for the programme, the group includes community representatives, healthcare services, charities, social and cultural groups and local businesses.

We will continue to develop and deliver participatory commissions and social prescribing projects reflecting the key issues that the ambassadors have identified as being challenges for the area:

- Making the neighbourhood a nicer place to live.
- Improving connections between different groups in the community that rarely engage with each other.
- Contributing to improved mental health of young people in the neighbourhood.

As part of this, SICK! will develop partnerships with local health, community and cultural partners to deliver projects responding to these challenges.

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Our SICK! Digital programme will continue to deliver podcasts and videos, developed with communities in Moston and Harpurhey, reflecting health and wellbeing experiences of local people. Our website will be updated to include information on the projects that we present, as well as providing a platform for people to engage with information about the area.

SMASH

We will continue to deliver the North Manchester SMASH programme, incorporating over 40 creative activities for over 50 participants. An exhibition of photos taken by the first cohort will be presented in October 2021.

DICE: INHERITED RESILIENCE

We will continue to support online workshops bringing together cohorts of black and dual-heritage young women writers from Moston & Harpurhey and Oudtshoorn (Western Cape) to explore issues that are important to them and their communities and develop shared solutions and future projects. The online sessions will be led and facilitated by black-led organisations, Manchester-based Young Identity and SA based Empatheatre, with the resulting film and Zine to be presented in August 2021.

STRATEGIC AND YEAR-ROUND PROJECTS

Our key strategic projects for 2021-22 will be the delivery and culmination of the Mindscapes project in April-May 2021, delivery of SMASH, delivery of DICE Inherited Resilience. Additionally, programming and preparation for Festival 2022 will be a key priority. Furthermore, plans will be developed for increasing higher education, community and NHS partnerships.

SICK! DIGITAL

Our SICK! Digital plans became more of a priority as the Covid crisis hit in March 2020 with 4OfUs and MINDSCAPES being created and presented entirely or substantially online. In the next three years we intend to deliver a step change in SICK! Digital, embedding it as an integral part of all of our programmes, including commissioning and community programmes. Key priorities for 2020-21 are:

- Ensuring that SICK! has a clear digital presence and is incorporating digital work in programme planning and commissions.
- Ensuring that we engage appropriate expertise and seek appropriate support and training to drive our digital ambitions and to ensure that we invest in the right infrastructure.
- Finding appropriate methods for disseminating our existing content in order to drive digital engagement, build our profile, highlight thematic priorities and drive the development of new content and artist engagement (eg by Facebook Live and Twitter/Instagram takeovers).
- Creating and disseminating new content linked to MINDSCAPES, and also documenting our ongoing community engagement, programmes, and thematic work linked to our 2022 Festival.

AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT

Growing diverse audiences for our activities has been identified as a key strategic opportunity for the next three years. Over the next year we will:

- Commission an external review and report on our current and future audiences and how to reach them.
- Use SICK! Digital activity as a platform to increase our digital audiences.
- Produce a four-year audience development/marketing strategy supporting activity and ambitions for Festival/non Festival years.

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Trustees' Report

- Implement a fit for purpose marketing/comms staffing structure, including accessing external support as required.
- Improve management of audience data, participant, and partner information.
- Continue to develop effective year-round marketing partnerships in the city region and nationally.
- Further embed audience development targets in programme planning and evaluation.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

We will increase our work around fundraising and business development by securing further funding for Festival 2022, enabled by a mix of community project bids, large scale trust and foundation bids, and the production and implementation of an individual and corporate giving plan. This will be supported by development of advocacy and partnership relationships. Additionally, work will take place on producing an international development plan, exploring further partnerships, consultancy and export models.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

SICK! Productions Ltd is a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, incorporated on 16th December 2002 and registered as a charity on 4 September 2006. The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the Company and is governed by its Articles of Association. All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 4 to the accounts.

RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

The Directors of the Company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, a third of the trustees retire by rotation every year and may then seek re-appointment by members at the Company's Annual General Meeting. All the trustees are also members of the Company. There are no other members. The members of the Company are keen to ensure that the needs of its beneficiaries are appropriately reflected through the diversity of the Trustee body. To enhance the potential pool of trustees, the charity has sought to identify key members with specialist experience and Board recruitment is discussed regularly at Board meeting.

Trustees receive an induction pack on joining the organisation, providing:

- Outline of trustees' role and obligations
- The main documents which set out the operational framework for the charity, including the Memorandum and Articles of Association.
- An outline of the charity's financial model and the current financial position as set out in the latest published accounts.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Company is governed by a board of trustees, who are also the sole members of the Company.

SICK! Productions Ltd

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Trustees' Report

At present, the board has seven members with a variety of experience relevant to the work of the charity, with an aim to increase this number to ten Trustees at the end of the 2021-22 financial year. Sub-groups and Board champions will also be identified and implemented within this financial year. Trustees regularly review the progress of the charity and its funding, as well as reviewing the risks, controls and financial management of the charity. Trustees are responsible for approving the strategy for SICK! Productions and ensuring both the public benefit delivered through its outcomes and impact and the sustainability of the charity. The trustees are responsible for the appointment of the Chief Executive/Artistic Director.

MANAGEMENT

A system of delegation is in place and day-to-day responsibility for the provision of the services rests on the Senior Management Team: CEO/Artistic Director, Executive Director and Creative Director, with the CEO/Artistic Director having overall responsibility for ensuring the charity delivers its objectives. This Senior Team is supported by an Operations Manager and Creative Producer. An additional Marketing and Communications Officer, as well as two Kickstart roles supporting digital communications and festival production will be recruited in 2021.

SMALL COMPANY EXEMPTIONS

This report is prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small Companies.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 22 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by



Paul Ferry (Dec 22, 2021 13:04 GMT)

Paul Ferry (Interim Chair)
Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of SICK! Productions Ltd

I report on the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are set out on pages 14 to 26.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Trustees (who are also the Directors of the Company for the purposes of Company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

Having satisfied myself that the Charity is not subject to an audit under Company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**Richard Nelson FCCA
Breckman & Company Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants**

49 South Molton Street
London W1K 5LH

22 December 2021

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31 March 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total £
Income and endowments from:	2						
Donations and legacies - page 15		313,327	-	313,327	295,910	-	295,910
Charitable activities							
Festival and hire income - page 15		18,143	101,524	119,667	49,944	153,519	203,463
Total		<u>331,470</u>	<u>101,524</u>	<u>432,994</u>	<u>345,854</u>	<u>153,519</u>	<u>499,373</u>
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds:							
Fundraising		11,250	-	11,250	8,949	-	8,949
Charitable activities:							
Festival - page 16		225,288	87,272	312,560	444,213	92,962	537,175
Total		<u>236,538</u>	<u>87,272</u>	<u>323,810</u>	<u>453,162</u>	<u>92,962</u>	<u>546,124</u>
Net income / (expenditure)	3	94,932	14,252	109,184	(107,308)	60,557	(46,751)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		45,071	114,798	159,869	152,379	54,241	206,620
Total funds carried forward	12, 13	<u>140,003</u>	<u>129,050</u>	<u>269,053</u>	<u>45,071</u>	<u>114,798</u>	<u>159,869</u>

The notes on pages 19 to 26 form an integral part of these financial statements.

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

SICK! Productions Ltd

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Year ended 31 March 2021

	2021		2020	
	£	£	£	£
Income from donations and legacies				
Grants				
Arts Council England, NPO		254,091		249,500
HMRC JRS funding		18,707		-
MCC Business Rates relief		11,954		-
Trafford CCG		9,750		-
Manchester City Council		9,050		-
Manchester Metropolitan University		-		5,300
Dutch Performing Arts		-		4,881
		<u>303,552</u>		<u>259,681</u>
Donations				
Private donations		-		3,020
Donations in kind		9,775		33,209
		<u>313,327</u>		<u>295,910</u>
Income from charitable activities				
Festival and hire income				
Hire income - Jubilee Square	18,047		29,450	
Box office income	-		2,754	
Partner contributions	-		17,740	
Other income	96		-	
	<u>18,143</u>		<u>49,944</u>	
Project specific funding				
Grants/Donations				
Dutch Culture	25,323		148,019	
Oglesby Charitable Trust	25,000		-	
British Council Canada	7,750		-	
Manchester City Council	-		1,000	
Attenborough Centre	-		1,000	
Unlimited/Artsadmin - partner contribution	-		3,500	
Wildwuchs Festival	28,451		-	
Finnish Insititute	15,000		-	
	<u>101,524</u>		<u>153,519</u>	
	<u>119,667</u>		<u>203,463</u>	

SICK! Productions Ltd

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Year ended 31 March 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
Expenditure on charitable activities		
Festival		
Production/running costs		
Production costs	36,217	52,082
Venue hire - in kind	-	11,450
Technical support - in kind	-	6,540
FOH - in kind	-	1,796
Speaker fee - in kind	-	3,300
Wages/salaries	195,048	204,875
Pension	10,870	11,412
Artists	17,764	143,875
Marketing/website	11,606	44,202
Marketing - in kind	632	5,880
	<u>272,137</u>	<u>485,412</u>
Support and governance costs - page 17	40,423	51,763
	<u>312,560</u>	<u>537,175</u>
Unrestricted	225,288	444,213
Restricted	87,272	92,962
	<u>312,560</u>	<u>537,175</u>

SICK! Productions Ltd

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Year ended 31 March 2021

	2021		2020	
	£	£	£	£
Support and governance costs				
Support costs				
Office overheads				
Rent	22,230		14,117	
Premises costs	3,621		4,630	
Telephone/stationery/computer	2,285		4,562	
Depreciation of computer equipment	-		768	
		28,136		24,077
Administration costs				
Staff welfare	3,551		652	
Travel/accommodation/subsistence	43		8,932	
Sundries/tickets	1,040		400	
Core costs - in kind	-		3,443	
		4,634		13,427
Professional/financial - Jubilee Square				
Consultancy fees	3,861		5,180	
Discounts allowed	500		3,950	
		4,361		9,130
		37,131		46,634
Governance costs				
Professional/financial				
Legal/accountancy/consultancy	2,163		1,763	
Professional consultancy/training	-		1,398	
Subscriptions/licences	1,129		1,168	
Professional consultation/training - in kind	-		800	
		3,292		5,129
		40,423		51,763

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Balance Sheet
31 March 2021**

		2021		2020	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Current assets:					
Debtors	9	19,183		15,132	
Cash at bank and in hand		258,202		156,312	
		<u>277,385</u>		<u>171,444</u>	
Liabilities:					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(8,332)</u>		<u>(11,575)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>269,053</u>		<u>159,869</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>269,053</u>		<u>159,869</u>
The funds of the charity:					
Unrestricted funds	12		140,003		45,071
Restricted funds	13		<u>129,050</u>		<u>114,798</u>
Total charity funds			<u>269,053</u>		<u>159,869</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2021 the Company was entitled to exemption from 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 financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 22 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by

Paul Ferry

Paul Ferry (Dec 22, 2021 13:04 GMT)

**Paul Ferry (Interim Chair)
Trustee**

The notes on pages 19 to 26 form an integral part of these financial statements.

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

1. Accounting policies

1.1. Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (issued October 2019) 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity 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 notes.

Fixtures/fittings	-	25% straight line
Computer equipment	-	25% straight line
Office/cellar improvements	-	25% straight line

1.2. Debtors

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

1.3. Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and 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.

1.4. 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.

1.5. Fund accounting

Funds held by the Charity are either:

- Unrestricted general funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the Charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.
- Restricted funds - these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

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

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

1.6. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when:

- the Charity is legally entitled to the funds
- any performance conditions attached to the income have been met or are fully within the control of the Charity
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable
- the amount can be reliably measured

Donations and legacies

Grants/donations are recognised in incoming resources in the year in which they are receivable, except as follows:

- when donors specify that grants/donations given to the Charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods
- when donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the Charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the preconditions for use are met.

Charitable activities

SICK! Festival income - income from box office, performance fees and sundry other festival income is included in incoming resources in the period in which the relevant show takes place.

Hire income - income from Jubilee Square is included in incoming resources when receivable.

Project specific funding - when donors specify that donations and grants are for particular restricted purposes, which do not amount to pre-conditions regarding entitlement, this income is included in incoming resources of restricted funds when receivable.

Donated services and facilities

Donated services or 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. On receipt, donated services and 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.

Investment income

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.

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

1.7. Expenditure

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered and is recognised when:

- there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment
- it is probable that settlement will be required
- the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably

Costs of raising funds

Costs incurred in attracting donations, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

Festival costs - costs incurred in production and running of festivals in the year.

Support costs

The administrative and overhead costs associated with running the office from which the Company operates as well as governance costs. Support costs are wholly attributable to theatre production costs.

Governance costs

Costs associated with the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity.

1.8. Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. Contributions payable are recognised as expenditure when due.

1.9. Significant Accounting Estimates and Judgements

In determining the carrying amounts of certain assets and liabilities, the charity makes assumptions of the effects of uncertain future events on those assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date. The charity's estimates and assumptions are based on historical experience and expectation of future events and are reviewed annually. Further information about key assumptions concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation of uncertainty, are set out in the notes.

2. Incoming resources

The total incoming resources for the year have been derived from the principal activity undertaken wholly in the UK.

3. Net income/(expenditure) for the year is stated after charging:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Depreciation/(revaluation) of tangible fixed assets	-	768
Independent examiners fees:		
- Independent examination	1,750	1,750
	<u>1,750</u>	<u>1,750</u>

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**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2021**

4. Trustees' emoluments and reimbursed expenses

The Trustees received no remuneration during the year (2020 - £nil).

The aggregated amount reimbursed to Trustees during the year was £nil (2020 - £513).

5. Staff costs and numbers

	2021	2020
	£	£
Staff costs		
Salaries and wages	206,298	204,875
Pension costs	10,870	11,412
	<u>217,168</u>	<u>216,287</u>

No employee earned £60,000 or more during the year (2020 - nil).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees and the Senior Management Team. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £54,232 (2020 - £52,898).

Staff numbers

The average numbers of employees (including casual and part time staff) during the year was made up as follows:

	2021	2020
	Number	Number
Festival/programme	3	3
Administration	2	2
	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>

6. Pension costs

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme in respect of its employees. The scheme and its assets are held by independent managers. The pension charge represents contributions due from the company and amounted to £10,870 (2020 - £11,412).

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(Limited by Guarantee)

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2021**

7. Fixed assets - tangible assets

	Fixtures/ fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost			
1 April 2020 / 31 March 2021	<u>4,500</u>	<u>14,370</u>	<u>18,870</u>
Depreciation			
1 April 2020 / 31 March 2021	<u>4,500</u>	<u>14,370</u>	<u>18,870</u>
Net book values			
31 March 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
31 March 2020	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2021**

8. Corporation taxation

The Charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 and section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its Charitable objects.

9. Debtors	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade debtors	13,010	3,310
Other debtors	6,173	11,822
	<u>19,183</u>	<u>15,132</u>

10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2021	2020
	£	£
Accruals	8,332	11,575
	<u>8,332</u>	<u>11,575</u>

11. Limited by guarantee

The private limited company is registered in EW - England & Wales, is limited by guarantee, and does not have a share capital. Each Member gives a guarantee to contribute a sum, not exceeding £1, to the Company should it be wound up. At 31 March 2021 there were 6 Members.

12. Unrestricted funds	Brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Carried forward
	£	£	£	£
General fund	45,071	331,470	(236,538)	140,003
	<u>45,071</u>	<u>331,470</u>	<u>(236,538)</u>	<u>140,003</u>

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2021**

13. Restricted funds	Brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	Carried forward £
Wildwuchs x 2	-	28,451	(2,800)	25,651
Finnish Institute	-	15,000	-	15,000
Dutch Culture	114,798	25,323	(79,071)	61,050
Oglesby Charitable Trust	-	25,000	(5,401)	19,599
British Council	-	7,750	-	7,750
	<u>114,798</u>	<u>101,524</u>	<u>(87,272)</u>	<u>129,050</u>

Wildwuchs x 2

Funding for the 2022 Commission.

Finnish Institute

Funding towards Graphic Encounters Commission.

Dutch Culture

Funding for Mindscapes Project.

Oglesby Charitable Trust

Funding for Commissions and Community programme.

British Council

Funding for the DICE programme.

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	General funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fund balances at 31 March 2021 are represented by:			
Net current assets	<u>140,003</u>	<u>129,050</u>	<u>269,053</u>
	<u>140,003</u>	<u>129,050</u>	<u>269,053</u>

SICK! Productions Ltd

(Limited by Guarantee)

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2021**

15. Financial commitments

At 31 March 2021 the company had total future commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Due:		
Within one year	-	12,325
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

16. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions requiring disclosure.