



**THE SOUND ROOM COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT CIO**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**For the year ended 31 March 2025**

**Charity Number 1157494**

# **THE SOUND ROOM COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT CIO**

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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The Trustees are pleased to present the Annual Report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the period ended 31 March 2025, which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors Report and Accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, 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 Standards, applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland( FRS 102)[effective 1st January 2019].

The Board of Trustees has referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charities objectives and planning its future activities. This Annual Report aims to demonstrate the link between our charitable activity and how this benefits our service users.



Photograph of The Soundroom original recording studio in the 1980's

### **1. OUR HISTORY**

The Soundroom was originally set up as a recording resource for The Deckham Music Collective (DMA) in 1985, under the ethos of an affordable and accessible way to make, perform and record music for local people. The project has a unique social history as it is one of the few remaining community projects left from the 1980's. It has been housed in a few different venues over the years before settling at its current

# **THE SOUND ROOM COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT CIO**

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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location in the year 2000; the Old Redheugh Library building, one of the first community libraries in Gateshead.

The Soundroom Community Music Project was subsequently founded as a standalone project in the year 2000, part of the millennial projects and became a non-profit Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in 2014. Responsibility of the building was transferred to the Charity in the form of a 35-year lease from the local authority in 2019.

### **2. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The Charity continues to provide a vital space for music expression and learning, reinforcing the value of arts engagement in supporting people's well-being.

We believe that access to music and the arts greatly improves the quality of life for people in our community.

The Charity works for the public benefit and aims to provide a high quality resource for the development of music and the related arts for the residents of Gateshead and surrounding areas, identify and meet musical needs of different age groups in our community; elderly people, disabled people, families, children, and young people, and focus the project on marginalised and/or vulnerable groups, including those from deprived socio-economic backgrounds.

As we continue on our journey, we remain committed to making a significant and lasting positive impact on the health and wellbeing of all our participants, particularly those facing social isolation, mental health challenges, and economic hardship.

Our participants come from wide range of backgrounds, with a significant proportion living in areas of deprivation. Many participants experience complex and overlapping needs, including long-term mental health conditions, disabilities, life-limiting health conditions, and financial insecurity.

### **3. OUTCOMES AND AIMS**

The outcome of the Charity is to:

- Enrich the lives for people, groups and communities through music and related arts.
- Provide vibrant opportunities to participate in musical experiences and guide people through their musical journey.
- Create a truly inclusive space at the heart of the community with modern facilities.
- Be a resilient, focused, and well-managed Charity.

And the Charity wishes to achieve these outcomes in with the following aims:

- Increase participation amongst groups who are less likely to engage in culture.
- Grow the program of opportunities in response to users' needs and aspirations.

# THE SOUND ROOM COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT CIO

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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- Invest in capacity, facilities, equipment as well as strengthen governance and operations.

### 4. ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

This has been our busiest year to date, and the Charity has continued to make a significant positive impact in improving and learning new skills and the health and well-being of our community over the past year.

#### a) Group Activities

1. **Loud & Proud Drumming** (20 sessions)
2. **Music Cafes** Monday & Thursdays (84 sessions)
3. **Guitar Social** Group (42 sessions)
4. **Community Chest** - mental health and well-being groups (82)
  - Mix Motions DJ workshops – Tuesday Afternoon
  - Music 4 Mental Health sessions Thurs Afternoon
  - Under 25's music workshops –
5. **Collective Sounds Research Group** (12 session)
6. **Youth Nights - Free Rehearsal** – (80 sessions)
7. **Gateshead Youth Music Nights** – (46 sessions)
8. **Soundees Group**- Afterschool music and breakdancing group (44 sessions)
9. **Afternoon Tea Party** (6 sessions)
10. **Music for Mental Health** (48 sessions)
11. **Warm Welcome Space** (30 sessions)

#### b) Additional Activities

12. **Community Recording** one to one sessions (160)

#### c) Festivals/ Events

1. Youth\Music Festival Gateshead Youth Music - May 2024
2. Star & Shadow Cinema Youth Music Showcase - March 2025
3. Late Shows Cultural Event May - 2024
4. MOBO Fringe Event February - 2025

We are thrilled to share that the organisation delivered 556 professional learning, development, and community music sessions totalling an incredible 1,668hrs of creative music-making this year.

These sessions were consistently well attended, with up to 175 individual attendances recorded across our weekly studio programme, reflecting strong community interest and ongoing participation.

# THE SOUND ROOM COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT CIO

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

---



### Community Learning & Well-being Activities

The ever-popular **Music Cafes** are well attended on both days, with two separate volunteer bands – Mondays are led by our long-standing volunteers. The band perform regular set lists for the first half of the session and after a short break, service users sing their requested songs with the band during the second half of session

Thursdays are led by our newer volunteers, who perform their set lists during the first half and after collecting the requested songs from the service users, enable the service users to sing karaoke along to their favourite tracks.

Percussion instruments, electric drum kit and keyboard are set up and available for use by service users at both sessions.

### Our weekly **Guitar**

**Social** drop-in sessions for the local community continue to be popular with people of differing ages and from all walks of life. This group is led by a prior youth member of the Soundroom, who facilitates this group in addition to running his own Guitar Tuition School.



Guitar Social group



## THE SOUND ROOM COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT CIO

### TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

---



Gid night for our Youth Music

We currently run two open-access youth groups, and a free rehearsal night for Youth Bands we have also continued to deliver term-time activities for young people thanks to funding from the Community Foundation and Barbour Foundation.

Tuesday After-School Breakdance and Music Group called **The Soundees** for Key Stage 2 children, and Thursday **Gateshead Youth Music Night** for young people aged 14–18.

Both sessions are facilitated by Soundroom and skilled freelancer staff, including a local singer-songwriter, a mental health music practitioner, an occupational therapist, and staff members who act as Lead Safeguarding Officer and Sound Engineer/Drummer. All facilitators hold up-to-date safeguarding training. This year's sessions have centred on music creation and recording opportunities. The funding received has not only covered essential core costs but has also enabled us to create a welcoming and supportive environment, where young people are encouraged to explore their musical talents through songwriting, studio recording, music jamming, and professional skills workshops for instrument tuition. Delivered in a relaxed and inclusive setting, these activities have helped participants build confidence and develop valuable skills that contribute to their personal growth and overall well-being.

Both sessions are fully subscribed every week and attended by a diverse group of children and young people with a wide range of abilities. Healthy fruit, snacks, and refreshments are provided at each session, helping to support participants who may be affected by food insecurity.

In addition to our term-time provision, we have also delivered holiday clubs as part of the **Brighten Your Day Scheme**. During these sessions, over 20 children worked alongside professional education, musician and dance choreographers, the children developing creative skills, confidence building, and overall positive wellbeing.

# THE SOUND ROOM COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT CIO

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

---

### Celebrating the MOBOs 2025

The Soundroom Tuesday after-school music and dance club, in partnership with, Glow Newcastle and Tyneside Cinema were invited to collaborate on a brand-new music video and documentary, made by young people from across the region. The work was inspired by a song from Mercury Prize winning ensemble Ezra Collective and the music choice was especially poignant for us as the Ezra Collective often speak about the importance of access to '*great youth clubs*' in shaping their own creative careers. Our talented young people were given the opportunity to see themselves represented on the big screen at Tyneside Cinema, and as part of the wider national MOBO event hosted here in the region where they attended the premiere of their music video at Tyneside Cinema. There was also a documentary screening, local musician performances and a Q&A, giving audiences a behind-the scenes look at how the whole creative experience came together.

It was a tremendous opportunity for our little Charity, joining a powerful celebration of youth creativity, through working in collaboration with regional arts organisations, and receiving much appreciated recognition of what happens in our own accessible arts space.

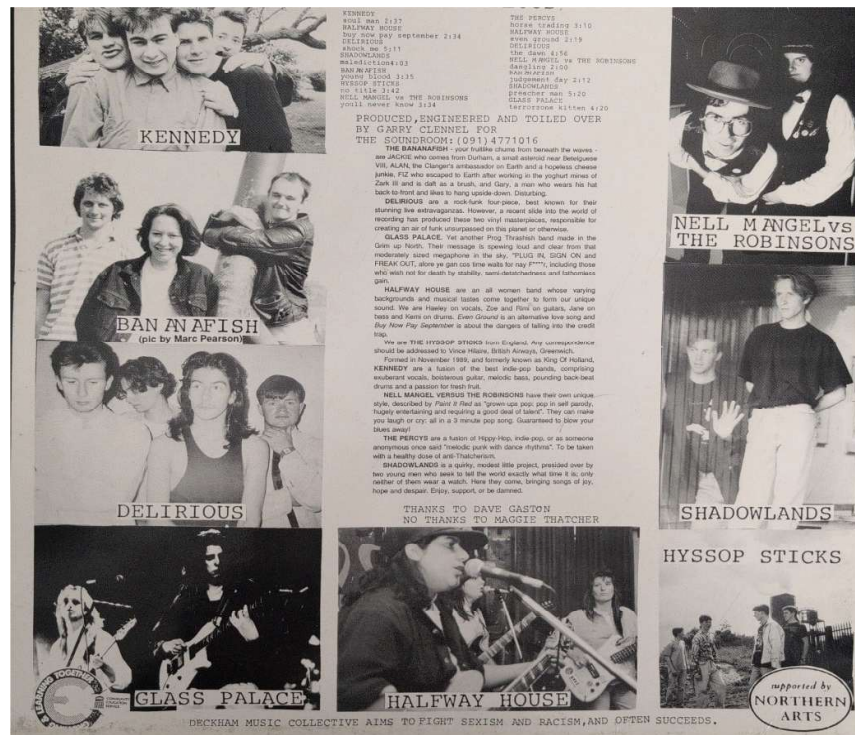
The young people reflected on the event saying it was incredible,

- "I liked everything to do with the MOBOs it was fun, a new experience and gave us new opportunities that we've not had before. I felt part of something really big."
- "I liked listening to the people talking about what they do for jobs it was good hearing about the exciting jobs they do."
- "It was good to see people like us and hear them talking about how they got really good at stuff like dancing and music and not to give up."

# THE SOUND ROOM COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT CIO

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025



Photograph of Young Blood album cover recorded at The Soundroom in 1989

### Community Heritage Project

Our new National Lottery Heritage project *Collective Sounds* celebrating our 40-year history of community music-making, was launched at The Late Shows in 2024 is now underway and the new **Collective Sounds Research Group** successfully completed several outreach sessions, actively informing the local community about the project and our full range of planned activities. As awareness of the heritage-funded initiative has grown, we have been delighted to see the emergence of many wonderful stories and personal recollections connected to the music-making project's early days in Deckham. Both volunteers and staff have also benefited from professional training in archiving methods, delivered by Tyne & Wear Museums local archives and museums staff, further strengthening our capacity to preserve and share the project's rich history.

This project has become a popular conversation starter among our participants, sparking renewed interest and engagement from both current and former users. We have been delighted to welcome back individuals who previously benefited from the project some returning to use our rehearsal rooms, and in one notable case, even rejoining us as a volunteer. Due to newly discovered musical archive material, the project has been extended for another year. This extension will support our ongoing research goals and enable us to catalogue and preserve the expanding collection of musical archives for future generations to listen to.



# THE SOUND ROOM COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT CIO

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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Interviews exploring how The Soundroom was formed as part of Deckham Music Collective (DMC) have begun, and black and white photo digitisation has been completed. We aim to culminate the project with an exhibition and celebration of youth music history at our next Late Shows event in May 2025, followed by a further external exhibition in the summer.

**Community Chest** – Thanks to UKSPF funding from Gateshead Council, this year has seen a truly transformative growth in community music-making offer, bringing people together and opening up new creative opportunities.

This led to the introduction of several accessibility music sessions including.

- **Mix Motions DJ** workshops
- **Music 4 Mental Health** sessions
- **Under 25's music** workshops

### **Warm Welcome Space**

Further to receiving a Warm Spaces grant from Gateshead Council, and as part of Gateshead's Warm Space Network, we provided a Warm Welcome Space from October 2024 to March 2025. This included our Cinema Club and Guitar Socials held every Wednesday afternoon, and our new creative **WordBank** sessions ran by some amazing volunteers, held on Friday evenings - an open mic for all ages, a chance to share poems/raps/stories or any other wordy things. Both sessions offered a warm, welcoming environment with film screenings, alongside free hot drinks, snacks and buffet food.

Thanks to Barchester group 6 themed **Afternoon Tea Dances** were organised by volunteers, with an offer food and refreshments all served on vintage tea and coffee sets with live music entertainment and a film screening.

### **Rehearsal and Recording**

Providing affordable rehearsal and recording space continues to be a high priority for the Charity which due to a trial of extended opening

Special acknowledgement to Skipton Building Society who provided much needed grant funding to replace and renew essential music equipment.

We have 20 plus regular weekly rehearsal band customers with opportunity for additional rehearsal times being easily booked via the online booking app. Even with the slight increase in charges for renting space, the continual bookings show that we remain affordable and often a first choice for our local community groups and general public.

As a result of all the hard work our staff and volunteers put into ensuring our facility is ready and welcoming to all who use our rehearsal facilities, we have continued to

# THE SOUND ROOM COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT CIO

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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deliver on our charitable values of providing affordable spaces as well as raising important core costs to ensure future sustainability of the Charity. This income revenue continues to steadily rise particularly now the online booking system for rehearsals and community space is familiar to our bookers.

Our recording studio bookings continue to serve our diverse community, popular with local songwriters, local primary schools, youth groups and the Jewish community.

### Building

Building repairs and refurbishment continued throughout the year to ensure our premises remain accessible, safe, secure and welcoming for all users. Essential maintenance was prioritised, including the installation of a new fire alarm system and control panel, made possible through the support of Community Foundation Gateshead's Community Infrastructure Fund and Persimmon Homes Grant, alongside planned improvements to enhance the overall appearance and functionality of the building. These works ensure that our facilities remain fit for purpose and continue to support the diverse range of people participating in our community music activities. Smaller-scale maintenance works were carried out throughout the year with invaluable support from our dedicated volunteers.

Our bold plans to pursue capital development have come to fruition. Through securing support from a range of funders for our raising the roof project, we are now able to progress with the redevelopment of our building. Work has now commenced on the most severely damaged sections of the roof. This funding will ensure the building remains watertight for current users and, through core funding support, will enable our part-time staff member to focus on further fundraising activities to help deliver additional capital works.

Future redevelopment will focus on create additional space to showcase live music-and arts-based events, alongside a much-needed dedicated social seating and refreshment area. A strong focus on fundraising has been central to achieving this milestone. The Trustees are pleased that grant funding was secured from Awards for All and Sir James Knott Trust to begin the 'Raise the Roof' campaign journey for a full roof replacement.

Building maintenance and improvements continue to remain an ongoing financial challenge for the Charity; however, the Trustees recognise the importance of maintaining a safe and secure building to support long-term sustainability. Looking ahead, along with the full replacement of the roof area, together with upgraded insulation, to improve energy efficiency, reduce running costs and ensure the long-term protection and sustainability of the building.

# THE SOUND ROOM COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT CIO

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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### Staffing & Volunteers

Our small, dedicated staff duo supported by our dedicated band of volunteers have gone above and beyond to ensure the Charity's continuance in the expanding of our programme of activities.

This means that **'whatever your sound'** music continues to be heard throughout our community building from 10am to 10pm most days.

### Volunteer Contribution

Community music would not be possible at The Soundroom without acknowledging the support received by over 30 volunteers this year. Our dedicated volunteer team have pledged over 2500 hours of their time to ensure our community building remains open from 10am - 10pm weekdays and occasional weekends. This dedicated group of volunteers, both from within our local community, user groups and further afield, continue to contribute time to ensure the Charity is supported in whichever way it is required.

### Learning & Development

Staff and keyholder volunteers have updated Fire Warden Safety Training, Health & Safety training and Safeguarding Leads have undertaken Level 3 Safeguarding training. A Trustee has undertaken their Level 2 & 3 Safeguarding training. We have continued to offer hosting work experience programmes for University, college and school students.

### Inclusion, Diversity and Equality

- The Charity aims to work with all areas of our community, regardless of age, disability, gender, race, religion or beliefs, and sexual or gender preference.
- We support clients with mental health issues to express themselves through spoken word, singing and recording sessions.
- We also thank our project funders for the year

## 5. PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Following on from our successful grant applications, the Trustees plan to continue the capital building development work in 2025/26, hoping that a range of funders will be able to support our redevelopment work. This will enable us to increase our capacity to include more young people and adults and give us additional space to showcase music and arts based events, and provide a much-needed dedicated social seating and refreshment zone.

## **THE SOUND ROOM COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT CIO**

### **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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Both Trustees and staff continue to work towards providing a greater range of services for all, whilst maintaining the very popular present activities that are well attended by the local community. We continue to be a not-for-profit Charity, additional revenue, fundraising, donations or support is put back into providing activities and services for our community.

We additionally hope that by securing more funding to support our employees and to continue to grow our organisation to meet the needs of our community.

- Building repairs and refurbishment will continue to ensure the premises remain accessible, safe, secure and aesthetically pleasing for all users
- Strengthening our governance, with improvements to Trustee induction and development
- Recognising the need to better understand and demonstrate the impact of our hard work, by strengthening our use of quantitative data collection methods
- Continue to explore ways of working towards greater financial sustainability
- Developing our existing charitable offer to include additional provision for much needed social and wellness projects for mental health and well-being. Tuition services, opportunities for playing a musical instrument are open to all, especially for young people.
- Expanding our refreshment offer with feasibility for refurbishing the kitchen to accommodate launching a hot food service in our community café
- Accrediting our real living wage employer status
- Securing significant grant funding to develop our capital building plans, services and community activities
- Developing a new three-year strategy

### **6.CUSTOMER AND VOLUNTEER FEEDBACK**

We've been receiving increasing feedback from our customers, and below is a selection of their comments:

"The Soundroom is the most important place in my life. I have anxiety and multiple health problems and this is the only place I feel comfortable going to that I am able to join in and listen to music."

"I didn't know about the Soundroom a year ago, now I do I feel like the world is a better place to live in."

"The place needs more recognition, it offers so much support to people like me, everywhere is closing and reducing the services especially in mental health but thankfully this place keeps going."

# THE SOUND ROOM COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT CIO

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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“People have time to listen to me at the Soundroom, I meet up with other people who understand about life being difficult sometimes, I always feel better after being at the Soundroom”

“The Soundroom caters to so many different people, it is fantastic place a real gem and such great value for money, they even offer free music activities to the community”

### 7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEW

As a Charity with the community at its heart, we are committed to providing a better life experience for all. That is why we are prioritising becoming a greener Charity and making sure we implement Environmental and Sustainability Strategies. The Soundroom acknowledge the connection between the climate and environmental crises. We recognise our responsibility to reduce both our carbon and environmental footprint and commit to be an environmentally responsible Charity. To achieve this, we commit to the following actions:

Our Commitment:

1. The Soundroom has appointed the Centre Manager to take responsibility for enacting and reporting on its commitment to becoming an environmentally responsible organisation.
2. Staff, volunteers and contractors will be expected to help The Soundroom in carrying out its aim of being an environmentally responsible organisation, particularly in the way they carry out their day-to-day duties.
3. Induction procedures for new staff/volunteers/contractors will include information on the Charity's environmental practices.

### 8. FINANCIAL REVIEW

The review of the financial year to 31st March 2025 shows the project generated income of £100,426 (2024: £ 57,703) which comes from a range of different sources. Earned income through room rental, rehearsals and recording, and café sale, ticket sales, Donations and Public Grants.

The financial position for the year was net incoming funds of £100,426 (2024: £57,703) and total outgoing resources of £86,041 (2024: £ 51,077). This leaves total funds of £45,815 (2024: £ 31,430), of which £20,660 is restricted (2024: £ £11,787) and £25,155 (2024: £19,643) is unrestricted.

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the Charity to try to build up free reserves of the Charity, (unrestricted funds not invested in tangible fixed assets) to a level that equates to approximately six



# THE SOUND ROOM COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT CIO

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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months of expenditure. This will provide enough funds to cover management and administration support costs and any emergencies that may arise from time to time.

At 31 March 2025 the free reserves were £19,028 (2024: £19,643) which equates to approximately four months of expenditure.

### 9. REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISORS

Charity Name	The Sound Room Community Music Project CIO
Registered Charity Number	1157494
Registered Office and Operational address	Redheugh Studios, Cuthbert Street, Gateshead, NE8 1PH
Trustees	Justin Hancock Lisa Leonard Barbara Donkin Stephen Ferrell

### 10. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Charitable Incorporated Organisation - Foundation Model - whereby the only voting members are the Charity Trustees. We have adopted the Charity Commissions Model Constitution to ensure we comply with the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and the General Regulations. This helps us to ensure we:

- Reflect recommended best practice
- Are legally compliant

Trustees are appointed for their individual knowledge, experience and skills that are considered essential to ensure the Charity's effective administration and its continued sustainability, growth and development. Trustees are appointed by the Board of Trustees in a properly convened meeting. Trustees are also screened using a needs and skillsets assessment. This approach enables us to:

- Ensure we do have a range of Trustees from diverse professional backgrounds to build knowledge and
- skills

# **THE SOUND ROOM COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT CIO**

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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- Mitigate any potential risks or threats to the Charity, as far as possible; and
- Reduce, as far as is possible, the potential for any conflicts of interest with each Trustee and their existing professional occupations.

### **Organisation**

The Trustees meet each quarter and deal with the administration of the Charity encompassing the strategic vision, financial accountability and risk management. The operational management of the organisation is undertaken by the paid staff team.

### **Risk Management**

The Charity is managed by the board of Trustees which meets quarterly and delegates the day to day running of the organisation to the Chief Officer and staff. The Trustee board maintains responsibility for the strategic direction of the Charity and for its funding and financial management. There is an AGM meeting each year.

The Trustees have conducted its own review of the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects and for ensuring the consistent quality of the delivery of all operational aspects of the charitable company. These procedures and risk register are periodically reviewed to ensure that they still meet the needs of the Charity.

### **11. STATEMENT ON PUBLIC BENEFIT**

The Trustees have considered the guidance produced by the Charity Commission on the provision of public benefit and they confirm that the range of activities has provided the public benefit as described above. How our Aims reflect the purpose of the Charity:

- We follow Charity Commission guidelines
- Our Charitable activities focus on providing accessible, affordable, and inspiring musical and creative opportunities; especially for those experiencing social exclusion, young people, and vulnerable people.
- Our management structure is that of a Board of Trustees who meet quarterly and who have responsibility to oversee the direction and management of grant funds and finances. They hold an Annual General Meeting open to the general public.

### **12. STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Charity Trustees are responsible for preparing a Trustee's annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

## THE SOUND ROOM COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT CIO

### TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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The Charity Trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of incoming resources and application of resources. In preparing 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 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on and signed on their behalf by: 29 January 2026

NAME: Justin Hancock

POSITION: Trustee

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Justin Hancock". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of "Justin" and "Hancock" being capitalized and prominent.

**THE SOUNDROOM COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT**  
**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES**  
For the year ended 31 March 2025

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I report on the financial statements of The Soundroom Community Music Project for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 17 to 28.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed.

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

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

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

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 the 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 material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than if the requirements that the accounts give a "true and fair" view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I 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.

Jim Dodds  
33 The Glebe  
Morpeth  
Northumberland  
NE61 6HW



Date: 29 January 2026

## THE SOUNDROOM COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	6	4,134	901	<b>5,035</b>	5,093
Charitable activities					
Grants and contracts	7	-	63,418	<b>63,418</b>	20,275
Other trading activities	8	31,973	-	<b>31,973</b>	32,335
<b>Total income</b>		<b>36,107</b>	<b>64,319</b>	<b>100,426</b>	<b>57,703</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	9	291	-	<b>291</b>	704
Charitable activities					
Operation of the charity	10	37,896	47,854	<b>85,750</b>	50,373
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>38,187</b>	<b>47,854</b>	<b>86,041</b>	<b>51,077</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>( 2,080 )</b>	<b>16,465</b>	<b>14,385</b>	<b>6,626</b>
Transfers between funds		7,592	( 7,592 )	-	-
<b>Net movement of funds</b>		<b>5,512</b>	<b>8,873</b>	<b>14,385</b>	<b>6,626</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		19,643	11,787	<b>31,430</b>	24,804
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>25,155</b>	<b>20,660</b>	<b>45,815</b>	<b>31,430</b>

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

The notes on pages 19 to 28 form an integral part of these accounts.



**BALANCE SHEET**

As at 31 March 2025

	Notes	£	Total 2025 £	£	Total 2024 £
<b><u>Fixed assets</u></b>					
Tangible assets	17		6,127		-
<b>Total fixed assets</b>			<b>6,127</b>		<b>-</b>
<b><u>Current assets</u></b>					
Debtors	18	1,249		408	
Cash at bank and in hand	19	39,379		32,477	
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>40,628</b>		<b>32,885</b>	
<b>Creditors:</b> amounts falling due within one year	20	<b>( 940 )</b>		<b>( 1,455 )</b>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b>39,688</b>		<b>31,430</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<b>45,815</b>		<b>31,430</b>
<b>Total net assets or liabilities</b>			<b>45,815</b>		<b>31,430</b>
<b><u>Funds of the charity</u></b>					
Unrestricted income funds			25,155		19,643
Restricted income funds			20,660		11,787
<b>Total funds</b>			<b>45,815</b>		<b>31,430</b>

The notes on pages 19 to 28 form an integral part of these accounts.

These financial statements were approved by the Board on: 29 January 2026

and are signed on its behalf by:

Justin Hancock  
Chair

*Justin Hancock*

# THE SOUNDROOM COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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### 1 Accounting Policies

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

### 2 Basis of accounting

#### 2.1 Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The Soundroom Community Music Project meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

#### 2.2 Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charity reported total unrestricted funds at the year end of £25,155 and has already secured a significant amount of funding for the current year. The trustees are of the view that the immediate future of the charity for the next 12 to 18 months is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

### 3 Income

#### 3.1 Recognition of income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the resources, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is more likely than not that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

#### 3.2 Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS102 SORP or FRS102.

#### 3.3 Grants and donations

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

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

#### 3.4 Volunteer help

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

# **THE SOUNDROOM COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT**

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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### **3.5 Interest receivable**

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

### **3.6 Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charities' work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

## **4 Expenditure and liabilities**

### **4.1 Liability recognition**

Liabilities are recognised when it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

### **4.2 Charitable activities**

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of music activities and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

### **4.3 Governance and support costs**

Support costs have been allocated between governance cost and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

### **4.4 Irrecoverable VAT**

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

### **4.5 Creditors**

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

### **4.6 Provisions for liabilities**

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

**THE SOUNDROOM COMMUNITY MUSIC PROJECT**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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**5 Assets**

**5.1 Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity**

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

Leasehold property improvements	Straight line over life of lease
Fixtures and fittings	Straight line over four years
Office and music equipment	Straight line over four years

## The Soundroom Community Music Project

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### Analysis of income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>6 Donations and legacies</b>				
Donations and gifts	4,134	-	<b>4,134</b>	5,093
Raise the roof donations	-	901	<b>901</b>	-
	<u>4,134</u>	<u>901</u>	<u><b>5,035</b></u>	<u>5,093</u>
<b>7 Charitable activities</b>				
<u>Income from grants</u>				
Barbour Foundation	-	2,000	<b>2,000</b>	-
British Science Association	-	-	-	500
Barchester Charitable Foundation	-	1,000	<b>1,000</b>	-
Community Foundation				
Community Chest Fund	-	10,000	<b>10,000</b>	-
Summer 2023	-	-	-	1,637
Youth Music	-	4,596	<b>4,596</b>	5,040
The Community Infrastructure Levy	-	-	-	6,127
GMBC Holiday Activities & Food Programme	-	-	-	1,728
GMBC Warm Spaces	-	2,000	<b>2,000</b>	1,000
GMBC UKSPF Youth Work	-	5,000	<b>5,000</b>	-
Lady Skinners NAV Grant	-	-	-	500
Persimmon Homes	-	-	-	1,000
Post Code Lottery - Local Giving	-	-	-	500
Skipton Building Society	-	2,000	<b>2,000</b>	-
Sir James Knott	-	6,000	<b>6,000</b>	-
Tesco Groundwork	-	500	<b>500</b>	-
The Asda Foundation	-	400	<b>400</b>	-
The Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust	-	-	-	960
The National Lottery Awards for All	-	20,000	<b>20,000</b>	-
The National Lottery Heritage Fund	-	9,922	<b>9,922</b>	-
The Percy Bilton Charity	-	-	-	750
<u>Other income</u>				
Other income	-	-	-	533
	<u>-</u>	<u>63,418</u>	<u><b>63,418</b></u>	<u>20,275</u>
<b>8 Other trading activities</b>				
Recordings and rehearsals	26,321	-	<b>26,321</b>	27,425
Refreshments	1,762	-	<b>1,762</b>	2,229
Room hire	3,336	-	<b>3,336</b>	1,628
Fundraising	-	-	-	50
Other trading activities	554	-	<b>554</b>	1,003
	<u>31,973</u>	<u>-</u>	<u><b>31,973</b></u>	<u>32,335</u>

Income was £100,426 (2024: £57,703) of which £36,107 was unrestricted or designated (2024: £37,961) and £64,319 was restricted (2024: £19,742).



## The Soundroom Community Music Project

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>9 Raising funds</b>				
Cost of generating income	291	-	291	704
	<u>291</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>291</u>	<u>704</u>
<b>10 Charitable activities</b>				
<u>Direct costs</u>				
Project staff salaries	-	18,620	18,620	8,190
Management staff costs	24,698	7,333	32,031	24,914
Training	-	77	77	-
Project activities	-	18,671	18,671	2,863
Volunteer expenses	42	389	431	223
<u>Support costs</u>				
Rent and utilities	6,353	846	7,199	7,456
Telephone and IT	919	64	983	821
Maintenance and repairs	851	1,314	2,165	1,477
Cleaning	473	88	561	1,135
Insurance	1,145	-	1,145	1,528
Bank charges	334	-	334	259
Licences	704	151	855	517
Professional fees	262	301	563	390
Depreciation	1,465	-	1,465	-
<u>Governance costs</u>				
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	650	-	650	600
	<u>37,896</u>	<u>47,854</u>	<u>85,750</u>	<u>50,373</u>

Expenditure on charitable activities was £86,041 (2024: £51,054) of which £38,187 was unrestricted or designated (2024: £36,570) and £47,854 was restricted (2024: £14,484).

#### 11 Fees for examination of the accounts

	2025 £	2024 £
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	650	600
	<u>650</u>	<u>600</u>

There were no other fees paid to the examiner (2024: £nil)

## The Soundroom Community Music Project

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 12 Analysis of staff costs, and the cost of key management personnel

	2025 £	2024 £
Salaries and wages	31,638	24,680
Pension costs (defined contribution pension plan)	393	234
Sessional staff	18,620	8,190
	<u>50,651</u>	<u>33,104</u>

No employee received remuneration above £60,000 (2024: nil).

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the trustees and the charity manager. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £0 (2024: £0).

#### 13 Staff Numbers

The average monthly head count was 2 staff (2024: 2 staff) and the average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees during the year were as follows:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
The parts of the charity in which the employee's work:		
Charitable activities	1.5	1.1
	<u>1.5</u>	<u>1.1</u>

#### 14 Transactions with trustees

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity.

##### Trustees' expenses

No trustee expenses have been incurred in the year.

##### Transaction(s) with related parties

There has been no related party transactions in the reporting period.

#### 15 Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

The employer's pension costs represent contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amount to £393 (2024: £234). There was £76 outstanding as at 31 March 2025 (2024: £0).

#### 16 Corporation 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 objectives.

# The Soundroom Community Music Project

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Fixtures and fittings	Office and music equipment	Total
	£	£	£
<b>17 Tangible fixed assets</b>			
<b>Cost</b>			
Balance brought forward	-	-	-
Additions	6,127	1,465	<b>7,592</b>
Disposals	-	-	-
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	<b>6,127</b>	<b>1,465</b>	<b>7,592</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
Basis	SL	SL	
Rate	25%	25%	
Balance brought forward	-	-	-
Depreciation charge for year	1,404	61	<b>1,465</b>
Disposals	-	-	-
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	<b>1,404</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>1,465</b>
<b>Net book value</b>			
<b>Brought forward</b>	-	-	-
<b>Carried forward</b>	<b>4,723</b>	<b>1,404</b>	<b>6,127</b>
<b>18 Debtors and prepayments (receivable within 1 year)</b>			
	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	
	£	£	
Trade debtors	<b>1,249</b>	408	
	<b>1,249</b>	<b>408</b>	
<b>19 Cash at bank and in hand</b>			
	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	
	£	£	
Short term deposits	<b>3,647</b>	4,645	
Cash at bank and in hand	<b>35,732</b>	27,832	
	<b>39,379</b>	<b>32,477</b>	
<b>20 Creditors and accruals (payable within 1 year)</b>			
	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	
	£	£	
Other creditors	<b>76</b>	200	
Taxation and social security	<b>214</b>	655	
Accruals			
Independent examination of accounts	<b>650</b>	600	
	<b>940</b>	<b>1,455</b>	

## The Soundroom Community Music Project

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 21 Events after the end of the reporting period

No events (not requiring adjustment to the accounts) have occurred after the end of the reporting period but before the accounts are authorised which relate to conditions that arose after the end of the reporting period.

#### 22 Analysis of charitable funds

##### Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General unrestricted fund	19,643	36,107	( 38,187 )	7,592	<b>25,155</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>19,643</b>	<b>36,107</b>	<b>( 38,187 )</b>	<b>7,592</b>	<b>25,155</b>

##### Purpose of unrestricted funds

General unrestricted fund                      The 'free reserves' of the charity.

##### Analysis of movement in restricted funds

	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Barbour Foundation	-	2,000	( 2,000 )	-	-
Barchester Charitable Foundation	-	1,000	( 1,000 )	-	-
Community Foundation					
Community Chest Fund	-	10,000	( 10,000 )	-	-
Music & Street Dance	2,600	-	( 2,600 )	-	-
Community Infrastructure Levy	6,127	-	-	( 6,127 )	-
Youth Music	-	4,596	( 4,596 )	-	-
GMBC Holiday Activities & Food Programme	1,389	-	( 1,389 )	-	-
GMBC Warm Spaces	-	2,000	( 2,000 )	-	-
GMBC UKSPF Youth Work	-	5,000	-	-	<b>5,000</b>
Persimmon Homes	1,000	-	( 1,000 )	-	-
Skipton Building Society	-	2,000	( 836 )	( 1,164 )	-
Sir James Knott	-	6,000	-	-	<b>6,000</b>
Raise the roof donations	-	901	-	-	<b>901</b>
Tesco Groundwork	-	500	( 463 )	( 37 )	-
The Asda Foundation	-	400	( 400 )	-	-
The Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust	671	-	( 407 )	( 264 )	-
The National Lottery Awards for All	-	20,000	( 16,018 )	-	<b>3,982</b>
The National Lottery Heritage Fund	-	9,922	( 5,144 )	-	<b>4,778</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11,787</b>	<b>64,319</b>	<b>( 47,853 )</b>	<b>( 7,592 )</b>	<b>20,661</b>

## The Soundroom Community Music Project

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

#### 22 Analysis of charitable funds continued

Transfers between funds	Reason for transfer	Amount £
Between unrestricted and restricted funds	This represents the value of equipment purchased by restricted funds that was transferred to fixed assets.	7,592
<b>Purpose of restricted funds</b>		
Restricted funds represent income resources used for a specific purpose within the charity as identified by the donor.		
Barbour Foundation	Provision of a professional after-school music, dance and arts activity club.	
Barchester Charitable Foundation	Provision of 6 tea dances including food , entertainment, and volunteer costs.	
Community Foundation - Community Chest Fund	Gateshead UKSPF Community Chest Fund core and project funding for mental health and learning difficulty workshops.	
Music & Street Dance	Specialised afterschool music and street dance provision.	
The Community Infrastructure Levy	New Fire Alarm installation full replacement of the buildings fire alarm equipment and control panel.	
Youth Music	Extracurricular well-being project delivering music a recording project for teenagers in Gateshead.	
GMBC Holiday Activities & Food Programme	School activities and food provision for Brighten the Day programme.	
GMBC Warm Spaces	Provision of open access Warm Welcome Space for community use during winter months and contribution to core and activity costs.	
Persimmon Homes	Contribution to Charity projects overall running costs.	
Skipton Building Society	New music equipment for community music making groups.	
Sir James Knott	Grant towards roof replacement.	
Raise the roof donations	Donations specifically for roof replacement.	
Tesco Groundwork	After school activity groups support grant.	
The Asda Foundation	Staff volunteer training and warm spaces items and kitchen equipment.	
The Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust	After school club equipment ,and materials to store our music library items.	
The National Lottery Awards for All	Core costs, roof replacement and repairs and maintenance.	
The National Lottery Heritage Fund	Heritage project celebrating 40 year music making history culminating in an event and exhibition.	

#### 23 Capital commitments

As at 31 March 2025, the charity had no capital commitments (2024 -£nil).



## The Soundroom Community Music Project

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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#### 24 Analysis of net assets between funds 2025

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	18,719	20,660	39,379
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	309	-	309
	<u>25,155</u>	<u>20,660</u>	<u>45,815</u>

#### Analysis of net assets between funds 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	20,690	11,787	32,477
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	( 1,047 )	-	( 1,047 )
	<u>19,643</u>	<u>11,787</u>	<u>31,430</u>

#### 25 Guarantee

There have been no guarantees given by the charity at 31 March 2025.

#### 26 Debt

There is no debt outstanding which is owed by the charity and which is secured by an excess charge on any of the assets of the charity at 31 March 2025.

#### 27 Governing document

The organisation is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation - Foundation registered on 17 June 2014 as a body corporate under part 11 of the Charities Act 2011.