

Registered Charity Number: 1158073

**CREATIVE RECOVERY CIO**  
**REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**CREATIVE RECOVERY CIO  
REPORT AND ACCOUNTS  
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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**CREATIVE RECOVERY CIO**  
**LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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<b>Full Name:</b>	<b>CREATIVE RECOVERY CIO</b>
<b>Registered Charity Number:</b>	1158073
<b>Address:</b>	Prospect Street Community Centre Prospect Street Barnsley South Yorkshire S70 2NR
<b>Trustees:</b>	Stephanie Cronin-Milne Adam Speight Neil Moreton (Resigned Feb 24) Peter Sean Brady David Sinclair (Resigned June 24) Stephen Peter Race Jane Margaret Smith Louise Loveden (Resigned Feb 24)
<b>Chair:</b>	Stephanie Cronin-Milne
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Peter Sean Brady
<b>Bankers:</b>	HSBC 5 Market Hill Barnsley S70 2PY
<b>Independent Examiner:</b>	Stephanie Tolson Community Accountant Barnsley CVS 23 Queens Road Barnsley S71 1AN

**CREATIVE RECOVERY CIO**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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The Trustees present their report and accounts for the period ended 31 December 2024.

**Structure, governance and management**

Creative Recovery is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registered with the Charity Commission and governed by its constitution, adopted 31 July 2014.

Formerly a charitable association, established in 2012, the trustees resolved to transfer all funds, by the way of a charitable donation, to the CIO on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015 and to wind up the unincorporated charity at that date.

The members of the CIO are the charity trustees. Membership of the CIO cannot be transferred to anyone else. The affairs of the charity are managed by the trustees, who may exercise all the powers of the charity.

The liability of each member to contribute to the assets of the CIO, in the event of the CIO winding up, is limited to a sum not exceeding £1.

The trustees who served during the year are shown on page 3 of this report.

**Charitable aims and objectives**

The objects of the charity are:

To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society, by the provision of therapeutic, creative and social activities.

*For the purpose of this clause 'socially excluded' means being excluded from society, or parts of society, as a result of one or more of the following factors: unemployment; financial hardship; youth or old age; ill health (physical or mental); substance abuse or dependency, including alcohol and drugs.*

**Trustee Training & Induction**

As in line with our constitution, the charity trustees will make available to each new charity trustee, on or before his or her first appointment:

- a) a copy of the current version of the constitution; and
- b) a copy of the CIO's latest trustees' Annual report and statement of accounts

Trustees will also have the opportunity to receive training opportunities from and network with Barnsley CVS.

**Risk Management**

The trustees have ultimate responsibility for identifying and managing risk. The main risk to the organisation is the loss of funding to continue the operational running of the charity. The financial position and level of reserves is reviewed at each quarterly trustees meeting and funding applications are ongoing. For other areas, risk assessments are in place for all projects and activities.



**CREATIVE RECOVERY CIO**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT continued**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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**Activities undertaken for the public benefit and achievements during the period**

In shaping the objectives for the year, the trustees have paid due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

2024 was a year of great creativity for Creative Recovery with major 'showcase' events held throughout the year. In 2023 our community expressed a desire to shake off the cloud of Covid and emerge with a new mind set and ambition to be visible and joyful, sharing our talents with the wider community. Fundraising efforts throughout 2023 enabled us to take on this challenge and deliver our most ambitious programme to date. In July 2024 we also began our National Lottery Community Fund funded project bringing in substantial financial support over 3 years and growing our core team.

**Highlights**

- Fundraising – we were able to secure £192,535.22 of funding and donations to support core projects, realise plans and grow new work. This included the first year of funding from the National Lottery Community Fund - £113,484 for our Sustain and Grow Project, match funding from the Arts Council to support the UPLIFT Central Area: Growing Creativity Project, grants from BMBC, considerable funding from South West Yorkshire Foundation Trust (SWYFT), funding from Waythrough, a grant from Creative Lives and a grant from South Yorkshire Community Foundation to support the Green Uplift project.
- In Autumn of 2024 we successfully completed our 'Growing Creativity in the Central Area' project, that had been in development since Jan 2023. Joint funded by Arts Council England and BMBC Central Area Team this project culminated in Autumn celebrations across Worsbrough, Gilroyd and the Summer Lane Estate.
- **Developing the team:** We began recruiting for a new Company Manager and found the right candidate in December (start date February 2025). Our new Trustees led significant developments within the board including the creation of a new Finance task group and the creation of other lead roles. Following the completion of the Central Area project we were able to continue the work started by our People Grower with funding from NLCF, further developing our volunteer offer.
- **Work in criminal justice and acute mental health settings:** Creative Sparks (Creative Interventions Project) in Wetherby YOI continued to deliver outstanding outcomes for young people particularly in specialist units for more vulnerable inmates with additional/complex needs.
- **'Clothespin':** With funding secured from 'Creative Lives' (and following 9 months of making) in May this year our Art Studio Group showcased their amazing Wearable Art and Photography at Barnsley Markets. Hundreds of people engaged in 2 weeks of workshops and events, planned and delivered by participants.
- Our connection with **Barnsley Libraries** continued with 3 commissioned 'Library Lates' at the Lightbox ('In My Own Words' stories of lived experience, 'Holiday at Home' an immersive seaside experience and 'The Big Sing' with Echo Choir). The latter of these events was a coming together of Echo Choir and Creative Recovery to explore a possible collaboration with Wentworth Castle Gardens in 2025.
- **Eat Art-** Creative Recovery's Live Arts Café was thrilled to be involved in a Barnsley Civic led project bringing marginalised groups together to express the essence of their community through printed textiles and celebrate each other's creations at a Feast event and exhibition.



## CREATIVE RECOVERY CIO

### TRUSTEES' REPORT continued

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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- We were part of the 'Barnsley Treasures' project (mapping and consultation to inform the new cultural strategy) led by BMBC Culture Team. We told our stories of Barnsley with Artist Helen Boutle and joined Sam Batley as a commissioned Artist to capture the spirit of the town using photography,
- Creative Recovery hosted a large **World Mental Health Day Celebration** in October attended by partners and participants alike. We enjoyed a buffet, performances from the UPLIFT Choir, unveiled our Mosaic and debuted our 'Colourwalk' film.
- Once again we were asked to provide **Festive Cheer**. This year we sang our hearts out around 2 neighbourhoods and hosted a series of lantern making workshops, with funding from the Central Area Team.
- In July 2024 we began to deliver our **National Lottery Community Fund Project** that over 3 years will see us stabilise, sustain and grow our work. Funding will include a contribution to everyone one of 8 core projects (over 3 years) as well as grow the team and enable us to refresh our approach, mission and vision. We will also explore ways to sustain the organisation well into the future and galvanise local partnerships to strengthen Creative Health provision locally and regionally.

We would like to give thanks to our funders and partners, National Lottery Community Fund, Barnsley Council, Barnsley Public Health, Central Area Team and Ward Alliances, Berneslai Homes, South Yorkshire Community Foundation (South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Integrated Care System- Green Social Prescribing), Creative Minds- South West Yorkshire Foundation Trust, Arts Council England, Waythrough and Creative Lives.

Thanks to our collaborators. This year we have received income and donations for supporting projects and consultations with other organisations and artists, including Barnsley Civic, Carers Garden Network, Town Hall Events, and Barnsley Libraries.

### Projects Activities and Funding Updates

#### **Reading Together**

Our therapeutic reading group continued this year. Group members met weekly at The Lightbox to engage in a range of texts, ranging from plays to poetry, prose to non-fiction, exploring character, emotions and narratives relating to the group's experiences, ambitions and creativity. Texts are carefully chosen so, although all aspects of the human condition are touched upon, participants will always leave sessions feeling uplifted and resolved. There are great benefits from reading aloud in terms of confidence and connection. The group is extremely bonded and has become a lifeline for many who don't attend other projects.

Participant comment: *'Attending Reading Together has helped me to reduce my anxieties and feel more confident and supported. I have felt accepted for who I am and valued. I enjoyed reading the play 'Stepping Out' by Richard Harris, it helps me to express myself, to have a voice. I will carry on reading.'*

#### **Friday JAM**

The hugely popular Friday JAM project started again in August, bringing people together to engage in music-making opportunities to support recovery and wellbeing. The programme developed in response to the group's interests, with visiting artists and bands joining weekly - this has included world music, rock and roll, blues, song writing and Jazz. More than a space to learn, Friday JAM inspires creativity, builds confidence, and nurtures a sense of community while improving mental health. Participants continued to build their skills and confidence with individuals starting to collaborate on their own musical projects and perform at other Creative Recovery events and at local open mic events too.



**CREATIVE RECOVERY CIO**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT continued**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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### **The Green UPLIFT Project**

Throughout 2024 our Green Social Prescribing Project continued- in partnership with South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Integrated Care System, SYCF and Barnsley Healthcare Federation.

- 23 Walking Groups
- 90 individuals registered
- 60 members of public participated alongside us
- 25 people completed pre and post wellbeing evaluations and results show an average increase in wellbeing of 24%

Our 'Rewilding the Mind' walks with poet Winston Plowes have continued - a series of strolls infused with poetry, art and mindfulness. Other green spaces we've visited include Wentworth Castle Gardens where we began work on the renovation and design of our Union Jack Community Garden, creating a wild space for nature immersion. This year we also worked alongside musician Nick Lewis to create a sound meditation for the Gardens. Nick worked alongside a Creative Recovery group who contributed their words and voices. These were interwoven with field recordings and the group original compositions. The 'Nature Nurture' sound meditation can be accessed via QR code found in the Garden space.

We also worked with Hannah Batley who shared her unique appreciation and knowledge of plants that are often overlooked/unwanted at foraging events at Worsbrough Mill and the YMCA allotment. We collaborated with a local farm, walking alpacas, handling animals and sketching sheep close up! We joined park ranger and queer ecologist Daniel Baker-Wells to explore the Langsett area. Sketching, noticing, listening and learning through a variety of methods.

### **Funding awarded: £7500 South Yorkshire Community Foundation**

#### **Open Studio and Monday Skills Bank**

These 2 projects met over 45 Mondays and Tuesday in 2024. Monday sessions have offered registered participants time and space to develop their own practise and collaborate with each other to share skills and support each other with individual creative projects.

For the first 6 months of 2024 the Tuesday (Artist Led) group concentrated on the creation of wearable art. Outfits reflected each individual Artist's personal values, recovery story, identity, character etc or conveyed a message that was close to the heart. This project was an ambitious and exciting challenge for the group, requiring participants to learn new skills, work to deadlines, make decisions, work hard, push their creativity and support each other through the process. The Clothes Spin Project Leader ensured that the group were able to work with highly skilled artists and specialists, often with niche skills and expertise.

The group worked to deadlines to ensure items were complete and ready to be exhibited and photographed. 12 people participated in a professional photoshoot with James Mulkeen. The group were thrilled with the results. Everyone was extremely proud of their creations and during 2 weeks of workshops and events (that the group had planned together) everyone took on roles co-ordinating, installing, facilitating and invigilating. We created a film featuring the Colour Walk inspired by the Spital Fields Markets Colour Walkers, alongside Studio Bokehgo.

Towards the second half of the year (funded by NLCF) both groups settled back into skills-based art sessions, working with contemporary and fine art specialists and enjoying festive workshops towards the end of 2024.

### **Funding awarded: £3000 South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS FT, £4000 Creative Lives, £800 BMBC**

**CREATIVE RECOVERY CIO**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT continued**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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**Live ARTS Cafe**

During 2024 the Live ARTS Café continued to be the popular and vibrant community hub it has been for over 15 years. This weekly creative, social evening offers a place to meet like-minded people and enjoy live performance, arts and crafts, poetry and food. This year the LAC has been a weekly check-in point for maintaining positive mental health (for those who have moved forward in their recovery). It has also been a safe place for people who are struggling, during times when other services are shut and an entry point on the CR pathway.

In 2024 Live ARTS Cafe collaborated with the Green Social Prescribing project on outdoor socials held at the YMCA Allotments and The Carer's Garden. At these events we enjoyed drumming workshops and nature-based arts and crafts. The project has also been opened up to the public at the Lightbox 'Library Lates' events and at collaborative events at Barnsley Civic e.g. Sculpture and Words inspired by the brilliant Georgia O'Keeffe exhibition.

**Funding awarded: £3000 BMBC events**

**UPLIFT Choir (formally the UPLIFT Coffee Cafe Choir)**

The Uplift Choir has grown over the last year, with a good number of new members joining. This has brought fresh energy and enthusiasm to the group. Our new choir leader has played a key role in this positive shift—doing an excellent job leading rehearsals, building confidence, and making everyone feel welcome from day one. A big strength of the choir is how inclusive and participant-led it is. Members are actively involved in decision-making, whether it's choosing songs, planning performances, or shaping how the group runs.

Our recent performance at the Blossom Festival in February was a real highlight. The feedback we received was overwhelmingly positive, with participants and audience praising both the music and the uplifting atmosphere we created.

"I can't thank you all enough and Joanne and Jackie, it was one of the best days of my life. I thoroughly enjoyed every moment, it was enhanced by the beautiful surroundings, and also the flowers that everybody had made were outstanding, it just did what it said on the tin, it uplifted everyone. Me, I just loved every moment, it made me so happy, so thank you"

"The choir makes me feel so good inside. I love coming here, it makes my week. The choir has saved my life." (participant)

**Funding awarded: £5000 Better Barnsley Bond**

**Things To Live For- Public Health Barnsley (Suicide Prevention Fund)**

In 2024 we published the learning and evaluation report for 30 months of delivery of this project. Things To Live For' offers "off the peg", interchangeable creative therapy courses. These are developed in response to the needs of new referrals, those who are struggling with difficult emotions and 'on the edge'. Small groups, experienced practitioners developing meaningful interventions and a gentle, reflective delivery style enable people to connect sometimes for the first time. The report demonstrated undeniable and profound impact for the vast majority of participants over all areas of mental health and recovery,

- 826 contacts over 20 x 6-week courses.
- 223 individuals enrolled on courses. 30% of attendees were male, 69.5% female and 0.5% non-binary.
- 51 attendees were new to Creative Recovery. The remaining participants were prioritised because they had relapsed, had disengaged and/or were experiencing a period of significant stress/anxiety/crisis/traumatic life event.



**CREATIVE RECOVERY CIO**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT continued**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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***"To open up in relationships and to be able to discuss what has been hurting me. This is the best group activity I have done so far on my healing journey."***

**Courses this year have included;-**

- Happiness Habits- blending journaling, mindfulness, relaxation and gratitude with gentle accountability
- Reading for Relaxation
- Rooted in Place- Connecting with place and the healing power of nature- using foraged plants, for use in teas, artwork and storytelling.
- Music Meditation- creating a soundtrack to soothe a restless mind
- Moth 'writing from lived experience'

In December 2024 a new contract was agreed with BMBC Public Health to part fund this work for a further 3 years.

**UPLIFT Central Area: Growing Creativity**

Over the past 2 years (in partnership with the BMBC Central Area Team and Berneslai Homes) Creative Recovery has been bringing communities together to develop a variety of creative responses to conversations in 3 areas of Central Barnsley. These areas were identified as having vulnerable and isolated communities, who are less engaged in cultural and creative activity. We are extremely grateful to the Creative Recovery staff and artists who were able to step in to complete this work following the departure of the Project's Creative Developer who was unable to complete this work.

At the Summer Lane estate engagement continued after an exciting start in 2023. Summer Lane residents worked alongside participants of our Open Studio Group and Artist Coralie Turpin to create a large scale mosaic for the side of our building (the gateway to the estate). The Mosaic depicts a huge Sunflower (the chosen emblem for the estate) and is vibrant and positive, reflecting the character of the community.

Gilroyd- Throughout the summer we continued to collect stories, audio recordings, memories and photographs in Gilroyd and at a pop-up event at Dodworth Library. Designer Steph Cronin worked alongside community members to create wonderful soundscapes and a fun, engaging magazine-style publication, full of creative reflections on the community both past and present. This was shared with the community at a hugely successful 'launch' at the T Pot Café (whose staff had been hugely involved in the project, helping to galvanise the community in the first instance and offering recipes and stories that feature in the publication).

We continued our engagement in Worsbrough's New England Estate having delivered a number of creative events in the run up to Christmas 2023. We picked up the threads again in summer 2024 with 3 special pop-up events to draw the community together in the creation of pop art portraits, an 'over the garden wall' short performance with 'We Great Ladies' and a song for the village. These creative offerings were shared at an event at Worsbrough Library in September and the portrait tea towels were circulated to everyone who took part.

We emphasised volunteering and involvement throughout this project. Each area had its own team of Community Helpers who were members of the local community. Some of these residents also seeded their own community groups, for example a local history group in Gilroyd.

**"The group connected and we quickly became friends. We had a shared focus. The campfire was a good way to talk to other people on the estate. The fire and the music made people want to come and talk to us" (Summer Lane Community Helper)**

**"Thank you for all your help and support it has been invaluable, and we couldn't have completed it without you" (Gilroyd Community Helper)**

**CREATIVE RECOVERY CIO**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT continued**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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**Funds Transfers**

• **Fund Transfers to core**

£13493 was transferred to core from contributions from fund pots in 2024.

• **Fund Transfers between projects**

- £730 from Live Arts to Reading Together for the Moth Event and Library Lates
- £4304.70 from Culture Café to Live Arts Cafe
- £1100 from Green Uplift to Walking Group

**NCLF grant allocations to projects**

- Uplift Choir £4800
- Studio Group £9000
- Skills Bank £2340
- Friday Jam £8000
- Live Arts Café £8800
- Green Uplift £8000
- Reading Together £3600
- Things To Live For £6000

**Payments to Trustees**

Steph Cronin (chair) - Black Bee Creative business owner. She received payment for her design work which includes printing and promotional flyers etc and also project management of the Uplift Project - £5222.17

Steph was also reimbursed £23.38 as she paid for refreshments at an Uplift meeting on the 18.09.24.

Sean Brady was reimbursed £42.25 as he paid for a leaving gift.

Neil Morton- received payments of £1316.45 for coordinating a walking group.

**Fundraising Activities from individuals and other groups**

We would like to say a massive thanks to all the people and organisations that have given generously or raised funds for us this year. Alongside participants and public at our activities, here are individual donors:

- Individual donations to groups: Peter Airey, J Barnsley, Westmeads and St Marys PCC for UPLIFT Choir, J Barnsley and J Corker for Creative Recovery general fund.

**In-kind Contributions**

Many artists have worked free of charge to support activities and the charity's development this year. Creative Recovery has also had some tremendous support from our volunteers this year and members who have gone the extra mile to make things happen.

**Thanks to:**

- The Civic for the free storage of materials and props for the year, saving Creative Recovery an annual cost for storage.
- St Paul's Church for their continued support to the UPLIFT Choir.
- The Digital Media Centre for offering us a free venue for the Live Arts Café for the full duration of 2024
- The Carer's Garden and Barnsley YMCA for collaborating on lovely outdoor events once again



**CREATIVE RECOVERY CIO**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT continued**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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**The Charity's policy on reserves**

As a small charity, reliant on public and charitable funding and susceptible to factors beyond the control of the organisation, the trustees recognise the need to keep reserves at a level which will give the organisation stability to enable it to continue to operate in the future. The trustees have decided that a minimum of £7,000 should be kept in reserve at any one time. The actual level of reserves held at the year-end was £49,258. (2023: £57,651).

**Related parties**

The trustees consider that there are no related parties to the charity.

**Trustees responsibilities for the financial statements**

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity at any time and enable the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

**Financial Position**

The financial statements are set out in pages 14 to 18. The Receipts and Payments Account shows a surplus for the year of £32,726 (2023: deficit of £28,160). The total funds at the year-end stand at £185,479 (2023: £152,753).

The trustees declare that they have approved the report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed: 

Date: 6th October 2025

**S Cronin-Milne, Chair**



**CREATIVE RECOVERY CIO**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT continued**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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This large-scale project was evaluated in full by Richard King Consultancy. The purpose of this study was to better understand and be able to articulate the more nuanced working practices and methods of Creative Recovery Artists when engaging the hardest to reach. We hoped to share our learning more widely, to further develop and embed this practise and understand how to induct new Artists into the 'Creative Recovery Way'. Unexpected circumstances meant that we were required to refocus our consultancy brief. We learned a significant amount about the recruitment and growth of a freelance workforce. We also grew our understanding how we support freelancers to lead partnership projects and work safely and effectively at the margins.

**Funding awarded: £3664 Pride of Place, £3000 Arts Council, £11250 BMBC Central Area.**

**SWYFT: Creative Interventions Project with the CAMHS service in young offender secure units (Wetherby YPOI and Adel Beck Secure Unit)**

The Creative Spark project has continued to deliver 2 weekly music and art sessions to young people inside Wetherby YOI on the Enhanced Support Unit 'Napier' and therapeutic unit 'Keppel'. The participants are primarily boys aged 15 - 18 years old. We have developed a close partnership with the CAMHS team whose role it is to identify and refer young people into the project if they recognise that a creative intervention would have a therapeutic benefit. We then work closely with the participants and CAMHS to offer the right activity and this has led to art projects such as printing, drawing and origami and music projects such as rap writing and production, keyboard and guitar tuition and singing. The work has been in demand and oversubscribed with some great, creative output and positive relationship building and conversations as we create together.

**Funding awarded: £24464 SWYFT Creative Minds**

**Creative Recovery on the Wards @ Kendray Hospital**

Working in collaboration with the Occupational Therapy (OT) team at Kendray Hospital we delivered 10 weekly interventions in the acute mental health wards and Willow Ward (for older adults). This included weekly gigs on the wards and in the activities area and fortnightly art sessions. When the art and music came together in the same space sessions took the atmosphere of the Live Arts Cafe with patients able to dip into activities as they pleased. Sessions were well attended and led to a number of new referrals with people accessing Creative Recovery post discharge.

**Funding awarded: £3000 SWYP Creative Minds**

**Waythrough**

Throughout this year Creative Recovery partnered with Waythrough (supporting people in recovery from drug and alcohol issues) to develop 3 new strands of work that would benefit clients from across the service. We delivered 3 Arts Café events that all coincided with 'Recovery Steps' graduation ceremonies, we delivered 4 short courses including a Ukulele group, crafts and graffiti art, and we worked 1 to 1 with clients who were at the beginning of their recovery journey- with an Arts Therapy approach. The latter was described as outstanding, and Waythrough have submitted a report to their Criminal Justice Funder reflecting the positive uptake and outcomes of this work.

**Funding awarded: £6950**

**Additional Commissions and Small Projects**

- Wish You Were Here, The Big Sing, Moth Night and Xmas in Kingstone were one off events funded by BMBC.

**CREATIVE RECOVERY CIO**  
**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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I report on the accounts of the charity, which are set out on pages 14 to 18.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees 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.

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 Commissioners 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 the 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 130 of the 2011 Act, and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act 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.

Signed  Date: 6th October 2025

Stephanie Tolson  
Community Accountant  
Barnsley CVS,  
23 Queens Road, Barnsley, S71 1AN



**CREATIVE RECOVERY CIO**  
**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Receipts</b>					
Grants & contracts received	2	-	189,112	189,112	120,499
Donations & fundraising		810	3,173	3,983	7,739
Charges, admission fees & subscriptions		50	250	300	1,010
<b>Total receipts</b>		<b>860</b>	<b>192,535</b>	<b>193,395</b>	<b>129,248</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Office space & venue hire		-	1,250	1,250	1,160
Salary costs		-	9,464	9,464	-
Insurance		700	-	700	557
Admin, management & development		12,586	29,781	42,367	37,020
Artists/tutors & other project costs		225	80,546	80,771	96,160
Materials & equipment		47	5,995	6,042	10,833
Repairs and maintenance		153	1,250	1,403	930
IT, telephone and internet		1,180	67	1,247	1,429
Postage, printing & office costs		307	93	400	444
Utilities and rates		5,309	-	5,309	46
Accountancy fees		1,242	-	1,242	1,130
Training		483	795	1,278	837
Volunteer expenses		-	32	32	27
Promotion		-	5,095	5,095	1,239
Refreshments		362	3,555	3,917	2,044
Transport costs		-	-	-	1,911
Grant repaid to funder		-	-	-	1,525
Sundry/miscellaneous		152	-	152	116
<b>Total payments</b>		<b>22,746</b>	<b>137,923</b>	<b>160,669</b>	<b>157,408</b>
<b>Surplus/ (Deficit)</b>		<b>(21,886)</b>	<b>54,612</b>	<b>32,726</b>	<b>(28,160)</b>
Transfers between funds	4	13,493	(13,493)	-	-
Funds brought forward		57,651	95,102	152,753	180,913
<b>Total Funds Carried Forward</b>	3	<b>49,258</b>	<b>136,221</b>	<b>185,479</b>	<b>152,753</b>



**CREATIVE RECOVERY CIO**  
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	<b>Total 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>
<b>Monetary Assets:</b>		
HSBC Current account	185,479	152,753
Petty cash	-	-
Total monetary assets	<u><b>185,479</b></u>	<u><b>152,753</b></u>
<b>Other Current Assets:</b>		
Insurance prepayment	554	418
Debtors	-	6,116
	<u><b>554</b></u>	<u><b>6,534</b></u>
<b>Liabilities:</b>		
Accountancy fees	850	775
Artist/management fees due	570	3,177
Salary Costs - PAYE	786	-
Utility bill due	141	3,000
	<u><b>2,347</b></u>	<u><b>6,952</b></u>

The trustees declare that they have approved the accounts above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:



**S Cronin-Milne, Chair**

Date: 6th October 2025

**CREATIVE RECOVERY CIO**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**1. Accounting policies**

Basis of the preparation of the accounts

The financial statements have been prepared on a Receipts & Payments basis which summarises the movement of cash in and out of the organisation. In this context 'cash' includes cash equivalents, such as bank accounts where cash can be readily available to pay debts as they fall due. This format of accounts is available to non-company charities with gross annual income of £250,000 or less.

Funds structure

The charity maintains an unrestricted fund which represents funds which are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. Unrestricted funds may arise from general donations, grants of a general nature, fees for service provision and payment for service delivery contracts.

Restricted funds have been provided to the charity for particular purposes and may only be spent for the purposes for which they were given. Any balance remaining outstanding on a restricted fund at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on the fund, unless permission has been given by the funder to remove the restriction on the balance outstanding. Restricted funds will arise from grants and donations given to the charity for specific purposes.

**2. Grants & contracts received**

	<b>2024</b>	2023
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Arts Council England - Uplift	3,000	-
National Lottery Community Fund - Sustain & Grow	113,484	-
Humankind Charity - Waythrough	6,950	-
BMBC Wish you were here - Live Arts Café	650	-
BMBC The Big Sing & Moth Night - Live Arts Café	1,350	-
BMBC Bowtie & Petal Christmas events - Live Arts Café	1,000	-
BMBC - 1 Day Creative Lives	800	-
BMBC Pride of Place - Uplift	3,664	-
BMBC Central Area Uplift	11,250	11,250
BMBC Libraries - Reading Friends/ reading together	-	5,735
BMBC Libraries - Colour Splash - Live Arts Café	-	700
BMBC - Better Barnsley Bond - Uplift Choir	5,000	5,000
BMBC - Christmas In Kingstone events	-	1,916
BMBC - Trans Pennine Trail grant - Green Uplift	-	2,000
SYCF - Green Social Prescribing grant - Green Uplift	7,500	11,032
SWYFT - Studio Group	3,000	-
SWYFT - Rewilding/Green Social Prescribing	-	6,000
SWYFT - Live Arts Café	-	5,000
SWYFT -Creative Interventions Wetherby Prison	24,464	16,016
SWYFT - Kendray Hospital	3,000	3,000
SWYFT - Uplift Choir	-	3,000
Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation - Musicians in Hospital	-	4,000
Creative Lives - Know Your Neighbourhood Fund	4,000	16,000
Screwfix Foundation - 1-1 booth	-	4,850
Postcode Neighbourhood Trust - Referral Role	-	25,000
	<b>189,112</b>	<b>120,499</b>

**CREATIVE RECOVERY CIO**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS continued**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**3. Movement in funds**

	Opening Balance £	Receipts £	Payments £	Funds Transfers £	Closing Balance £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>					
General unrestricted funds	44,551	860	(19,496)	13,493	39,408
Finance Role	8,100	-	(3,169)	-	4,931
Referral Role	5,000	-	(81)	-	4,919
	<b>57,651</b>	<b>860</b>	<b>(22,746)</b>	<b>13,493</b>	<b>49,258</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
Uplift Choir:					
Donations, Fundraising & Fees	5,449	1,964	(4,792)	-	2,621
Better Barnsley Bond & NLCF Grants	460	5,000	(4,148)	4,200	5,512
Uplift:					
BMBC grants	6,821	14,914	(17,014)	(3,340)	1,381
ACE growing creativity	9,703	3,000	(9,703)	-	3,000
Live Arts Cafe:					
Donations, Fundraising & Fees	1,675	1,459	(250)	4,305	7,189
SWYFT & NLCF grants	12,906	-	(11,423)	8,070	9,553
BMBC Event grants	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Other:					
National Lottery Community Fund	-	113,484	(15,697)	(50,540)	47,247
SYCF Green Uplift Social Prescribing	11,788	7,500	(5,836)	5,700	19,152
Studio Group	2,159	3,000	(2,469)	8,700	11,390
SWYFT Creative Inventions Wetherby	(2,313)	24,464	(18,065)	(2,742)	1,344
Things to Live For Project	20,153	-	(11,408)	2,380	11,125
Walking Group Donations & Fundraising	1,150	-	(1316)	1,100	934
Reading Together project	1,755	-	(2,460)	4,330	3,625
Awards For All Friday Jam	76	-	(4,084)	8,000	3,992
SWYFT Kendray project	493	3,000	(2,651)	(667)	175
Referral Role	3,546	-	(3,546)	-	-
SWYFT Culture Café	4,305	-	-	(4,305)	-
Humankind - Waythrough	-	6,950	(4,038)	(1,060)	1,852
Skills Bank	-	-	(730)	2,340	1,610
Barnsley Hospital	3,323	-	(40)	-	3,283
Creative Lives	8,683	4,800	(13,719)	236	-
Central Graffiti Box	200	-	-	(200)	-
BMBC Lantern Making	15	-	(15)	-	-
Screwfix small projects	2,755	-	(1,519)	-	1,236
	<b>95,102</b>	<b>192,535</b>	<b>(137,923)</b>	<b>(13,493)</b>	<b>136,221</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>152,753</b>	<b>193,395</b>	<b>(160,669)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>185,479</b>



## CREATIVE RECOVERY CIO

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS continued

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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#### 4. Fund Transfers

£13,493 was transferred to general unrestricted funds to cover the contribution to management costs, rent and underspends on small contracts from several projects as follows:

- £1,200 from Green Uplift Social Prescribing project.
- £1,060 from the Waythrough project.
- £667 from the Kendray project.
- £3,620 from the Things to Live For project.
- £2,742 from the SWYFT Wetherby creative interventions project.
- £300 from the Studio Group.
- £600 from the Uplift Choir.
- £3,340 from the Uplift Central Area.
- £200 from Central Graffiti Boxes.
- (£236) to the Creative Lives project due to an overspend.

Fund Transfers also took place between several restricted funds projects as follows:

- £4,305 from Culture Café to Live Arts Café fund reallocation.
- £730 from Live Arts Café to Reading Together for the Moth event.
- £1,100 from Green Uplift Social Prescribing to the Walking Group.
- £50,540 from the National Lottery Community Fund, allocated to the following projects:
  - £4,800 to Uplift Choir.
  - £9,000 to Studio Group.
  - £2,340 to Skills Bank.
  - £8,000 to Friday Jam.
  - £8,800 to Live Arts Café
  - £8,000 to Green Uplift Social Prescribing.
  - £3,600 to Reading Together.
  - £6,000 to Things To Live For.

#### 5. Trustee payments, benefits and expenses

In addition to the re-imbursement for items purchased on behalf of the charity, there were the following trustee payments:

Black Bee Creative (Director S Cronin) for design work - £5,222

Neil Morton for running the Walking Group - £1,100

#### 6. Related Party Payments

There were no related party transactions during the previous accounting period.