

Charity Commission number: 1172118
Companies House number: 09646545

**GORSE HILL STUDIOS CREATIVE COMMUNITY
TRUSTEES REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

**Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
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**Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Report of the Trustees
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025**

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community (GHS) continues to make a significant and measurable difference to the lives of children and young people across Greater Manchester. This year's report highlights the strength of our youth work and arts-based approach, our commitment to serving those most affected by disadvantage, and our ability to deliver meaningful outcomes at scale.

In 2024–25, we supported 829 children and young people through creative, educational and wellbeing sessions, achieving a 92% attendance rate across our programmes. Our work continues to engage young people facing some of the most complex challenges, including care experience, SEND needs, low income, school exclusion, and risks related to exploitation. 69% of children and young people supported had an additional need and over 40% were entitled to free school meals. Across our two core strands—Creative Learning and Participation & Inclusion—we provided consistent support, creative opportunities, and trusted relationships that helped young people build skills, confidence and connection.

The impact of our work remains profound: 89% of young people reported improved confidence and creative skills, 79% progressed into education, training or employment, and 90% said they now have a trusted adult they can rely on at GHS. Young people describe our centre as a safe, inspiring space where they can belong, express themselves and plan for their futures—sometimes with life-changing outcomes.

During our 10th anniversary year, we invested in strengthening our organisational infrastructure, enhancing monitoring and evaluation processes, and expanding the highly successful Creative Health pilot, which supports young people with complex emotional and wellbeing needs. We also deepened key partnerships with Trafford Council, GM Violence Reduction Unit, education providers, cultural organisations and grassroots groups.

Looking ahead, we remain focused on financial sustainability, developing our traded offer, strengthening partnerships, and ensuring our services remain accessible, responsive and led by young people's voices. With continued support from funders and partners, GHS is well-placed to build on its achievements and continue delivering transformative outcomes for the young people and communities we serve.

The trustees present their annual directors' report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30th June 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 Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and the 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).

Purpose

Create – Evolve – Achieve

Our Vision

**Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
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For The Year Ended 30 June 2025**

We use youth work and creative arts methodologies to engage, inspire and empower the most vulnerable and at-risk young people to make positive changes. Our vision is for every young person to have access to creative opportunities, a place to belong, and the freedom to express who they are.

Our Mission

We support young people to build achievable, aspirational pathways for their futures. Through safe, inclusive, and creative spaces, we help them overcome challenges, explore identity, develop resilience, and contribute to stronger communities.

Our Values

- Compassion
- Community
- Creativity
- Consistency
- Challenge

Key Objectives

- Support young people's personal and social development.
- Use the arts to grow leadership, aspiration and potential.
- Provide accessible, high-quality creative arts opportunities.
- Reduce isolation and support wellbeing.

Youth work underpins all aspects of our practice. We focus on:

- Creative skill-building and pathways.
- Alternative and informal education.
- Nurturing, challenging youth work support.
- Trusted relationships with young people.
- Inclusion and targeted support for those who are most marginalised.

Core Activities

- Youth-led campaigns and awareness projects.
- Targeted interventions addressing issues such as exploitation and violence.
- Bespoke alternative creative education: STEP
- Mentoring, peer leadership and advocacy programmes.
- Creative industry opportunities and career pathways.
- Multi-artform creative projects combining music, dance, drama, digital arts and visual arts.
- Creative therapies and wellbeing support.
- SEND-specialist delivery.
- Youth voice and social action programmes.
- Affordable, fit-for-purpose creative spaces for community use.

The trustees confirm that they have considered Charity Commission guidance on public benefit when setting strategy and reviewing activities.

Who We Work With & How We Deliver

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Every week, over 200 young people participate in our programmes. Across the year, more than 800 children and young people are engaged through open access, targeted programmes and alternative education.

Our services prioritise those who face multiple disadvantages, including:

- Young people eligible for free school meals.
- SEND learners.
- Care-experienced young people and care leavers.
- Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET).
- Young people not attending mainstream education.
- LGBTQ+ young people.

Delivery Strands

We operate under three core strands:

- **Learning & Engagement** – alternative education, creative arts programmes.
- **Creative Health** – combining youth work and creative therapies.
- **Inclusion & Participation** – open-access activities, SEND provision, holiday clubs and inclusive youth-led opportunities.

Annual Delivery Snapshot

829 young people engaged in 3,148 sessions.
92% attendance rate across programmes.
47% of participants come from low-income households.
41% achieved AQA Award.
11% achieved Arts Awards.
90% reported having a trusted adult at GHS.
80% felt less isolated.
57% felt more positive about their futures.
93% felt improvement with their mental health.

These outcomes are captured through our in-house monitoring systems, surveys and case studies.

Impact

GHS is recognised across Greater Manchester for the transformative impact of its work.

“It’s a special environment where young people don’t feel pressured or threatened. Young people facing learning difficulties, substance misuse, low self-esteem or criminality are encouraged to express their feelings creatively. One service user said GHS ‘saved his life’.” — North Manchester Youth Justice Practitioner

Real Story – C’s Journey

C came to GHS seeking belonging and creative purpose. Through our youth-led programmes, she gained confidence, qualifications and leadership skills. Today, she is a staff member at GHS and mentors younger participants:

“If it wasn’t for GHS, I wouldn’t be who I am today. They saw the best in me when no one else did.”

Key Impact Findings

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81% improved confidence and creative skills.
76% progressed to education, training or work.
60% built new friendships.
High confidence, reduced isolation, and stronger aspirations.

Awards & Recognitions

Trafford Inspirational Woman Leader (2023).
Kids Count House of Commons Award – Highly Commended (2022).
Lockdown Innovation Award – NW Cultural Education Awards (2020).
Multiple Care Leaver Awards (GM & Trafford).
Mayor of Trafford – Chosen Charity.
Development of strong Youth Board and “Grow Our Own” pathway.

Partnership Work

GHS continues to strengthen and expand partnerships with local authorities, cultural organisations, education partners and community groups. Key partners include GroundWorks, Trafford Council, Virtual Schools across GM, Trafford LCEP, education and university partners, Trafford Community Early Breaks, Collective, and the GM Violence Reduction Unit.

These collaborations enhance our reach, expertise and ability to respond to emerging needs.

Financial Review

The charity generated a net surplus of £3,129 for the year (2024: deficit of £71,937). The Trustees are pleased with this result, particularly following the significant deficit reported in the previous year, and believe it reflects the steps taken during the year to improve financial oversight and longer-term sustainability.

During the year the organisation took a careful and disciplined approach to spending. This included close control over project costs, tighter monitoring of budgets, and a cautious approach to staffing costs, including operating with a reduced staff structure, and limiting increases in pay costs during the year. Recruitment was only undertaken where it was considered necessary to support delivery.

Difficult decisions were also taken not to continue some activities and projects that were not financially sustainable. Alongside this, greater emphasis was placed on achieving full cost recovery across projects, so that budgets more accurately reflected the true cost of delivery, including core overheads and support costs.

During the year the trustees undertook a review of the classification of project funding to ensure that income and related balances were correctly presented in accordance with the requirements of the Charities SORP (FRS 102). Following this review, certain project balances previously presented within restricted funds were determined not to carry specific restrictions imposed by the funders and have therefore been reclassified as unrestricted funds. This reclassification does not affect the overall financial position of the charity but improves the presentation of funds to better reflect the nature of the underlying funding arrangements.

The reclassification has been reflected in the funds note 16 to the financial statements, by way of a transfer in the current year.

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Report of the Trustees
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025

The wider financial climate remains challenging for charities, particularly with continuing cost-of-living pressures and uncertainty across the sector. However, the Trustees believe that the measures taken during the year have helped place the charity in a stronger and more stable financial position going forward.

Investment Powers and Policy

The Trustees will be looking to invest a proportion of funds in an interest-bearing account, whilst retaining an appropriate level of cash to manage day to day activities.

Reserves Policy and Going Concern

Total reserves at the year-end totalled £472,719.

The balance held in unrestricted, undesignated reserves at 30 June 2025 was £350,368, of which £349,202 represents free reserves.

The Trustees recognise the importance of maintaining an appropriate level of reserves to ensure the financial stability and resilience of the charity. In determining the level of reserves required, Trustees have considered the charity's cost base, particularly staffing costs, and the need to maintain continuity of operations.

On this basis, the Trustees consider that holding free reserves equivalent to at least four months of core operating expenditure is appropriate. This level reflects the nature and timing of the charity's income, including reliance on grant funding and restricted funds which cannot be used to support core costs or short-term cash flow requirements.

As discussed in the Financial Review, a review of fund classifications was undertaken during the year, resulting in a one-off increase in reported free reserves. Accordingly, at the year-end, free reserves of £349,202 are above the target level. The Trustees consider this appropriate in the short term, reflecting the recent reclassification of funds, the timing of income, a period of leadership transition, and ongoing development of financial systems and cost allocation.

With a new strategic plan in development, the Trustees consider it prudent to retain a higher level of reserves while future priorities, delivery models and income strategies are established. The Trustees will continue to review the level of reserves over the coming year and will consider the designation of funds to support organisational sustainability, investment in infrastructure and systems, and the management of future strategic risks.

The charity's principal sources of income are grants, income from STEP and other commissioned activity, and rental income.

The Trustees consider that it is appropriate to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis. In reaching this conclusion, Trustees have considered the level of reserves held, expected future income streams and the charity's ability to manage its cost base. The accounts do not include any adjustments that would be necessary if these sources of income were to cease.

Risk Management

The Trustees have reviewed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and have established systems and procedures to mitigate these risks. Risk management is an ongoing process, with regular review by the Board and senior management. The Trustees are also planning to further strengthen governance processes and internal controls in the coming period to support effective oversight and risk management.

The following key risks have been identified:

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- **Premises and lease arrangements**
Ongoing discussions with Trafford Council may result in increased premises and service costs. This is being monitored and reflected in financial planning.
- **Financial sustainability and cost pressures**
Inflationary pressures on staffing, utilities and delivery continue to impact the organisation. Financial monitoring and multi-year planning are in place to manage this.
- **Income volatility and reliance on key programmes**
Income remains partly dependent on STEP referrals and commissioned activity. The charity is working to diversify income and strengthen its traded offer.
- **Leadership transition and strategic direction**
The appointment of a new Chief Executive introduces a period of transition while future priorities and strategy are developed. Trustees are providing oversight during this period.
- **Staff recruitment and retention**
Recruitment and retention remain challenging within the sector. The organisation continues to prioritise staff wellbeing and development.
- **Cyber security and data management**
Increasing reliance on digital systems brings ongoing cyber risk. Systems and controls are regularly reviewed and updated.
- **Safeguarding**
Safeguarding remains a key priority. Policies, procedures and training are embedded across the organisation, with regular oversight.

The Trustees are satisfied that appropriate systems are in place to manage these risks and will continue to monitor them regularly.

Plans for Future Periods

The current Chief Executive, Caroline Gleaves, will be leaving the charity after 10 years' service. A new Chief Executive has recently been appointed and will be developing an updated strategic plan over the coming year. This will focus on ensuring the organisation remains financially sustainable while continuing to deliver strong outcomes for young people.

Key priorities include:

- strengthening financial sustainability through diversification of income streams, including grant funding, commissioned services and traded activity
- continuing to embed full cost recovery across all programmes to ensure delivery is financially sustainable
- further development of the Creative Health model as a core area of provision
- expanding partnerships across education, health, local authority and cultural sectors
- increasing capacity for fundraising, including corporate partnerships and philanthropic support
- continued investment in staff development, systems and infrastructure to support delivery
- building a network of alternative education providers to influence wider system change

The Trustees recognise that the external environment remains challenging and will continue to take a measured and flexible approach to growth, ensuring the organisation remains stable while continuing to deliver meaningful outcomes for young people.

Structure, Governance and Management

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 18 June 2015. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission and is constituted under a trust deed dated 17 March 2017.

**Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Report of the Trustees
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025**

Appointment of Trustees

As set out in the Articles of Association; Trustees are elected annually by the members of the charitable company attending the Annual General meeting and serve for a minimum period of 3 years.

Trustee Induction and Training

Trustees are recruited for their knowledge, skills and experience. The charity now advertises to recruit Trustees/Company Directors, alongside using networks and informal approaches where appropriate. All prospective Trustees are made aware of the legal duties and responsibilities of company directors and charity trustees. They are provided with key organisational documents, including the Business Plan, and are invited to attend Board meetings as observers prior to appointment where appropriate.

The charity is committed to supporting Trustees in fulfilling their roles effectively. Trustees are encouraged to remain informed about their duties and are provided with relevant updates and communications on governance matters. An annual Trustee development session is held to support ongoing learning and Board effectiveness.

The Chief Executive meets regularly with the Chair on a monthly basis to support communication, oversight and effective governance.

Organisation

The Board of Trustees administers the charity. The board normally meets 4 times per year. Senior managers are appointed by the Trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

None of our Trustees receive remuneration or any other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a trustee or senior manager with any service providers must be disclosed to the full Board of Trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. Note 2 to the financial statements discloses related party transactions.

Reference and administrative information

Charity Name: Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community

Charity Number: 1172118

Company Registration Number: 09646545

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law. The Trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Key management personnel: Trustees and Directors

Simone Finegan

Lee Morgan Treasurer

Jennifer Riding

Glynis Williams Chair

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Lydia Anthony	
Michelle Calame	(resigned November 2024)
Thomas Cole	(appointed November 2024)
Erica Douglas-Osborn	(appointed November 2024, resigned March 2025)
David Lobban	(appointed November 2024)
Michelle Odogu	(appointed November 2024)
Daniel Walsh	(appointed May 2025)

Senior managers

Caroline Gleaves	
Liam Finnigan	(appointed 16 March 2026)

**Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Report of the Trustees
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025**

Registered Office

Gorse Hill Studios
Cavendish Road
Stretford
Manchester
M32 0PR

Independent Examiners

Hilton Jones t/a Community Accountancy Service
Hollinwood Business Centre
Albert Street
Oldham
OL8 3QL

Bankers

Virgin Money

34 Princes Street
Stockport
SK1 1RE

Royal Bank of Scotland

Drummond House (EE) Branch
Customer Service Centre
Drummond House
1 Redheughs Avenue
Edinburgh
EH12 9JN

**Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Report of the Trustees
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025**

Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements

The charity trustees (who are also the directors of Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the charity trustees 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 the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting principles and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

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

By order of the board of trustees

Glynis

Glynis Williams

Chair

27 Mar 2026

Date:

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Independent Examiner's Report
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 30 June 2025, which are set out on pages 12 to 31.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity is required by company law to prepare accrued accounts and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

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

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to 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 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

JM Hilton-Jones

JM Hilton-Jones
Hilton Jones Ltd
Hollinwood Business Centre 27 Mar 2026
Albert Street
Oldham
OL8 3QL

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 £	2024 £
INCOME FROM					
Donations and legacies	3	4,349	6,042	10,391	1,864
Charitable activities	4	352,539	385,502	738,041	730,302
Income from trading activities	6	58,015	9,609	67,624	34,599
Investment income		1,757	-	1,757	1,312
Sundry income		900	-	900	-
TOTAL INCOME		417,560	401,153	818,713	768,077
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	7	17,067	14,093	31,160	14,389
Charitable activities	7	407,991	370,687	778,678	825,625
Other	7	5,175	571	5,746	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		430,233	385,351	815,584	840,014
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(12,673)	15,802	3,129	(71,937)
Transfers between funds	16	221,574	(221,574)	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		208,901	(205,772)	3,129	(71,937)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward	16	141,467	328,123	469,590	541,527
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	16	350,368	122,351	472,719	469,590

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 15 to 31 form part of these accounts.

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Balance Sheet
As At 30 June 2025

Companies House number: 09646545

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 £	2024 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	11	1,166	60,844	62,010	80,613
		1,166	60,844	62,010	80,613
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	133,566	22,687	156,253	115,865
Cash at bank and in hand		260,895	74,360	335,255	320,416
		394,461	97,047	491,508	436,281
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	36,838	35,540	72,378	28,778
NET CURRENT ASSETS		357,623	61,507	419,130	407,503
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		358,789	122,351	481,140	488,116
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	15	8,421	-	8,421	18,526
NET ASSETS		350,368	122,351	472,719	469,590
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Restricted income funds	16	-	122,351	122,351	328,123
Unrestricted income funds	16	350,368	-	350,368	141,467
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS		350,368	122,351	472,719	469,590

For the period in question the company was entitled to the exemption conferred by section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, and that no notice has been deposited under section 476 in relation to its accounts for the financial year. The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

27 Mar 2026

Approved by the trustees on

Lee Morgan

Lee Morgan - Treasurer

The notes on pages 15 to 31 form part of these accounts.

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Statement of Cash Flows
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025

RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Net movement in funds	3,129	(71,937)
Add back depreciation	18,603	21,890
Add back loan interest paid	3,168	3,168
Deduct investment income	(1,757)	(1,312)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(40,388)	15,471
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	43,600	(1,343)

NET CASH USED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES

26,355 (34,063)

CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:

Interest received	1,757	1,312
Interest paid	(3,168)	(3,168)
Repayment of loan	(10,105)	(10,105)

NET CASH PROVIDED BY FINANCING ACTIVITIES

(11,516) (11,961)

CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES:

Purchase of fixed assets	-	(4,222)
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NET CASH PROVIDED BY INVESTING ACTIVITIES

- (4,222)

INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS DURING THE YEAR

14,839 (50,246)

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS BROUGHT FORWARD

320,416 370,662

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS CARRIED FORWARD

335,255 320,416

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025

1 Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), effective 1st January 2019, and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

1.2 Funds structure

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or trust deed. There are 10 restricted funds.

Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose.

Further details of each fund are disclosed in note 16.

1.3 Income recognition

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

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

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. Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

1.4 Expenditure Recognition

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings. For more information on this attribution refer to note 1.6.

1.5 Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025

1.6 Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include costs related to independent examination and legal fees together with an apportionment of overhead and support costs.

Governance costs and support costs relating to charitable activities have been apportioned based on type of expense. The allocation of support and governance costs is analysed in note 8.

1.7 Costs of raising funds

The costs of raising funds consists of activities, marketing and DBS costs.

1.8 Charitable Activities

Costs of charitable activities include governance costs and an apportionment of support costs as shown in note 7.

1.9 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and valued at historical cost. Depreciation is charged on the following basis:

Office and Music Equipment, Minibus, Mobile Stage & Music Studio	3 and 10 years on cost
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1.10 Realised gains and losses

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their varying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial

1.11 Pensions

The charity operates an auto-enrolment pension scheme. The charity has no liability beyond paying its contributions and collecting employees' contributions.

1.12 Debtors

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

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025

1.13 Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2 Related party transactions and trustees' expenses and remuneration

The trustees all give freely their time and expertise without any form of remuneration or other benefit in cash or kind (2024: £nil). Expenses paid to the trustees in the year totalled £nil (2024: £nil).

3 Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted 2025 £	Restricted 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Donations	4,349	6,042	10,391	1,864
	4,349	6,042	10,391	1,864

Previous reporting period

	Unrestricted 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Donations	1,864	-	1,864
	1,864	-	1,864

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted 2025 £	Restricted 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
National Foundation Recharge Fund - Music Studio	-	-	-	7,204
Trafford Housing Trust - Music Studio	-	-	-	12,888
Salford CVS - Snap Back Sounds	-	10,917	10,917	-
STEP (Formerly ACE)	-	-	-	337,708
Trafford Sports Relationship - Culture Club	-	-	-	6,375
Trafford MBC - Culture Club	-	39,811	39,811	32,835
Sport Works Limited - Challenge	-	15,747	15,747	16,768
Sport Works Limited - Short Breaks Saturdays	-	36,784	36,784	49,776
Trafford Care Leavers Peer Mentors	-	7,515	7,515	26,228
Trafford MBC - Good Vibes Only	-	9,980	9,980	-
Greater Sport - Right to Streets	-	-	-	15,700
Trafford MBC - Hate Crime	-	-	-	4,869
Trafford MBC - Youth Cabinet	-	-	-	22,630
Care Leavers Forum	-	7,799	7,799	7,746
Community Organisation	-	-	-	48,927
Salford CVS - Achieve Asset Fund	-	-	-	14,960
Pilgrim Trust	-	30,400	30,400	30,000
GMCA/WEA	-	59,662	59,662	29,664
GMCVO - Cost of Living	-	4,200	4,200	23,800
House of Commons - Youth Cabinet	-	-	-	200
Curious Minds - Culture Club	-	-	-	13,000
Trafford Community Collective - Culture Club	-	-	-	3,000
Safe Strong Communities	-	28,298	28,298	3,750
Trafford Community Collective - Rights to Streets	-	-	-	200
GM Moving - Rights to Streets	-	-	-	240
Foundation 92 - Music Mentoring	-	-	-	150
Wates Family Enterprise Trust	-	-	-	5,000
Sale West	-	-	-	7,900
Short Film Project	-	-	-	1,951
AE Yates Limited	-	3,890	3,890	-
University of Manchester - Bee Well Artists	-	1,000	1,000	-
National Lottery Funding	-	57,375	57,375	-
Trafford MBC - Disability Pride	-	1,000	1,000	-
Lancashire Wildlife Trust - Greenspaces Project	-	18,350	18,350	-
Great Places Housing Association - Music Studio	-	622	622	-
GMYP - Partington Youth Centre	-	2,208	2,208	-
Bolton CVS - Access for Growth	-	49,944	49,944	-
The Foyle Foundation	20,000	-	20,000	-
STEP (Formerly ACE)	278,202	-	278,202	-
Trafford MBC - Youth Cabinet	22,883	-	22,883	-
Carry forward	321,085	385,502	706,587	723,469

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025

4 Income from charitable activities

Brought forward	321,085	385,502	706,587	723,469
Sale West	4,713	-	4,713	-
Trafford MBC - Short Breaks	12,660	-	12,660	-
Autotrader	-	-	-	500
High Sheriffs Trust	-	-	-	4,000
Trafford Community Collective	300	-	300	500
NHS	1,281	-	1,281	1,471
Garfield Weston Foundation	12,500	-	12,500	-
Pilgrim Trust	-	-	-	362
	<u>352,539</u>	<u>385,502</u>	<u>738,041</u>	<u>730,302</u>

STEP (Formerly ACE - Alternative Creative Education) comprises funding from Altrincham College of Arts, Ashton on Mersey School, Brentwood High School, Cambrian Group, Dixons Brooklands Academy, Flixton Girls School, Manchester Academy, Manchester City Council, Marple Hall School, Oakwood Academy, Oasis Academy, Sale High School, Salford Monitoring. St Anthony's School, The Parks, Trafford MBC, Virtual School Rochdale, Wellington School and Wirral Council.

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025

Previous reporting period	Unrestricted 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £
National Foundation Recharge Fund - Music Studio	-	7,204	7,204
Trafford Housing Trust - Music Studio	-	12,888	12,888
STEP (Formerly ACE)	-	337,708	337,708
Trafford Sports Relationship - Culture Club	-	6,375	6,375
Trafford MBC - Culture Club	-	32,835	32,835
Sport Works Limited - Challenge	-	16,768	16,768
Sport Works Limited - Short Breaks Saturdays	-	49,776	49,776
Trafford Care Leavers Peer Mentors	-	26,228	26,228
Greater Sport - Right to Streets	-	15,700	15,700
Trafford MBC - Hate Crime	-	4,869	4,869
Trafford MBC - Youth Cabinet	-	22,630	22,630
Care Leavers Forum	-	7,746	7,746
Community Organisation	-	48,927	48,927
Salford CVS - Achieve Asset Fund	-	14,960	14,960
Pilgrim Trust	-	30,000	30,000
GMCA/WEA	-	29,664	29,664
GMCVO - Cost of Living	-	23,800	23,800
House of Commons - Youth Cabinet	-	200	200
Curious Minds - Culture Club	-	13,000	13,000
Trafford Community Collective - Culture Club	-	3,000	3,000
Safe Strong Communities	-	3,750	3,750
Trafford Community Collective - Rights to Streets	-	200	200
GM Moving - Rights to Streets	-	240	240
Foundation 92 - Music Mentoring	-	150	150
Wates Family Enterprise Trust	-	5,000	5,000
Sale West	-	7,900	7,900
Short Film Project	-	1,951	1,951
Autotrader	500	-	500
High Sheriffs Trust	4,000	-	4,000
Trafford Community Collective	500	-	500
NHS	1,471	-	1,471
Pilgrim Trust	362	-	362
	6,833	723,469	730,302

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025

5 Net income

	2025	2024
	£	£
Net income is stated after charging:		
Depreciation - owned assets	18,603	21,890
Accountancy	3,975	1,502

6 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	2025	2025	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Project income	-	-	-	4,938
Fundraising events	330	9,609	9,939	392
Rental income	57,685	-	57,685	29,269
	58,015	9,609	67,624	34,599

Previous reporting period

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds
	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£
Project income	4,938	-	4,938
Fundraising events	392	-	392
Rental income	29,269	-	29,269
	34,599	-	34,599

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025

7 Expenditure

	Projects £	2025 £	2024 £
Expenditure on raising funds			
Events costs	30,292	30,292	14,025
Advertising and marketing	868	868	364
	<u>31,160</u>	<u>31,160</u>	<u>14,389</u>

	Projects £	2025 £	2024 £
Expenditure on charitable activities			
Employment costs	548,816	548,816	486,167
Training	7,578	7,578	7,126
Room hire	1,049	1,049	1,943
Freelance costs	102,477	102,477	193,867
DBS fees	1,384	1,384	1,249
Licences	360	360	756
Travel expenses	9,901	9,901	9,164
Minor equipment	-	-	1,416
Resources	34,097	34,097	28,239
Bad debts	(6,450)	(6,450)	7,980
Repairs and maintenance	355	355	1,305
Refreshments	355	355	2,082
Supervision	2,225	2,225	2,046
Subscriptions	1,394	1,394	1,917
IT maintenance and software	10,099	10,099	11,189
Cleaning	4,044	4,044	2,528
Telephone	7,478	7,478	6,116
Bank charges	541	541	84
Loan interest	3,168	3,168	3,168
Insurance	2,485	2,485	2,176
Post, printing & stationery	685	685	720
Depreciation	18,603	18,603	21,890
Governance costs	3,975	3,975	1,502
Support costs	24,059	24,059	30,995
	<u>778,678</u>	<u>778,678</u>	<u>825,625</u>

	Projects £	2025 £	2024 £
Other expenditure			
Miscellaneous	5,746	5,746	-
	<u>5,746</u>	<u>5,746</u>	<u>-</u>

	2025 £	2024 £
Restricted funds	385,351	834,352
Unrestricted funds	430,233	5,662
	<u>815,584</u>	<u>840,014</u>

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025

8 Allocation of governance and support costs

The breakdown of support costs and how these were allocated between governance and other support costs is shown below.

	Basis of apportionment	General Support £	Governance £	2025 £
Accountancy	Use of facilities	-	3,975	3,975
Professional fees	Use of facilities	20,113	-	20,113
Payroll bureau fees	Use of facilities	3,946	-	3,946
		<u>24,059</u>	<u>3,975</u>	<u>28,034</u>

Previous reporting period

	Basis of apportionment	General Support £	Governance £	2024 £
Accountancy	Use of facilities	-	1,502	1,502
Professional fees	Use of facilities	27,815	-	27,815
Payroll bureau fees	Use of facilities	3,180	-	3,180
		<u>30,995</u>	<u>1,502</u>	<u>32,497</u>

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025

9 Analysis of staff costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	502,752	444,037
Employers NIC	36,780	33,022
Pension costs	9,284	9,108
	<u>548,816</u>	<u>486,167</u>
Charitable activities	<u>548,816</u>	<u>486,167</u>
	<u>548,816</u>	<u>486,167</u>
	2025	2024
Average number of employees	32	30
Number of employees with benefits in excess of £60,000	-	-
	2025	2024
	£	£
Total employment benefits, including employer pension contributions of the key management personnel	47,573	46,601

The charity considers its key management personnel comprises the Senior Manager.

10 Independent Examiner Fees

	2025	2024
	£	£
Independent examination fees	3,975	1,502
	<u>3,975</u>	<u>1,502</u>

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025

11 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Office and Music Equipment, Minibus, Mobile Stage & Music Studio £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 July 2024	133,423	133,423
At 30 June 2025	133,423	133,423
Depreciation		
At 1 July 2024	52,810	52,810
Charge for Year	18,603	18,603
At 30 June 2025	71,413	71,413
Net Book Value		
At 30 June 2025	62,010	62,010
At 1 July 2024	80,613	80,613

12 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Debtors	104,221	112,370
Prepayments	52,032	3,495
	156,253	115,865
	2025 £	2024 £
Restricted	22,687	112,370
Unrestricted	133,566	3,495
	156,253	115,865

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Access to Growth Loan	10,105	10,105
Creditors	4,485	1,753
Other creditors and accruals	16,521	9,023
Taxation and social security costs	5,727	-
Deferred income	35,540	7,897
	<u>72,378</u>	<u>28,778</u>
	2025	2024
	£	£
Restricted	35,540	7,897
Unrestricted	36,838	20,881
	<u>72,378</u>	<u>28,778</u>

14 Deferred income

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deferred income comprises rental income and grants invoiced and received in advance.		
Balance as at 01 July 2024	7,897	9,054
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(7,897)	(9,054)
Amount deferred in year	35,540	7,897
Balance as at 30 June 2025	<u>35,540</u>	<u>7,897</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Access to Growth Loan	8,421	18,526
	<u>8,421</u>	<u>18,526</u>

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025

16 Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	As at 1 July 2024 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	As at 30 June 2025 £
General fund	141,467	417,560	(430,233)	221,574	350,368
	141,467	417,560	(430,233)	221,574	350,368

Previous reporting period

	As at 1 July 2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	As at 30 June 2024 £
General fund	139,172	44,608	(5,662)	(36,651)	141,467
	139,172	44,608	(5,662)	(36,651)	141,467

Name of unrestricted fund:
General fund

Description, nature and purpose of the fund
The unrestricted funds of the organisation

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025

16 Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	As at 1 July 2024 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	As at 30 June 2025 £
Trafford Housing Trust - Music Studi	32,248	-	(15,099)	-	17,149
Trafford MBC - Music Studio	42,603	-	(15,099)	-	27,504
Salford CVS - Snap Back Sounds	-	10,917	(5,514)	-	5,403
STEP (Formerly ACE)	227,145	-	-	(227,145)	-
Care Leavers Interview Support	540	-	(540)	-	-
Trafford MBC - Culture Club	620	39,811	(45,013)	4,582	-
Sport Works Limited - Challenge	139	21,789	(21,928)	-	-
Sport Works Limited - Short Breaks	-	36,784	(36,784)	-	-
Trafford Care Leavers Peer Mentors	-	7,515	(8,291)	776	-
Trafford MBC - Good Vibes Only	-	9,980	(9,980)	-	-
Trafford MBC - Hate Crime	(170)	-	(168)	338	-
Music Mentoring	655	-	(655)	-	-
Care Leavers Forum	-	7,799	(8,245)	446	-
Community Organisation	416	-	(416)	-	-
Salford CVS - Achieve Asset Fund	3,828	-	-	-	3,828
Pilgrim Trust	11,525	30,400	(39,621)	-	2,304
GMCA/WEA	194	69,271	(65,878)	-	3,587
GMCVO - Cost of Living	-	4,200	(4,200)	-	-
Safe Strong Communities	-	28,298	(8,026)	-	20,272
Wates Family Enterprise Trust	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-
Sale West	3,380	-	-	(3,380)	-
AE Yates Limited	-	3,890	(3,890)	-	-
University of Manchester - Bee Well	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
National Lottery Funding	-	57,375	(60,184)	2,809	-
Trafford MBC - Disability Pride	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
Lancashire Wildlife Trust - Greenspa	-	18,350	(350)	-	18,000
Great Places Housing Association -	-	622	(622)	-	-
GMYP - Partington Youth Centre	-	2,208	(2,208)	-	-
Bolton CVS - Access for Growth	-	49,944	(26,640)	-	23,304
	328,123	401,153	(385,351)	(221,574)	122,351

During the year the trustees reviewed the restrictions attaching to a number of project funds. Where no formal restriction from the funder was identified, the related balances have been reclassified to unrestricted funds. The reclassification has been reflected through the funds structure in the current year and comparative balances have been adjusted where appropriate to ensure consistent presentation.

This resulted in STEP (formerly ACE) and Sale West as being reclassified as unrestricted.

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025

16 Analysis of movements in restricted funds (cont'd)

Previous reporting period	As at 1 July 2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	As at 30 June 2024 £
National Foundation Recharge Fund	13,400	7,204	(20,604)	-	-
Trafford Housing Trust - Music Studi	36,838	12,888	(49,726)	32,248	32,248
Trafford MBC - Music Studio	51,306	-	(8,703)	-	42,603
Salford CVS - Snap Back Sounds	14,960	-	(14,960)	-	-
STEP (Formerly ACE)	230,769	337,708	(341,332)	-	227,145
Greater Sport	8,760	-	(8,760)	-	-
RSMP	10,000	-	(10,000)	-	-
Trafford Sports Relationship - Cultur	(560)	6,375	(6,375)	560	-
Manchester Airport	400	-	(400)	-	-
Trafford MBC Care Leavers	(165)	-	-	165	-
Care Leavers Interview Support	960	-	(420)	-	540
Trafford MBC - Culture Club	-	32,835	(32,425)	210	620
Sport Works Limited - Challenge	88	16,768	(16,946)	229	139
Sport Works Limited - Short Breaks	1,531	49,776	(51,307)	-	-
Trafford Care Leavers Peer Mentors	8,634	26,228	(34,862)	-	-
Greater Manchester Police - Good V	3,694	-	(3,694)	-	-
Greater Sport - Right to Streets	14,603	15,700	(30,303)	-	-
Trafford MBC - Hate Crime	340	4,869	(5,379)	-	(170)
Trafford MBC - Youth Cabinet	697	22,630	(23,327)	-	-
Trafford MBC - Youth Connect Parei	1,900	-	(1,900)	-	-
Culture Club	740	-	(740)	-	-
Trafford Cultural Education Partners	3,000	-	(3,000)	-	-
Music Mentoring	460	-	(709)	904	655
Care Leavers Forum	-	7,746	(10,081)	2,335	-
Community Organisation	-	48,927	(48,511)	-	416
Salford CVS - Achieve Asset Fund	-	14,960	(11,132)	-	3,828
Pilgrim Trust	-	30,000	(18,475)	-	11,525
GMCA/WEA	-	29,664	(29,470)	-	194
GMCVO - Cost of Living	-	23,800	(23,800)	-	-
House of Commons - Youth Cabinet	-	200	(200)	-	-
Curious Minds - Culture Club	-	13,000	(13,000)	-	-
Trafford Community Collective - Cult	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Safe Strong Communities	-	3,750	(3,750)	-	-
Trafford Community Collective - Rigi	-	200	(200)	-	-
GM Moving - Rights to Streets	-	240	(240)	-	-
Foundation 92 - Music Mentoring	-	150	(150)	-	-
Wates Family Enterprise Trust	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Sale West	-	7,900	(4,520)	-	3,380
Short Film Project	-	1,951	(1,951)	-	-
	402,355	723,469	(834,352)	36,651	328,123

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025

16 Analysis of movements in restricted funds (cont'd)

Name of restricted fund:	Description, nature and purpose of the fund
Trafford Housing Trust - Music Studio	Music studio refurbishment
Trafford MBC - Music Studio	Music studio refurbishment
Salford CVS - Snap Back Sounds	Snap back sounds music project
Salford CVS - Achieve Asset Fund	Snap back sounds music project
Pilgrim Trust	Youth work and creative therapies
GMCA/WEA	Learning and education programme
Safe Strong Communities	for the Smoking Cessation project
University of Manchester - Bee Well Artists	for the Bee Well project
Lancashire Wildlife Trust - Greenspaces Project	for the Greenspaces Project
Bolton CVS - Access for Growth	for Access for Growth

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,166	60,844	62,010
Cash at bank and in hand	260,895	74,360	335,255
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	96,728	(12,853)	83,875
Creditors falling due after one year	(8,421)	-	(8,421)
Total	350,368	122,351	472,719

Previous reporting period	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	5,110	75,503	80,613
Cash at bank and in hand	172,269	148,147	320,416
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(17,386)	104,473	87,087
Creditors falling due after one year	(18,526)	-	(18,526)
Total	141,467	328,123	469,590

18 Going Concern

The charity's main source of income is grant funding and investment income. The trustees consider, having regard to reserves that it is appropriate to prepare the accounts on a going concern basis and, consequently, the accounts do not include any adjustments that would be necessary if the funding income should cease.

19 Post Balance Sheet Events

The Trustees do not consider that there have been any events since the balance sheet date that significantly impact on the financial statements.

Gorse Hill Studios Creative Community
Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 30 June 2025

20 Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.