

CAMDEN SPARK

England & Wales · Charity number 1172145

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2017-03-20

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Fitzjohn's Primary School
86A Fitzjohn's Avenue
London
NW3 6NP

Phone 020 7387 0126

Email info@camdenspark.com

Website www.camdenspark.com

Activities

Objects: THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE ARTS AND CULTURE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN CAMDEN AND SURROUNDING AREAS.

Activities: THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE ARTS AND CULTURE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN CAMDEN AND SURROUNDING AREAS.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Camden

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£208	£9,740	-	-
2024-03-31	£27,500	£46,872	-	-
2023-03-31	£22,500	£33,148	-	-
2022-03-31	£45,933	£17,032	-	-
2021-03-31	£45,050	£34,992	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ROBERT OWEN EARREY	Chair	2016-07-21
Amy MCGANN		2018-06-11
Gareth Keith Gay		2024-07-08
RIA BARTLETT		2016-07-18
Tina Ramdeen		2019-06-10

CAMDEN SPARK

England & Wales - Charity number 1172145

Accounts



Registered Charity Number: 1172145

CAMDEN SPARK

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENT ACCOUNT

AND

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

31 MARCH 2025

Camden Spark

Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2025

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Legal and Administrative Information

Charitable Incorporated Organisation No: 1172145

Address: Fitzjohn's Primary School
86A Fitzjohn's Avenue
London NW3 6NP

Trustees:

- Ria Bartlett
- Zerritha Brown (resigned 31.03.25)
- Rob Earrey – Chair
- Gareth Keith Gay (appointed 08.07.24)
- Richard Harrison (deceased)
- Amy McGann
- Tina Ramdeen
- Deborah Rees (resigned 18.03.24)

Independent Examiners:

- Brenda Peers-Ross
- 29 Drift Road
- Selsey
- Chichester
- West Sussex
- PO20 0PW

Camden Spark

(Registered CIO No: 1172145)

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Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2025

The members of the Board of Trustees of Camden Sparks present their report together with Receipts and Payments Accounts and Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the year ended 31st March 2025.

Camden Spark is a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) who's only voting members are its charity trustees.

Structure, Governance

Trustees are appointed as individuals, but where feasible, with representation from: a Camden primary school, a Camden secondary school; a higher education provider in Camden; Camden Learning; Camden Council's Culture Service; Camden Music Service; small and large Camden-based cultural organisations, a freelance cultural education practitioner, and other contributors to the cultural education ecosystem in the borough. This is to ensure that the board represents the viewpoints of the stakeholders it strives to represent and engage.

Camden Spark has a Trustee Induction Pack to support the induction and training of trustees. Induction and training are led by the Chair of the Board of Trustees with the support of the other trustees.

The charity is led by the Board of Trustees.

The charity's work in this period was managed by a 0.5 FTE Arts Development Officer (on secondment from Camden Council, with support from a freelance Programme Manager to deliver our STEAM Work Experience programme). This support ended during the reporting period and to cover this, a freelance Programme Manager was recruited. Camden Spark has also engaged a freelance Development Consultant to support it in exploring funding opportunities and undertaking refreshed business planning.

The charity works closely to align aims with various Camden Council departments, including Culture, Inclusive Economy and Youth Service as well as Camden Learning and STEAM.

The charity is a member of Knowledge Quarter London Ltd and A New Direction's Local Partnerships Forum, as well as being represented on the Camden STEAM Board. charity works closely to align aims with various Camden Council departments, including Culture, Inclusive Economy and Youth Service as well as Camden Learning and STEAM.

The charity is a member of Knowledge Quarter London Ltd and A New Direction's Local Partnership Forum, as well as being represented on the Camden STEAM Board.

Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2025

Objectives & Activities and Public Benefit

The advancement of education in the arts and culture for children and young people in Camden and surrounding areas.

Camden Spark undertakes the following activities for public benefit:

- provision of a brokerage service between schools, colleges, and cultural organisations to provide cultural education opportunities for children and young people in Camden.
- provision of CPD and networking opportunities for teachers of cultural education subjects and cultural education practitioners in cultural organisations.
- project management of cultural education opportunities for schools with cultural and business partners.
- support to, and encouragement of, Camden schools considering embarking on an Artsmark application.
- research surrounding ways of engaging young people and organisations in offering Arts Award.
- support to London Borough of Camden in the delivery of its cultural programming.
- advocacy within Camden's schools, local authority, and cultural organisations for the benefits of rich and broad cultural education provision for all the borough's children and young people.

The trustees of Camden Spark confirm that they have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Achievements and Performance

The past year has presented both opportunities and challenges for Camden Spark. Despite a difficult funding environment, the charity has continued to deliver meaningful impact, demonstrating resilience and efficient use of resources.

A key focus has been strengthening governance and operational capacity. Trustees formalised governance processes to provide a foundation for long-term stability, while recruitment practices were reviewed and updated to attract a broader pool of candidates. A freelance Programme Manager was appointed to support delivery, although the contract ended earlier than planned

Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2025

due to unforeseen circumstances. The Board has reflected on the learning from this and reallocated the unspent budget towards programme and communications work.

Camden Spark also successfully delivered its work experience programme, providing valuable opportunities for young people and furthering its mission to widen access to the cultural and creative industries.

In April 2025, Trustees received the devastating news that Camden Spark's Chair, Richard Harrison, passed away unexpectedly. Richard was instrumental in the founding of Camden Spark and had played an active role since its inception. Thanks largely to his leadership, Camden Spark has a robust governance system in place, giving Trustees the tools needed to guide the charity forward. Although his passing occurred in the financial year following the period covered by this report, it has had a significant impact on the charity's trajectory. The risk register has been updated in consideration of this development, and Trustees are working diligently to ensure Camden Spark remains a going concern while honoring Richard's vision and commitment.

Activity Over the Year

Camden Spark's 2023 - 2028 Business Plan sets out four priorities:

- Amplifying the voices of young people
- Creating a talent pipeline into the creative and cultural industries
- *Advocating for cultural education as a right*
- Building organisational resilience

Planned activity to deliver these priorities includes:

- **Camden Cultural Charter** – Developed through consultation with young people, schools and cultural organisations. The Charter will inform future commitments to cultural education across the borough, alongside the development of a 'Spark Mark' for cultural education quality.
- **Cultural Education Conferences** – Biennial events informed by the Charter, with increasing levels of youth leadership (50% target for the first, 75% for the second).
- **Work Experience Programme** – Delivered in partnership with Camden STEAM, offering around 30 young people annually a broad introduction to careers in the creative and cultural industries. The programme engages a range of cultural partners and provides a replicable model of delivery.

Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2025

-
- **Trustee Development** – Ongoing recruitment and annual appraisals to ensure a broad mix of skills and expertise across the Board.

In support of this, in July 2024, Camden Spark delivered the second iteration of its Arts and Culture work experience week for Camden STEAM. Twenty-three young people participated, engaging with a wide range of organisations, including Ambassador Theatre Group, Roundhouse, Universal Music, October Gallery, London Film School and Celebro Media. Feedback from participants highlighted the value of exposure to diverse career paths within the sector and included:

“I wanted to be a musician but Camden Spark has opened more opportunities for me which I would also want to work in.”

“I really love the creative sector in general and I’d love to get into more of the creative places.”

Fundraising and Income Generation

Over the past year, Camden Spark’s fundraising focused on Trusts and Foundations and Corporate Sponsorship. Despite submitting strong applications, no new Trust or Foundation grants were secured, reflecting the highly competitive funding climate. For example, the John Ellerman Foundation awarded fewer than 50 of over 400 arts applications last year.

Between 2018 and 2022, Camden Council supported Camden Spark through a part-time secondment and an annual financial contribution. In 2023–24, this was replaced with in-kind support for the work experience programme with Camden STEAM. During this year, the Council confirmed that no further support will be available.

In response, the charity has increased its focus on developing corporate partnerships and is in discussions with several local organisations. Individual Giving has also been strengthened, with improvements to the online donation process already generating income.

Camden Spark remains well established in the borough, with a recognised track record and an experienced Board. With clear business and activity plans in place, the charity is working towards stabilising income and diversifying funding streams in the year ahead.

Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2025

Financial Review

The charity carried forward £28,225 into this reporting period. Reserves are not held. Unspent income is carried forward into the next reporting period. Camden Spark currently relies entirely on grant income and donations. Sufficient funding has been raised to continue the charity's activities, but should grant income or donations not be available, the charity would cease to be a going concern. This is, however, not a current consideration.

Reserve Policy

Reserves are not held. Unspent income is carried forward into the next reporting period. The charity has not been in a financially secure enough position to hold reserves.

Risk Policy

The charity has public, employer and professional indemnity insurance to protect it in case of a claim and a policy on Safeguarding Vulnerable beneficiaries, which are reviewed annually along with various other policies.

The principal risk facing the charity is our current lack of sustained funding. The charity continues to engage readily in strategic conversations and drawing on support from a freelance fundraising professional to minimise this risk.

Our key next steps during the remainder of 2025 include:

- continuing to deliver against our strategic objectives and business plan;
- moving to a mixed-ecology model of fundraising in place of a single large grant and adjusting our operating model in response to this;
- sustaining relationships with all stakeholders, including strategic and delivery, to ensure we remain able to support all those contributors to Camden's cultural and creative education sector;

utilising the outcomes of our youth voice engagement work to form the basis of our youth engagement activities and future youth-led programmes

Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2025

Financial Review

The charity carried forward £37,597 into this reporting period. Reserves are not held. Unspent income is carried forward into the next reporting period. Camden Spark currently relies entirely on grant income and donations. Sufficient funding has been raised to continue the charity's activities, but should grant income or donations not be available, the charity would cease to be a going concern. This is, however, not a current consideration.

Reserve Policy

Reserves are not held. Unspent income is carried forward into the next reporting period. The charity has not been in a financially secure enough position to hold reserves.

Risk Policy

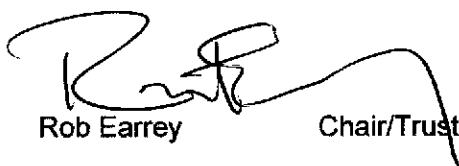
The charity has public, employer, and professional indemnity insurance to protect it in case of a claim and a policy on Safeguarding Vulnerable beneficiaries, which are reviewed annually along with various other policies.

The principal risk facing the charity is our current lack of sustained funding beyond March 2024. The charity continues to engage readily in strategic conversations and drawing on support from a freelance fundraising professional to minimise this risk.

Our key next steps during the remainder of 2024 include:

- continuing to deliver against our strategic objectives and business plan.
- moving to a mixed-ecology model of fundraising in place of a single large grant, and adjusting our operating model in response to this.
- sustaining relationships with all stakeholders, including strategic and delivery, to ensure we remain able to support all those contributors to Camden's cultural and creative education sector.
- utilising the outcomes of our youth voice engagement work to form the basis of our youth engagement activities and future youth-led programmes.

This report was approved virtually by Trustees on 13 October 2025 and signed on their behalf.


Rob Earrey Chair/Trustee

**Brenda Peers-Ross
29 Drift Road
Selsey
Chichester
West Sussex
PO20 0PW**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of:
CAMDEN SPARK
Registered Charity Incorporated Organisation (CIO) Number: 1172145**

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I report on the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31st March 2025, which are set out on the attached Receipts & Payments Account and the Statement of Assets & Liabilities on pages 9 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

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

- examine the accounts under section 145(1) of the Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, as amended; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures of 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 the Charities Act 2011; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 2011 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.

Brenda Peers-Ross

Brenda Peers-Ross FMAAT, ACIE
17th January 2026

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

For the Period 31st March 2025

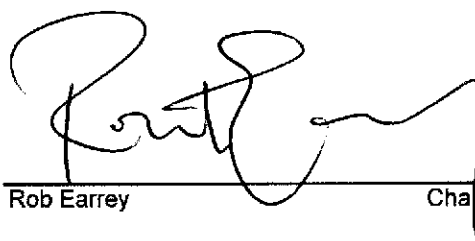
	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2025 £	2024 £
Total Income from:					
Donations and Legacies	1	208.48	-	208.48	20,000.00
Charitable Activities	2	-	-	-	7,500.00
Other		-	-	-	-
Total Income		208.48	-	208.48	27,500.00
Expenditure on:					
Raising Funds		3,000.00	-	3,000.00	1,950.00
Charitable Activities	3	6,740.63	-	6,740.63	34,921.82
Other		-	-	-	-
Total Expenditure		9,740.63	-	9,740.63	36,871.82
Net Income/(Expenditure)		(9,532.15)	-	(9,532.15)	(9,371.82)
Transfer between funds		39.27	(39.27)	-	-
Net movement in funds		(9,492.88)	(39.27)	(9,532.15)	(9,371.82)
Total funds brought forward		28,185.86	39.27	28,225.13	37,596.95
Total funds carried forward		18,692.98	-	18,692.98	28,225.13

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

At 31st March 2025

		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2025 £	2024 £
Assets:					
Bank Current Account		18,692.98	-	18,692.98	28,225.13
Debtors:		318.40	-	318.40	-
		19,011.38	-	19,011.38	28,225.13
Liabilities					
Independent Examination		(400.00)	-	(400.00)	(350.00)
		(400.00)	-	(400.00)	(350.00)
Net Assets		18,611.38	-	18,611.38	27,875.13
Charity Cash Funds					
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 31.03.25 £	Total 31.03.24 £
Unrestricted Funds	4	18,692.98	-	18,692.98	28,185.86
Restricted Funds	5	-	-	-	39.27
		18,692.98	-	18,692.98	28,225.13

Presented and approved by the Trustees at a committee meeting held on 13th October 2025 and signed on their behalf.


 Rob Earrey Chair/Trustee

For the Period 31st March 2025

Notes to the Accounts

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2025 £	2024 £
Note 1				
Donations and Legacies				
Donation	208.48	-	-	20,000.00
	208.48	-	-	20,000.00

Note 2				
Charitable Activities				
Grant: A New Direction	-	-	-	7,500.00
	-	-	-	7,500.00

Other Income:				
Other	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	7,500.00

Note 3				
Charitable Activities				
Programme managers fees	1,875.00	-	1,875.00	8,500.00
Insurance	234.64	-	234.64	234.64
Creative Collaboration	2,000.00	-	2,000.00	6,350.00
STEAM work experience	331.64	-	331.64	2,250.00
Other expenditure	300.00	-	300.00	698.73
IT , emails, website, broadband	1,144.36	-	1,144.36	1,057.08
Regent High School charges	-	-	-	199.95
Membership, subscriptions	399.99	-	399.99	563.07
Camden Arts Centre	-	-	-	12,000.00
Events including refreshments	-	-	-	2,664.35
Independent Examination	455.00	-	455.00	404.00
	6,740.63	-	6,740.63	34,921.82

	Opening Balance	Movement	Movement	Transfer	Closing
	01.04.24	In	Out	Between Funds	31.03.25
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted General Reserve	(2,514.14)	208.48	(9,740.63)	39.27	(12,007.02)
Designated - Camdonian Project	30,700.00	-	-	-	30,700.00
	28,185.86	208.48	(9,740.63)	39.27	18,692.98

	Opening Balance	Movement	Movement	Transfer	Closing
	01.04.24	In	Out	Between Funds	31.03.25
	£	£	£	£	£
New Direction	39.27	-	-	(39.27)	-
	39.27	-	-	(39.27)	-

For the Period 31st March 2025

Notes to the Accounts

Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the CIO, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Reporting by Charities issued January 2015, applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011.

Ultimate Controlling Party

Camden Spark is a Charity Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and is controlled by the Management Committee/Trustees individually named in the Annual Report.

Income

Income is brought into account on when received.

Expenditure

Expenditure is brought into account in the year it is spent.

Risk

The trustees do not believe the charity is subject to any substantial risk beyond the liabilities disclosed in its Annual Report and Accounts.

Format

The accounts are prepared on a receipts and payment basis.

CAMDEN SPARK

England & Wales - Charity number 1172145

Accounts

Registered Charity Number: 1172145

CAMDEN SPARK

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENT ACCOUNT

AND

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

31 MARCH 2024

Camden Spark

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Legal and Administrative Information

Charitable Incorporated Organisation No: 1172145

Address: Fitzjohn's Primary School
86A Fitzjohn's Avenue
London NW3 6NP

Trustees:

- Ria Bartlett
- Zerritha Brown
- Rob Earrey – Vice Chair
- Richard Harrison – Chair
- Amy McGann
- Tina Ramdeen
- Deborah Rees
- Danielle Tobin-Haughan

Independent Examiners:

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Camden Spark

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Trustees are appointed as individuals, but where feasible, with representation from: a Camden primary school, a Camden secondary school; a higher education provider in Camden; Camden Learning; Camden Council's Culture Service; Camden Music Service; small and large Camden-based cultural organisations, a freelance cultural education practitioner, and other contributors to the cultural education ecosystem in the borough. This is to ensure that the board represents the viewpoints of the stakeholders it strives to represent and engage.

Camden Spark has a Trustee Induction Pack to support the induction and training of trustees. Induction and training are led by the Chair of the Board of Trustees with the support of the other trustees.

The charity is led by the Board of Trustees.

The charity's work in this period has been managed by a 0.5 FTE Arts Development Officer (on secondment from Camden Council, following the resignation of the Programme Manager in March 2023), with support from a freelance Programme Manager to deliver our STEAM Work Experience programme. Camden Spark has also engaged a freelance Development Consultant to support it in exploring funding opportunities and undertaking refreshed business planning.

The charity works closely to align aims with various Camden Council departments, including Culture, Inclusive Economy and Youth Service as well as Camden Learning and STEAM.

The charity is a member of Knowledge Quarter London Ltd and A New Direction's Local Partnership Forum, as well as being represented on the Camden STEAM Board

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Camden Spark undertakes the following activities for public benefit:

Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2024

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- project management of cultural education opportunities for schools with cultural and business partners.
- support to, and encouragement of, Camden schools considering embarking on an Artsmark application.
- research surrounding ways of engaging young people and organisations in offering Arts Award.
- support to London Borough of Camden in the delivery of its cultural programming.
- advocacy within Camden's schools, local authority, and cultural organisations for the benefits of rich and broad cultural education provision for all the borough's children and young people.

The trustees of Camden Spark confirm that they have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Achievements and Performance

Staff and Governance

Camden Spark is Camden's Local Cultural Education Partnership (LCEP). Camden Spark became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 20 March 2017 and has since grown its Board of Trustees and begun to implement its strategy and business plan.

Following the departure of its Programme Manager in March 2023, Camden Spark's work has been supported by a seconded 0.5 FTE Arts Development Officer from Camden Council. Over the reporting period, this capacity has enabled Camden Spark to further its charitable objectives, to run a programme of activities, as well as continue to develop strategic partnerships in the borough to ensure long-term stability and local relevance of the charity.

In place of recruiting to the vacant Programme Manager role in the first instance, Camden Spark has engaged more resource from its Development Consultant to support the charity in exploring funding opportunities, and in undertaking a revised business planning process.

Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2024

At the end of the reporting period, in March 2024, trustees began the process of recruiting a Programme Manager, while continuing to fund ongoing Development Consultant support.

Camden Spark strives to maintain excellent governance structures and systems. We are proud to be led by a group of dynamic and committed trustees, representing internationally-renowned, locally-based cultural venues (The British Library; The Roundhouse; The Royal Opera House) as well as schools and public sector bodies that serve some of the most diverse communities in the country (IOE, UCL's Faculty of Education and Society; Fitzjohn's Primary School; Camden Music Service; Camden Council's Culture Service; Camden Learning).

Trustees remained stable during the reporting period, with our new trustees from the Camden Culture Service and Camden Learning making valuable contributions during their first year. Camden Spark continues to have a clear plan in place to bring the board to full quota to ensure representation across our stakeholder groups. One trustee took parental leave during the second half of the reporting period but remained as a trustee. The trustees' parental leave cover provided support and advice to Camden Spark on behalf of the employing organisation so that there was continuity and ongoing congruence during this period.

Camden Spark's Board continues to drive the strategic direction of the charity and ensure that governance, management policies and processes are appropriate for the effective leadership of the charity. During the reporting period, the previously established working group structures continued to support the operational requirements required to meet the strategic objectives of the charity, with regular meetings taking place in advance of half-termly board meetings, in compliance with the Terms of Reference for each group: Programme Management, Operations & Evaluation and Fundraising & Communications.

Following the opening in February 2023 of Camden Spark's first standalone bank account, in this period the reserve funds were transferred across from the care of Regent High School to our own bank account. We are incredibly grateful to Regent High School for providing banking facilities in our first years as a charity. To support this increased financial independence, during this period one of the existing trustees agreed to act as treasurer for the charity.

In June 2022 Camden Spark was awarded £15,000 in Transition Funding from A New Direction, supported with in-kind match funding by Camden Council. In February 2023 Camden Spark requested and was granted a short extension on the Transition Fund period, which allowed activity to continue until end of April 2023. The primary request to the extension was to complete the first stage of the youth voice consultation work.

Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2024

The Transition Fund was led by A New Direction, with funding from Arts Council England. This funding enabled Camden Spark to undertake first-hand youth voice work with young people to understand their experiences of culture in Camden, and their hopes for future engagement with the arts. The final report of this work was received at the start of this reporting period and provided a basis for strategic planning and fundraising for the remainder of the funding period.

Early in the reporting period, Camden Spark received a £20,000 donation from a corporate supporter. The supporter has asked to remain anonymous. The funding was provided unrestricted to support the charity in its core operations.

In order to support engagement with, and understanding of, the cultural and creative education landscapes, trustees regularly read and discuss research from these fields. This takes place in board meetings to support strategic decision-making and planning.

Programme

Youth voice report and youth voice work plans

The report on our youth voice consultation work was received at the start of this reporting period. It provided the charity's trustees and staff with an evidenced understanding of how a range of young people in the borough would like to engage with the charity, and with cultural education opportunities. The report influenced Camden Spark's strategic planning and helped to identify key projects of focus for this period and beyond.

Business plan update and SMART objectives

In the first half of this reporting period, Camden Spark developed a new business plan for the period 2023-2028 to build on our previous successes, and to address the need in the cultural education ecosystem in Camden. The agreed document has been shared with stakeholders in the borough. The business plan includes a refreshed theory of change, the super impact of which is that 'All children and young people in Camden will benefit from a powerful cultural education and have equitable access to the fantastic creative assets of Camden and London'. The business plan also includes an updated fundraising plan and a series of SMART objectives.

Accompanying the business plan, a strategic activity plan has been created to identify the actions required to achieve each of our broader objectives. This plan is regularly RAGged by trustees to show progress against each of the individual actions and the broader goals.

Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2024

Fundraising diversification

Part of our fundraising planning has been to explore a diversified income stream. Post-pandemic, it has proven more difficult for the charity to attract funding from trusts and foundations. While trust and foundation support will continue to be the focus of our fundraising efforts because of the alignment between our charitable objectives and those of funding bodies, we have also approached corporate organisations for support, as well as starting our first individual giving campaign through the creation of a JustGiving function on our website. Small donations have so far been received using this tool during this reporting period.

Creative Collaboration Fund

Camden Spark continued to disburse funds as part of the Creative Collaboration Fund, using funding from Camden Culture Service. Six schools – each with a partner cultural organisation – benefited from the scheme that saw teachers and artist educators collaborate to build projects that spoke to each schools' need and the interests of pupils and students. The schools and cultural organisations have been asked to report on their projects so that the aims, methodologies and outcomes can be shared within and beyond our network to support other schools and cultural organisations in developing programmes that have an impact on children and young people.

Camdonian

Working with Camden Art Centre, the schools engagement programme accompanying the redevelopment of the public sculpture, *Camdonian*, continued to be delivered during this period. Classes in two primary schools and one secondary school participated in a series of workshops with artists from Camden Art Centre. The workshops involved visits to see the sculpture as well as to work in the studios at Camden Art Centre, and the artists visiting each of the schools, culminating in the young people creating their own sculpture maquettes. A resource is being developed to accompany this programme – for distribution to schools and access by families – and a celebration event will take place when the project culminates.

STEAM Work Experience

Camden Spark participated in the Camden Learning-led STEAM Work Experience programme in July 2023, with a programme entitled 'Behind the Scenes of Camden's Creative Venues'. We built on our successful 2021 Virtual Work Experience programme to develop a unique in-person carousel model, allowing small and medium-sized cultural and creative organisations to take part without having to commit to a full week of delivery.

Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2024

18 Year 12 students from schools across the borough participated, working with a range of creative and cultural professionals and in some eight different cultural organisations. Activities included venue tours, staff Q&As, practical workshops, and a week-long research project in which the students, in groups, interrogated a creative career and presented their findings to each other at the end of the week. The week is perhaps best encapsulated in the words of one of the students:

'I'm amazed at how friendly and generous everyone has been, I didn't think I'd be able to open up and speak to people, but I'm surprised and feel like I've really connected and bonded with people. I've gained clearer insight into roles I'm interested in going into. I was feeling vague about theatre and film industries but now my interest has intensified acutely. I'll definitely look more into them. It's been like a job tour and springboard into what there is and what I'd be interested in doing.'

Camden Spark is represented on the Camden STEAM Board, ensuring that the 'A' in STEAM stands for excellence in cultural and creative education in the borough.

Careers Conference at The Place, November 2023

65 Year 9 pupils from three Camden secondary schools attended the Camden Creative Careers Fair, organised by and held at The Place in November 2023. Camden Spark funded this event, which provided students – just before their GCSE options choices – with an insight into the careers available in the cultural and creative industries, and access to some of Camden's leading cultural and creative organisations. The event also provided students with an opportunity to prepare a presentation to share with their peers back at school, to extend the reach of the day.

Ongoing brokerage and support

Camden Spark has continued to support the cultural education ecosystem in Camden through our brokerage and communications work. Camden Spark staff and trustees help to make connections between schools and cultural organisations, and we use our newsletter, website and X to disseminate opportunities and share the impact of our work and that of our partners.

The reduced staffing capacity has undoubtedly resulted in a reduction of activity during this reporting period, but the trustees remain confident that the charity can continue to support the cultural education life of the borough.

During this reporting period, staff and trustees continued to engage in development activity related to Camden Spark, notably with A New Direction through their Local Partnerships Forum. Trustees – as well as the Year 12 students undertaking work experience with us – also participated in the

Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2024

Camden Culture Service's series of 'Deliberative Conversations' to support the development of a strategic approach to cultural provision and service in the borough.

Financial Review

The charity carried forward £37,597 into this reporting period. Reserves are not held. Unspent income is carried forward into the next reporting period. Camden Spark currently relies entirely on grant income and donations. Sufficient funding has been raised to continue the charity's activities, but should grant income or donations not be available, the charity would cease to be a going concern. This is, however, not a current consideration.

Reserve Policy

Reserves are not held. Unspent income is carried forward into the next reporting period. The charity has not been in a financially secure enough position to hold reserves.

Risk Policy

The charity has public, employer, and professional indemnity insurance to protect it in case of a claim and a policy on Safeguarding Vulnerable beneficiaries, which are reviewed annually along with various other policies.

The principal risk facing the charity is our current lack of sustained funding beyond March 2024. The charity continues to engage readily in strategic conversations and drawing on support from a freelance fundraising professional to minimise this risk.

Our key next steps during the remainder of 2024 include:

- continuing to deliver against our strategic objectives and business plan.
- moving to a mixed-ecology model of fundraising in place of a single large grant, and adjusting our operating model in response to this.
- sustaining relationships with all stakeholders, including strategic and delivery, to ensure we remain able to support all those contributors to Camden's cultural and creative education sector.
- utilising the outcomes of our youth voice engagement work to form the basis of our youth engagement activities and future youth-led programmes.

We remain committed to ensuring that every child and young person in Camden has access to a rich, dynamic and inclusive cultural and creative education, and will continue to use the outcomes and learnings of the Transition Fund period to continue to work towards achieving our ambition.

Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2024

Risk Policy

The charity has public, employer, and professional indemnity insurance to protect it in case of a claim and a policy on Safeguarding Vulnerable beneficiaries, which are reviewed annually along with various other policies.

The principal risk facing the charity is our current lack of sustained funding beyond April 2023. The charity continues to engage readily in strategic conversations and plans to seek support from a freelance fundraising professional to minimise this risk.

Our key next steps during the remainder of 2024 include:

- finalising our strategic objectives and business plan.
- moving to a project-based model of fundraising in place of a single large grant, and adjusting our operating model to support this.
- sustaining relationships with all stakeholders, including strategic and delivery, to ensure we remain able to support all those contributors to Camden's cultural and creative education sector.
- utilising the outcomes of our youth voice engagement work to form the basis of our youth engagement activities.
- exploring cross-borough partnership opportunities to add value and maximise the impact of events and activities for each borough's cultural education community.

We remain committed to ensuring that every child and young person in Camden has access to a rich, dynamic and inclusive cultural and creative education, and will use the outcomes and learnings of the Transition Fund period to continue to work towards achieving our ambition.

We remain grateful to A New Direction, Arts Council England and Camden Council for their investment and support during this funding period.

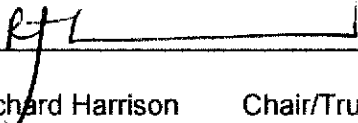
Camden Spark

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Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2024

This report was approved by the trustees at a management meeting held on 23rd January 2025 and signed on their behalf.


Richard Harrison Chair/Trustee

Brenda Peers-Ross
29 Drift Road
Selsey
Chichester
West Sussex
PO20 0PW

To the Trustees:

CAMDEN SPARK

Registered Charity Incorporated Organisation (CIO) Number: 1172145

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

Responsibilities and basis of report I have Independently Examined the Financial Statements on Pages 12 -15, for the financial year ending 31st March 2024.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparations of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). The charity's Trustees consider an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission and in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you and the trustees concerning 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 next statement.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act: or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Brenda Peers-Ross

Brenda Peers-Ross FMAAT ACIE
24th January 2025

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

For the Period 31st March 2024

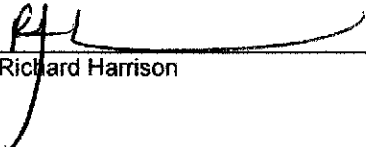
	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 £	2023 £
Total Income from:					
Donations and Legacies	1	20,000.00	-	20,000.00	-
Charitable Activities	2	-	7,500.00	7,500.00	22,500.00
Other		-	-	-	-
Total Income		20,000.00	7,500.00	27,500.00	22,500.00
Expenditure on:					
Raising Funds		-	1,950.00	1,950.00	-
Charitable Activities	3	32,827.44	12,094.38	44,921.82	33,147.40
Other		-	-	-	-
Total Expenditure		32,827.44	14,044.38	46,871.82	33,147.40
Net Income/(Expenditure)		(12,827.44)	(6,544.38)	(19,371.82)	(10,647.40)
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(12,827.44)	(6,544.38)	- 19,371.82	(10,647.40)
Total funds brought forward		31,013.30	6,583.65	37,596.95	48,244.35
Total funds carried forward		18,185.86	39.27	18,225.13	37,596.95

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

At 31st March 2024

		Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£
Assets:					
Bank Current Account		37,457.68	39.27	37,496.95	37,496.95
Bank Current Account No 2		100.00	-	100.00	100.00
Debtors:		-	-	-	-
		37,557.68	39.27	37,596.95	37,596.95
Liabilities					
CVS - Independent Examination		350.00	-	350.00	350.00
		350.00	-	350.00	350.00
Charity Cash Funds					
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	4	18,185.86	-	18,185.86	31,013.30
Restricted Funds	5	-	39.27	39.27	6,583.65
		18,185.86	39.27	18,225.13	37,596.95

Presented and approved by the Trustees at a committee meeting held on 23rd January 2025 and signed on their behalf.


 Richard Harrison Chair

For the Period 31st March 2024

Notes to the Accounts

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 £	2023 £
Note 1				
Donations and Legacies				
Corporate donation	20,000.00	-	-	-
	20,000.00	-	-	-

Note 2				
Charitable Activities				
Grant: A New Direction	-	7,500.00	7,500.00	22,500.00
	-	7,500.00	7,500.00	22,500.00

Other Income:				
Other	-	-	-	-
	-	7,500.00	7,500.00	22,500.00

Note 3				
Charitable Activities				
Programme managers fees	16,853.63	1,646.37	18,500.00	22,150.00
Insurance	-	234.64	234.64	-
Creative Collaboration	-	6,350.00	6,350.00	-
STEAM work experience	-	2,250.00	2,250.00	-
Other expenditure	-	698.73	698.73	-
IT , emails, website, broadband	630.83	426.25	1,057.08	5,114.25
Rgent High School charges	199.95	-	199.95	-
Postage	-	-	-	-
Membership, subscriptions	424.68	138.39	563.07	375.00
Camden Arts Centre	12,000.00	-	12,000.00	-
Events including refreshments	2,314.35	350.00	2,664.35	5,148.15
Independent Examination	404.00	-	404.00	360.00
	32,827.44	12,094.38	44,921.82	33,147.40

Unrestricted and Designated funds	4			
	Opening Balance	Movement	Movement	Transfer Between Funds
	01.04.23	In	Out	£
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted General Reserve	(11,686.70)	20,000.00	(20,827.44)	-
Designated - Camdonian Project	42,700.00	-	(12,000.00)	-
	31,013.30	20,000.00	(32,827.44)	-
				Closing Balance 31.03.24
				£ 18,185.86

Restricted funds	5			
	Opening Balance	Movement	Movement	Transfer Between Funds
	01.04.23	In	Out	£
	£	£	£	£
New Direction	6,583.65	7,500.00	(14,044.38)	-
	6,583.65	7,500.00	(14,044.38)	-
				Closing Balance 31.03.24
				£ 39.27

For the Period 31st March 2024

Notes to the Accounts

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued in January 2015, applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011.

Ultimate Controlling Party

Camden Spark is a Charity Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and is controlled by the Management Committee/Trustees individually named in the Annual Report.

Income

Income is brought into account on when received.

Expenditure

Expenditure is brought into account in the year it is spent.

Risk

The trustees do not believe the charity is subject to any substantial risk beyond the liabilities disclosed in its Annual Report and Accounts.

Format

The accounts are prepared on a receipts and payment basis.

CAMDEN SPARK

England & Wales - Charity number 1172145

Accounts

Registered CIO Number: 1172145

CAMDEN SPARK

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENT ACCOUNT

AND

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

31 MARCH 2023

Camden Spark

Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2023

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Legal and Administrative Information

Charitable Incorporated Organisation No: 1172145

Address: Fitzjohn's Primary School
86A Fitzjohn's Avenue
London NW3 6NP

Trustees:

Moira Ugoji (resigned 10.10.22)
Ria Bartlett
Zerritha Brown (appointed 10.10.22)
Rob Earrey – Vice Chair
Richard Harrison – Chair
Sarah McGann
Tina Ramdeen
Deborah Rees
Danielle Tobin-Haughan (appointed 20.03.22)

Independent Examiners: CVS Northamptonshire
32-36 Hazelwood Road
Northampton
NN1 1LN

Camden Spark

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Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2023

The members of the Board of Trustees of Camden Sparks present their report together with Receipts and Payments Accounts and Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Trustees are appointed as individuals, but where feasible, with representation from: a Camden primary school, a Camden secondary school; an alternative education provider in Camden; Camden Learning; Camden Council's Culture Service; Camden Music Service; a Camden-based Cultural Organisation; a higher education institution; and a freelance cultural education practitioner. This is to ensure that the board represents the viewpoints of the stakeholders it strives to represent and engage.

Camden Spark has a Trustee Induction Pack to support the induction and training of trustees. Induction and training are led by the Chair of the Board of Trustees with the support of the other trustees.

The charity is led by the Board of Trustees.

The charity's work has been managed by a 0.5 FTE Programme Manager and a 0.5 FTE Arts Development Officer (on secondment from Camden Council). During the reporting period, the Programme Manager remained on maternity leave between April-November 2022, and during this period was covered by the Arts Development Officer whose secondment was increased to 1 FTE. Further detail is provided below.

The charity works closely to align aims with various Camden Council departments, including Culture, Inclusive Economy and Youth Service as well as Camden Learning and STEAM.

The charity is a member of Knowledge Quarter London Ltd and A New Direction's Connected London network.

Objectives & Activities and Public Benefit

The advancement of education in the arts and culture for children and young people in Camden and surrounding areas.

Camden Spark undertakes the following activities for public benefit:

Camden Spark

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Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2023

- provision of a brokerage service between schools, colleges, and cultural organisations to provide cultural education opportunities for children and young people in Camden.
- provision of CPD and networking opportunities for teachers of cultural education subjects and cultural education practitioners in cultural organisations.
- project management of cultural education opportunities for schools with cultural and business partners.
- support to, and encouragement of, Camden schools considering embarking on an Artsmark application.
- research surrounding ways of engaging young people and organisations in offering Arts Award.
- support to London Borough of Camden in the delivery of its cultural programming.
- advocacy within Camden's schools, local authority, and cultural organisations for the benefits of rich and broad cultural education provision for all the borough's children and young people.

The trustees of Camden Spark confirm that they have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Achievements and Performance

Camden Spark is Camden's Local Cultural Education Partnership (LCEP). Camden Spark became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 20 March 2017 and has since grown its Board of Trustees and begun to implement its strategy and business plan.

Camden Spark has employed a 0.5 FTE Programme Manager since November 2019 to co-design and deliver our programme for partners. The Programme Manager continues to work alongside a seconded 0.5 FTE Arts Development Officer role in Camden Council. Over the reporting period, this combined capacity of 1 FTE has enabled Camden Spark to further its charitable objectives and to consolidate its annual programme of activities, as well as continue to develop strategic partnerships in the borough to ensure the long-term stability and local relevance of the charity.

In October 2021 the Programme Manager went on maternity leave and returned to the role in November 2022. During this period, Camden Council agreed to increase the Arts Development

Camden Spark

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Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2023

Officers seconded hours to full time. This enabled the continuation of the charity's programme delivery and operation without the need for recruiting temporary maternity cover. Camden Spark was then able to use the salary saving to recruit a freelance Fundraising and Development Manager, to develop a fundraising strategy to sustain the charity's long-term future.

Camden Spark strives to maintain excellent governance structures and systems. We are proud to be led by a group of dynamic and committed Trustees, representing internationally-renowned, locally-based cultural venues (The British Library, The Roundhouse, The Royal Opera House) as well as schools and public sector bodies that serve some of the most diverse communities in the country (Fitzjohn's Primary School, Camden Music Service, Camden Council, IOE, UCL's Faculty of Education and Society).

Moira Ugoji both left her role in Camden and as a result resigned as trustees during this period. We are delighted that the new Head of Culture at Camden Council, Zerritha Brown, has recently been recruited to the Board and we are in negotiations with Camden Learning over a new board representative, which we are hoping to appoint in summer 2023. Camden Spark has a clear plan in place to bring the board to full quota by Summer Term 2023 and ensure representation across our stakeholder groups.

Camden Spark's Board continues to drive the strategic direction of the charity and ensure that governance, management policies and processes are appropriate for the effective leadership of the charity. During the reporting period, the previously established working group structures continued half-termly to support the delivery of the strategic objectives of the charity, with regular meetings taking place before termly board meetings, in compliance with the Terms of Reference for each group: Programme Management, Operations & Evaluation and Fundraising & Communications.

In February 2023 the setup of Camden Spark's first standalone bank account was completed (a community account with Cooperative Bank), and we are now able to transfer reserve funds across from the care of Regent High School (we expect this final transaction to be completed in May 2023).

Camden Spark was the recipient of a 4 year year grant funding agreement as part of A New Direction's Challenge London programme. The initial three year funding period (1 September 2018 until 31 August 2021) was extended by a further 11 months to take into account the reduced delivery during the COVID-19 lockdown.

Camden Spark

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As previously reported, the grant of £75,000 has been matched in-kind by Camden Council at over 100% across the life of the grant period. The proposal for extension was also supported by Camden Council, with a commitment to continue pro-rated grant funding, as well as the seconded Arts Development Officer role for the extension period. The Challenge London funding period ended in July 2022, and a further application to A New Direction's Transition Fund was successful, which ensured the continuation of activity running until March 2023. The Transition Fund award is £15,000 and has been match funded by £15,000 unrestricted grant income from Camden Council.

In February 2023 Camden Spark requested and were granted a short extension on the Transition Fund period, which allowed activity to continue until end of April 2023. The primary request to the extension was to complete the first stage of the Youth Voice consultations.

Challenge London and the Transition Fund are led by A New Direction, with funding from Arts Council England. Challenge London's purpose was to ensure all children and young people in London can develop their creativity and play an active part in the culture and heritage of the city.

This funding has enabled Camden Spark to consolidate its new brokerage model. The new, more flexible, and agile programme offer for Camden schools and cultural organisations has proved successful in its second year of delivery. 'Camden Spark Connected' has continued to link schools and cultural sector organisations, with the aim of brokering relationships, facilitating collaboration, and developing long-term partnerships to address school needs and meet our impact goals.

Programme

Between 2018-2022, Camden Spark was funded through A New Direction's Challenge London programme. In June 2022, Camden Spark was awarded Transition Funding from A New Direction until February 2023 (subsequently extended to the end of April 2023).

During this period, Camden Spark is proud to have maintained its high-quality programme offer for Camden Spark partners, whilst also focusing on securing the legacy of our Local Cultural Education Partnership.

A key priority during this period, and paramount to the LCEP's future relevance and success, has been our Youth Voice consultation, which aimed to embed meaningful mechanisms for Young People to connect with Camden Spark's staff and Board of Trustees to help shape the future of the Charity for years to come.

Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2023

During this period, we were pleased to make a successful return to delivering in-person events, with strong attendance demonstrating the need. Project delivery increased, as some projects developed pre or during lockdown were finally able to take place. Some of our programmatic delivery was reduced or paused during this period, as we realised that our partners were becoming busier and less able to commit to the same extracurricular participation. This did, however, give us time to focus on other important areas for Camden Spark such as Youth Voice, business development and sustainability.

We built on the funding model established first as the Buddy Project Grants (for Buddying programme alumni) and then as the Creative Collaboration Fund. In the previous funding rounds we awarded grants of up to £500. For the latest Round we raised the upper limit to £2,000, and a total of 6 new projects for funded, for a combined total of £10,350, which will all run in summer term 2023. The 6 projects combined will directly engage a total of 677 young people.

During this period, the projects from previous funding rounds (£500 grants) in 2022 were either delivered or granted extensions due to legitimate delays (e.g. staffing changes).

A key feature of the Camden Spark offer to partners is our events programme. Held on a regular basis, our events bring together Camden's thriving network of cultural and creative education practitioners. The highlight of these events are the 'All Partner Events' held termly, where conversations are held between schools, cultural organisations and strategic partners to interrogate topics of relevance at the time of the event. We have been delighted that during this period we have returned to hosting in-person events and have seen attendance at the events increase over that of recent online events. During this period Camden Spark ran 2 online events (total 27 attendees) and 2 in-person events (total 64 attendees).

One of our significant projects, The Camdonian Public Sculpture project had been developed pre-pandemic. Continuing our aim to raise funding for large-scale participatory projects, we received funding from Camden Council during this reporting period to deliver an education project based around the refurbishment of a public sculpture. In January 2022, we commissioned local arts organisation Camden Art Centre as the delivery partner on the project which will work with two primary and two secondary schools. We were pleased that delivery on this project was finally able to commence in the Spring term 2023, with a Year 4 primary school class (30 pupils) participating. The project will continue throughout summer and autumn 2023 and will eventually involve a full in each of 2 primary and 2 secondary schools.

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During this period, we have continued to engage with our network of partners and stakeholders. Drawing on the data we hold in our partner engagement tracker, we have engaged with 92 partners. This includes:

- 47 cultural sector organisations (36 based in Camden)
- 19 Camden primary schools
- 6 secondary schools
- 1 special needs school
- 1 early years setting
- 16 Strategic organisations (10 based in Camden)

Youth Voice

In Spring 2023, Camden Spark went out into the community to hear first-hand from Young People about their experiences of culture and their hopes for future engagement with the arts. This consultation was led by our Freelance Youth Voice Manager, who carried out a series of successful creative workshops with a wide-range of young people across Camden Schools, Youth Centres, and Youth Service providers (including a Pupil Referral Unit) to gain a unique perspective on what accessing and shaping creative and cultural education means to our local Young People.

The initial phase of Youth Voice outreach and consultation took place in March 2023 by the Freelance Youth Voice Manager with a report issued, so that Trustees can take this work forward and set up a new Youth Voice governance structure, as shaped by young people. The initial outreach sessions with 5 organisations including primary, 6th form and youth hubs, directly engaged 40 young people, with 33 of those completing a follow-up questionnaire.

Website & Social Media

The charity's work also continues to be supported through the maintenance of a website, social media and e-newsletters that promote activity and advocate for the importance of access to a broad and rich cultural education for all of Camden's children and young people, and the support needed for teachers, school leaders and governors to deliver this. We have 300 recipients on our e-mail distribution list and 792 followers on Twitter.

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We identified that a new, redesigned and more functional website and social media presence were required, and in 2021 a design studio was commissioned to develop a new brand identity and website for Camden Spark, which was launched in the summer of 2022.

Camden Spark's new website has been a key tool for promoting our programme offer over the course of the Transition Fund period. The freshly branded site features a much more practical directory and search tool for schools to identify cultural partners and their high-quality, free offers and events. Camden Spark cultural partners are invited to send their offers, which are featured on the website and shared regularly with school partners through our newsletters and the Camden Learning Headteachers' Bulletin. The Camden Spark team now use branding guidelines to create engaging and dynamic content for event invites, reports, and strategic documents, which has elevated the look and feel of our communications.

The termly 'Camden Spark Connected' programme of activities continued to be delivered in this period. The programme is designed to link schools and cultural sector organisations, with the aim of brokering relationships, facilitating collaboration, and developing long-term partnerships to address school needs. There are three strands to the programme that is designed to keep our community connected: 1) Sharing and Signposting 2) Meetups and Events 3) Programmes and Projects.

Camden Spark staff also participated in a number of professional development activities, including A New Direction's national leadership programme for UK cultural education partnerships (including coaching), as well as London-based Connected Network events.

Business Development & Fundraising

Working with our Development Consultant, Rosie Neave from Roost Communications, we have been able to make significant headway in enhancing our development infrastructure during the transition period. Despite a challenging fundraising landscape, we remain hopeful and positive that we will be able to secure the future of Camden Spark. The extra capacity provided by having a person dedicated to fundraising and business planning has been essential in this period.

Four large-scale applications to significant Trusts and Foundations have been submitted, asking for support with core costs (which include salaries and running costs) over the next three to five years. The funding landscape for core costs is a challenging one and whilst we know that two have been unsuccessful, we are still waiting on the outcome of the other two. One of the unsuccessful applications was turned down as the Trust involved will only support project delivery, not ongoing work. Whilst this was disappointing, we were invited to a meeting with them where they indicated they may like to support us in the future.

Camden Spark

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Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2023

In addition, several smaller applications asking for core support for the next financial year only have also been submitted and the outcome of these should be known in the next few weeks. Until funding is successfully acquired, a new staffing structure will be paused. However, Trustees, the outgoing Programme Manager and the Arts Development Officer have considered future resourcing models for the Charity should there be the capacity to recruit in due course.

Camden Spark is grateful to Camden Council for its match funding, in the form of long-term cash and in-kind support for the Charity, and especially through the secondment of a dedicated Arts Development Officer. This relationship with Camden Council, and the calibre and quality of the work and partnerships led and cultivated by the Arts Development Officer on behalf of Camden Spark, has been invaluable to Camden Spark's position as the recognised and respected service and "knowledge partner" for schools, cultural organisations and young people in the Borough. Trustees will work closely with Camden Council over the coming months to renegotiate an appropriate continuation of this relationship.

Due to the current funding scenario, we have commissioned the writing of our new strategy and business plan for the period 2023-2026 from Rosie Neave. This will be completed by July 2023 and will set out both our strategic priorities for the period, as well as the steps we will take to achieve these priorities. It is a core element of our work to ensure Camden Spark is a sustainable organisation.

Financial Review

The charity carried forward £48,244.35 into this reporting period. Reserves are not held. Unspent income is carried forward into the next reporting period. Camden Spark currently relies entirely on grant income. Sufficient funding has been raised to continue the charity's activities, but should grant income not be available the charity would cease to be a going concern. This is, however, not a current consideration.

Reserve Policy

Reserves are not held. Unspent income is carried forward into the next reporting period. The charity has not been in a financially secure enough position to hold reserves.

Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2023

Risk Policy

The charity has public, employer, and professional indemnity insurance to protect it in case of a claim and a policy on Safeguarding Vulnerable beneficiaries, which are reviewed annually along with various other policies.

The principal risk facing the charity is our current lack of sustained funding beyond April 2023. The charity continues to engage readily in strategic conversations and is drawing on support from a freelance fundraising professional to minimise this risk.

Our key next steps during the remainder of 2023 include:

- finalising our strategic objectives and business plan;
- moving to a project-based model of fundraising in place of a single large grant, and adjusting our operating model to support this;
- sustaining relationships with all stakeholders, including strategic and delivery, to ensure we remain able to support all those contributors to Camden's cultural and creative education sector;
- utilising the outcomes of our youth voice engagement work to form the basis of our youth engagement activities;
- exploring cross-borough partnership opportunities to add value and maximise the impact of events and activities for each borough's cultural education community.

We remain committed to ensuring that every child and young person in Camden has access to a rich, dynamic and inclusive cultural and creative education, and will use the outcomes and learnings of the Transition Fund period to continue to work towards achieving our ambition.

We remain grateful to A New Direction, Arts Council England and Camden Council for their investment and support during this funding period.

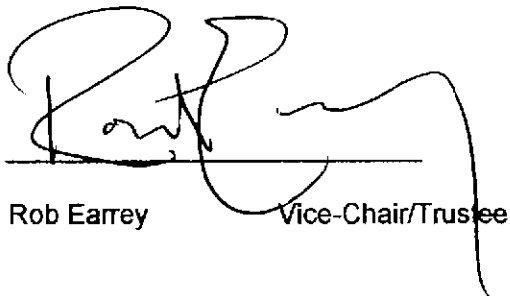
Camden Spark

(Registered CIO No: 1172145)

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Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2023

This report was approved by the trustees at a management meeting held on 8 January 2024 and signed on their behalf.



Rob Earrey Vice-Chair/Trustee



To the Trustees:
CAMDEN SPARK
Registered CIO Number: 1172145

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

Responsibilities and basis of report.

I have Independently Examined the Financial Statements on Pages 13 -16, for the financial year ending 31st March 2023.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparations of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). The charity's Trustees consider an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission and in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you the trustees concerning 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 next statement.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act: or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Brenda Peers-Ross

Brenda Peers-Ross FMAAT ACIE
28th January 2024

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

For the Period 31st March 2023

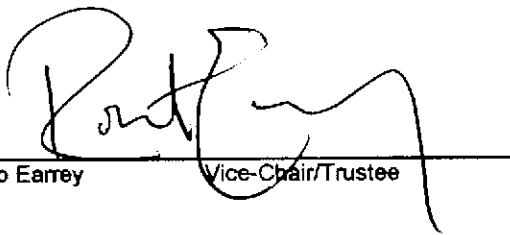
	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
Total Income from:					
Donations and Legacies	1	-	-	-	-
Charitable Activities	2	-	22,500.00	22,500.00	45,933.00
Other		-	-	-	-
Total Income		-	22,500.00	22,500.00	45,933.00
Expenditure on:					
Raising Funds		-	-	-	-
Charitable Activities	3	1,483.15	31,664.25	33,147.40	17,031.79
Other		-	-	-	-
Total Expenditure		1,483.15	31,664.25	33,147.40	17,031.79
Net Income/(Expenditure)		(1,483.15)	(9,164.25)	(10,647.40)	28,901.21
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(1,483.15)	(9,164.25)	- 10,647.40	28,901.21
Total funds brought forward		32,496.45	15,747.90	48,244.35	19,343.14
Total funds carried forward		31,013.30	6,583.65	37,596.95	48,244.35

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

At 31st March 2023

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
Assets:				
Bank Current Account	30,913.30	6,583.65	37,496.95	48,244.35
Bank Current Account No 2	100.00	-	100.00	-
Debtors:	-	-	-	-
	31,013.30	6,583.65	37,596.95	48,244.35
Liabilities				
CVS - Independent Examination	350.00	-	350.00	350.00
	350.00	-	350.00	350.00
Charity Funds				
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 31.03.23 £	Total 31.03.22 £
Unrestricted Funds	4 31,013.30	-	31,013.30	32,496.45
Restricted Funds	5 -	6,583.65	6,583.65	15,747.90
	31,013.30	6,583.65	37,596.95	48,244.35

Presented and approved by the Trustees at a committee meeting held on 8th January 2024 and signed on their behalf.



Rob Earrey Vice-Chair/Trustee

For the Period 31st March 2023

Notes to the Accounts

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
Note 1				
Donations and Legacies	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
Note 2				
Charitable Activities				
Grant: A New Direction	-	22,500.00	22,500.00	10,000.00
Grant: Camden Council - Annual Challenge	-	-	-	4,583.00
Grant: Camden Council - Camdonian Project	-	-	-	21,350.00
Grant: Camden Council	-	-	-	10,000.00
	-	22,500.00	22,500.00	45,933.00
Other Income:				
Speakers fee	-	-	-	-
	-	22,500.00	22,500.00	45,933.00

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
Note 3				
Charitable Activities				
Programme managers fees	-	22,150.00	22,150.00	15,221.36
Marketing, recruitment	-	-	-	247.50
Web & branding	-	4,200.00	4,200.00	-
IT subscription and charges	-	914.25	914.25	809.43
Postage	-	-	-	7.25
KQ membership fees	375.00	-	375.00	375.00
Events refreshments	748.15	4,400.00	5,148.15	-
Independent Examination	360.00	-	360.00	371.25
	1,483.15	31,664.25	33,147.40	17,031.79

Unrestricted and Designated funds	4				
	Opening Balance 01.04.22 £	Movement In £	Movement Out £	Transfer Between Funds £	Closing Balance 31.03.23 £
Unrestricted General Reserve	(10,203.55)	-	(1,483.15)	-	(11,686.70)
Designated - Camdonian Project	42,700.00	-	-	-	42,700.00
	32,496.45	-	(1,483.15)	-	31,013.30

Restricted funds	5				
	Opening Balance 01.04.22 £	Movement In £	Movement Out £	Transfer Between Funds £	Closing Balance 31.03.23 £
New Direction	15,747.90	22,500.00	(31,664.25)	-	6,583.65
	15,747.90	22,500.00	(31,664.25)	-	6,583.65

For the Period 31st March 2023

Notes to the Accounts

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued in January 2015, applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011.

Ultimate Controlling Party

Camden Spark is a Charity Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and is controlled by the Management Committee/Trustees individually named in the Annual Report.

Income

Income is brought into account on when received.

Expenditure

Expenditure is brought into account in the year it is spent.

Risk

The trustees do not believe the charity is subject to any substantial risk beyond the liabilities disclosed in its Annual Report and Accounts.

Format

The accounts are prepared on a receipts and payment basis.

CAMDEN SPARK

England & Wales - Charity number 1172145

Accounts

Registered Charity Number: 1172145

CAMDEN SPARK

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENT ACCOUNT

AND

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

31 MARCH 2022

Camden Spark

Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2022

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Independent Examiner's Report	9
Receipts and Payments Account	10
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	11
Notes to the Accounts	12
Accounting Policies	13

Legal and Administrative Information

Charitable Incorporated Organisation No: 1172145

Address: Fitzjohn's Primary School
86A Fitzjohn's Avenue
London NW3 6NP

Trustees: Jon Abbey (resigned March 2022)
Ria Bartlett
Rob Earrey – Vice Chair
Richard Harrison – Chair
Amy McGann
Tina Ramdeen
Deborah Rees
Moiria Ugoji (resigned October 2022)
Zerritha Brown (appointed 10.10.22)

Independent Examiners: CVS Northamptonshire
32-36 Hazelwood Road
Northampton
NN1 1LN

Camden Spark

(Registered CIO No: 1172145)

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Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2022

The members of the Board of Trustees of Camden Sparks present their report together with Receipts and Payments Accounts and Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the year ended 31st March 2022.

Structure, Governance

Camden Spark is a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) whose only voting members are its charity trustees.

Trustees are appointed as individuals, but where feasible, with representation from: a Camden primary school, a Camden secondary school; an alternative education provider in Camden; a Higher Education Institution, Camden Learning; the London Borough of Camden Arts Development Libraries, Arts & Tourism; Camden Music Service; the Roundhouse; the British Library; and freelance cultural education practitioners. This is to ensure that the board represents the viewpoints of the stakeholders it strives to represent and engage.

Camden Spark has a Trustee Induction Pack to support the induction and training of trustees. Induction and training are led by the Chair of the Board of Trustees with the support of the other trustees.

The charity is led by the Board of Trustees.

The charity's work is managed by a 0.5 FTE Programme Manager and a 0.5 FTE Arts Development Officer (on secondment from Camden Council). During the reporting period, the Programme Manager took maternity leave. Cover was provided from the Development Officer. Further detail is provided below.

The charity works closely to align aims with various Camden Council departments, including Libraries, Arts & Tourism and Youth Service as well as Camden Learning and STEAM.

The charity is a member of Knowledge Quarter London Ltd and A New Direction's Connected London network, and the Council's Cultural Camden Education Group.

Objectives & Activities and Public Benefit

The advancement of education in the arts and culture for children and young people in Camden and surrounding areas.

Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2022

Camden Spark undertakes the following activities for public benefit:

- provision of a brokerage service between schools, colleges, and cultural organisations to provide cultural education opportunities for children and young people in Camden.
- provision of CPD and networking opportunities for teachers of cultural education subjects and cultural education practitioners in cultural organisations.
- project management of cultural education opportunities for schools with cultural and business partners.
- support to, and encouragement of, Camden schools considering embarking on an Artsmark application.
- research surrounding ways of engaging young people and organisations in offering Arts Award.
- support to London Borough of Camden in the delivery of its cultural programming.
- advocacy within Camden's schools, local authority, and cultural organisations for the benefits of rich and broad cultural education provision for all the borough's children and young people.

The trustees of Camden Spark confirm that they have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Achievements and Performance

Camden Spark is Camden's Local Cultural Education Partnership (LCEP). Camden Spark became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 20 March 2017 and has since grown its Board of Trustees and begun to implement its strategy and business plan. Camden Spark has employed a 0.5 FTE Programme Manager since November 2019 to co-design and deliver our programme for partners. The Programme Manager continues to work alongside a seconded 0.5 FTE Arts Development Officer role in Camden Council. Over the reporting period, this combined capacity of 1 FTE has enabled Camden Spark to further its charitable objectives and to consolidate its annual programme of activities, as well as continue to develop strategic partnerships in the borough to ensure the long-term stability and local relevance of the charity.

In October 2021 the Programme Manager went on maternity leave. During this period, Camden Council agreed to increase the Arts Development Officer's seconded hours to full time. This enabled the continuation of the charity's programme delivery and operation without the need for recruiting temporary maternity cover. Camden Spark

Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2022

was then able to use the salary saving to recruit a freelance Fundraising and Development Manager, to develop a fundraising strategy to sustain the charity's long-term future.

Camden Spark's Board continues to drive the strategic direction of the charity and ensure that governance, management policies and processes are appropriate for the effective leadership of the charity. During the reporting period, the previously established working group structures continued to meet twice each term to support the delivery of the strategic objectives of the charity, with regular meetings taking place before termly board meetings, in compliance with the Terms of Reference for each group: Programme Management, Operations & Evaluation and Fundraising & Communications.

In 2021, a second iteration of the Theory of Change was drafted that more accurately reflects the main trajectory and objectives of Camden Spark. The Theory of Change identifies a central challenge, in this case "Children and young people in Camden do not benefit from equal access to rich and diverse cultural and creative education opportunities" and works through activities, outcomes and impacts to create an overarching 'super impact' to guide the organisation towards achieving change: *All children and young people in Camden will benefit from a powerful cultural education and have equitable access to the fantastic creative assets of Camden and London.*

Camden Spark continued its strategic partnerships with Camden Learning, Camden STEAM, Camden Music Service and Camden Council to support the effort to join up the creative and cultural offer for young people in the borough. This was further embedded through involvement with the development of Camden Learning's 'Building Back Stronger' education strategy and the Youth Service's 'Youth Review' report. Camden Spark was acknowledged as a key stakeholder in the final versions of both published reports. Camden Spark also supported the development of the Council's new Summer in Camden website, which highlighted opportunities for young people during the summer holidays, by providing creative opportunities and content from our cultural partners.

Camden Spark is now in its fourth and final year of its grant funding agreement as part of A New Direction's Challenge London programme. The initial three year funding period (1 September 2018 until 31 August 2021) was extended by a further 11 months to take into account the reduced delivery during the COVID-19 lockdown. As previously reported, the grant of £75,000 has been matched in-kind by Camden Council at over 100% (£96,832 combined in-kind and cash committed) across the life of the grant period. The proposal for extension was also supported by Camden Council, with a commitment to continue pro-rated grant funding, as well as the seconded Arts Development Officer role for the extension period. The Challenge London funding period will

Camden Spark

(Registered CIO No: 1172145)

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Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2022

end in July 2022, however a further application to A New Direction's Transition Fund was successful, which will ensure the continuation of activity running until March 2023. The Transition Fund award is £15,000 and has been match funded by £15,000 unrestricted grant income from Camden Council.

Challenge London is led by A New Direction, with funding from Arts Council England. Challenge London's purpose is to ensure all children and young people in London can develop their creativity and play an active part in the culture and heritage of the city.

This funding has enabled Camden Spark to consolidate its new brokerage model. The new, more flexible, and agile programme offer for Camden schools and cultural organisations has proved successful in its second year of delivery. 'Camden Spark Connected' has continued to link schools and cultural sector organisations, with the aim of brokering relationships, facilitating collaboration, and developing long-term partnerships to address school needs and meet our impact goals.

The termly 'Camden Spark Connected' programme of activities continued to be delivered in this period. The programme is designed to link schools and cultural sector organisations, with the aim of brokering relationships, facilitating collaboration, and developing long-term partnerships to address school needs. There are three strands to the programme that is designed to keep our community connected: 1) Sharing and Signposting 2) Meetups and Events 3) Programmes and Projects.

The transition out of COVID-19 restrictions has once again required Camden Spark to adapt its programme to support schools and cultural organisations to re-integrate activity. During this period, Camden Spark activities remained online only, with the intention to test a return to in-person events in the autumn term of 2022.

Our online programmes and events included Buddying & Creative Conversations, Camden Artsmark Network, Cultural Sector Sessions, and Equity Inclusion & Creativity.

During this period, we became a grant-giving organisation for the first time. Our Buddy Projects Fund awarded grants of £500 to two school and cultural organisation pairings who had participated in our previous Buddying & Creative Conversations programme to deliver collaborative creative projects. The successful pilot of this scheme, funded via Camden Council, has led us to develop a new Creative Collaboration Fund with broader scope. The fund will launch in autumn 2022 and will be open to applications from all schools and cultural organisations in the borough.

Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2022

Continuing our aim to raise funding for large-scale participatory projects, we received Section 106 funding from Camden Council during this reporting period to deliver an education project based around the refurbishment of a public sculpture. In January 2022, we commissioned local arts organisation Camden Art Centre as the delivery partner on the project which will work with two primary and two secondary schools in the spring term of 2023.

Camden Spark staff also participated in a number of professional development activities, including A New Direction's national leadership programme for UK cultural education partnerships (including coaching), as well as London-based Connected Network events.

In this period Camden Spark took the first step in working directly with young people as an organisation by running its first youth voice project. Working in partnership with Camden Council, we offered 12 young people a week of virtual work experience. Participating students were invited to shape the future of youth engagement with creative and cultural education in Camden, which involved presenting their challenges, solutions and fielding questions from Trustees and local leaders in the borough, including the British Library, Camden Music Service, the Roundhouse and the Royal Opera House. Their ideas have fed directly into Camden Spark's updated Theory of Change and are to be further developed during the Transition Fund period.

In 2021-22, Camden Spark reached:

- Overall, 108 partner organisations were directly engaged through LCEP activity in this period.
- This total included 42 schools and colleges, and 66 cultural organisations.

Examples of direct engagement includes:

- 10 Camden school teachers matched with 10 cultural partners through our buddying programme
- 15 partners attending our online Artsmark Network sessions
- 34 attendances across our Equity, Inclusion & Creativity programme
- 45 school and cultural partners attended our three termly events
- 44 attendees for our 5 cultural sector sessions
- 7 organisations funded through our Buddying Grants and Creative Collaboration Fund
- c.30 cultural organisations regularly sharing creative resources via our website and newsletters
- 8 Young People enrolled in our Virtual Work Experience week

Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2022

The charity's work also continues to be supported through the maintenance of a website, social media and e-newsletters that promote activity and advocate for the importance of access to a broad and rich cultural education for all of Camden's children and young people, and the support needed for teachers, school leaders and governors to deliver this. We have 305 recipients on our e-mail distribution list and 780 followers on Twitter.

We identified that a new, redesigned and more functional website and social media presence were required, and in 2021 a design studio was commissioned to develop a new brand identity and website for Camden Spark, which is due to be launched in the summer of 2022.

Financial Review

The charity carried forward £19,343.14, into this reporting period. Reserves are not held. Unspent income is carried forward into the next reporting period. Camden Spark currently relies entirely on grant income. Sufficient funding has been raised to continue the charity's activities, but should grant income not be available the charity would cease to be a going concern. This is, however, not a current consideration.

Reserve Policy

Reserves are not held. Unspent income is carried forward into the next reporting period. The charity has not been in a financially secure enough position to hold reserves.

Risk Policy

The charity has public, employer, and professional indemnity insurance to protect it in case of a claim and a policy on Safeguarding Vulnerable beneficiaries, which are reviewed annually along with various other policies.

The principal risk facing the charity is a lack of funding after July 2022. The extension granted by A New Direction to extend its activity until July 2022, including a cash grant of £4,583 from Camden Council for an additional 11 months of delivery, has given the charity further time to secure its longer-term sustainability. The charity continues to engage readily in strategic conversations and plans to seek support from a freelance fundraising professional to minimise this risk.

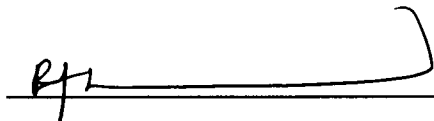
Camden Spark

(Registered CIO No: 1172145)

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Trustee Annual Report 31st March 2022

This report was approved by the trustees at a management meeting held on 12 December 2022 and signed on their behalf



Richard Harrison Chair/Trustee

To the Trustees:
CAMDEN SPARK
Registered Charity Number: 1172145

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

Responsibilities and basis of report.

I have Independently Examined the Financial Statements on Pages 10 -13, for financial year ending 31st March 2022.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparations of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). The charity's Trustees consider an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission and in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you the trustees concerning 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 next statement.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act: or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Brenda Peers-Ross

Brenda Peers-Ross FMAAT ACIE
Date: 28th January 2023

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

For the Period 31st March 2022

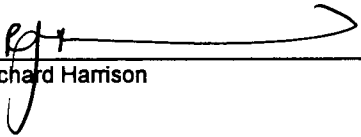
	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 £	2021 £
Total Income from:					
Donations and Legacies	1	-	-	-	-
Charitable Activities	2	30,933.00	15,000.00	45,933.00	45,050.00
Other		-	-	-	-
Total Income		30,933.00	15,000.00	45,933.00	45,050.00
Expenditure on:					
Raising Funds		-	-	-	-
Charitable Activities	3	1,001.00	16,030.79	17,031.79	34,992.56
Other		-	-	-	-
Total Expenditure		1,001.00	16,030.79	17,031.79	34,992.56
Net Income/(Expenditure)		29,932.00	- 1,030.79	28,901.21	10,057.44
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		29,932.00	- 1,030.79	28,901.21	10,057.44
Total funds brought forward		2,564.45	16,778.69	19,343.14	9,285.70
Total funds carried forward		32,496.45	15,747.90	48,244.35	19,343.14

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

At 31st March 2022

		Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
		£	£	£	£
Assets:					
Bank Current Account		32,496.45	15,747.90	48,244.35	19,343.14
Debtors:		-	-	-	-
		32,496.45	15,747.90	48,244.35	19,343.14
Liabilities					
CVS - Independent Examination		350.00	-	350.00	350.00
		350.00	-	350.00	350.00
Charity Funds					
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		£	£	31.03.22	31.03.21
		£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	4	32,496.45	-	32,496.45	2,564.45
Restricted Funds	5	-	15,747.90	15,747.90	16,778.69
		32,496.45	15,747.90	48,244.35	19,343.14

Presented and approved by the Trustees at a committee meeting held on 12th December 2022 and signed on their behalf.


 Richard Harrison Chair

For the Period 31st March 2022

Notes to the Accounts

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 £	2021 £
Note 1				
Donations and Legacies	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 £	2021 £
Note 2				
Charitable Activities				
Grant: A New Direction	-	10,000.00	10,000.00	35,000.00
Grant: Camden Coucil - Annual Challenge	4,583.00	-	4,583.00	-
Grant: Camden Council - Camdonian Project	21,350.00	-	21,350.00	-
Grant: Camden Council	5,000.00	5,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
	30,933.00	15,000.00	45,933.00	45,000.00

Other Income:				
Speakers fee	-	-	-	50.00
	30,933.00	15,000.00	45,933.00	45,050.00

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 £	2021 £
Note 3				
Charitable Activities				
Programme managers fees	-	15,221.36	15,221.36	25,909.72
Marketing, recruitment	247.50	-	247.50	-
Web & branding	-	-	-	2,100.00
IT subscription and charges	-	809.43	809.43	814.77
Postage	7.25	-	7.25	10.55
Camden Alive Partnership project costs	-	-	-	5,172.44
KQ membership fees	375.00	-	375.00	375.00
Events refreshments	-	-	-	610.08
Independent Examination	371.25	-	371.25	-
	1,001.00	16,030.79	17,031.79	34,992.56

Unrestricted and Designated funds	4	Opening	Movement	Movement	Transfer	Closing
		Balance				
		01.04.21	In	Out	Funds	31.03.22
		£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted General Reserve		2,564.45	11,767.00	(1,001.00)	-	10,203.55
Designated - Camdonian Project		-	42,700.00	-	-	42,700.00
		2,564.45	30,933.00	(1,001.00)	-	32,496.45

Restricted funds	5	Opening	Movement	Movement	Transfer	Closing
		Balance				
		01.04.21	In	Out	Funds	31.03.22
		£	£	£	£	£
New Direction		16,778.69	10,000.00	(11,030.79)	-	15,747.90
Camden Council		-	5,000.00	(5,000.00)	-	-
		16,778.69	15,000.00	(16,030.79)	-	15,747.90

For the Period 31st March 2022

Notes to the Accounts

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued in January 2015, applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011.

Ultimate Controlling Party

Camden Spark is a Charity Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and is controlled by the Management Committee/Trustees individually named in the Annual Report.

Income

Income is brought into account on when received.

Expenditure

Expenditure is brought into account in the year it is spent.

Risk

The trustees do not believe the charity is subject to any substantial risk beyond the liabilities disclosed in its Annual Report and Accounts.

Format

The accounts are prepared on a receipts and payment basis.

CAMDEN SPARK

England & Wales - Charity number 1172145

Accounts

Registered Charity Number: 1172145

CAMDEN SPARK

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENT ACCOUNT

AND

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

31 MARCH 2021

CAMDEN SPARK

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENT ACCOUNTS AND TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2021**

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CAMDEN SPARK

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENT ACCOUNTS AND TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2021**

Page 1

Charitable Incorporated Organisation No: 1172145

Address: Regent High School
Chalton Street
London
NW11RX

Trustees: Jon Abbey
Rita Bartlett
Holly Donagh (retired May 2020)
Rob Earrey – Vice Chair
Emma Gould (retired June 2020)
Richard Harrison – Chair
Amy McGann
Tina Ramdeen
Deborah Rees
Moira Ugoji

Independent Examiners: CVS Northamptonshire
32-36 Hazelwood Road
Northampton
NN1 1LN

The members of the Board of Trustees of Camden Spark present their report together with Receipts and Payments Accounts and Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Structure, Governance

Camden Spark is a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) who's only voting members are its charity trustees.

Trustees are appointed as individuals, but where feasible, with representation from: a Camden primary school, a Camden secondary school; an alternative education provider in Camden; A New Direction; Camden Learning; the London Borough of Camden Arts Development Libraries, Arts & Tourism; Camden Music Service; the Roundhouse; the British Library; and freelance cultural education practitioners. This is to ensure that the board represents the viewpoints of the stakeholders it strives to represent and engage.

Camden Spark is developing a Trustee Induction Pack to support the induction and training of trustees. Induction and training are led by the Chair of the Board of Trustees with the support of the other trustees.

The charity is led by the Board of Trustees.

The charity's work is managed by a 0.5 FTE Programme Manager and a 0.5 FTE Arts Development Officer (on secondment from Camden Council).

The charity works closely with the Camden Arts Development Libraries, Arts & Tourism, Camden Learning and Camden STEAM.

The charity is a member of Knowledge Quarter London Ltd and A New Direction's Connected London network, and the Council's Cultural Camden Education Group.

Objectives & Activities and Public Benefit

The advancement of education in the arts and culture for children and young people in Camden and surrounding areas.

Camden Spark undertakes the following activities for public benefit:

- provision of a brokerage service between schools, colleges, and cultural organisations to provide cultural education opportunities for children and young people in Camden.
- provision of CPD and networking opportunities for teachers of cultural education subjects and cultural education practitioners in cultural organisations.

- project management of cultural education opportunities for schools with cultural and business partners.
- support to, and encouragement of, Camden schools considering embarking on an Artsmark application.
- research surrounding ways of engaging young people and organisations in offering Arts Award.
- support to London Borough of Camden in the delivery of its London Borough of Culture Cultural Impact Award.
- advocacy within Camden's schools, local authority, and cultural organisations for the benefits of rich and broad cultural education provision for all the borough's children and young people.
- The trustees of Camden Spark confirm that they have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Achievements and Performance

Camden Spark is Camden's Local Cultural Education Partnership (LCEP). Camden Spark became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 20 March 2017 and has since grown its Board of Trustees and begun to implement its strategy and business plan. Camden Spark has employed a 0.5 FTE Programme Manager since November 2019 to co-design and deliver our programme for partners. The Programme Manager continues to work alongside a seconded 0.5 FTE Arts Development Officer role in Camden Council. Over the reporting period, this capacity of 1 FTE has enabled Camden Spark to further its charitable objectives and to consolidate its annual programme of activities, as well as continue develop strategic partnerships in the Borough to ensure the long-term stability and local relevance of the charity.

Camden Spark's Board continues to drive the strategic direction of the charity and ensure that governance, management policies and processes are appropriate for the effective leadership of the charity. During the reporting period, the board rolled out its working group structure to support the delivery of strategic objectives of the charity, with regular meetings taking place before termly board meetings, in compliance with the Terms of Reference for each group: Programme Management, Operations & Evaluation and Fundraising & Communications.

Camden Spark continues to strengthen its strategic partnerships with Camden Learning, Camden STEAM, Camden Music Service and Camden Council to support the effort to join up the creative and cultural offer for young people in the borough. This resulted in the first "Arts Governance" training session being delivered by Camden Spark to local school governors in February 2021.

Camden Spark also participated in conversations to support the collective design of a new Education Strategy for Camden “Coming Back Stronger” in partnership with Camden Learning, the borough’s school-led improvement partnership. Camden Spark has also played a leading role in the Council’s “Cultural Camden” Cultural Education Working Group, which has continued to help embed Camden Spark’s work in the emerging local cultural strategy.

Camden Spark is now in its third and final year of its grant funding agreement as part of A New Direction’s Challenge London programme. As previously reported, the grant of £75,000 has been matched in-kind by Camden Council at over 100% (£96,832 committed) across the life of the grant period.

Challenge London is led by A New Direction, with funding from Arts Council England. Challenge London’s purpose is to ensure all children and young people in London can develop their creativity and play an active part in the culture and heritage of the city. As previously reported, the funding was originally awarded to cover the period 1 September 2018 until 31 August 2021, to fund staffing costs, project delivery and evaluation. However, due to the COVID-19 situation and the subsequent adaptation of programme activity and spend, A New Direction invited Camden Spark to submit a proposal for an extension to the funded period until July 2022, which was agreed in January 2021. The proposal was supported by the Libraries, Arts & Tourism service at Camden Council, with a commitment to continue prorated grant funding, as well as the seconded Arts Development Officer role for the extension period. No additional funds will be received, but Camden Spark will have until July 2022 to fulfil the objectives of the grant agreement.

This funding has enabled Camden Spark to consolidate its new brokerage model. The new, more flexible, and agile programme offer for Camden schools and cultural organisations has proved successful in its second year of delivery. ‘Camden Spark Connected’ has continued to link schools and cultural sector organisations, with the aim of brokering relationships, facilitating collaboration, and developing long-term partnerships to address school needs and meet our impact goals.

With COVID-19 still effecting our partners in the reporting period, including ongoing school and venue closures, Camden Spark continued to deliver all events and CPD online. We continued to offer a peer-learning programme, which was an innovation in response to COVID-19 restrictions, designed to keep our partners connected at a challenging time.

Our committed local network of cultural partners also continued to share their free, online creative resources and offers with schools via our newsletter and website.

In 2020-21, Camden Spark reached:

- Overall, 108 partner organisations (including schools and cultural organisations) were directly engaged through LCEP activity in this period.
- This total included 51 schools and colleges and 57 cultural and strategic organisations.

Examples of direct engagement includes:

- c.15 local secondary headteachers and their delegates engaged through Camden Learning briefing
- 17 governors trained through our Arts Governance training
- 15 Camden school teachers matched with 15 cultural partners through our buddying programme and c.10 attended a peer learning circle
- 8 partners reached through our online Arts Award training session
- 128 individuals from across our school and cultural partners attended our three termly events
- 45 cultural partners attended our cultural sector sessions
- c.30 cultural organisations regularly sharing creative resources via our website and newsletters
- 29 children's work exhibited through our Camden Alive project (detail below)

In 2020-21, Camden Spark also delivered on the school strand of Camden Council's 'Camden Alive' project. This project was part of Camden Council's Cultural Impact Award from the GLA, as part of the Mayor's London Borough of Culture initiative. Camden Alive is a programme of arts and cultural events that celebrates the people of Camden. The project brought people, artists, and cultural organisations together to share ideas, tell their stories and create something new.

In addition to the £10,000 grant reported in 2018-19, Camden Spark received a further £5,000 in 2019-20 to deliver this strand of activity. Through this funding, Camden Spark commissioned the House of Illustration, one of Camden's leading cultural organisations, to work with a Year 4 cohort at Carlton Primary School, a school that had not previously engaged with Camden Spark's creative offer. Augmented reality company, Arcade, was also contracted to co-develop this creative storytelling project by using immersive technology to bring the stories to life.

Through a gallery visit in October 2019, and a series of workshops in December 2019, pupils learnt a range of illustration techniques and the 'Museum of the Imagination' came to life, with exhibits and characters invented and drawn by the

class. In between sessions young people worked with their teacher to create a series of poems to accompany their designs.

The Museum of Imagination was published in print in March 2020 and distributed at an event at The British Museum, inside a fun augmented reality booklet which features as part of the Camden People's Museum website and app. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, further activity, including an exhibit of the children's work and evaluation, was postponed until later in 2020.

This funding enabled Camden Spark to work in-depth with one cohort of pupils and to trial a new model for working. The project gave Camden Spark strategic overview, acting as producer while partners delivered according to their expertise. This meant that we could focus on building the relationships and taking time to pick the right partners (rather than the most keen, or where there were previously strong relationships). This brought new partners actively into the LCEP, and is a model that we will seek further funding to replicate.

In 2020, Camden Spark launched its 'Camden Spark Connected' programme of activities designed to link schools and cultural sector organisations, with the aim of brokering relationships, facilitating collaboration, and developing long-term partnerships to address school needs. There are three strands to the programme that is designed to keep our community connected: 1) Sharing and Signposting 2) Meetups and Events 3) Programmes and Projects. In response to the pandemic, Camden Spark had to very quickly adapt its programme offer online, which actually resulted in higher attendance at events and training.

An innovation that came out of the pandemic is our successful Buddying & Creative Conversations programme, which matches local teachers 1:1 with cultural sector professionals for a series of Creative Conversations & facilitated workshops. The more agile approach to brokerage was successful during the intense period of lockdown. The programme gave our partners more autonomy, less pressure around specific proposals and outcomes, and an opportunity to connect around school improvement through a flexible peer-learning programme. Several tangible partnerships & projects have emerged from this programme, including a new illustration residency at a local secondary school.

In 2020-21 we focused on the curriculum to better support our local schools. This was in part driven by Ofsted, but rather than just focussing on impact, implementation, and intent, we took the new Ofsted framework and listened to how schools were responding - aiming to match our ambition as an organisation around the creative curriculum and encouraging schools to work collaboratively with local cultural organisations towards longer-lasting, more impactful change.

We have created space for this to happen through our termly event discussion topics, for example by focussing on the recovery curriculum and addressing equity, inclusion, and creativity in partnership with The Black Curriculum.

The charity's work also continues to be supported through the maintenance of a website, social media and e-newsletters that promote activity and advocate for the importance of access to a broad and rich cultural education for all of Camden's children and young people, and the support needed for teachers, school leaders and governors to deliver this. We have c.290 recipients on our e-mail distribution list and 730 followers on Twitter.

Financial Review

The charity carried forward £9285.70 into this reporting period. Reserves are not held. Unspent income is carried forward into the next reporting period. Camden Spark currently relies entirely on grant income. Sufficient funding has been raised to continue the charity's activities, but should grant income not be available the charity would cease to be a going concern. This is, however, not a current consideration.

Reserve Policy

Reserves are not held. Unspent income is carried forward into the next reporting period. The charity has not been in a financially secure enough position to hold reserves.

Risk Policy

The charity has public, employer, and professional indemnity insurance to protect it in case of a claim and a policy on Safeguarding Vulnerable beneficiaries, which are review annually along with various other policies.

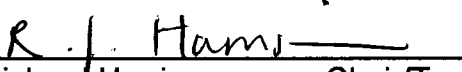
The principal risk facing the charity is a lack of funding after July 2022. The extension granted by A New Direction to extend its activity until July 2022, including a cash grant of £4,583 from Camden Council for an additional 11 months of delivery, has given the charity further time to secure its longer-term sustainability. The charity continues to engage readily in strategic conversations and plans to seek support from a freelance fundraising professional to minimise this risk.

CAMDEN SPARK

**TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2021**

Page 8

This report was approved by the trustees at a management meeting held on 17th January 2022 and signed on their behalf


Richard Harrison Chair/Trustee

To the Members:
CAMDEN SPARK
Registered Charity Number: 1172145

Page 9

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

We have Independently Examined the Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities on Pages 10 - 13, for financial year ending 31st March 2021.

Respective responsibilities of Members and Examiner

As members you are responsible for the preparations of the Accounts. The charity's trustees to consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) or under Regulation 10(1)(b) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b)
- to state, whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

Our examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission and in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts Regulation 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you the trustees concerning 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 and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

- (1) which gives us 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 section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with general accounting requirements of the 2011 Act and section 44(1)(b) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 9 of the 2006 Regulation
 - have not been met or
- (2) to which in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

B Peers - Ross

Brenda Peers-Ross FMAAT ACIE
Date: 28th January 2022

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

For the Period 31st March 2021

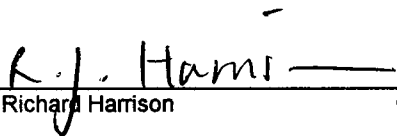
	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 £	2020 £
Total Income from:					
Donations and Legacies	1	-	-	-	-
Charitable Activities	2	5,050.00	40,000.00	45,050.00	25,000.00
Other		-	-	-	-
Total Income		5,050.00	40,000.00	45,050.00	25,000.00
Expenditure on:					
Raising Funds		-	-	-	-
Charitable Activities	3	2,485.55	32,507.01	34,992.56	33,878.51
Other		-	-	-	-
Total Expenditure		2,485.55	32,507.01	34,992.56	33,878.51
Net Income/(Expenditure)		2,564.45	7,492.99	10,057.44	(8,878.51)
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		2,564.45	7,492.99	10,057.44	(8,878.51)
Total funds brought forward		-	9,285.70	9,285.70	18,164.21
Total funds carried forward		2,564.45	16,778.69	19,343.14	9,285.70

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

At 31st March 2021

		Unrestricted	Restricted	2021	2020
		£	£	£	£
Assets:					
Bank Current Account		2,564.45	16,778.69	19,343.14	9,285.70
Debtors:		-	-	-	-
		2,564.45	16,778.69	19,343.14	9,285.70
Liabilities					
CVS - Independent Examination		350.00	-	350.00	-
		350.00	-	350.00	-
Charity Funds		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		£	£	31.03.21	31.03.20
		£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	4	2,564.45	-	2,564.45	-
Restricted Funds	5	-	16,778.69	16,778.69	9,285.70
		2,564.45	16,778.69	19,343.14	9,285.70

Presented and approved by the Trustees at a committee meeting held on 17th January 2022.
 and signed on their behalf.


 Richard Harrison Chair

For the Period 31st March 2021

Notes to the Accounts

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 £	2020 £
Note 1				
Donations and Legacies	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 £	2020 £
Note 2				
Charitable Activities				
Grant: A New Direction	-	35,000.00	35,000.00	15,000.00
Grant: Camden Council	5,000.00	5,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
	5,000.00	40,000.00	45,000.00	25,000.00

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 £	2020 £
Other Income:				
Speakers fee	50.00	-	50.00	-
	5,050.00	40,000.00	45,050.00	25,000.00

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 £	2020 £
Note 3				
Charitable Activities				
Programme managers fees	-	25,909.72	25,909.72	10,559.86
Interim Project lead fees	-	-	-	7,525.00
Web & branding	2,100.00	-	2,100.00	330.80
IT subscription and charges	-	814.77	814.77	-
Postage	10.55	-	10.55	-
Camden Alive Partnership project costs	-	5,172.44	5,172.44	14,880.00
Marketing	-	-	-	118.97
KQ membership fees	375.00	-	375.00	375.00
Events refreshments	-	610.08	610.08	76.65
Misc.	-	-	-	12.23
	2,485.55	32,507.01	34,992.56	33,878.51

Unrestricted funds	4		Transfer Between Funds £	Closing Balance 31.03.21 £
	Opening Balance 01.04.20 £	Movement In £		
General Reserve	-	5,050.00	(2,485.55)	2,564.45
	-	5,050.00	(2,485.55)	2,564.45

5	5		Transfer Between Funds £	Closing Balance 31.03.21 £
	Opening Balance 01.04.20 £	Movement In £		
New Direction	9,285.70	35,000.00	(27,507.01)	16,778.69
Camden Council	-	5,000.00	(5,000.00)	-
	9,285.70	40,000.00	(32,507.01)	16,778.69

For the Period 31st March 2021

Notes to the Accounts

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), Accounting and Reporting by Charities issued in January 2015, applicable UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011.

Ultimate Controlling Party

Camden Spark is a Charity Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and is controlled by the Management Committee/Trustees individually named in the Annual Report.

Income

Income is brought into account on when received.

Expenditure

Expenditure is brought into account in the year it is spent.

Risk

The trustees do not believe the charity is subject to any substantial risk beyond the liabilities disclosed in its Annual Report and Accounts.

Format

The accounts are prepared on a receipts and payment basis.