



SOUNDS OF INTENT

Report and
Financial
Statement

For the year
ending 31
March 2025

Sounds of Intent

Administrative and reference details

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Charity number	1172441
Registered office	64a Princes Way, London SW19 6JF
Trustees	Adam Ockelford (Chair from 21 April 2017) Felicity Ockelford Tim Smith Johnny Stirling Simon Vincent Graham Welch
Bank	CAF Bank, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4TA
Independent examiner	Alex Medhurst

Structure and governance

Sounds of Intent is a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charity Commission on 6 April 2017.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity.

Objectives and activities

1. The objects of the CIO (as set out in the Constitution) are:

“for the public benefit, the promotion of the education of children, young people and members of the public generally, with a particular (but non-exclusive) focus on those with learning difficulties, through investigating, researching, developing and promoting educational, therapeutic and recreational strategies and resources that support and encourage the creative and aesthetic development of such people through the performing arts and in particular (but not exclusively) their understanding and appreciation of and engagement with music.”

2. The main Sounds of Intent online resource is to be found at www.soundsofintent.org. It is aimed at those who are working through music with children, young people adults who have learning difficulties. It provides information, downloadable resources and an online training programme. The site is available in English and, currently, German. Future translations are planned. The site was created and is managed by Max Mai.

3. A development of the main Sounds of Intent framework, for all children in the early years, is to be found at eysoi.org. This was developed as part of a Youth Music funded project – ‘Sounds of Intent in the Early Years’.

Projects and services

Opera resources for sensory learners (Royal Ballet and Opera)

In collaboration with the Royal Ballet and Opera, the University of Roehampton, music hubs and Live Music Now, Sounds of Intent has contributed to the development of online sensory-learning resources designed to make opera and ballet accessible to children and young people with profound and multiple learning difficulties. The materials include themed lesson plans, short films and multisensory classroom activities linked to major productions, all structured using the Sounds of Intent framework.

Take Note

'Take Note' is a new multimedia resource aimed at the carers of older people, particularly those with dementia. A launch took place November 2024 in partnership with the University of Roehampton and the Cinnamon Care Collection. This will be followed by a national roll out, region by region in England, and in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The 'Mugo'

The 'Mugo' (Music Unit; Gesture Operated) is a new device that translates movement (of any size or direction) into MIDI signals, which can be converted into any sounds through a suitable app (such as 'Thumb Jam'). A prototype has been constructed and is being trialled. In the future, funding will be sought in partnership with the University of Roehampton and The Amber Trust to develop further iterations of the product and ultimately to develop it commercially.

Awards and Certificates in Musical Development (ACMD)

Using the Sounds of Intent framework, Trinity College London now offers a nationally recognised suite of inclusive music qualifications, enabling learners at all stages of development – including those at the earliest levels of engagement with sound and music – to gain formal accreditation. Through the National Sounds of Intent Centre, these awards can be accessed internationally.

'My Music': Online assessment tool for Key Stage 1

An automated online assessment system is currently being planned in partnership with Merton Music Foundation and Anglia Ruskin University. Using a series of short musical games and AI-supported analysis, the tool will estimate children's levels of musical engagement using the Sounds of Intent framework and suggest targeted teaching resources, supporting both classroom practice and curriculum evaluation.

Sounds of Intent Music Awards for Schools

A new awards scheme for special schools and resourced units is being created, offering bronze, silver and gold levels of recognition. Schools will be assessed on learners, staff expertise, resources and institutional policies, all in relation to their delivery of music education informed by the Sounds of Intent framework.

Mini Musicians

Mini Musicians is a two-year research and development project focused on musical development in infants and young children at Key Stage 1. Conducted with twelve primary schools in partnership with Merton Music Foundation, the project involves the creation and evaluation of new classroom resources grounded in the Sounds of Intent model, with analysis currently underway.

First Songs (Calderdale)

Working with NHS partners in areas of high social and economic deprivation, Sounds of Intent has developed and piloted early-years music resources based on familiar children's songs, differentiated using Sounds of Intent principles. These will be available as online and print materials to support families and early-years practitioners.

Tuning In to Autism

Current work in autism includes doctoral research exploring how structured musical interaction can support the development of cognitive and affective empathy in autistic children, alongside the creation of practical resources for families and professionals. This work builds on earlier family-centred music initiatives and applies the Sounds of Intent framework to both assessment and intervention design.

IMAGINE: Deafness and hearing loss

Since 2021, Sounds of Intent has worked with the National Deaf Children's Society and Audiovisability to develop, pilot and evaluate music resources for families with young deaf and hard-of-hearing children. The project reconceptualises musical engagement as multi-sensory, encompassing listening, feeling vibration, visual perception and movement, and will culminate in a book and associated website scheduled for publication in 2026.

Music and blindness

Work relating to visual impairment includes the long-running Little Amber and Amber Plus initiatives, focusing on musical development in blind children; Points of Contact, which explores tactile approaches to music notation; and current doctoral research on music memorisation strategies in blind learners using Sounds of Intent developmental levels. Together, these projects aim to expand access to musical learning and assessment for children with visual impairments and complex needs.

Count Me In!

Count Me In! is a national inclusive-music initiative developed with partners in education services to support teachers in mainstream and special schools. It provides structured lesson plans and activities based on the "deconstruction and reconstruction" of musical materials, enabling pupils at different developmental stages to participate together, with progress understood through the Sounds of Intent framework.

Sounds Right

Sounds Right: Resources for Inclusive Music Making is a substantial book and companion website offering practical strategies for teachers, therapists and visiting musicians to engage children, young people and adults across a wide range of abilities and needs in meaningful musical activity. It represents a full expression of the Sounds of Intent framework and is aligned with the Awards and Certificates in Musical Development offered by Trinity College London. Physical resources are due to be published later in 2025.

International work

While Sounds of Intent has been taken up in a number of countries round the world on an ad hoc basis, a more strategic approach is being planned, with Slovenia becoming a hub in the EU for a systematic roll out.

Financial statements

The charity is exempt from preparing a full statement of accounts under section 133 of the Charities Act 2011. Instead, the trustees have prepared –

- (a) a receipts and payments account, and
- (b) a statement of assets and liabilities.

(a) Statement of receipts and payments

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Income

Donations £	Consultancy £	Grants £	Gift Aid £	National Centre	2024/2025 Total £	2023/2024 Total £
13,700	750	13,450	2,919	641	31,460	28,604

Expenditure

Governanc e £	Administratio n £	Consultanc y £	Bank charges £	Nationa l Centre £	2024/2025 Total £	2023/2024 Total £
517		35,302	60	1,321	37,200	31,999

Surplus/ (Deficit)					-£5740	-£3395
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All funds are unrestricted.

(b) Statement of assets and liabilities


For the year ended 31 March 2025

Assets (£)	31/03/25	31/03/24
Cash at bank 31 March 2025	4,655	10,382

Liabilities (£)	31/03/25	31/03/24
Consultancy fees		
Administration		
Legal fees		

Total	Nil	Nil
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Signed on behalf of the Board



Date 24 January 2026

Professor Adam Ockelford Phd ARAM honFTCL
Chair of Trustees

www.soundsofintent.org www.soundsofintent.com @soundsofintent facebook.com/SoundsofIntent



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name

Sounds of Intent

On accounts for the year ended

31 March 2025

Charity no
(if any)

1172441

Set out on pages

4

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2025

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust'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.

**Independent
examiner's
statement**

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

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

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.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed: A Medhurst

Date: 29.01.2026

Name: Alex Medhurst

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

N/A

Address: 55 Hamilton Road

Twickenham

TW2 6SN

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

N/A