

Northern Chords Festival Trustees' Annual Report Year ended 31st October 2024

TRUSTEES

The Trustees are pleased to present this report on the Northern Chords Festival. One administrator and the Trustees perform the day-to-day operation of the charity. Two additional Trustees, Anthony Atkinson and Garth Johnson, were appointed to the charity on 6/4/24. There are now five Trustees. Decisions are made through discussions between the Trustees and regular meetings, which occur at least quarterly and are minuted.

The Trustees work on a voluntary basis.

The charity is committed to maintaining the highest standards of integrity and ethical behaviour in all its activities. All those working for or associated with the charity are expected to uphold those standards. The Trustees are selected based on their knowledge of and commitment to the arts. One is a major philanthropist who is dedicated to supporting the arts in the area two others are top level, highly international professional musicians with a strong grasp of the global classical music scene and therefore bring this expertise to the Festival. The new Trustees have a wide knowledge and experience of financial implications and local classical music culture.

All new Trustees are briefed on the role of the Trustees for the Northern Chords Festival, given copies of the governing documents of the organisation and referred to the details on the Charity Commission website related to becoming a Trustee and to the guidance on public benefit.

GOVERNANCE and MANAGEMENT

The governing document is the Northern Chords Festival CIO Constitution which was adopted by the Trustees on 19/01/17 and which became recognised by the Charity Commission on 26/04/17

The Trustees have a risk management strategy which includes an annual review of the risks to which the charity may be exposed, and the establishment and implementation of systems and procedures designed to mitigate the impact on the charity of the risks identified. Key elements of the strategy include:

- the implementation of procedures for the authorisation of all financial transactions and the incurring of financial obligations;
- the agreement of an annual Festival plan and budget, supported by a fundraising plan, which is regularly reviewed;
- procedures to ensure compliance with safeguarding and health and safety regulations.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the CIO Northern Chords Festival :

Northern Chords Festival advances education by promoting and providing opportunities for the appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of the art of music in particular by the

provision of an annual festival, public concerts, lectures, tuition and youth engagement programmes.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Trustees confirm that when planning any of the charity's events, they have complied with the duty to have due regard for the public benefit in delivering the activities undertaken.

THE CHARITY'S ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR END 31st OCTOBER 2024.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, it was not possible to present a Festival during this year. Instead, the Trustees undertook a period of reflection and consolidation, with the introduction of additional Trustees and a new administrator who is a volunteer. The Trustees also re-examined and modified the charitable objects for Northern Chords Festival and will apply to the Charity Commission to seek their approval of any changes.

FUTURE PLANS

This period of consideration allowed for advanced planning of the Festival for 2025. The dates of 27th, 28th and 29th of June 2025 were agreed on in July 2024. The three concerts will be varied and include piano and voice recital, chamber music concert, piano concerto and a performance of the opera Dido and Aeneas.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 17/7/2025 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

ANTHONY ATKINSON

A Atkinson

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

NORTHERN CHORDS FESTIVAL YEAR END 31/10/24

INCOME

Donation 500	£500
--------------	------

Donation 100	£100
--------------	------

TOTAL INCOME	£600
---------------------	-------------

EXPENDITURE

Bank charges	£0.50
--------------	-------

TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£0.50
--------------------------	--------------

SURPLUS for year	£599.50
-------------------------	----------------

Reconciliation of funds

Total funds brought forward 1/11/2023	£(256.98)
---------------------------------------	------------------

Surplus for year	£599.50
------------------	----------------

Total funds carried forward 31/10/2024	£342.52
--	----------------