

THE NEWBRIDGE PROJECT

England & Wales · Charity number 1173849

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	10582100
Registered	2017-07-18
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	The NewBridge Project The Shieldfield Centre 4-8 Clarence Walk Newcastle Upon Tyne NE2 1AL
Phone	07761740691
Email	admin@thenewbridgeproject.com
Website	http://thenewbridgeproject.com/

Activities

Objects: THE COMPANY IS ESTABLISHED TO FOSTER AND ADVANCE THE APPRECIATION AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE ARTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC.

Activities: The NewBridge Project is established to foster and advance the appreciation and understanding of the arts for the benefit of the public. The NewBridge Project operates throughout England and Wales.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£593,833	£589,728	£375,542	9
2024-03-31	£624,998	£537,769	£371,437	12
2023-03-31	£364,440	£428,026	-	-
2022-03-31	£472,350	£369,674	-	-
2021-03-31	£345,883	£253,331	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ILANA RACHEL MITCHELL	Chair	2017-02-21
Dr Aishah Brolly-Coyte		2026-05-07
Dr PAUL RICHTER		2017-03-01
Eve McCracken		2023-03-05
JULIA HESLOP		2017-03-01
Jonathan Woods Combe		2019-10-02
Naomi Morrellee Kinghorn		2026-05-07
Nathalie Sara Boobis		2026-05-07

THE NEWBRIDGE PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1173849

Accounts

Company Registration Number 10582100

Registered Charity Number 1173849

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
For the year ending 31 March 2025

**The NewBridge
Project**

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Name	The NewBridge Project
Charity Registration Number	1173849
Company Registration Number	10582100
Registered Office	Shieldfield Centre, 4 - 8 Clarence Walk, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 1AL

Trustees

For the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, the Board of Trustees is the Board of Directors of the charitable company and is referred to as the Trustees throughout this report.

The Trustees of The NewBridge Project during the year and to the date of signing this report are as follows:

Ilana Mitchell (Chair)
Jonathan Combe
Julia Heslop
Eve McCracken
Dr Paul Richter

Company Secretary	Rebecca Huggan
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Bankers	The Co-operative Bank, Norfolk House, 84-86 Grey Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 6BZ
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Independent Examiner	Pete O'Hara FCA, Chartered Accountant, 26 La Sagesse, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 3AF
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The NewBridge Project (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Documents

The NewBridge Project is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 25 January 2017 and registered as a charity on 18 July 2017. The charity is controlled by its governing document, its Memorandum & Articles of Association and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act.

The Directors of the company are also Trustees of the charity.

Eligibility for membership of the charity, and membership of the Board of Trustees, is governed by the Articles of Association. There are no restrictions in the governing document on the operation of the charity other than those imposed by general charity law.

Charitable Purpose

The NewBridge Project's charitable objects are to foster and advance the appreciation and understanding of the arts for the benefit of the public.

Structure and Governance

The charity currently has a Board of five non-executive Trustees.

The Board meets a minimum of 4 times per year. A written Director's report, quarterly management accounts, a meeting agenda and any other necessary Board papers are prepared by the Director and circulated in advance of meetings.

The NewBridge Project is governed by the Board of Trustees with a staff team (employed and freelance) overseeing the day-to-day operation, comprising of:

Director - Rebecca Huggan
Programme Director – Frances Stacey
Studio & People Manager – Ruby Glover
Development & Reporting Manager – Natalie Loftus (from October 2024)
Artist Development Programmer – Daniel Russell
Create / Disrupt Project Manager – Izzy Finch
For Solidarity Project Manager – Hannah Kirkham
Community Producer – Elaine Robertson (left Feb 2025)
Marketing Co-ordinator – Kitty McKay (left April 2024)
Communications Producer – Meaghan Stewart (from September 2024)
Bookshop & Reading Room Co-ordinator - Maya Wallis
Admin and Front of House Assistant – Jesse Howarth (from September 2024)
Communities Facilitators – Hana Azahed and Jackie Wood
Bookkeeper – Niamh Cunningham

The Contribution of Volunteers

The charity makes use of volunteers to support its activities.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT
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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

Recruitment and Appointment of Board of Trustees

Any person who is willing to act as a Director and is permitted by law to do so, may be appointed to be a Director by a decision of the Directors. Any Director appointed by a resolution of the other Directors must retire at the next Annual General Meeting following his or her appointment and may offer themselves for re-election and if any Director is required to retire at an Annual General Meeting the retirement shall take effect from the conclusion of the meeting.

Trustees are recruited through an open call out process for Trustees, describing the skills required. This is advertised through a range of accessible channels and networks. Trustees are elected to the Board based on discussions and recommendations offered by Trustees, the Director and external advisors to the organisation.

Trustee Induction and Training

New Trustees are inducted by the Director and current Trustees and are provided with a range of resources to support their understanding of The NewBridge Project and its activities, including a document detailing the role of Trustees and staff within the company.

Artists and other creatives who pay to join are known as Studio or Associate Members of NewBridge. They become members of the community, but they are not members of the company or charity.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees reviewed the charity's needs for Reserves in line with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission in February 2025. Moving forward they will be reviewed annually in line with budget setting.

The NewBridge Project's target reserves are set at £297,000 (excluding designated reserves). We believe that this would enable us to meet most of our financial liabilities, funding/partnership commitments, overheads and staff costs over a six-month period (based on average expenditure across recent years and planned future budgets).

The NewBridge Project holds an additional, designated reserve of £50,000 to support the charity to relocate at the end of our current lease if required.

This makes our total target reserves £347,000.

The charity's total reserves at 31 March 2025, including Restricted Funds, were £375,542

The charity's total Unrestricted Reserves at 31 March 2025 are £268,828 (2024: £251,661). Free reserves, defined as non-designated Unrestricted Reserves, minus the Net Book Value of Unrestricted Tangible Fixed Assets, at 31 March 2025 are £248,058 (2024: £231,783).

However, c£116k of these reserves has been committed to activity in 2025/26 and, consequently, available reserves were c£132,058.

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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

Reserves Policy (Cont.)

The Board is happy that these reserves, while below the target set, are sufficient at this current time given the agreed lease extension to 2031 and therefore the potential future flexibility of designated funds held, the team's continuous work on sourcing new funding, and income earned consistently through studio fees.

The Board of Trustees actively use and allocate reserves as needed, and at present this includes:

- Staff care: Reserves may be used to support staff costs/enhanced staff leave costs such as new parent leave, bereavement leave, sick leave.
- Running costs: In the 2025-26 year, we have identified a potential need to allocate £4,408 of reserves to bridge a small gap between funding to cover staff salaries. This allocation has been agreed in advance by the Board of Trustees.
- Building maintenance/Improvement: We will use approx. £5k of our reserves to install new signage to the building. The current signage is damaged, so refreshing this will create a more welcoming entrance to the building, increase footfall and bookshop revenue. It is deemed a good time to do this given our lease extension.

Included in the £116k committed to activity in 2025/26, is money already paid to us by NECA based on actual spend. However, because they pay us at an intervention rate, this has resulted in a timing difference in the final stage of the project between actual match and intervention rate.

Grant Making Policy

The charity does not currently engage in grant-making activity.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Overview

The NewBridge Project (NewBridge) is an artist-led community established in 2010 that has evolved significantly over the past 15 years, growing in scale and ambition in response to needs of artists and local communities. We aim to reflect the diversity of contemporary art practice, be responsive to our environment, build solidarity, and place community-centred, experimental, collaborative and socially conscious programming at the heart of all our work.

Our programme consists of:

- Commissions, exhibitions, and projects
- Community hub & public space
- Artist Development
- Studios & Workspace
- Events and socials
- Shieldfield Youth Programme

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Strategic Objectives and Public Benefit

The Trustees understand and have discussed the implications of the provisions of the Charities Act 2006, which state that all charities must demonstrate that they are established for public benefit and have had due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

The Trustees believe that the charity meets both key principles:

Principle 1 — There must be an identifiable benefit, or benefits:

To work towards our Vision, Mission & Values, the following strategic objectives underpin everything we do, demonstrating clear, tangible benefits.

Strategic Objectives

1. **Developing Artists** Develop artistic talent and provide opportunities for career development through artist development programmes, networking, curatorial opportunities, training and shared learning within the visual arts sector in the north east of England.
2. **Providing space** Provide space, facilities and resources for artists in the north east of England.
3. **Supporting and presenting new art work** Support the production and presentation of ambitious and pioneering new artwork in the gallery and off-site
4. **Creating a welcoming space** Provide a welcoming environment and community hub, creating a resource and programme for artists and the local community alike.
5. **Engaging audiences and communities** Create positive, in depth and quality experiences for audiences, participants and collaborators, and increase the number of people who experience and engage with visual art.
6. **Creating a good organisational and working culture** Create a positive working and organisational culture across our organisation and for those that we work with through active listening and reflection so we can develop responsively, meaningfully and with integrity.

Principle 2 — Benefit must be to the public, or a section of the public:

Each element of our work provides benefit to one or more clearly identified sections of the public, whether the artistic or local community, or the general public, who can access and enjoy the work produced as a result. NewBridge's beneficiaries are therefore entirely appropriate to its aims and the wider public benefit from its work.

All of these benefits are clear, evidenced and relate directly to NewBridge's aims. In addition, the Trustees do not consider that any significant detriment or harm flows from NewBridge's work.

Risk Management

The Board of Trustees steer the effective governance of NewBridge. They ensure the organisation is operating within its agreed aims, objectives, and values and that it is achieving its overall ambitions and vision, effectively, efficiently, safely, and legally. They review the organisational risk register quarterly at each trustee meeting to manage and mitigate risk and operate comprehensive regular self-evaluation.

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Risk Management (Cont.)

The Director and staff team are fully engaged in risk management and take a direct role in managing risks through the following procedure: 1. identifying risks; 2. analysing risks; 3. evaluating/ranking risks; 4. mitigating risks; 5. monitoring/reviewing risks.

The Director works with staff and trustees to determine type of risk; strategic, compliance, financial, operational, or reputational. The risk register is kept updated and an appropriate risk response employed: avoidance, mitigation, acceptance, or transferal. A risk management plan or assessment is completed for larger projects with specific/numerous risks. Any risks rated as high/critical are immediately reported to the Board.

The Trustees are satisfied that appropriate financial systems and controls and employment policies and practices are in place.

Financial: High levels of current funding are due to reduce/end in the next 6-12 months, demonstrating a risk to the long-term sustainability of programme delivery and staff salaries. In particular, NECA funding ends in September 2025, and SHED funding is reducing 25% from April 2025 onward, and by a further 25% of the original grant from April 2026 (an overall reduction from £100k to £50k p.a.). The ways we will mitigate this:

- Continue positive conversations with North East Combined Authority about future Skills for Growth Funding
- Development & Reporting Manager has brought much needed capacity to application making and is actively implementing our ambitious fundraising strategy. Nat meets monthly with Director and Programme Director to review plans, shared actions and priorities
- We have been successful in receiving support from new funders including Garfield Weston, NE Roots, Barbour and Riddel Family, and reapplied successfully for funding from Ouseburn Ward funding and Community Foundation
- We have multiple applications pending and in progress to funders for core funding and project support across our programmes.

Whilst we have robust plans and strong track record in securing funding, we have maintained a high-risk level as the current fundraising landscape is exceptionally competitive, and if unreplaced the 3-year NECA high-level grant and SHED funding will leave a large gap.

Operational: Recent changes in staff team could result in lack of cohesion for staff team and impact on workload.

- We continue to work with Limelite HR to support the team and provide training for line managers
- 121s, PDRs, and regular team meetings support us to focus on individual needs and progress, and collective work
- Implementation of 'Fallow month' in January, and 'Breathing Weeks' across the year, in direct response to needs of team identified in Kitt's Home Rearing residency. These give time to focus on R+D and admin that can fall through the cracks when busy
- In short term, For Solidarity Producer and one of our Communities Facilitator is covering elements of Communities Producer work. We will recruit for a 12-month role in September.

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Risk Management (Cont.)

Operational: Large number of young people (100+) on the 'books' for Shieldfield Youth Programme could result in higher and different requirements for safeguarding that we cannot meet.

- We created a new youth team of 3 people in June 2024, including the new role of Youth Programme Producer. The new team oversees the management of the programme, ensures safeguarding is in place and demonstrates best practice
- The Youth Programme Producer has completed training as a DSO (designated safeguarding officer) alongside our Director. Our Youth Worker and the Programme Worker at Dwellbeing will complete DSO training in August/September – this means we will have 4 people with the training to better support capacity across safeguarding
- We have two trustees who are responsible for safeguarding (Eve McCracken and Ilana Mitchell), who work with the Director (DSO) and Youth Team to oversee safeguarding, reporting, record keeping and policy development
- DSOs are now supported through safeguarding supervision sessions with Elle Savell-Boss Ltd to provide support to discuss not only complex cases and case management, but also their own emotional well-being
- Funding secured (September 2025) to expand youth sessions to 3 age groups, enabling us to support more registered young people, and to better meet the requirements of these different ages.

Strategic/Financial: Our partnership with Newcastle University & TCS comes to an end in 2026.

- We have secured support for The Collective Studio for another year (25-26 cohort), through £30,000 funding from the University's HEIF fund
- We are working with the Associate Dean of Engagement and Place, the Deputy Head of the School of Arts and Cultures and the Cultural Partnerships Manager to renew our Memorandum of Understanding for the partnership
- Steering Group of staff from University and NewBridge meet quarterly to discuss long-term partnership and strategic direction of collaborative programmes
- Operations Group of staff from University and NewBridge meet monthly to review ongoing progress of our Combined Authority Skills for Growth Project.

Strategic: Succession planning for Board of Trustees, with key roles (including Chair) coming to the end of their term in 2026. Steps to mitigate this risk that we will take throughout the year

- Call out for new Board Members launched May 2025, with August deadline, and meetings with potential Trustees to take place September, with new Trustees joining from November meeting. Strong response to call out means we are confident in recruiting new trustees.
- We have passed a resolution to extend term of 3 founding trustees by two years and we will stagger resignations within this time and onboarding of new trustees so there will not be too much change all at once.

The Trustees also manage the general financial risks arising by ensuring that:

- Prudent budgets have been set for the next financial year.
- Quarterly management accounts are provided, showing the performance against budget and any predicted deficit/surplus.
- Reserves policy allows for flexibility and sustainability should unexpected costs occur.

The NewBridge Project

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TRUSTEES' REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Delivery of Strategic Objective 1: Developing Artists

NewBridge supports artists to develop their artistic practice and build sustainable careers. We have four artist development programmes, offering multiple entry points to maximise accessibility to people from all backgrounds and at all stages in their careers. Formal partnerships with national and regional organisations help create additional opportunities to broaden our reach. The four programmes are:

- **Practice makes Practice (PMP)**
- **The Collective Studio (TCS)**
- **Create/Disrupt (C/D)**
- **Programme Committee (PC)**

Practice Makes Practice (PMP)

PMP aims to equip artists with the necessary skills to manage their practice and develop their talent. It is shaped in response to the needs and interests of members and the local creative community. Tiered membership pricing enhances accessibility and 10 memberships per year are offered free to artists and makers from low-income households and other under-represented groups.

Between April 2024 – March 2025 we delivered **52** PMP events and one-to-ones, working with **126 artists**. This engaged **418** active participants and **137** digital/online audience members.

Special events included a field trip to Middlesborough Art Week, and four events to tie in with the **MOTHEROTHER** exhibition at NewBridge. Two additional PMP strands addressed specific skills gaps, providing multiple free workshops:

- *DIY Digital* for artists and creative practitioners looking to develop their digital skills
- *UpSkill* for people returning to a creative practice, or starting a practice later in life

Our continuing collaboration with **Kaleidoscope Network** - with Primary (Nottingham), Spike Island (Bristol), Eastside Projects (Birmingham) and Bloc Projects (Sheffield) - offered an additional 6 artist development events throughout the year.

We also gave **57** emerging arts workers **hands-on work experience**, working alongside NewBridge staff to deliver our coffee mornings, socials and community events, and supporting with installation of exhibitions. This supports early-career freelancers to gain practical work experience, build skills and networks, and acquire that vital first role on their CV.

The Collective Studio (TCS)

In partnership with Newcastle University, TCS supports early-career and recent graduate artists and creative practitioners. It aims to attract, develop and keep the brightest creative talent in the North East, supporting personal and creative development through subsidised studio space and tailored events and workshops to address knowledge and skills gaps. Advocating for learner-chosen activities, TCS supports the difficult transition from University/College to studio-based practice, gallery, and workplace.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Between April 2024 – March 2025 we supported **2 cohorts** of TCS with **73 members** in total. In this time, we have produced **31 events**, alongside **59 artists/facilitators**.

Highlights included an exhibition with Create/Disrupt at the Embassy Gallery in Edinburgh at the invitation of past TCS member Lucas Priest, and collaborating with Newcastle University First Year Fine Art students for the Late Shows. Past and present members of TCS have gone on to do a wide range of exhibitions, commissions, paid work and further education.

Create/Disrupt (C/D)

Supported by North East Combined Authority, C/D is for aspiring artists and art workers who have not completed an undergraduate degree, aiming to break down socio-economic barriers to pursuing a creative career. It promotes diversity and inclusion, and provides access to training, opportunities and networks.

Between April 2024 – March 2025 we supported **2 cohorts** with **28 members** in total. We produced **55 events**, working with **84 artists/facilitators**.

Highlights for the 2024 cohort included a field trip to Glasgow to research and visit art spaces, and working together to plan, curate, install and promote their exhibition in Room 8 at NewBridge. The show ran for a week in February, and over 250 people visited. 8 artists from C/D 2024 took on a studio together and remain part of the NewBridge community, participating in events including PMP.

The 2024 cohort also worked alongside our team to develop and run *BreakOut*, a taster day for people aged 18-21 who are interested in a career in the arts. *BreakOut* consisted of a full day of workshops, artist talks and film screenings, including a photography walk around Shieldfield, a print workshop, a film screening and talk around accessibility in film industries, an informal discussion around diverse pathways into the arts and a workshop demystifying the music industry. Of the young people that attended the day, 3 have now applied to be part of Create/Disrupt in 2025. Another *BreakOut* event is planned for Autumn 2025.

The 2025 Create/Disrupt cohort are working towards an exhibition in December 2025, which for the first time will be in NewBridge's main gallery space.

Programme Committee

NewBridge's Programme Committee is crucial to an artist-led approach to programming, ensuring that many voices, interests, and practices are represented through NewBridge's exhibitions, commissions, and events.

This year's Programme Committee included artists, curators, writers, and organisers: Holly Argent, Ellie Armon Azoulay, Dan Goodman, Kaan K, Shelly Knotts, and Seymour Mace. Together they have been developing and producing a season of public programmes, including exhibitions, events and other activities including *The 'Open' Open*, *Cuttings* and *Everyday Algorithms* this year, and planning events beyond March 2025 include *Resounding Diasporic Sonic Worlds*, *Uncanny Carnival* and *A Revolt in Bernicia's Garden*. (See Exhibitions section below).

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

MFA bursary in partnership with Newcastle University

We launched two bursaries for students taking the 2024 – 2026 Master of Fine Arts course starting September 2024. The bursaries are supported by NECA Skills for Growth Funding, and cover full tuition fees for the two-year MA, as well as a stipend toward living costs of £8000 per year.

Delivery of Strategic Goal 2: Providing Space

We provide affordable workspace to artists at any career stage - working primarily within visual arts - with a desire to be part of a diverse and critically engaged community of creatives. Affordable, accessible work and exhibition space is of key importance for artists and creatives to start or continue their practice, develop their careers and realise new work.

Our tiered approach is designed to suit the varying needs of artists; we offer individual studios, shared workspace, co-workspace, workshop facilities and flexible project spaces for making and exhibiting. We are committed to embedding accessibility and diversity, both through ensuring physical accessibility, and through programmes that ensure individuals from protected characteristic groups are able to join and use our facilities, including offering some bursaries.

From April 2024 – March 2025, we have provided **affordable studios and workspace** for **102** Studio Members, **12** hot-desk members, **73** TCS members, **13** C/D members. All members benefit from full access to PMP, and discounted access to project and making spaces.

We host regular socials and events for our members, creating opportunities for community building.

Our **flexible project, exhibition and workshop spaces** offer opportunities to exhibit and make work in a supportive space. We also provide bookable meeting space for artists, creative professionals, charities and community groups who are not members. This year we have had **29** external hires, and **126** hires by studio members.

Our **practice-specific workshops** include a wood workshop, darkroom, print studio and ceramics studio. They are led independently by members who receive discounted space in exchange for opening their workshops to NewBridge members, creatives and local community.

In April 2024, Topo Architects and NewBridge were **awarded the Sustainability Prize** at the AJ Small Projects Awards, now in its 29th year. The judges championed the design of our spaces for setting a precedent for reuse, despite a scarcity of materials. Later in the year, we worked with Topo Architects again to redesign and refurbish our Youth Room.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Lease Extension

We have signed a new lease for the Shieldfield Centre, extending our time here until June 2031. We have had positive conversations with Newcastle Council and will build on these to explore options for a longer-term future at the Shieldfield Centre. As we know from our recent social impact report, people are concerned and feel much will be lost if NewBridge were to leave:

"It would be a tragedy really. And for the kids as well [...] the whole community benefits regardless of what age. It's really needed in this community. It has to stay. We'd be absolutely lost without it, we need it." (Carol, resident)

"I think taking that away, it will leave a massive hole...I don't think any good can come from taking away this building. No good can come from it." (Kema, Musician and Shieldfield Youth Voice workshop leader)

In parallel to this, we want to ensure that we think sensitively about the legacy and sustainability of the work we are doing should we have to leave the Shieldfield Centre. We want to work with people locally to ensure they have a voice in what happens next, and how these programmes might be led in the future.

We will also continue to explore the feasibility of other business/financial models to ensure we can be responsive to different opportunities if needed.

Our Director continues to actively participate in regional and national research, development and advocacy around long-term, sustainable and affordable workspace provision for creatives, including in partnership with Newcastle University, and Contemporary Visual Arts Network. We were recently **featured as a case study** in *Framing the Future: The Political Case for Strengthening the Visual Arts Ecosystem*, to make the case for investment in a £5million grassroots visual art capital fund as part of the Comprehensive Spending Review that took place in June 2025.

Delivery of Objectives 3: Projects, Exhibitions and Events

We aim to deliver an artistic programme that is truly artist-led and experimental in its approach. The programme is based around collaboration; responsive to our social, political, civic and environmental context; reflective of the diversity of contemporary artistic practice.

We prioritise commissioning new work by innovative and ambitious emerging and early-career artists at key points in their development. Alongside this, we also work with regional, national and international mid-career artists to enhance our support for emerging practices or explore critical themes and organisational development.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

In 2024-25 we delivered **29 exhibitions, screenings and projects**, alongside ongoing projects.

Highlights include:

Exhibitions

Kandake: Sudanese Sisters (18-21 April) curated by local artist, chef and community leader Kaltouma Hassaballah as part of her chef residency with NewBridge. Celebrated community and friendship, particularly between women in the local Sudanese and wider Arabic Community. Kaltouma worked with her family and artist Michael James McCormack to design and build a Sudanese Smoke Bath in the yard in her home. The Smoke Bath now offers a social space for Sudanese Women in Newcastle to gather. Events included walking tours and a Lady Party. Attended by **263** people over three days, who travelled from across the UK to attend.

MOTHEROTHER (7 Jun – 9 August) curated by Sue Loughlin. Attended by **366** people, MOTHEROTHER explored the relationship that artist mothers have with themselves, their children, society, politics and the artworld, and brought together a variety of artists' perspectives on parenting. Events included Community Socials, Artist Networking events, and talks included "How to open a conversation with children in schools about Palestine" with Sara Qaed.

The Open Open (21 Sept – 9 Nov) was produced by this year's Programme Committee, led by Committee and *Collective Studio* member Dan Goodman. Co-curated by the individuals and communities who take part, the exhibition reflected the context of NewBridge and the many people involved from studio holders to chefs-in-residence to members of our Youth Programme. **96 members** took part, and the exhibition had **571 visitors**.

Cuttings (Nov) Led by Programme Committee member, poet and drag king Kaan K and facilitator and gardener Leo Hargreaves, who held workshops and created a living altar of trans remembrance in the gallery with poetry painted onto the walls by artist Zach McDade. There were **75 attendees**.

Pedagogue Alongside *Cuttings*, in our Reading Room we screened the 1988 agit-prop film work *Pedagogue*, made by Stuart Marshall, Neil Barlett and Newcastle Polytechnic students, in response to Section 28. **15** participants then took part in a two-day workshop to remake *Pedagogue* in light of the parallels between Section 28 and the Gender Recognition Act. There were **56** attendees.

Everyday Algorithms (21 Feb – 17 April) produced by this year's Programme Committee member Shelly Knotts. Attended by **871 visitors**, the exhibition explored how we interact with algorithms in our daily lives, highlighting the active role humans play in creating code, designing algorithms and data structures. Focussing on under-recognised narratives within this field, the artworks show how algorithms can be used to support human needs, for care, community, and autonomy.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Projects

TopSoil (2013-) is a queer gardening collective, for whom gardening is a radical act of resistance. The group meets weekly at a nearby allotment to grow and harvest food, as well as deepening knowledge around sustainability, queer ecology, natural dyes and more. This year's highlights:

- Meeting a National Trust gardener to learn about decolonised green spaces
- Working with Northumberland Wildlife Trust to create a pond in the allotment
- A workshop exploring Palestinian Botany
- Collaborating with Programme Committee on the Trans Day of Remembrance
- A publication available for purchase at NewBridge Books

For Solidarity (2019-) is a project that nurtures a growing peer support network of grassroots initiatives helping people to meet their material and social needs in ways that don't harm people or the planet. Key projects in 2024-25 year:

- **Community garden visits:** trips to community gardens across the North East, in collaboration with Shieldfield Art Works and Dwellbeing Shieldfield.
- **"How can we be free together?":** a workshop exploring solidarity economies from personal and local perspectives to global
- **Arika:** a live screening of film, music and discussion exploring alternative ways of existing and conceiving of existence

NewBridge Books and The Reading Room

NewBridge Books welcomes people to the building, and offers a selection of diverse, original and hard-to-find art publications, magazines and zines. It provides a platform for independent publishers and artists who self-publish, and hosts regular events including *Binder*, a monthly gathering for makers and readers of artist's books.

Based beside our gallery, the Reading Room offers a library of thought-provoking books. Linking up with similar spaces across the country, we've created opportunities for reading groups, authors events, resources and activities that hope to catalyse creativity, collaboration, and conversation.

This year the Bookshop and Reading Room became more integrated with our public programme. Our exhibitions informed our stock, reading lists and additional events. Highlights included:

- **Nat Raha x Transgender Marxism: Queer and Trans Care and Collectives:** a 'kitchen table' discussion on solidarity, mutual aid, 'affective economies' and collective organising
- **Talking Signs for Making:** a performance evening and book launch with artist Giles Bailey from *Talker* zine
- **Solidarity Economy Association:** book launch of an illustrated guide to alternative economies, people power and cooperative models, with For Solidarity and Dwellbeing
- **Conway and Young:** live screened performance of *Milk Report* by Conway and Young, followed by a Q&A session, complementing the *MotherOther* exhibition
- **Pedagogue:** film screening in the Reading Room to complement the *Cuttings* exhibition
- **Delicate Liminalities:** film screening in the Bookshop to complement *Everyday Algorithms*

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Delivery of Strategic Goal 4: Community Space and Programme

NewBridge seeks to be a welcoming space where artists, residents and local communities can come together to work, learn, socialise and support each other. Since we moved to the Shieldfield Centre in 2021, we have built a responsive programme from the ground up, working collaboratively with Shieldfield residents and empowering them to make & experience art.

In October 2024 we launched ***Listening & Learning: a social impact report***, evaluating our hyper-local work in our neighbourhood to date. Working with researchers at Newcastle University, the project was informed by a wide range of voices and articulates the role NewBridge plays in addressing challenges in the area, including the lack of youth provision and of social isolation, as well as connecting local people with creative activities and developing their skills and confidence.

The report finds that NewBridge delivers value across a range of dimensions – social, economic and cultural – and that it has become a space of care and inclusion. It shows NewBridge to be a key part of the Shieldfield ecology, an active collaborator among a strong network of local organisations and spaces. It also sets out NewBridge's hopes for the future, and the potential for further and deeper impacts in the long term. It demonstrates how artist development is embedded across all our work, with key pathways from our neighbourhood work through to our artist development programmes.

In 2024-25 we delivered **146 community events and regular sessions**, for **2,315 participants**, working with **52 artists and regular facilitators** to deliver the programme. Two new Communities Facilitators have joined our staff team to lead our Saturday Socials and weekly Coffee Morning.

Community Projects this year included:

Shieldfield Youth Programme (SYP): our ongoing youth programme delivered in partnership with Dwellbeing and in collaboration with young people living in Shieldfield. It currently has over 100 registered members, and a waiting list. SYP is youth-led, our weekly activity is responsive to young people's ideas, with their vision at its centre. This year saw the refurbishment of our youth room, and a range of activities across multiple art forms, exploring performance, music, sound art, and increasing young people's environmental awareness.

Memory Café: An ongoing project in collaboration with The Forum Café, Shieldfield, benefitting Shieldfield residents who live with dementia and the people who support them. Through providing an activity with an artist, it encourages engagement, creativity and self-expression, helping to build confidence. There are 15+ regular participants.

Community Chefs Residencies: Building on our regular community meals, these residencies invite a different local chef to work with us over a year. During the residency they receive professional and creative development and co-produce a project or event, alongside a series of community meals and workshops. This year we worked with Kaltouma Hassaballah, and Tigist Tegegne.

Socials: regular opportunities for community building, hosting spaces and activities which invite people to come together in our space and socialize. In 2024-25 we hosted **48** weekly Monday coffee mornings, and **12** monthly Saturday Socials, with each session attended by 8-25 people.

The NewBridge Project
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TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Delivery of Strategic Goal 5: Audience Engagement

Audiences and participants have always been at the forefront of our work, and we continue to deliver a responsive, diverse, and varied programme that aims to attract people to our activities. In the last few years our audiences, participants and collaborators have diversified and grown, and our programmes have adapted and changed responsively. In particular, our move to the Shieldfield Centre has seen a significant shift in our priorities and who we engage with our work.

As highlighted, all our above programmes engage a wide variety of audiences in different ways. Our key priorities in 24-25 were:

Increase the depth and quality of people's experience of contemporary art: We have delivered talks, events and workshops and offered different ways to engage with our work. We have built upon existing partnerships to diversify and increase audiences including the Kaleidoscope Network, MotherOther and For Solidarity Network.

Increase the number of people who experience and engage with contemporary art: We have increased the number of people who engage with our work, in particular exceeding our own ambitions with local residents in Shieldfield, and have built a strong audience of local people, through events, targeted marketing, and responsive programming based on their interests.

Ensure that our space and programme is as accessible as possible: We regularly reflect on who takes part and embed accessibility in our planning approach, ensuring opportunities are suitable for people with varied experiences, backgrounds and needs. We continue to offer bursary places and free memberships, creating space for people to try new things, and for many voices to shape our programmes.

We have also significantly developed our hybrid offer, delivering much of our artist development programme in person and online, enhancing accessibility for those unable to attend in person. At recent *PMP x DIY Digital* programme of events, of attendees surveyed 80% thought the hybrid event delivery was good, with one participant saying *"Excellent. Best hybrid event I have been a part of – brilliant video and sound as well as feeling of being included and part of the session. Not an add-on."*

Delivery of Strategic Goal 6: Working/organisational culture

We seek to create a positive working and organisational culture across our organisation and for those that we work with. We strive to be a learning organisation that regularly reflects upon the way we work, and how we can develop responsively, meaningfully and with integrity, and make urgent and considered change when required.

We want NewBridge to be a good place to work for our staff and volunteers, and for that positivity to be reflected in our building and all our work. We have a strong team who each bring their own skills, creativity, experiences and perspectives to the organisation. We create space for open and honest conversation, so that the whole team can support each other's work and think critically and collectively about our organisation, programme and what we want to do better in the future.

The NewBridge Project
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TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Key work that supported this in 2024-25 year:

- **Embedding learning from previous projects:** Our artist-led *Home-Rearing* residency invited staff, trustees, artists, and local people to collaboratively design policies that reflect our values alongside artist Lady Kitt. We followed their recommendations to trial a *Fallow Month*, *Breathing weeks*, and refresh our Environmental Policy. **MOTHEROTHER** was pivotal in advancing our understanding of how best to support artist-caregivers, leading to new practices that centre accessibility and care.
- **Groundwork:** long-term co-learning project with Arts Catalyst (Sheffield), Primary (Nottingham), The Showroom (London), Deptford X (London) and Deveron Projects (Huntly) which aims to explore how arts organisations can better resource and strengthen the communities and places that they work within.
- **Solidarity and Green Handbook:** Quarterly team meetings explore environmental responsibility and sustainability. We created a new Environmental Policy and Action Plan and are actively working towards creating a green handbook as a best practice guide, with tips, goals and learning to support our work. It will be shared with studio members and commissioned artists.

Work with staff, freelancers and artists:

- **Fair Pay:** NewBridge is committed to paying people in line with best practice. We became a Real Living Wage employer in 2024, provided a 4% pay rise in April 2025, and are fundraising to grow salaries in the longterm. We pay artists and freelancers based on guidance from Artist Union England, and currently pay the highest hourly rate advised in April 2024 for artists with 5+ yrs experience.
- **Wellbeing:** Most of our staff have completed a Wellness Action Plan, refreshed annually or as needed. These help line managers and colleagues understand mental health and wellbeing needs of our staff, identify what keeps people well at work, and the support people might need at difficult times.
- **Time to connect and collaborate:** Weekly team meetings provide space for the whole team to check in, connect, update each other on their work, collaborate and support each other. 121s with line managers are an opportunity for conversations about work and personal circumstances, and see where support or development can be offered, as well as a more formal annual PDR
- **HR support for the team:** Limelite HR company supports our team to embed best practice across our work, reviews and supports policy development, and provides advice and training to our team and line managers.

The NewBridge Project
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TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Funding and Partnerships

The Board and staff of NewBridge would like to record their thanks to the funders and partners who made our work possible in 2024-25. We received support from Arts Council England through National Portfolio, Newcastle University, Newcastle Culture Investment Fund, Garfield Weston Foundation, SHED, Jerwood Arts, Ouseburn Ward Funding, North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA) Skills for Growth Fund (now North East Combined Authority), Community Foundation North East, Hadrian Trust, and Northern Power.

We worked closely with a number of regional partners to deliver projects and joint initiatives, including; Newcastle University, Artist Network North East, BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Big River Bakery, Caring Hands, Dwellbeing Shieldfield, Forum Café Shieldfield, Learning Exchange Residency, Newcastle City Council, Newcastle University, Shieldfield Art Works, Forum Café, Slugtown, Star & Shadow Cinema.

We also worked closely with a number of national and international partners to deliver projects and joint initiatives, including: Embassy (Glasgow), Videocity (Japan), Eastside Projects (Birmingham), Pluto Press (London), Primary (Nottingham), Solidarity Economy Association (Bristol), Spike Island (Bristol), Arts Catalyst (Sheffield), Primary (Nottingham), Deptford X (London), Deveron Projects (Huntly), Rule of Threes (Sefton, Merseyside), Pluto Press (London), Contemporary Visual Art Network (national) and Paradise Gallery (Nantes, France).

Financial Review

The out-turn for the year is an unrestricted surplus of £17,167 (2024: surplus £74,925).

The charity's total reserves at 31 March 2025 are £375,542, of which £106,174 are restricted reserves and £268,828 are unrestricted funds.

The charity's total Unrestricted Reserves at 31 March 2025 are £268,828. Free reserves, defined as non-designated Unrestricted Reserves, minus the Net Book Value of Unrestricted Tangible Fixed Assets, are £248,058 at 31 March 2025.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2025

PLANS FOR FUTURE YEARS

Funding and Partnerships

We have been working to become more sustainable and resilient, including securing long-term funding to support our staff team and programme.

We have secured Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation funding for April 2023 - March 2027. We have secured core funding until March 2028 from Newcastle Culture Investment Fund through the Community Foundation and Newcastle City Council.

In December 2025 our funding from North East Combined Authority (NECA) Skills for Growth Fund will come to an end. This has been a significant investment into our artist development programmes, and the teams who deliver and support this work. We are having active conversations with the Skills team at NECA about the future of the fund, and can make a robust case for support for the value and impact of our work, based on our ongoing evaluation with Ortus Economic Research. We know that there will be a gap between funding rounds, and the Board have agreed to bridge staff salaries currently supported by NECA from other core funding and reserves.

We have signed a new collaboration agreement with Newcastle University, to continue delivering our vital work together, including *The Collective Studio*, our wider partnership work as part of the NECA skills project, and support for students through projects like *The Late Shows*. We will also continue to explore shared research opportunities, building on the *More than Meanwhile Spaces* series of publications and workshops, and the *Listening & Learning Social Impact Report* published in October 2024.

We have secured 2 years of funding from SHED, at £75,000 in 2025-26 year, and £50,000 in 2026-27 year.

We have secured core funding from Garfield Weston Foundation for 2025-26, and project funding from Youth Music, Riddell Family Community and Faulkner Dixon (through Community Foundation).

We will make applications to Esmée Fairbairn, Newcastle Fund, Newcastle Youth Fund, Swire Charitable Trust, National Lottery Awards for All, Paul Hamlyn, and other small funds that emerge throughout 2025-26. This is outlined as part of our fundraising strategy.

Building

We have signed a new 5-year lease for the Shieldfield Centre, extending our time in this building until 2031.

Given this longer lease period, over the next year we will make some small investments into the appearance of the building, including applying for planning permission to change the front signage to improve visibility. We will also improve signage and signposting within the building and public spaces.

We continue to pursue our ambition to secure a permanent or long-term base, as well as exploring the feasibility of other business/financial models to ensure we can be responsive to different opportunities. We will continue our wide-ranging conversations with different stakeholders to explore future building options beyond this 5-year period, specifically prioritising conversations to explore options for making Shieldfield our long-term home.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2025

PLANS FOR FUTURE YEARS (CONTINUED)

We know from our recent social impact report that people are concerned and feel a lot will be lost if NewBridge were to leave:

"It would be a tragedy really. And for the kids as well [...] the whole community benefits regardless of what age. It's really needed in this community. It has to stay. We'd be absolutely lost without it, we need it." (Carol, resident)

"I think taking that away, it will leave a massive hole...I don't think any good can come from taking away this building. No good can come from it." (Kema, Musician and Shieldfield Youth Voice workshop leader)

In parallel to this, we want to ensure that if we do have to leave the Shieldfield Centre, that we think sensitively about the legacy and sustainability of the work we are doing, and work with people locally to ensure they have a voice in what happens next, and how these programmes might be led in the future.

Our Director will continue to participate in regional and national research, development and advocacy around long-term, sustainable and affordable workspace provision for creatives.

Trustees

We will launch a Trustee recruitment in Summer 2025, with a look to onboarding up to 5 new Trustees in the 2025-26 year. We will also pass a resolution to extend the tenure of three founding Trustees still on the board, so that we can bring in new Trustees onboard alongside them, to best manage the onboarding, and so we can share knowledge and learn from each other.

We are looking for expertise or experience in some specific areas, including: living in Shieldfield, working in a place-based organisation or place-based approaches, alternative routes into employment and education, barriers to access within the cultural/visual art sector, social justice, climate justice and environmental sustainability, youth work, strategic communications and PR, strategic fundraising and financial expertise.

Through this process we are committed to developing more diverse representation and for our Trustees to better reflect the communities we engage with through our work.

Strategic plan and programme vision

Over the next year, we will develop a new 5-year strategic plan (2026-2031) for the organisation, outlining the vision for our programme and work over this period.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2025

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees (who are also the Directors of The NewBridge Project for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



Ilana Mitchell
Trustee
Company Registration Number 10582100

17 November 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members on the Unaudited Accounts of The NewBridge Project Limited for the year ended 31 March 2025

I hereby report to the Trustees/Members of The NewBridge Project (Charity Registration Number 1165182) on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 set out on pages 23 to 34.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity's Trustees (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

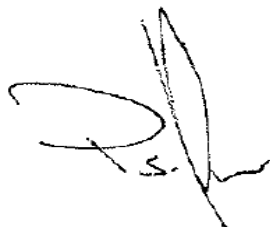
Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountant in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods or principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102)).

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.



Pete O'Hara, FCA, Chartered Accountant
Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales
26 La Sagesse, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 3AF

17 November 2025

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income					
Income from Investments	2	1,574	-	1,574	508
Income from Grants, Donations & Legacies	3	71,447	335,911	407,358	417,629
Income from Charitable Activities	4	184,901	-	184,901	206,861
Total Income		257,922	335,911	593,833	624,998
Expenditure					
Cost of Raising Funds	5	2,580	-	2,580	1,341
Expenditure on Charitable Activities	6	238,175	348,973	587,148	536,428
Total Expenditure		240,755	348,973	589,728	537,769
Net Income/(Expenditure)		17,167	(13,062)	4,105	87,229
Balance brought forward		251,661	119,776	371,437	284,208
Balance carried forward at 31 March	12	£268,828	£106,714	£375,542	£371,437

The notes on pages 25 to 34 form part of the financial statements.

All the activities of the company are classed as continuing.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION/BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	8	22,264	22,173
Current Assets			
Debtors	9	146,607	118,644
Cash at Bank & In Hand		303,875	336,579
		<u>450,482</u>	<u>455,223</u>
Creditors – Amounts Falling Due Within 1 Year	10	(97,204)	(105,959)
Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)		<u>353,278</u>	<u>349,264</u>
Total Net Assets	11	<u>£375,542</u>	<u>£371,437</u>
Represented by:			
Unrestricted Reserves	12	268,828	251,661
Restricted Reserves	12	106,174	119,776
		<u>£375,542</u>	<u>£371,437</u>

The notes on pages 25 to 34 form part of the financial statements.

The Trustees are satisfied that for the year ended 31 March 2025 the charity was entitled to exemption under section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees also confirm that the Members have not required the charity to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (i) ensuring that the charity keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act, and
- (ii) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charity.

These financial statements were approved and signed by a Member of the Board of Trustees on 17 November 2025



Ilana Mitchell
Trustee
Company Registration Number 10582100

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Cash Flow Statement

The Directors have taken advantage of the provisions of the Financial Reporting Standard Number 1, which exempts small companies from the need to prepare a cash flow statement.

Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, any performance related conditions attached have been met or are fully within the control of the charity, the income is considered probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Donations and legacy income is received by way of donations, legacies, grants and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Where legacies have been notified to the charity but the criteria for income recognition have not been met, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.
- Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Investment income is included when receivable.
- Income from charitable trading activity is accounted for when earned.
- Other income is accounted for when receivable.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1. Accounting Policies (Continued)

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- Costs of raising funds comprise the costs associated with attracting donations, grants and legacies and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes.
- Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.
- Other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

Irrecoverable VAT

All resources expended are classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

Operating Leases

The charity classifies the lease of certain types of equipment as operating leases as the title to the equipment remains with the lessor. Rental charges are charged against income on a straight-line basis over the year of the lease.

Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on any fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the assets over their remaining useful lives as follows:

Leasehold Property Improvements	- over the period of the lease
IT & Office Equipment	- 33% per annum straight line

A full year's depreciation charge is applied in the year of acquisition and no charge is made in the year of disposal.

Impairment of Fixed Assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1. Accounting Policies (Continued)

Financial Instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the purposes of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for specific purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

Taxation Status

The NewBridge Project Limited is a Charity registered under the 1960 Charities Act and is accorded exemption from liability to taxation on its income under S505 Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

2. Income from Investments

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Bank Interest Receivable	1,574	-	1,574	508
	£1,574	£-	£1,574	£508

The 2024 total of £508 relates wholly to Unrestricted Funds.

3. Income from Grants, Donations & Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Grant Income				
Arts Council England – NPO	71,288	-	71,288	71,288
#I Will Fund via the Community Foundation				
100 People	-	-	-	300
Dwellbeing Shieldfield	-	17,687	17,687	7,500
Jerwood Arts Developing Artists Fund –	-	(20,655)	(20,655)	40,655
Creative Bursary				
Hadrian Trust – Memory Cafe	-	500	500	-
Newcastle CC – Coffee Morning	-	1,250	1,250	1,250
Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund –	-	20,000	20,000	20,000
Core Programme				
Newcastle University – Collective Studio	-	23,716	23,716	-
North of Tyne Combined Authority	-	183,413	183,413	145,029
Sustainability. Health. Environment.	-	110,000	110,000	130,000
Development.				
	71,288	335,911	407,199	416,022
Donations	159	-	159	1,607
	£71,447	£335,911	£407,358	£417,629

Of the 2024 total of £417,629, £72,895 related to Unrestricted Funds and £344,734 to Restricted Funds.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

4. Income from Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Associate Membership	3,325	-	3,325	3,773
Bookshop Sales	4,744	-	4,744	2,681
Collective Studio Membership	6,310	-	6,310	6,851
Museums & Galleries Exhibition Tax Relief	25,316	-	25,316	20,443
Newcastle University	-	-	-	30,000
Studio Membership Fees - Gateshead	-	-	-	68
Studio Membership Fees – Shieldfield, Newcastle	121,279	-	121,279	116,527
Other Income	23,927	-	23,927	26,518
	£184,901	£-	£184,901	£206,861

Of the 2024 total of £206,861, £176,861 related to Unrestricted Funds and £30,000 to Restricted Funds.

5. Expenditure on Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Bookshop Costs	2,580	-	2,580	1,341
	£2,580	£-	£2,580	£1,341

The 2024 total of £1,341 relates wholly to Unrestricted Funds.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

6. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Programme/Project Costs				
Programme Expenditure	-	188,659	188,659	109,559
Programme Committee Stipend	29,188	-	29,188	9,830
Salaries & On Costs	95,452	158,993	254,445	256,671
Travel & Research	5,290	-	5,290	5,044
	129,930	347,652	477,582	381,104
Support Costs				
Rent, Rates & Water	46,818	-	46,818	41,663
Heat & Light	(6,207)	-	(6,207)	49,931
Cleaning & Waste	14,687	-	14,687	15,634
Repairs & Maintenance	3,550	-	3,550	2,756
Depreciation	13,294	1,321	14,615	12,003
Other Administration & Running Costs	30,361	-	30,361	27,927
	102,503	1,321	103,824	149,914
Governance Costs				
Independent Examiner's Fees	1,080	-	1,080	1,080
Other Accountancy & Book-keeping Costs	4,373	-	4,373	4,175
Legal & Professional Fees	69	-	69	48
Trustee Meeting Costs	220	-	220	107
	5,742	-	5,742	5,410
	£238,175	£348,973	£587,148	£536,428

Of the 2024 total of £536,428, £173,998 related to Unrestricted Funds and £362,430 to Restricted Funds.

7. Net Income/(Expenditure)

	2025 £	2024 £
Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Independent Examiner's Fees – current year	1,080	1,080
Independent Examiner – other services	360	360
Depreciation of owned Tangible Fixed Assets	14,615	12,003

The NewBridge Project
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

8. Staff Costs & Trustees' Remuneration

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gross Salary Costs	237,281	239,721
Employer's National Insurance	12,361	12,322
Employer's Pension Contributions	4,803	4,628
	£254,445	£256,671

No employee received remuneration of more than £60,000 during the year (2024: Nil).

The average number of staff employed during the year, calculated as full-time equivalents, was as follows:

	2025	2024
	No.	No.
Artistic Production and Support	9	9

No remuneration has been paid to any Trustees/Directors in the year (2024: Nil).

No expenses were reimbursed to Trustees in respect of their attendance at meetings of the charity (2024: £37 to 1 Trustee).

9. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Workshop, Office & ICT Equipment £	Leasehold Property Improvements £	Total Fixed Assets £
Cost			
At 1 April 2024	19,600	44,543	64,143
Additions in year	2,654	12,052	14,706
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 March 2025	22,254	56,595	78,849
Accumulated Depreciation			
At 1 April 2024	15,244	26,726	41,970
Charge for year	3,296	11,319	14,615
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 March 2025	18,540	38,045	56,585
Net Book Value			
At 31 March 2025	£3,714	£18,550	£22,264
At 1 April 2024	£4,356	£17,817	£22,173

The NewBridge Project
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

10. Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade Debtors	5,339	3,185
Prepayments	18,290	16,779
Accrued Income	122,978	98,680
	£146,607	£118,644

11. Creditors – Amounts Falling Due Within 1 Year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade Creditors	15,688	15,611
Other Creditors	1,245	834
Other Creditors – Studio & Key Deposits Held	10,328	10,015
Other Taxes & Social Security Costs	4,032	7,633
Income Received In Advance	-	750
Accruals	65,911	71,116
	£97,204	£105,959

12. Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	20,770	1,494	22,264	22,173
Debtors	24,389	122,218	146,607	118,644
Cash at Bank and In Hand	320,873	(16,998)	303,875	336,579
Creditors – Amounts Due Within 1 Year	(97,204)	-	(97,204)	(105,959)
	£268,828	£106,714	£375,542	£371,437

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

13. Analysis of Charitable Funds

	Fund at 1 April 2024	Incoming Resources in Year	Resources Expended in Year	Fund at 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds				
Charity General Fund	251,661	257,922	(240,755)	268,828
Restricted Funds				
Dwellbeing Shieldfield – Shieldfield Youth Programme	-	17,687	(12,225)	5,462
Hadrian Trust – Memory Cafe	-	500	-	500
Jerwood Foundation - Creative Bursary	40,655	(20,655)	-	20,000
Newcastle CC – Coffee Morning	-	1,250	-	1,250
Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund – Core Programme	5,961	20,000	(16,075)	9,886
Newcastle University – Collective Studio	24,639	23,716	(29,225)	19,130
North of Tyne Combined Authority Sustainability. Health. Environment. Development.	2,295	183,413	(184,214)	1,494
	46,226	110,000	(107,234)	48,992
Total Restricted Funds	119,776	335,911	(348,973)	106,714
Total Funds	£371,437	£593,833	£(589,728)	£375,542

Name of Restricted Fund	Description, Nature & Purpose of the Restricted Fund
Dwellbeing Shieldfield – Shieldfield Youth Programme	Towards the cost of a programme for young people in Shieldfield
Hadrian Trust	Towards the creation of a Memory Café
Jerwood Foundation - Creative Bursary	Towards the cost of participation in the Weston Jerwood Creative Bursaries programme
Newcastle City Council – Coffee Morning	Towards the cost of offering coffee mornings

The NewBridge Project
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

13. Analysis of Charitable Funds (Cont.)

Name of Restricted Fund	Description, Nature & Purpose of the Restricted Fund
Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund – Core Programme	Towards the Practice Makes Practice programme, and related staff costs
Newcastle University – Collective Studio	Towards The Collective Studio inc. staff costs
North of Tyne Combined Authority	Towards the cost of Collaborate: Skills and talent development pathways for creative practitioners
Sustainability. Health. Environment. Development.	Towards the cost of For Solidarity project, Youth Programme, project work and events in Shieldfield, and associated staff costs

14. Taxation

The company is a registered charity and no provision is considered necessary for taxation.

15. Financial Commitments

No material financial commitments have been made in respect of future financial years.

16. Company Limited by Guarantee

The charity is incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 and is limited by guarantee, each member having undertaken to contribute such amounts not exceeding £1 as may be required in the event of the company being wound up whilst he or she is still a member or within one year thereafter.

The company law members of the charity are the members of its Board of Trustees.

There are currently 5 (2024: 5) members of the company.

THE NEWBRIDGE PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1173849

Accounts

Company Registration Number 10582100

Registered Charity Number 1173849

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
For the year ending 31 March 2024

**The NewBridge
Project**

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Name	The NewBridge Project
Charity Registration Number	1173849
Company Registration Number	10582100
Registered Office	Shieldfield Centre, 4 - 8 Clarence Walk, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 1AL

Trustees

For the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, the Board of Trustees is the Board of Directors of the charitable company and is referred to as the Trustees throughout this report.

The Trustees of The NewBridge Project during the year and to the date of signing this report are as follows:

Ilana Mitchell (Chair)	
Jonathan Combe	
Sally Dixon	Resigned 2 August 2023
Julia Heslop	
Eve McCracken	
Dr Paul Richter	

Company Secretary	Rebecca Huggan
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Bankers	The Co-operative Bank, Norfolk House, 84-86 Grey Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 6BZ
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Independent Examiner	Mr P O'Hara FCA, Chartered Accountant, 26 La Sagesse, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 3AF
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The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Documents

The NewBridge Project is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 25 January 2017 and registered as a charity on 18 July 2017. The charity is controlled by its governing document, its Memorandum & Articles of Association and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act.

The Directors of the company are also Trustees of the charity.

Eligibility for membership of the charity, and membership of the Board of Trustees, is governed by the Articles of Association. There are no restrictions in the governing document on the operation of the charity other than those imposed by general charity law.

Charitable Purpose

The NewBridge Project's charitable objects are to foster and advance the appreciation and understanding of the arts for the benefit of the public.

Structure and Governance

The charity currently has a Board of five non-executive Trustees.

The Board meets a minimum of 4 times per year. A written Director's report, quarterly management accounts, a meeting agenda and any other necessary Board papers are prepared by the Director and circulated in advance of meetings.

The NewBridge Project is governed by the Board of Trustees with a staff team (employed and freelance) overseeing the day-to-day operation, comprising of:

Director - Rebecca Huggan (maternity leave 15 April – 19 January 2024)
Director (maternity cover) - Frances Stacey from 1 April 2023
Programme Director – Dawn Bothwell (left November 2023)
Studio & People Manager – Ruby Glover
Operations & Reporting Manager - Sarah Stamp
Artist Development Programmer – Daniel Russell
Create / Disrupt Project Manager – Izzy Finch
For Solidarity Project Manager – Hannah Kirkham
Community Producer – Elaine Robertson
Youth Worker – Precious Oluleye (left Feb 2024)
Marketing Coordinator – Kitty McKay
Bookshop & Reading Room Coordinator - Maya Wallis
Bookkeeper – Niamh Cunningham

The Contribution of Volunteers

The charity makes use of volunteers to support its activities.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

Recruitment and Appointment of Board of Trustees

Any person who is willing to act as a Director and is permitted by law to do so, may be appointed to be a Director by a decision of the Directors. Any Director appointed by a resolution of the other Directors must retire at the next Annual General Meeting following his or her appointment and may offer themselves for re-election and if any Director is required to retire at an Annual General Meeting the retirement shall take effect from the conclusion of the meeting.

Trustees are recruited through an open call out process for Trustees, describing the skills required. This is advertised through a range of accessible channels and networks. Trustees are elected to the Board based on discussions and recommendations offered by Trustees, the Director and external advisors to the organisation.

Trustee Induction and Training

New Trustees are inducted by the Director and current Trustees and are provided with a range of resources to support their understanding of The NewBridge Project and its activities, including a document detailing the role of Trustees and staff within the company.

Artists and other creatives who pay to join are known as Studio or Associate Members of NewBridge. They become members of the community, but they are not members of the company or charity.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have reviewed the charity's needs for Reserves in line with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission. We last reviewed our reserves policy in April 2021.

The NewBridge Project aims to hold free reserves of £100,000, which would enable us to meet all financial liabilities, overheads & majority of staff costs over a 6-month period, ensuring resilience if we face unplanned costs or disruptions.

The NewBridge Project then aimed to build an additional, unrestricted designated reserve of £50,000 to support the charity to relocate at the end of our current lease (June 2026) if required. We have now reached this target. The target level of Unrestricted Reserves is therefore £150,000.

The charity's total Unrestricted Reserves at 31 March 2024 are £251,661. Free reserves, defined as non-designated Unrestricted Reserves, minus the Net Book Value of Unrestricted Tangible Fixed Assets, are £231,783 at 31 March 2024. However, c£25k of these reserves has been committed to activity in 2024/25 and, consequently, available reserves are c£206k, which provides a modest additional level of contingency.

Grant Making Policy

The charity does not currently engage in grant-making activity.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Overview

The NewBridge Project is an artist-led community established in 2010 that has evolved significantly over the past 13 years, growing in scale and ambition in response to needs of artists and local communities. We aim to reflect the diversity of contemporary art practice, be responsive to our environment, build solidarity, and place community-centred, experimental, collaborative and socially conscious programming at the heart of all our work.

Our programme consists of:

Commissions, exhibitions, and projects

Our artistic programme is artist-led and experimental in its approach, supporting the production and presentation of new artwork through exhibitions, commissions, off-site projects, our bookshop and events.

We do this through stand-alone projects and exhibitions working with early and mid-career artists that provide opportunities for them to be ambitious and experiment with new ideas. We also explore broader themes over long periods; these both inform each other and the way we develop our public programme and organisation.

NewBridge works with a Programme Committee to shape and deliver a programme that reflects many voices, interests and practices, and enables new narratives, methodologies and approaches to emerge. We also work with Co-Investigators - community researchers who gather insights and provide feedback from their diverse range of perspectives.

Community hub & public space

Our space is more than just a building: it's a public, welcoming place where people can come together to meet, make, learn and socialise. NewBridge houses a gallery space, artist-led bookshop, library, screening room, multiple workshops and project spaces. Through these facilities and a regular programme, including communal meals, creative workshops and the *Shieldfield Youth Programme*, we aim to provide a resource for the creative and local community alike, building a community of artists, members, residents and contributors.

Artist Development

We have four strands of artist development, which together provide support for artists at all stages of their careers and from all backgrounds to develop new creative and professional skills.

Studios & Workspace

NewBridge provides affordable and accessible studio and project spaces for artists and creatives in the North East. It is a critical and collaborative community that facilitates artists to discuss and develop new ideas and projects. Our current building, the Shieldfield Centre, is home to around 110 artists. The space houses studios, co-work spaces, member-led workshops, flexible project spaces.

We are proactive in listening and learning from everyone we work with so that we can ensure we are producing programmes and facilities that are relevant, timely and responsive to the interest and needs of the people we work with and place we work in.

Shieldfield Youth Programme

The Shieldfield Youth Programme (SYP), established 2021, is an ongoing programme of activity developed by NewBridge in partnership with Dwellbeing Shieldfield and in collaboration with young people living in Shieldfield.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT
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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Overview (Cont.)

SYP creates a space for young people to come together in the place where they live, build new friendships, and offers opportunities to develop skills and talents and to explore new ways of thinking and doing things together. It aims to empower people to become active members of the local community and to instill values of solidarity, social and economic justice, creativity and activism.

Strategic Objectives and Public Benefit

The Trustees understand and have discussed the implications of the provisions of the Charities Act 2006, which state that all charities must demonstrate that they are established for public benefit and have had due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

The Trustees believe that the charity meets both of the key principles:

Principle 1 — There must be an identifiable benefit, or benefits:

To work towards our Vision, Mission & Values, the following strategic objectives underpin everything we do, demonstrating clear, tangible benefits.

Strategic Objectives

1. **Developing Artists** Develop artistic talent and provide opportunities for career development through artist development programmes, networking, curatorial opportunities, training and shared learning within the visual arts sector in the north east of England.
2. **Providing space** Provide space, facilities and resources for artists in the north east of England.
3. **Supporting and presenting new art work** Support the production and presentation of ambitious and pioneering new artwork in the gallery and off-site
4. **Creating a welcoming space** Provide a welcoming environment and community hub, creating a resource and programme for artists and the local community alike.
5. **Engaging audiences and communities** Create positive, in depth and quality experiences for audiences, participants and collaborators, and increase the number of people who experience and engage with visual art.
6. **Creating a good organisational and working culture** Create a positive working and organisational culture across our organisation and for those that we work with through active listening and reflection so we can develop responsively, meaningfully and with integrity.

Principle 2 — Benefit must be to the public, or a section of the public:

Each element of our work provides benefit to one or more clearly identified sections of the public, whether the artistic or local community, or the general public, who can access and enjoy the work produced as a result. NewBridge's beneficiaries are therefore entirely appropriate to its aims and the wider public benefit from its work.

All of these benefits are clear, evidenced and relate directly to NewBridge's aims. In addition, the Trustees do not consider that any significant detriment or harm flows from NewBridge's work.

The NewBridge Project
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TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Risk Management

The Board of Trustees steer the effective governance of The NewBridge Project. They ensure the organisation is operating within its agreed aims, objectives, and values and that it is achieving its overall ambitions and vision, effectively, efficiently, safely, and legally. They review the organisational risk register quarterly at each trustee meeting to manage and mitigate risk and operate comprehensive regular self-evaluation.

The Director and staff team are fully engaged in risk management and take a direct role in managing risks through the following procedure: 1. identifying risks; 2. analysing risks; 3. evaluating/ranking risks; 4. mitigating risks; 5. monitoring/reviewing risks.

The Director works with staff and trustees to determine type of risk; strategic, compliance, financial, operational, or reputational. The risk register is kept updated and an appropriate risk response employed: avoidance, mitigation, acceptance, or transferal. A risk management plan is completed for larger projects with specific/numerous risks. Any risk rated as high/critical are immediately reported to the Board.

The Director and staff team report back to the Board regarding the adequacy of risk management measures so that the Board has confidence that senior management can support them.

A risk management plan is completed for larger projects with specific/numerous risks. Any risk rated as high/critical is immediately reported to the Board.

The Trustees are satisfied that appropriate financial systems and controls and employment policies and practices are in place.

The Trustees consider the key risks facing the charity at this time and the mitigating actions taken to be as follows:

Financial: Continued escalation of running costs, resulting in difficulty to keep to budgets or delivery proposed numbers of activities.

- Energy costs are now flattening/reducing comparatively with previous years, and the increase in studio fees that took place in 2023 meets the increases over the past 2 years.
- We have increased salaries, and reviewed and increased our artist fees and these amounts are included in our budget. Additionally, we have high level reserves and have built up a fighting/sinking fund over our first 3 years in the Shieldfield Centre which will support us to meet any unexpected costs.

Financial: High levels of current funding due to reduce/end in the next 12 – 18 months, demonstrating a risk to the long-term sustainability of programme delivery and staff salaries. Successful fundraising over the past 3 years has enabled us to expand our programmes and staff teams across operations, artist development, communities and youth programming. However, some of our regular and core funding is ending or reducing in the next 18 months.

- Apply to current funders for renewed funding where applicable
- Apply to new funds including Garfield Weston Foundation, Newcastle Youth Fund, National Lottery, and ACE Place Partnership - ensuring a mix of project and core funding.
- Recruiting a new Development & Reporting Manager with fundraising expertise to support implementation of fundraising strategy.

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For the year ended 31 March 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Risk Management (Cont.)

Operational: Loss of building with lease coming to an end in June 2026 (2 years) with no viable alternative secured.

- We have had positive conversations with the Council about extending/renewing the lease beyond this point and are hopeful that we will not need to leave the building in June 2026.
- We are working with Newcastle University on a Social Impact Report which looks at the impact of our work in Shieldfield, and Ortus Economic Research to evaluate our artist development work – collectively this will support us to make a case to stay, and evidence the value of our work.
- Additionally, we are working with the Council to look at alternative premises in the city centre (as part of the 'Newcastle Creative Cluster') should it be needed.

Operational: Recent changes in staff team could result in lack of cohesion for staff team.

- Director and Director (maternity cover) undertook an organisational review in March, establishing a new line management structure, which will best support us to support people professionally and pastorally.
- We continue to work with Limelite HR to support the team and provide training for line managers.
- A refreshed schedule of 121s, PDRs, and regular team meetings, support us to focus on individual needs and progress, and collective work.

Operational: Large number of young people (100+) on the 'books' for Shieldfield Youth Programme could result in higher and different requirements for safeguarding that we cannot meet.

- Working with partners Dwellbeing Shieldfield we have reviewed the delivery of the Youth Programme, taking in to account the large number of participants, and our knowledge to date of the safeguarding requirements, and have recruited for a new youth team who will oversee the management of safeguarding, including training a new DSO.
- We have two trustees who are responsible for safeguarding (Eve McCracken and Ilana Mitchell), who work with the Director (DSO), Youth Team, and Communities Producer (DSO) to oversee safeguarding, reporting, record keeping and policy development.

Strategic/Financial: Our partnership with Newcastle University & TCS comes to an end in 2025. This is an incredibly strong partnership, but the University's ability to support the programme financially may change so we are beginning to explore ways in which we will work together on this collaboration in the future.

- The relationship is managed by the Director and Dean of Culture and Creative at the University, and we have a number of formal meetings to support ongoing partnership. This includes a monthly Project Operations Group Meeting and a quarterly Steering Group Meeting (both as part of NTCA project) – the focus of the next meeting will be to discuss future plans, opportunities and options.

Strategic: Succession planning for Board of Trustees, with key roles (including Chair) coming to the end of their term in 2026. Steps to mitigate this risk that we will take throughout the year

- We will conduct a skills audit Summer 2024, to look at current skills of the Board, as well as looking at what we will lose when 3 trustees reach end of term.
- Call out for new Trustees to be launched Autumn 2024
- We will look at a plan to stagger resignations and onboarding so there will not be too much change all at once and ensure the charity remains well governed and supported throughout.

The NewBridge Project
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TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Risk Management (Cont.)

The Trustees also manage the general financial risks arising by ensuring that:

- Prudent budgets have been set for the next financial year.
- Quarterly management accounts are provided, showing the performance against budget and any predicted deficit/surplus.
- Reserves policy allows for flexibility and sustainability should unexpected costs occur.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Delivery of Strategic Objective 1: Developing Artists

NewBridge supports artists to develop their artistic practice and build sustainable careers through several artist development programmes. The strands are: **Practice makes Practice (PMP)**; **The Collective Studio (TCS)**; **Create/Disrupt (C/D)**; **Programme Committee (PC)**

Our 4 strands offer multiple entry points to create accessibility to people from all backgrounds and at all stages of their career.

We have formal partnerships with national and regional organisations to create opportunities and deliver activities to broaden the reach of our respective development programmes and activity.

Practice Makes Practice (PMP)

PMP focuses on developing artistic talent and equips artists with necessary skills to manage their practice. It is developed in response to the needs and interests of members and the local creative community, ensuring that it provides relevant learning opportunities to support a wide range of practices, interests, career stages and backgrounds.

Its tiered membership pricing enhances accessibility and 10 memberships per year are offered free to artists and makers from low-income households and other under-represented groups.

Between April 2023 – March 2024 we delivered: **107** PMP events and one-to-ones, with **131** artists. This engaged **875** active participants and **179** digital/online audience members.

A small selection of PMP events in the last 12 months include:

- **4 MotherOther Community Sessions**: for artists/art workers who are also caregivers
- **ReEmergence** (part of MotherOther) explored strategies for artists at the start of their caregiving journey, who are attempting to balance work and caring responsibilities
- **Meet and Mend** led by member Jenny Alderson
- **Neighbourhood Watch** led by Aaron Dawson Riley and Lib Hodes, an opportunity to show digital moving-image works eg computer animation, documentary, abstract video
- **Peer review** led by Rachael Eden bi-monthly relaxed community-led crit session.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Kaleidoscope Network Our collaboration with Primary (Nottingham) Spike Island (Bristol) and Eastside Projects (Birmingham) continues to broaden our artist development. 11 events per year open to participating organisations' members. A selection of Kaleidoscope events attended by our members included:

- Tax and Self Assessment with Neisa Reid (Primary)
- Creative Access Adjustments with Jamila Prowse (Spike Island)
- Building Project Budgets with Catherine Fowles (Eastside Projects)

Practice Makes Practice x MOTHEROTHER

The PMP Residency 2023 was part of our partnership with the MotherOther project initiated by NewBridge member Sue Loughlin. MotherOther is an inclusive and supportive collective for artists who are also caregivers – parents, guardians and carers.

The residency was for any artist with a significant caring role impacting their ability to develop their practice or navigate current art infrastructure due to lack of support. NewBridge worked with the chosen artist to respond to their particular caring responsibilities. The budget included tailored wraparound support and childcare. We received over 60 applications.

Lizzie Klotz was the artist in residence Aug – Nov 2023. Supporting Lizzie and her baby was a longtime collaborator, and friend, who cared for both mum and baby for a portion of time each day. and acted as a sounding board in the development of Lizzie's work.

Sue Loughlin reflected recently: *"NewBridge has enabled me to achieve the beginnings of an entirely new chapter in my practice and work-life. Without their support and that of Dan Russell, I would not have been able to achieve the MotherOther project, which in turn is cascading support to other artists across the region...I have become capable of sustaining a career within the arts, which would not have been possible without it."*

Additional artist development opportunities

20 emerging arts workers have been working alongside NewBridge staff to deliver our coffee mornings, socials and community events, and supporting with installation of exhibitions.

This **hands-on work experience** for early-career freelancers grew out of a clear need for practical work experience, to build skills and networks, and give them that vital first role on their CV.

The Collective Studio (TCS)

TCS supports early-career and recent graduate artists and creative practitioners. Subsidised studio space plus a series of tailored events and workshops support personal and creative development, confidence building, and address knowledge and skills gaps.

The programme is run in partnership by NewBridge and Newcastle University, and aims to attract, develop and keep the brightest creative talent in the North East.

TCS has an educational philosophy that advocates for learner-chosen activities. This supports the difficult transition from University/College to studio-based practice, gallery, and workplace.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT
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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

The 11-month programme builds rapport and helps people to make friends, share and learn from one another's practices. Past TCS members gain experience devising and delivering activity for current TCS. External facilitators share diverse expertise, and there is opportunity to network with similar programmes around the country.

Between April 2023 – March 2024 we supported **2 cohorts** of TCS with **71 members** in total. In this time, we have produced **17 events**, alongside **23 artists/facilitators**.

The Collective Studio 2022-23

The 22-23 TCS ended in August 2023, there were 31 collective studio members in the cohort which began in October (a mix of studio, hot desk and associate members).

A selection events between April - August 2023:

- **Wikimesh Hybrid:** session to teach TCS members how to use Wikimesh, an online community-built space by and for UK artists, developed by Sophie Chapman at Chisenhale Gallery and Into the Wild (an early career artist development programme).
- **Print workshop with the Print Studio and Overlay Press .**
- **Running artist-led spaces:** 3 past TCS members shared their experiences of setting up, running and programming local and national artist-led spaces and studios.

The Collective Studio October 2023-August 2024

40 artists began TCS in October 2023: 18 studio, 10 hot-desk and 12 associate members. We continue to support recent Newcastle University graduates with 50% of shared and hot-desk places.

The application process gave clear instructions about what we wanted to see in an application, a big list of FAQs, tips on writing a biography, and ideas for what makes an application stand out. 2 hybrid open days provided opportunity to visit and chat to NewBridge staff and past/current TCS members.

Activity to date has included:

- A two-day introductory intensive
- Artist Vicki Doyle led a session on 'Voice and Listening', designed to allow shyer or quieter members of the cohort to think of ways their ideas and suggestions can be heard.
- Get to know each other workshop led by Adam Wilson-Holmes.
- Past member Lucas Priest plus two Embassy Gallery committee colleagues hosted a shared meal, discussion on artist-led initiatives, and led some 'art-world' based games and activities.

Activity since January focussed on the cohort exploring their own work and sharing with each other:

- February: 2-day session led by Cody Sowerby and Alice Highet (past members) explored sustainability through reuse
- March: Mike Jeffries led a mapping and re-mapping workshop of our neighbourhood, city and points of importance.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Create/Disrupt (C/D)

C/D is for aspiring artists and art workers who have not completed an under-graduate degree. It aims to break down socio-economic barriers to pursuing a creative career, and NTCA funding is enabling it to grow into an accessible, long-term programme of support, with multiple entry points, that promotes diversity and inclusion, and provides access to training, opportunities and networks.

Our 2023 programme ran until December 2023. To close their year, the cohort decided to host an exhibition. In its lead up they worked with art technicians and art handlers to learn about diverse careers in the arts as well as practicalities of hosting and installing an exhibition. The exhibition took place on 3rd December and **42** people attended. Some members have taken on studios and renewed their NewBridge membership, others have kept touch and continue to make art together.

Two case studies about participants on the 2023/24 C/D programme:

- Yulia is a Ukrainian Refugee and photographer who resettled here in 2022. She had not previously had any public shows or paid art work but since taking part in C/D she has completed two artist residencies, 4 group shows and regular paid work as a freelance artist.
- Ellen is non-binary artist, photographer, illustrator and musician. Ellen was interested in Izzy's personal journey and decision to do a Masters without a previous undergrad degree. Izzy supported them to apply to a music therapy masters which they are now doing fulltime.

Feedback about the 2023/24 programme:

"Being on Create/Disrupt has changed my life and focused my aspirations and personal and professional aims. I'm going to take on a studio once this programme ends and I feel really lucky to have found the NewBridge community at this stage of my life ...Thankyou!" - Peaches

"This has been something out of my comfort zone and at times I have felt awkward but Izzy makes it such a welcoming space and I am really proud of everything we did this year together." – Jamie

"The whole programme has been amazing but meeting other artists and doing our show at NewBridge were highlights for me... I loved having a space that was mine to work from and make art and not have to worry about it taking up space in my house that I share with other people. Materials can be so expensive, and I have loved being able to make anything I want while I am on Create/Disrupt."

"Meeting so many established artists and hearing them talk about their practice in such a vulnerable way has been so valuable and has definitely informed how I approach being an artist now." – Nancy

Create/Disrupt 2024

The C/D 2024 programme started in February with an informal meal and social. The group shared hopes and aspirations for the year. Izzy mapped the group's interests with appropriate artists to deliver workshops and talks each week: eg access riders and visiting Shieldfield Art Works for *Close But No Varz*, exploring how pressure of being a working class artist can turn passion into obsession.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

The group are moving into their shared studio at the beginning of April.

C/D member said "I personally feel I do not have access to certain networks, or often get closed out of spaces/conversations, due to not "fitting the mould" and opportunities are not as readily available to me, in comparison to more financially or academically privileged people. However, these peers will continue to coexist within the same community, gatekeeping - often without intention. There needs to be more action in order to initiate impactful and meaningful change, without exploitation of working class people (like myself) and I'm keen to explore how that is possible in a kind, safe and supportive environment - that I feel NewBridge and more specifically Create/Disrupt can help nurture".

Programme Committee

Programme Committee 2022–24 – see exhibitions below

Programme Committee 2024-25

An open call for the 2024-25 Programme Committee launched in November 2023. 63 artists applied and were of very high quality, demonstrating demand. 6 were selected following a rigorous process..

This year's cohort have interests spanning from music, performance, comedy, publishing, DJ-ing, and curating to queerness, solidarity, coding, community organising and librarianship: Holly Argent, Ellie Armon Azoulay, Dan Goodman, Kaan K, Shelly Knotts, and Seymour Mace.

Together they will produce a season of public programming from September 2024 to March 2025.

In February 2024 we hosted an introductory weekend workshop with the 6 new members, hosted by Programme Director Frances Stacey, Director Rebecca Huggan and invited artists Lady Kitt, Incursions, Overlay Press and Food&Solidarity.

In March 2024 we hosted the committee in Glasgow for a go-and-see field trip over three days, culminating in a session where each committee member shared their proposals with each other, beginning to identify ways to support one another, connect and build a programme collaboratively.

MFA bursary in partnership with Newcastle University – we launched two bursaries for students taking the 2024 – 2026 Master of Fine Arts course starting September 2024. The bursaries cover full tuition fees for the two-year MA, as well as a stipend toward living costs of £8000 per year.

The bursaries are aimed at prospective students living in the North of Tyne area (Newcastle, the Borough of North Tyneside and Northumberland) who have faced barriers to accessing higher or postgraduate education. They are intended to create pathways into study for people who have experienced financial hardship or other barriers, and/or have not previously participated in higher education but have a creative practice.

This builds on NewBridge and Newcastle Universities shared commitment to making a career in the arts more accessible to more people, providing opportunities to those underrepresented.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Delivery of Strategic Goal 2: Providing Space

Affordable, accessible work and exhibition space is of key importance for artists and creatives to start/continue their practice, develop their careers and realise new work.

We work in consultation with our studio members, ensuring their voices are represented across our work, which we do through hosting member meetings through the year.

We have developed a tiered approach to workspace to suit the varying needs of artists. We provide individual studios, shared workspace, co-workspace, workshop facilities (darkroom, a woodwork shop, ceramics space and print studio) and flexible project spaces for making and exhibiting.

We are committed to embedding accessibility and diversity, both through ensuring physical accessibility, and through active programmes that ensure individuals from protected characteristic groups are able to join and use our facilities. This includes bursaries and free studios as part of TCS and C/D, and community events in our member-led workshop facilities.

Studios and hot desk space

We provide affordable workspace to artists at any career stage, working primarily within visual arts, with a desire to be part of a diverse and critically engaged community of creative practitioners.

All members benefit from full access to *PMP*, and discounted access to project and making spaces.

We provide: individual and shared studios, priced according to size; subsidised space for TCS members, and free space for those on C/D. Our affordable hot-desk membership provides low-cost, 24-hour access for those who need a space to work, but not a dedicated studio.

From April 2023 – March 2024, we have provided affordable studios and workspace for **87** Studio Members, **9** hot-desk members, **73** TCS members, **21** C/D members.

Project and hireable space

Flexible project, exhibition and workshop spaces offer opportunities to exhibit and make work in a supportive space. We also provide bookable meeting space for artists, creative professionals, charities and community groups who are not members. This year we have had **16 external hires**, and **192 hires by studio members**.

Workshops

Our practice-specific workshops include a wood workshop, darkroom, print studio and ceramics studio. They are led independently by members who receive discounted space in exchange for opening their workshops to NewBridge members, creatives and local community.

Socials and events

We host regular socials and events for our members, creating opportunities for community building.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Delivery of Objectives 3: Projects, Exhibitions and Events

We aim to deliver an artistic programme that is truly artist-led and experimental in its approach. The programme is based around collaboration; responsive to our social, political, civic and environmental context; reflective of the diversity of contemporary artistic practice.

We prioritise commissioning new work by innovative and ambitious emerging and early-career artists at key points in their development. Alongside this, we also work with regional, national and international mid-career artists to enhance our support for emerging practices or explore critical themes and organisational development.

In 2023-24 we delivered **13 new (and some ongoing) exhibitions and projects**. Highlights include:

Exhibitions

Beverley Bennet: Simon Says Dadda explores father/daughter relationships among Black and Asian women and non-binary individuals. Comprising a newly commissioned 3-channel installation, the exhibition highlights the deep impact that structural inequalities have within wider society.

Attended by **498 visitors**, with very positive feedback on the work, experience, and quality of installation:

"A beautiful and thoughtful piece of work; wonderfully presented. A warm welcome and a cup of tea from staff in the grounding space before entering the exhibition. Both the triptych and single screen film beautifully presented. Work is brilliant and thoughtful - second time I have come to see the show."

"Thanks for making this work – sad, intense, emotional, important to voice these feelings and create a space for others."

"Totally unexpected today – I was passing by and popped in. I am so glad I did. What a beautiful, powerful, important work. Thank you".

(Re)Grounding with D6: Culture in Transit

An exhibition co-produced by D6 and Kyiv-based IZOLYATSIA with artists Alexandra Clod and Karolina Uskakovych, responding to the climate crisis by exploring the shared industrial past of the UK and Ukraine and its impact today. It attracted **350 visitors** and feedback includes:

"I felt so connected to both women growing tomatoes and to that sense of connection with the earth".

"A really moving exhibition... thanks for sharing a glimpse of your lives together and apart".

Bordered Belonging

Exhibition by 2022-2024 Programme Committee member Bhavani Esapathi. As an immigrant, disabled woman of colour much of Bhavani's work is impacted by her lived experiences. Project Manager Izzy Finch worked with Bhavani to respond to the themes of her research around disability, bordering, access and healthcare. The exhibition included work by Leah Clements, Jamila Prowse, Jamie Hale and a loan from the National Disability Collection and Archive. It attracted **387 visitors** in its 6-week run.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Feedback from artist Jamila Prowse: *"I appreciate you being so responsive and helpful throughout this process, you've been so brilliant to work with! The install looks so gorgeous, I'm so impressed with how you've put the show together!"*

Feedback from a visitor, Mymona: *"I have found this show to be really emotional and powerful because you just don't see this stuff talked about in galleries. I looked after my sister who has chronic pain for years and I just wish I had access to something like this or the words to describe the things we were both feeling at that time. Thank you for making such an important show happen."*

Projects

TopSoil is a collective of queer gardeners who meet weekly since April 2023 to grow their own food, as well as deepening knowledge around sustainability, queer ecology, natural dyes and gardening which they see as a radical act of resistance. **60+** people involved with a **core group of 20** people.

They have an allotment nearby in Heaton. During the Winter, they met regularly e.g. for reading groups and pickle making sessions. They are working collectively to make a publication reflecting on the past year's activity together. Feedback:

"It is a very welcoming and positive place and is excellently supported and planned by Izzy in an encouraging democratic, inclusive and purposeful way ... The group is diverse has a good age range and very importantly is a safe space... People seem to naturally come together to carry out tasks and focus on the projects we have been developing whilst sharing knowledge and experience and listening to each other. It feels like a unique project that is very important to those who attend, some of whom travel a long way to get to the project"- Gordon

One participant, Jemima, wrote a powerful article in Shado manazine about the groups collective work and sense of belonging the programme has created:

"We see gardening as an act that pushes against capitalism. We take things slowly, rest, look after each other and try to create a space that imagines a better way of living – the opposite of the fast-paced and intensely productive and extractive lives the capitalist system idealises."

For Solidarity (2019-) nurtures a growing peer support network and aims to make visible grassroots initiatives that are helping people to meet their material and social needs in ways that don't harm people or the planet, who are part of a Solidarity Economy. Key projects in 2023-24 year:

- **Solidarity Screenings** – three days of films programmed by Other Cinemas as a fundraiser in the wake of the escalation of violence and devastation in Palestine and the Middle East.
- **Garden visits** - series of community garden visits in the North East, in collaboration with Shieldfield Art Works and Dwellbeing Shieldfield to find out more about each project.
- **Housing and Community Action Workshops** - inspired by Ed Webb-Ingall's A Bedroom for Everyone, devised in collaboration with local community organisers Elgan John (Food and Solidarity) and Safiah Fardin.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

The Reading Room is a collaborative project where people can read, learn, listen, and share ideas. Through linking up with other spaces across the country, we've created libraries stocked with thought-provoking books, opportunities for reading groups and to meet authors, resources and activities that hope to catalyse creativity, collaboration, and conversation. Recent events include:

- December: offsite visit to Visual AIDS: A Day With(out) Art film screening followed by a workshop with Fiona Anderson
- February - online letter writing workshop with artist Kasra Jalilipour inspired by the book *Radical Intimacy* and an author talk with Nat Raha (contributor in *Transgender Marxism*).

NewBridge Books offers a selection of diverse, original and hard-to-find art publications, magazines and zines, and a platform for independent publishers and artists who self-publish. Regularly hosts events including *Binder*, a monthly gathering for makers and readers of artist's books, photobooks, zines, and visual printed matter.

Delivery of Strategic Goal 4: Community Space and Programme

NewBridge seeks to be a welcoming space where artists, residents and local communities can come together to work, learn, socialise and support each other.

Since we moved to the Shieldfield Centre in 2021, we have built a responsive programme from the ground up that ensures the building and its programme provide an important and exciting resource for the artistic and local community alike.

Our lively programme adopts a truly place-based approach, working collaboratively with Shieldfield residents to inform our programme and empowering local people to make & experience art. We believe we can have a positive impact on the place they live.

A regular events programme includes workshops with artists, communal meals and socials including a weekly coffee morning and wellbeing hub.

"It almost feels like a second home, really... it's a place of work, but it's also a kind of place you can feel relaxed in" (Stephen, NewBridge-based artist).

"This is my second home. I love coming here, it lifts my spirits immediately" (Feedback form, regular visitor)

In 2023-24 we have delivered **157 events and regular sessions**, for **2,325 participants**, working with **29 artists and 20 regular facilitators** to deliver the programme. It has included:

Shieldfield Youth Programme (SYP)

We host SYP in partnership with Dwellbeing and in collaboration with young people living in Shieldfield. It currently engages 90+ young people a week, in an area with no previous youth provision. SYP is youth-led, our weekly activity is responsive to young people's ideas, with their vision at its centre.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Older youth group members' leadership skills have grown, and they have led their own creative sessions, supported younger members, and hosted talent shows/events. SYP not only supports young people, but reaches the wider community, reducing isolation and building community in the whole locality.

"The Youth Programme is a place to come home. It boosts my confidence, is a place to meet new people and be happy" (Anonymous, Youth Programme member)

"When I was in school, I'd usually tell myself I wasn't really good at art...but NewBridge helped me to build my confidence, to think I'm good at stuff" (Lena, young person)

Shieldfield Youth Voice with Kema Kay

The 'Shieldfield Youth Voice' project explored the relationship between music and social action. The project group from the SYP met regularly with Newbridge-based musician and rapper Kema Kay to learn song writing, rhythm, musicality, production, and how to share their stories in a fun and relatable way. The sessions also became a space to address the issues that held meaning for the young people involved. They wrote and recorded three raps which were performed with Kema at a Talent Show at Star & Shadow Cinema.

Kema's background, similar to that of the young people in SYP, and the opportunity to see a difficult task through to completion, were noted as being particularly important factors.

"Knowing that Kema's came from like, what, the background we've come from. So I think that, that's different for wer as well. He's came from, like he can relate to it. It's not just like he's came from nowhere and doesn't have a clue about anything"

Kema said: *"it's shown them that they can achieve something and have an idea in their head and actually put it into this world and finish it and see the result of it, which can then teach them to go off to do other things and be like, 'Oh remember I done this really difficult thing and I created this, now I face this task, I can probably complete that"*.

There was also a clear sense that the young people involved felt valued, more confident in speaking out and understanding they have the power to impact what happens in their local community.

"We want to feel like what we do is important, that it's not just for NewBridge and Dwellbeing but the whole community"

Working with schools

Our Communities Producer worked with Art Ambassadors at Cragside and Hotspur primary schools in Newcastle to put on 2 pop-up exhibitions. Both were developed through workshops with the school children where they developed ideas, designed, and made posters and artwork for the shows. We hosted visits and tours with **10 groups** from the schools at NewBridge :**80 children** took part and **461 people** visited the exhibitions.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Memory Cafe

An ongoing project in collaboration with The Forum Café, Shieldfield, benefitting Shieldfield residents who live with dementia and the people who support them. Through providing an activity with an artist, it encourages engagement, creativity and self-expression, helping to build confidence. It is hosted by staff and volunteers from NewBridge and the Forum Café. **12 events** this year for **15+ regular participants**, many of whom now regularly attend other events at NewBridge.

Community Chefs Residency

Building on our regular community meals, in these 6-month residencies we worked with a different local cook or chef to embed professional and creative development through a co-produced project or event, alongside a series of community meals, recipe sharing sessions and workshops.

Kaltouma Hassaballah

Pilot residency collaboratively shaped by Kaltouma, a prominent leader in the Shieldfield community. Kaltouma hosted sessions as part of Coffee Mornings, Forum Café, SYP and Saturday Socials, sharing Sudanese coffee, sweet treats and food, creating a welcoming space to gather and connect.

Her residency included a session with the Print Studio and the creation of an outdoor Dukhan—a traditional Sudanese scented smoke bath that brings women together for pleasure, health and restoration. Culminated in a 3-day celebration event *Kandake: Sudanese Sisters* in April 2024.

Hana Azahed

Shieldfield-based chef and artist Hana Azahed undertook our 2nd residency. Hana specialises in Libyan cuisine and is interested in sharing cultures from her home, Ghadamas, a Unesco World Heritage Site. Hana has been sharing traditional drawing techniques, typically used for ceramic decoration and working with Stephen Brown in our Ceramics Studio on a range of ceramics.

Socials

We provide regular opportunities for community building, hosting spaces and activities which invite people to come together in our space and socialise. In 2023-24 we hosted a weekly Monday coffee morning, and a Saturday Social – originally part of Newcastle City Council's Winter Wellbeing Hub scheme. Socials are attended by 8-25 people weekly.

Delivery of Strategic Goal 5: Audience Engagement

We have always placed audiences and participants at the forefront of our work, and we will continue to deliver a responsive, diverse, and varied programme that aims to attract people to our activities.

In the last few years our audiences, participants and collaborators have diversified and grown, and our programmes have adapted and changed responsively. In particular, our move to the Shieldfield Centre has seen a significant shift in our priorities and who we engage with our work.

As one artist reflected: *"NewBridge is a fantastic example of how the arts can embrace everyone. They strive to embed best practice, share their knowledge, and use their experience to improve opportunities, connectivity and access for all within their community."*

As highlighted, all our above programmes engage a wide variety of audiences in different ways. Our key priorities in 23-24 were:

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Increase the depth and quality of people's experience of contemporary art:

We have delivered talks, events and workshops and offered different ways to engage with our work. We have built upon existing partnerships to diversify and increase audiences including the Kaleidoscope Network, MotherOther and For Solidarity Network.

Increase the number of people who experience and engage with contemporary art:

We have increased the number of people who engage with our work, in particular exceeding our own ambitions with local residents in Shieldfield, and have built a strong audience of local people, through events, targeted marketing, and responsive programming based on their interests.

Ensure that our space and programme is as accessible as possible

We have improved accessibility in our building with new signage and video walk-throughs on our website. We have audited communication online and in print for accessibility, and now offer large format texts, translated text where possible, and image captioning.

We have introduced a visual story for some exhibitions, with information and pictures that help prepare people for their visit to the building and the specific exhibition.

We regularly reflect on who takes part and embed accessibility in our planning approach, ensuring opportunities are suitable for people with different experiences, backgrounds and needs. We continue to offer bursary places and free memberships, creating space for people to try new things, and for many voices to shape our programmes.

Build our profile and reputation at a regional, national, and international level

Our programme is truly artist-led and experimental, valuing collaboration and co-production with other arts organisations, charities, groups of artists. Through partnership and long-term collaboration, we have worked to build our national profile as an organisation that commissions and exhibits outstanding artworks with a unique approach to supporting artists and local communities.

NewBridge seeks to create a positive working and organisational culture across our organisation and through all areas of our activity. We strive to be a learning organisation that regularly reflects on the way we work, and how we can develop this responsively, meaningfully and with integrity, and make urgent and considered change when required.

We want NewBridge to be a good place to work for our staff and volunteers, and for that positivity to be reflected in our building and the work we programme, alongside robust organisational procedures that support people pastorally and professionally so they can do their jobs well.. Our strong team bring their own skills, creativity, experiences and perspectives to work. We create space for open and honest conversation, so that the whole team are able to support each other's work and are able to think critically and collectively about our organisation, programme and what we want to do better in the future.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Through our programme we often explore complex issues. It is important to us that these values and explorations are not 'surface level;' we want them to resonate through the whole organisation. On the flipside, we spend a lot of time as a team talking about issues and things that really matter to us and how we work - we are aware that these conversations or resulting policies aren't always shared publicly. We are committed to shifting this balance, making more transparent and public our 'behind the scenes' work, and better embedding the learning from our public programmes across our values and policies.

Projects

Across a number of projects, we will work with artists and organisation to support the ongoing development of a positive working and organisational culture, supporting learning and advocacy across the organisation.

- GROUNDWORK

Groundwork is a new, long-term co-learning project with Arts Catalyst (Sheffield), Primary (Nottingham) and The Showroom (London) exploring how arts and cultural organisations can better resource and strengthen the communities and places that they work within.

- MOTHEROTHER x Practice Makes Practice

Our collaboration with MOTHEROTHER creates space to listen and learn from the experiences of those who are carers working in the arts. This will support us to embed change within our own organisation, as well as advocating for wider change across the sector.

Home rearing

A long-term residency with Newcastle-based artist Lady Kitt and their two children Finn and Ada are asking (and answering) the question: is it permissible, useful or desirable, for arts organisations to embody habits, codes, approaches or structures of home into public programming, space & relationships?

Through creative activities and chats Kitt is collaborating with NewBridge communities (including staff) to use socially engaged approaches in the development and embedding of our environmental policy and our braver spaces policy.

Operations/Structure

Some key actions and learning being implemented in 2023-24 year include:

- **Limelite HR & Learning**

We started working with Limelite HR in February 2023 and have found their support in the last 18 months completely invaluable. They provide us with bespoke advice, templates and guidance for policies and contracts, as well as training across different areas of HR.

- **Staff team**

Following some staff changes, Director Rebecca and Interim Director Fran had an away day looking at organisational development and have outlined a new line management structure and identified some key capacity gaps for recruitment.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Funding and Partnerships

The Board and staff of NewBridge would like to record their thanks to the funders and partners who made our work possible in 2023-24. We received support from Arts Council England National Portfolio, Newcastle University, Newcastle Culture Investment Fund, SHED, Weston Jerwood Creative Bursaries, Jerwood Artists Foundation, #iwill fund, Ouseburn Ward Funding, North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA) Skills for Growth Fund, SHED and Community Foundation.

We worked closely with a number of regional partners to deliver projects and joint initiatives, including; Artist Network North East, BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Big River Bakery, Caring Hands, The Comfrey Project, Connected Voice, Cragside School, Culture Against Racism North East, Dwellbeing Shieldfield, Forum Café Shieldfield, Hotspur School, Newcastle City Council, Newcastle University, SAW, Shieldfield Forum Café, Slugtown, Star & Shadow Cinema.

We also worked closely with a number of national partners to deliver projects and joint initiatives, including: CAMP (Plymouth), Castlefield Arts (Manchester), CCSkills, Eastside Projects (Birmingham), Good Press (Glasgow), Into the wild (Chisenhale, London), Left Bank (Leeds), Left Book Club (London), Lux (London), Metal (Peterborough), Pluto Press (London), Primary (Nottingham), Solidarity Economy Association, Spike Island (Bristol), Turf Projects (Croydon).

Financial Review

The out-turn for the year is an unrestricted surplus of £74,925 (2023: surplus £18,067).

The charity's total reserves at 31 March 2024 are £371,437, of which £119,776 are restricted reserves and £251,661 are unrestricted funds.

The charity's total Unrestricted Reserves at 31 March 2024 are £251,661. Free reserves, defined as non-designated Unrestricted Reserves, minus the Net Book Value of Unrestricted Tangible Fixed Assets, are £231,783 at 31 March 2024.

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PLANS FOR FUTURE YEARS

Funding and Partnerships

We have been working to become more sustainable and resilient, including securing long-term funding to support our expanded staff team and programme.

We have secured Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation funding for April 2023 - March 2026 and core funding until March 2025 from Newcastle Culture Investment Fund through the Community Foundation and Newcastle City Council.

We have secured funding from North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA) Skills for Growth Fund to support our artist development activity: £534,446 over 3 years from July 2022–September 2025.

We have a partnership agreement with Newcastle University to develop and deliver TCS until August 2025 and are working in partnership with them on the NTCA project.

We have secured 1 year of funding from SHED which will support project work and staff capacity until March 2025.

We have secured funding from Jerwood Arts Developing Artists programme for £40,655 over 18 months to deliver a new artist development programme, *Co-Act*.

We are currently developing a robust fundraising plan, which aims to apply to some larger funds in the 24-25 year including Big Lottery Fund, Arts Council England, and Garfield Weston Foundation.

Building

The 5-year lease for the Shieldfield Centre is our longest lease-term with no break clause to date. However, this does once again bring with it the multiple challenges of occupying space short-term.

We continue to pursue our ambition to secure a permanent or long-term base, as well as exploring the feasibility of other business/financial models to ensure we can be responsive to different opportunities. We will continue our wide-ranging conversations with different stakeholders to explore future building options beyond this 5-year period, to ensure the future sustainability of the organisation.

Through these conversations we will also consider the legacy of the work we are doing in Shieldfield, and how we can support residents to have a say in what may come after us.

In addition to this we participate in regional and national development meetings around long-term, sustainable, and affordable workspace provision for creatives.

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For the year ended 31 March 2024

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees (who are also the Directors of The NewBridge Project for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



Ilana Mitchell
Trustee
Company Registration Number 10582100

9 September 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members on the Unaudited Accounts of The NewBridge Project Limited for the year ended 31 March 2024

I hereby report to the Trustees/Members of The NewBridge Project (Charity Registration Number 1165182) on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 set out on pages 26 to 37.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity's Trustees (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

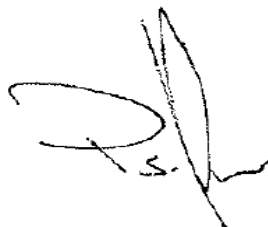
Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountant in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods or principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102)).

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.



Pete O'Hara, FCA, Chartered Accountant
Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales
26 La Sagesse, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 3AF

9 September 2024

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income					
Income from Investments	2	508	-	508	-
Income from Grants, Donations & Legacies	3	72,895	344,734	417,629	178,798
Income from Charitable Activities	4	176,861	30,000	206,861	185,642
Total Income		250,864	374,734	624,998	364,440
Expenditure					
Cost of Raising Funds	5	1,341	-	1,341	1,716
Expenditure on Charitable Activities	6	173,998	362,430	536,428	426,310
Total Expenditure		175,339	362,430	537,769	428,026
Net Income/(Expenditure)		74,925	12,304	87,229	(63,586)
Balance brought forward		176,736	107,472	284,208	347,794
Balance carried forward at 31 March	12	£251,661	£119,776	£371,437	£284,208

The notes on pages 28 to 37 form part of the financial statements.

All the activities of the company are classed as continuing.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION/BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	8	22,173	28,338
Current Assets			
Debtors	9	118,644	76,802
Cash at Bank & In Hand		336,579	291,071
		<u>455,223</u>	<u>367,873</u>
Creditors – Amounts Falling Due Within 1 Year	10	(105,959)	(112,003)
Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)		<u>349,264</u>	<u>255,870</u>
Total Net Assets	11	<u>£371,437</u>	<u>£284,208</u>
Represented by:			
Unrestricted Reserves	12	251,661	176,736
Restricted Reserves	12	119,776	107,472
		<u>£371,437</u>	<u>£284,208</u>

The notes on pages 28 to 37 form part of the financial statements.

The Trustees are satisfied that for the year ended 31 March 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption under section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees also confirm that the Members have not required the charity to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (i) ensuring that the charity keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act, and
- (ii) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charity.

These financial statements were approved and signed by a Member of the Board of Trustees on 9 September 2024



Ilana Mitchell
Trustee
Company Registration Number 10582100

The NewBridge Project (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Cash Flow Statement

The Directors have taken advantage of the provisions of the Financial Reporting Standard Number 1, which exempts small companies from the need to prepare a cash flow statement.

Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, any performance related conditions attached have been met or are fully within the control of the charity, the income is considered probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Donations and legacy income is received by way of donations, legacies, grants and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Where legacies have been notified to the charity but the criteria for income recognition have not been met, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.
- Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Investment income is included when receivable.
- Income from charitable trading activity is accounted for when earned.
- Other income is accounted for when receivable.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. Accounting Policies (Continued)

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- Costs of raising funds comprise the costs associated with attracting donations, grants and legacies and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes.
- Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.
- Other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

Irrecoverable VAT

All resources expended are classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

Operating Leases

The charity classifies the lease of certain types of equipment as operating leases as the title to the equipment remains with the lessor. Rental charges are charged against income on a straight-line basis over the year of the lease.

Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on any fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the assets over their remaining useful lives as follows:

Leasehold Property Improvements	- over the period of the lease
IT & Office Equipment	- 33% per annum straight line

A full year's depreciation charge is applied in the year of acquisition and no charge is made in the year of disposal.

Impairment of Fixed Assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

The NewBridge Project (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. Accounting Policies (Continued)

Financial Instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the purposes of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for specific purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

Taxation Status

The NewBridge Project Limited is a Charity registered under the 1960 Charities Act and is accorded exemption from liability to taxation on its income under S505 Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

2. Income from Investments

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Bank Interest Receivable	508	-	508	-
	£508	£-	£508	£-

3. Income from Grants, Donations & Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Donations	1,607	-	1,607	1,269
Grant Income				
Arts Council England – NPO	71,288	-	71,288	71,288
#I Will Fund via the Community Foundation				9,820
100 People	-	300	300	-
Dwellbeing Shieldfield	-	7,500	7,500	1,348
DWP - Kickstarter	-	-	-	6,266
Jerwood Arts Developing Artists Fund	-	40,655	40,655	-
Jerwood Foundation - Creative Bursary	-	-	-	1,453
Newcastle City Council – Ouseburn Ward	-	-	-	2,615
Newcastle CC – Winter Wellbeing Fund	-	1,250	1,250	5,252
Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund - Core	-	20,000	20,000	20,000
North of Tyne Combined Authority	-	145,029	145,029	59,487
Sustainability.Health.Environment. Development.	-	130,000	130,000	-
	71,288	344,734	416,022	177,529
	£72,895	£344,734	£417,629	£178,798

Of the 2023 total of £178,798, £72,557 related to Unrestricted Funds and £106,241 to Restricted Funds.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

4. Income from Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Associate Membership	3,773	-	3,773	3,370
Bookshop Sales	2,681	-	2,681	2,517
Collective Studio Membership	6,851	-	6,851	7,745
Museums & Galleries Exhibition Tax Relief	20,443	-	20,443	14,480
Newcastle University	-	30,000	30,000	30,000
Studio Membership Fees - Gateshead	68	-	68	-
Studio Membership Fees – Shieldfield, Newcastle	116,527	-	116,527	107,469
Other Income	26,518	-	26,518	20,061
	£176,861	£30,000	£206,861	£185,642

Of the 2023 total of £185,642, £155,642 related to Unrestricted Funds and £30,000 to Restricted Funds.

5. Expenditure on Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Bookshop Costs	1,341	-	1,341	696
Fundraising Consultancy Fees	-	-	-	1,020
	£1,341	£-	£1,341	£1,716

The 2023 total of £1,716 relates wholly to Unrestricted Funds.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

6. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Programme/Project Costs				
Programme Expenditure	-	109,559	109,559	70,176
Programme Committee Stipend	9,830	-	9,830	5,763
Salaries & On Costs	12,040	244,631	256,671	191,290
Website Development	-	-	-	500
Travel & Research	5,044	-	5,044	4,995
	26,914	354,190	381,104	272,724
Support Costs				
Rent, Rates & Water	41,663	-	41,663	43,303
Heat & Light	49,931	-	49,931	37,964
Cleaning & Waste	15,634	-	15,634	11,470
Repairs & Maintenance	2,756	-	2,756	17,908
Depreciation	10,586	1,417	12,003	13,027
Other Administration & Running Costs	21,104	6,823	27,927	20,911
	141,674	8,240	149,914	144,583
Governance Costs				
Independent Examiner's Fees	1,080	-	1,080	1,080
Other Accountancy & Book-keeping Costs	4,175	-	4,175	4,022
Legal & Professional Fees	48	-	48	3,720
Trustee Meeting Costs	107	-	107	181
	5,410	-	5,410	9,003
	£173,998	£362,430	£536,428	£426,310

Of the 2023 total of £426,310, £208,416 related to Unrestricted Funds and £217,894 to Restricted Funds.

7. Net Income/(Expenditure)

	2024 £	2023 £
Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Independent Examiner's Fees – current year	1,080	1,080
Independent Examiner – other services	360	360
Depreciation of owned Tangible Fixed Assets	12,003	13,027

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

8. Staff Costs & Trustees' Remuneration

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gross Salary Costs	239,721	179,400
Employer's National Insurance	12,322	8,368
Employer's Pension Contributions	4,628	3,522
	£256,671	£191,290

No employee received remuneration of more than £60,000 during the year (2023: Nil).

The average number of staff employed during the year, calculated as full-time equivalents, was as follows:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Artistic Production and Support	9	7

No remuneration has been paid to any Trustees/Directors in the year (2023: Nil).

£37 expenses were reimbursed to 1 Trustee in respect of their attendance at meetings of the charity (2023: Nil).

9. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Workshop, Office & ICT Equipment £	Leasehold Property Improvements £	Total Fixed Assets £
Cost			
At 1 April 2023	13,997	44,543	58,540
Additions in year	5,838	-	5,838
Disposals	(235)	-	(235)
At 31 March 2024	19,600	44,543	64,143
Accumulated Depreciation			
At 1 April 2023	12,385	17,817	30,202
Charge for year	3,094	8,909	12,003
Disposals	(235)	-	(235)
At 31 March 2024	15,244	26,726	41,970
Net Book Value			
At 31 March 2024	£4,356	£17,817	£22,173
At 1 April 2023	£1,612	£26,726	£28,338

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

10. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade Debtors	3,185	2,026
Prepayments	16,779	15,289
Accrued Income	98,680	59,487
	£118,644	£76,802

11. Creditors – Amounts Falling Due Within 1 Year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade Creditors	15,611	26,718
Other Creditors	834	823
Other Creditors – Studio & Key Deposits Held	10,015	10,817
Other Taxes & Social Security Costs	7,633	3,712
Income Received In Advance	750	-
Accruals	71,116	69,933
	£105,959	£112,003

12. Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	19,878	2,295	22,173	28,338
Debtors	20,472	98,172	118,644	76,802
Cash at Bank and In Hand	317,720	19,309	336,579	291,071
Creditors – Amounts Due Within 1 Year	(105,959)	-	(105,959)	(112,003)
	£251,661	£119,776	£371,437	£284,208

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

13. Analysis of Charitable Funds

	Fund at 1 April 2023	Incoming Resources in Year	Resources Expended in Year	Fund at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds				
Charity General Fund	176,736	250,864	(175,339)	251,661
Restricted Funds				
#I Will Fund via the Community Foundation	9,820	-	(9,820)	-
100 People – Youth Programme	-	300	(300)	-
Dwellbeing Shieldfield – Shieldfield Youth Programme	-	7,500	(7,500)	-
Jerwood Foundation - Creative Bursary		40,655	-	40,655
Newcastle CC – Winter Wellbeing Fund		1,250	(1,250)	-
Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund – Core Programme	3,460	20,000	(17,499)	5,961
Newcastle University – Collective Studio	24,436	30,000	(29,797)	24,639
North of Tyne Combined Authority Sustainability. Health. Environment. Development.	-	145,029	(142,734)	2,295
	69,756	130,000	(153,530)	46,226
Total Restricted Funds	107,472	374,734	(362,430)	119,776
Total Funds	£284,208	£624,998	£(537,769)	£371,437

Name of Restricted Fund	Description, Nature & Purpose of the Restricted Fund
#I Will Fund via the Community Foundation	Towards the cost of the delivery of Shieldfield Youth Voice, a new programme for young people on our youth programme over the age of 10
100 People	Towards the cost of a youth programme
Dwellbeing Shieldfield – Shieldfield Youth Programme	Towards the cost of a programme for young people in Shieldfield
Jerwood Foundation - Creative Bursary	Towards the cost of participation in the Weston Jerwood Creative Bursaries programme
Newcastle City Council – Winter Wellbeing Fund	Towards the cost of a Winter Wellbeing Hub

The NewBridge Project (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

13. Analysis of Charitable Funds (Cont.)

Name of Restricted Fund	Description, Nature & Purpose of the Restricted Fund
Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund – Core Programme	Towards the Practice Makes Practice programme, and related staff costs
Newcastle University – Collective Studio	Towards The Collective Studio inc. staff costs
North of Tyne Combined Authority	Towards the cost of Collaborate: Skills and talent development pathways for creative practitioners
Sustainability. Health. Environment. Development.	Towards the cost of For Solidarity project, Youth Programme, project work and events in Shieldfield, and associated staff costs

14. Taxation

The company is a registered charity and no provision is considered necessary for taxation.

15. Financial Commitments

No material financial commitments have been made in respect of future financial years.

16. Company Limited by Guarantee

The charity is incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 and is limited by guarantee, each member having undertaken to contribute such amounts not exceeding £1 as may be required in the event of the company being wound up whilst he or she is still a member or within one year thereafter.

The company law members of the charity are the members of its Board of Trustees.

There are currently 5 (2023: 6) members of the company.

THE NEWBRIDGE PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1173849

Accounts

Company Registration Number 10582100

Registered Charity Number 1173849

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
For the year ending 31 March 2023

**The NewBridge
Project**

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2023

The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Name	The NewBridge Project
Charity Registration Number	1173849
Company Registration Number	10582100
Registered Office	Shieldfield Centre, 4 - 8 Clarence Walk, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 1AL

Trustees

For the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, the Board of Trustees is the Board of Directors of the charitable company and is referred to as the Trustees throughout this report.

The Trustees of The NewBridge Project during the year and to the date of signing this report are as follows:

Ilana Mitchell (Chair)	
Jonathan Combe	
Sally Dixon	Resigned 2 August 2023
Julia Heslop	
Eve McCracken	Appointed 5 March 2023
Dr Paul Richter	

Company Secretary	Rebecca Huggan
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Bankers	The Co-operative Bank, Norfolk House, 84-86 Grey Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 6BZ
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Independent Examiner	Mr P O'Hara FCA, 4 Stoneyhurst Road West, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 1PG
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The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Documents

The NewBridge Project is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 25 January 2017 and registered as a charity on 18 July 2017. The charity is controlled by its governing document, its Memorandum & Articles of Association and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act.

The Directors of the company are also Trustees of the charity.

Eligibility for membership of the charity, and membership of the Board of Trustees, is governed by the Articles of Association. There are no restrictions in the governing document on the operation of the charity other than those imposed by general charity law.

Charitable Purpose

The NewBridge Project's charitable objects are to foster and advance the appreciation and understanding of the arts for the benefit of the public.

Structure and Governance

The charity currently has a Board of 6 non-executive Trustees.

The Board meets a minimum of 4 times per year. A written Director's report, quarterly management accounts, a meeting agenda and any other necessary Board papers are prepared by the Director and circulated in advance of meetings.

The NewBridge Project is governed by the Board of Trustees with a staff team (employed and freelance) overseeing the day-to-day operation, comprising of:

Director - Rebecca Huggan (on maternity leave from 15 April 2023)
Director (maternity cover) - Frances Stacey from 1 April 2023
Programme Director – Dawn Bothwell
Studio & People Manager – Ruby Glover
Operations & Reporting Manager - Sarah Stamp
Artist Development Programmer – Daniel Russell
Create / Disrupt Project Manager – Izzy Finch
For Solidarity Project Manager – Hannah Kirkham
Community Producer – Elaine Robertson
Youth Worker – Precious Oluleye
Marketing Co-ordinator – Kitty McKay
Bookshop & Reading Room Coordinator - Maya Wallis
Programme & Front of House Assistant (Kickstart) – Hannah Rickman Peddie (until Sept 22)
Bookkeeper – Niamh Cunningham

The Contribution of Volunteers

The charity makes extensive use of volunteers to support its activities.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (Continued)

Recruitment and Appointment of Board of Trustees

Any person who is willing to act as a Director and is permitted by law to do so, may be appointed to be a Director by a decision of the Directors. Any Director appointed by a resolution of the other Directors must retire at the next Annual General Meeting following his or her appointment and may offer themselves for re-election and if any Director is required to retire at an Annual General Meeting the retirement shall take effect from the conclusion of the meeting.

Trustees are recruited through an open call out process for Trustees, describing the skills required. This is advertised through a range of accessible channels and networks. Trustees are elected to the Board based on discussions and recommendations offered by Trustees, the Director and external advisors to the organisation.

Trustee Induction and Training

New Trustees are inducted by the Director and current Trustees and are provided with a range of resources to support their understanding of The NewBridge Project and its activities, including a document detailing the role of Trustees and staff within the company.

Artists and other creatives who pay to join are known as Studio or Associate Members of NewBridge. They become members of the community, but they are not members of the company or charity.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have reviewed the charity's needs for Reserves in line with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission. We last reviewed our reserves policy in April 2021.

The NewBridge Project aims to hold free reserves of £100,000, which would enable us to meet all financial liabilities, overheads & majority of staff costs over a 6-month period, ensuring resilience if we face unplanned costs or disruptions.

The NewBridge Project then aims to build an additional, unrestricted designated reserve of £50,000 over the next 4 years to support the charity to relocate at the end of our current lease (June 2026) if required. (The previous £50,000 allocation was used to support the relocation to Shieldfield). The target level of Unrestricted Reserves is therefore £150,000.

The charity's total Unrestricted Reserves at 31 March 2023 are £176,736. Free reserves, defined as non-designated Unrestricted Reserves, minus the Net Book Value of Unrestricted Tangible Fixed Assets, are £148,398 at 31 March 2023. However, c£30k of these reserves has been committed to activity in 2023/24 and, consequently, available reserves are c£118,398.

The Trustees aim, through their budgeting processes, to reach the aspirational level of reserves within 3-4 financial years.

Grant Making Policy

The charity does not currently engage in grant-making activity.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2023

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Overview

The NewBridge Project is an active artist-led community that supports artists, curators and communities through the provision of space for creative practice, curatorial opportunities and an ambitious artist-led programme of exhibitions, commissions, artist development and events.

The NewBridge Project was established in 2010 to provide exchange and support in an engaged community of artists. Our building houses 120 artists and numerous project and production spaces. Our public spaces, which include a gallery, bookshop and event spaces, are places where artists and local communities can come together to work, learn and socialise with each other. NewBridge has changed significantly over the past 13 years, growing in scale and ambition in response to needs of artists and local communities.

Our programme is made in consultation with our members, artists and local community. We aim to reflect the diversity of contemporary art practice, be responsive to our environment, build solidarity, and place community-centred, experimental, collaborative and socially conscious programming at the heart of all our work.

Our programme consists of:

Commissions, exhibitions, and projects:

We aim to deliver an artistic programme that is artist-led and experimental in its approach, which supports the production and presentation of new artwork through exhibitions, commissions, off-site projects, our bookshop and events.

We do this through stand-alone projects and exhibitions working with early and mid-career artists that provide opportunities for them to be ambitious and experiment with new ideas. We also explore broader themes over long periods; these inform both each other and the way we develop our public programme and organisation. These have included: *Hidden Civil War* (2016), which explored austerity and inequality in the wake of the EU referendum; *Deep Adaptation* (2017-2018) which considered how social, political and economic issues could be understood in relation to climate change; *For Solidarity* (2019 – ongoing) which has mapped and established a network of organisations, communities and individuals who are working toward social and climate justice, and exploring alternatives to the mainstream economic system, producing events, exhibitions and co-created projects; and *The Home* (2022 – ongoing) which responds to our recent move to the residential area of Shieldfield in Newcastle upon Tyne.

NewBridge works alongside an evolving and rotating Programme Committee to shape and deliver an artistic programme with a diverse curatorial voice that reflects many voices, interests and practices, and enables new narratives, methodologies and approaches to emerge. We also work with Co-Investigators - community researchers who gather insights and provide feedback from their diverse range of perspectives on our programme and/or themes and issues we are exploring. Each Co-investigator works with us over a year, and their input directly feeds into the development of our programme.

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (Continued)

Overview (Cont.)

Community hub & public space:

NewBridge houses a gallery space, artist-led bookshop, library, screening room, event spaces and multiple workshops and project spaces. Our space is more than just a building: it's a public, welcoming place where people can come together to meet, make, learn and socialise. Through these facilities and a regular programme including communal meals, social events, creative workshops and the *Shieldfield Youth Programme*, we aim to provide a resource for the creative and local community alike, building a community of artists, members, residents and contributors.

Artist Development:

NewBridge works with artists at all stages of their careers, providing support through three programmes of creative, personal, and professional development. These programmes are needs-led and created *by* artists, *for* artists. *Practice makes Practice* (est. 2015) is for all artists, curators and people interested in the arts; *The Collective Studio* (est. 2017) is an annual 10-month early-career/graduate programme for artists across all creative disciplines at the start of their careers; and *Create/Disrupt* (est. 2021) which creates new pathways for people who have not been to university to develop a creative career and aims to remove systemic barriers that exist in the cultural sector, supporting those who are currently underrepresented.

Studio and workspace:

NewBridge provides affordable and accessible studio and project spaces for artists and creatives in the North East. The shared workspace is a critical and collaborative environment that allows artists to discuss and develop new ideas and projects. We are based at the Shieldfield Centre, a 28,000 square foot building, which, alongside our public spaces, houses over 120 studio members, co-work spaces, member-led workshop facilities, and flexible project spaces for making and presenting work.

Strategic Objectives and Public Benefit

The Trustees understand and have discussed the implications of the provisions of the Charities Act 2006, which state that all charities must demonstrate that they are established for public benefit and have had due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

The Trustees believe that the charity meets both of the key principles:

Principle 1 — There must be an identifiable benefit, or benefits:

To work towards our Vision, Mission & Values, the following strategic objectives underpin everything we do, demonstrating clear, tangible benefits.

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (Continued)

Strategic Objectives

1. **Developing Artists**
Develop artistic talent and provide opportunities for career development through artist development programmes, networking, curatorial opportunities, training and shared learning within the visual arts sector in the north east of England.
2. **Providing space**
Provide space, facilities and resources for artists in the north east of England.
3. **Supporting and presenting new art work**
Support the production and presentation of ambitious and pioneering new artwork in the gallery and off-site
4. **Creating a welcoming space**
Provide a welcoming environment and community hub, creating a resource and programme for artists and the local community alike.
5. **Engaging audiences and communities**
Create positive, in depth and quality experiences for audiences, participants and collaborators, and increase the number of people who experience and engage with visual art.
6. **Creating a good organisational and working culture**
Create a positive working and organisational culture across our organisation and for those that we work with through active listening and reflection so we can develop responsively, meaningfully and with integrity.

Principle 2 — Benefit must be to the public, or a section of the public:

Each element of our work provides benefit to one or more clearly identified sections of the public, whether the artistic community or the general public, who can access and enjoy the work produced as a result.

NewBridge's beneficiaries are therefore entirely appropriate to its aims and the wider public benefit from its work.

All of these benefits are clear, evidenced and relate directly to NewBridge's aims. In addition, the Trustees do not consider that any significant detriment or harm flows from NewBridge's work.

Risk Management

The Board of Trustees steer the effective governance of The NewBridge Project. They ensure the organisation is operating within its agreed aims, objectives, and values and that it is achieving its overall ambitions and vision, effectively, efficiently, safely, and legally. They review the organisational risk register quarterly at each trustee meeting to manage and mitigate risk and operate comprehensive regular self-evaluation.

The Director and staff team are fully engaged in risk management and take a direct role in managing risks through the following procedure: 1. identifying risks; 2. analysing risks; 3. evaluating/ranking risks; 4. mitigating risks; 5. monitoring/reviewing risks.

The Director works with staff and trustees to determine type of risk; strategic, compliance, financial, operational, or reputational. The risk register is kept updated and an appropriate risk response employed: avoidance, mitigation, acceptance, or transferal. A risk management plan is completed for larger projects with specific/numerous risks. Any risk rated as high/critical are immediately reported to the Board.

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (Continued)

Risk Management (Cont.)

The Director and staff team report back to the Board regarding the adequacy of risk management measures so that the Board has confidence that senior management can support them.

A risk management plan is completed for larger projects with specific/numerous risks. Any risk rated as high/critical is immediately reported to the Board.

The Trustees are satisfied that appropriate financial systems and controls and employment policies and practices are in place.

The Trustees consider the key risks facing the charity at this time and the mitigating actions taken to be as follows:

Financial: Previous high-level reserves were depleted by relocation to Shieldfield Centre, leaving us with no additional designated reserve for future moving which has been compounded by increases in building costs leading to less reserves build in 22-23 year than previous years.

- Our general reserve of £100k is met, giving security.
- Despite challenging financial environment, in this year we have secured c.£18,000 of our £50,000 relocation reserve and we plan to reach our target over the next 3 years, in line with our current lease end date.
- We have reviewed income vs expenditure for the building to ensure we do not need to use reserves to support this.
- We will build additional reserves through interest a new savings accounts plan. We anticipate achieving ~£5K in 23-24 year.

Financial: Continuation of cost escalation due to inflation/rising cost of living brings challenges for keeping to budgets or delivering proposed numbers of activities. The highest risk is energy costs and there may also be an impact on materials costs.

- We have increased prices across our building, including studio fees. This should mitigate higher energy costs unless increases are higher than currently predicted.
- We keep abreast of any changes in cost through the year, being responsive and taking advantage of any government support schemes.
- We continue to review cost of studios and running costs, to ensure effective and in-budget running, alongside our core strategic priority to provide genuinely affordable studios.
- We continue to seek best value for money and communicate between team members to ensure that wherever possible we can still meet our objectives.
- As an organisation we have always been adept at adapting our programme and model in response to fluctuations in costs and funding.

Operational: Loss of building(s) sooner than anticipated or before viable alternative secured would jeopardize our ability to deliver services.

- We have agreed a 5-year lease with no-break clause for the Shieldfield Centre from June/July 2021 – June 2026 so the risk of losing space sooner than expected is minimal and we will seek to renegotiate a longer lease term if potential opportunities arise.

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (Continued)

Risk Management (Cont.)

Operational: Loss of staff – the organisation has recently grown but is reliant on funding.

- We have secured funding which has enabled us to increase current staff capacity and employ new staff members; this has been vital in delivering all our activity and supporting staff wellbeing.
- We have a fundraising plan which identifies priorities for securing funds to support staff longer-term.

Operational: Staff team has doubled over the last 18 months, which could result in lack of cohesion and less time for support of staff team.

- One of our strategic aims is to create a good working environment for all staff, with appropriate procedures and policies in place to support wellbeing and development.
- The team recently restructured to better support line management and pastoral care of the team; this is supported by the Director and a line management group, with continued annual PDRs and bi-monthly 121s to ensure staff are supported to develop in their roles within the organisation.
- We have weekly team meetings, and monthly programme meetings with the full team so that all staff are informed about all our activity and support one another.

The Trustees also manage the general financial risks arising by ensuring that:

- Prudent budgets have been set for the next financial year.
- Quarterly management accounts are provided, showing the performance against budget and any predicted deficit/surplus.
- Reserves policy allows for flexibility and sustainability should unexpected costs occur.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Delivery of Strategic Objective 1: Developing Artists

The NewBridge Project supports artists to develop their artistic practice and build sustainable careers through several artist development programmes aimed at practitioners at different stages of their careers. The strands are:

- **Practice makes Practice (PMP)** – ongoing programme of events and opportunities for early to mid-career artists, encouraging life-long learning.
- **The Collective Studio (TCS)** – annual 10-month creative development programme for recent graduates and/or early-career creatives in partnership with Newcastle University
- **Create/Disrupt (C/D)** – a development programme for aspiring art workers and artists based in the North East who have not been to university.
- **Programme Committee (PC)** - hands-on professional development experience, providing individuals with the opportunity to gain experience in aspects of research, curation and programme management.

Our 4 unique development strands offer multiple entry points to create accessibility to people from all backgrounds and at all stages of their career. Through a programme of events, opportunities, and online resources, we will provide practical needs-led support and advice in response to the present needs of our members and the wider artistic community.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (Cont.)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

We have also formed formal partnerships with national and regional organisations to come together to create opportunities and deliver activities to broaden the reach of our respective development programmes and activity, and the networks of those participating.

Practice makes Practice (PMP)

PMP is an ongoing artist development programme of events and opportunities aimed at early to mid-career artists, encouraging life-long learning.

PMP is a major visual arts talent development programme for North East England; it is shaped by its members and the wider creative community to ensure it develops in response to their needs and interests, creating a forum for shared learning, critical conversation, space for networks to cultivate and new opportunities and practices to emerge.

The programme is open to all NewBridge members (Studio and Associate), and the public attending one-off events.

The PMP model is wide-reaching to encourage broad engagement with the programme to support personal, professional and creative development. The model is varied and includes:

- **GO PRO** – advice sessions and practical workshops exploring how to survive as an artist; from grant writing, self-employment, promoting and selling artwork, publication making and more.
- **TALK ABOUT ART** – through crits, discussions, studio visits and one-to-one sessions with artists and cultural professionals, creating a supportive environment for artists to talk about their work and get feedback.
- **WILD CARD** – artistic practice is influenced by a variety of elements; including social, political, technological and scientific – we host discussions with people from many different fields to connect artists with different sectors and current societal concerns – anything goes!
- **PEER-LED** – peer-to-peer sessions led and instigated by NewBridge members, creating a space for shared learning and discussion.
- **SOCIALS** – it's important to have a supportive peer group around you; we host get-togethers, socials and dinners, creating opportunities to meet and talk.
- **FIELD TRIPS** – we arrange visits, exchanges and field trips across cities and regions helping facilitate new networks and develop connections with artists, curators and galleries.
- **OPPORTUNITIES** – dedicated opportunities just for members including residencies, exhibitions, commissions and exchanges.

Between April 2022 – March 2023 we delivered: **66** PMP events, with **145 artists**. This engaged **912** active participants and **399** digital audience members. We published **4** online toolkits in this period, engaged 1088 digital audience members.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (Cont.)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

A small selection of *PMP* events in the last 12 months include:

- **Critical Writing Workshop** – This session led by Lauren Velvick (editor and co-director of Corridor8 Magazine) explored art writing and critiquing art. Participants looked at past and current publishing structures for getting your writing out in to the world, and looked at ways in which art writing and critique can best support artists and share work with audiences in an engaging way. This was a hybrid workshop, with in-person and online attendees.
- **1-1's with Calum Bayne** - Calum is a former NewBridge member now working in Pennine Lancashire at In-Situ. They were in Newcastle on a research residency and had 6, hour-long studio visits with NewBridge members who work in socially-engaged/participatory settings. Studio visits are a unique opportunity to discuss work on a one-to-one basis with a curator, helping people to develop new ideas and direction, and to gain perspective on their practice, the context and concepts underpinning it.
- **Unperforming improv** – A Comedy workshop in conjunction with Whitley Bay Arthouses. Artists Fritha Jenkins and Louise Ashcroft mentored a group of artists through the process of developing and performing a short comedy work at a special edition of their famous art comedy night Unperforming, taking place at Laurels comedy club in Whitley Bay.
- **Crepes and Crits, hosted at BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Arts** – this was the third iteration of an event, first initiated by NewBridge member Will Stockwell, where participants gain feedback and insight on their work from curators and peers.
- **Auto-Mat writing sessions led by with Jennie Mac** – a surrealism/automatic writing group hosted over two sessions in 2023.
- **MOTHEROTHER launch event** hosted at Pop Recs with a focus on the experience of artworking as caregivers – included artists talks and panel discussion.

Member-led activity

This year has seen us support 3 strands of exciting member-led activity as part of the *PMP* programme. Through this we have provided an opportunity for 4 artist members to test out their ideas for events, workshops, and group crits - this has resulted in sustained, regular activity open to NewBridge members & the public. It has supported those leading the sessions to develop their skills in project and event management, facilitation, and marketing, and has provided their first hands-on experience of freelance work in the arts, supporting CV building – with many of the members being supported to do this directly off the *Collective Studio* programme (see below). New, regular events include:

- **Neighbourhood watch** – Led by Liberty Hodes and Aaron Dawson Riley, this monthly event provides a dedicated environment for showing, watching, and discussing video art. It's an opportunity to show work in any form, from computer animation, documentary to abstract video made on phones. Invited guests to this have included Peter Taylor from Berwick Film and Media Arts Festival.
- **Peer review, Community crits** – Led by Rachel Eden, this monthly crit session has a relaxed atmosphere and participants bring something that they are working on, a finished piece, a project proposal - anything that would be useful to have feedback on.
- **Hyper Banality Fan Club** – Led by Zara Worth, the Hyper Banality Fan Club is interested in being thoughtful about celebrating or critiquing the mundane & basking in subjects that others consider blasé. Hosted sessions took different forms including talks, screenings, workshops, or a presentation.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (Cont.)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Partnership activity

We have 2 key partnership projects as part of our PMP offer – these support us to diversify and increase what we offer to our members, as well as providing opportunities for them to connect with creatives outside the region.

The Exchange 2

The second iteration of a project connecting artists & creative practitioners across the UK. The project is brought together 120 artists from across the UK (8 NewBridge members) and involves 7 partners. It aims create new exchanges and friendships between artists that wouldn't otherwise be able to connect. An online Summit to mark the end of the 6-month programme was hosted by Eastside Projects on 15 September, which featured presentations by 14 of the participating artists who shared activities, outcomes, processes and experiences they gained from taking part.

We are currently in conversation with project partners (*Eastside Projects (Birmingham)*, *CAMP (Plymouth)*, *Castlefield Gallery (Manchester)*, *The NewBridge Project (Newcastle)*, *Primary (Nottingham)*, *Spike Island (Bristol)*, and *Turf Projects (Croydon)*) to plan for Exchange 3.0, commencing later in 2023.

Kaleidoscope Network

4 partner organisations' respective members have the opportunity to attend events hosted by the other partners. This increases the offer and national networking opportunities for our members – who can attend artist development events and workshops hosted by other national organisations, and shares our programme with a broader geographical audience. We are working with Primary (Nottingham) Spike Island (Bristol) and Eastside Projects (Birmingham). A selection of Kaleidoscope events attended by our members included:

- **How to Work with Residencies** – exploring what artist residencies are, why they are good for your practice, and how you apply for them. Led by John Eng Kiet Bloomfield, Senior Programme Curator at Wysing Arts
- **New Vocabulary for Collaboration** – exploring the junction between art and technology, and how this might be used to build collaboration, curation and community. Led by artists Roo Dhissou and Sahjan Kooner.
- **Tax and Self-Assessment Workshop** – An online session on all things self-employed, how to keep financial records, and how to complete your tax return. Following this event, NewBridge's Artist Development Programmer, Dan Russell hosted an in-person Q&A and one-to-one advice for attendees.
- **Climate Justice Riders for Creatives** – A workshop developing a resource kit to support artists to share their commitments to climate justice and encourage organisations they are working with to do the same. Led by Angela YT Chan.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (Cont.)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Residencies

The *Practice makes Practice Residency*, is an annual 4-week residency opportunity that will provide artists with time and space to reflect on their practice within an active and engaged community of artists at The NewBridge Project. During their residency, the selected artist is invited to programme events as part of the PMP programme, which reach and engage with audiences across North of Tyne.

PMP Residency 2022 – gobscore (Sean Burn)

Artist gobscore (sean burn) was selected for the 2022 PMP residency, which took place over five 3-day weeks between May – October.

We hosted 3 PMP events alongside Jake Alimahomed-Wilson, Immanuel Nes (writers of Pluto Press book *Chokepoints*) and local artist Claire Ogah as part of the residency. These explored chokepoints (blockages that disrupt systems), creative resistances & 'small' spaces where power tips.

As part of their residency, gobscore created 4 online resources hosted on NewBridge's website in response to each week of their residency, created in collaboration with NB staff and others in the building, which attracted 117 online audiences.

PMP Strands

Support from NTCA is enabling the enhancement and scale-up of PMP to more wholly address skills gaps and sector needs through the delivery of 4 new strands including: the Programme Committee (see below), and 3 other strands which will begin in 2023-24.

Memberships and bursaries

We launched a call out to offer ten bursary Associate Memberships to people who might face barriers to getting involved. People can apply on the grounds of barriers associated with class, income, race, disability.

Associate membership is an opportunity to join a creative community of supportive peers and gives full access to Practice makes Practice events, opportunities, and discounted rates on bookable making and exhibition space in our studios. To date 3 of these spaces have been offered and the call out is currently rolling.

Feedback from members about NewBridge and *Practice makes Practice*:

- *'My experience was extremely positive. This was a great development opportunity for me as a practitioner overall'.*
- *'NewBridge is an organisation interested in nurturing artist-led activities, supporting peer-to-peer activities, and committed to rethinking contemporary art ecologies. The professional relationships formed within the group have been lasting.'*
- *'I believe that the impact of the workshops I've been supported to develop with NewBridge on my CV have been directly responsible for paid freelance work in other arts organisations – absolutely has provided a "foot in the door".'*

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (Cont.)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

The Collective Studio (TCS)

The Collective Studio (TCS) is a creative and professional development programme which supports early-career and recent graduate artists and creative practitioners in a dedicated creative space at the Shieldfield Centre. It offers subsidised studio space alongside a series of tailored events and workshops to support personal development, confidence building, creative development, and to address knowledge and skills gaps.

The programme is run in partnership by The NewBridge Project and Newcastle University, and aims to attract, develop and keep the brightest creative talent in the North East.

The programme has an educational philosophy that advocates for learner-chosen activities as a primary means to prepare practitioners for the rapidly changing future in which they will build their careers. In so doing it seeks to support the difficult transition from University/College to studio-based practice, gallery, and workplace. Integral to this is recognition that collaboration is key and that in their time as practitioners, emerging artists will have to work with a range of practitioners and professionals from diverse fields.

Between July – December 2022 (check dates) we have supported **2 cohorts** of Collective Studio, and have supported a programme of activity total of **150** individuals. In this time, we have produced **24** events, alongside **28** artists/facilitators.

The Collective Studio 2021-22

Over the course of the Summer, we supported individuals on the 21-22 programme with a series of events and workshops to finish their time on the programme.

We had **33 people** on the 21-22 cohort for The Collective Studio, **17** with studio space, **8** hot-desk members, and **8** associate members (3 with bursaries for free membership). The programme ended in September 2022. Between July – September we delivered **3** workshops/events.

A selection of TCS 2021-22 events between Jul-Sep 2022:

- **10 August: Field Trip to Scarborough** – including a collaborative event with Coastal North Fellowship Programme (run by Crescent Arts and Scarborough Museum Trust) which brought members of the together for an event. This follows a reciprocal event earlier in the year (March) where 8 members of that programme came to NewBridge for a workshop alongside members.
- **10 September – Collective Studio Social** - We had a Collective Studio 'ball' which was attended by 90 people– this was a great social, networking and evaluation event that brought together people from the last 5 iterations of NewBridge's Graduate Programme and Collective Studio programmes. This was particularly great, as there were many past participants who had never met in person over the programmes that took place during the pandemic.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (Cont.)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

In the 6 months since the end of the programme, members achievements include the following:

- Two members ran the full 2-day intensive for the 22-23 cohort of the Collective Studio (below)
- One member is doing a Curatorial Fellowship at the Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art
- One member undertook a major commission with NewBridge – the NewBridge Dye Garden
- One member was supported on a curatorial placement to curate and produce NewBridge's exhibition Shieldfield Home which opened in December.
- One member has set up a regular Coffee Morning which takes place at NewBridge – this is part of our Winter Wellbeing Hub Scheme.
- One member works at Newcastle based gallery, Workplace
- One member has joined the Northern Clay Collective, who run a workshop facility at the Shieldfield Centre
- One member has led an access rider workshop for members of the new Collective Studio and for the NewBridge staff team.

These are just achievements in the first 6 months since completing the programme; we are keen to explore the long-term achievements of members of the Collective Studio so that we can map their creative and career development.

The Collective Studio 2022-23

We launched the Call Out for the 2022-23 cohort of the Collective Studio on 22 June; and held two open days on Thursday 14 and Thursday 21 July, which were hybrid so people could attend in person and online. These were an opportunity for people to find out more about the programme, visit the studio space, and chat to NewBridge staff. We also invited past/current Collective Studio members to be there on the day to support and answer peoples questions. Open days are an important part of making the programme as accessible as possible, giving people an opportunity to ask questions ahead of applying.

We made the application process as accessible as possible - giving clear instructions about what we wanted to see in an application, a big list of FAQs, tips on writing a biography, and ideas for what makes an application stand out (starting the development support right from the outset of the programme from call out to delivery!).

We received 48 applications for The Collective Studio 2022-23 programme, with 25 coming from North of Tyne based universities and colleges, and others coming from universities across the country. We have selected 31 people to participate in the programme (16 in shared studio, 8 hot desk members and 7 associate members). With 3 individuals receiving free bursary spaces.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (Cont.)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Activity to date has included:

- **Welcome days:** structured activity over two days to help people get to know each other, forge the new collective and enjoy getting to know each other. We looked at support structures, mapping the webs of misery that often make up the backdrop to trying to make art, and did introductions to NewBridge staff and their roles.
- **Manifesting workshop:** put out into the world what you want, and it might come back to you with Rachael Clerke
- **Writing workshop:** to put kindness, compassion, and vulnerability at the forefront with Toni Hurford
- **Collective Studio Intensive 1:** This two-day programme was led by past Collective Studio members Liberty Hodes and Sarah Bird (who had just completed the 21-22 Collective Studio). The programme is shaped around 'getting to know each other', and combined creative, collective activities where the group made a series of large art installations, through exploring what they want to get out of the programme, what barriers/blockages might stop them from doing the creative stuff they want to do, and how they might navigate this during their time on the Collective Studio and beyond.
- **Unperforming:** We partnered up with Whitley Bay Art Houses programme earlier in the year to deliver a series of workshops that explored humour in art. Some of the new, 22-23 TCS cohort had taken part in the workshops and did performances as part of the a live show at Laurels Theatre – the whole CS cohort went on a trip to see and support them.
- **Access Riders / Printing:** A two-part workshop. Emelia Kerr Beale led a session on Access Riders – documents that communicate your personal and accessibility considerations and requirements to an organisation – guiding people on how to assess their own needs and how to write a rider. George Stewart then led an introduction to Risograph workshop where people learnt a new print technique and learnt about how the NewBridge print studio can support their practice.
- **Collective Timelines:** This session with artist Will Stockwell, looked at mapping the recent timelines of our past, our current ideas and future plans. This helps people to plot what support we can give them during their time on the programme, and ensures that the programme we create is responsive to their needs.

Feedback on *The Collective Studio*:

"I have made lasting connections with individuals across the UK... I gained new perspectives on my own work and learnt about the practices of others."

"NewBridge has enabled me to achieve the beginnings of an entirely new chapter in my practice and work-life. Without their support and in particular that of Dan Russell, I would not have been able to achieve the MOTHEROTHER project, which in turn is cascading support to other artists across the region."

Create / Disrupt (C/D)

Create/Disrupt is a development programme for aspiring artists and art workers who have not completed an under-graduate degree. It aims to break down socio-economic barriers to pursuing a creative career, and NTCA funding is enabling it to grow into an accessible, long-term programme of support, with multiple entry points, that promotes diversity and inclusion, and provides access to training, opportunities and networks.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (Cont.)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

The project has three key strands of activity:

- **Core Cohort** - Participants will work with a Project Manager to shape a programme based on their needs, skills and experience gaps. Delivery is through a series of co-devised workshops, skills, studio provision and peer learning sessions. This will be a flexible cohort where new participants can join at any point in the programme.
- **Young peoples' development programme** – Specifically aimed at young people interested in pursuing a creative career but who are unable to/do not want to go to university. This will be a programme of workshops that will support participants to understand the different options for a career in the culture and creative sector and equip them with the skills they need to become a freelancer or work in the arts. Delivery will include workshops and hands-on professional development projects.
- **Outreach workshops and talks** in schools, colleges and community groups to promote the programme.

Core cohort: July – December

We worked closely with participants on the pilot *Create/Disrupt* programme to inform the new call out and shape future iterations of the programme. We worked with them to programme a final 6 months of professional and creative development which would support them with the next steps of their careers in the arts.

One of the top things cited in evaluation of the programme, was the need for a studio space in order to make work and feel part of a creative community at NewBridge and beyond, but that cost of studio was a huge barrier. As such they have had access to a **shared, free studio** at the Shieldfield Centre, which they have used to meet, host workshops, make and present artwork.

Between July – December we delivered **6 events** for a group of **6 individuals**, and they also had weekly meet ups on a Tuesday with each other and wider NewBridge members. Activity has included:

- **121s with Clare Gomez** – group and individual crits with Clare Gomez, Assistant Director at Workplace Gallery / Foundation (Newcastle and London). These studio visits were a unique opportunity to discuss their work on a one-to-one basis with a curator and arts professional, helping the group to develop new ideas and direction, and to gain perspective on your practice, the context and concepts underpinning it.
- **Print workshops with Overlay Press** – Two print workshops with George Stewart of Overlay Press where the group learnt how to do Risograph printing. Risograph printing is an environmentally friendly printing technique – that works like a photocopier, but prints like a screen printer. It's easy to create unique results, either for one off art works, editions or publications and zines. Through this the group created collaborative works for their exhibition *I want to be a tram again*.
- **'How to make good applications'** – led by NewBridge Director Rebecca Huggan, the group went through the different kinds of applications you might make as an artist or arts worker, including applying for an creative opportunity (such as a residency or commission), submitting work for a group show, applying for a job in the arts, and gave advice on how to make strong applications and tailor your CV and written proposal to the different opportunity.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (Cont.)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

I want to be a tram again – Friday 2 and Saturday 3 December

The *Create/Disrupt* created work for an experimental pop-up show within their studio, which showcased individual and collaborative work made during the programme. The show was based around the idea of approaching art making as a form of play. *How does the creative process unfold if you reimagine the rules of the game every time, let go of control and forget about the intended outcomes? How does being immersed in play enable collaboration? We're not sure, but we will have fun finding out.*

They worked on the exhibition from start to finish with support from NewBridge staff, which gave them hands on experience in curation, marketing (digital and print), copy writing and exhibiting work – all key skills that will support them in their next steps as artists.

Next steps bursary

The group were offered the opportunity to apply for a development bursary to support their next steps beyond the end of the programme. They collectively applied to develop project which would support them to further develop their network of mentors and peers through field trips, and workshops with invited guests which explore alternative art schools and self-led development programmes. As well as the collective goal of developing knowledge and networks – each have individual goals which include:

- Expanding and developing their own creative practice
- Developing project management, budgeting and time management skills through the course of project delivery.
- Bringing together art practice with their job outside the arts - exploring i exploring how these two things fit together.
- Further exploring socially engaged art (art where you make work with other people) and thinking how this could be an opportunity for creative and career development.

In the first few months since the end of the programme, members achievements include the following:

- One member is undertaking a BA in Fine Art at Newcastle University. They specifically said that taking part in *Create/Disrupt* had given them the confidence to apply for this.
- One showcased an amazing live-art performance as part of *Unperforming* at Laurels Theatre, Whitley Bay
- One delivered a drop-in workshop at the *Grassroots Garden Party* in Gateshead, the workshop was attended by around 50 people throughout the day.
- Three exhibited work in NewBridges recent exhibition *Shieldfield Home*.
- One exhibited in *Now That's What I Call Art* at Newcastle Contemporary Art
- Two have joined NewBridge as Associate Members.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (Cont.)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Core cohort: 2023 Create/Disrupt

We launched a call out for new members of Create/Disrupt on 11th October, with a deadline of 14 December.

The programme is a free 12-month Development Programme for aspiring artists and arts workers who have not completed an under-graduate degree. As most people applying were coming into the arts for the first time, we ensured we created a very simple application form where people can just tell us a bit about themselves, their interests and what they hope to get out of the programme. During the Open Call, Project Manager Izzy Finch had lots of one-to-one conversations with potential applicants, supporting them to make an application, and chatting through the programme in more detail.

Following the call out, we have selected 13 members for the Create/Disrupt cohort this year - the group are diverse; some have an existing creative practice they want to develop, others have an interest in arts work but no discipline area yet. Eight of the group identify as LGBTQ+, four are gender diverse, six are neurodiverse, one is a refugee, three identify as disabled, two are people of the Global Majority and none have been to University.

Young people's programme: 2023 / outreach and workshops

Izzy Finch, Project Manager for *Create/Disrupt* has have been meeting with local youth organisations including Barnados, St Marys School, Byker PRU, Excelsior Academy and Youth Employment Service North East, to begin sharing information about the Young Peoples Programme.

These meetings are informing how the programme needs to be developed, and our plan is to do a series of taster workshops off-site, going to the organisations venues to deliver activity, before bringing people to NewBridge for a series of workshops.

We are planning a 'takeover' week in the summer holidays, where young people strand will take over parts of NewBridge building – and we will hand over programming to them to tell us what they want and need for a few days.

Programme Committee

The Programme Committee is a hands-on professional development experience, providing individuals with the opportunity to gain experience in aspects of research, curation, and programme management. We believe in many voices being represented through NewBridge's programme and we work with a Programme Committee to enable new narratives, methodologies, and approaches to emerge across our programme, helping to diversify the curatorial voice. We aim to produce a programme alongside them that is based around collaboration, that is responsive to our social, political, civic and environmental context, and that reflects the diversity of contemporary artistic practice.

The Committee acts as a hands-on professional development programme for those wanting to gain greater experience in different aspects of commissioning and programme development. We are currently working with a group of 3 paid committee members until March 2024. We will recruit new members to start work with us from January 2024. We launched a call out for this strand in July 2022 and had 38 applications.

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Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

We are currently supporting a Programme Committee of 3 people through this strand: Sarah Bird, Bhavani Espathi and Sofie Scholten. They are each working 1 day a week over 18 months to create a programme of events and exhibitions and are supported and mentored by our Programme Director Dawn Bothwell.

We have also provided a month-long placement for Karen Kelly, who worked with Dawn to develop and curate *Shieldfield Home*, an exhibition with work from NewBridge members and residents living in Shieldfield, currently open in our gallery space until the end of February.

Feedback from the Programme Committee:

"NewBridge offer sincere support and genuine opportunity. Having these opportunities has increased my confidence, while guiding me to new ideas, methods, and techniques. Having the helpful knowledge and understanding of the NewBridge staff behind an event or idea is truly a tremendous asset to any artist."

"There is no place like it (NewBridge) in the North East of England and not many similar nationwide. NewBridge Project is an important part of the creative fabric in the North East. A place where support, opportunities and trust are given to anyone wishing to work with them."

Delivery of Strategic Goal 2: Providing Space

We recognise affordable, accessible work and exhibition space is of key importance for artists and creatives to start/continue their practice, develop their careers and realise new work. Our studio and workspace provisions aim to nurture an inclusive, collaborative environment in which artists are able to discuss and develop new ideas and projects

We work in consultation with our studio members, ensuring their voices are represented across our programme through *Practice makes Practice*, in the development of our space, and in our strategic decision making. We do this through hosting member meetings per year that coincide with our board meetings – these are an opportunity for studio holders. We have developed a tiered approach to workspace to suit the varying needs of artists. We provide individual studios, shared workspace, co-workspace, workshop facilities (darkroom, a woodwork shop, ceramics space and print studio) and flexible project spaces for making and exhibiting. We will continue to develop production spaces and resources for artists by creating practice-specific spaces, allowing us to support more artists.

We are committed to embedding accessibility and diversity across our space provision, both through ensuring physical accessibility of our space, and through active programmes that ensure individuals from protected characteristic groups are able to join our studios and use our facilities and spaces. This includes offering bursaries and free studios as part of the *Collective Studio* and *Create/Disrupt*, and community events in our various member-led workshop facilities.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (Cont.)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

We offer:

- **Studios and hot desk space**

We are committed to providing affordable **studio space** and **hot-desking** to artists at any stage of their career, working primarily within the field of visual art, with a desire to be part of a diverse and critically engaged community of creative practitioners.

All memberships also benefit from full access to *Practice makes Practice*, and discounted access to our project and making spaces. We have developed a tiered approach to workspace to suit the varying needs of artists.

We provide individual and shared studios, priced according to size. We also provide subsidised space for *The Collective Studio members*, and free space for those on *Create/Disrupt*. We provide hot-desk space across 3 areas in our building – a dedicated co-workspace, a flexible co-work space next to our gallery, and a hot-desk space for *The Collective Studio*. Our affordable hot-desk membership provides low-cost, 24-hour access for those who need a space to work, but not a dedicated studio to themselves.

From April 2022 – March 2023, we have provided affordable studios and workspace for **95** Studio Members, **7** hot-desk members, **25** Collective Studio members, **20** Create/ Disrupt Members.

- **Project Space**

Flexible project, exhibition and workshop spaces provide members and the artistic community with opportunities to exhibit and make work in a supportive space that promotes an experimental and critical approach to practice. We also provide bookable meeting space for artists, creative professionals, charities and community groups who are not members.

- **Workshops**

We provide practice-specific workshop space including a wood workshop, dark room, print studio and ceramics studio which are available for use by NewBridge members, creatives and local community. These spaces are led independently by members who receive discounted space in exchange for opening their spaces and resources to others.

- **Socials and events**

We host regular socials and events for our members, creating opportunities for people to come together, meet and get to know one another. This is important for community building and has been in direct response to feedback from members.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (Cont.)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Strategic planning and research

Building on our 13-year experience of occupying buildings on a meanwhile-use basis, we are actively participating in strategic regional and national conversations about affordable workspace and the importance of investment in longer-term/permanent sites for artist-led activity and studio provision.

More than Meanwhile Spaces / Making the Clayton Street Corridor: Making the Clayton Street Corridor

The NewBridge Project Director worked on the initial development of the Making the Clayton Street Corridor project, and was a critical friend for its duration, connecting our programmes more broadly to the NTCA CCZ programme.

Making the Clayton Street Corridor is a project run by a group of academics and artists and is funded by Newcastle City Council. Between April – December 2022 we ran events and created resources that supported meaningful collaboration between grassroots artists/creative practitioners and policy-makers. The aims were to ensure that the opportunities developed as part of the Clayton Street Corridor champion grassroots artists, to include and address their needs, alongside other artistic and creative groups. This means identifying key needs and areas where investment might make a big difference – and then making those changes happen together.

In addition to this, two studio members, Kitty McKay (also NewBridge's Marketing Coordinator), and Jenny McNamara were the Grassroots representatives for the project, and have both written texts that are included in the upcoming publication which documents the project.

Making the Clayton Street Corridor, came out of a previous major research project led by NewBridge and Newcastle University – *More than Meanwhile Spaces* – which was a collaborative project exploring long-term futures for artist-led spaces and workspaces in the North East of England. The second stage of this research project involved over 80 artists, creative practitioners, local authorities, funders, academics and other interested parties over six events, which each used London's newly established 'Creative Enterprise Zones' as a stimulus for discussion – and action – in the North East of England. From this the group were invited to collaborate on Making the Clayton Street Corridor and to support development of the plans for the Councils' CCZs.

Delivery of Objectives 3: Projects, Exhibitions and Events

We aim to deliver an artistic programme that is truly artist-led and experimental in its approach. The programme will be based around collaboration; responsive to our social, political, civic and environmental context; reflective of the diversity of contemporary artistic practice.

We will support the production and presentation of new artwork through a varied programme of exhibitions, commissions, off-site projects and events. We will encourage artists to make work on their own terms, building our profile for supporting ambitious and pioneering work at a grassroots level, with a focus on commissioning new work.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (Cont.)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

We prioritise commissioning new work by innovative and ambitious emerging and early-career artists at key points in their development, supporting them to test out new ideas and create new work that responds to the location, situation, and time from which it emerges. This will provide a step-change moment, empowering them to continue producing experimental and ambitious art with increased confidence and skill beyond the end of our work together.

Alongside this, we also work with regional, national and international mid-career artists to enhance our support for emerging practices or explore critical themes and organisational development. We do this through creating space for artists at any stage of their career to develop ideas collectively alongside one another, cultivating an environment of experimentation, ambition and collaboration.

Our programme includes stand-alone projects and exhibitions, as well as exploring broader themes over long periods which inform both each other and the way we develop our public programme and organisation. At present two ongoing themes/projects are *For Solidarity* (2019 – ongoing – see below) and *The Home* (2022 – ongoing) which responds to our recent move to the residential area of Shieldfield in Newcastle upon Tyne.

In 2022-23 we delivered **25 new (and some ongoing) exhibitions and projects**. Programme highlights from 22-23 include:

Exhibitions

Promises from Paradise

This exhibition was developed by curator Beatriz Lobo with artists Igor Tavares and Rebeca Romero, to explore themes of ancestral knowledge, cultural identity, belonging, community building and potential futures. It included events with Slack Radio brought together 17 artists and engaged 550 people in the gallery.

Habit, Ability!

This project asked 'how might we continue to inhabit a damaged planet? Hosted in two parts, it included a two-part exhibition visited by 600 people, events hosted in partnership with the Star and Shadow Cinema and others.

Shieldfield Home

Shieldfield Home is an exhibition of art, craft and design made by people who live and work in Shieldfield! This special winter show celebrates our home in The Shieldfield Centre and the work that is made our neighbours and members. It was visited by 300 people and involved 76 artists; including events such as a communal meal catered by Kaltouma Hassaballah (Shieldfield-based Community Cook), workshops Phyllis Christopher and Janina Sabaliauskaite who run the NewBridge darkroom.

Projects

Staking Claims on the Distance

An online exhibition and public art commission exploring public space, ownership and the making of monuments, that showcased work by Esther Gamsu, TOTALLER and Mickey Fenton. The project was conceived by Eve Cromwell and engaging 954 online audience members and 200 in-person.

For Solidarity

For Solidarity is a growing peer support network of organisations, projects, initiatives and individuals across the North East, initiated by NewBridge and the Solidarity Economy Association in 2019.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (Cont.)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

As part of For Solidarity, a **Grassroots Garden Party** took place in July 2022, where we worked with ReCoCo Recovery Collective to host a day-long festival in Saltwell Park which was attended by 480 people. The day offered activities for all ages, music, workshops, free food, and stalls with a range of produce from 15 of our network members. Artist Katie Pollard worked with us to plan a dye Garden on NewBridge balconies, where a group of 21 growers meet weekly to tend to and grow plants, as well as being looked after by our Youth Programme.

The Reading Room is a collaborative project where people can read, learn, listen, and share ideas. Through linking up with other spaces across the country, we've created libraries stocked with thought-

provoking books, where reading groups and opportunities to meet authors are being established, providing resources and activities that hope to catalyse creativity, collaboration, and conversation. It hosted 200 people this year, in partnership with community workers from Leeds, Sheffield, Cardiff, Peterborough and Newcastle, coming together to create and generate spaces of positive dissent, in partnership with the independent publisher Pluto Press.

The Bookshop provides a resource and outlet for artists, writers and researchers, hosting a regular programme of events related to print culture. The shop offers a selection of diverse, original and hard-to-find art publications, magazines and zines, and provides a platform for independent publishers and artists who self-publish. Through an open-call the Bookshop has developed new partnerships and stockist, including Pluto Press, Montez Press, Joan Publishing and Good Press. There have also been a host of events held in the bookshop over the year, linking to our other programmes and activity led by members.

Delivery of Strategic Goal 4: Community Space and Programme

The NewBridge Project seeks to be a welcoming space where artists, residents and local communities can come together to work, learn, socialise and support each other.

Following our recent move to the Shieldfield Centre, we have built a responsive programme from the ground up that ensures the building and its programme provide an important and exciting resource for the artistic and local community alike. We host a regular programme of cultural, education and social activity for the local community aimed at people of all ages and backgrounds.

Our lively programme adopts a truly place-based approach, working collaboratively with Shieldfield residents to inform our programme and empowering local people to make & experience art. We believe that our work at the Shieldfield Centre can have a deep and meaningful relationship with the people in the area and a positive impact on the place they live.

A regular events programme includes workshops with artists, communal meals and socials including a weekly coffee morning and wellbeing hub.

In 2022-23 we have delivered 60 events, for 1183 participants, 927 audience members, working with 205 artists to deliver the programme.

As well as activities, The NewBridge Project provides a free, welcoming and vibrant hub, providing space and opportunities in a previously unused building. The space has a number of accessible spaces including: gallery, bookshop, The Reading Room, screening room, events space and a project space.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (Cont.)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Shieldfield Youth Programme

Since moving to the Shieldfield Centre in June 2021, and through detached work leading up to the move we spent time getting to know residents and local organisations, to better understand what was needed in the area and how we could respond. This identified a lack of youth provision that needed addressing, and in response we worked with Dwellbeing Shieldfield Community Benefit Society to establish the Shieldfield Youth Programme (SYP), an ongoing programme of activity developed in collaboration with young people living in Shieldfield.

SYP is youth-led, and our weekly activity is responsive to young people's ideas, with their vision at its centre. The programme creates space for young people to come together in the place where they live, build new friendships, offers opportunities for them to develop their creative skills and talents, and allows them to explore new ways of thinking and doing things together. It aims to empower them to become active

members of the local community, and the programme is locally rooted, thematically strong and aims to instill values of solidarity, social and economic justice, and creativity.

SYP has been built from the ground up over the last 2 years, engaging 70+ young people in an area with no previous provision, and has already had significant impact on participants. To date it has genuinely inspired, improved health/wellbeing, created opportunities to build confidence and creativity, and improved interpersonal relationships between young people in the area.

Older youth group members' leadership skills have grown, and they have led their own creative sessions, supported younger members, and hosted talent shows/events. The programme not only supports young people, but reaches the wider community, reducing isolation and building community in the whole locality.

Parent/teacher feedback:

- *"There's lots of different cultures and backgrounds... and this is something that brings them all together."*
- *"We are over the moon there is finally something like this in our area...thanks to your team on such a great programme."*

Working with schools

Our Community Producer has been meeting with local schools Hotspur and Craggside to build connections and we are doing talks and workshops with children and teachers. They will also be visiting our space to see the exhibitions and have their 'Art Ambassadors' have been doing workshops with us at NewBridge.

Memory Cafe

The Memory Cafe is an ongoing project run in collaboration with The Forum Café, on Wretham Place, Shieldfield. It benefits Shieldfield residents who are living with dementia and the people who support them. Through providing an activity with an artist, we will encourage engagement, creativity and self-expression, helping to build confidence. It is hosted by staff and volunteers from NewBridge and the Forum Café, who provide a supportive space for keeping active, learning, socialising and building relationships. We have delivered 20 events this year for 15+ participants, many of whom now regularly attend other events at NewBridge including talks, workshops and socials.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (Cont.)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Shieldfield organisations meeting

Our Community Producer attends and hosts the Shieldfield Community Organisations meetings, a bi-monthly meet up for organisations and groups in Shieldfield. These are a chance for organisations in the area to update each other on what they've been up too and work on collaborative projects.

A key project in 22-23 was the publication *Who's in Shieldfield?* which launched in February 2023. NewBridge's Marketing Coordinator was instrumental in producing this special newsletter for Shieldfield alongside 12 organisations based in the area including Big River Bakery, Caring Hnads Pop Up Panty, Forum Café, and others.

Community Workshops

We are working with each of the workshop spaces (Printmaking, ceramics, darkroom and woodwork) to offer a programme of free workshops for the public. Some of these might be for community groups we're already working with such as Dwellbeing members, parents of children in our youth programme, caring hands service users etc. and some will be open to the public for booking or drop in. We have reached 101 participants in 22-23 year.

Community Meals

A programme of community meals take place once a month in the gallery space and are a great way for us to connect with more residents in the area. We always work with local Shieldfield residents (there are some fabulous cooks in the area!).

In the next year we will build on this work through a series of rolling, 6-month long residencies where we will work with a different local cook/chef over a sustained period, providing an opportunity to be supported to develop their catering business and/or a creative project or event, alongside a series of community meals, recipe sharing and skills shares.

Socials

We provide regular opportunities for community building, hosting spaces and activities which invite people to come together in our space and socialise.

- **Coffee Morning:** Two Collective Studio members started hosting a regular coffee morning for studio holders in Summer 2022, and in January opened this out to local residents and the community. There are normally around 15 - 25 people who attend this event each week.
- **Saturday Social:** In January we started hosting a weekly social on Saturday as part of Newcastle City Council's Winter Wellbeing Hub Scheme. This provides a warm and welcoming space, where people can have tea, coffee, food from Big River Bakery, and play games. It is open to all ages.

Due to the popularity of this programme, we have adapted our original plans so that we have a budget to keep running these gatherings – however we will need to look for alternative funding for this in the long-term.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (Cont.)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Delivery of Strategic Goal 5: Audience engagement

We have always placed audiences and participants at the forefront of our work, and we will continue to deliver a responsive, diverse, and varied programme that aims to maintain and attract people to our activities.

NewBridge has changed significantly in the last few years - our audiences, participants and collaborators have diversified and grown, and our programmes have adapted and changed responsively. In particular, our move to the Shieldfield Centre has seen a significant shift in our priorities and who we engage with our work.

As one artist reflected: "NewBridge is a fantastic example of how the arts can embrace everyone. They strive to embed best practice, share their knowledge, and use their experience to improve opportunities, connectivity and access for all within their community."

As highlighted, all our above programmes engage a wide variety of audiences in different ways. Our key priorities in 22-23 were:

1. Increase the depth and quality of people's experience of contemporary art:

We have delivered talks, events and workshops to increase the depth of peoples experience, and offered different ways in which to engage with our work. We have built upon existing partnerships to diversify and increase audiences including the Kaleidoscope Network, MotherOther and For Solidarity Network.

2. Increase the number of people who experience and engage with contemporary art:

We have increased the number of people who engage with our work, in particular, we have exceeded our own ambitions in terms of engagement with local residents in Shieldfield, and have built up a strong audience of local people, through events, targeted marketing, and responsive programming based on their interests.

3. Ensure that our space and programme is as accessible as possible

We have improved accessibility in our building and public spaces with the implementation of, for example, new signage and video walk-throughs informed by artist gobscore. We have audited communication online and in print for accessibility, and now offer large format texts, translated text where possible, and image captioning.

We regularly reflect on who takes part in our programmes and embed accessibility into our approach, ensuring opportunities are suitable for people with different experiences, backgrounds and needs. We continue to offer bursary places and free memberships across our programmes; creating space spaces for people to try out new things for the first time; and for many voices to shape our programmes.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (Cont.)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

4. Build our profile and reputation at a regional, national, and international level

Our artistic programme is truly artist-led and experimental, valuing collaboration and co-production with other arts organisations, local charities, groups of artists. Through partnership and long-term collaboration, we have worked to build our national profile and help position NewBridge as an organisation that commissions and exhibits outstanding artworks with a unique approach to supporting and working with artists and local communities.

Delivery of Strategic Goal 6: Working / organisational culture

The NewBridge Project seeks to create a positive working and organisational culture across our organisation and for those that we work with through all areas of our activity. We strive to be a learning organisation that regularly reflects upon the way we work, and how we can develop this responsively, meaningfully and with integrity, and can make urgent and considered change when required.

We want NewBridge to be a good place to work for our staff and volunteers, and for that positivity to be reflected in our building and the work that we programme. We have a strong team who all bring their own skills, creativity, experiences and perspectives to the organisation. We create space for open and honest conversation, so that the whole team are able to support each other's work and are able to think critically and collectively about our organisation, programme and what we want to do better in the future. As well as a workplace culture that embeds this, one of our key aims for this year is to ensure we do a good job of communicating these to the public, and ensuring that they are well understood by staff and trustees, and robust organisational procedures that support people pastorally and professionally so they can do their jobs well.

We aim to produce work that builds solidarity with the people around us, and is community-centred, experimental, collaborative and socially conscious at its heart, and through our programme we often explore complex issues. It's important to us that these values and explorations are not 'surface level'; we want them to resonate through the whole organisation. On the flipside, we spend a lot of time as a team talking about issues and things that really matter to us and how we work - we are aware that these conversations or resulting policies aren't always shared publicly. We are committed to shifting this balance, making more transparent and public our 'behind the scenes' work, and better embedding the learning from our public programmes across our values and policies.

Projects

Across a number of projects, we will work with artists and organisation to support the ongoing development of a positive working and organisational culture, supporting learning and advocacy across the organisation.

- **GROUNDWORK**

Groundwork is a new, long-term co-learning project with Arts Catalyst (Sheffield), Primary (Nottingham) and The Showroom (London) which aims to explore how arts and cultural organisations can better resource and strengthen the communities and places that they work within. Through this project we will explore socially engaged practice, what an art organisation's role can be in a neighborhood, the potential impact of this work on place (physical and community), and how the organisations can learn together to strengthen policy, working practices and structures. This project is in its early stages - Director, Rebecca Huggan has taken part in 6 planning and development meetings to date.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (Cont.)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

- **MOTHEROTHER x Practice Makes Practice**
MOTHEROTHER is an inclusive and supportive collective for artists who are also caregivers. We are working with them to host and collaborate across a number of workshops, events, socials and a residency that will create space to listen and learn from the experiences of those who are carers working in the arts. This will support us to embed change within our own organisation, as well as advocating for wider change and accessibility across the sector. To date have hosted the launch event for this programme as well as the first of 8 community sessions which will take place across the year. We have also launched a call out for the PMP x MotherOther Residency which will be a unique residency opportunity for an artist with caring responsibilities to undertake a residency in the Autumn with full wrap around support for fees, travel and care.

Operations/Structure

Some key actions and learning being implemented in 2023-24 year include:

- **Limelite HR & Learning**
Given the recent growth of the staff team, our programmes and groups that we work with, we undertook research into HR support. After a thorough search we are now working with Limelite HR & Learning, who will provide access to templates for policies, letters, and guidance documents, as well as bespoke advice, guidance and support when needed. We have had several onboarding conversations and they seem to be a really good fit and have a positive understanding of NewBridge and how we work. This will provide vital support to the staff team. They also provide training across different areas of HR – this isn't included in our current contract but could be worth exploring in the future.
- **Staff team**
We have introduced a new line management structure which better supports the team professionally and pastorally. A key priority is overseeing how well this is working for all staff and supporting some training and development for relevant staff if needed (though budget for this is limited in 23-24 year).

Financial Review

The out-turn for the year is an unrestricted surplus of £18,067 (2022: deficit £1,800).

The charity's total reserves at 31 March 2023 are £284,208, of which £107,472 are restricted reserves and £176,736 are unrestricted general funds.

The charity's total Unrestricted Reserves at 31 March 2023 are £176,736. Free reserves, defined as non-designated Unrestricted Reserves, minus the Net Book Value of Unrestricted Tangible Fixed Assets, are £148,398 at 31 March 2023.

However, c£30k of these reserves has been committed to activity in 2023/4 and, consequently, available reserves are c£118,398.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2023

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (Cont.)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Funding and Partnerships

The Board and staff of NewBridge would like to record their thanks to the funders and partners who made our work possible in 2022-23. We received support from Arts Council England National Portfolio, Newcastle University, Newcastle Culture Investment Fund, SHED, Weston Jerwood Creative Bursaries, Ousburn Ward Funding, North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA) Skills for Growth Fund and Community Foundation.

We worked closely with a number of regional partners to deliver projects and joint initiatives, including; BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Big River Bakery, The Comfrey Project, Connected Voice, Craigside School, Culture Against Racism North East, Dwellbeing Shieldfield, Forum Café Shieldfield, Gem Arts, Helix Arts, Hotspur School, Newcastle City Council, Newcastle University, North East CVAN, Slacks Radio, Shieldfield Art Works, Shieldfield Forum Café, Slugtown, Star and Shadow Cinema, Teakisi, Workplace.

We also worked closely with a number of national partners in other regions to deliver projects and joint initiatives, including: CAMP (Plymouth), Castlefield Arts (Manchester), CCSkills (for Creative Career Week), Eastside Projects (Birmingham), Good Press (Glasgow), Into the wild (Chisenhale, London), Left Bank (Leeds), Left Book Club (London), Lux (London), Metal (Peterborough), Pluto Press (London), Primary (Nottingham), Solidarity Economy Association, Spike Island (Bristol), Turf Projects (Croydon).

We have also been part of a network of 150 organisations taking part in the Weston Jerwood Creative Bursaries programme, which has provided invaluable cross-organisation support and learning throughout the year.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2023

PLANS FOR FUTURE YEARS

Funding and Partnerships

We have been working to become more sustainable and resilient, including securing long-term funding to support our expanded staff team and programme.

We have secured Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) funding for the next investment round running April 2023 - March 2026 and core funding until March 2025 from Newcastle Culture Investment Fund (NCIF) through the Community Foundation and Newcastle City Council.

We have a partnership agreement with Newcastle University to develop and deliver *The Collective Studio* programme until August 2025 and are working in partnership with them on the NTCA project.

We have secured 1 year of funding from SHED which will support project work and staff capacity until March 2023. We will reapply for this funding in autumn of each year. They are supporting us with an additional £20,000 in 2023-24 to support the recent growth of the Shieldfield Youth Programme.

We have secured funding from the North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA) Skills for Growth Fund, to support our artist development activity, totalling £534,446 over 3 years from July 2022–June 2025.

We have secured funding and support from Jerwood Arts Developing Artists programme for £40,655 over 18 months to deliver a new artist development programme, *Co-Act*.

We have secured funding from #iwill fund for the delivery of *Shieldfield Youth Voice*, a new programme for young people on our youth programme over the age of 10.

We have also been successful in securing several smaller grants, including the Ouseburn Ward Fund and the Newcastle Council Winter Wellbeing fund - we will look for small grants from places like this to supplement and support existing activity, or to make it more ambitious or sustainable.

We have developed a robust fundraising plan, which aims to apply to some larger funds in the 23-24 year including Big Lottery Fund, Arts Council England, and Garfield Weston Foundation.

Building

The 5-year lease for the Shieldfield Centre is our longest lease-term with no break clause to date. However, this does once again bring with it the multiple challenges of occupying space short-term.

We will continue to pursue our ambition to secure a permanent or long-term base, as well as exploring the feasibility of other business/financial models to ensure we can be responsive to different opportunities. We will continue our wide-ranging conversations with different stakeholders to explore future building options beyond this 5-year period, to ensure the future sustainability of the organisation.

Through these conversations we will also consider the legacy of the work we are doing in Shieldfield, and how we can support residents to have a say in what may come after us.

In addition to this we participate in regional and national development meetings around long-term, sustainable, and affordable workspace provision for creatives.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2023

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees (who are also the Directors of The NewBridge Project for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



Ilana Mitchell
Trustee
Company Registration Number 10582100

11 September 2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members on the Unaudited Accounts of The NewBridge Project Limited for the year ended 31 March 2023

I hereby report to the Trustees/Members of The NewBridge Project (Charity Registration Number 1165182) on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 set out on pages 34 to 45

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's Trustees (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

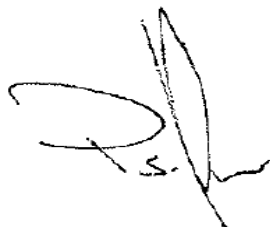
Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountant in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods or principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102)).

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.



Pete O'Hara, FCA, Chartered Accountant
Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales

4 Stoneyhurst Road West, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 1PG

11 September 2023

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income					
Income from Donations & Legacies	3	72,557	106,241	178,798	325,317
Income from Charitable Activities	4	155,642	30,000	185,642	147,033
Total Income		228,199	136,241	364,440	472,350
Expenditure					
Cost of Raising Funds	5	1,716	-	1,716	2,903
Expenditure on Charitable Activities	6	208,416	217,894	426,310	366,771
Total Expenditure		210,132	217,894	428,026	369,674
Net Income/(Expenditure)		18,067	(81,653)	(63,586)	102,676
Balance brought forward		158,669	189,125	347,794	245,118
Balance carried forward at 31 March	12	£176,736	£107,472	£284,208	£347,794

The notes on pages 36 to 45 form part of the financial statements.

All the activities of the company are classed as continuing.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION/BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	8	28,338	39,971
Current Assets			
Debtors	9	76,802	7,634
Cash at Bank & In Hand		291,071	368,951
		<u>367,873</u>	<u>376,585</u>
Creditors – Amounts Falling Due Within 1 Year	10	(112,003)	(68,762)
Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)		<u>255,870</u>	<u>307,822</u>
Total Net Assets	11	<u>£284,208</u>	<u>£347,794</u>
Represented by:			
Unrestricted Reserves	12	176,736	158,669
Restricted Reserves	12	107,472	189,125
		<u>£284,208</u>	<u>£347,794</u>

The notes on pages 36 to 45 form part of the financial statements.

The Trustees are satisfied that for the year ended 31 March 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption under section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees also confirm that the Members have not required the charity to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (i) ensuring that the charity keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act, and
- (ii) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charity.

These financial statements were approved and signed by a Member of the Board of Trustees on 11 September 2023



Ilana Mitchell
Trustee
Company Registration Number 10582100

The NewBridge Project (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Cash Flow Statement

The Directors have taken advantage of the provisions of the Financial Reporting Standard Number 1, which exempts small companies from the need to prepare a cash flow statement.

Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, any performance related conditions attached have been met or are fully within the control of the charity, the income is considered probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Donations and legacy income is received by way of donations, legacies, grants and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Where legacies have been notified to the charity but the criteria for income recognition have not been met, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.
- Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Investment income is included when receivable.
- Income from charitable trading activity is accounted for when earned.
- Other income is accounted for when receivable.

The NewBridge Project (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. Accounting Policies (Continued)

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- Costs of raising funds comprise the costs associated with attracting donations, grants and legacies and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes.
- Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.
- Other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

Irrecoverable VAT

All resources expended are classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

Operating Leases

The charity classifies the lease of certain types of equipment as operating leases as the title to the equipment remains with the lessor. Rental charges are charged against income on a straight-line basis over the year of the lease.

Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on any fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the assets over their remaining useful lives as follows:

Leasehold Property Improvements	- over the period of the lease
IT & Office Equipment	- 33% per annum straight line

A full year's depreciation charge is applied in the year of acquisition and no charge is made in the year of disposal.

Impairment of Fixed Assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

The NewBridge Project (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. Accounting Policies (Continued)

Financial Instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the purposes of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for specific purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

Taxation Status

The NewBridge Project Limited is a Charity registered under the 1960 Charities Act and is accorded exemption from liability to taxation on its income under S505 Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

2. Legal Status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1. The company law members of the charity are the members of its Board of Trustees.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

3. Income from Grants, Donations & Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Donations	1,269	-	1,269	1,111
Grant Income				
Arts Council England – NPO	71,288	-	71,288	71,288
#1 Will Fund via the Community Foundation	-	9,820	9,820	-
Dwellbeing Shieldfield	-	1,348	1,348	-
DWP - Kickstarter	-	6,266	6,266	1,500
Jerwood Foundation - Creative Bursary	-	1,453	1,453	6,581
Newcastle City Council – Ouseburn Ward	-	2,615	2,615	-
Newcastle CC – Winter Wellbeing Fund	-	5,252	5,252	-
Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund - Core	-	20,000	20,000	38,000
North of Tyne Combined Authority	-	59,487	59,487	-
Sustainability.Health.Environment. Development.	-	-	-	206,837
	71,288	106,241	177,529	324,206
	£72,557	£106,241	£178,798	£325,317

Of the 2022 total of £325,317, £72,399 related to Unrestricted Funds and £252,918 to Restricted Funds.

4. Income from Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Associate Membership	3,370	-	3,370	2,803
Bookshop Sales	2,517	-	2,517	2,266
Collective Studio Membership	7,745	-	7,745	5,975
Museums & Galleries Exhibition Tax Relief	14,480	-	14,480	7,595
Newcastle University	-	30,000	30,000	20,000
Studio Membership Fees - Gateshead	-	-	-	3,055
Studio Membership Fees – Carlisle House, Newcastle	-	-	-	12,719
Studio Membership Fees – Shieldfield, Newcastle	107,469	-	107,469	77,586
Other Income	20,061	-	20,061	15,034
	£155,642	£30,000	£185,642	£147,033

Of the 2022 total of £147,033, £115,583 related to Unrestricted Funds and £31,450 to Restricted Funds.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

5. Expenditure on Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Bookshop Costs	696	-	696	2,903
Fundraising Consultancy Fees	1,020	-	1,020	-
	£1,716	£-	£1,716	£2,903

The 2022 total of £2,903 relates wholly to Unrestricted Funds.

6. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Programme/Project Costs				
Programme Expenditure	-	70,176	70,176	72,852
Programme Committee Stipend	5,763	-	5,763	2,250
Salaries & On Costs	43,572	147,718	191,290	159,887
Website Development	500	-	500	1,600
Travel & Research	4,995	-	4,995	2,374
	54,830	217,894	272,724	238,963
Support Costs				
Rent, Rates & Water	43,303	-	43,303	26,160
Heat & Light	37,964	-	37,964	20,268
Cleaning & Waste	11,470	-	11,470	10,650
Repairs & Maintenance	17,908	-	17,908	14,376
Depreciation	13,027	-	13,027	13,032
Other Administration & Running Costs	20,911	-	20,911	17,954
	144,583	-	144,583	102,440
Governance Costs				
Independent Examiner's Fees	1,080	-	1,080	1,080
Other Accountancy & Book-keeping Costs	4,022	-	4,022	3,082
Legal & Professional Fees	3,720	-	3,720	21,025
Trustee Meeting Costs	181	-	181	181
	9,003	-	9,003	25,368
	£208,416	£217,894	£426,310	£366,771

Of the 2022 total of £366,771, £186,879 related to Unrestricted Funds and £179,892 to Restricted Funds.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

7. Net Income/(Expenditure)

	2023	2022
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Independent Examiner's Fees – current year	1,080	1,080
Independent Examiner – other services	360	360
Depreciation of owned Tangible Fixed Assets	<u>13,027</u>	<u>13,032</u>

8. Staff Costs & Trustees' Remuneration

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gross Salary Costs	179,400	151,532
Employer's National Insurance	8,368	5,636
Employer's Pension Contributions	<u>3,522</u>	<u>2,719</u>
	<u>£191,290</u>	<u>£159,887</u>

No employee received remuneration of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

The average number of staff employed during the year, calculated as full-time equivalents, was as follows:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Artistic Production and Support	7	6

No remuneration has been paid to any Trustees/Directors in the year (2022: Nil), nor was any reimbursement made to Trustees in respect of their attendance at meetings of the charity (2022: Nil).

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

9. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Workshop, Office & ICT Equipment £	Leasehold Property Improvements £	Total Fixed Assets £
Cost			
At 1 April 2022	12,603	44,543	57,146
Additions in year	1,394	-	1,394
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 March 2023	13,997	44,543	58,540
Accumulated Depreciation			
At 1 April 2022	8,266	8,909	17,175
Charge for year	4,119	8,908	13,027
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 March 2023	12,385	17,817	30,202
Net Book Value			
At 31 March 2023	£1,612	£26,726	£28,338
At 1 April 2022	£4,337	£35,634	£39,971

10. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade Debtors	2,026	399
Prepayments	15,289	7,235
Accrued Income	59,487	-
	£76,802	£7,634

11. Creditors – Amounts Falling Due Within 1 Year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade Creditors	26,718	19,002
Other Creditors	823	499
Other Creditors – Studio & Key Deposits Held	10,817	9,879
Other Taxes & Social Security Costs	3,712	2,470
Accruals	69,933	36,912
	£112,003	£68,762

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

12. Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	28,338	-	28,338	39,971
Debtors	17,315	59,487	76,802	7,634
Cash at Bank and In Hand	243,086	47,985	291,071	368,951
Creditors – Amounts Due Within 1 Year	(112,003)	-	(112,003)	(68,762)
	£176,736	£107,472	£284,208	£347,794

13. Analysis of Charitable Funds

	Fund at 1 April 2022	Incoming Resources in Year	Resources Expended in Year	Fund at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds				
Charity General Fund	158,669	228,199	(210,132)	176,736
Restricted Funds				
#I Will Fund via the Community Foundation	-	9,820	-	9,820
Dwellbeing Shieldfield – Shieldfield Youth Programme	-	1,348	(1,348)	-
DWP - Kickstarter	1,500	6,266	(7,766)	-
Jerwood Foundation - Creative Bursary	-	1,453	(1,453)	-
Newcastle City Council – Ouseburn Ward	-	2,615	(2,615)	-
Newcastle City Council – Winter Wellbeing Fund	-	5,252	(5,252)	-
Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund – Core Programme	5,243	20,000	(21,783)	3,460
Newcastle University – Collective Studio	9,442	30,000	(15,006)	24,436
North of Tyne Combined Authority Sustainability. Health. Environment. Development.	-	59,487	(59,487)	-
	172,940	-	(103,184)	69,756
Total Restricted Funds	189,125	136,241	(217,894)	107,472
Total Funds	£347,794	£364,440	£(428,026)	£284,208

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

13. Analysis of Charitable Funds (Cont.)

Name of Restricted Fund	Description, Nature & Purpose of the Restricted Fund
#1 Will Fund via the Community Foundation	Towards the cost of the delivery of Shieldfield Youth Voice, a new programme for young people on our youth programme over the age of 10
Dwellbeing Shieldfield – Shieldfield Youth Programme	Towards the cost of a programme for young people in Shieldfield
DWP – Kickstarter	Towards the costs of employing a young person
Jerwood Foundation - Creative Bursary	Towards the cost of participation in the Weston Jerwood Creative Bursaries programme
Newcastle City Council – Ouseburn Ward	Towards the cost of a programme for young people in Shieldfield
Newcastle City Council – Winter Wellbeing Fund	Towards the cost of a Winter Wellbeing Hub
Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund – Core Programme	Towards the Practice Makes Practice programme, and related staff costs
Newcastle University – Collective Studio	Towards the Collective Studio inc. staff costs
North of Tyne Combined Authority	Towards the cost of Collaborate: Skills and talent development pathways for creative practitioners
Sustainability. Health. Environment. Development.	Towards the cost of For Solidarity project, Youth Programme, project work and events in Shieldfield, and associated staff costs

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

14. Taxation

The company is a registered charity and no provision is considered necessary for taxation.

15. Financial Commitments

No material financial commitments have been made in respect of future financial years.

16. Company Limited by Guarantee

The charity is incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 and is limited by guarantee, each member having undertaken to contribute such amounts not exceeding £1 as may be required in the event of the company being wound up whilst he or she is still a member or within one year thereafter. There are currently 6 (2022: 5) members of the company.

THE NEWBRIDGE PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1173849

Accounts

Company Registration Number 10582100

Registered Charity Number 1173849

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
For the year ending 31 March 2022

**The NewBridge
Project**

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Name	The NewBridge Project
Charity Registration Number	1173849
Company Registration Number	10582100
Registered Office	Shieldfield Centre, 4 - 8 Clarence Walk, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 1AL

Trustees

For the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, the Board of Trustees is the Board of Directors of the charitable company and is referred to as the Trustees throughout this report.

The Trustees of The NewBridge Project during the year and to the date of signing this report are as follows:

Ilana Mitchell (Chair)	
Jonathan Combe	
Sally Dixon	
Julia Heslop	
Ray Mills	Resigned 6 December 2021
Dr Paul Richter	
Melanie Shee	Resigned 6 December 2021

Company Secretary	Rebecca Huggan
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Bankers	The Co-operative Bank, Norfolk House, 84-86 Grey Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 6BZ
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Independent Examiner	Mr P O'Hara FCA, 4 Stoneyhurst Road West, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 1PG
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The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Documents

The NewBridge Project is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 25 January 2017 and registered as a charity on 18 July 2017. The charity is controlled by its governing document, its Memorandum & Articles of Association and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act.

The Directors of the company are also Trustees of the charity.

Eligibility for membership of the charity, and membership of the Board of Trustees, is governed by the Articles of Association. There are no restrictions in the governing document on the operation of the charity other than those imposed by general charity law.

Charitable Purpose

The NewBridge Project's charitable objects are to foster and advance the appreciation and understanding of the arts for the benefit of the public.

Structure and Governance

The charity currently has a Board of 5 non-executive Trustees.

The Board meets a minimum of 4 times per year. A written Director's report, quarterly management accounts, a meeting agenda and any other necessary Board papers are prepared by the Director and circulated in advance of meetings.

The NewBridge Project is governed by the Board of Trustees with a staff team (employed and freelance) overseeing the day to day operation, comprising of:

Director - Rebecca Huggan
Programme Director – Dawn Bothwell
Studio & Members Manager – Ruby Glover
Artist Development Programmer – Daniel Russell
Marketing Co-ordinator – Kitty McKay
For Solidarity Project Manager – Hannah Kirkham
Community Producer – Elaine Robertson
Create / Disrupt Project Manager – Izzy Finch
Youth Worker – Kate Jeffries
Programme & Front of House Assistant (Kickstart Apprentice) – Hannah Rickman Peddie
Bookkeeper – Niamh Cunningham

The Contribution of Volunteers

The charity makes extensive use of volunteers to support its activities.

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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (Continued)

Recruitment and Appointment of Board of Trustees (Cont.)

Any person who is willing to act as a Director and is permitted by law to do so, may be appointed to be a Director by a decision of the Directors. Any Director appointed by a resolution of the other Directors must retire at the next Annual General Meeting following his or her appointment and may offer themselves for re-election and if any Director is required to retire at an Annual General Meeting the retirement shall take effect from the conclusion of the meeting.

Trustees are recruited through an open call out process for Trustees, describing the skills required. This is advertised through a range of accessible channels and networks. Trustees are elected to the Board based on discussions and recommendations offered by Trustees, the Director and external advisors to the organisation.

Trustee Induction and Training

New Trustees are inducted by the Director and current Trustees and are provided with a range of resources to support their understanding of The NewBridge Project and its activities, including a document detailing the role of Trustees and staff within the company.

Artists and other creatives who pay to join are known as Studio or Associate Members of NewBridge. They become members of the community, but they are not members of the company or charity.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have reviewed the charity's needs for Reserves in line with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission. We reviewed our reserves policy in April 2021 and have set a new minimum reserves level.

The NewBridge Project aims to hold free reserves of £100,000, which would enable us to meet all financial liabilities, overheads & majority of staff costs over a 6-month period, ensuring resilience if we face unplanned costs or disruptions.

The NewBridge Project then aims to build an additional, unrestricted designated reserve of £50,000 over the next 4 years to support charity to relocate at the end of our current lease (June 2026) if required. (The previous £50,000 allocation was used to support the relocation to Shieldfield).

The target level of Unrestricted Reserves is therefore £150,000.

The charity's total Unrestricted Reserves at 31 March 2022 are £158,699. Free reserves, defined as non-designated Unrestricted Reserves, minus the Net Book Value of Unrestricted Tangible Fixed Assets, are £118,698 at 31 March 2022. However, c£22k of these reserves has been committed to activity in 2022/23 and, consequently, available reserves are c£97k.

The Trustees aim, through their budgeting processes, to reach the aspirational level of reserves within 3-4 financial years.

Grant Making Policy

The charity does not currently engage in grant-making activity.

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Overview

The NewBridge Project is an active artist-led community that supports artists, curators and communities through the provision of space for creative practice, curatorial opportunities and an ambitious artist-led programme of exhibitions, commissions, artist development and events.

The NewBridge Project was established in 2010 to provide exchange and support in an engaged community of artists. Our building houses 120 artists and numerous project and production spaces. Our public spaces, which include a gallery, bookshop and event spaces, are places where artists and local communities can come together to work, learn and socialise with each other.

We aim to deliver an outstanding programme in consultation with members, artists and the community. This creates a programme that reflects the diversity of contemporary art practice, is responsive to the environment within which it exists, builds solidarity, and places community-centred, experimental, collaborative and socially conscious programming at its heart.

Our programme consists of:

Commissions, exhibitions and projects:

We aim to deliver an artistic programme that is artist-led and experimental in its approach. NewBridge staff work alongside an evolving and rotating Programme Committee to shape and deliver an artistic programme with a diverse curatorial voice, which supports the production and presentation of new artwork through exhibitions, commissions, off-site projects, our bookshop and events.

As well as stand-alone projects and exhibitions working with early and mid-career artists, we explore broader themes over long periods which inform both each other and the way we develop our public programme and organisation. These have included: *Hidden Civil War* (2016), which explored austerity and inequality in the wake of the EU referendum; *Deep Adaptation* (2017-2018) which considered how social, political and economic issues could be understood in relation to climate change; and *For Solidarity* (2019 – ongoing) which has mapped and established a network of organisations, communities and individuals who are working toward social and climate justice, and exploring alternatives to the mainstream economic system, producing events, exhibitions and co-created projects.

We work with Co-Investigators - community researchers who gather insights and provide feedback from their diverse range of perspectives on our programme and/or themes and issues we are exploring. Each Co-investigator works with us over a year, and their input directly feeds into the development of our programme.

Community hub & public space:

NewBridge houses a gallery space, artist-led bookshop, library, screening room, event spaces and multiple workshops and project spaces. But our space is more than just a building; it's a public, welcoming place where people can come together to meet, make, learn and socialise. Through these facilities and a regular programme of events and activities including communal meals, social events, creative workshops and the *Shieldfield Youth Programme*, we aim to provide a resource for the creative and local community alike, building a community of artists, members, residents and contributors.

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (Continued)

Overview (Cont.)

Artist Development:

NewBridge works with artists at all stages of their careers, providing support through three programmes of creative, personal and professional development. These programmes are needs-led and created *by* artists, *for* artists. *Practice makes Practice* (est. 2015) is for all artists, curators and people interested in the arts; *The Collective Studio* (est. 2017) is an annual 10-month early-career/graduate programme for artists across all creative disciplines at the start of their careers; and *Create/Disrupt* (est. 2021) which creates new pathways for people to develop a creative career and aims to remove systemic barriers that exist in the cultural sector, supporting those who are currently underrepresented.

Studio and workspace:

NewBridge provides affordable and accessible studio and project spaces for artists and creatives in the North East. The shared workspace is a critical and collaborative environment that allows artists to discuss and develop new ideas and projects. We are based at the Shieldfield Centre, a 28,000 square foot building, which, alongside our public spaces, houses over 120 studio members, co-work spaces, member-led workshop facilities, flexible project spaces for making and presenting work.

Strategic Objectives and Public Benefit

The Trustees understand and have discussed the implications of the provisions of the Charities Act 2006, which state that all charities must demonstrate that they are established for public benefit and have had due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

The Trustees believe that the charity meets both of the key principles:

Principle 1 — There must be an identifiable benefit, or benefits:

To work towards our Vision, Mission & Values, the following strategic objectives underpin everything we do, demonstrating clear, tangible benefits.

Strategic Objectives

1. Develop artistic talent through artist development programmes, networking, curatorial opportunities and shared learning.
2. Provide opportunities for career development, employment and training within the visual arts sector in the North East of England.
3. Provide space, facilities and resources for artists in the North East of England.
4. Support the production and presentation of ambitious and pioneering new artwork outside traditional institutional frameworks.
5. Provide a welcoming environment and community hub, creating a resource and programme for artists and the local community alike.
6. Increase the number of people who experience, engage and participate in contemporary visual art, while increasing the depth and quality of their experience.
7. Create a positive organisational and working culture

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (Continued)

Strategic Objectives and Public Benefit (Cont.)

Principle 2 — Benefit must be to the public, or a section of the public:

Each element of our work provides benefit to one or more clearly identified sections of the public, whether the artistic community or the general public, who can access and enjoy the work produced as a result.

NewBridge's beneficiaries are therefore entirely appropriate to its aims and the wider public benefit from its work.

All of these benefits are clear, evidenced and relate directly to NewBridge's aims. In addition, the Trustees do not consider that any significant detriment or harm flows from NewBridge's work.

Risk Management

The Trustees of the charity regularly review the major governance, operational and financial risks which the charity faces as part of its annual business planning process and confirm that systems have been established to mitigate these risks.

NewBridge Project has a risk management strategy in place which comprises:

- an annual review of the strategic risks the charity may face via the business plan ^[1]_{SEP}
- the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified
- the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.
- The review of the risk register at quarterly trustee meetings to employ comprehensive and regular self-evaluation.

The Director and staff team are fully engaged in risk management and take a direct role in managing risks through the following procedure: 1. identifying risks; 2. analysing risks; 3. evaluating/ranking risks; 4. mitigating risks; 5. monitoring/ reviewing risks.

The Director works with staff and trustees to determine type of risk; strategic, compliance, financial, operational or reputational. The risk register is kept updated and an appropriate risk response employed: avoidance, mitigation, acceptance or transferal.

A risk management plan is completed for larger projects with specific/numerous risks. Any risk rated as high/critical is immediately reported to the Board.

The Trustees are satisfied that appropriate financial systems and controls and employment policies and practices are in place.

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (Continued)

Risk Management (Cont.)

The Trustees consider the key risks facing the charity at this time and the mitigating actions taken to be as follows:

- Operational / financial: Managing new funding and reporting from North of Tyne Combined Authority - NTCA Skills for Growth Fund requires high-level reporting and financial claims funding which could stretch capacity of team.
 - A separate, detailed risk management plan has been completed for this project which identifies potential risks and resulting management and mitigating actions.
 - We have costed a Reporting/Project Officer into the NTCA bid to lead on evaluation and reporting, including monitoring financial and contractual KPI performance. This will ensure we have the capacity to do all required reporting.
 - A Project Operations group will oversee effective delivery and compliance; Director will then report to NewBridge Board of Trustees.
- Financial: Unexpected escalation of costs, resulting in difficulty to keep to budgets or delivery proposed numbers of activities - We recognise there is likely to continue to be an escalation in costs due to inflation/rising cost of living – this may impact on materials and items procured for programme delivery.
 - We will continue to seek best value for money and communicate between team members to ensure that wherever possible we can still meet our objectives.
 - As an organisation we have always been adept at adapting our programme and model in response to fluctuations in costs and funding
- Financial: Previous high-level reserves depleted by pandemic support and relocation to Shieldfield Centre, leaving us with decrease in reserves which results in less contingency
 - We have a new reserves policy and are working toward having general reserves of £100k which will cover 6 months of running costs, and sufficient reserves to cover any major financial risks.
 - We have almost reached this target due to a large number of accruals for utilities for previous buildings being less than expected when finally billed.
 - We aim to build an additional level of £50k reserves over the next 5 years which will enable us to relocate once our current lease at Shieldfield ends.
- Operational: Staff team has doubled over the last 18 months, and Director manages 8 of 10 staff, which could result in lack of cohesion and less time for support of staff team:
 - We create a good working environment for all staff, with appropriate procedures and policies in place to support wellbeing and development.
 - We will continue to have annual PDRs with all staff and bi-monthly 121s with line managers to ensure staff are supported to develop in their roles within the organisation.
 - We also have weekly team meetings, and monthly programme meetings with the full team so that all staff are informed about all our activity and support one another.
 - We are undergoing a period of organisational review, to look at gaps within our current team, where capacity is stretched and what opportunities we have to support professional development within the organisation, and recruit new staff where needed.

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (Continued)

Risk Management (Cont.)

The Trustees also manage the general financial risks arising by ensuring that:

- Prudent budgets have been set for the next financial year
- Quarterly management accounts are provided, showing the performance against budget and any predicted deficit/surplus
- Reserves policy allows for flexibility and sustainability should unexpected costs occur

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Delivery of Objectives 1, 2 & 3 including Key Achievements

The NewBridge Project supports artists to develop their artistic practice and build sustainable careers through a number of artist development programmes aimed at practitioners at different stages of their careers. The strands are:

- **Practice makes Practice (PMP)** – ongoing programme of events and opportunities for early to mid-career artists, encouraging life-long learning
- **The Collective Studio (TCS)** – annual 10-month creative development programme for recent graduates and/or early-career creatives in partnership with Newcastle University
- **Create/Disrupt (CID)** – new programme for practitioners with no formal degree and/or who face barriers to accessing creative opportunities
- **Programme Committee (PC)** - hands-on professional development experience, providing individuals with the opportunity to gain experience in aspects of research, curation and programme management.

Our 3 unique development strands offer multiple entry points to create accessibility to people from all backgrounds and at all stages of their career. Through a programme of events, opportunities, and online resources, we will provide practical needs-led support and advice in response to the present needs of our members and the wider artistic community.

We have also formed formal partnerships with national and regional organisations to come together to create opportunities and deliver activities to broaden the reach of our respective development programmes and activity, and the networks of those participating.

Practice makes Practice (PMP)

PMP is an ongoing artist development programme of events and opportunities aimed at early to mid-career artists, encouraging life-long learning.

PMP is a major visual arts talent development programme for North East England; it is shaped by its members and the wider creative community to ensure it develops in response to their needs and interests, creating a forum for shared learning, critical conversation, space for networks to cultivate and new opportunities and practices to emerge.

The programme is open to all NewBridge members (Studio and Associate), as well as through attending a one-off event

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

The PMP model is wide-reaching to encourage broad engagement with the programme to support personal, professional and creative development. The model is varied and includes:

- **GO PRO:** advice sessions and practical workshops exploring how to survive as an artist; from grant writing, self-employment, promoting and selling artwork, publication making and more.
- **TALK ABOUT ART:** through crits, discussions, studio visits and one-to-one sessions with artists and cultural professionals, creating a supportive environment for artists to talk about their work and get feedback.
- **WILD CARD:** artistic practice is influenced by a variety of elements; including social, political, technological and scientific – we host discussions with people from many different fields to connect artists with different sectors and current societal concerns – anything goes!
- **PEER-LED:** peer-to-peer sessions led and instigated by NewBridge members, creating a space for shared learning and discussion.
- **SOCIALS:** it's important to have a supportive peer group around you; we host get-togethers, socials and dinners, creating opportunities to meet and talk.
- **FIELD TRIPS:** we arrange visits, exchanges and field trips across cities and regions helping facilitate new networks and develop connections with artists, curators and galleries.
- **OPPORTUNITIES:** dedicated opportunities just for members including residencies, exhibitions, commissions and exchanges.

Between April 2021 – March 2022 we delivered: **25** PMP events, and **5** digital commissions alongside **63** artists. This engaged **98** Studio Members, **53** Associate Members, **63** TCS Members, **10** C/D members & a further **504** active participants and **174** digital audiences.

We commissioned **5 x PMP Online Resources** which were published on our website between April 21 - March 2022. This series of digital commissions explore current contemporary art practice, shared learning, critical conversations, and collaboration, and have reached an audience of **1085** people.

A small selection of *PMP* events in the last 12 months include:

- *Where we find ourselves* - Guided walk from Gateshead to Shieldfield, stopping at 9 sites to discuss conversations Ian has had over lockdown to re-find hope. This was followed by a screening with Star and Shadow cinema.
- *Art Fuddle* with artists Midge Ryall and Ellie Scoriah - an online sharing event where people discussed hobbies, esoteric interests, works-in-progress. This was along artists members from organisations in the Kaleidoscope network (NewBridge, Primary, Spike Island, Eastside Projects)
- *Work Party for Cheats* with Rachael Clerke – a workshop where people helped one another finish the stuff and tasks they have been struggling with – from creative projects, to tax returns to t-shirt making.
- *Tax and Self Assessment Workshop* with NewBridge's bookkeeper Niamh Cunningham,
- *Art Crawl with Incursions* – Artist duo *Incursions* led a group on an art walk using CVAN (Contemporary Visual Art Network) Art Map as a guide and starting point.
- *Hyper Banality Fan Club* - An online group who meet monthly to discuss mundanity and the everyday in art. The founder members (Zara Worth, Katrina Cobain, Jill McKnight, Emily Speed, David Steans and Dr Dawn Woolley) are joined by people recruited from across the UK each month.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

We have also supported 3 residencies across the year:

Transitions research residency – Priya Mistry: Priya spent 2 weeks in residence at the recently vacated Gateshead space. The residency coincides with a period of change as NewBridge moves to The Shieldfield Centre and prepares to reopen. As part of this residency she wanted to share and develop ideas during an open-ended, tactile and imaginative workshop using clay, called *The Body is a Vessel*.

The **PMP Residency** provides artists with time and space to develop their practice within the NewBridge community, and programme PMP during their time with us.

- Artist duo **Abel Shah** resumed their residency, initially started through a series of weekly group discussions in March 2020 which explored ideas around collaboration, problems encountered working this way and strategies to open up exchange and dialogue. Unfortunately, these sessions were cut-short due to the covid-19 pandemic but the group continued to develop their discussions online. Abel Shah returned in February – March 2022 for *Exodysis II*, an exhibition and residency where they used the gallery as a space of facilitation, presenting a body of work that developed alongside ongoing dialogues with fellow practitioners and collaborators by thinking about how meaning and relationships are built through language and exploring alternative ways of communicating.

- Artist **gobscure** were selected for the 2022 *Practice makes Practice* residency, which will take place over 4 weeks between April – July. Gobscure has long worked with creative resistances: 'small' spaces where power tips. Their residency will introduce and expand on chokepoints: chokepoints are blockages that disrupt systems. The book *Chokepoints* published by Pluto Press is inspiration for this work.

The first part of their residency has engaged with and focus on staff and outsiders to NewBridge. gobscure is using publicly accessible spaces like the Shieldfield area surrounding NewBridge, the bookshop and the gallery for walking, rolling, strolling, eating together and asking questions.

Free associate membership bursaries: we are committed to ensuring that our artist development programme and support is accessible to artists from a range of backgrounds, supporting everyone to have an opportunity to develop a career in the arts. We offered 10, free annual memberships from October 2021 – October 2022. These bursaries were for artists and makers from low-income households and gave full access to our programme of events and development opportunities.

Feedback from members about NewBridge and *Practice makes Practice*:

"Wouldn't have been able to do most of the things that I've been able to achieve on my own or with others without the help and support of The NewBridge Project, I see it as a tremendous asset to our region and I often hear others from the region and from outside the region agree."

"This would've been impossible without Newbridge - the space, the support, the connections, the opportunities. If it weren't for Newbridge, I doubt I'd be an artist at all"

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

"NB has been integral to the development of my artistic practice... The people that work there are extremely helpful in helping to apply for funding, to advice on professional practice."

The Collective Studio (TCS)

TCS is a 10-month development programme for early-career and/or recent graduate artists and creative practitioners. It provides practitioners with affordable studios & workspace, access to peer-led training and development events, mentoring and a series of professional creative opportunities to develop and challenge practice outside of an institutional framework and generate resilient and imaginative approaches to creative practice.

TCS purposefully takes a flexible approach to its curriculum, providing a range of different opportunities to suit a diverse range of practices, with a regular programme shaped by and for its members. It evolves year on year, shaped by its cohort of members. TCS is run by NewBridge in partnership with Newcastle University & its Institute for Creative Arts Practice.

Between April 2020 – March 2021 we delivered: **10** TCS events, **20** socials, **4** intensive 2-day workshops alongside **28** artists. This has engaged **63** TCS Members across 2 cohorts (programmes run October – August each year).

For each cohort, we offered 2 Associate memberships and 2 hot-desk memberships for those who face barriers associated with race, disability, age, gender identity, sexuality and/or class, and 1 Studio Membership bursary to a disabled emerging artist, making the programme accessible to all.

Much of the activity for the 2020-21 which ended in August 2021 had to take place online due to Covid restrictions. This approach provided a fantastic experience for Associate members not based in the region and is something we hope to build on with future iterations of the programme - ensuring that we provide a blended programme which supports online and in person attendees.

The Collective Studio has now moved to a fantastic new space at the Shieldfield Centre, which has been designed to support collective learning and making, and the new cohort of the Collective Studio began in October 2021.

Feedback on *The Collective Studio*:

"It went well because I felt part of a creative community. Meeting new people, having access to a studio space and mentorship from peers and professionals. Being supported to realise my ideas in terms of initiating activity as well as taking part in others. Softening the blow and preparing me for life outside of uni, how to navigate my practice and to achieve / work out what I'd like out of having a practice."

"Within the last year you have enabled me to come out of my socially awkward self, create artwork I never thought was possible and to put it in an exhibition. And it does not stop there, I applied for a new job and got it, but the remarkable thing is, I was originally hoping the Collective would help me find a job working in the community, AND guess what, this is what I will be doing"

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Create / Disrupt (C/D)

In February 2021 we launched *Create/Disrupt*, a new programme aimed at those with no creative degree, people who are underrepresented in the sector, and who might face barriers to developing a career in the arts or as an artist.

The programme started with a series of **5 x online workshops** that engaged a group of **25 participants**. The first few of sessions were informal online gatherings, where we could get to know interested participants. We then hosted 2 events in May with practitioners who did not go to university. They discussed their pathway and journey in to becoming arts workers and offered insight, advice, sharing mistakes made and opportunities that helped them enter the cultural sector. Speakers included: **BEN BROOME** – an artist and curator originally from Newcastle (now lives in London). He founded *Drawing a Blank* in 2016, an independent platform supporting artists, photographers and image makers through temporary curated exhibitions and the publishing of limited-edition prints, zines and books. **MICHAEL J FOX** is a photographer whose work is inspired by painting and sculpture, and with abstraction at the heart of his practice. His early career was cultivated in skateboarding and required using mostly analog equipment, these early experimental techniques remain fundamental to his motion projects.

The decision to deliver the first part of the project online was a result of the Covid19 lockdowns, which at the time, had no end date. Whilst hosting events online meant we reached a much broader audience – it was much trickier to build rapport between participants who all had different needs, backgrounds and experience using technology. Once restrictions were lifted, we made the decision to host all events in person.

Weekly Sessions:

We hosted 6 sessions off site at The Journey Café (at the time NewBridge were relocating to a new premise – the Shieldfield Centre) which was the first opportunity for the group to start meeting regularly. The first few weeks were spent collecting group ideas, hopes, fears and aspirations for the programme to ensure it was authentically co-created activity.

The needs of the group vary in terms of personal development but include ambitions of hosting group shows, attracting funding, facilitation and producing work collaboratively. Three common collective interests emerged from all artists enrolled in *Create/Disrupt*; A desire to feel a sense of belonging within a creative community, an element of advocacy in the programme of activity and access to a studio space.

In response to this we programmed a series of workshops, and the group have now worked with five artists and two curators all with diverse practices and varied pathways into the arts. Workshops have involved working with Lesley Guy to explore collaborative making, and we are currently working with artists George Stewart, Niall Greaves and Ciara Lenihan in the NewBridge Print Studio to collectively create a zine and develop screen printing skills.

We have also had events where Create/Disrupt members have come together with other NewBridge and Collective Studio members. This was particularly useful in not only bridging the gap between our development programme and others, but by creating a safe space for dialogues around social hierarchies and differences in experiences for those who have been to university and for those who have not. By opening up these conversations we have created a place for shared learning and skill shares between peers from different backgrounds.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Create/Disrupt have been on research field trips; One to Newcastle art spaces, where they met with different curators and artists at spaces across the city, and one day trip to Sheffield where they visited DIY art spaces, studios and galleries. They will also be going on a trip to Liverpool later in the year.

Why Create Disrupt and the future beyond the pilot year.

The pilot year has demonstrated the need for *Create/Disrupt* to be a permanent programme and a core part of NewBridge's artist development offer. As such we identified a need to secure funding to ensure that we could continue the programme, and invest in its development and diversification.

We knew through our evaluation of equality & diversity data that there were people across multiple protected characteristics and socio-economic backgrounds who were not participating in our programmes, or applying for jobs or opportunities. *Create/Disrupt* is enabling us to take a step toward removing barriers, providing an alternative pathway toward working in the arts or as a creative freelancer, which will ultimately result in a greater diversity of people entering the cultural workforce, which we hope in the long-run will be reflected in the leadership and work of Northern cultural organisations in the future (this sounds grandiose – we know we can't do this alone – but programmes like this are a step toward making this happen).

We have secured funding from North of Tyne Skills for Growth Fund, to continue *Create/Disrupt* beyond the pilot. This will enable us to continue supporting the existing cohort, as well as reaching more people and providing more support to remove barriers and build alternative pathways into the arts.

The future development of the programme includes:

- **Core cohort:** We will continue working with and expanding the core group of *Create/Disrupt* participants who were formed during the pilot year. This will include events, workshops and opportunities that support them to further develop skills and confidence. In addition to this they will have a large shared studio space at the Shieldfield Centre, which was cited as a top priority for all *Create/Disrupt* members.
- **Young peoples programme:** Fewer than 2% of posts in the arts are held by people under 25, so we will further develop *Create/Disrupt* by creating a new strand of development aimed at people aged 18-25. Through this programme we will create opportunities for young people from all backgrounds to engage with arts and culture, explore their creativity, and pursue a pathway toward working in the arts, but do not want to or are unable to go to university.
- **Outreach – talks and workshops:** We will do a series of workshops and talks in schools, colleges and community groups to promote the programme, and through this we hope of inspiring people in Newcastle to consider a creative career as a real possibility for them, and encourage them to participate in *Create/Disrupt*.
- **Accredited programmes / paid university courses:** Whilst *Create/Disrupt* is about providing alternatives to university, we also recognise that for some it is a financial barrier that stops them pursuing a degree, rather than not wanting to go. As such we will work with Newcastle University to provide free accredited

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Partnerships for artist development

We have developed **2 key partnership projects** as part of our artist development offer, both of which have diversified and increased what we offer our members and provided new and exciting opportunities for them to connect with creatives outside the region.

- **The Exchange** - A 6-month programme workshops, networking events and activities, with the aim of supporting artists to make connections with others across the country. The project is supporting **60 artists (10 NewBridge members)** and involves **5 partners** - Eastside Projects (Birmingham), CAMP (Plymouth), G39 (Cardiff), Spike Island (Bristol), and Turf Projects (Croydon).
- **Kaleidoscope Network** - 4 partner organisations' respective members have the opportunity to attend events hosted by the other partners. This increases the offer and national networking opportunities for our members and shares our programme with a broader geographical audience. We are working with Primary (Nottingham) Spike Island (Bristol) and Eastside Projects (Birmingham) on this.

Delivery of Strategic Goal 3

Building Move

In July 2021 we moved into a new building, the Shieldfield Centre, relocating from our 2 premises in Newcastle city centre and Gateshead High Street. This has been a long-anticipated step for NewBridge and saw us move alongside 95% of our previous studio members. Between April – June we built studio spaces ready for members to move in as soon as our tenancy started; over the summer we transformed the public spaces and opened to the public in October. Our public spaces include co-work, event, workshop and project spaces, as well as the NewBridge Gallery and NewBridge Books.

The move and refurbishment were mammoth tasks for the whole NewBridge team, who all worked incredibly hard in helping studio holders move, dismantling and returning our old spaces and refurbishing the new one.

Studios and Workspace

We recognise affordable and accessible work and exhibition space is of key importance for artists and creatives to start/continue their practice, develop their careers and make new work.

We are committed to providing space to artists at any stage of their career, working primarily within the field of visual art, with a desire to be part of a diverse and critically engaged community of creative practitioners. Our studios nurture an inclusive, collaborative environment that allows artists to discuss and develop new ideas and projects.

We have developed a tiered approach to workspace to suit the varying needs of artists. We provide individual studios, shared workspace, co-workspace, workshop facilities (darkroom, a woodwork shop, ceramics space and print studio) and flexible project spaces for making and exhibiting. We will continue to develop production spaces and resources for artists by creating practice-specific spaces, allowing us to support more artists.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

From April 2021 – March 2022, we have provided affordable studios and workspace for **108** Studio Members, **10** hot-desk members and **40** Collective Studio members across 3 sites: Carliol House (April-May 21), Gateshead High Street (April-July21), and our new site at the Shieldfield Centre (July 21 onwards).

We have hired out flexible production / exhibiting space 43 regional artists, organisations and community groups since the spaces were ready in September 2021.

Strategic planning and research

Building on our 12-year experience of occupying buildings on a meanwhile-use basis, we are actively participating in strategic regional and national conversations about affordable workspace and the importance of investment in longer-term/permanent sites for artist-led activity and studio provision.

These include:

- **Meanwhile Space in the North:** a consortium of organisations across the north of England currently occupying meanwhile space. The group are supported by Arts Council England as a strategic partner and have worked with a researcher to better understand and collate information on the use of meanwhile space, its economic and social benefits, and the need to go from 'pop-up' to 'stay up'.
- **More than Meanwhile Spaces:** a research project led by NewBridge in partnership with Newcastle University. This year we started working in partnership with North of Tyne to support their plan for Culture and Creative Zones in Newcastle, North Shields and Berwick. We are acting as a critical friend and hosting a series of events that ensure artists, artist-led spaces and grassroots organisations are an active part of these discussions, and that their needs will be met with the new plans.
- **Newcastle Culture Compact, Place and Meaning Group:** Rebecca Huggan, NewBridge Director, is part of this group who are contributing toward a cultural narrative and plan for places and space in Newcastle.

Delivery of Objectives 4 & 6 including Key Achievements

We have delivered Objective 4 & 5 through our exhibition, commission & events programme, supporting regional and national artists at key points in their career to produce and show ambitious new work, engaging audiences and participants in the programme.

Our programme is artist-led and we develop curatorial, production and project management skills of practitioners in the region through working with a Programme Committee of artist members to create a responsive and diverse public programme.

In 2021-22 we delivered **12 new/ongoing exhibitions and projects alongside 25 artists.**

The year was unusual due to ongoing disruption caused by Covid19 - leading to more online/digital projects, and due to the building move our public space and gallery space were closed for a lot of the year.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Programme highlights from 21-22 include:

Overmorrow

Overmorrow was an ongoing festival running between October 2020 – July 2021, developed and produced by NewBridge and the Programme Committee, it included a series of commissions, talks and events which explore our collective futures with audiences, members and communities. The programme included 3 exhibitions (in person and online), 15 new commissions, working with 19 artists.

The final projects took place between April and June and included:

Staking Claims on the Distance

We commissioned a piece of public furniture to act as a new kind of monument to the present that encourages social interaction and celebrates ideas of collective futures. 3 artists – TOTALLER, Mickey Fenton and Esther Gamsu were selected to propose a design of their idea, and the exhibition of these ideas was been hosted on a bespoke website created by artist and Committee member Eve Cromwell. Esther Gamsu was selected to make the life size version of their design, a series of eroded and broken monuments that act as adaptable public sculptures which can act as a seat, a picnic spot, a place to collaborate, learn and play. These are installed on the balcony at NewBridge in Shieldfield.

A+E Collective: The Dream Turbine

A+E is a group of creatives working in design, film, food and writing, coming together to awaken people's imaginations and investment in a better world. *The Dream Turbine* was an online installation running from Earth Day to early summer 2021 exploring the relationship between sustainability and dreaming, offering a space to collectively share our dreams and have discussions surrounding these broader topics. *The Dream Turbine* hopes to promote alternative, non-extractive ways of thinking, desiring, memorialising and living through various ongoing crises as individuals and collectives.

Slow Breath: Camara Taylor, Rene Francis-McBrearty and Meera Shakti Osborne

An exhibition featuring new work by Camara Taylor, Meera Shakti Osborne and Rene Francis-McBrearty, curated by our Programme Committee member Calum Bayne, with a text written in response by Saoirse Amira Anis.

The exhibition centred around a new film by Camara, *Suspuration*, [noun]—a long deep breath or a sigh. The film is a collage of images, newsreels, bodily gestures, texts and sounds collected over four years. The structure and the score of the film are comprised of the body's audible release of liquid and air; enmeshed utterances and ir/regular vibrations. The film brings false promises made by the United Kingdom to the surface with pieces of news footage and a spoken testimony describing racism in the UK. Amongst this bleakness, moments of beauty shine through, indicating the possibility for reassurance and hope. This film went on to win the Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival New Cinema Award 2021.

The exhibition was preceded by 3 workshops led by Meera Shakti Osborne on rest, pining and loneliness. Participants were sent care packages in advance of the sessions and were invited to spend time with a set of pamphlets created for the workshop (and featured in the exhibition) which guided knowledge and thought, enabling people to discuss their own experiences around the 3 themes.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Saoirse Amira Anis was invited to respond to the exhibition with a written piece, resulting in the publication *A series of escapes of air* – available via a hard copy from NewBridge, and online as a PDF.

Blazing New Worlds - NewBridge's 11th Birthday
22 October – January 2021

This year NewBridge celebrated its 11th birthday. We marked the occasion with our members and communities, bringing all together for a special series of events and creative discussions. *Blazing New Worlds* explored the current and future roles of artist-led spaces within their communities, our own role in Shieldfield over the next 5 years and beyond, and the physical and political shifts Covid-19 has imposed upon the art world.

Commissions & Residencies for *Blazing New Worlds*:

TO BUILD A HOUSE OUT OF PEOPLE* with *The Hologram
October – November 2021

This was a 6-week residency / project that explored new forms of peer-led social care, at a point when we are 18 months into a global pandemic. As well as a 4-week course for a core group of participants, there were taster workshops, public talks, a discussion around *The Hologram* book, and reading circles.

The Hologram is a viral peer-to-peer health project and an experiment in person-to-person care and cooperation in which three people (a triangle) offer to listen and ask questions to a fourth (the hologram). In time, the triangle becomes a living medical record for the hologram. The Hologram model includes a structured protocol for distributing care virally, to ensure that everyone who gives care is cared for.

The birth of the Hologram coincided with the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic, forcing Cassie's work to be online until now. This was the first in-person course, and we will offer the Hologram practice as a way to build a stable social network in Shieldfield that will outlast the current crisis, and to set the social conditions for thriving no matter the personal or public crisis. The call out invites people who have faced social isolation, mental and physical challenges, lack of housing and environmental devastation to join the project.

The Hologram 'community of practice' created during this project still meets every month at The NewBridge Project.

Graeme Hopper: *SHIELD/FIELD*

SHIELD/FIELD was a new commission developed by local artist Graeme Hopper (Grassi Art) and will feature 25 new works, including collage photography, and two audio pieces that have been recorded around the Shieldfield area. Using their own personal photographs of the area, archive images from the Shieldfield neighbourhood and their own personal collection of materials, Graeme created a work that connects the community through abstract observations whilst highlighting the developing nature of the area and those nearby.

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For the year ended 31 March 2022

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Slack's Radio Residency

Slack's radio Broadcasted live from Slacks Radio booth in NewBridge's gallery over two residencies in October 2021 and January 2022 to mark *Blazing New Worlds*' opening and closure. There were 36 shows across the two 3-day residencies, which included contributions from NewBridge members, artists, DJs, musicians, local residents, organisations and the youth programme. Over half of the programmes listed below were live, the rest pre-recorded.

We also did an open call for contributions to the *Blazing New Worlds* programme. Through this we commissioned a series of 4 events and 11 mini commissions. A selection of these includes:

Events

- *Let's Talk About it* with Grace Collins and Elina Flyrin: An online creative focus group to collaboratively research how peer support can benefit artists.
- *Sculpting Sight Workshop with Bethany Stead: A clay workshop for visually impaired people exploring accessibility within arts and creative spaces, and how our new world can be improved by sighted and sight impaired individuals to be more inclusive and accessible.*

Mini commissions

- *Sponge* with Millie Carmel Jobson: A magazine created alongside the Youth Programme through a series of workshops.
- *WORK FOR WHAT? WHAT FOR WHOM?* By Joel Chima, reflecting on his time working in a covid test centre, and the systems of care created between him and his co-workers.
- *Accessible Activism: Beyond the Streets* by Kolia Bene: Drawing on the wisdom and insights of the disabled led collective Community Action to Inspire Hope in Gateshead, the artist Kolia Bene created a pamphlet to help transforming the way disabled people plan for and participate in multiple forms of activism.

For Solidarity is an ongoing project, that aims to nurture a growing peer support network of organisations, projects, initiatives and individuals across the North East. It was initiated by NewBridge and the Solidarity Economy Association in 2019, with the aim of strengthening and growing existing networks of solidarity for a more democratic, socially just and ecologically sustainable world that supports all our material and social needs. Through this we collaborate to deliver a wide range of projects, commissions, social events and a digital map.

The programme includes:

- **Strand 1: Meeting each other (and seeing what happens!)**
For Solidarity Socials are informal meet-ups for people in and outside the network, providing an opportunity to meet and learn about grassroots organisations working in the region. We hosted our first in person event since March 2020 in December, where *For Solidarity* network members talked current projects, we showed some short films about organisations in the network and shared some delicious food from Magic Hat Cafe.
- **Strand 2: Working and learning together**
We work with artists and organisations **on workshops and co-created projects** to explore themes of solidarity through learning and creative practice. In March 2022 we began a 6-month project *The NewBridge Dye Garden* – working with artist Katie Pollard to host a series of workshops and plant a dye garden on the balconies of the Shieldfield Centre. A group of planters meet each week to tend to and grow plants, and there are going to be a series of workshops with members, residents and the youth programme where we make and use the dyes.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Our *For Solidarity Project Coordinator* also gives a proportion of their time to support other organisations in the network. In 2021-22 she has been working with North East Culture Against Racism.

- **Strand 3: Sharing information and resources**

Through the *For Solidarity Map* we are continuing to collect information from grassroots organisations, informal meetings, neighbourhood projects, local community groups, co-ops, and associations that share the values of the solidarity economy and using it to create a digital map/ directory, and share interviews and videos which shine a light on the work of those in the network.

The Reading Room

A collaboration between NewBridge, Left Bank Leeds, The Left Book Club, The Sustainable Studio and Pluto Press). *The Reading Room* is a new collaborative project where people can read, learn, listen, and share ideas. Through linking up with other spaces across the country, we've created libraries stocked with thought provoking books, where reading groups and opportunities to meet authors are being established, providing resources and activities that hope to catalyse creativity, collaboration and conversation.

The organisations involved share a common goal – to support and empower people within their communities. This project has been initiated in partnership with independent publisher Pluto Press, and the Left Book Club, The Sustainable Studio, Left Bank Leeds and The Other MA, and over time, each local hub will develop to reflect and serve the community within which it sits, making each space responsive and unique.

Our first event was on Tuesday 22 March, where we launched the new book *Tangled in Terror: Uprooting Islamophobia* by Suhaiymah Manzoor-Khan who will be in conversation with the author Preti Taneja.

Bookshop

NewBridge Books has opened in our new location in Shieldfield – with a beautiful new look! We worked with architect Jack Mutton and fabricator Joe Shaw to build a new space which also acts as an entry and welcome point to our building.

NewBridge Books provides a resource and outlet for artists, writers and researchers, hosting a regular programme of events related to print culture. The shop offers a selection of diverse, original and hard-to-find art publications, magazines and zines, and provides a platform for independent publishers and artists who self-publish.

We have had two book launches for NewBridge books since opening in October:

- ***Daily Weeding- Kuba Ryniewicz***: Book launch for Kuba Ryniewicz's first photo book, documenting the fantastic and banal daily life Kuba and his friends in Newcastle. The book was conceived as a family photo album.
- ***Plant a forest after we are gone with gobscore/burn and friends***: Book-launch for *plant a forest after we are gone* by gobscore/burn, with live readings, film and audio work on display in the gallery by the artist. There were readings by Sean Burn / Gobscore from their new book, a spoken word piece by writer Eddie Doyle. A sound and video installed in the gallery and cinema room, and food by purplestateofmind, inspired by gobscore's book.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Delivery of Strategic Goal 5 & 6 including Key Achievements

The NewBridge Project seeks to be a welcoming space where artists, residents and local communities can come together to work, learn, socialise and support each other.

As we move to the Shieldfield Centre we are keen to ensure that the building and its programme provide an important and exciting resource for the artistic and local community alike. The hub will host a regular programme of cultural, education and social activity for the local community aimed at people of all ages and backgrounds.

We believe that our work at the Shieldfield Centre can have a deep and meaningful relationship with the people in the area, and a positive impact on the place they live.

Shieldfield Youth Programme

In collaboration with Dwellbeing Shieldfield (a Community Benefit Society led by residents from Shieldfield) we have developed the *Shieldfield Youth Programme*, a new youth-led programme of activity built around the interests and needs of young people living in the area. It creates space for young people to come together in the place where they live and build new friendships, as well as offering opportunities for them to develop their skills and talents and to explore new ways of thinking and doing things together. It will empower people to become active members of the local community and will be locally rooted, thematically strong and will instil values of solidarity, social and economic justice, creativity and activism.

Created in response to lack of youth provision in the area, it provides a programme of activity that is responsive to young people's ideas, with their vision at its centre. This programme provides a good example of how we listen to what's needed, shape programmes with the people they are for & ensure they are open to all. We hired a qualified part-time Youth Worker in 2021, and have delivered 18 events/workshops, 12 weekly sessions, 27 detached shifts, engaging around 100 young people of whom 40 are regular attendees. In its first-year activity has included: sci-fi film writing/directing with Hot Desque, graffiti workshops, writing & performing comedy with Felt Nowt, theatre workshops with BRASH, zine making, making a radio show, planting, and the now legendary Shieldfield Community Football Cup! They have been on trips to Jump 360m Ouseburn Farm and Tyne Theatre.

We have a full team of 10 volunteers who support the running and development of the youth programme. They are made up of NewBridge and Dwellbeing members, students, local artists and residents as well as placements from Volunteer Matters Passport scheme. They are a diverse group who bring a lot of different interest and skills to the programme. They support the youth worker with detached and regular sessions as well as trips to manage and engage the young people as well as share their skills and knowledge. They are all DBS checked and are currently undergoing NSPCC safeguarding training.

Feedback from parents & teachers at schools has been that children's confidence has increased & that they had taken part in activities they would never have expected.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Shieldfield Community Programme

Shieldfield Opening Weekend!

The Shieldfield Centre opened to the public on 22nd October, with the launch of a new exhibition, *Blazing New Worlds*, and a programme of meals and workshops over the weekend. We had around 300 people to the opening night launch, and a further 70 people attend over the weekend. There was a communal lunch prepared by local resident Kaltouma, 2 x ceramic workshops led by Juliet at the *Northern Clay Room*, in which participants made 2 bowls – one to take home, and one to leave at NewBridge to be used at future communal meals, and a drop-in print workshop throughout the day in the *NewBridge Print Studio*. The whole day had a really wonderful feeling, with lots of audiences old and new.

Working with schools

Hotspur / Cragside - art ambassadors: Community Coordinator has been meeting with local schools Hotspur and Cragside to build connections. A lot of the young people in the Shieldfield Youth Programme attend Hotspur and we are doing talks and workshops with children and teachers. They will also be visiting our space to see the exhibitions and discuss the possibilities of attending some workshops in the space.

Memory Cafe

The Memory Cafe is a project run in collaboration with The Forum Cafe on Wretham Place in Shieldfield. It's a space for people in the area with Dementia or Cognitive Impairments to chat, listen to music, enjoy an afternoon tea and try something new and creative in a relaxed environment. We meet once a month and have done print making workshops, developing some branding with studio holder George Stewart and have most recently looked through one of our participants (who is a keen photographer) photographs of the area. These sessions are led by the participants interests.

Shieldfield organisations meeting

Our Community Coordinator attends and hosts the Shieldfield Community Organisations meetings, a bi-monthly meet up for organisations and groups in Shieldfield. These are a chance for organisations in the area to update each other on what they've been up too and work on collaborative projects together such as the Shieldfield Christmas Trail. NewBridge's Marketing Coordinator has also been attending meetings and are working with the group to collectively create a local newsletter.

Community Workshops

We are working with each of the workshop spaces (Printmaking, ceramics, darkroom and woodwork) to offer a programme of twice a month rotating free workshops for the public. Some of these might be for community groups we're already working with such as Dwellbeing members, parents of children in our youth programme, caring hands service users etc. and some will be open to the public for booking or drop in.

Community Meals

A programme of community meals take place once a month in the gallery space and are a great way for us to connect with more residents in the area. We always work with organisations like Magic Hat Café – who provide sustainable meals with all ingredients saved from landfill, or work with local Shieldfield residents (there are some fabulous cooks in the area!). This has included a Community Iftar to mark the start of Ramadan, attended by 35 people and cooked by resident Kaltouma.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Financial Review

The out-turn for the year is an unrestricted deficit of £(1,800) (2021: surplus £26,269).

The charity's total reserves at 31 March 2022 are £347,824, of which £189,125 are restricted reserves and £158,699 are unrestricted reserves.

The charity's total Unrestricted Reserves at 31 March 2022 are £158,699.

Free reserves, defined as non-designated Unrestricted Reserves, minus the Net Book Value of Unrestricted Tangible Fixed Assets, are £118,698 at 31 March 2022. However, c£22k of these reserves has been committed to activity in 2022/23 and, consequently, available reserves are c£97k.

The Trustees consider the financial performance of the charity to be good and note that our financial planning has enabled us to be resilient and continue to weather the Covid-19 storm, and enable us to relocate to the Shieldfield Centre, and refurbish the building so it was fit for purpose.

Funding and Partnerships

The Board and staff of NewBridge would like to record their thanks to the funders and partners who made our work possible in 2021-22. We received support from Arts Council England National Portfolio, Newcastle University via Newcastle Institute for Creative Arts Practice, Newcastle Culture Investment Fund, SHED, Weston Jerwood Creative Bursaries and Community Foundation.

We worked closely with a number of regional partners to deliver projects and joint initiatives, including; 36 Lime Street, BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Big River Bakery, Brash Theatre, The Comfrey Project, Connected Voice, Culture Against Racism North East, Dwellbeing Shieldfield, Felt Nowt Comedy, Forum Café Shieldfield, Host Nation, Incursions, Newcastle City Council, Newcastle University, North East CVAN, Recovery College Collective (ReCoCo), Roots and Wings, Sail Creative, Shieldfield Art Works, Shieldfield Forum Café, Shipley Art Gallery, Slugtown, Star and Shadow Cinema, Tara Properties Limited, Workplace Foundation.

We also worked closely with a number of national partners in other regions to deliver projects and joint initiatives, including: AbelShah, AxisWeb, CAMP (Plymouth), Castlefield Arts (Manchester), CCSkills (for Creative Career Week), Eastside Projects (Birmingham), East Street Arts (Leeds), G39 (Cardiff), Good Press (Glasgow), GradJOB (Edinburgh), In Session (Edinburgh), Into the wild (Chisenhale, London), Left Bank (Leeds), Left Book Club (London), Metal (Peterborough), Pluto Press (London), Primary (Nottingham), Skippco (Leeds), Solidarity Economy Association, Spike Island (Bristol), The Sustainable Studio (Cardiff), The Other MA (Southend), Turf Projects (Croydon).

We have also been part of a network of 150 organisations taking part in the Weston Jerwood Creative Bursaries programme, which has provided invaluable cross-organisation support and learning throughout the year.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

PLANS FOR FUTURE YEARS

Funding and Partnerships

We have been working towards become more sustainable and resilient and have worked very hard at securing long-term funding to support our expanded staff team and programme.

We have Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) funding until March 2023 (extended due to Covid-19) and have applied for funding in the next investment period.

We have secured core funding until March 2025 from Newcastle Culture Investment Fund (NCIF) through the Community Foundation and Newcastle City Council.

We have a partnership agreement with Newcastle University to develop and deliver *The Collective Studio* programme until August 2025 and are working in partnership with them on the NTCA project (see below).

We have secured 3 years of funding from SHED which will support project work and staff capacity until March 2023. We will reapply for this funding in autumn of each year.

We secured funding from Weston Jerwood Creative Bursaries to support a one-year fellowship for a Programme Coordinator, who was recruited in February 2021.

We have secured funding from the North of Tyne Combined Authority (NTCA) Skills for Growth Fund, to support our artist development activity, totalling £534,446 over 3 years from August 2022 – July 2025.

This support has provided our team with a base of core funding from which to operate and develop the organisation.

Building

The 5-year lease for the Shieldfield Centre is our longest lease-term with no break clause to date. However, this does once again bring with it the multiple challenges of occupying space short-term.

We will continue to pursue our ambition to secure a permanent or long-term base, as well as exploring the feasibility of other business/financial models to ensure we can be responsive to different opportunities. We will continue our wide-ranging conversations with different stakeholders to explore future building options beyond this 5-year period, to ensure the future sustainability of the organisation.

Through these conversations we will also consider the legacy of the work we are doing in Shieldfield, and how we can support residents to have a say in what may come after us.

In addition to this we participate in regional and national development meetings around long-term, sustainable and affordable workspace provision for creatives.

The NewBridge Project
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TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees (who are also the Directors of The NewBridge Project for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



Ilana Mitchell
Trustee
Company Registration Number 10582100

31 July 2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members on the Unaudited Accounts of The NewBridge Project Limited for the year ended 31 March 2022

I hereby report to the Trustees/Members of The NewBridge Project (Charity Registration Number 1165182) on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 set out on pages 27 to 37.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's Trustees (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

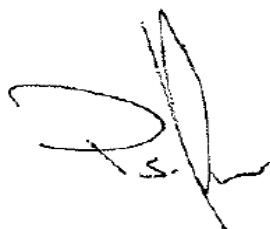
Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountant in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods or principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102)).

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.



Pete O'Hara, FCA, Chartered Accountant
Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales
4 Stoneyhurst Road West, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 1PG

31 July 2022

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Income					
Income from Donations & Legacies	3	72,399	252,918	325,317	233,849
Income from Charitable Activities	4	115,583	31,450	147,033	112,034
Total Income		187,982	284,368	472,350	345,883
Expenditure					
Cost of Raising Funds	5	2,903	-	2,903	473
Expenditure on Charitable Activities	6	186,879	179,892	366,771	252,858
Total Expenditure		189,782	179,892	369,674	253,331
Net Income/(Expenditure)		(1,800)	104,476	102,676	92,552
Balance brought forward		160,469	84,649	245,118	152,566
Balance carried forward at 31 March	12	£158,669	£189,125	£347,794	£245,118

The notes on pages 29 to 37 form part of the financial statements.

All the activities of the company are classed as continuing.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION/BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	8	39,971	8,312
Current Assets			
Debtors	9	7,634	10,107
Cash at Bank & In Hand		368,951	281,895
		<u>376,585</u>	<u>292,002</u>
Creditors – Amounts Falling Due Within 1 Year	10	(68,762)	(55,196)
Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)		<u>307,822</u>	<u>236,806</u>
Total Net Assets	11	<u>£347,794</u>	<u>£245,118</u>
Represented by:			
Unrestricted Reserves	12	158,669	160,469
Restricted Reserves	12	189,125	84,649
		<u>£347,794</u>	<u>£245,118</u>

The notes on pages 29 to 37 form part of the financial statements.

The Trustees are satisfied that for the year ended 31 March 2022 the charity was entitled to exemption under section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees also confirm that the Members have not required the charity to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (i) ensuring that the charity keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act, and
- (ii) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charity.

These financial statements were approved and signed by a Member of the Board of Trustees on 31 July 2022.



Ilana Mitchell
Trustee
Company Registration Number 10582100

The NewBridge Project (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Cash Flow Statement

The Directors have taken advantage of the provisions of the Financial Reporting Standard Number 1, which exempts small companies from the need to prepare a cash flow statement.

Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, any performance related conditions attached have been met or are fully within the control of the charity, the income is considered probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Donations and legacy income is received by way of donations, legacies, grants and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Where legacies have been notified to the charity but the criteria for income recognition have not been met, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.
- Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Investment income is included when receivable.
- Income from charitable trading activity is accounted for when earned.
- Other income is accounted for when receivable.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1. Accounting Policies (Continued)

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- Costs of raising funds comprise the costs associated with attracting donations, grants and legacies and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes.
- Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.
- Other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

Irrecoverable VAT

All resources expended are classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

Operating Leases

The charity classifies the lease of certain types of equipment as operating leases as the title to the equipment remains with the lessor. Rental charges are charged against income on a straight-line basis over the year of the lease.

Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on any fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the assets over their remaining useful lives as follows:

Leasehold Property Improvements	- over the period of the lease
IT & Office Equipment	- 33% per annum straight line

A full year's depreciation charge is applied in the year of acquisition and no charge is made in the year of disposal.

Impairment of Fixed Assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

The NewBridge Project (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1. Accounting Policies (Continued)

Financial Instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the purposes of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for specific purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

Taxation Status

The NewBridge Project Limited is a Charity registered under the 1960 Charities Act and is accorded exemption from liability to taxation on its income under S505 Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

2. Legal Status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1. The company law members of the charity are the members of its Board of Trustees.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

3. Income from Grants, Donations & Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Donations	1,111	-	1,111	-
Grant Income				
Arts Council England – NPO	71,288	-	71,288	71,288
DWP - Kickstarter	-	1,500	1,500	-
Jerwood Foundation - Creative Bursary	-	6,581	6,581	6,581
Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund - Core	-	38,000	38,000	25,000
Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund - Learn & Do	-	-	-	9,980
Pen & Palette Fund	-	-	-	1,000
Sabi Foundation	-	-	-	20,000
Sustainability.Health.Environment. Development.	-	206,837	206,837	100,000
	71,288	252,918	324,206	233,849
	£72,399	£252,918	£325,317	£233,849

Of the 2021 total of £233,849, £71,288 related to Unrestricted Funds and £162,561 to Restricted Funds.

4. Income from Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Associate Membership	2,803	-	2,803	1,948
Bookshop Sales	2,266	-	2,266	727
Collective Studio Membership	5,975	-	5,975	6,357
Museums & Galleries Exhibition Tax Relief	7,595	-	7,595	10,230
Newcastle University	-	20,000	20,000	20,000
Studio Membership Fees - Gateshead	3,055	-	3,055	9,546
Studio Membership Fees – Carlil House, Newcastle	12,719	-	12,719	58,188
Studio Membership Fees – Shieldfield, Newcastle	77,586	-	77,586	-
Other Income	3,584	11,450	15,034	5,038
	£115,583	£31,450	£147,033	£112,034

Of the 2021 total of £112,034, £92,034 related to Unrestricted Funds and £20,000 to Restricted Funds.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

5. Expenditure on Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Bookshop Costs	2,903	-	2,903	473
	£2,903	£-	£2,903	£473

The 2021 total of £473 relates wholly to Unrestricted Funds.

6. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Programme/Project Costs				
Programme Expenditure	-	72,852	72,852	51,869
Salaries & On Costs	52,847	107,040	159,887	108,254
Website Development	1,600	-	1,600	2,598
Travel & Research	2,374	-	2,374	192
	56,821	179,892	236,713	162,913
Support Costs				
Rent, Rates & Water	26,160	-	26,160	24,174
Heat & Light	20,268	-	20,268	22,580
Cleaning & Waste	10,650	-	10,650	9,337
Repairs & Maintenance	14,376	-	14,376	4,097
Depreciation	13,032	-	13,032	5,344
Other Administration & Running Costs	17,954	-	17,954	12,218
	102,440	-	102,440	77,750
Governance Costs				
Independent Examiner's Fees	1,080	-	1,080	1,080
Other Accountancy & Book-keeping Costs	3,082	-	3,082	2,265
Legal & Professional Fees	21,025	-	21,025	1,150
Programme Committee Stipend	2,250	-	2,250	7,700
Trustee Meeting Costs	181	-	181	-
	27,618	-	27,618	12,195
	£186,879	£179,892	£366,771	£252,858

Of the 2021 total of £252,858, £136,580 related to Unrestricted Funds and £116,278 to Restricted Funds.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

7. Net Income/(Expenditure)

	2022	2021
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Independent Examiner's Fees – current year	1,080	1,080
Depreciation of owned Tangible Fixed Assets	13,032	5,344

8. Staff Costs & Trustees' Remuneration

	2022	2021
	£	£
Gross Salary Costs	151,532	103,640
Employer's National Insurance	5,636	2,697
Employer's Pension Contributions	2,719	1,917
	£159,887	£108,254

No employee received remuneration of more than £60,000 during the year (2021: Nil).

The average number of staff employed during the year, calculated as full-time equivalents, was as follows:

	2022	2021
	No.	No.
Artistic Production and Support	6	4

No remuneration has been paid to any Trustees/Directors in the year (2021: Nil), nor was any reimbursement made to Trustees in respect of their attendance at meetings of the charity (2021: Nil).

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

9. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Workshop, Office & ICT Equipment £	Leasehold Property Improvements £	Total Fixed Assets £
Cost			
At 1 April 2021	10,555	9,500	20,055
Additions in year	2,048	44,543	46,591
Disposals	-	(9,500)	(9,500)
At 31 March 2022	12,603	44,543	57,146
Accumulated Depreciation			
At 1 April 2021	4,143	7,600	11,743
Charge for year	4,123	8,909	13,032
Disposals	-	(7,600)	(7,600)
At 31 March 2022	8,266	8,909	17,175
Net Book Value			
At 31 March 2022	£4,337	£35,634	£39,971
At 1 April 2021	£6,412	£1,900	£8,312

10. Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade Debtors	399	7,722
Prepayments	7,235	2,366
Other Debtors	-	19
	£7,634	£10,107

11. Creditors – Amounts Falling Due Within 1 Year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade Creditors	19,002	1,726
Other Creditors	499	518
Other Creditors – Studio & Key Deposits Held	9,879	8,237
Other Taxes & Social Security Costs	2,470	-
Accruals	36,912	44,715
	£68,762	£55,196

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

12. Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	39,971	-	39,971	8,312
Debtors	7,634	-	7,634	10,107
Cash at Bank and In Hand	179,826	189,125	368,951	281,895
Creditors – Amounts Due Within 1 Year	(68,762)	-	(68,762)	(55,196)
	£158,669	£189,125	£347,794	£245,118

13. Analysis of Charitable Funds

	Fund at 1 April 2021	Incoming Resources in Year	Resources Expended in Year	Fund at 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds				
Charity General Fund	160,469	187,982	(189,782)	158,669
Restricted Funds				
Dwellbeing Shieldfield – Shieldfield Youth Programme	-	9,951	(9,951)	-
DWP - Kickstarter	-	1,500	-	1,500
Jerwood Foundation - Creative Bursary	-	6,581	(6,581)	-
Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund – Core Programme	2,700	38,000	(35,457)	5,243
Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund - Learn & Do	9,980	-	(9,980)	-
Newcastle University – Collective Studio	11,005	20,000	(21,563)	9,442
Newcastle University – Gallery	-	1,499	(1,499)	-
Seedbed Trust	800	-	(800)	-
Sustainability. Health. Environment. Development.	60,164	206,837	(94,061)	172,940
Total Restricted Funds	84,649	284,368	(179,892)	189,125
Total Funds	£245,118	£472,350	£(369,674)	£347,794

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

13. Analysis of Charitable Funds (Cont.)

Name of Restricted Fund	Description, Nature & Purpose of the Restricted Fund
Dwellbeing Shieldfield – Shieldfield Youth Programme	Towards the cost of a programme for young people in Shieldfield
DWP – Kickstarter	Towards the costs of employing a young person
Jerwood Foundation - Creative Bursary	Towards the cost of participation in the Weston Jerwood Creative Bursaries programme
Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund – Core Programme	Towards the Practice Makes Practice programme, and related staff costs
Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund - Learn & Do	Towards the cost of Learn & Do
Newcastle University – Collective Studio	Towards the Collective Studio inc. staff costs
Newcastle University – Gallery	Towards the cost of gallery programming
Seedbed Trust	Towards the Deep Adaptation and Mapping project, inc. freelance / employed staff costs
Sustainability. Health. Environment. Development.	Towards the cost of For Solidarity project, Youth Programme, project work and events in Shieldfield, and associated staff costs

14. Taxation

The company is a registered charity and no provision is considered necessary for taxation.

15. Financial Commitments

No material financial commitments have been made in respect of future financial years.

16. Company Limited by Guarantee

The charity is incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 and is limited by guarantee, each member having undertaken to contribute such amounts not exceeding £1 as may be required in the event of the company being wound up whilst he or she is still a member or within one year thereafter. There are currently 5 (2021: 7) members of the company.

THE NEWBRIDGE PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1173849

Accounts

Company Registration Number 10582100

Registered Charity Number 1173849

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
For the year ending 31 March 2021

**The NewBridge
Project**

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2021

The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Name	The NewBridge Project
Charity Registration Number	1173849
Company Registration Number	10582100
Registered Office	Shieldfield Centre, 4 - 8 Clarence Walk, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 1AL

Trustees

For the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, the Board of Trustees is the Board of Directors of the charitable company and is referred to as the Trustees throughout this report.

The Trustees of The NewBridge Project during the year and to the date of signing this report are as follows:

Ilana Mitchell (Chair)
Jonathan Combe
Sally Dixon
Julia Heslop
Ray Mills
Dr Paul Richter
Melanie Shee

Company Secretary	Rebecca Huggan
Bankers	The Co-operative Bank, Norfolk House, 84-86 Grey Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 6BZ
Independent Examiner	Mr P O'Hara FCA, 4 Stoneyhurst Road West, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 1PG

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Documents

The NewBridge Project is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 25 January 2017 and registered as a charity on 18 July 2017. The charity is controlled by its governing document, its Memorandum & Articles of Association and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act.

The Directors of the company are also Trustees of the charity.

Eligibility for membership of the charity, and membership of the Board of Trustees, is governed by the Articles of Association. There are no restrictions in the governing document on the operation of the charity other than those imposed by general charity law.

Charitable Purpose

The NewBridge Project's charitable objects are to foster and advance the appreciation and understanding of the arts for the benefit of the public.

Structure and Governance

The charity currently has a Board of 7 non-executive Trustees.

The Board meets a minimum of 4 times per year. A written Director's report, quarterly management accounts, a meeting agenda and any other necessary Board papers are prepared by the Director and circulated in advance of meetings.

The NewBridge Project is governed by the Board of Trustees with a staff team (employed and freelance) overseeing the day to day operation, comprising of:

Director - Rebecca Huggan
Programme Director – Niomi Fairweather
Studio & Members Coordinator – Ruby Glover
Artist Development Programmer – Daniel Russell
Admin & Marketing Coordinator – Grace Denton
Hannah Kirkham – For Solidarity Coordinator
Community Coordinator – Elaine Robertson (start date Jan 2021)
Create / Disrupt Project Manager – Izzy Finch (start date Jan 2021)
Programme Coordinator – Beatriz Lobo (start date Feb 2021)
Youth Worker – Kate Jeffries (start date Apr 2021)
Bookkeeper – Niamh Cunningham

The Contribution of Volunteers

The charity makes extensive use of volunteers to support its activities.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (Continued)

Recruitment and Appointment of Board of Trustees (Cont.)

Any person who is willing to act as a Director and is permitted by law to do so, may be appointed to be a Director by a decision of the Directors. Any Director appointed by a resolution of the other Directors must retire at the next Annual General Meeting following his or her appointment and may offer themselves for re-election and if any Director is required to retire at an Annual General Meeting the retirement shall take effect from the conclusion of the meeting.

Trustees are recruited through an open call out process for Trustees, describing the skills required. This is advertised through a range of accessible channels and networks. Trustees are elected to the Board based on discussions and recommendations offered by Trustees, the Director and external advisors to the organisation.

Trustee Induction and Training

New Trustees are inducted by the Director and current Trustees and are provided with a range of resources to support their understanding of The NewBridge Project and its activities, including a document detailing the role of Trustees and staff within the company.

Artists and other creatives who pay to join are known as Studio or Associate Members of NewBridge. They become members of the community, but they are not members of the company or charity

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have reviewed the charity's needs for Reserves in line with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

Policy to March 2021 - The Trustees aimed to hold a level of Unrestricted Reserves which would enable the charity to utilise sufficient financial resources to meet various liabilities which would crystallise if funding were to be withdrawn and/or it were unable to continue operating. The Trustees had agreed that the Unrestricted Reserves required for such purposes amount to approximately £36,500.

The Trustees also agreed to retain an additional allowance of £50,000 to enable the charity to respond flexibly to issues arising or appropriate initiatives that might be identified outside of its annual budgeting process. The target level of Unrestricted Reserves was therefore £86,500.

Policy from March 2021 - The reserves policy has been reviewed by the Trustees in April 2021 and we have set a new minimum Unrestricted Reserves level of £100,000. This amount is an increase on our previous level but considers all liabilities relating to the new premises and recognises the importance of retaining an appropriate level of reserves after a year of financial uncertainty caused by the pandemic.

In addition to this the Trustees also agreed to retain the additional allowance of £50,000 for future development initiatives or building moves as before.

Therefore, the target level of Unrestricted Reserves from April 2021 onwards is £150,000. The charity's Unrestricted Reserves at 31 March 2021 are £160,469 which produces an additional degree of contingency for the organisation and to support and enable future development plans.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2021

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Grant Making Policy

The charity does not currently engage in grant-making activity.

Overview

The NewBridge Project was established in 2010 to provide exchange and support in an engaged and discursive community of artists.

NewBridge are an artist-led community that supports artists, creatives, curators and local communities. We produce a public programme that is responsive to the environment in which it exists, and that places experimental, collaborative, community-centred and socially conscious programming at its heart.

We support the development of artists and creatives through: the provision of space; artist development programmes (including workshops, talks, exchanges and crits); curatorial opportunities and an ambitious artist-led programme of exhibitions, commissions and events.

NewBridge is an important and vital part of the cultural infrastructure in the North East region. Our unparalleled offer for artists and creatives has resulted in rapid growth, demonstrating our ambitious commitment to championing and celebrating emerging talents.

We support artists to take a journey of artistic development with us. We work with artists at all stages of their careers and from all backgrounds. Our unique support system facilitates artists to develop their practice, build networks and skills and provides vital and defining opportunities, allowing them to find their place in the arts ecology and develop sustainable careers.

We nurture artistic talent, creating the necessary conditions for artists to thrive by providing the practical resources and support artists need to develop, produce and present new, pioneering artworks that challenge the way we experience the world.

Our outstanding programme is based on an artist-led model with studio members and the wider community creating a programme responsive to the environment within which it exists, and that places community-centred, collaborative and socially conscious programming at its heart.

We actively collaborate and work with local residents, community groups and those who may not have previously engaged in cultural activity.

Throughout 2020-21 we engaged 22,082 audiences (of these 9,101 were active online audiences – e.g., attending an event or accessing online artworks), 552,373 online audiences, and 1,250 active participants through our activity.

2020-21 wasn't the year any of us expected or could plan for. In a year marked by Covid-19 and multiple national and local lockdowns, it was a year of shifting and adapting plans, of responding quickly and urgently to many unknowns in an unprecedented situation, whilst exploring new ways of connecting with our communities and engaging audiences. Whilst it was a difficult year in lots of ways, we feel that we learnt some valuable lessons throughout that we hope to take forward.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2021

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (Continued)

Overview (Cont.)

Our activities in 2020-21 made use of online and print platforms, as well as operating over 2 sites:

- **Carloli House** provides studio space, project spaces, workshop & production facilities and co-work space
- **232-240 High Street Gateshead** provides additional studio space, houses *The Collective Studio*, a co-work space, NewBridge Books and NewBridge Gallery Space.

Our current model is based on meanwhile occupation of buildings, allowing us to benefit from peppercorn rent and business rates relief while sites await redevelopment. This enables us to provide affordable studio rates to the arts community.

We agreed a 5-year lease (with no break clause) with Newcastle City Council for the Shieldfield Centre, with a lease start date of 28 June 2021. This will give us a more sustainable base for our operations until 2026. This move will enable us to transfer all our operations to one site, better supporting staff capacity and our creative community.

Whilst our focus for 2021-22 will be the move to the Shieldfield Centre, our ambition as an organisation is to secure a *permanent* base for our operations following this 5-year lease, at which time we will adapt our business model to reflect this transition from a meanwhile to permanent model in order to ensure the future sustainability of the charity.

Strategic Objectives and Public Benefit

The Trustees understand and have discussed the implications of the provisions of the Charities Act 2006, which state that all charities must demonstrate that they are established for public benefit and have had due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

The Trustees believe that the charity meets both of the key principles:

Principle 1 — There must be an identifiable benefit, or benefits:

To work towards our Vision, Mission & Values, the following strategic objectives underpin everything we do, demonstrating clear, tangible benefits.

Strategic Objectives

1. Develop artistic talent through artist development programmes, networking, curatorial opportunities and shared learning.
2. Provide opportunities for career development, employment and training within the visual arts sector in the north east of England.
3. Provide space, facilities and resources for artists in the north east of England.
4. Support the production and presentation of ambitious and pioneering new artwork outside traditional institutional frameworks.
5. Provide a welcoming environment and community hub, creating a resource and programme for artists and the local community alike.
6. Increase the number of people who experience, engage and participate in contemporary visual art, while increasing the depth and quality of their experience.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2021

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (Continued)

Strategic Objectives and Public Benefit (Cont.)

Principle 2 — Benefit must be to the public, or a section of the public:

Each element of our work provides benefit to one or more clearly identified sections of the public, whether the artistic community or the general public, who can access and enjoy the work produced as a result.

NewBridge's beneficiaries are therefore entirely appropriate to its aims and the wider public benefit from its work.

All of these benefits are clear, evidenced and relate directly to NewBridge's aims. In addition, the Trustees do not consider that any significant detriment or harm flows from NewBridge's work.

Risk Management

The Trustees regularly review the major governance, operational and financial risks which the charity faces as part of its annual business planning process and confirm that systems have been established to mitigate these risks.

NewBridge has a risk management strategy in place which comprises:

- an annual review of the strategic risks the charity may face via the business planning process
- the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified
- the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

The Trustees are satisfied that appropriate financial systems and controls and employment policies and practices are in place.

The Trustees consider the key risks facing the charity at this time and the mitigating actions taken to be as follows:

1. Loss of building(s) sooner than anticipated/or loss of building before a viable alternative is secured would jeopardise our ability to deliver services.
 - The lease for the Shieldfield Centre is for 5 years with no break clause on the landlord's side – whilst this isn't a 'forever' solution it gives us a greater level of sustainability than any of the previous properties that we have occupied.
 - We negotiated with landlord of Carliol House to extend our lease beyond March 2021 and had a rolling tenancy at will agreement which took us to the end of May 2021, leaving only a short gap in provision for studio members.
 - We gave 6 months-notice on our Gateshead space in Apr 2021, meaning we will be vacating the premises just under a year ahead of the intended lease end date. We recognised that it was prudent to move all studio members to the new Shieldfield site at the same time, rather than be left with no provision for people in Gateshead beyond Oct 2022.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2021

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (Continued)

Risk Management (Cont.)

2. Impact of Covid-19 on income generation, potential loss of studio members, and interruption to planned programme and activity.

- Financial / loss of studio members - We managed the long-term financial impact of Covid19 in 2020-21 by using our reserves to reimburse studio rent between April – September 2020 to support members facing financial hardship during this time. This meant that we retained studio members who would otherwise have had to leave, thus ensuring greater financial stability in the long term. However, we are yet to see what the end of restrictions or the long-term effects the pandemic will have had on artists' livelihoods so we will monitor this on an ongoing basis.
- Studio closure - We now have safety measures in place which mean we would be able to keep the studios open as a place of work for studio holders, even in the event of another lockdown.
- Interruption to planned programme – We anticipate interruption to planned programme throughout the year, which has already occurred due to the delay in easing of lockdown restrictions.

Over the past year we have adapted delivery plans over the last year so feel well prepared to respond and adapt to differing levels of restrictions, and we are confident that we can provide a high quality and inclusive programme of activity for new and existing audiences. We will also ensure that when we do start delivering in person activity, we are safe and take all necessary precautions to limit the spread of Covid 19.

3. Long-term sustainability of funding after high-level fundraising success could demonstrate a potential risk to the long-term delivery of the exhibition and commissions programme, and staff costs.

We have consistently reached and exceeded ambitious fundraising targets over the last 2 years, and as a result we have grown our programme and staff team. However, all core and project funding ends in the next 1-2 years, and any loss of support or reduction of funding from key trusts and partners would impact the organisation. In the past we've maintained a small staff team and fluctuations have largely resulted in reduction in output, whereas now we want to ensure we can sustain the team we've grown and strands of the programme we are delivering in the long-term.

Ways to mitigate the risk:

- Apply to current core funders for extension / new grants, continue to manage and nurture relationships with funders and partners
- Build relationships with new funders previously not worked, particularly around key opportunities such as Shieldfield move and new Create/Disrupt programme.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT
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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (Continued)

Risk Management (Cont.)

The Trustees also manage the general financial risks arising by ensuring that:

- Prudent budgets are set for the next financial year
- The charity maintains a low cost-base
- Regular management accounts are provided for Board review that set out performance against budget
- Contingency plans are in place for actions to be taken if financial performance does not meet expectations
- Reserves policies have been adopted in which an appropriate amount of Unrestricted Reserves provide a suitable financial buffer against risks and enable the charity to meet its liabilities if financial targets are not achieved or the organisation is wound up.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Delivery of Objectives 1, 2 & 3 including Key Achievements

The NewBridge Project supports artists to develop their artistic practice and build sustainable careers through a number of artist development programmes aimed at practitioners at different stages of their careers. The strands are:

- ***Practice makes Practice (PMP)*** – ongoing programme of events and opportunities for early to mid-career artists, encouraging life-long learning
- ***The Collective Studio (TCS)*** – annual 10-month creative development programme for recent graduates and/or early-career creatives in partnership with Newcastle University
- ***Create/Disrupt (C/D)*** – new programme for practitioners with no formal degree and/or who face barriers to accessing creative opportunities
- ***Programme Committee (PC)*** - hands-on professional development experience, providing individuals with the opportunity to gain experience in aspects of research, curation and programme management.

Practice makes Practice (PMP)

PMP is an ongoing artist development programme of events and opportunities aimed at early to mid-career artists, encouraging life-long learning.

PMP is a major visual arts talent development programme for North East England; it is shaped by its members and the wider creative community to ensure it develops in response to their needs and interests, creating a forum for shared learning, critical conversation, space for networks to cultivate and new opportunities and practices to emerge.

The programme is open to all NewBridge members (Studio and Associate), as well as through attending a one-off event.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

The PMP model is wide-reaching to encourage broad engagement with the programme to support personal, professional and creative development. The model is varied and includes:

- **GO PRO:** advice sessions and practical workshops exploring how to survive as an artist; from grant writing, self-employment, promoting and selling artwork, publication making and more.
- **TALK ABOUT ART:** through crits, discussions, studio visits and one-to-one sessions with artists and cultural professionals, creating a supportive environment for artists to talk about their work and get feedback.
- **WILD CARD:** artistic practice is influenced by a variety of elements; including social, political, technological and scientific – we host discussions with people from many different fields to connect artists with different sectors and current societal concerns – anything goes!
- **PEER-LED:** peer-to-peer sessions led and instigated by NewBridge members, creating a space for shared learning and discussion.
- **SOCIALS:** it's important to have a supportive peer group around you; we host get-togethers, socials and dinners, creating opportunities to meet and talk.
- **FIELD TRIPS:** we arrange visits, exchanges and field trips across cities and regions helping facilitate new networks and develop connections with artists, curators and galleries.
- **OPPORTUNITIES:** dedicated opportunities just for members including residencies, exhibitions, commissions and exchanges.

Between April 2020 – March 2021 we delivered: **12** PMP events, **61** one-to-ones, and **6** digital commissions, engaging **132** Studio Members, **53** Associate Members, **59** TCS Members & a further **335** active participants and **649** digital audiences. We offered **29** free, 6-month associate memberships and a further **10**, free annual memberships from October 2021.

We commissioned **6 x PMP Online Resources** which were published on our website between October 2020 – March 2021. This series of digital commissions explore current contemporary art practice, shared learning, critical conversations, and collaboration, and have reached an audience of **549 people**.

A selection of *PMP* events in the last 12 months include: 4-month buddy scheme to connect artists during lockdown, *EVENT_STUDY* in partnership with Bad Spirits (Gateshead), peer-led Intro to Funding Event, Tax & Self-Assessment Workshop with bookkeeper Neisa Reid, Cook and Crit with Will Stockwell, and 'Applying for funding' group seminars.

We also hosted 61 one-to-ones with NewBridge staff alongside regional curators including; George Vasey (Curator, Wellcome Collection / Curator Turner Prize 2017), Katie Hickman (Curator, BALTIC), Irene Aristizabal (Head of Programme, BALTIC), Helen Welford and Olivia Heron (both Curators at MIMA).

The grant is also supporting the **PMP Residency** which provides artists with time and space to develop their practice within the NewBridge community, and programme PMP during their time with us. This residency has been postponed due to Covid restrictions; however, artist due **Abel Shah** will join us for a 2-week residency in 2021, which builds on events they have hosted with us in 2020-21.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Free associate membership bursaries: we are committed to ensuring that our artist development programme and support is accessible to artists from a range of backgrounds, supporting everyone to have an opportunity to develop a career in the arts. This year we offered 29 free, 6-month associate memberships and a further 10, free annual memberships from October 2021. These bursaries were for artists and makers from low-income households and gave full access to our programme of events and development opportunities.

The Collective Studio (TCS)

TCS is a 10-month development programme for early-career and/or recent graduate artists and creative practitioners. It provides practitioners with affordable studios & workspace, access to peer-led training and development events, mentoring and a series of professional creative opportunities to develop and challenge practice outside of an institutional framework and generate resilient and imaginative approaches to creative practice.

TCS purposefully takes a flexible approach to its curriculum, providing a range of different opportunities to suit a diverse range of practices, with a regular programme shaped by and for its members. It evolves year on year, shaped by its cohort of members. TCS is run by NewBridge in partnership with Newcastle University & its Institute for Creative Arts Practice.

Between April 2020 – March 2021 we delivered: **13** TCS events, **35** socials, **3** intensive 2-day workshops. This has engaged **59** TCS Members across 2 cohorts.

We worked with TCS members to produce a series of online workshops and exhibitions – including SCRAMBLE and 3rd WAVE which engaged participants across both cohorts. We offered 2 Associate memberships and 2 hot-desk memberships for those who face barriers associated with race, disability, age, gender identity, sexuality and/or class, and 1 Studio Membership bursary to a disabled emerging artist, making the programme accessible to all.

Much of the activity for the 2020-21 cohort had to take place online – this provided a fantastic experience for Associate members not based in the region and is something we hope to build on with future iterations of the programme. Ensuring that we provide a blended programme which supports online and in person attendees.

We have built a fantastic new space at the Shieldfield Centre for The Collective Studio which will support collective learning and making. We will move studio holders on the 20-21 cohort to this space in June 21, and the new cohort will take up space in October 2021.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Create / Disrupt (C/D)

In February we launched *Create/Disrupt*, a new programme aimed at those with no creative degree, people who are underrepresented in the sector, and who might face barriers to developing a career in the arts or as an artist.

We hosted a number of informal online gatherings where we could get to know interested participants, and Project Manager Izzy Finch has been having regular one-to-one phone chats with people so we can ensure the programme is developed in response to interest and need.

We hosted an event in May with Ben Broome and Michael Fox, who did not go to university and are professional artists/curators. They discussed their pathway and journey in to becoming arts workers and will be offering insight, advice, sharing mistakes made and opportunities that helped them enter the world of professional arts workers.

We received funding from NCIF and SHED for pilot year for the project, but we hope that the learning from this year will help us to develop a long-term delivery and funding plan to continue this strand of artist development.

Partnerships

We have developed **2 key partnership projects** as part of our artist development offer, both of which have diversified and increased what we offer our members and provided new and exciting opportunities for them to connect with creatives outside the region.

- **The Exchange** - A 6-month programme workshops, networking events and activities, with the aim of supporting artists to make connections with others across the country. The project is supporting **60 artists (10 NewBridge members)** and involves **5 partners** - Eastside Projects (Birmingham), CAMP (Plymouth), G39 (Cardiff), Spike Island (Bristol), and Turf Projects (Croydon).
- **Kaleidoscope Network** - 4 partner organisations' respective members have the opportunity to attend events hosted by the other partners. This increases the offer and national networking opportunities for our members and shares our programme with a broader geographical audience. We are working with Primary (Nottingham) Spike Island (Bristol) and Eastside Projects (Birmingham) on this.

Delivery of Strategic Goal 3

We recognise affordable and accessible work and exhibition space is of key importance for artists and creatives to start/continue their practice, develop their careers and make new work.

We are committed to providing space to artists at any stage of their career, working primarily within the field of visual art, with a desire to be part of a diverse and critically engaged community of creative practitioners. Our studios nurture an inclusive, collaborative environment that allows artists to discuss and develop new ideas and projects.

The NewBridge Project (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2021

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

We have developed a tiered approach to workspace to suit the varying needs of artists. We provide individual studios, shared workspace, co-workspace, workshop facilities (darkroom, a woodwork shop, film lab, ceramics space) and project spaces. We will continue to develop production spaces and resources for artists by creating practice-specific spaces, allowing us to support more artists.

From April 2020 – March 2021, we have provided affordable studios and workspace for **132** Studio Members, **20** hot-desk members and **50** Collective Studio members across 2 sites between 2020-21, Carlisle House and Gateshead High Street. We usually hired out flexible production / exhibiting space to regional artists or groups, however we have not been able to do this in 2020-21 due to Covid19.

We have agreed a 5-year lease (with no break clause) with Newcastle City Council for the Shieldfield Centre from June 2021, and which will house all our studio members from this time onward.

Building on our 10-year experience of occupying buildings on a meanwhile-use basis, we are actively participating in strategic regional and national conversations about affordable workspace and the importance of investment in longer-term/permanent sites for artist-led activity and studio provision.

These include:

- ***Meanwhile Space in the North:*** a consortium of organisations across the north of England currently occupying meanwhile space. The group are supported by Arts Council England as a strategic partner and have worked with a researcher to better understand and collate information on the use of meanwhile space, its economic and social benefits, and the need to go from 'pop-up' to 'stay up'.
- ***More than Meanwhile Spaces:*** a research project led by NewBridge in partnership with Newcastle University, this year we published *More than Meanwhile Spaces II*, a publication which documented conversations and actions developed through 6 workshops involving over 80 artists, creative practitioners, local authorities, funders and academics
- ***North of Tyne Combined Authority Culture and Creative Task and Finish group:*** Rebecca Huggan, NewBridge Director, was part of this group, contributing to a review of cultural and creative activity in the North of Tyne area and to development of future plans and actions to support the sector moving forward. Particularly she fed in on project proposals around Creative & Cultural Enterprise Zones and Skills development.

Delivery of Objectives 4 & 6 including Key Achievements

We have delivered Objective 4 & 5 through our exhibition, commission & events programme, supporting regional and national artists at key points in their career to produce and show ambitious new work, engaging audiences and participants in the programme.

Our programme is artist-led and we develop curatorial, production and project management skills of practitioners in the region through working with a Programme Committee of artist members to create a responsive and diverse public programme.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

In 2020-21 we delivered 12 new/ongoing commissions, exhibitions and projects, working with 148 artists across these projects. Many of our projects were delayed or adapted as a result of the gallery space being closed for much of the year and not being able to work on collaborative projects with community groups in person because of Covid 19.

We produced 2 editions of the **Lockdown Gazette** - a printed newspaper to reach those who were digitally excluded, produced through a collective effort from the *For Solidarity Network* - a growing peer-support network of organisations, projects, initiatives and individuals across the North East initiated by NewBridge in 2018. We worked with **25 community and cultural organisations** to produce the *Lockdown Gazette*, with **61 contributors** producing content for the paper. We distributed **10,000 copies** between May – November to communities who might not have access to the internet during isolation, via organisations already sending out essential deliveries.

For Solidarity is an ongoing project, that aims to nurture a growing peer support network of organisations, projects, initiatives and individuals across the North East. It was initiated by NewBridge and the Solidarity Economy Association in 2019, with the aim of strengthening and growing existing networks of solidarity for a more democratic, socially just and ecologically sustainable world that supports all our material and social needs. Through this we collaborate to deliver a wide range of projects, commissions, social events and a digital map. Our *For Solidarity Project Coordinator* has also given their time to support organisations in the network including Mutual Aid Group and North East Culture Against Racism.

Overmorrow is an ongoing festival running between October 2020 – July 2021, developed and produced by NewBridge and the Programme Committee, and has included a series of commissions, talks and events which explore our collective futures with audiences, members and communities. The programme includes 3 exhibitions (in person and online), 15 new commissions, working with 19 artists. The programme included:

- **Red + Yellow = Green**

Red + Green = Yellow was an experimental exhibition which explored visual communication through imagination, abstraction and making, supporting commissioned artists to develop new forms of collaboration as we adjust to a new reality. Artists Abi Freckleton, Catriona Beckett, David & Melissa Eveleigh-Evans, James Ellis and Theresa Poulton were selected to make a new work as a visual response to another artists' work. We also did an interview for our new Online Resources section on the website with Programme Committee Member Jenny McNamara and the exhibiting artists.

- **Staking Claims on the Distance**

We are commissioning a piece of public furniture (to be made Summer 2021) which will act as a new kind of monument to the present that encourages social interaction and celebrates ideas of collective futures. 3 artists – TOTALLER, Mickey Fenton and Esther Gamsu were selected to propose a design of their idea, and the exhibition of these ideas has been hosted on a bespoke website created by artist and Committee member Eve Cromwell. A final event will be hosted in August, where people will chat through the proposals and select a design to be developed in to a full size physical model to be displayed in the public realm.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

- ***Recipes for love***
50 x envelopes were posted out to selected folk and each envelope included works by 5 local artists. All the material from the envelopes was made available online - so everyone can feel the LOVE. Will launched this on website on Valentines day. The work on the site also included a BSL interpretation video - that gave an introduction to each of the works.
- ***A+E Collective: Dream Turbine***
A+E is a group of creatives working in design, film, food and writing, coming together to awaken people's imaginations and investment in a better world. From Earth Day to early summer 2021, A+E Collective will be taking to cyberspace and installing *The Dream Turbine* at The NewBridge Project. In solidarity with our values of cooperation, adaptation, environmental and social justice, The Dream Turbine hopes to promote alternative, non-extractive ways of thinking, desiring, memorialising and living through various ongoing crises as individuals and collectives.
- ***Slow Breath Camara Taylor, Rene McBrearty and Meera Osbourne***
First element was a series of workshops with Meera and Rene under following titles: Pining, Rest and Slowness. Second element is an exhibition that was developed with Camara which aims to create a space for creative routes to protest in solidarity with Queer communities (to open May 2021) emphasising the importance of Trans and Non-Binary voices. We will also do a later screening of the film at our new space in Shieldfield.

Bookshop

Our unique artist-led bookshop was closed for much of the year due to Covid – however, we developed a new integrated WooCommerce platform for our website, which we have been populating with a variety of artists' books, zines, writing and magazines.

Through the bookshop we aim to host a programme of regular events related to print culture and have produced a number of online events and resources during the lockdown.

- ***Inside a Gleaming Feeling*** - Craig Pollard & Jess Higgins in Conversation: Inside a Gleaming Feeling is a book by NewBridge member Craig Pollard consisting of conference papers, lectures and excerpts on music, art making and the internet published by Glasgow's The Grass is Green in the Fields for You. It is a book of
- ***gosh this is hard – Sophie Taylor***: NewBridge Books presented three new videos by Sophie Taylor, to mark the launch of her new zine gosh this is hard - a collection of visual poetry narrating the slapstick of early sobriety and a polite mental breakdown.
- ***Queer Quaranzine Readings*** - During lockdown, Dundee-based arts collective The Queer Dot put out an open call for contributions to a zine made in response to this challenging time. They received submissions from people relaying their lockdown experiences and provided a sense of unity to combat the widespread isolation. On our website we have hosted a film featuring performances and readings from the magazine's contributors.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Delivery of Strategic Goal 5 & 6 including Key Achievements

The NewBridge Project seeks to be a welcoming space where artists, residents and local communities can come together to work, learn, socialise and support each other.

As we move to the Shieldfield Centre we are keen to ensure that the building and its programme provide an important and exciting resource for the artistic and local community alike. The hub will host a regular programme of cultural, education and social activity for the local community aimed at people of all ages and backgrounds.

We believe that our work at the Shieldfield Centre can have a deep and meaningful relationship with the people in the area, and a positive impact on the place they live.

As well as our activity at the Shieldfield Centre, it is vital that we maintain and continue to strengthen our relationships with local communities and partners in Gateshead where we have been working over the last 4 years. Whilst we will not be based there beyond September 2021, we will continue to work on collaborative, off-site projects in the area, and are committed to working in Gateshead long-term.

Shieldfield Youth Programme

In collaboration with Dwellbeing Shieldfield (a Community Benefit Society led by residents from Shieldfield) we have developed the *Shieldfield Youth Programme*, a new youth-led programme of activity built around the interests and needs of young people living in the area. It will create space for young people to come together in the place where they live and build new friendships, as well as offering opportunities for them to develop their skills and talents and to explore new ways of thinking and doing things together. It will empower people to become active members of the local community and will be locally rooted, thematically strong and will instil values of solidarity, social and economic justice, creativity and activism.

Since September 2020 we have been working with a newly established 'Youth Working Group' made up of 5 young people aged between 10-21 in Shieldfield. This is ensuring that we are working with young people from the area to develop a vision for the youth programme, and activities that respond to their interests and needs.

We recruited a Youth Worker – Kate Jeffries – in April 2021. Kate is working with a Youth Management Group (staff/stewards from NewBridge and Dwellbeing) alongside a Youth Working group – made up of young people living in Shieldfield to plan and deliver the youth programme, including activity programmes for half-term and summer holidays.

Radical Reading Library

We have been collaborating with individuals and organisations in Leeds, Sheffield, Cardiff and Peterborough to create network of radical reading libraries in partnership with independent publisher Pluto Press.

The organisations have a common goal – to support and empower people they work and engage with – and this collaborative project which will open local spaces and provide a wealth of educational tools which will be a catalyst for organic creative thinkers and critical minds across the country to come together. The library space will be based at the Shieldfield Centre.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

There will be access not just to books, but also the authors, who will bring their expertise on a variety of topics, such as grassroots organising, creative writing, campaigning, teaching, music and much more. As well as book clubs which will provide forums to debate local issues, taking the lead from the local communities we serve.

We also hope to work with local community organisations to build this library around local interests and topical expertise.

Delivery of Strategic Objective 6 including Key Achievements

The NewBridge Project are committed to delivering a diverse and varied artist-led programme that aims to maintain and attract new audiences and participants to our activities. This is embedded across all our programming and activities included above (studio/workspace, artist development, commissions and exhibitions).

Website

We launched our new website in December 2020 after around a years development. The new site showcases our activity more clearly, and also provides more flexibility and options to present new work and commissions online. As part of this we have created a new 'Online Resources' page, where we publish a variety of art works, resource and toolkits that support artists and communities to create and present new work, and learn from others.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The out-turn for the year is an unrestricted surplus of £26,269 (2020: surplus £47,904). The surplus will be added to the charity's Unrestricted Funds, which now stand at 31 March 2021 at £160,469 (2020: £134,200).

The Trustees consider the financial performance of the charity to be good and note that our financial planning has enabled us to be resilient and weather the Covid-19 storm, whilst providing crucial support to studio members through rent reimbursements, and despite receiving almost no government or other relief grants we have ended the year in a strong reserves position.

Supporters

The Board and staff of NewBridge would like to record their thanks to the funders and partners who made our work possible in 2020-21.

We received support from Arts Council England National Portfolio, Newcastle University via Newcastle Institute for Creative Arts Practice, Newcastle Culture Investment Fund, SHED, Weston Jerwood Creative Bursaries and Community Foundation.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Supporters (Cont.)

We worked closely with a number of regional partners to deliver projects and joint initiatives, including: Artist Foodbank Network, BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Big River Bakery, Citizens Advice Gateshead, Chilli Studios, The Comfrey Project, connected Voice, Digital Voice, Dingy Butterflied, Dwellbeing, The Eclipse, Equal Arts, Fulfilling Lives Newcastle and Gateshead, Gateshead Carers, Gateshead Council, Arthur's Hill Mutual Aid, MIMA, Newcastle City Council, Newcastle Safeguarding Board, Newcastle University, Pineapple Black, North East CVAN, Recovery College Collective (ReCoCo), Roots and Wings, Sail Creative, Shieldfield Art Works, Shieldfield Forum Café, Shipley Art Gallery, Solidarity Economy Association, The Star and Shadow Cinema, Sunderland University, Tara Properties Limited

We worked closely with a number of regional partners to deliver projects and joint initiatives, including: AxisWeb, CAMP (Plymouth), Castlefield Arts (Manchester), CCSkills (for Creative Career Week), Eastside Projects (Birmingham), East Street Arts (Leeds), G39 (Cardiff), Good Press (Glasgow), GradJOB (Edinburgh), In Session (Edinburgh), Into the wild (Chisenhale, London), Primary (Nottingham), Skippco (Leeds), Spike Island (Bristol), Turf Projects (Croydon).

We have also been part of a network of 150 organisations taking part in the Weston Jerwood Creative Bursaries programme, which has provided invaluable cross-organisation support and learning throughout the year.

PLANS FOR FUTURE YEARS

We have been working towards become more sustainable and resilient and have funding as an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) until March 2023 (extended due to Covid-19).

We had core funding until March 2021 from Newcastle Culture Investment Fund (NCIF) through the Community Foundation and Newcastle City Council, and were successful in securing a year's further funding from NCIF through their Stabilisation grant for 2021-22. We plan to submit a new application to NCIF in Autumn 2021.

We have a partnership agreement with Newcastle University to develop and deliver *The Collective Studio* programme until August 2023 and are exploring a number of partnership models beyond this point.

We have secured 2 years of funding from SHED which will support project work and staff capacity until March 2022.

We secured funding from Weston Jerwood Creative Bursaries to support a one-year fellowship for a Programme Coordinator, who was recruited in February 2021.

This support has provided our team with a base of core funding from which to operate and develop the organisation.

We have developed a 1-year detailed business plan and budget for 2021-22, which will inform our activity and delivery over the next year.

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PLANS FOR FUTURE YEARS (Cont.)

We are at a crucial year in our development, and it is essential we continue to manage partnerships, raise funds and attract investment in order to secure longer-term funding for activity and staff.

We will also begin to look for a new building for our operations after our 5 year-lease at Shieldfield, thus ensuring the long-term stability and sustainability of the organisation.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees (who are also the Directors of The NewBridge Project for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

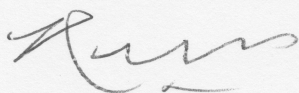
Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



Ray Mills
Trustee
Company Registration Number 10582100

27 September 2021

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members on the Unaudited Accounts of The NewBridge Project Limited for the year ended 31 March 2021

I hereby report to the Trustees/Members of The NewBridge Project (Charity Registration Number 1165182) on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021 set out on pages 21 to 31.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's Trustees (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

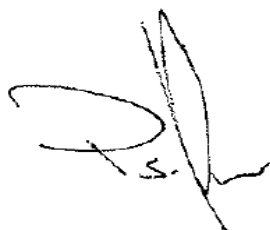
Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountant in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods or principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102)).

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.



Pete O'Hara, FCA, Chartered Accountant
Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales
4 Stoneyhurst Road West, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 1PG

27 September 2021

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Income					
Income from Donations & Legacies	3	71,288	162,561	233,849	106,093
Income from Charitable Activities	4	92,034	20,000	112,034	151,187
Total Income		163,322	182,561	345,883	257,280
Expenditure					
Cost of Raising Funds	5	473	-	473	3,691
Expenditure on Charitable Activities	6	136,580	116,278	252,858	238,631
Total Expenditure		137,053	116,278	253,331	242,322
Net Income/(Expenditure)		26,269	66,283	92,552	14,958
Balance brought forward		134,200	18,366	152,566	137,608
Balance carried forward at 31 March	12	£160,469	£84,649	£245,118	£152,566

The notes on pages 23 to 31 form part of the financial statements.

All the activities of the company are classed as continuing.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION/BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	8	8,312	4,729
Current Assets			
Debtors	9	10,107	19,948
Cash at Bank & In Hand		281,895	170,793
		<u>292,002</u>	<u>190,741</u>
Creditors – Amounts Falling Due Within 1 Year	10	(55,196)	(42,904)
Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)		<u>236,806</u>	<u>147,837</u>
Total Net Assets	11	<u>£245,118</u>	<u>£152,566</u>
Represented by:			
Unrestricted Reserves	12	160,469	134,200
Restricted Reserves	12	84,649	18,366
		<u>£245,118</u>	<u>£152,566</u>

The notes on pages 23 to 31 form part of the financial statements.

The Trustees are satisfied that for the year ended 31 March 2021 the charity was entitled to exemption under section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

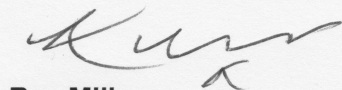
The Trustees also confirm that the Members have not required the charity to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

(i) ensuring that the charity keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act, and

(ii) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charity.

These financial statements were approved and signed by a Member of the Board of Trustees on 27 September 2021.



Ray Mills
Trustee
Company Registration Number 10582100

The NewBridge Project (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Cash Flow Statement

The Directors have taken advantage of the provisions of the Financial Reporting Standard Number 1, which exempts small companies from the need to prepare a cash flow statement.

Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, any performance related conditions attached have been met or are fully within the control of the charity, the income is considered probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Donations and legacy income is received by way of donations, legacies, grants and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Where legacies have been notified to the charity but the criteria for income recognition have not been met, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.
- Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.
- Investment income is included when receivable.
- Income from charitable trading activity is accounted for when earned.
- Other income is accounted for when receivable.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1. Accounting Policies (Continued)

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

- Costs of raising funds comprise the costs associated with attracting donations, grants and legacies and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes.
- Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.
- Other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

Irrecoverable VAT

All resources expended are classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

Operating Leases

The charity classifies the lease of certain types of equipment as operating leases as the title to the equipment remains with the lessor. Rental charges are charged against income on a straight-line basis over the year of the lease.

Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on any fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the assets over their remaining useful lives as follows:

Leasehold Property Improvements	- over the period of the lease
IT & Office Equipment	- 33% per annum straight line

A full year's depreciation charge is applied in the year of acquisition and no charge is made in the year of disposal.

Impairment of Fixed Assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

**The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

1. Accounting Policies (Continued)

Financial Instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the purposes of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for specific purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

Taxation Status

The NewBridge Project Limited is a Charity registered under the 1960 Charities Act and is accorded exemption from liability to taxation on its income under S505 Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

Going Concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Judgements and Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

2. Legal Status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1. The company law members of the charity are the members of its Board of Trustees.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

3. Income from Grants, Donations & Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Donations	-	-	-	3,092
Grant Income				
Arts Council England – NPO	71,288	-	71,288	70,000
Jerwood Foundation - Creative Bursary	-	6,581	6,581	-
Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund - Core	-	25,000	25,000	30,000
Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund - Learn & Do	-	9,980	9,980	-
Pen & Palette Fund	-	1,000	1,000	-
RTC North	-	-	-	3,001
Sabi Foundation	-	20,000	20,000	-
Sustainability.Health.Environment. Development.	-	100,000	100,000	-
	71,288	162,561	233,849	103,001
	£71,288	£162,561	£233,849	£106,093

Of the 2020 total of £106,093, £73,092 related to Unrestricted Funds and £33,001 to Restricted Funds.

4. Income from Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Studio Membership Fees - Newcastle	58,188	-	58,188	75,151
Studio Membership Fees - Gateshead	9,546	-	9,546	11,939
Associate Membership	1,948	-	1,948	2,145
Collective Studio Membership	6,357	-	6,357	8,912
Newcastle University	-	20,000	20,000	20,000
Bookshop Sales	727	-	727	3,861
Museums & Galleries Exhibition Tax Relief	10,230	-	10,230	14,449
Other Income	5,038	-	5,038	14,730
	£92,034	£20,000	£112,034	£151,187

Of the 2020 total of £151,187, £131,187 related to Unrestricted Funds and £20,000 to Restricted Funds.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

5. Expenditure on Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Bookshop Costs	473	-	473	3,691
	£473	£-	£473	£3,691

The 2020 total of £3,691 relates wholly to Unrestricted Funds.

6. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Programme/Project Costs				
Programme Expenditure	-	51,869	51,869	69,221
Salaries & On Costs	44,845	63,409	108,254	80,356
Website Development	2,598	-	2,598	9,706
Travel & Research	192	-	192	3,213
	47,635	115,278	162,913	162,496
Support Costs				
Rent, Rates & Water	24,174	-	24,174	23,461
Heat & Light	22,580	-	22,580	24,496
Cleaning & Waste	9,337	-	9,337	10,686
Repairs & Maintenance	4,097	-	4,097	3,633
Depreciation	4,344	1,000	5,344	2,443
Other Administration & Running Costs	12,218	-	12,218	6,260
	76,750	1,000	77,750	70,979
Governance Costs				
Independent Examiner's Fees	1,080	-	1,080	1,080
Other Accountancy Costs	2,265	-	2,265	84
Legal & Professional Fees	1,150	-	1,150	13
Programme Committee Stipend	7,700	-	7,700	3,950
Trustee Meeting Costs	-	-	-	29
	12,195	-	12,195	5,156
	£136,580	£116,278	£252,858	£238,631

Of the 2020 total of £238,631, £152,684 related to Unrestricted Funds and £85,947 to Restricted Funds.

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

7. Net Income/(Expenditure)

	2021	2020
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Independent Examiner's Fees – current year	1,080	1,080
Depreciation of owned Tangible Fixed Assets	5,344	2,443

8. Staff Costs & Trustees' Remuneration

	2021	2020
	£	£
Gross Salary Costs	103,640	76,610
Employer's National Insurance	2,697	2,282
Employer's Pension Contributions	1,917	1,464
	£108,254	£80,356

No employee received remuneration of more than £60,000 during the year (2020: Nil).

The average number of staff employed during the year, calculated as full-time equivalents, was as follows:

	2021	2020
	No.	No.
Artistic Production and Support	4	4

No remuneration has been paid to any Trustees/Directors in the year (2020: Nil), nor was any reimbursement made to Trustees in respect of their attendance at meetings of the charity (2020: Nil).

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

9. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Office & ICT Equipment £	Leasehold Property Improvements £	Total Fixed Assets £
Cost			
At 1 April 2020	1,628	9,500	11,128
Additions in year	8,927	-	8,927
At 31 March 2021	10,555	9,500	20,055
Accumulated Depreciation			
At 1 April 2020	699	5,700	6,399
Charge for year	3,444	1,900	5,344
At 31 March 2021	4,143	7,600	11,743
Net Book Value			
At 31 March 2021	£6,412	£1,900	£8,312
At 1 April 2020	£929	£3,800	£4,729

10. Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade Debtors	7,722	17,827
Prepayments	2,366	1,431
Accrued Income	-	690
Other Debtors	19	-
	£10,107	£19,948

11. Creditors – Amounts Falling Due Within 1 Year

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade Creditors	1,726	1,876
Other Creditors	518	4
Other Creditors – Studio & Key Deposits Held	8,237	9,222
Other Taxes & Social Security Costs	-	3,351
Deferred Income	-	1,666
Accruals	44,715	26,785
	£55,196	£42,904

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

12. Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	8,312	-	8,312	4,729
Debtors	10,107	-	10,107	19,948
Cash at Bank and In Hand	197,246	84,649	281,895	170,793
Creditors – Amounts Due Within 1 Year	(55,196)	-	(55,196)	(42,904)
	£160,469	£84,649	£245,118	£152,566

13. Analysis of Charitable Funds

	Fund at 1 April 2020	Incoming Resources in Year	Resources Expended in Year	Fund at 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds				
Charity General Fund	134,200	163,322	(137,053)	160,469
Restricted Funds				
Jerwood Foundation - Creative Bursary	-	6,581	(6,581)	-
Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund - Core	4,203	25,000	(26,503)	2,700
Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund - Learn & Do	-	9,980	-	9,980
Newcastle University	12,063	20,000	(21,058)	11,005
Pen & Palette Fund	-	1,000	(1,000)	-
Sabi Foundation	-	20,000	(20,000)	-
Seedbed Trust	2,100	-	(1,300)	800
Sustainability. Health. Environment. Development.	-	100,000	(39,836)	60,164
Total Restricted Funds	18,366	182,561	(116,278)	84,649
Total Funds	£152,566	£345,883	£(253,331)	£245,118

The NewBridge Project
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

13. Analysis of Charitable Funds (Cont.)

Name of Restricted Fund	Description, Nature & Purpose of the Restricted Fund
Jerwood Arts - Creative Bursary	Towards the cost of participation in the Weston Jerwood Creative Bursaries programme
Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund - Core	Towards the Practice Makes Practice programme, 1 x commission, related staff costs
Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund - Learn & Do	Towards the cost of Learn & Do
Newcastle University	Towards the Collective Studio inc. staff costs
Pen & Palette Fund	Towards the cost of IT equipment
Sabi Foundation	Towards the cost of work with the Solidarity Economy Association to map the Solidarity Economy
Seedbed Trust	Towards the Deep Adaptation and Mapping project, inc. freelance / employed staff costs
Sustainability. Health. Environment. Development.	Towards the cost of For Solidarity project, Youth Programme, project work and events in Shieldfield, and associated staff costs

14. Taxation

The company is a registered charity and no provision is considered necessary for taxation.

15. Financial Commitments

No material financial commitments have been made in respect of future financial years.

16. Company Limited by Guarantee

The charity is incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 and is limited by guarantee, each member having undertaken to contribute such amounts not exceeding £1 as may be required in the event of the company being wound up whilst he or she is still a member or within one year thereafter.

There are currently 7 (2020: 7) members of the company.