

Charity Registration Number: 1188701



**METROPOLITAN POLICE CHOIR
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2024**

1.0 Contents

1.0	Contents.....	2
2.0	Trustees Report.....	3
3.0	Legal & Administrative Information.....	3
4.0	Structure & Governance.....	3
5.0	Objectives & Activities.....	4
5.1	Purposes.....	4
5.2	Activities & Public Benefit.....	4
6.0	Financial Review.....	5
6.1	Financial Position.....	5
6.2	Reserves Policy.....	5
6.3	Sources of Funding.....	5
6.4	Investments Policy.....	5
7.0	Declaration.....	5
8.0	Independent Examiners Report.....	6
9.0	Balance Sheet.....	8
10.0	Statement of Financial Activities.....	9

2.0 Trustees Report

The Trustees of the Metropolitan Police Choir present its annual report and financial statements for the year ending 30th April 2024.

3.0 Legal & Administrative Information

Charity Name:	Metropolitan Police Choir
Charity Number:	1188701
Principal Address:	New Scotland Yard Victoria Embankment London SW1A 2JL
Trustees:	Commander Simon Messinger Caroline Saunderson Khan Laurence Tom Cresswell Richard Fox Mark Webster David Lane Tess Whitelee Rebecca Nicholson-Lord Bartlomiej Mielniczuk
Treasurer:	Khan Laurence
Secretary:	Tom Cresswell
Musical Director	Richard Fox
Life Vice President	Leslie Stowe
Independent Examiner	Wayne Phillips
Bankers	Santander Bank

4.0 Structure & Governance

The Metropolitan Police Choir (the charity, also the Met Police Choir or MPC) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation which was granted charitable status on 23rd March 2020 by the Charity Commission of England with Charity Number 1188701.

The governing document for the charity is the Constitution of the Metropolitan Police Choir dated 6th January 2020.

Metropolitan Police Choir
Trustees Annual Report to 30th April 2024

The charity is governed by elected Trustees. The Trustees are elected by the choir's membership at the Annual General Meeting. Trustees' roles include Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Musical Director and Musical Section Representatives.

The Trustees hold meetings throughout the year. The Trustees are volunteers and do not receive remuneration for their role as a Trustee (the Musical Director receives remuneration for their activity within that role but has no vote on financial matters).

The charity has no employees. It uses the services of musical professionals who work on a freelance basis, including:

- Richard Fox, Musical Director
- Helen Payne, Musical Accompanist

5.0 Objectives & Activities

5.1 Purposes

The charity's purposes as set out in the objects contained in the Constitution are to:

- foster the development of public education in relation to the artistic and scientific attributes pertaining to choral music undertaken by the Metropolitan Police Choir;
- promote, improve, develop and maintain public interest in choral music by the presentation of concerts and other activities involving or relating to choral music;
- advance the musical education of the Metropolitan Police and the British Police Service;
- promote and further the efficiency of the Metropolitan Police through greater community engagement, development and cohesion with the public; and
- further such charitable purpose(s) as the trustees shall, in their absolute discretion, think fit. This includes, but is by no means limited to: (i) the making of grants; (ii) donations; and/or (iii) supporting others in charitable fundraising activities.

5.2 Activities & Public Benefit

This year has seen the choir emerge from the post-COVID slump that effected so much of the performing arts industry. We have increased the number of performances by around 50% and continued to recruit new members. The choir continues to enjoy the support of the most senior leadership of the Metropolitan Police as we play our part in working towards a New Met for London.

During this period, we have undertaken two of our own concerts. In June 2023, the choir returned to Holy Sepulchre Church for our annual Summer Concert. Audience numbers were around 230, which against a challenging economic backdrop was extremely positive. The choir worked hard to develop their choral singing and it was clear from the audience response that this effort had paid off. The acoustic of this stunning church really did shine through and many audience

Metropolitan Police Choir

Trustees Annual Report to 30th April 2024

members heaped praised on the overall performance and the move to performing more 'choral' music, with some old favourites thrown in too.

In December 2023, we organised our own Christmas Concerts, which were performed to full houses at both events. We received fantastic feedback from a most appreciative audience of not just friends and relatives but also fans and followers from around London and further afield. It was a great privilege to be able to perform in a different venue this year, the beautiful Holy Trinity Church in Chelsea.

This year also saw the culmination of a long planned project – recording an album at the world famous Abbey Road Studios. Mindful of the high costs involved in such a project, we had been building up reserves in our funding over a number of years. The project was considered a positive opportunity to engage with a wider audience through circulation on online streaming platforms. We also printed a number of CDs in order to offset some of the costs. These would provide for future opportunities to collaborate and raise funds for other organisations. We also considered that it would raise awareness and educate the public in relation to the activities and music of the MPC and developing public interest in the charity. Finally, it provided an opportunity for members of the MPC, and as a result the MPS, to learn and develop musical skills and new music. The Trustees carefully considered all this against the costs involved and agreed it was in line with the aims stated in our Constitution.

The Trustees have kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on Public Benefit when making decisions throughout this period, ensuring that activities were delivered in line with the charity's aims and objectives. Of particular note in this regard, the choir has:

- Continued to support the MPS Long Service Ceremonies throughout the year. This is an opportunity for families and friends to celebrate with those receiving their Long Service and Good Conduct medals and Long Service Certificates.
- Performed as part of the Requiem Mass for Deceased Police Officers, held annually at Westminster Cathedral. This year was the 100th anniversary of this service and as always, was a poignant and moving way to support bereaved family and friends to remember their loved ones.
- Sung at the Road Peace Service. This day has now been recognised as a World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims. It is always a most moving and emotional service where the choir are proud to support and give some solace to the families and friends of those so tragically killed on our roads.
- Supported London Poppy Day, working with Royal British Legion fundraising volunteers to raise money for their annual appeal.
- Hosted a joint concert with Blaenavon Male Voice Choir. The MPC network stretches far and wide and this was a great opportunity to perform with a very different choir and raise money for a local London charity, SMART.
- Celebrated Christmas several times over, performing at the Commissioner's Christmas Carol Service in Westminster Abbey, as well as

at a number of concerts organised by Met operational units for and with their local communities.

6.0 Financial Review

6.1 Financial Position

The balance sheet of the Metropolitan Police Choir at 30th April 2024 shows total net assets of £20,699.87, comprised of £4,319.90 of Debtors and £16,379.97 of Cash held in the Bank Account. The Trustees believe that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence and meet its liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future. It is noted that the current net assets are higher than anticipated, with the Trustees making a conscious decision to generate additional funds in order to fund future projects and events going forward. This includes funding additional activities related to celebrating the Choir's Ten Year Anniversary in 2026.

The statement of financial activities shows that in this financial period, the charity generated total income of £40,161.98 and incurred total expenditure of £47,201.84 giving a total net operating deficit of £7,039.86. Total expenditure in 2023/24 was £22,635.25 higher than the previous year, which was largely attributable to the cost of the Abbey Road Recording Project (£16,895.14) for the Christmas CD and more performances and concerts undertaken during the year. This additional expenditure was partially offset by increased income of £11,104.96 through the increased performance activities and revenue generated from the sale of the Christmas CD.

6.2 Reserves Policy

The charity has a Reserves Policy in place which was agreed in January 2022. The current assets held by the charity are considered capable of withstanding any short or medium term fluctuations in income and expenditure, such as one off costs related to the forthcoming Ten Year Anniversary Events. This is combined with the ability of the Trustees to make decisions in relation to the type and level of activity undertaken by the Charity to moderate income and expenditure.

6.3 Sources of Funding

This year the sources of funding were the MPAA Grant, membership subscriptions, Gift Aid, sponsorship, performance charges, MPC concert charges and other ancillary income.

6.4 Investments Policy

Under the Constitution, the Trustees of the Charity have the power to make investments however it sees fit in line with the furtherance of its objectives. The Trustees have not considered investments this year.

7.0 Declaration

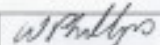
The Trustees of the Metropolitan Police Choir declare that they have approved the Trustees report above on 27 January 2025 and they have mandated the Vice-Chair to sign on their behalf:

Metropolitan Police Choir
Trustees Annual Report to 30th April 2024

Caroline Saunderson

Caroline Saunderson, Vice-Chair

8.0 Independent Examiners Report

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES		Independent examiner's report on the accounts	
Section A Independent Examiner's Report			
Report to the trustees	Charity Name Metropolitan Police Choir		
On accounts for the year ended	30 th April 2024	Charity no (if any)	1188701
Set out on pages	(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)		
Responsibilities and basis of report	I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30 / 04 / 2024. As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.		
Independent examiner's statement	I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect: - the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or - the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or - the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination. I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached. <i>* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.</i>		
Signed:			Date: 10/2/24
Name:	Wayne Phillips		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	CPA Australia		
Address:	55 Vicarage Road, London, SW14 8RY		
IER	1	Oct 2018	

Metropolitan Police Choir
Trustees Annual Report to 30th April 2024

9.0 Balance Sheet

Metropolitan Police Choir
Charity Commission Registration Number 1188701
Balance Sheet - Detail
As at April 30, 2024

Current Assets

Debtors	4,319.90
Cash At Bank And In Hand	16,379.97
Net Assets	20,699.87

Funds & Reserves

Unrestricted General Funds	20,699.87
Funds Provided	20,699.87

10.0 Activities

Statement of Financial

Metropolitan Police Choir
Statement of Financial Activities (Receipts & Payments)
May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024 (compared to May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023)

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Prior Total	Difference	% Change
<i>Receipts</i>							
Income and Endowments							
Income from Charitable Activities							
Performance Activities	9,607.00			9,607.00	6,100.00	3,507.00	57%
Income from Donations and Legacies	1,070.00			1,070.00		1,070.00	
Gift Aid Claimed					1,077.93	-1,077.93	-100%
Membership Subscriptions	6,528.00			6,528.00	4,560.00	1,968.00	43%
Income from Grants, Sponsorship & Projects							
CD Recording Sales	4,327.00			4,327.00		4,327.00	
MPAA Grant	820.39			820.39	6,954.43	-6,134.04	-88%
Sponsorship	6,500.00			6,500.00	4,000.00	2,500.00	62%
MPC Concerts							
Joint Concert - Blaenavon Male Voice Choir	1,255.75			1,255.75		1,255.75	
MPC Christmas Concert	7,586.70			7,586.70	3,821.35	3,765.35	99%
MPC Summer Concert	2,917.65			2,917.65	2,993.82	-76.17	-3%
Total Receipts	40,612.49	0.00	0.00	40,612.49	29,507.53	11,104.96	38%

Payments

Expenditure

Charitable Activities

Charity Management & Administration

Association & Affiliation

Making Music Membership	219.00			219.00	140.00	79.00	56%
Performing Rights Society	425.10			425.10		425.10	
Public Liability Insurance	104.00			104.00	99.00	5.00	5%
Bank Charges					90.00	-90.00	-100%

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Prior Total	Difference	% Change
Comms, Marketing & Website							
Website	366.39			366.39	307.20	59.19	19%
Fees & Charges							
Accounting Charges	186.48			186.48	186.48		
Bank Charges	95.25			95.25		95.25	
Eventbrite Fees	864.14			864.14		864.14	
Sum-up Fees	70.71			70.71		70.71	
Gifts & Hospitality							
Gifts					71.44	-71.44	-100%
Hospitality					26.97	-26.97	-100%
Equipment	538.80			538.80	174.02	364.78	210%

MPC Concerts					
MPC Christmas Concert	3,098.40	3,098.40	2,125.24	973.16	46%
MPC Concert - Blaenavon - Oct 2023	2,220.50	2,220.50		2,220.50	
MPC Summer Concert	1,777.91	1,777.91	1,748.95	28.96	2%
Performance	40.20	40.20		40.20	
Accompanist - Performance Charge	3,649.00	3,649.00	3,168.00	481.00	15%
Accompanist - Travel Expenses	168.65	168.65	162.70	5.95	4%
Musical Director - Performance Charge	2,458.90	2,458.90	1,396.00	1,062.90	76%
Projects					
Audio Recording - Abbey Road	16,895.14	16,895.14		16,895.14	
Rehearsals					
Accompanist - Rehearsal Charge	4,365.25	4,365.25	5,298.25	-933.00	-18%
Musical Director - Rehearsal Charge	6,760.23	6,760.23	6,891.00	-130.77	-2%
Sheet Music	3,356.30	3,356.30	2,591.85	764.45	29%
Donations & Grants	-8.00	-8.00	540.00	-548.00	-101%

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Prior Total	Difference	% Change
Total Payments	47,652.35	0.00	0.00	47,652.35	25,017.10	22,635.25	90%
All Receipts	40,612.49	0.00	0.00	40,612.49	29,507.53	11,104.96	38%
All Payments	47,652.35	0.00	0.00	47,652.35	25,017.10	22,635.25	90%
Net Movement in Funds	-7,039.86	0.00	0.00	-7,039.86	4,490.43	-11,530.29	-257%
Total Funds Brought Forward	23,419.83	0.00	0.00	23,419.83	18,929.40	4,490.43	24%
Total Funds Carried Forward	16,379.97	0.00	0.00	16,379.97	23,419.83	-7,039.86	-30%