

MANCHESTER STREET POEM

Reference and administrative details

For the year ended 31 May 2024

Principal office:

110 Oldham Road

Manchester

M4 6AG

Registered Charity Number (CIO):

1190139

Trustees, who are also directors under company law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Karl Hyde

Jeremy Green

John Organ

Sarah Hiscock

Victoria Miller - appointed 1 August 2023

The Cooperative Bank

PO Box 250

Skelmersdale

WN8 6WT

MANCHESTER STREET POEM

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31 May 2024

The trustees present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 May 2024.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the CIO's constitution and the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Objectives and activities

The CIO's objects are to promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them primarily through arts-based activities and raising public awareness of relevant issues.

In practice, we are an art collective that tells stories, particularly stories around homelessness and its associated issues. Our primary focus is our home territory of Greater Manchester, but we are always keen to share our learning and practice more widely.

Our work is about co-producing creative projects with participants, fostering a genuine sense of ownership for everyone involved as we seek to communicate the issues, lived experiences and realities of their lives to a wider public. Participants themselves are the artists, and we collaborate with other artists and arts organisations where this brings new skills, ideas and approaches to enrich our work and to reach wider audiences.

Through this activity we aim to:

- catalyse personal growth and confidence, create opportunities for self-expression and make spaces to develop positive connections (participants)
- challenge perceptions around homelessness and its associated issues and, through our artworks, create powerful, transformative moments that shift public awareness and understanding (audiences)

The trustees have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future actions.

Achievements and performance

This year we were proud to welcome over 1000 participants to *We Cut Through Dust* (June/July 2023), a large-scale interactive installation inviting the curious through the streets of Manchester into the future, guided by a series of phone calls – an experience hovering somewhere between the real and the fantastical, a version of the future told by those who remain. Thousands of passers-by experienced the striking artworks that marked the route, as part of their daily lives. Presented as part of Manchester International Festival and fronted by members of MSP, the piece marked the culmination of a four year collaboration with Brighton-based art collective Blast Theory - spanning a

period of extraordinary upheaval and change for our communities, through the pandemic and out the other side.

2023 was the opening year for Factory International's Aviva Studios, Manchester's landmark new cultural space. We were pleased to contribute in many different ways to this formative year, for example bringing the voices and perspectives of homeless people to conversations around how the building could be made more welcoming and accessible, and suggesting how a previously unused space in the building might best be adapted as a flexible workshop for community projects. In February 2024 our members took part in Factory International's *The Fête of Britain*, a four-day celebration of collaboration and imagination in the face of the challenges of the twenty-first century. Among spaces buzzing with workshops, people's assemblies, play, talks, games and performances we took on a dramatic space in the centre of the studios' giant warehouse where our members invited visitors to contribute to a growing art piece, in response to political provocations (e.g. "if I were PM for the day..."). 300 participants contributed ideas and responses to create a stunning artwork, a wonderful and high-profile shift in the notion of who 'does' art.

More broadly, grassroots activity continued year-round in communities across Greater Manchester. MSP members welcomed about 500 people to draw, paint and share their ideas of the weekend at Salford's *We Invented the Weekend* festival in June. Later in the autumn, a series of weekly art workshops delivered in partnership with Reclaim Our Communities in Partington (an area of deprivation on the edge of Manchester) adapted our well-tried and tested 'paint what you feel' approach to explore strategies to improve mental health. By the end of the programme c. 30 local residents were regularly joining in: "Painting words on cardboard about what I do to help my mental health has helped me when I'm feeling down. It just sort of reminds me the sort of things I need to do to stay happy." May 2024 saw us in Bolton for *Bolton Town of Children*: in collaboration with Creatives Now Bolton and groups of local young people we facilitated a giant artwork to mark the opening of a new creative community space in an empty department store in Bolton town centre. 200 people contributed directly to the piece, with around 1000 more stopping by to enjoy the space and the process.

This was an important year for MSP as we regrouped and recalibrated after the turbulence of the pandemic: it was exciting to return to the physical, hands-on creation of work in public spaces, co-produced with marginalised communities and invariably sparking connection, dialogue and discovery for all those involved. We were pleased to see this translate into considerable media coverage, including in national media (e.g. BBC 6, Frieze, The Mirror), all driving further discussion and debate around themes of marginalisation, voice and arts.

We recognised however the need to consider MSP's future direction and strategy more deeply, with our communities and in a co-produced way. As new possibilities arise, sparked by the increased profile and reach of our activities, we want to keep a tight focus on doing those things that best serve our objects and our communities.

Plans for future periods

In late 2024 we undertook a review, workshopping ideas and plans for MSP with our community, partners and friends from over the years – in the collaborative way that is core to our approach. This is now shaping our plans for 2025/6 and beyond.

Emerging priorities are:

- broadening our network of partner organisations across Greater Manchester (those working in the field of homelessness and/or associated issues) in order to bring wider perspectives and experiences into our next big storytelling project
- identifying new artists and/or art collectives who can enrich our projects/artistic development
- reviewing the wealth of material and ideas collected over the past few years, to identify key themes that our community might wish to explore and illuminate through collaborative projects
- continuing to strengthen our organisation: policies and procedures, fundraising and evaluation/impact reporting.

Financial review

The financial transactions of the CIO are set out in the attached accounts.

Income for the year ending 31st May 2024 was £12,723, compared to £46,794 in 2022/23. This reflects the early receipt in May 2023 (the end of our previous financial year) of a core grant from Paul Hamlyn Foundation of £28,000 towards 2023/24 activity: while the accounts show an operating deficit of £23,309 for the year we are reporting, this was funded by the grant in question, paid in advance. New income towards the year's activities included a £5,000 grant from the Foyle Foundation for the workshops in Partington, a £2,500 commission fee from Manchester International Festival (*The Fête of Britain*) and £1,500 from the Lowry Trust towards *We Invented the Weekend*.

Annual expenditure totalled £36,032, compared to £23,611 in 2022/23. Increased costs related to increased levels of activity, leading to increased costs for project facilitation and management fees. Expenditure also increased because of equipment costs and spending on wellbeing support for the project facilitator.

The trustees aim to hold reserves equivalent to 3 months basic running costs at the end of the year amounting to around £4000. Unfortunately we were unable to achieve this due to the late payment of our second yearly grant from Paul Hamlyn.

Structure, Governance and Management

Manchester Street Poem is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The CIO's constitution stipulates that there must be a minimum of 3 Trustees: there is no maximum number. Apart from the first/founding Trustees, trustees are appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting.

Trustees currently number five and bring lived experience of homelessness and its contributing factors, and skills/experience in the arts, community engagement and support service provision.

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

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 2019 (FRS 102)
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity 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 charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The accounts are independently examined by Simon Makepeace, independent bookkeeper.

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

Name: John Organ (Chair of board)

Date: 24/03/25

Note from independent bookkeeper, Simon Makepeace -

I have completed my examination. I confirm that 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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Simon Makepeace (12/03/25)



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Manchester Street Poem

For the period from

01/06/2023

To

31/05/2024

Accounts

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Receipts			
Donations and Grants	12,723		12,723
Sub total	12,723		12,723
Total receipts	12,723		12,723
Payments			
Studio Rent	1,200		1,200
Project Facilitator Fees	15,850		15,850
General Fees - SLR	11,000		11,000
Workshop and Project Art costs	1,289		1,289
Travel and Subsistence costs	2,965		2,965
Computer costs	206		206
Public Liability Insurance	62		62
Subscriptions	216		216
Facilitator Wellbeing	1,620		1,620
Equipment	1,624		1,624
Sub total	36,032	-	36,032
Total payments	36,032	-	36,032
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 23,309	-	- 23,309
Cash funds this year end	- 23,309	-	- 23,309

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £
Funds B/fwd at 01/06/23	£21,687	£2,285
Restricted Funds released in year	£2,285	-£2,285
Cash funds	-£23,309	£0
Agrees to Bank Balance as at 31/05/24	£663	£0
	£663	
Total Assets	£663	

Signed by one or
two trustees on
behalf of all the
trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of
approval

		11/02/2025



Manchester Street Poem

For the period from

01/06/2023

To

31/05/2024

Receipts and payments accounts

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Receipts			
06/06/2023 The Foyle Foundation	5,000.00		5,000.00
30/06/2023 Blast Theory	89.95		89.95
30/06/2023 Lowry Trust	1,500.00		1,500.00
02/08/2023 Just Giving	12.06		12.06
12/09/2023 Blast Theory	2572		2,572.00
09/04/2024 Manchester International Festival	2,500.00		2,500.00
24/04/2024 Paypal PPWDL	48.65		48.65
17/05/2024 Creatives Now CIC	1,000.00		1,000.00
			0.00
	12,722.66	0.00	12,722.66
Total receipts	12,722.66	0.00	12,722.66
Payments			
07/06/2023 Islington Mill	100.00		100.00
07/06/2023 Reddemin Our Comm	2,500.00		2,500.00
07/06/2023 Simon Le Roux	123.15		123.15
07/06/2023 Simon Le Roux	224.15		224.15
14/06/2023 Simon Le Roux	194.16		194.16
14/06/2023 Simon Le Roux	1,000.00		1,000.00
14/06/2023 Somerset Smith	500.00		500.00
23/06/2023 Simon Le Roux	342.98		342.98
26/06/2023 Just Giving	18.00		18.00
26/06/2023 Simon Le Roux	845.00		845.00
03/07/2023 Simon Le Roux	1,075.41		1,075.41
05/07/2023 Islington Mill	100.00		100.00
05/07/2023 Somerset Smith	400.00		400.00
11/07/2023 Simon Le Roux	255.19		255.19
14/07/2023 Simon Le Roux	1,000.00		1,000.00
17/07/2023 Simon Le Roux	1,015.61		1,015.61
17/07/2023 Somerset Smith	1,600.00		1,600.00
19/07/2023 Simon Le Roux	2,432.08		2,432.08
25/07/2023 Just Giving	18.00		18.00
25/08/2023 Just Giving	18.00		18.00
30/08/2023 Simon Le Roux	1,711.09		1,711.09
12/09/2023 Islington Mill	100.00		100.00
12/09/2023 Islington Mill	100.00		100.00
15/09/2023 Simon Le Roux	866.06		866.06
21/09/2023 Simon Le Roux	1,740.78		1,740.78
25/09/2023 Just Giving	18.00		18.00
27/09/2023 Somerset Smith	800.00		800.00
06/10/2023 Simon Le Roux	1,147.18		1,147.18
06/10/2023 Simon Le Roux	1,608.00		1,608.00
20/10/2023 Simon Le Roux	1,110.00		1,110.00
25/10/2023 Just Giving	18.00		18.00
27/10/2023 Simon Le Roux	159.91		159.91
31/10/2023 Simon Le Roux	1,062.18		1,062.18
09/11/2023 Simon Le Roux	1,072.25		1,072.25
17/11/2023 Simon Le Roux	560.98		560.98
24/11/2023 Simon Le Roux	545.00		545.00
27/11/2023 Just Giving	18.00		18.00
30/11/2023 Simon Le Roux	80.87		80.87
30/11/2023 Somerset Smith	300.00		300.00
01/12/2023 Islington Mill	100.00		100.00
15/12/2023 Islington Mill	100.00		100.00
15/12/2023 Islington Mill	100.00		100.00
15/12/2023 Simon Le Roux	1,090.00		1,090.00
27/12/2023 Just Giving	18.00		18.00
02/01/2024 Islington Mill	100.00		100.00
19/01/2024 Simon Le Roux	1,107.18		1,107.18
25/01/2024 Just Giving	18.00		18.00
01/02/2024 Islington Mill	100.00		100.00
01/02/2024 Simon Le Roux	1,107.18		1,107.18
21/02/2024 Simon Le Roux	1,176.40		1,176.40
26/02/2024 Just Giving	18.00		18.00
01/03/2024 Islington Mill	100.00		100.00
15/03/2024 Gabriel Oyediwura	300.00		300.00
21/03/2024 Somerset Smith	450.00		450.00

25/03/2024 Just Giving
 02/04/2024 Islington Mill
 10/04/2024 Simon Le Roux
 22/04/2024 1302 Longsight
 25/04/2024 Just Giving
 29/04/2024 Simon Le Roux
 01/05/2024 Islington Mill
 28/05/2024 Gabriel Oyediwura
 28/05/2024 Just Giving
 28/05/2024 Simon Le Roux
 28/05/2024 Somerset Smith

18.00	
100.00	
1,788.28	
79.30	
18.00	
223.81	
100.00	
150.00	
18.00	
721.48	
150.00	
36,031.66	0.00

18.00
100.00
1,788.28
79.30
18.00
223.81
100.00
150.00
18.00
721.48
150.00
36,031.66

Sub total

36,031.66	0.00
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36,031.66

Total payments

-23,309.00	0.00
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-23,309.00

Net of receipts/(payments)

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

B/fwd at 01/06/23 Cash funds
 Net Funds In year
 Cash Funds at 31/05/24

Account Number 65984653

Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £
12,347.90	11,624.26
-23,309.00	0.00
-10,961.10	11,624.26

Total cash funds as at 31/05/24
 Agrees to Bank Balance as at 31/05/24

663.16

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		11/02/2025