

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE022427 (England and Wales)  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1190286

Report of the Trustees and  
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025  
for  
Playing On CIO

Playing On CIO

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

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## Playing On CIO

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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) (effective 1 January 2019).

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

Playing ON promotes social inclusion by supporting those who are, or are at risk of becoming, socially excluded, helping them to integrate into society by providing opportunities to share their stories, ideas, emotions and experiences through theatre, and by advancing public education and appreciation of the arts.

### **Public benefit**

The trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit when planning and delivering the charity's activities.

## **EDUCATION**

We delivered Uni Connect-funded goal-setting workshops at Bromley and Lewisham FE colleges, supporting students at risk of social exclusion to explore career pathways in the arts and higher education. Visits to Goldsmiths University helped them raise aspirations, build self-belief, and share their ambitions in a supportive environment. Positive feedback has led to plans for further workshops next year

## **DERBY PLUS ONE**

We launched a partnership with Derby Theatre's Plus One youth theatre for care-experienced young people, devising a creative response to Wonder Boy by care-experienced writer Ross Willis. This programme helped participants explore their stories and emotions while developing performance skills. It also opened dialogue with Derby City Council's "Staying Close" team, laying the groundwork for future Raising the Roof programmes supporting care leavers.

## **FLOCK**

Our national tour of Flock by Lin Coghlan reached audiences in Bath, Derby, Salford, Oxford and Soho Theatre in London, combining performances with engagement workshops and post-show discussions. The tour inspired care-experienced young people to share their perspectives and connected us with new partners, including Waltham Forest social services, who have provided majority funding for our next Raising the Roof programme.

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **RAISING THE ROOF**

We expanded Raising the Roof for care-experienced young people, hosting a roundtable at Goldsmiths University to strengthen sector networks and delivering taster sessions in social care houses. We partnered with Waltham Forest Council's "Future Formed" programme and secured £3,000 from a private donor to deliver future workshops, including a planned sharing at Soho Theatre Walthamstow.

### **ARTISTIC LICENCE**

We delivered our first Artistic Licence programme at Catford PIPE Approved Premises, working with residents leaving long-term prison sentences and the staff supporting them. Through collaborative drama-making, participants created detailed performances about real-life challenges. The programme received praise from HMPPS Innovation Fund managers and secured a further £10,000 booking to deliver Artistic Licence at High Down Prison.

### **DRILLING DIAMONDS**

Our Drilling Diamonds workshops in schools and colleges supported students at risk of exclusion to build communication, teamwork and creative problem-solving skills. Using drama and film, they explored conflict, expressed their emotions safely, and re-engaged with learning, helping them reconnect with education and society.

### **TRUSTEES**

Our trustees played a central role in guiding the charity, contributing their expertise and oversight to ensure we remain sustainable and accountable. Early on in our year we were delighted to welcome back long-standing supporter Nigel Godfrey to lead our annual strategy away day at the Brady Arts Centre. We also welcomed three new trustees, Jacqueline Hammond, Susan Edwards and Claudia Cheung.

## **ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Charitable activities**

This year marked a pivotal moment for Playing ON, with major milestones that have transformed both our organisational capacity and the scale of our impact.

We were awarded £200,000 from the City Bridge Foundation to deliver our Raising the Roof programme over five years with London teenagers at risk of suicide. This significant investment recognised the life-changing outcomes of our work and will enable us to deepen our partnership with Social Care London and build stronger relationships with local councils, including Bromley, Croydon and Waltham Forest. It positions us to reach more care-experienced young people and those on the edge of social exclusion, offering them the chance to build confidence, develop their voices, and feel part of society through theatre.

The most profound change for the organisation has been that this funding enabled us to offer full time salaries to our two core staff, Jim and Rhian, for the first time in Playing ON's history. This achievement is testament to the vision, hard work and rigour of our board, and it has provided the stability and capacity we need to build a sustainable future for the charity.

We also secured £120,000 from the Department for Education's SAFE Taskforce to relaunch our Drilling Diamonds programme, which uses drama to support teenagers at risk of exclusion and involvement in violence. After months of persistence, our determination paid off. We recruited a highly experienced drama educator from Lewisham College to lead on recruitment and retention, and delivered a two-day training for a newly expanded pool of associate artists. We contracted three pairs of facilitators to deliver the first programmes, which will be completed by April 2025.

These developments mark a step change in our growth: we are now building teams around our programmes, increasing our turnover, and extending our reach while staying true to our mission of using theatre to bring marginalised voices into the heart of society.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Financial position**

During the year, the CIO received £214,831 (2024: £84,741) of income and incurred expenses of £187,974 (2024: £82,252) leaving a net surplus of £26,857 (2024: £2,489). The reserves balance at the end of the year is represented by unrestricted reserves of £25,402 and restricted reserves of £23,315.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Reserves policy**

Our reserves policy requires us to have between 3-6 months core costs. This enables us to:

- a) close the organisation should the board decide it is no longer viable.
- b) Manage unforeseen day to day operational costs.
- c) Guard against grant income not being renewed.
- d) Cover short term deficits in a cash budget where ticket income or grant funding is received after the activity, and the associated spend.

- The charity holds between £25,000 and £30,000 at any one time.

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

### **Governing document**

The charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and is registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales. The Charity is governed by the Foundation model constitution.

### **Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

Trustees are appointed by the existing board following interview, observation at a board meeting, and a majority vote at a properly convened meeting.

### **Decision making**

The trustees review major risks at quarterly board meetings, including funding reliance, safeguarding, governance, and reputational risks. Appropriate policies, training, and financial controls are in place to manage these and protect the charity's people, assets, and reputation.

## **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

### **Registered Company number**

CE022427 (England and Wales)

### **Registered Charity number**

1190286

### **Registered office**

5 Hyndewood  
Inglemere Road  
London  
SE23 2BH

Playing On CIO

Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

**Trustees**

Michael Amaning Trustee (resigned 16.1.25)

Andrew Fitzroy Alphonso Trustee

Nigel Godfrey Trustee (resigned 13.5.24)

Edgars Smatovs Trustee

Zara Hosany Trustee

Nana Yaa Osei-Asibey Trustee


Paul Addicott Trustee (resigned 22.4.24)

Lisa Stubbs Chair

Cheung Ho Yi (appointed 10.7.25)

Susan Jane Oliver Edwards Trustee (appointed 2.10.24)

Approved by order of the board of trustees on .....4/11/25..... and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Lisa Stubbs - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of  
Playing On CIO

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Playing On CIO ('the Company')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the Company (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**

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 and 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 (FRS 102)).

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.



Sajjad Jaffer FCCA  
ACCA

Date: 06/11/2025  
.....



Playing On CIO

Statement of Financial Activities  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies		26,205	120,851	147,056	48,588
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Sales - services		6,310	61,400	67,710	36,128
Other income		<u>65</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>25</u>
<b>Total</b>		32,580	182,251	214,831	84,741
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
<b>Charitable activities</b>	2				
Services		<u>20,369</u>	<u>167,605</u>	<u>187,974</u>	<u>82,252</u>
<b>NET INCOME</b>		12,211	14,646	26,857	2,489
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	10	<u>(2,091)</u>	<u>2,091</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		10,120	16,737	26,857	2,489
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<u>15,283</u>	<u>6,577</u>	<u>21,860</u>	<u>19,371</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>25,403</u></u>	<u><u>23,314</u></u>	<u><u>48,717</u></u>	<u><u>21,860</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Playing On CIO

Balance Sheet  
31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	8	30,000	-	30,000	23,820
Cash at bank		<u>5,052</u>	<u>43,315</u>	<u>48,367</u>	<u>16,212</u>
		35,052	43,315	78,367	40,032
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(9,650)	(20,000)	(29,650)	(18,172)
		<u>25,402</u>	<u>23,315</u>	<u>48,717</u>	<u>21,860</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
		<u>25,402</u>	<u>23,315</u>	<u>48,717</u>	<u>21,860</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
		<u>25,402</u>	<u>23,315</u>	<u>48,717</u>	<u>21,860</u>
<b>NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)</b>					
		<u>25,402</u>	<u>23,315</u>	<u>48,717</u>	<u>21,860</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	10				
Unrestricted funds				25,402	15,283
Restricted funds				<u>23,315</u>	<u>6,577</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				<u>48,717</u>	<u>21,860</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes form part of these financial statements

Playing On CIO

Balance Sheet - continued  
31 March 2025

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on ..... and were signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Lisa Stubbs - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

## **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

### **Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

### **Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

### **Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

**2. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

	Direct Costs (see note 3) £	Support costs (see note 4) £	Totals £
Services	<u>186,174</u>	<u>1,800</u>	<u>187,974</u>

**3. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Cost of services	12,148	3,981
Insurance	377	374
Telephone	-	84
Postage and stationery	-	21
Sundries	661	34
Travelling costs	15,683	2,184
Computer & Software	1,350	1,037
Staff Training	624	173
Subcontractor costs	149,678	73,115
Marketing	1,849	-
Subscriptions	1,121	-
Rent	<u>2,683</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>186,174</u>	<u>81,003</u>

**4. SUPPORT COSTS**

	Finance £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Services	<u>60</u>	<u>1,740</u>	<u>1,800</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

	31.3.25 Services £	31.3.24 Total activities £
Bank charges	60	49
Accountancy fees	<u>1,740</u>	<u>1,200</u>
	<u>1,800</u>	<u>1,249</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

**5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

**Trustees' expenses**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	105	48,483	48,588
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Sales - services	27,408	8,720	36,128
Other income	<u>25</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25</u>
<b>Total</b>	27,538	57,203	84,741
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Services	19,763	62,489	82,252
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	7,775	(5,286)	2,489
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	<u>(2,953)</u>	<u>2,953</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	4,822	(2,333)	2,489
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	10,462	8,909	19,371
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u>15,284</u>	<u>6,576</u>	<u>21,860</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

**7. OTHER INCOME**

The other income relates to bank interest received during the year.

**8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Trade debtors	30,000	10,300
Other debtors	-	13,520
	<u>30,000</u>	<u>23,820</u>

**9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Accrued expenses	9,650	18,172
Deferred grants	20,000	-
	<u>29,650</u>	<u>18,172</u>

**10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.4.24	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.3.25
	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	15,283	12,210	(2,091)	25,402
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Under our roof	6,574	(4,790)	-	1,784
Probation services	3	5,237	-	5,240
Flock	-	(2,091)	2,091	-
Newham SAFE	-	16,291	-	16,291
	<u>6,577</u>	<u>14,647</u>	<u>2,091</u>	<u>23,315</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>21,860</u>	<u>26,857</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>48,717</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

**10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	32,580	(20,370)	12,210
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Under our roof	2,863	(7,653)	(4,790)
Probation services	23,208	(17,971)	5,237
Flock	105,580	(107,671)	(2,091)
Newham SAFE	50,600	(34,309)	16,291
	<u>182,251</u>	<u>(167,604)</u>	<u>14,647</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>214,831</u>	<u>(187,974)</u>	<u>26,857</u>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	10,462	7,774	(2,953)	15,283
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Under our roof	2,774	2,574	1,226	6,574
Drilling Diamonds	6,135	(4,909)	(1,226)	-
Production Pathways	-	(2,953)	2,953	-
Probation services	-	3	-	3
	<u>8,909</u>	<u>(5,285)</u>	<u>2,953</u>	<u>6,577</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>19,371</u>	<u>2,489</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,860</u>



Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

**10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	27,538	(19,764)	7,774
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Under our roof	21,067	(18,493)	2,574
Drilling Diamonds	-	(4,909)	(4,909)
Production Pathways	27,416	(30,369)	(2,953)
Probation services	<u>8,720</u>	<u>(8,717)</u>	<u>3</u>
	<u>57,203</u>	<u>(62,488)</u>	<u>(5,285)</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>84,741</u>	<u>(82,252)</u>	<u>2,489</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.25 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	10,462	19,984	(5,044)	25,402
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Under our roof	2,774	(2,216)	1,226	1,784
Drilling Diamonds	6,135	(4,909)	(1,226)	-
Production Pathways	-	(2,953)	2,953	-
Probation services	-	5,240	-	5,240
Flock	-	(2,091)	2,091	-
Newham SAFE	<u>-</u>	<u>16,291</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,291</u>
	<u>8,909</u>	<u>9,362</u>	<u>5,044</u>	<u>23,315</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>19,371</u>	<u>29,346</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>48,717</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

**10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	60,118	(40,134)	19,984
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Under our roof	23,930	(26,146)	(2,216)
Drilling Diamonds	-	(4,909)	(4,909)
Production Pathways	27,416	(30,369)	(2,953)
Probation services	31,928	(26,688)	5,240
Flock	105,580	(107,671)	(2,091)
Newham SAFE	50,600	(34,309)	16,291
	<u>239,454</u>	<u>(230,092)</u>	<u>9,362</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>299,572</u>	<u>(270,226)</u>	<u>29,346</u>

**11. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

During the year, Mrs Alice Selwyn, who is the wife of the CEO, Mr Jim Pope, was paid £600 for work done during the year with the approval of the board.