

THE CULTURAL SPRING

England & Wales · Charity number 1191465

Details

Other names	THE CULTURAL SPRING LTD
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	12508237
Registered	2020-09-24
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Unit 2.18 One Trinity Green Eldon Street South Shields Tyne And Wear NE33 1SA
Phone	07469030256
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Website	http://theculturalspring.org.uk/

Activities

Objects: THE COMPANY IS ESTABLISHED TO ADVANCE THE ARTS BY RUNNING PROGRAMMES OF ARTS EVENTS, PERFORMANCES, EXHIBITIONS AND WORKSHOPS IN SUNDERLAND AND SOUTH TYNESIDE; ENCOURAGING PARTICIPATION IN THE ARTS AND BY ORGANISING VISITS TO CULTURAL VENUES PARTICULARLY, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY, FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITIES IN THE AREA.

Activities: The Cultural Spring provides cultural, community based activities throughout the city of Sunderland and South Tyneside.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- South Tyneside
- Sunderland

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£375,238	£366,737	-	-
2024-03-31	£300,312	£237,273	-	-
2023-03-31	£73,220	£53,595	-	-
2022-03-31	£14,360	£9,672	-	-
2021-03-31	£0	£0	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Graeme Thompson	Chair	2020-05-18
Denise Wilson		2022-01-19
Eleanor Caroline Turner		2021-08-18
Fiona Martin		2022-01-19
Ian High		2020-03-10
Joan Atkinson		2024-04-24
Mark Anthony Dawson		2022-01-19

THE CULTURAL SPRING

England & Wales - Charity number 1191465

Accounts

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Charity number 1191465

Company number 12508237

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of The Cultural Spring ('the charity') for the year 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The trustees confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 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

The charity aims to support the areas of South Tyneside and Sunderland with arts and culture programmes that engage people in the local communities to get involved in a range of arts activities and events. The charity will do this through exploring a range of funding streams, including applying to trusts and foundations.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

Context

The above is primarily aimed at programme delivery and building on the legacy from The Cultural Spring project that worked across South Tyneside and was funded by the Creative People and Places programme during 2014-2023. From 2014-2023 the Cultural Spring project was an Arts Council funded, Creative People and Places (CPP) project. Working across both South Tyneside and Sunderland in a consortium relationship that was led by the University of Sunderland. With no legal entity of its own the consortium steering group decided to look into developing the Cultural Spring Charity to support the legacy of the work and also to be eligible to apply for funding from trusts and foundations.

Charitable status was awarded in September 2020. In 2021 the project was advised that due to the Active Lives data set used by Arts Council England, which clarifies which places in the UK are eligible for Creative People and Places (CPP) funding, that South Tyneside was no longer eligible for CPP funding. During 2023 this has changed, and South Tyneside is once again eligible for CPP funding.

During 2023, Arts Council England announced a one-year extension of the current CPP programme, up to the end of March 2026. In early 2025 the Charity took the lead on the 2026-2029 CPP application and were successful in this application, with funding of £1million secured over the three year period.

Partnership working: The Cultural Spring is part of South Tyneside's Cultural Partnership Group. This work included joint bids to Arts Council England for a Place Based Partnership project (2024-2027) and UKSPF funding up to the end of March 2025, with extension funding to the end of March 2026. The Cultural Spring are leading on the following projects for this

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

funding; Winter Festival, Bitesize projects and Community residencies in Bede and Simonside & Rekendyke wards).

Achievements and performance

During 2024/2025 funding has been being secured from:

- Postcode Community Trust, raised by players of People's Postcode Lottery. (£25,000).
- Know Your Neighbourhood Funding (Tyne and Wear Community Foundation, through Levelling Up funding) - £49,950 for April 2024-March 2025.
- Arts Council Project Grant for 'Gig Culture' - £69,930 (awarded in 2023/24, ends in August 2025).

Commissions

We have also been commissioned by South Tyneside Council to lead on the following projects:

South Tyneside Summer and Winter Parades (April 2024-February 2026)

We were commissioned by South Tyneside Council to lead on the community engagement programme for the 2023 and 2024 Summer and Winter Parades and this has been extended to include both 2025 parades.

We worked with a range of freelance artists to deliver the Summer Parade event for 2024. Through this programme we are keen to encourage more people to get involved as participants and volunteers in the programme, with a view to how opportunities can be sustained all year round.

Our work with South Tyneside Cultural Partners is supporting this work. This year we are building on the talent development programme we began in 2024 with artists and community group leads provided with the opportunity to engage in training with outdoor arts specialist Handmade Productions, offering professional development opportunities for those interested in developing their parade art skills and creating work of scale.

Summer Parade 2024,

- There was an 11% increase in participation in 2024 from the 2023 community engagement element of the project.
- We did engage groups who had not previously, taken part such as NECA Community Gardens, Hospitality and Hope and CREST. Due to demand to take part we brought in additional artists to support us with the parade workshops for the groups.
- Feedback from participants, group leaders and artists as well as the public who saw the Parade was very positive. Through evaluation on the day we know that 36% of attendees at the 2024 Summer Parade weekend were first time arts engagers, this is a great opportunity to build on this and see these people turned into regular attenders.
- We hired a company to undertake the Insight and Impact evaluation and this has been uploaded to the Culture Counts and Illuminate platforms.

This learning is helping to inform us about future Parade activity.

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Hebburn Public Art Project, £67,635 funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) from the UK Government.

South Tyneside Council commissioned The Cultural Spring to lead on a new public art project in Hebburn.

From the consultation process carried out in 2023-2024, an artist brief was created. Recruitment and selection for an artist was undertaken with a local community decision making panel during the first part of 2024. The artist Svetlana Kondakova Muir, worked with the community and the final artwork was installed at the end of January 2025.

The projects themes were the history of Hebburn, innovation and civic pride.

Know Your Neighbourhood

The Cultural Spring Charity was successful in obtaining support from the South Tyneside Know Your Neighbourhood fund in July 2023. The South Tyneside Know Your Neighbourhood Fund is part of the Government's Know Your Neighbourhood Fund being run by DCMS (facilitated by Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland).

In line with the Government's requirements for the Fund nationally, it supported activities across South Tyneside that enable meaningful and impactful volunteering, and tackle loneliness. Funding helped communities to participate in local projects which build their skills, wellbeing and social networks, using new methods of engagement and initiatives that seek to increase volunteering. Funded projects ran until 31st March 2025 and over 500 people participated in the opportunities provided.

Creative projects across South Tyneside included the 'Spring Up, Sing Out' choir, craft packs for those unable to get to in-person events and workshops in community welcoming places and supported housing.

The following is taken from a press release about the project, by Rob Lawson:

As part of the overall project comedian John Scott led a series of stand-up comedy workshops for Age Concern, which helped participants overcome shyness.

John said: "Working with the gentlemen of Age Concern was a huge success, with our closing session receiving a round of applause from the group. It was the first time I'd engaged with older people in a comedy workshop setting.

"The men engaged enthusiastically with numerous brainstorming writing exercises designed to encourage us to view the world through a comedic lens. Their input was quite revelatory.

"One of the aims of our workshops was to spark discussions about shared experiences, and they had a lot to contribute. They all engaged enthusiastically with the comedy writing exercises and many, many funny pieces of writing emerged over the four weeks. "We also took a look at some stand-ups relevant to their age group.

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

“The final takeaway was a staff member mentioning that, as a group, they rarely open up or discuss anything, and the workshops had seen a new form of dialogue emerging from the group.”

Welcoming Places

Previously ‘Warm Spaces’, this has been an area of work for us since 2023, in light of the ongoing cost of living crisis. During 2024-2025 this work was supported through the Know Your Neighbourhood funding we received. We’re building on the legacy of this during 2025-2026 through our funding from Postcode Neighbourhood Trust, a grant-giving charity funded entirely by players of People’s Postcode Lottery.

Charity Development

The Trustees and Cultural Spring project team held one planning session with the CPP project and team in October 2024. This session was facilitated by Lucy Medhurst at The Charity’s base, One Trinity Green South Shields. This work is supporting the strategic developments of the project.

Policies and procedures have been reviewed and updated during 2024/25 and a sub group of the Charity’s Board has been set up to oversee this area of work as the Charity continues to grow.

Staffing

We continue to work with Claire Finlay as our Projects Officer for South Tyneside. Claire became a PAYE member of staff on the 1st February 2025.

Our Development Worker, Catherine Scott left us at the end of January 2025 to start a new role with the NHS.

As of 1st February 2025, Emma Horsman (CPP Project Director) is working one day per week for the Charity and Iam Burn (CPP project Impact Coordinator) is working 0.5 days per week for the Charity. The Charity is reimbursing the CPP for this time.

Emma Biggins, continues with us as the CPP project’s Community Engagement Coordinator (this post is funded by the CPP project, who started in October 2023).

Megan Disken our Project Assistant, left us in July 2024 to go travelling.

We recruited Caroline Liversidge as our Administrator in July 2024, Caroline works 3.5 days per week (2.5 days are funded by the CPP project).

Trustee recruitment

We successfully recruited two new trustees following a recruitment call out in 2023/24, specifically with experience in Business, HR, local politics and legal. They officially joined the Board in April 2024 – Glenn Coyne and Joan Atkinson.

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Plans for 2025/26 include:

- Working with South Tyneside partners on delivering the Arts Council Place Based Partnership and UKSPF funded extension work. Including the development and delivery of the Bitesize programme, retitled 'Nibbles' for 2025-2026.
- The launch of the book to accompany the Hebburn Public Art project.
- Delivery of our Awards for All project. This links with workshops in the community across Sunderland and South Tyneside, with a focus on creative enterprise and the creation of sustainable groups. This project will include Go and See visits, workshops and activities at home, through arts packs, for people unable to leave their homes.
- Delivery of year two of the South Tyneside Community residencies in Bede and Simonside & Rekendyke wards. With ongoing work in Bede ward based on the findings from Year One and the beginning of work in Simonside and Rekendyke ward.
- Delivering two successful events as part of this year's South Tyneside Summer and Winter Festivals. Including talent development opportunities for local artists, Go and See opportunities to other festivals and longer projects for community engagement.
- The talent development work links to the Parades is also being enhanced through funding from The Foyle Foundation (£10,000) for a project that will run from May – December 2025.
- Continuing to build on the legacy of our partnership work to support the 'Welcoming Spaces' programme to deliver an arts and culture programme in venues. This is being funded by the Postcode Community Trust (£25k for 2024-2025).
- Submit further trust and foundation applications for joint work across both Sunderland and South Tyneside.
- Development, delivery and legacy for our 'Gig Culture' project (Arts Council funded) up to the end of August 2025.
- Outcome of the 2026-2029 CPP grant application for Sunderland and South Tyneside – October 2025.
- Continuing to work through the process of moving the project into the Charity by March 2026 and the potential TUPE processes on the existing project staff team (3 people) involved.
- Continuing to ensure evaluation processes are embedded throughout our work.
- Jarrow Forward – The Cultural Spring has been commissioned to deliver a creative community consultation process on behalf of the Jarrow Forward Board and South Tyneside Council. This is for the £20million New Towns Fund scheme awarded to Jarrow.

Public benefit statement

The trustees/directors have considered the guidance produced by the Charity Commission on the provision of public benefit and they confirm that public benefit has been provided by the range of activities as described above.

Financial review

During the financial year to 31 March 2025 The Cultural Spring charity were delivering more programmes within South Tyneside than in previous financial years as the charity became fully operational.

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Grant income of £294,817 (2024: £260,594) was received during the financial year from various sources, but chiefly South Tyneside Council and Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland.

Included within donations and legacies revenue and administrative costs are £9,000 (2024: £9,000) of in-kind support for finance and administration support.

There was an amount of £267,867 (2024: £131,016) for project costs managed by the charity.

The charity had trade debtors of £70,870 (2024: £20,452) and trade creditors of £300 (2024: £25,898) outstanding at the end of the financial year.

Reserves

At the end of the year the charity had free reserves (unrestricted funds not invested in tangible fixed assets) of £36,388 (2024: 1,875). As the charity has no ongoing commitments the trustees consider the position to be satisfactory and will use the reserves to build future activities as the charity continues to grow and becomes more established.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Structure, governance and management

The charity was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee in 2020 and registered as a charity in 2020. The charity was established under a Memorandum of Association, which sets out the objects and powers of the charity and is governed under its Articles of Association. The management of the company is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association. New trustees are inducted through meetings with existing trustees and supplied with appropriate background information and training as required, depending upon experience.

Reference and administrative details

Registered company number: 12508237

Registered charity number: 1191465

Registered office Unit 2.18
One Trinity Green
Eldon Street
South Shields
NE33 1SA

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Trustees	Graeme Thompson Ian High Eleanor Caroline Turner Mark Anthony Dawson Fiona Martin Denise Wilson Joan Atkinson Glenn David Coyne
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Company secretary	Emma Horsman
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Independent Examiner	Jim Dodds 33 The Glebe Morpeth NE61 6HW
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Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' 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. Under company law, the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) 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 company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on: 24 November 2025

And signed on its behalf by:

Ian High

Ian High

Trustee

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 March 2025

I report on the financial statements of The Cultural Spring for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 10 to 21.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a Fellow of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 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
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

I 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.

Jim Dodds
33 The Glebe
Morpeth
NE61 6HW
Date: 24 November 2025



THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(INCLUDING SUMMARY INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Restated Total 2024 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	6	9,158	-	9,158	9,032
Charitable activities					
Grants and contracts	7	1,200	293,617	294,817	260,594
Other trading activities	8	5,539	-	5,539	1,514
Other income	9	65,724	-	65,724	23,172
Total income		81,621	293,617	375,238	294,312
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	10	-	9,500	9,500	7,680
Charitable activities					
Operation of the charity	11	47,108	310,129	357,237	229,593
Total expenditure		47,108	319,629	366,737	237,273
Net movement of funds		34,513	(26,012)	8,501	57,039
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		1,875	79,477	81,352	24,313
Total funds carried forward		36,388	53,465	89,853	81,352

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

The notes on pages 12 to 21 form an integral part of these accounts.

BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 March 2025

	Notes	£	Total 2025 £	£	Total 2024 £
<u>Current assets</u>					
Debtors	18	71,390		36,737	
Cash at bank and in hand	19	44,940		80,528	
		116,330		117,265	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
	20	(26,477)		(35,913)	
			89,853		81,352
			89,853		81,352
Total net assets or liabilities			89,853		81,352
<u>Funds of the charity</u>					
Unrestricted income funds			36,388		1,875
Restricted income funds			53,465		79,477
			89,853		81,352

The company was entitled to an exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with the respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

The notes on pages 12 to 21 form an integral part of these accounts.

These financial statements were approved by the Board on: 24 November 2025

and are signed on its behalf by:

Ian High
Trustee

Ian High

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting Policies

The principle accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

2 Basis of accounting

2.1 Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with 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) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The Cultural Spring meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

2.2 Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charity reported total unrestricted funds at the year end of £36,388 and has already secured a significant amount of funding for the current year. The trustees are of the view that the immediate future of the charity for the next 12 to 18 months is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

3 Income

3.1 Recognition of income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the resources, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is more likely than not that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

3.2 Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS102 SORP or FRS102.

3.3 Grants and donations

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance or provision of other specified service is deferred until the criteria of income recognition are met.

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

3.4 Donated goods and services

Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.

Donated services and facilities are included in the SoFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided that the value of the gift can be measured reliably. Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with the equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SoFA.

3.5 Volunteer help

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

3.6 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

3.7 Income from membership subscriptions

Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in donations and legacies.

Membership subscriptions which gives a member the right to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities.

3.8 Investment gains and losses

This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investment and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

3.9 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charities' work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

4 Expenditure and liabilities

4.1 Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised when it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

4.2 Charitable activities

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of creative project delivery and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

4.3 Governance and support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance cost and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

4.4 Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

4.5 Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

4.6 Provisions for liabilities

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

5 Assets

5.1 Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

Office and computer equipment	Straight line over four years
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The charity does not currently own any tangible fixed assets.

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Analysis of income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Restated Total 2024 £
6 Donations and legacies				
Donations	158	-	158	32
Gifts in kind	9,000	-	9,000	9,000
	<u>9,158</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,158</u>	<u>9,032</u>
7 Charitable activities				
<u>Income from grants</u>				
Arts Council England	-	-	-	2,800
Hebburn Public Art project – South Tyneside Council	-	33,818	33,818	33,818
Gig Culture – Arts Council England	-	27,972	27,972	34,965
Groundwork South and North Tyneside	-	10,000	10,000	-
Postcode Neighbourhood Trust	-	25,000	25,000	25,000
Stephenson Trail – University of Sunderland	-	-	-	2,008
South Tyneside Council - Creative Residency	-	5,500	5,500	-
South Tyneside Council - Parades	-	63,278	63,278	70,000
South Tyneside Council - Your Art	-	9,500	9,500	-
The Barbour Foundation	-	-	-	5,000
Tyne and Wear Community Foundation Know Your Neighbourhood Fund	-	49,950	49,950	48,200
UK Shared Prosperity Fund	-	68,599	68,599	20,128
Other grants	1,200	-	1,200	18,675
	<u>1,200</u>	<u>293,617</u>	<u>294,817</u>	<u>260,594</u>
8 Other trading activities				
Project income	5,539	-	5,539	1,514
	<u>5,539</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,539</u>	<u>1,514</u>
9 Other income				
University of Sunderland	65,724	-	65,724	23,172
	<u>65,724</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,724</u>	<u>23,172</u>

Income was £375,238 (2024: £300,312) of which £81,621 was unrestricted or designated (2024: £39,718) and £293,617 was restricted (2024: £260,594).

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
10 Raising funds				
Costs of raising voluntary income	-	9,500	9,500	7,680
	<u>-</u>	<u>9,500</u>	<u>9,500</u>	<u>7,680</u>
11 Expenditure on charitable activities				
<u>Direct costs</u>				
Artist fees	1,893	239,645	241,538	112,877
Venue hire	2,017	11,718	13,735	4,824
Materials	-	1,736	1,736	1,326
Go and See tickets	-	-	-	620
Other hire	-	-	-	9,942
Refreshments	-	-	-	1,134
DBS	326	-	326	293
Events	670	5,182	5,852	-
Public Relations	3,000	-	3,000	-
Workshops	-	1,680	1,680	-
<u>Support costs</u>				
Gifts in kind	9,000	-	9,000	9,000
Accountancy	2,316	1,204	3,520	2,950
Consulting	1,748	3,508	5,256	26,039
Subscriptions	503	422	925	780
Rent	3,608	6,956	10,564	12,197
Other	857	452	1,309	2,667
Staff costs	18,405	24,562	42,967	17,562
Marketing	987	2,901	3,888	1,029
Project management staff costs	-	9,082	9,082	22,920
Office costs	106	55	161	125
Travel and subsistence	412	371	783	1,969
<u>Governance costs</u>				
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	625	325	950	700
Board and meeting costs	635	330	965	639
	<u>47,108</u>	<u>310,129</u>	<u>357,237</u>	<u>229,593</u>

Expenditure on charitable activities was £366,737 (2024: £237,273) of which £47,108 was unrestricted or designated (2024: £56,156) and £319,629 was restricted (2024: £181,117).

12 Fees for examination of the accounts

	2025 £	2024 £
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	950	700
	<u>950</u>	<u>700</u>
There were no other fees paid to the examiner (2024: £nil)		

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

13 Analysis of staff costs, and the cost of key management personnel

	2025	2024
	£	£
Salaries and wages	45,527	15,418
Social security costs	3,563	1,220
Pension costs (defined contribution pension plan)	2,959	924
	<u>52,049</u>	<u>17,562</u>

No employee received remuneration above £60,000 (2024: nil).

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the trustees and the Project Director. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £2,377 (2024: £2,000).

14 Staff Numbers

The average monthly head count was 2 staff (2024: 2 staff) and the average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees during the year were as follows:

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
The parts of the charity in which the employee's work:		
Charitable activities	1.8	1.0
	<u>1.8</u>	<u>1.0</u>

15 Transactions with trustees

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity.

Trustees' expenses

No trustee expenses have been incurred in the year.

Transaction(s) with related parties

There has been no related party transactions in the reporting period.

16 Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

The employer's pension costs represent contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amount to £2,959 (2024: £924). There was £516 outstanding as at 31 March 2025 (2024: £344).

17 Corporation Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objectives.

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

18 Debtors and prepayments (receivable within 1 year)

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	70,870	20,452
Accrued income	-	16,128
Other debtors	520	157
	<u>71,390</u>	<u>36,737</u>

19 Cash at bank and in hand

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash at bank	44,925	80,513
Cash in hand	15	15
	<u>44,940</u>	<u>80,528</u>

20 Creditors and accruals (payable within 1 year)

	2025	Restated 2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	300	25,898
Taxation and social security	366	283
Pension	516	344
Accruals and deferred income		
Independent examination of accounts	950	700
Other accruals	1,845	1,895
Deferred income	22,500	-
Other creditors	-	6,793
	<u>26,477</u>	<u>35,913</u>

21 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises of advance payments from grants that relate to future periods.

	2025
	£
Balance brought forward	-
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	-
Amount deferred in year	22,500
Balance carried forward	<u>22,500</u>

22 Events after the end of the reporting period

No events (not requiring adjustment to the accounts) have occurred after the end of the reporting period but before the accounts are authorised which relate to conditions that arose after the end of the reporting period.

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

23 Analysis of charitable funds**Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds**

	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
Unrestricted funds					
General unrestricted fund	1,875	81,621	(47,108)	-	36,388
Totals	<u>1,875</u>	<u>81,621</u>	<u>(47,108)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,388</u>

Purpose of unrestricted funds

General unrestricted fund The 'free reserves' of the charity.

Analysis of movement in restricted funds

	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
Restricted funds					
Hebburn Public Art project – South Tyneside Council	29,618	33,818	(61,425)	-	2,011
Gig Culture – Arts Council England	33,965	27,972	(40,680)	-	21,257
Groundwork South and North Tyneside	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Postcode Neighbourhood Trust	3,000	25,000	(4,650)	-	23,350
South Tyneside Council - Creative Residency	-	5,500	(5,418)	-	82
South Tyneside Council - Parades	12,894	63,278	(77,769)	8,726	7,129
South Tyneside Council - Your Art	-	9,500	(9,500)	-	-
Tyne and Wear Community Foundation Know Your Neighbourhood Fund	-	49,950	(49,950)	-	-
UK Shared Prosperity Fund	-	68,599	(60,237)	(8,726)	(364)
Totals	<u>79,477</u>	<u>293,617</u>	<u>(319,629)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>53,465</u>

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

23 Analysis of charitable funds continued

Purpose of restricted funds

Restricted funds represent income resources used for a specific purpose within the charity as identified by the funder.

Hebburn Public Art project – South Tyneside Council	Funding by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) from the UK Government. South Tyneside Council has commissioned The Cultural Spring to lead on a new public art project in Hebburn.
Gig Culture – Arts Council England	Arts Council National Lottery Project Grant with activity over two financial years, 2023/24 and 2024/25. An intergenerational project supporting activity with young musicians creating original music based on archive images and stories from older adults about music scene in South Tyneside.
Groundwork South and North Tyneside	Project delivery around woodwork skills.
Postcode Neighbourhood Trust - Welcoming Places	We received funding from the Postcode Neighbourhood Trust and alongside cultural partners, we provided a range of high quality arts activity in Welcoming Places (Warm Spaces) in South Tyneside.
South Tyneside Council - Creative Residency	Commissioned by South Tyneside Council to support communities to design and develop more opportunities for creative activities.
South Tyneside Council - Parades	We were commissioned by South Tyneside Council to lead on the community engagement programme for the 2023 and 2024 Summer and Winter Parades.
South Tyneside Council - Your Art	Brighten up and revitalise the main shopping areas in South Shields by using the shutters and gable ends as a canvas for artists to create work in collaboration with business owners and local people.
Tyne and Wear Community Foundation Know Your Neighbourhood Fund - Targeted Creative Activity	The South Tyneside Know Your Neighbourhood Fund is part of the Government's Know Your Neighbourhood Fund being run by DCMS (facilitated by Community Foundation Tyne and Wear and Northumberland). In line with the Government's requirements for the Fund nationally, it supports activities across South Tyneside that enable meaningful and impactful volunteering, and tackle loneliness.
UK Shared Prosperity Fund	Secured by South Tyneside Cultural Partnership and administered by South Tyneside Council. This funding contributes to the Winter Parade and funds the Bitesize project.

Transfers between funds

	Reason for transfer	Amount £
Between restricted UK Shared Prosperity Fund and South Tyneside Council - Parades	This represents a contribution to the Winter Parade from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.	8,726

24 Capital commitments

As at 31 March 2025, the charity had no capital commitments (2024 -£nil).

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

25 Analysis of net assets between funds 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	60,555	(15,615)	44,940
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(24,167)	69,080	44,913
	<u>36,388</u>	<u>53,465</u>	<u>89,853</u>

Analysis of net assets between funds 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	1,051	79,477	80,528
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	824	-	824
	<u>1,875</u>	<u>79,477</u>	<u>81,352</u>

26 Reason for restatement

A prior year adjustment has been made to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The adjustment arises as an invoice for £6,000 was incorrectly recognised as income in the prior year. The invoice actually related to partner funds and not part of The Cultural Spring income. The £6,000 was added to 2024 other creditors and was paid in full during this financial year.

	Total 2024 £
Total funds as previously stated	87,352
Deduct partner fund invoice recognised in the prior year	(6,000)
Restated total for the year ended 31 March 2024	<u>81,352</u>

THE CULTURAL SPRING

England & Wales - Charity number 1191465

Accounts

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2024

**Charity Number 1191465
Company number 12508237**

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of The Cultural Spring ('the charity') for the year 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The trustees confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 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

The charity aims to support the areas of South Tyneside and Sunderland with arts and culture programmes that engage people in the local communities to get involved in a range of arts activities and events. The charity will do this through exploring a range of funding streams, including applying to trusts and foundations.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

Context

The above is primarily aimed at programme delivery and building on the legacy from The Cultural Spring project that worked across South Tyneside and was funded by the Creative People and Places programme during 2014-2023. From 2014-2023 the Cultural Spring project was an Arts Council funded, Creative People and Places (CPP) project. Working across both South Tyneside and Sunderland in a consortium relationship that was led by the University of Sunderland. With no legal entity of its own the consortium steering group decided to look into developing the Cultural Spring Charity to support the legacy of the work and also to be eligible to apply for funding from trusts and foundations.

Charitable status was awarded in September 2020. In 2021 the project was advised that due to the Active Lives data set used by Arts Council England, which clarifies which places in the UK are eligible for Creative People and Places (CPP) funding, that South Tyneside was no longer eligible for CPP funding. During 2023 this has changed, and South Tyneside is once again eligible for CPP funding.

During 2023, Arts Council England announced a one-year extension of the current CPP programme, up to the end of March 2026. The Cultural Spring project has applied for an extension through their current lead organisation, the University of Sunderland. If there is a further funding round for 2026-2029 it has been agreed between the University, the consortium steering group for the project and The Cultural Spring Charity that the application for CPP funding for South Tyneside and Sunderland will be made by the Charity who will become the lead organisation.

Partnership working: The Cultural Spring is part of South Tyneside's Cultural Partnership Group. This work has included joint bids to Arts Council England for a Place Based Partnership project (2024-2027) and a bid for UKSPF funding up to the end of March 2025. The Cultural

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Spring are leading on the following projects for this funding; Winter Festival, Bitesize projects and Community residencies in Bede and Simonside & Rekendyke wards for this funding. This is bringing in funding to our organisation of approximately £300k during the next 4 years.

Achievements and performance

In 2023-24 through a Project Grant received from Arts Council England (in 2022), we were able to continue our work with Catherine Scott our Development Worker. This funding came to an end in June 2023. We have secured funding to continue to work with Catherine.

This has led to funding being secured from:

- Postcode Neighbourhood Trust, a grant-giving charity funded entirely by players of People's Postcode Lottery -£25,000.
- The South Tyneside Know Your Neighbourhood Fund, part of the Government's Know Your Neighbourhood Fund being run by DCMS (facilitated by Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland) - £98,150 for 2023-March 2025.
- Arts Council National Lottery Project Grant for 'Gig Culture - South Tyneside - £69,930

Commissions

We have also been commissioned by South Tyneside Council to lead on the following projects:

South Tyneside Summer and Winter Parades (April 2023-February 2026)

We were commissioned by South Tyneside Council to lead on the community engagement programme for the 2023 and 2024 Summer and Winter parades, this has been extended to include both 2025 parades.

Through this programme we are keen to encourage more people to get involved as participants and volunteers, with a view to how opportunities can be sustained all year round. Our work with South Tyneside Cultural Partners is supporting this work. This year we have included a talent development programme for 18 artists working with outdoor arts specialist Handmade Productions to offer professional development opportunities for artists interested in developing their parade art skills. 2023's Summer Parade, the first one we'd been involved in as a core partner was a huge success. 166 workshop sessions took place engaging, 2000 participants in the run up to the Parade and 22,000 people came to see the Parade. Other outcomes from the Parade include:

- 78% of participants surveyed came from the lowest three IMD deciles. 96% of respondents stated they felt more pride in themselves and/or their community. 80% of participants were female, 20% male. 22% stated they had a disability or long-term health issue.
- Our first year as CS leading on community engagement for the Parade. Great to see new groups and participants emerging through this. Opportunity for artists and us to learn more.
- Feedback from participants, group leaders and artists as well as the public who saw the Parade has been very positive.

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2024

- We hired a company to undertake the Insight and Impact evaluation and this has been uploaded to the Culture Counts and Illuminate platforms.

This learning is helping to inform us about future Parade activity.

Hebburn Public Art Project, £67,635 funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) from the UK Government.

South Tyneside Council has commissioned The Cultural Spring to lead on a new public art project in Hebburn. During November 2023 - February 2024 this has included artist Lindsey Grieves leading a range of creative consultation sessions with groups and residents in Hebburn, alongside the council's Our Hebburn Conversation consultation exercise to seek ideas for improving the area.

From this consultation process an artist brief has been created. Recruitment and selection for an artist is being undertaken with a local community decision making panel during the first part of 2024 with a view to the work being completed and installed in the latter part of 2024.

The project will link the history of Hebburn Colliery, and particularly the introduction of the Davy Lamp in 1812, with local mining past and present with a key theme being local innovation.

South Tyneside Know Your Neighbourhood Fund

The Cultural Spring Charity was successful in obtaining support from the South Tyneside Know Your Neighbourhood Fund in July 2023. The South Tyneside Know Your Neighbourhood Fund is part of the Government's Know Your Neighbourhood Fund being run by DCMS (facilitated by Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland). In line with the Government's requirements for the fund nationally, it supports activities across South Tyneside that enable meaningful and impactful volunteering, and tackle loneliness. Funding helps communities to participate in local projects which build their skills, wellbeing and social networks, using new methods of engagement and initiatives that seek to increase volunteering. Funded projects run until 31st March 2025.

Through this funding we have been able to deliver a number of creative projects across South Tyneside including the 'Spring Up, Sing Out' choir, craft packs for those unable to get to in-person events, workshops in community venues and supported housing. To date the project has benefitted in excess of 300 people as participants, volunteers and audience members.

Welcoming Places

From late 2023 to Spring 2024, alongside cultural partners including Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums (South Shields Museum), The Creative Seed and Groundwork South & North Tyneside we provided a range of high quality arts activity in Welcoming Places (Warm Spaces) in South Tyneside.

Activities included arts and crafts with a lunch, creative workshops delivered by professional artists including visual arts & textiles, upcycling, ceramics and oral history celebrating communities & the area.

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2024

This project was also supported by Public Health & South Tyneside Council who helped to broker links between cultural and community partners.

The Cultural Spring and the project partners delivered 76 sessions across the borough, a mixture of weekly activities, others as taster/one-offs – depending on the needs of the community group.

The project has allowed The Cultural Spring to work with new partners and reach more people, many of whom would not usually access the arts on a regular basis.

This work was made possible by an award from Postcode Neighbourhood Trust, a grant-giving charity funded entirely by players of People's Postcode Lottery.

Charity Development

The Trustees and Cultural Spring project team held two planning sessions with the CPP project team in April and October 2023. These sessions were facilitated by Lucy Medhurst at The Charity's base, One Trinity Green South Shields. This is supporting the strategic developments of the project.

Policies and procedures have been reviewed and updated during 2023/24 and some new ones created in readiness for starting to employ staff.

Staffing

We continue to work with Claire Finlay as our Projects Officer for South Tyneside (Freelance). Claire started with us on the 1st April 2023 and we have started to employ two other members of staff through the Charity on PAYE contracts. Emma Biggins, the CPP project's Community Engagement Coordinator (this post is funded by the CPP project, who started in October 2023) and Megan Disken, Project Assistant, employed by the Charity and working 3 days per week for the project (paid for through the CPP project funding) and two days per week for the Charity. Megan began her employment in January 2024.

We appointed a bookkeeper, Michelle Wright in May 2023.

Trustee Recruitment

We successfully recruited two new trustees following a recruitment call out in 2023/24, specifically with experience in Business, HR, local politics and legal. They officially joined the Board in April 2024 – Glenn Coyne and Joan Atkinson.

Plans for 2024/25 include:

- Working with South Tyneside partners on delivering the Arts Council Place Based Partnership and UKSPF funded work.
- The recruitment of an artist and the culmination of the Hebburn Public Art project.
- Delivery of the South Tyneside Know Your Neighbourhood Fund project. This offer includes Go and See visits, high quality accessible community-based creative workshops as well as arts activities for those unable to leave their homes.

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2024

- Development and delivery of the Bitesize programme, 8 commissioned pieces of work with Hooley Theatre, Theatre Space North East, TimbaDash, We Make Culture, Unfolding Theatre, The SixTwenty, Sharon Bailey and Georgia Hill.
- Delivery of year one of the South Tyneside Community residencies in Bede and Simonside & Rekendyke wards.
- Delivering two successful events as part of this year's South Tyneside Summer and Winter Festivals. Including talent development opportunities for local artists, Go and See opportunities to other festivals, including Brighton's Children's Festival in May 2024.
- Building on the legacy of our partnership work to support the 'Welcoming Spaces' programme (previously 'Warm Spaces') to deliver an arts and culture programme in venues. We secured funding from Postcode Community Trust to continue our work with the community in 2024-25.
- Submit further trust and foundation applications for joint work across both Sunderland and South Tyneside.
- Development and delivery of the 'Gig Culture' project (Arts Council funded) up to the end of May 2025.
- Potentially leading on the CPP grant application for Sunderland and South Tyneside (subject to dates for this being confirmed as this financial year).
- Continuing to work through the process of moving the project into the Charity by March 2026 and the potential TUPE processes on the existing project staff team (3 people) involved.
- Continuing to ensure evaluation processes are embedded throughout our work.

Public benefit statement

The trustees/directors have considered the guidance produced by the Charity Commission on the provision of public benefit and they confirm that public benefit has been provided by the range of activities as described above.

Financial Review

During the financial year to 31 March 2024 the Cultural Spring charity were delivering more programme within South Tyneside than in previous financial years as the charity became fully operational.

Grant income of £260,594 (2023: £44,520) was received during the financial year from various sources, but chiefly South Tyneside Council and Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland.

Included within donations and legacies revenue and administrative costs are £9,000 (2023: £10,000) of in-kind support for finance and administration support.

There was an amount of £131,016 (2023: £20,429) for project costs managed by the charity.

The charity had trade debtors of £20,452 (2023: £6,500) and trade creditors of £25,898 (2023: £656) outstanding at the end of the financial year.

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2024

There was no deferred income in the year (2023: £18,675) which relates to grant funding received for the following years project delivery.

Reserves

At the end of the year the charity had free reserves (unrestricted funds not invested in tangible fixed assets) of £7,875 (2023: £24,313). As the charity has no ongoing commitments the trustees consider the position to be satisfactory and will use the reserves to build future activities as the charity continues to grow and becomes more established.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Structure, governance and management

The charity was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee in 2020 and registered as a charity in 2020. The charity was established under a Memorandum of Association, which sets out the objects and powers of the charity and is governed under its Articles of Association. The management of the company is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association. New trustees are inducted through meetings with existing trustees and supplied with appropriate background information and training as required, depending upon experience.

Reference and Administrative Details

Registered company number: 12508237 (England and Wales)

Registered charity number: 1191465

Registered Office Unit 2.18
One Trinity Green
Eldon Street
South Shields
NE33 1SA

Trustees Graeme Thompson
Richard Barber, (resigned 16 November 2023)
Ian High
Eleanor Caroline Turner
Mark Anthony Dawson
Fiona Martin
Denise Wilson
Joan Atkinson, (appointed 24 April 2024)
Glenn David Coyne, (appointed 24 April 2024)

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Company secretary Emma Horsman

**Independent
Examiner** Jim Dodds
33 The Glebe
Morpeth
NE61 6HW

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' 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. Under company law, the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) 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 company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on: 12 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Ian High
Trustee



THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31 March 2024

I report on the financial statements of The Cultural Spring for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 9 to 20.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a Fellow of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 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
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

I 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.

Jim Dodds
33 The Glebe
Morpeth
NE61 6HW



Date: 12 November 2024

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(INCLUDING SUMMARY INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	6	9,032	-	9,032	10,000
Charitable activities					
Grants and contracts	7	-	260,594	260,594	44,520
Other trading activities	8	7,514	-	7,514	18,700
Other income	9	23,172	-	23,172	-
Total income		39,718	260,594	300,312	73,220
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	10	1,444	6,236	7,680	13,800
Charitable activities					
Operation of the charity	11	54,712	174,881	229,593	39,795
Total expenditure		56,156	181,117	237,273	53,595
Net movement of funds		(16,438)	79,477	63,039	19,625
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		24,313	-	24,313	4,688
Total funds carried forward		7,875	79,477	87,352	24,313

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

The notes on pages 11 to 20 form an integral part of these accounts.

BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 March 2024

	Notes	£	Total 2024 £	£	Total 2023 £
<u>Current assets</u>					
Debtors	18	36,737		7,110	
Cash at bank and in hand	19	80,528		38,791	
		117,265		45,901	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
	20	(29,913)		(21,588)	
			87,352		24,313
			87,352		24,313
Total net assets or liabilities					
			87,352		24,313
<u>Funds of the charity</u>					
Unrestricted income funds			7,875		24,313
Restricted income funds			79,477		-
			87,352		24,313

The company was entitled to an exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with the respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

The notes on pages 11 to 20 form an integral part of these accounts.

These financial statements were approved by the Board on: 12 November 2024

and are signed on its behalf by:

Ian High
Trustee

Ian High

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting Policies

The principle accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

2 Basis of accounting

2.1 Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with 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) – Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The Cultural Spring meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

2.2 Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The charity reported total unrestricted funds at the year end of £7,875 and has already secured a significant amount of funding for the current year. The trustees are of the view that the immediate future of the charity for the next 12 to 18 months is secure and that on this basis the charity is a going concern.

3 Income

3.1 Recognition of income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the resources, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is more likely than not that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

3.2 Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS102 SORP or FRS102.

3.3 Grants and donations

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Income received in advance or provision of other specified service is deferred until the criteria of income recognition are met.

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2024

3.4 Donated goods and services

Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.

Donated services and facilities are included in the SoFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided that the value of the gift can be measured reliably. Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with the equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SoFA.

3.5 Volunteer help

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

3.6 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

3.7 Income from membership subscriptions

Membership subscriptions received in the nature of a gift are recognised in donations and legacies.

Membership subscriptions which gives a member the right to buy services or other benefits are recognised as income earned from the provision of goods and services as income from charitable activities.

3.8 Investment gains and losses

This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investment and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

3.9 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charities' work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

4 Expenditure and liabilities

4.1 Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised when it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

4.2 Charitable activities

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of creative project delivery and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2024

4.3 Governance and support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance cost and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

4.4 Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

4.5 Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

4.6 Provisions for liabilities

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

5 Assets

5.1 Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

Office and computer equipment	Straight line over four years
-------------------------------	-------------------------------

The charity does not currently own any tangible fixed assets.

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Analysis of income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
6 Donations and legacies				
Donations	32	-	32	-
Gifts in kind	9,000	-	9,000	10,000
	<u>9,032</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,032</u>	<u>10,000</u>
7 Charitable activities				
<u>Income from grants</u>				
The Barbour Foundation	-	5,000	5,000	-
South Tyneside Council	-	70,000	70,000	-
Arts Council England	-	2,800	2,800	25,200
Hebburn Public Art project – South Tyneside Council	-	33,818	33,818	-
Gig Culture – Arts Council England	-	34,965	34,965	-
Tyne and Wear Community Foundation Know Your Neighbourhood Fund	-	48,200	48,200	19,320
Postcode Neighbourhood Trust	-	25,000	25,000	-
Stephenson Trail – University of Sunderland	-	2,008	2,008	-
UK Shared Prosperity Fund	-	20,128	20,128	-
Other grants	-	18,675	18,675	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>260,594</u>	<u>260,594</u>	<u>44,520</u>
8 Other trading activities				
Project income	7,514	-	7,514	18,700
	<u>7,514</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,514</u>	<u>18,700</u>
9 Other income				
University of Sunderland	23,172	-	23,172	-
	<u>23,172</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,172</u>	<u>-</u>

Income was £300,312 (2023: £73,220) of which £39,718 was unrestricted or designated (2023: £73,220) and £260,594 was restricted (2023: £0).

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
10 Raising funds				
Costs of raising voluntary income	1,444	6,236	7,680	13,800
	<u>1,444</u>	<u>6,236</u>	<u>7,680</u>	<u>13,800</u>
11 Expenditure on charitable activities				
<u>Direct costs</u>				
Artist fees	-	112,877	112,877	20,429
Venue hire	-	4,824	4,824	-
Materials	-	1,326	1,326	-
Go and See tickets	-	620	620	-
Other hire	415	9,527	9,942	-
Refreshments	-	1,134	1,134	-
DBS	-	293	293	-
<u>Support costs</u>				
Gifts in kind	9,000	-	9,000	10,000
Accountancy	2,950	-	2,950	-
Consulting	4,895	21,144	26,039	-
Subscriptions	780	-	780	391
Rent	7,302	4,895	12,197	3,259
Other	2,667	-	2,667	5,026
Staff costs	17,562	-	17,562	-
Marketing	-	1,029	1,029	-
Project management	7,470	15,450	22,920	-
Office costs	125	-	125	-
Travel and subsistence	541	1,428	1,969	-
<u>Governance costs</u>				
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	700	-	700	690
Board and meeting costs	305	334	639	-
	<u>54,712</u>	<u>174,881</u>	<u>229,593</u>	<u>39,795</u>

Expenditure on charitable activities was £237,273 (2023: £53,595) of which £56,156 was unrestricted or designated (2023: £53,595) and £181,117 was restricted (2023: £0).

12 Fees for examination of the accounts

	2024 £	2023 £
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	700	690
	<u>700</u>	<u>690</u>

There were no other fees paid to the examiner (2023: £nil)

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2024

13 Analysis of staff costs, and the cost of key management personnel

	2024 £	2023 £
Salaries and wages	15,418	-
Social security costs	1,220	-
Pension costs (defined contribution pension plan)	924	-
	<u>17,562</u>	<u>-</u>

No employee received remuneration above £60,000 (2023: nil).

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the trustees and the Project Director. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £2,000 (2023: £0).

14 Staff Numbers

The average monthly head count was 2 staff (2023: 0 staff) and the average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees during the year were as follows:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
The parts of the charity in which the employee's work:		
Charitable activities	1.0	0.0
	<u>1.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>

15 Transactions with trustees

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with their charity or a related entity.

Trustees' expenses

The following detail the expenses incurred by the trustees.

	2024 £	2023 £
Travel	-	47
	<u>-</u>	<u>47</u>

Transaction(s) with related parties

There has been no related party transactions in the reporting period.

16 Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

The employer's pension costs represent contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amount to £924 (2023: £0). There was £344 outstanding as at 31 March 2024 (2023: £0).

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2024

17 Corporation Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objectives.

18 Debtors and prepayments (receivable within 1 year)

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	20,452	6,500
Accrued income	16,128	-
Other debtors	157	610
	<u>36,737</u>	<u>7,110</u>

19 Cash at bank and in hand

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash at bank	80,513	38,791
Cash in hand	15	-
	<u>80,528</u>	<u>38,791</u>

20 Creditors and accruals (payable within 1 year)

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	25,898	656
Taxation and social security	283	-
Pension	344	-
Accruals and deferred income		
Independent examination of accounts	700	677
Other accruals	1,895	-
Deferred income	-	18,675
Other creditors	793	1,580
	<u>29,913</u>	<u>21,588</u>

21 Deferred income

Deferred income comprises of advance payments from grants that relate to future periods.

	2024
	£
Balance brought forward	18,675
Amount released to income earned from charitable activities	(18,675)
Amount deferred in year	-
Balance carried forward	<u>-</u>

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2024

22 Events after the end of the reporting period

No events (not requiring adjustment to the accounts) have occurred after the end of the reporting period but before the accounts are authorised which relate to conditions that arose after the end of the reporting period.

23 Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
Unrestricted funds					
General unrestricted fund	24,313	39,718	(56,156)	-	7,875
Totals	24,313	39,718	(56,156)	-	7,875

Purpose of unrestricted funds

General unrestricted fund The 'free reserves' after allowing for designated funds.

Analysis of movement in restricted funds

	Fund balances brought forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
Restricted funds					
The Barbour Foundation	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
South Tyneside Council	-	70,000	(57,106)	-	12,894
Arts Council England	-	2,800	(2,800)	-	-
Hebburn Public Art project – South Tyneside Council	-	33,818	(4,200)	-	29,618
Gig Culture	-	34,965	(1,000)	-	33,965
Targeted creative activity	-	48,200	(48,200)	-	-
Welcoming Places	-	25,000	(22,000)	-	3,000
Stephenson Trail – University of Sunderland	-	2,008	(2,008)	-	-
UK Shared Prosperity Fund	-	20,128	(20,128)	-	-
Other grants	-	18,675	(18,675)	-	-
Totals	-	260,594	(181,117)	-	79,477

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2024

23 Analysis of charitable funds continued

Purpose of restricted funds

Restricted funds represent income resources used for a specific purpose within the charity as identified by the funder.

The Barbour Foundation	To support the creative workshop programme in South Tyneside.
South Tyneside Council	We were commissioned by South Tyneside Council to lead on the community engagement programme for the 2023 and 2024 Summer and Winter Parades.
Arts Council England	Much of this Arts Council project grant funded work took place during 2022/23. This supported us to appoint a Development worker and develop the Charity with legal, HR costs funded and some facilitated sessions for charity trustees.
Hebburn Public Art project – South Tyneside Council	Funding by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) from the UK Government. South Tyneside Council has commissioned The Cultural Spring to lead on a new public art project in Hebburn.
Gig Culture	Arts Council National Lottery Project Grant with activity over two financial years, 2023/24 and 2024/25. An intergenerational project supporting activity with young musicians creating original music based on archive images and stories from older adults about music scene in South Tyneside.
Targeted creative activity	The South Tyneside Know Your Neighbourhood Fund is part of the Government's Know Your Neighbourhood Fund being run by DCMS (facilitated by Community Foundation Tyne and Wear and Northumberland). In line with the Government's requirements for the Fund nationally, it supports activities across South Tyneside that enable meaningful and impactful volunteering, and tackle loneliness.
Welcoming Places	We received funding from the Postcode Neighbourhood Trust and alongside cultural partners, we provided a range of high quality arts activity in Welcoming Places (Warm Spaces) in South Tyneside.
Stephenson Trail – University of Sunderland	Funding from the University of Sunderland for a commission to deliver work related to celebrating the 11 miles of the Stephenson Trail.
UK Shared Prosperity Fund	Secured by South Tyneside Cultural Partnership and administered by South Tyneside Council. This funding contributes to the Winter Parade and funds the Bitesize project.

24 Capital commitments

As at 31 March 2024, the charity had no capital commitments (2023 -£nil).

THE CULTURAL SPRING

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 March 2024

25 Analysis of net assets between funds 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	1,051	79,477	80,528
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	6,824	-	6,824
	<u>7,875</u>	<u>79,477</u>	<u>87,352</u>

Analysis of net assets between funds 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	38,791	-	38,791
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(14,478)	-	(14,478)
	<u>24,313</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>24,313</u>

THE CULTURAL SPRING

England & Wales - Charity number 1191465

Accounts

Registered number: 12508237
Charity number: 1191465

The Cultural Spring
(A company limited by guarantee)

Unaudited
Annual report

31 March 2023

The Cultural Spring

(A company limited by guarantee)

Contents

	Page
Reference and administrative details	1
Trustees' report	2 - 5
Independent examiner's report	6
Statement of financial activities	7
Balance sheet	8
Notes to the financial statements	9 - 13

The Cultural Spring

(A company limited by guarantee)

Reference and administrative details

Year ended 31 March 2023

Trustees Graeme Thompson
Richard Barber
Ian High
Eleanor Caroline Turner
Mark Anthony Dawson
Fiona Martin
Denise Wilson

Company registered number 12508237

Charity registered number 1191465

Registered office Unit 2.18
One Trinity Green
Eldon Street
South Shields
NE33 1SA

Company secretary Emma Horsman

Accountant UNW LLP
Chartered Accountants
St James' Boulevard
Newcastle upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE1 4JE

The Cultural Spring

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report Year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of The Cultural Spring ('the charity') for the year 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The trustees confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 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).

Since the charity qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Objectives and activities

The charity aims to support the areas of South Tyneside and Sunderland with arts and culture programmes that support people in the local communities to get involved in a range of arts activities and events. The charity will do this through exploring a range of funding streams, including applying to trusts and foundations.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

Achievements and performance

In 2022-23 through a Project Grant received from Arts Council England, we were able to appoint Catherine Scott as our Development Worker from July 22-July 2023. Catherine has been a great asset to the organisation and working with the Trustees has developed:

- A Business Plan
- Fundraising Strategy
- Submitted a number of applications to trusts and foundations.

This has led to funding being secured from:

- The Joicey Trust - £2,700
- The National Lottery Community Fund (Awards for All) - £9,975
- Sir James Knott Trust - £5,000
- The Barbour Foundation - £5,000
- Hadrian Trust - £1,000

The above is primarily aimed at programme delivery and building on the legacy from The Cultural Spring project that worked across South Tyneside and was funded by the Creative People and Places programme during 2014-2023. From 2014-2023 the Cultural Spring project was an Arts Council funded, Creative People and Places project. Working across both South Tyneside and Sunderland in a consortium relationship that was led by the University of Sunderland. With no legal entity of its own the consortium steering group decided to look into developing the Cultural Spring Charity to support the legacy of the work and also to be eligible to apply for funding from trusts and foundations. Charitable status was awarded in September 2020. In 2021 the project was advised that due to the Active Lives data set used by Arts Council England, which clarifies which places in the UK are eligible for Creative People and Places (CPP) funding, that South Tyneside was no longer eligible for CPP funding.

The Cultural Spring

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023

We have been commissioned by South Tyneside Council to lead on the community engagement programme for the 2023 and 2024 Summer and Winter Parades. We are working with Southpaw Dance Company and freelance artists to deliver the Summer Parade event for 2023. Through this programme we are keen to encourage more people to get involved as participants and volunteers in the programme, with a view to how opportunities can be sustained all year round. Our work with South Tyneside Cultural Partners is supporting this work.

We were successful in securing some funding (£19,320) in the first round of the South Tyneside Know Your Neighbourhood (facilitated by Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland). We delivered 66 arts taster sessions and a Go and See visit up to the end of March 2023, with a focus on developing more volunteers for the South Tyneside parade and other activities. The project was successful and has enabled us to identify new groups, organisations and individuals interested in taking part.

Through our involvement in the South Tyneside Cultural Partnership we have worked with partners to successfully secure UK Shared Prosperity Funding for a borough wide cultural offer up to March 2025.

The Trustees and Cultural Spring project team had an away day, at Birkheads Wild, in September 2022 to get to know each other better and discuss future plans. A further session took place in April 2023, as there is now an agreement and plans in place for the project to come into the Charity, with the Charity leading on any future applications for CPP funding for example.

In December the Charity established an office base at One Trinity Green in the Laygate area of South Tyneside.

In February 2023, we held our Charity launch event for stakeholders at The Customs House.

Policies and procedures have been updated and some new ones created in readiness for starting to employ staff.

In March we appointed Claire Finlay as our Projects Officer for South Tyneside (Freelance). Claire started with us on the 1st April 2023.

Plans for 2023/24 include:

Recruiting two new trustees, specifically with experience in HR and legal.

Working with South Tyneside partners on an Arts Council Place Based Partnership application.

Delivering two successful events as part of this year's South Tyneside Summer and Winter Festivals.

Leading on a borough wide partnership to support the 'Welcoming Spaces' programme (previously 'Warm Spaces') to deliver an arts and culture programme in venues.

Submit an application (May 2023) for Round two of South Tyneside Know Your Neighbourhood.

Continuing to deliver and report against the programme that we have already secured funding for through our Trusts and Foundation programme.

Submit our own Arts Council project grant (July 2023).

Appoint a Book Keeper (May 2023).

Potentially leading on the CPP grant application for Sunderland (subject to dates for this being confirmed as this financial year).

The Cultural Spring

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023

Continuing to work through the process of moving the project into the Charity by March 2025 and the potential TUPE processes on the existing project staff team involved.

Financial review

During the financial year to 31 March 2023 the Cultural Spring charity continued to operate within a development and planning process with a small amount of project delivery towards the end of the financial year.

Grant income of £44,520 was obtained from two sources, Arts Council England, and the Tyne and Wear Community Foundation.

Included within donations and legacies revenue and administrative costs are £10,000 of in-kind support for finance and administration support and office use of the Edinburgh Building, University of Sunderland.

There was an amount of £20,429 for project costs managed by the charity.

The charity had trade debtors of £6,500 and trade creditors of £656 outstanding at the end of the financial year. There is deferred income of £18,675 which relates to 23/24 project delivery.

Reserves

At the end of the year the charity had built free reserves of £24,313. As the charity has no ongoing commitments the trustees consider the position to be satisfactory and will use the reserves to build future activities as the charity continues to grow and becomes more established.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Structure, governance and management

The charity was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee in 2020 and registered as a charity in 2021. The charity was established under a Memorandum of Association, which sets out the objects and powers of the charity, and is governed under its Articles of Association.

The management of the company is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association. New trustees are inducted through meetings with existing trustees and supplied with appropriate background information and training as required, depending upon experience.

The Cultural Spring

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' 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. Under company law, the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) 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 company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Small companies note

In preparing this report, the directors have taken advantage of the small companies' exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 1 August 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

EF0853D40C194A6...

Ian High
Director



Independent examiner's report Year ended 31 March 2023

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Cultural Spring ('the company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the company (and 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 the company's accounts 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.

This report is made solely to the company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the company's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

CWS LLP

Signed:

Dated: 1 August 2023

The Cultural Spring

(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account) Year ended 31 March 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds Year ended 31 March 2023 £	Total funds Year ended 31 March 2023 £	Total funds Period ended 31 March 2022 £
Donations and legacies	3	73,220	73,220	14,360
Total income		73,220	73,220	14,360
Raising funds	4	13,800	13,800	-
Charitable activities	5	39,795	39,795	9,672
Total expenditure		53,595	53,595	9,672
Net movement in funds		19,625	19,625	4,688
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward		4,688	4,688	-
Net movement in funds		19,625	19,625	4,688
Total funds carried forward		24,313	24,313	4,688

The notes on pages 9 to 13 form part of these financial statements.

The Cultural Spring

(A company limited by guarantee)

Balance sheet At 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Current assets			
Debtors	8	7,110	-
Cash at bank and in hand		38,791	5,876
		<u>45,901</u>	<u>5,876</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(21,588)	(1,188)
Net current assets		24,313	4,688
Total net assets		<u>24,313</u>	<u>4,688</u>
Charity funds			
Unrestricted funds	10	24,313	4,688
Total funds		<u>24,313</u>	<u>4,688</u>


The company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board of trustees on 1 August 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

 EF0853D40C194A6...
Ian High
 Director

Company registered number: 12508237

The notes on pages 9 to 13 form part of these financial statements.

The Cultural Spring

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 March 2023

1. General information

The Cultural Spring ('the charity') is a private company limited by guarantee, incorporated in the United Kingdom and registered in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is given in the company information page of these financial statements and the principal activities of the charity are given in the trustees' report.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements 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), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

2.2 Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

2.3 Income

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

Grants are included in the statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Gifts in kind donated for distribution are included at valuation and recognised as income when they are distributed to the projects. Gifts donated for resale are included as income when they are sold.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

The Cultural Spring

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, 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 classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.6 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.7 Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

The Cultural Spring

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds Year ended 31 March 2023 £	Total funds Year ended 31 March 2023 £	Total funds Period ended 31 March 2022 £
Donations	-	-	200
Grants	44,520	44,520	8,160
Gifts in kind	10,000	10,000	5,500
Project income	18,700	18,700	500
	<u>73,220</u>	<u>73,220</u>	<u>14,360</u>

4. Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds Year ended 31 March 2023 £	Total funds Year ended 31 March 2023 £	Total funds Period ended 31 March 2022 £
Costs of raising voluntary income	<u>13,800</u>	<u>13,800</u>	<u>-</u>

5. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly Year ended 31 March 2023 £	Support costs Year ended 31 March 2023 £	Total funds Year ended 31 March 2023 £	Total funds Period ended 31 March 2022 £
Project delivery	<u>20,429</u>	<u>19,366</u>	<u>39,795</u>	<u>9,672</u>

The Cultural Spring

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023

5. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Gifts in kind – office costs	10,000	5,500
Accountancy	690	750
Consulting	-	545
Subscriptions	391	276
Rent	3,259	-
Other	5,026	243
	<u>19,366</u>	<u>7,314</u>

6. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2022: £nil).

During the year, £47 of trustee expenses have been incurred (2022: £nil).

7. Employees

There are no employees other than the trustees (2022: none).

8. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	6,500	-
Other debtors	610	-
	<u>7,110</u>	<u>-</u>

The Cultural Spring

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements (continued) Year ended 31 March 2023

9. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	656	-
Other creditors	1,580	-
Accruals and deferred income	19,352	1,188
	<u>21,588</u>	<u>1,188</u>

10. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
General funds	<u>4,688</u>	<u>73,220</u>	<u>(53,596)</u>	<u>24,315</u>

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds				
General funds	<u>-</u>	<u>14,360</u>	<u>(9,672)</u>	<u>4,688</u>

11. Related party transactions

During the year, there were no related party transactions other than trustee expenses disclosed in note 6 (2022: £nil).

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