

**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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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

---

<b>Trustees</b>	Graeme Thompson Ian High Eleanor Caroline Turner Mark Anthony Dawson Fiona Martin Denise Wilson Joan Atkinson Glenn David Coyne
-----------------	--

<b>Company secretary</b>	Emma Horsman
--------------------------	--------------

<b>Independent Examiner</b>	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.

**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 &amp; EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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

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

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
-------------------------------	-------------------------------

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 £
<b>6 Donations and legacies</b>				
Donations	158	-	<b>158</b>	32
Gifts in kind	9,000	-	<b>9,000</b>	9,000
	<u>9,158</u>	<u>-</u>	<u><b>9,158</b></u>	<u>9,032</u>
<b>7 Charitable activities</b>				
<u>Income from grants</u>				
Arts Council England	-	-	-	2,800
Hebburn Public Art project – South Tyneside Council	-	33,818	<b>33,818</b>	33,818
Gig Culture – Arts Council England	-	27,972	<b>27,972</b>	34,965
Groundwork South and North Tyneside	-	10,000	<b>10,000</b>	-
Postcode Neighbourhood Trust	-	25,000	<b>25,000</b>	25,000
Stephenson Trail – University of Sunderland	-	-	-	2,008
South Tyneside Council - Creative Residency	-	5,500	<b>5,500</b>	-
South Tyneside Council - Parades	-	63,278	<b>63,278</b>	70,000
South Tyneside Council - Your Art	-	9,500	<b>9,500</b>	-
The Barbour Foundation	-	-	-	5,000
Tyne and Wear Community Foundation Know Your Neighbourhood Fund	-	49,950	<b>49,950</b>	48,200
UK Shared Prosperity Fund	-	68,599	<b>68,599</b>	20,128
Other grants	1,200	-	<b>1,200</b>	18,675
	<u>1,200</u>	<u>293,617</u>	<u><b>294,817</b></u>	<u>260,594</u>
<b>8 Other trading activities</b>				
Project income	5,539	-	<b>5,539</b>	1,514
	<u>5,539</u>	<u>-</u>	<u><b>5,539</b></u>	<u>1,514</u>
<b>9 Other income</b>				
University of Sunderland	65,724	-	<b>65,724</b>	23,172
	<u>65,724</u>	<u>-</u>	<u><b>65,724</b></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 £
<b>10 Raising funds</b>				
Costs of raising voluntary income	-	9,500	<b>9,500</b>	7,680
	<u>-</u>	<u>9,500</u>	<u><b>9,500</b></u>	<u>7,680</u>
<b>11 Expenditure on charitable activities</b>				
<u>Direct costs</u>				
Artist fees	1,893	239,645	<b>241,538</b>	112,877
Venue hire	2,017	11,718	<b>13,735</b>	4,824
Materials	-	1,736	<b>1,736</b>	1,326
Go and See tickets	-	-	-	620
Other hire	-	-	-	9,942
Refreshments	-	-	-	1,134
DBS	326	-	<b>326</b>	293
Events	670	5,182	<b>5,852</b>	-
Public Relations	3,000	-	<b>3,000</b>	-
Workshops	-	1,680	<b>1,680</b>	-
<u>Support costs</u>				
Gifts in kind	9,000	-	<b>9,000</b>	9,000
Accountancy	2,316	1,204	<b>3,520</b>	2,950
Consulting	1,748	3,508	<b>5,256</b>	26,039
Subscriptions	503	422	<b>925</b>	780
Rent	3,608	6,956	<b>10,564</b>	12,197
Other	857	452	<b>1,309</b>	2,667
Staff costs	18,405	24,562	<b>42,967</b>	17,562
Marketing	987	2,901	<b>3,888</b>	1,029
Project management staff costs	-	9,082	<b>9,082</b>	22,920
Office costs	106	55	<b>161</b>	125
Travel and subsistence	412	371	<b>783</b>	1,969
<u>Governance costs</u>				
Independent examiner's fees for reporting on the accounts	625	325	<b>950</b>	700
Board and meeting costs	635	330	<b>965</b>	639
	<u>47,108</u>	<u>310,129</u>	<u><b>357,237</b></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	<b>950</b>	700
	<u><b>950</b></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
	<b>52,049</b>	<b>17,562</b>

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

#### 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
	<b>71,390</b>	<b>36,737</b>

#### 19 Cash at bank and in hand

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

#### 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
	<b>26,477</b>	<b>35,913</b>

#### 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	<b>22,500</b>

#### 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**

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

**Purpose of unrestricted funds**

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

**Analysis of movement in restricted funds**

	<b>Fund balances brought forward £</b>	<b>Incoming resources £</b>	<b>Resources expended £</b>	<b>Transfers £</b>	<b>Fund balances carried forward £</b>
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
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 )
<b>Totals</b>	<b>79,477</b>	<b>293,617</b>	<b>( 319,629 )</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>53,465</b>

## 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 )	<b>44,940</b>
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	( 24,167 )	69,080	<b>44,913</b>
	<u>36,388</u>	<u>53,465</u>	<u><b>89,853</b></u>

#### Analysis of net assets between funds 2023

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