

SOUNDCASTLE LTD

England & Wales · Charity number 1194955

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [08210076](#)

Registered 2021-06-25

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Unit 1
Second Floor
Rock House
49-51 Cambridge Road
Hastings

Phone 07425469364

Email team@soundcastle.co.uk

Website <https://soundcastle.co.uk/>

Activities

Objects: (A) TO ADVANCE EDUCATION, INCLUDING BY (BUT NOT LIMITED TO) DELIVERING PROGRAMMES RELATING TO THE ARTS.(B) TO PROVIDE OR ASSIST IN THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES, OPPORTUNITIES AND ACTIVITIES RELATING TO THE ARTS IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE NEED OF SUCH OPPORTUNITIES BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE, INFIRMITY, DISABILITY, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SOCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THEIR CONDITIONS OF LIFE.(C) TO PROMOTE SOCIAL INCLUSION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT BY PREVENTING PEOPLE FROM BECOMING SOCIALLY EXCLUDED, RELIEVING THE NEEDS OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO ARE SOCIALLY EXCLUDED AND ASSISTING THEM TO INTEGRATE INTO SOCIETY.FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS CLAUSE ?SOCIALLY EXCLUDED? MEANS BEING EXCLUDED FROM SOCIETY, OR PART OF SOCIETY, AS A RESULT OF BEING A MEMBER OF A SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY DEPRIVED COMMUNITY.

Activities: Soundcastle helps children, families and communities to find their creative spark through transformational music projects that increase confidence, enhance wellbeing and bring people together. We create safe, fun and inspiring spaces where people connect, play and find their voice. This promotes positive mental health and social connection, especially for the most vulnerable members of society.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Disability, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£326,216	£320,080	-	-
2024-03-31	£350,044	£282,199	-	-
2023-03-31	£215,999	£238,636	-	-
2022-03-31	£272,084	£224,781	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Sophie Bell	Chair	2024-05-03
Aditi Shivram Bhonagiri		2023-07-07
Blair Maxwell Reid		2024-05-03
Hannah Louise Collisson		2022-03-29
Nicola Ayele Tagoe		2025-10-17
RUTH CECILIA JARRATT		2021-05-01
Terence Nicholas Adams		2025-07-18

SOUNDCASTLE LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1194955

Accounts

SOUNDCASTLE



Trustees' Annual Report & Financial Statements

for the year ended
31st March 2025

Soundcastle Ltd
Charity Registration Number: 1194955 Company Registration Number: 08210076

Administrative Information

Trustees:	S Bell, appointed 3rd May 2024 (Chair) A Bhonagiri H Collisson S Drake-Pullin R Jarratt A Krishnan, resigned 15th Apr 2025 B Reid, appointed 3rd May 2024 C Rubin, resigned 24th Sep 2024
Charity Address:	Unit 1, 2nd Floor, Rock House 49 - 51 Cambridge Road Hastings East Sussex TN34 1DT
Bankers:	The Co-operative Bank p.l.c. P.O Box 101 1 Balloon Street Manchester M60 4EP Metro Bank p.l.c. One Southampton Row London WC1B 5HA
Accountant and Independent Examiner:	Manningtons 39 High Street, Battle, East Sussex TN33 0EE

Trustees Annual Report

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025. Included within the trustees' report is the directors report as required by company law.

The reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Structure, Governance and Management

Soundcastle Ltd is a registered charity and a Company Limited by Guarantee with the Charity Registration Number 1194955. The governing document of Soundcastle Ltd is a memorandum and articles of association dated 16th March 2021.

The Trustees, who are also directors under company law, are appointed by ordinary resolution passed at a general meeting. One third of the members of the Trustees must retire by rotation but may stand for re-election. Trustees met every three months during the financial year in question.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees as of 31st March 2025 was 7.

Objectives and Activities for the Public Benefit

Soundcastle is an award-winning, women-led charity, based in Hastings, East Sussex and working across London and South East England. We support the mental health of people facing social inequality, alongside building sector resilience in the arts nationally.

The objects of the charity are specifically restricted to the following:

- a. To advance education, including by (but not limited to) delivering programmes relating to the arts.
- b. To provide or assist in the provision of facilities, opportunities and activities relating to the arts in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such opportunities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity, disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life.
- c. To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society.

For the purpose of this clause, 'socially excluded' means being excluded from society, or part of society, as a result of being a member of a socially and economically deprived community.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and setting the grant-making policy for the period.

We run transformational, long-term music programmes which increase confidence, reduce isolation and enhance wellbeing. We work within communities, widening access and increasing opportunities for those who are underserved by traditional publicly funded arts and culture.

Our wider impact comes through community music sector development. We are a leading voice in community music in the UK and advocate for better mental health awareness; delivering Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training and creative consultancy to cultural and community organisations nationally. Our highly successful MHFA training programme attracted attendees from local arts, voluntary, care, charity, and education sectors.

Our long-term music programmes - Musical Beacons and People's Music - are embedded in communities in Sussex and East London, providing deep and sustained creative engagement and mental health support for targeted groups.

All Soundcastle programmes are delivered in collaboration with community partners, combining our creative expertise with their knowledge of each community. This ensures we identify gaps in provision and design our programmes to meet this need, in areas of low cultural engagement.

The people that Soundcastle supports are all directly impacted by reduced NHS services and the Cost of Living Crisis. The majority of our attendees experience socioeconomic disadvantage and are on the front line of rising costs. We provide targeted support for:

- Families with disabled and neurodivergent children. Many are on the autism spectrum and face challenges, including anxiety, social/emotional problems, communication and confidence.
- Families with early years children facing barriers including socioeconomic deprivation, social exclusion, mental ill health, English as an additional language, living in temporary accommodation, and not in education, employment or training.
- Young parents and early years children living in supported housing, who face complex challenges as a result of domestic abuse, substance misuse or mental ill health.
- Adults on a journey of mental health recovery, experiencing daily challenges including anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder, substance abuse/addiction, self-harming, loneliness, low self-esteem and schizophrenia.
- Emerging music leaders facing barriers, including socioeconomic disadvantage, gender discrimination, LGBTQIA+ discrimination, disability discrimination, and racism.

Our Approach

Everyone is creative. This belief is at the centre of our methodology for engaging with communities. We help people to find their creative spark through transformational creative programmes.

We use creative play as a tool to support connection. We create open, inclusive spaces that promote fun, exploration and imagination. We hear laughter, we see connection, we listen as people find their voices.

We use creative exploration to celebrate and expand the imagination, confidence and creative worlds of community members. Self-belief comes from close, positive interaction, and we help people to play and sing together. Whilst each project is individual and unique, our focus is always on a collaborative approach to creativity.

Key Stats - Reach and Impact

- 3185 total session attendances
- 4132 hours of musical interaction between individual community members and facilitators

Worked directly with 744 community members:

- 377 Children and Young People (Musical Beacons)
- 235 Parents and Carers (Musical Beacons)
- 132 adults on a journey of mental health recovery (People's Music)

Delivered 402 creative sessions:

- 262 inclusive family creative play and music-making sessions (including 55 sessions within supported housing settings, 12 musical walkabouts, 98 group sessions in local community settings, 102 individual sessions, 1 community family fun day)
- 140 music for mental health recovery sessions
- Worked in partnership with 22 organisations
- Delivered community sessions in 16 locations
- 6 inclusive performances celebrating the voices of community members with a mental health diagnosis - combined live audience of 197 people
- 1 EP launch performance by the People's Music Collective in collaboration with the London Philharmonic Orchestra
- 1 short film celebrating the People's Music Collective's EP launch
- 2 LAB days in partnership with the London Philharmonic Orchestra
- 1 digital launch of new music created by community members with lived experience of mental ill health - combined digital audience of 508 people

Sector Development:

- 19 Sparking Change training and mentoring sessions delivered for 9 emerging music leaders
- 1 research partnership with Dr Ian James Axtell, SFHEA College of Education and Social Work, Faculty of Health, Education and Life Sciences at Birmingham City University
- 93 people trained in Mental Health First Aid
- 2 training projects with the Royal College of Music and Sound Connections reaching 110 practitioners
- 88 arts and community practitioners supported through skills development and training sessions in partnership with Royal College of Music, Sound Connections, Wishing Well and New Note

All names of community members have been anonymised for the purposes of this report.

Musical Beacons



Musical Beacons is our Soundcastle programme which celebrates youth voice, family bonding and community connection through the power of creative music making. It is an embedded creative health programme in the South East of England with a strong evidence base of positive impact for marginalised community groups, developed over the last 13 years. We bring together isolated families through regular creative sessions in inclusive and supported environments within their communities. We support them to build confidence and act as a bridge between isolation and local community activities. The families we work with face barriers to accessing cultural or community activity.

These barriers look like:

- socioeconomic deprivation
- living in temporary accommodation
- generational unemployment
- mental health challenges
- having English as a second language
- caring for disabled and neurodiverse children
- having a child excluded from education
- being a very young parent

A Musical Beacons session is joy in its purest form. Soundcastle facilitators engage families in messy play with sound, exploring the realms of possibility for children and their families, helping them to understand that music is for everyone. We play, make and explore, supporting children to find the confidence to express their musical voice and to create their own brand new music. We create a safe, musical space for families who feel unable to attend other existing music groups due to their child's behavioural or emotional needs.

Our facilitators have been using a combination of voice, sensory toys/materials and accessible musical instruments, working in a responsive way, adapting to different settings. This could look like:

- facilitating a non-verbal child with learning disabilities and their parents, supporting them to explore, create and have fun together
- working in a safe house with a young parent living with PTSD and supporting them to use play and song to bond with their baby
- facilitating an adoptive family online because the child's sensory needs prevent them from attending a group session and using family songwriting to support the building of new family relationships and bonds

In 2024-25 we delivered 262 Musical Beacons sessions, engaging 377 children and young people (0-11) and 235 parents and caregivers.

In all of our Musical Beacons settings, we work in a deeply embedded way, ensuring we build trust by being present in the community. Through our regular creative sessions and attendance at local community events, we are bringing often isolated people as well as a range of local organisations together through conversation, collaboration and the joy of music making.



People's Music

People's Music is a Soundcastle programme which celebrates the creativity, resilience and voice of people who live with a mental health diagnosis and are socially isolated. It is an embedded creative health programme in the South East with a strong evidence base of positive impact for marginalised community groups. We use collaborative music-making to strengthen mental health recovery, reduce social isolation and bring communities together through inspiring creative experiences.

Soundcastle facilitators embody our values of joy, care and action to build trust, playfulness and creativity. This in-turn leads to the creation of thought-provoking and inspiring original music composed by the community members themselves. Through recordings, sharing events and public performances, we tackle the stigma of mental illness and isolation and celebrate the diversity, strength and creativity of our communities.

Community members are referred by our partners, and in some cases, we work together to co-produce the courses with peer trainers who have lived experience of mental health. Our approach to creative playfulness is connected to the 5 Steps to Wellbeing (as recommended by the NHS) and this enables us to welcome anyone to join the groups from experienced musicians to those discovering music-making for the first time.

Throughout 2024-2025, we worked in partnership with a range of mental health, ageing well and dementia charities to co-produce our People's Music programme. We delivered 140 People's Music sessions, engaging 132 adults on a journey of mental health recovery.

SUSSEX PROGRAMMES 2024-25

Musical Beacons Broomgrove, Newhaven, Eastbourne & Online

- 18 Musical Beacons Broomgrove sessions
- 8 Musical Beacons In2Play sessions
- 55 sessions within supported housing settings
- 8 individual online sessions with adoptive families
- 1 community family fun day
- 12 musical walkabouts
- 241 community members were part of Musical Beacons Sussex, including 163 children

In Sussex, we work with young parents who have faced trauma due to complex challenges including homelessness, social isolation and fleeing violent, abusive relationships. They have had little access

to support and feel isolated from local community activities. Throughout 2024-25, we ran sessions within two safehouses, in partnership with Salvation Army Housing Association and East Sussex Young Parents Service, supporting early years children, young parents and project workers. These intimate weekly music sessions support the young parents to bond and play with their babies, supporting their development of parenting skills.

Our 2023 pilot of Musical Beacons in the Broomgrove housing estate has now become an embedded regular programme of activity. In partnership with Active Hastings and In2Play, we are providing regular access to arts and creativity in an area with high levels of deprivation and extremely low cultural engagement within Hastings. The programme is thriving with regular high attendance and looking ahead, we are building additional partnerships with local cultural organisations Sea Glass Arts and Spun Glass Theatre to enrich the cultural experience even further.

Finally, we are piloting a new online Musical Beacons programme – Ready to Play! – individual sessions for adoptive families. We are working with 4 different families in a recruitment partnership with Adoption SouthEast to support families whose child’s sensory needs might prevent them from accessing creative group activity. We look forward to extending this pilot into 2025-26 in the hope of securing funding to extend this new programme.

Locations

East Sussex Young Parents Service Newhaven
East Sussex Young Parents Service Eastbourne
Broomgrove Community Centre
Broomgrove Estate, Hastings
In2Play Outdoor Preschool

Partners

Active Hastings	Hastings Borough Council
Adoption South East	In2Play Outdoor Preschool
Create Music	Salvation Army Housing Association
East Hastings Family Hub	Southern Housing
East Sussex Young Parents Service	Spun Glass Theatre
	Sea Glass Arts

People’s Music Shoreham & Bexhill

- 37 Singing for Wellbeing sessions, with Sussex Recovery College, Southdown Wellbeing Centre and West Sussex MIND (Sussex)
- 24 New Rhythms (introductory music making) sessions, with Sussex Recovery College
- 8 Ukulele Crew sessions, with Sussex Recovery College
- 35 People’s Music Collective sessions
- 2 performances/ sharing events to a combined audience of 105 people
- 1 EP launch performance by the People’s Music Collective in collaboration with the London Philharmonic Orchestra

- 4 LAB sessions (creative exploration commissioned by members of the PMC around key musical areas of interest), in partnership with the London Philharmonic Orchestra
- 69 community members were part of People's Music Sussex

We continue to co-produce the People's Music Collective, our flagship band for mental health recovery that writes, records and performs their own new music. This year they launched their EP, at the Audio Active venue in Worthing, in collaboration with musicians from the London Philharmonic Orchestra. We are looking forward to further collaborations with the LPO as well as a new cultural partnership with Barefoot Opera Company in 2025-26.

In order to develop our Peoples Music programme across Sussex and reach more people, we took the decision to slightly reduce the offer in Shoreham-by-Sea so that we could extend the programme to Bexhill. Our remaining Shoreham sessions are still well attended and we have now launched a new pilot of Singing for Wellbeing in Bexhill in partnership with Southdown which we plan to extend into 2025-26.

Locations

Shoreham Centre
 West Sussex Mind
 Audio Active Performance Venue
 Southdown Wellbeing Centre

Partners

Audio Active
 Going Local Social Prescribing
 London Philharmonic Orchestra
 Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
 Sussex Recovery College
 West Sussex Mind

LONDON PROGRAMMES 2024-25

Musical Beacons Waltham Forest & Newham

- 30 Musical Beacons community sessions at the Paradox Centre
- 30 Outdoor afterschool Musical Beacons sessions in the parks
- 94 individual sessions with early years disabled children
- 371 community members were part of Musical Beacons London, including 214 children

In London, families with very young disabled and neurodivergent children told us they faced multiple barriers to accessing provision in the community, including socioeconomic factors. Many families did not access any activities outside school and were extremely isolated. To address this, we now work with families with disabled children in multiple community spaces, through individual and group family sessions in both Waltham Forest and Newham. To do this, we partner with Waltham Forest Music Education Hub, Newham SEND hub and Newham Music hub. In Waltham Forest the sessions are delivered at the Leytonstone Toy Library, a local community venture.

Locations

Paradox Centre Chingford Hall
Epicentre in Cathall Leytonstone
Leytonstone Toy Library
Altmore Children's Centre East Ham, Newham
Artesian Gardens Playground on the Cathall Estate Leytonstone
Langthorne Park, Leytonstone

Partners

Leytonstone Toy Library
London Borough of Waltham Forest
The Lloyd Park Children's Charity
Waltham Forest Music Education Hub
Newham Music
Newham SEND Hub
Peabody Housing Association

People's Music Waltham Forest

- 33 Join the Band sessions with Age UK, Carer's First and Crest Dementia Support
- 2 performances/ sharing events to a combined audience of 93 people
- 63 community members were part of People's Music London

Our 2023-24 pilot of People's Music in Chingford, London had a positive reception and is now an embedded, thriving programme with regular attendance. Word has spread, resulting in several shorter term contracts for delivery with partners Crest (Dementia Day Care) and Carer's First. The project also joined a local collaboration led by Creative Community London to create a community quilt. The band members took part in making the quilt and then used this as the inspiration for a new song called 'Our Stitched Together Lives' which was shared with community members and partners across Waltham Forest.

Locations

Age UK Waltham Forest
Parish of St Edmunds Large church hall

Partners

AGE UK
Carers First
Creative Community London
CREST Waltham Forest
Public Health Waltham Forest

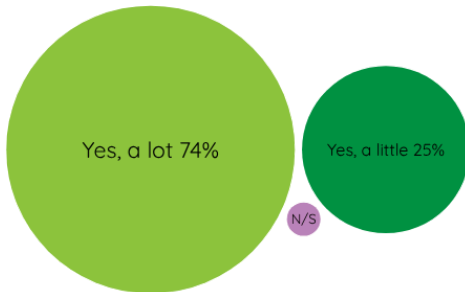
Impact

We monitor our impact using a streamlined evaluation framework based on our three core outcomes - increased confidence, reduced social isolation and enhanced wellbeing. We conduct evaluation processes involving all voices - community members, partners, facilitators, audiences and Soundcastle programme leads.

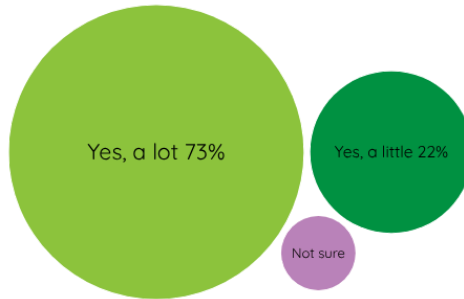
Our 2024-25 monitoring and evaluation demonstrates that we are consistently meeting all of our intended outcomes. *Data based on 145 feedback surveys received in 2024-25.*

Being part of a Soundcastle music programme has:

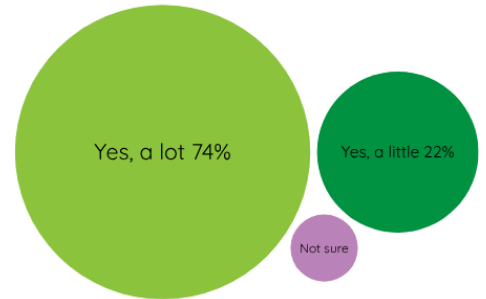
helped me improve my **confidence**:



helped me feel **more connected** to others:



improved my **wellbeing**:



Increased Confidence

99% of respondents reported feeling an increase in confidence:

"It's great to be able to give the group your ideas and bounce them off other people. It helps confidence when something works well"

Join the Band, Waltham Forest

"At the beginning my son was scared of noises and people and now, he learnt how to play music and feel more confident. Also for me, it gives me energy and a mental break while sharing a good moment with my son."

Musical Beacons, Paradox, Chingford

"Within these groups I can contribute and I am listened to. This is very validating, and in turn I can take that into my life outside of the groups. I feel more able to express myself."

People's Music Collective, Shoreham

Reduced Social Isolation

95% of respondents reported feeling an increase in connectedness to their community.

"In order to create music together, we all need to connect with each other, to be aware of what others are doing. That's when the music comes together, and in the process we come together as one. It creates the most amazing feeling of belonging, of being seen and heard."

People's Music Collective, Shoreham

"I feel seen, heard and cared for by the people in these groups. The first time in a long time that I truly feel part of a community."

New Rhythms, Shoreham-by-Sea

"...sharing and hearing others' personal experiences helping me feel I'm not alone."

Musical Beacons Paradox, Chingford

"I can now connect to the other parents without feeling embarrassed and my son has made new friends."

Musical Beacons Safehouses, Eastbourne

Enhanced Wellbeing

96% of respondents reported feeling enhanced wellbeing.

"To have the opportunity to engage with something creative each week pushes my joy button. Sharing this with others also optimises the experience."

People's Music Collective, Shoreham

"Gets me out of the house, a change of scenery plus music makes you feel good. It gives you a boost even if you're having a bad day. I come out better after being in the group for an hour and a half."

Musical Beacons Broomgrove, Hastings

"I have something in my life that makes me feel good, even when I'm not actually there but just knowing the groups are there."

Singing for Wellbeing, Shoreham

"It has encouraged me to get out, even when I didn't feel up to it"

Join the Band, Waltham Forest

"This is simply positive, feels good and uplifting... this has been about filling up the bucket of good feelings!"

Musical Beacons - Ready to Play! South East

Case Studies

Musical Beacons

Our Musical Beacons after-school sessions in London originally alternated between the Epicentre and Artesian Gardens park before moving to the Paradox Centre and Lanthorne Park. Having access to both indoor and outdoor spaces helps Soundcastle to offer inclusive music making sessions. This is Rema and Max's story. Rema has 3 sons aged 3, 6 and 7. On the cold dark November evenings, it is hard to find somewhere the children can all play after school and Musical Beacons provides a space for all three of their ages.

During her first session she tells us that her oldest son, Max, is autistic. In the hall the music facilitators give him plenty of space to move round the creative activity stations and examine the equipment. His mother joins her friends at the central table where she can chat, share food and draw and colour in as she likes. After a few weeks, Max picks up a beater and starts to play on a metallophone. Lila, a Soundcastle facilitator, picks up her flute and replies with some musical phrases. They continue a musical conversation for 10 minutes. As the weeks go on Max continues to have musical conversations using a variety of instruments. Later on, he chooses to play the keyboard with headphones on by himself for 20 minutes, exploring all the different sounds and modes. Max's brothers also move around the music and play activities, enjoying leading the Soundcastle musicians and joining in the disco musical statues games.

When the sessions move into the park in the Summer, Max and his family continue to join the sessions. He comes and plays for bursts of 5-10 minutes in between running round the park. When the team has space in our 1 to 1 sessions for families with neurodivergent children (on a separate programme in Langthorne Park), Soundcastle offer Max a space. They attend twice and this gives the team more time to interact more closely with him and understand what kind of music he enjoys. Max continues to join the park sessions and shows the team songs he likes on YouTube. Everyone sings and plays along. If the instruments he wants are not available, he indicates the boxes and then the team help him find what he wants.

Although he uses few direct words, Rema comments on how much she can see he enjoys the session and how much communication he offers our team. The facilitators are proud to have built the trust so carefully with this family.



People's Music

Sarah first joined our People's Music programme in partnership with Sussex Recovery College back in 2019. Living with a diagnosis of depression and anxiety, she was finding herself increasingly isolated and struggling to achieve everyday tasks.

She joined the programme as a keen recorder player and despite feeling nervous, she was quickly able to engage in creative activities and immerse herself in the music making process. "I joined about 5 years ago and, at that time, I had very severe anxiety and I was finding it very difficult to deal with everyday life. And I had a young daughter to bring up. But I came to these groups and found that when I focussed on music making, I'd forget my worries. And I have lots and lots of fun and I'm able to put things into perspective and can deal with the things in my life."

Sarah was very committed to attending and it was rare for her to miss a session. As the years passed and she became more confident of her role in the group, it was noticeable how she supported new members to take part, making reassuring comments, supporting them to learn new instrumental skills and always offering a positive word of encouragement. It felt like a very natural progression when Sarah found the courage to apply for the employed position of being a peer trainer for Sussex Recovery College and asked the Soundcastle team for a reference. With her application being successful, she now co-produces the New Rhythms course in Shoreham-by-Sea with Soundcastle facilitators. "We have so much fun together so it's given me the confidence to be a Peer Trainer and to stand up in front of a group of students."

Sarah recently made a speech to an audience of more than 50 people at our Winter Warmer event, talking about her experience, something she admitted she wouldn't have been able to do several years ago. This new found confidence has rippled out to other areas of her life and she now talks and runs events at her local church too.



I joined about 5 years ago and, at that time, I had very severe anxiety and I was finding it very difficult to deal with everyday life. And I had a young daughter to bring up.

But I came to these groups and found that when focussed on music making, I'd forget my worries.

And I have lots and lots of fun and I'm able to put things into perspective and can deal with the things in my life.

It's given me the confidence to be a Peer Trainer and to stand up in front of a group of students, and now I'm also able to stand up and speak to you now.

(Audience applause and loud cheers to this)

Sector Development

Consultancy and Training

Throughout 2024-25 Soundcastle has continued to deliver training and consultancy in support of the community arts sector. By delivering consultancy we continue to expand our sector's understanding of high quality co-production in community practice.

We have continued our training relationship with the Royal College of Music providing a bi yearly creative education music class for all second year undergraduate students which introduces the principles of inclusive creative practice.

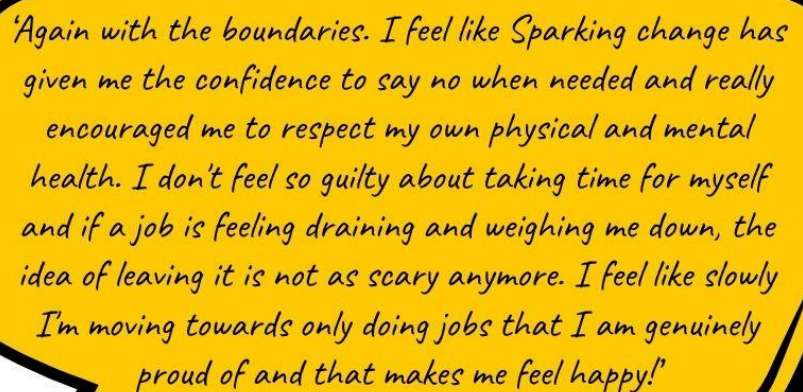
We have continued to develop our Mental Health First Aid training offer on a mission to improve wellbeing, resilience and understanding of mental health across the sector. We have delivered MHFA training for organisations including Youth Music, Music Mark and Kent Music as well as 4 subsidised open sessions for freelancers. This has resulted in 93 new Mental Health First Aiders in the arts sector. Further skills development and training sessions in partnership with Royal College of Music, Sound Connections, Newham Music, Wishing Well and New Note have supported 88 arts and community practitioners to develop their skills.

Sparking Change

Between September 24 - March 25 we delivered a 6 month Sparking Change programme for emerging music leaders facing barriers in the sector. This involved:

- Individual mentoring with two Soundcastle team members
- Creative skills sessions in music facilitation
- Co working sessions with peers and support from the Soundcastle team
- Two part training series about the Power of Partnerships
- A qualification in Mental Health Awareness
- An Introduction to Fundraising session
- Signposting to further opportunities for paid work
- Traineeship observation and volunteering opportunities within Soundcastle

Over 75% of Sparking Change attendees reported increased confidence in their professional lives, improved connections with people across the community arts sector and feelings of enhanced wellbeing by the end of the programme.



'Again with the boundaries. I feel like Sparking change has given me the confidence to say no when needed and really encouraged me to respect my own physical and mental health. I don't feel so guilty about taking time for myself and if a job is feeling draining and weighing me down, the idea of leaving it is not as scary anymore. I feel like slowly I'm moving towards only doing jobs that I am genuinely proud of and that makes me feel happy!'

'Sparking Change helped me face my fears and work through them, unlocking my creativity! I feel more confident and motivated to make and share music with the world!'

'Sparking Change is about exploring the ways we can share music with others, giving us the knowledge, skills and confidence to do so effectively. I now feel I can effectively use music as a tool for communication, engagement, growth and healing and share that with others.'

Research

This year, we partnered with Birmingham City University (BCU) as part of our Youth Music fund of Musical Beacons. In Autumn 2024, the London and Sussex facilitation teams undertook training to embark on an auto-ethnographic research project which asked 'What is creative agency in a Musical Beacons session?' We focused on our two targeted programmes; the Safehouses sessions in Sussex and the SEN/D sessions in London.

The teams were mentored by BCU academic, Dr Ian Axtell throughout the process. They were given access to academic research papers, alongside facilitated reflection sessions, guidance on designing effective research questions and data collection. Four facilitators gathered data on their delivery and decision making throughout the autumn term. We used the concept of 'significant moments' to track their decision making within each session. This then led to further reflective data gathered from the facilitators which asked them to analyse their pedagogical approach to creative agency.

Participatory action research into creative agency in community music education.

Gail MacLeod



Creative Director and London Lead

Dr Ian James Axtell, BCU



Research mentor

S | O | U | N | D | C | A | S | T | L | E



The findings show the depth of awareness facilitators hold to navigate these complex spaces, alongside the breadth of activity that might be considered effective and high quality delivery. We have gained two further concepts (significant moments and signature pedagogies) to bring to our training as well as a strong reflective framework underpinned by academic research.

In July 2025 we will present our findings at the CSpace Conference: The transformative power of educational research at BCU and the Music and Parental Wellbeing Symposium at the Royal College of Music.

Internal Development

Advisory Panel

The Soundcastle Advisory Panel has met twice during 2024-25. The group is made up of representatives from across Soundcastle's programmes and community including partners, trustees, community members, team members and critical friends. The main themes of conversations were:

- A review of the proposal Soundcastle 2025-30 business plan
- Creating a visual map of the charity
- Making links with corporate supporters
- How to best tell the Soundcastle story
- How the AP can support with income generation

The panel continues to grow and diversify and aims to meet three times in 2025-26. It forms a critical part of Soundcastle's decision making process and a hugely valuable resource in steering our thinking and development.

Training

Over 2024-25, the whole Soundcastle staff met for 2 cross regional development days exploring safeguarding, our new Breathe HR system, an introduction to Makaton and an introduction to the Soundcastle Business Plan.

The facilitators took part in further internal training sessions on co-design and co-creation with early years children, reflective practice, whole group singing and improvisation leadership skills.

We continue to build upon our training partnership with New Note and Wishing Well. This allows our facilitators to practise with larger groups and explore ideas within a wider pool. All members of staff working in community settings and those managing others have compulsory termly supervisions with the Orange Collective. This is a proactive action to support our team as they process the complex challenges we face when delivering our programmes and to support mental health in a constructive way.

Governance

Sarah Drake-Pullin stepped down as Chair of the Board of Trustees in May 2025, having served since December 2020. We extend our gratitude to Sarah for her support of Soundcastle through her

roles as Co-Chair and subsequently Chair of the Board. We are grateful that Sarah will continue to support Soundcastle’s income generation and strategic direction through her role as a Trustee.

The Board has undergone additional changes during the year. We record our sincere thanks to Caitlin McMillan and Akhila Krishnan, who have resigned as Trustees after serving since the charity’s inception. Caitlin and Akhila’s expertise made a significant contribution to our work, and we are grateful for the insight and commitment they brought to the Board.

We welcomed two new Trustees in May 2024:

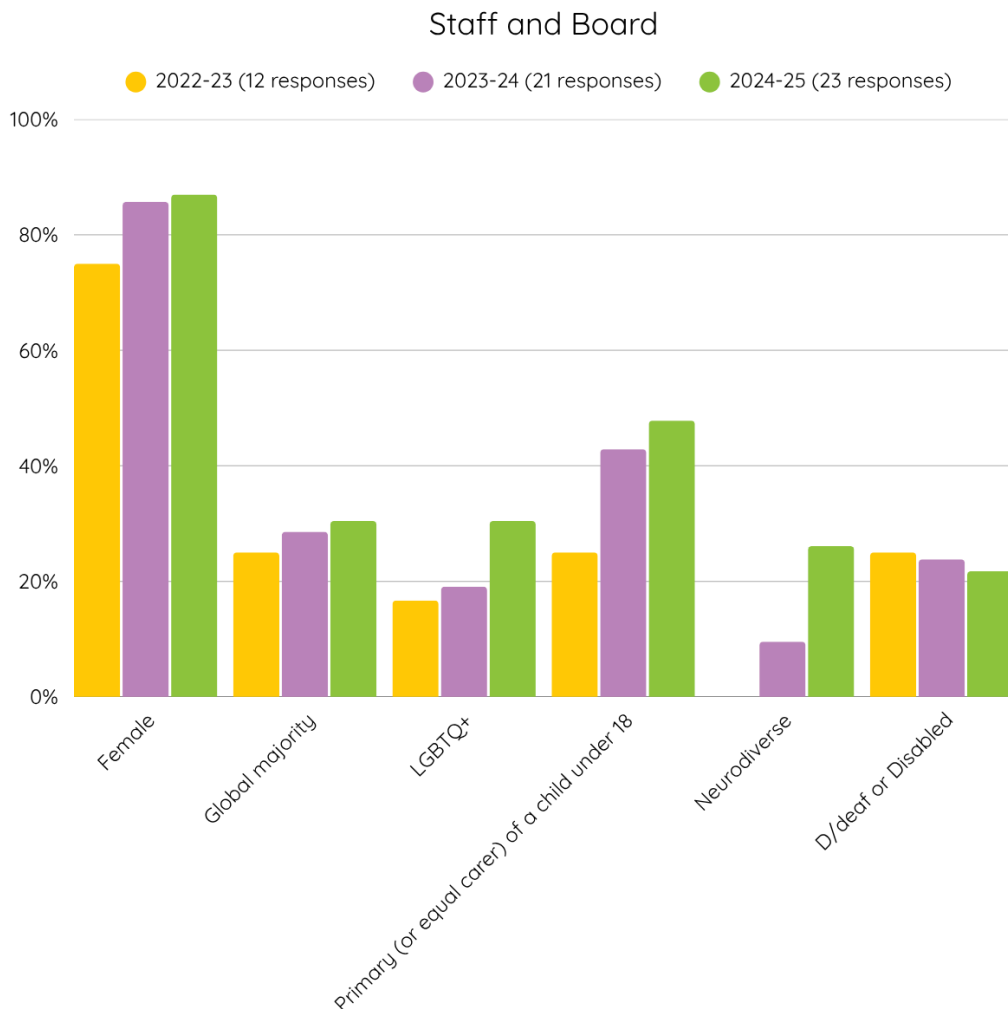
- Sophie Bell – whose extensive legal expertise will strengthen our governance and compliance
- Blair Reid – who brings substantial experience in financial management to support our financial oversight and strategic planning

Their skills and fresh perspectives will be invaluable as we continue to advance Soundcastle’s mission in the years ahead.

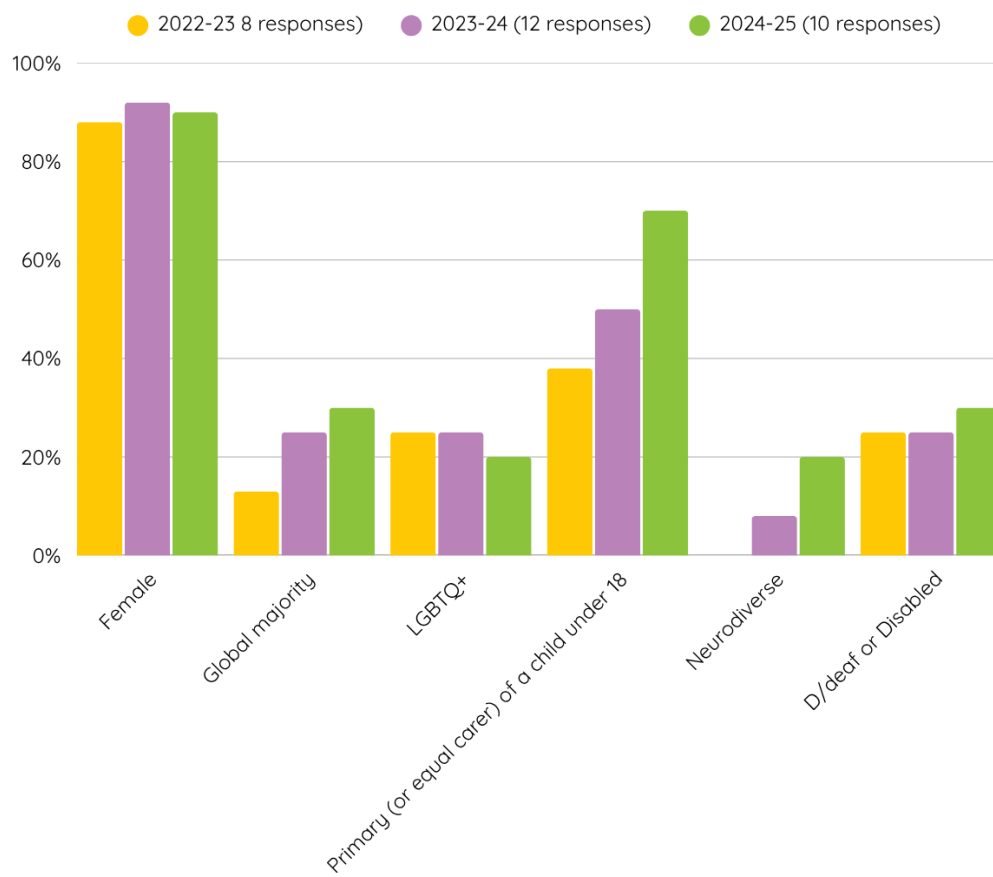
Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

We value high levels of representation across the charity. We had 23 responses to our 2024-25 EDI monitoring survey and have compared them below to the previous 2 years.

In 2024-25 87% of our staff team and board identify as female, 48% identify as primary or equal carer of a child or children under 18, 30% identify as from global majority backgrounds, 22% identify as D/deaf or disabled, 30% identify as LGBTQ+, 26% identify as neurodivergent. 70% of our staff team and board have lived experience of mental health challenges.



Leadership and Board



We have continued to develop our approach to equity, diversity and inclusion and have made some significant developments in terms of our staffing and practice. These include:

- Targeted reach out to partners regarding recruitment for our Advisory Panel and meeting access needs as required
- Targeted recruitment for our Sparking Change programme, bringing together a diverse cohort of young people who have faced barriers to accessing training and development opportunities. Following this, the recruitment of two of these Sparking Change attendees as Soundcastle trainees, providing a 6-month mentoring and delivery pathway
- The pilot of a new series of bespoke, individual sessions for families with adopted children in the South East
- Continuing engagement of the Orange Collective as an external supervision partner that uses inclusive supervision methods such as visual art processes to support the wellbeing of our diverse staff team. These are confidential sessions in which the supervisors gather themes and feed them back to a leadership team member, who then embeds change organisationally to meet staff needs
- Ongoing conversations with music hubs around inclusive progression routes for disabled children aged 0-6
- Renewal of our Disability Confident Employer status and review of our self-assessment
- Working towards Disability Confident Leader status

Disability, Mental Health and Wellbeing

Disability

Soundcastle is committed to creating an inclusive and supportive working environment for all employees, in line with our Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy. As a registered Disability Confident employer, we have taken proactive steps to ensure that staff with physical or mental health conditions are fully supported to thrive in their roles.

We have developed a Disability Passport and Reasonable Adjustments Policy, providing a clear process for identifying, agreeing and recording adjustments that support staff to carry out their roles effectively. Adjustments made to date have included flexible working arrangements, assistive technology, screen filters, reduced hours during periods of ill health, and tailored support for those with sensory needs or neurodivergence.

We follow inclusive recruitment practices, which include the use of accessible application formats, clear job descriptions, and adjustments offered at every stage of the process. We also signpost applicants to Access to Work and provide additional support as required.

We offer inclusive traineeships and have successfully supported trainees with lived experience of disability into meaningful community music roles through our Sparking Change programme.

In 2024–25, we carried out an EDI survey with responses from staff, trainees and trustees. We received 23 responses. The relevant questions and outcomes were:

Do you identify as disabled?

17.4% answered yes, 1 preferred not to say

Are you D/deaf?

4.3% answered yes, 1 preferred not to say

Do you identify as neurodivergent or autistic?

26% answered yes, 2 answered “not known”, 1 declined to answer

Have you experienced mental health challenges?

70% answered yes, 1 response was “not known”, 2 preferred not to say

For 2025–26, we have updated our monitoring to directly align with the Voluntary Reporting Framework recommended question: “Do you consider yourself to have a disability or long-term health condition (mental health and/or physical health)?”

We recognise that self-identification may be influenced by a range of personal, cultural or sector-related factors, and we are working to build a workplace culture in which people feel safe, supported, and empowered to request the adjustments they need to thrive.

Mental Health & Wellbeing

Mental health and wellbeing is at the core of Soundcastle’s culture and is outlined in our Mental Health & Wellbeing Policy. As a creative health organisation working with community members facing complex challenges, we believe it is essential to invest in the wellbeing of our staff team.

Wellbeing Agenda - in the past 12 months we have built upon the foundations of our original internal wellbeing consultation (2023-24) and are now pursuing an East Sussex Wellbeing at Work Bronze Award. As part of this we submit evidence of how we support our team. This includes:

- Leadership, Management & Workplace Culture through sharing the results of our 2025 staff wellbeing survey, with signposting and suggestions on how to improve wellbeing subjects raised in the survey.
- Mental & Financial Health Wellbeing with signposting for the team of how to find resources if they need support.
- Musculoskeletal / Health & Safety; Information shared on prevention and pain management with a focus on desk work and working on computers in the office and home working.

We plan to complete the Bronze Award by September 2025, with the aim of progressing to the Silver Award by March 2026.

We continue to adhere to the activities of our original consultation including:

- Adhering to a Soundcastle Mental Health and Wellbeing Policy
- Compulsory termly supervision for all staff who manage others and work directly in community contexts. This is a vital space in which people process the challenges that they experience, both working with vulnerable communities and in creating the healthiest relationships with peers
- Formalised line management review structures based on wellbeing. As a peer led organisation we have always placed equal value on all voices in decision making however, by formalising this model we are able to better meet the needs of our team and centre their voices
- Wellness Action Plans that each team member completes confidentially and uses to influence their line management reviews and team meetings. This is helping us to create a highly tailored environment that meets the personal needs of each member of staff
- Formed a training partnership with three other brilliant community music organisations so our teams can train together and share learning. This shared approach enables us to provide more training and commission sessions that the teams feel would be most valuable for their work
- All staff undertake Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training at Level 2, becoming accredited Mental Health First Aiders. This supports a shared understanding of mental health, early intervention, and how to create psychologically safe working environments

In our 2024 - 25 EDI survey, 70% of respondents reported lived experience of mental health challenges. This insight informs our ongoing staff wellbeing strategy and reinforces the importance of embedding mental health awareness across all areas of our work.

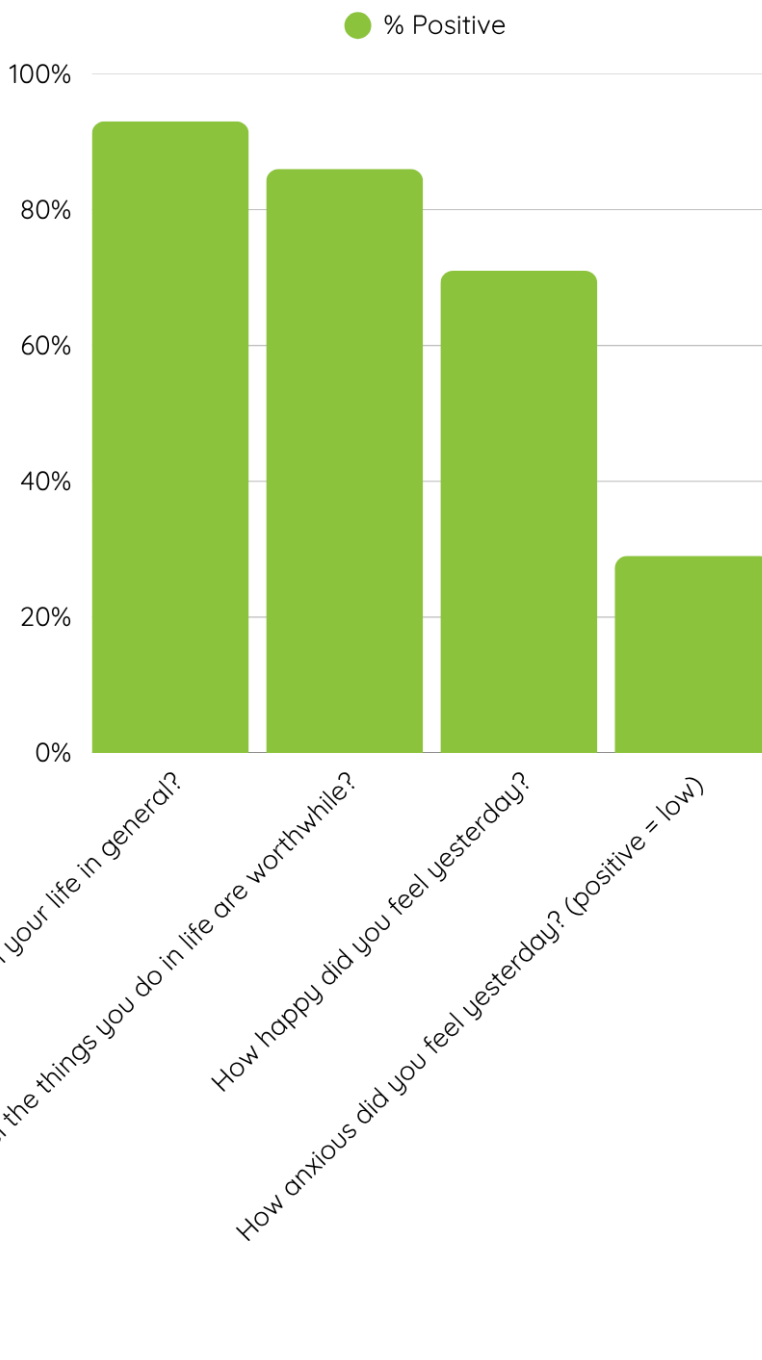
January 2025 Wellbeing at Work survey results:

Engagement: 100% staff response rate

Methodology: Employees were asked to rate their responses on a 0-10 scale. The top four most positive scores have been combined to produce the following percentage of positive responses:

The survey also asked employees to rank their response to a series of statements. The outcomes were:

- 100% consider their health in general to be good (79%) or very good (21%)
- 86% are very satisfied or quite satisfied with their job
- 93% are very satisfied or quite satisfied with the social environment at work
- 86% are very satisfied or quite satisfied with the physical environment at work
- 71% reported finding their job mildly or not at all stressful
- 100% agreed or strongly agreed that there is good cooperation between colleagues
- 100% feel able to speak to their manager about stress, anxiety, depression or any other mental health concern
- 100% strongly agreed that Soundcastle supports their health and wellbeing



Environmental Responsibility

In November 2024, the Soundcastle Co-founders attended the Music Mark conference in Nottingham, on the theme of Sustainability. They participated in multiple workshops and sessions, exploring themes around best practice in music education and community arts and also supported sector peers as Mental Health First Aiders, holding sensitive conversations around climate issues.

Following this, in March 2025 Soundcastle's Design & Digital Coordinator attended Music Mark's Carbon Literacy Training and has been working with the team to embed the most sustainable and

environmentally sound practices online. He is also currently writing a policy to support this learning which will be shared with the Soundcastle board in September 2025.

In April 2025 Soundcastle officially declared as part of the 'Culture Declares Emergency' movement. [You can read our declaration here.](#)

2024-25 is the first year that Soundcastle have tracked staff travel and purchasing in line with our environmental goals and so are now best placed to analyse this data to identify our current position and set targets for 2025-26. Examples of current best practice include buying/ printing locally, purchasing secondhand technology and resources, car pooling between programmes.

Soundcastle's board also expanded roles and now has Co-leads who represent Environmental Responsibility at a governance level.

Digital Reach

Whilst our programmes on the ground are deeply rooted in live interaction and hyperlocal communities, we are also proud of our digital reach, which is where we share our message around the importance of music making for mental health and community wellbeing. The ripple effect is felt nationally and internationally through our online platforms, where content is a combination of programme highlights, provocations, community engagement, team celebrations and national campaign engagement.

YouTube views: 2,344

Facebook Reach 17,000

Instagram Reach 9,300 (+4,600)

Total Facebook followers: 1,039 (+50)

Total Instagram followers : 982 (+43)

Total LinkedIn followers: 485 (+109)

Total Youtube subscribers: 480 (+3)

SoundCloud listens: 100

Future Plans

After many brilliant years of dedication and embodied practice, our London Creative Director, Co-Founder and Programme Lead, Gail Macleod, has chosen to embark on new adventures beyond Soundcastle. We warmly acknowledge her outstanding contribution to the charity and look forward with excitement to following her future endeavours.

In response to the ongoing financial pressures affecting both the arts and charitable sectors, we have undertaken a strategic reassessment of our operations. After careful consideration, in light of Gail's departure and financial challenges, we have made the difficult decision to close our London-based programmes from December 2025. This necessary step will enable us to streamline operations and focus on strengthening our impact within Sussex, where we will consolidate our resources and expertise.

The London programmes will transition into a legacy phase during 2025-26. We will proactively explore opportunities to ensure lasting impact, working closely with peer organisations to determine potential future pathways for each programme. Our commitment is to leave a robust legacy of improved mental health, stronger community connections, and enhanced local capacity in the arts sector.

This period of change comes amid rising operational costs and an increasingly competitive and challenging fundraising environment. By consolidating our activities into Sussex, we aim to maximise efficiency, resilience, and local community impact. This shift underscores our unwavering commitment to delivering meaningful, high-quality community music programmes in a focused, effective manner.

Looking ahead, we have developed an ambitious and proactive Business Plan for 2025-2030. Central to this new strategic direction is the diversification of income streams. We are committed to building our earned income through increased Mental Health First Aid training partnerships, bespoke commissions, and building stronger relationships with individual donors and corporate partners. This diversified approach will provide resilience, enabling us to sustainably fund our community initiatives, continue to innovate creatively, and effectively respond to the evolving needs of our communities.

Through the development of new strands of commissioned work, we will focus on creating replicable, tailored models of our Musical Beacons programme, building upon our extensive expertise in delivering specialised support to early years children and young parents/carers in safehouses, adoptive families through individual sessions, and children with SEND and their families.

We extend heartfelt gratitude to our London-based partners, communities, and supporters who have enriched our work over many years. As we enter this next chapter with optimism and determination, we remain dedicated to creating vibrant, inclusive musical experiences that foster community wellbeing and cohesion across Sussex.

Financial Review

The financial statements attached detail the financial position of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2025.

Incoming resources for the year totalled £326,216 of which £266,184 were for restricted purposes. Outgoing resources for the year were £320,080 of which £263,801 were attributable to restricted funds. Restricted funds carried forward at the year end totalled £60,381 and unrestricted funds totalled £131,552. £30,000 grant funding from Postcode Community Trust has been designated by the Trustees to support programme and core operating costs during the 2025-26 financial year and will not be held for reserves.

Our earned income was £18,066 representing approximately 5.5% of our total income through sales, commissions, coaching, consultancy and Mental Health First Aid training.

We are grateful for the ongoing support we have received from a wide variety of funders including The National Foundation for Youth Music, Arts Council England, Garfield Weston Foundation, The National Lottery Community Fund, London Community Foundation, Sussex Community Foundation, Arts Award Access Fund, The Rayne Foundation, Children in Need, The Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust, City Bridge Foundation, Waltham Forest Music Education Hub, Heads On VCSE Collaborative,

The Shared Prosperity Fund through Hastings Borough Council, Postcode Community Trust, The Chalk Cliff Trust, The Foyle Foundation, Hastings & St Leonards Foreshore Charitable Trust, The Isabel Blackman Foundation & The Magdalen & Lasher Charity.

We would like to extend our thanks to all our funders and individual donors for their generous support of the charity's work in the 2024-25 financial year.

Reserves Policy

The trustees have considered the Soundcastle's need for reserves with reference to the level of risk it faces. They have concluded that it is important for the charity to always hold in financial reserves, as a minimum, the funds that would be required to ensure an ordered and proper closure of Soundcastle Ltd.

This level of reserves will fund:

- Any redundancy payments due to employees
- Accountancy and other professional costs
- Costs relating to the termination of contracts including office rental and equipment hire
- A contingency sum held for outstanding liabilities

This initial reserves position assumes that no immediate withdrawal of funding will occur. To mitigate the risks arising in the event of an immediate loss of funds, the trustees have established a policy whereby the charity holds unrestricted reserves at a level equivalent to three to six months' running costs. The trustees consider that this level of reserves should be maintained on an ongoing basis in order to ensure the future financial resilience of the charity.

As per the enclosed accounts, expenditure on running costs in 2024-25 was £320,080 and therefore the target level of reserves is between £80,020 and £160,040 in general funds.

On 31st March 2025 unrestricted reserves totalled £101,552, therefore the trustees are satisfied that the charity is maintaining sufficient reserves in line with the reserves policy.

Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements

The trustees (who are also directors of Soundcastle Ltd for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice 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 charity will continue in operation

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable 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 charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the trustees on 18th July 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Sophie Bell
CHAIR of the BOARD of TRUSTEES

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Soundcastle Ltd for the year ended 31 March 2025

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 27 to 41.

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

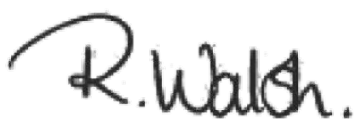
Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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.

Manningtons Chartered Accountants
39 High Street
Battle
East Sussex
TN33 0EE




Rowena T K Walsh (FCCA)

Date: 12th August 2025

Statement of Financial Activities for the Financial Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 31 March 2025	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds to 31 March 2024
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	2	2,121	-	2,121	2,501	-	2,501
Charitable activities	2	56,816	266,184	323,000	87,351	259,633	346,983
Interest Received	2	1,096	-	1,096	560	-	560
Total		60,033	266,184	326,216	90,412	259,633	350,044
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds		60		60	310	-	310
Charitable activities	3	56,218	263,801	320,019	30,635	251,254	281,889
Total		56,279	263,801	320,080	30,945	251,254	282,199
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers							
		3,754	2,383	6,137	59,467	8,379	67,845
Transfer between funds							
		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds							
		3,754	2,383	6,137	59,467	8,379	67,845
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		127,798	57,998	185,796	68,330	49,619	117,949
Total funds carried forward		131,552	60,381	191,934	127,798	57,998	185,796
The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.							
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.							

Balance Sheet as of 31st March 2025

	Notes	31 March 2025		31 March 2024
		£		£
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	10	319		410
Total fixed assets		319		410
Current assets				
Debtors	7	9,783		22,924
Cash at bank and in hand	9	186,740		169,325
Total current assets		196,523		192,249
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	4,909		6,863
Net current assets/(liabilities)		191,615		185,386
Total assets less current liabilities		191,933		185,796
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	10			
Total net assets / (liabilities)		191,933		185,796
Funds of the Charity				
Restricted funds	11	60,381		57,998
Unrestricted funds	11	131,552		127,798
Total funds		191,933		185,796
For the year in question, the company was entitled to exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.				
Directors' responsibilities:				
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,				
The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.				
These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to the members of the company.				
The notes on pages 29 to 41 form an integral part of the financial statements.				
Approved by the trustees on 18th July 2025 and signed on their behalf by:				
				
Sophie Bell				

Note 1: Accounting Policies

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

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), second edition - October 2019 (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2016.

The charity has applied the exemption available to small charities in the Charities SORP (FRS 102) and does not include a Statement of Cash Flows in these Financial Statements.

Soundcastle Ltd 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 notes.

b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

c) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be reliably measured.

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

Donations are recognised when the charity receives the funds.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known and the receipt is expected. If the amount is not known the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

d) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the 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 funds which the donor has specified are solely to be used for particular activities.

e) 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.

f) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be recognised reliably.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT.

g) Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs. Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

h) Tangible Fixed Assets

Individual assets costing £550 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated evenly over their estimated useful economic lives, as follows:

Plant and machinery	15% reducing balance
Computer equipment	25% reducing balance

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measure at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

The gain or less arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the assets, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

i) Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss(if any).

j) Debtors

Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

k) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provision re normally recognised at their settle met amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

l) Corporation Tax

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 objects.

m) Key estimates and accounting judgements

In applying the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions in determining the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities. The Trustees' judgements, estimates and assumptions are based on the best and most reliable evidence available at the time when the decisions are made, and are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be applicable. Due to the inherent subjectivity involved in making such judgements, estimates and assumptions, the actual results and outcomes may differ.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to the accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised, if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of revision and future periods, if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Note 2: Analysis of income

	2025				2024	
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds		Total funds	
	£	£	£			
Donations and legacies:						
Donations and gifts	2,121	-	2,121		2,501	
Total	2,121	-	2,121		2,501	
Interest Received						
Bank Interest Received	1,096		1,096		560	
					-	
Total	1,096	-	1,096		560	
Charitable activities:						
Grants	38,750	266,184	304,934		309,633	
Earned Income	18,066	-	18,066		37,351	
Total	56,816	266,184	323,000		346,983	
Total income	60,033	266,184	326,216		350,044	
During the period Soundcastle received the following amounts from Government grants:						
		£				
Arts Council England		61,385				
Hastings Borough Council		23,750				
Hastings Borough Council Foreshore						
Charitable Trust		5,400				
		85,135				
During the period Soundcastle received the following amounts as donations:						
		£				
		-				

Note 3: Analysis of expenditure

	2025		2024
	£		£
Direct project costs	29,092		35,174
Depreciation	91		119
Salaries and wages	267,324		225,562
Travel	165		1,632
Staff training	1,978		-
Insurance	949		927
Rent	10,343		9,911
Other expenses	3,166		2,047
	313,108		275,371
Share of support costs (see note 4)	3,350		3,828
Share of governance costs (see note 5)	3,622		2,998
	320,080		282,197
Analysis by fund			
Unrestricted funds	56,279		30,945
Restricted funds	263,801		251,254
	320,080		282,199

Note 4: Governance and Other Support Costs

The total support costs and overheads attributable to charitable activity is apportioned as shown below:

		2025	2024
	Support Costs	Total	Total
	£	£	£
Website	-	-	140
Subscriptions	3,064	3,064	2,838
Advertising and Marketing	286	286	112
Postage and stationery	-	-	738
	3,350	3,350	3,828

	31 March 2025		31 March 2024
	£		
Governance Costs			
Independent Examination	1,200		1,200
Accountancy Fees	1,800		1,200
Payroll Fees	622		598
	3,622		2,998

Note 5: Details of certain items of expenditure

	17 July 1905		2024
	£		£
Independent examiner's fees	1,200		1,200
Other accountancy fees	2,422		1,798
Total	3,622		2,998

Note 6: Employees

	2025	2024
	£	£
Salaries and wages	247,380	216,874
Social security costs	11,249	8,141
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	8,695	7,619
Other	-	0
Total staff costs	267,325	232,633

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000

8.2 Average head count in the year

	2025	2024
	16	15
Total	16	15

8.3 Key Management Personnel

The remuneration of the key management personnel is:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Salaries and wages	104,545	101,008
Social security costs	9,406	8,709
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	4,182	4,041
Total staff costs	118,133	113,758

No employee received remuneration over £60,000.

Note 7: Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year		
	31 March 2025	31 March 2024
	£	£
Accrued income	600	16,730
Accrued Interest	-	560
Salaries Payable		-
Gift Aid Debtor	178	226
Accounts Receivable	9,005	5,408
Total	9,783	22,924

Note 8: Creditors & Accruals

Analysis of creditors: falling due within one year		
	31 March 2025	31 March 2024
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	-	1,194
Accounts Payable	1,750	2,559
PAYE Payable	3,158	1,599
Earnings Orders Payable	-	154
Other creditors	-	1,356
Total	4,909	6,863

Deferred income comprises of income received by the Trust in 2024 for activities taking place in 2025.

	£	
Balance at 31 March 2024	-	
Amounts released to income earned from charitable activities	-	
Amount deferred in period	-	
Balance at 31 March 2025	-	

Note 9: Cash at bank and in hand

	31 March 2025		31 March 2024
	£		£
The Co-operative Bank Current Account	23,589		11,734
PayPal	141		2,591
Metrobank Current Account	68,001		65,001
The Co-operative Bank Savings Account	91,656		90,000
Wise	3,354		-
Total	186,740		169,325

Note 10: Tangible Fixed Assets

	Plant and machinery	Computer Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2024	868	3,922	4,790
Additions	-	-	-
At 31 March 2025	868	3,922	4,790
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2024	755	3,624	4,380
Charge for the year	17	74	91
At 31 March 2025	772	3,698	4,471
Net book value at 1 April 2024	113	298	410
Net book value at 31 March 2025	96	224	319

Note 11: Charity funds

	Balance at 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfer between funds	Balance at 31 March 2025
	£	£	£		£
<i>Restricted Funds</i>					
National Foundation for Youth Music	8,405	70,800	(69,894)	-	9,311
Arts Council England	-	61,385	(32,748)	-	28,637
The National Lottery Community Fund	20,000	-	(19,266)	-	734
London Community Foundation	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-
Sussex Community Foundation	-	7,789	(5,193)	-	2,596
Arts Award Access Fund	740	-	(10)	-	730
The Rayne Foundation	5,267	-	(5,267)	-	-
Children in Need	104	10,000	(10,104)	-	-
The Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust	-	4,000	(3,000)	-	1,000
City Bridge Foundation	5,317	42,460	(42,404)	-	5,373
Heads On	10,000	-	(10,000)	-	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	15,000	(10,000)	-	5,000.00
The Foyle Foundation	-	20,000	(20,000)	-	-
The Isabel Blackman Foundation	-	3,000	-	-	3,000.00
The Magdalen and Lasher Charity	-	2,000	-	-	2,000.00
Hastings Borough Council/Shared Prosperity Fund	3,165	23,750	(26,915)	-	-
Foreshore Charitable Trust	-	6,000	(4,000)	-	2,000
	57,998	266,184	(263,801)	-	60,381
<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>					
Postcode Community Trust	30,000	30,000	(30,000)	-	30,000
The Chalk Cliff Trust	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Waltham Forest Music Education Hub	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
General Funds	97,798	23,033	(19,279)	-	101,552
	127,798	60,033	(56,279)	-	131,552
Total Funds	185,796	326,217	(320,080)	-	191,933

2024 Comparatives:	Balance at 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfer between funds	Balance at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£		£
<i>Restricted Funds</i>					
National Foundation for Youth Music	2,164	87,600	(81,359)	-	8,405
Arts Council England	-	47,910	(47,910)	-	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	7,000	20,000	(7,000)	-	20,000
London Community Foundation	6,455	15,000	(16,455)	-	5,000
Sussex Community Foundation	7,000	2,000	(9,000)		-
Arts Award Access Fund	-	740	0	-	740
The Rayne Foundation	4,000	12,000	(10,733)	-	5,267
Postcode Society Trust	7,000	-	(7,000)	-	-
Children In Need	10,000	-	(9,896)	-	104
The Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust	3,000	-	(3,000)		-
The Souter Charitable Trust	3,000	-	(3,000)		-
City Bridge Foundation	-	30,653	(25,336)		5,317
Heads On	-	20,000	(10,000)		10,000
The Sir Bernard and Lady Schreier Foundation	-	2,000	(2,000)		-
Hastings Borough Council/Shared Prosperity Fund	-	18,750	(15,585)		3,165
London Borough of Waltham Forest - Adult Learning Fund	-	2,980	(2,980)		-
	49,619	259,633	(251,254)	-	57,998
<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>					
Postcode Community Trust	-	50,000	(20,000)	-	30,000
The Chalk Cliff Trust	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-
General Funds	63,330	40,412	(5,944)	-	97,798
	68,330	90,412	(30,944)	-	127,798
Total Funds	117,949	350,045	(282,198)	-	185,796
<i>Restricted Funds:</i>					
Funder	Description of Fund				
National Foundation for Youth Music	Multi year grant funding received in 2023/24 and 2024/25 financial years in support of the cross-regional Musical Beacons and Sparking Change programmes, and development of the Soundcastle Health and Wellbeing Agenda.				

Arts Council England	Grant funding received in 2023/24 and 2024/25 to support People's Music and Musical Beacons Broomgrove programme delivery.
The National Lottery Community Fund	Grant funding received in 2023/24 to support People's Music Sussex programme delivery.
London Community Foundation	Multi year grant received in 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial years for Musical Beacons London and People's Music London programme delivery.
Sussex Community Foundation	Grant funding received in 2023/24 and 2024/25 for the People's Music Sussex programme, and the continuation of essential services.
Arts Award Access Fund	Grant funding received in 2023/24 financial years for delivery of Arts Award qualifications through Musical Beacons Sussex.
The Rayne Foundation	Multi year grant supporting the People's Music Sussex programme, second and third instalments received in 2023/24 and 2024/25.
Children in Need	Multi year grant support Musical Beacons Sussex programme delivery, second and third instalments received in 2023/24 and 2024/25.
The Ernerst Kleinwort Charitable Trust	Grant funding received in 2024/25 financial year for People's Music Sussex programme delivery.
The Foreshore Trust	Grant funding received in 2024/25 financial year for Musical Beacons Broomgrove programme delivery.
City Bridge Foundation	Next instalments of multi year grant received in 2024/25 financial year for Musical Beacons London and People's Music London programme delivery.
Heads On Mental Health Collaborative VCSE Fund	Grant funding received in 2023/24 for People's Music Sussex programme delivery.
The Sir Bernard and Lady Schreier Foundation	Grant funding received in 2023/24 for People's Music Sussex programme delivery.
Hastings Borough Council / Shared Prosperity Fund	Grant funding received in 2023/24 and 2024/25 financial year for Musical Beacons Broomgrove programme delivery.
London Borough of Waltham Forest - Adult Learning Fund	Grant funding received in 2023/24 to support People's Music London programme delivery.
Garfield Weston Foundation	Grant funding received in 2024/25 to support People's Music programme delivery.
The Foyle Foundation	Grant funding received in 2024/25 to support People's Music programme delivery.
The Isabel Blackman Foundation	Grant funding received in 2024/25 for Musical Beacons Broomgrove programme delivery.
The Magdalen and Lasher Charity	Grant funding received in 2024/25 for Musical Beacons Broomgrove programme delivery.
<i>Unrestricted Funds:</i>	
Funder	Description of Fund
Postcode Community Trust	Grant funding received in 2023/24 and 2024/25 to support Soundcastle's charitable objectives and core operations.
The Chalk Cliff Trust	Grant funding received in 2024/25 financial year in support of the Musical Beacons Sussex programme.
London Borough of Waltham Forest	Donation received in 2024/25 financial year in support of the Musical Beacons London programme.

Note 12: Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
Fund balances at 31 March 2025 represented by:			
Tangible assets	319	-	319
Current assets/(liabilities)	131,233	60,381	191,614
	131,552	60,381	191,933

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
Fund balances at 31 March 2024 represented by:			
Tangible assets	410	-	410
Current assets/(liabilities)	127,388	57,998	185,386
	127,798	57,998	185,796

Note 13: Trustees remuneration and expenses

The trustees, nor any persons connected with them received no remuneration or benefits for the performance of their duties.

Akhila Krishnan paid Soundcastle a monthly fee of £200 for a desk space at the Soundcastle offices for the period April 2024 to March 2025.

Trustee Indemnity insurance was purchased on 31 March 2025.

Note 14: Related party transactions

During the period in question there were no related party transactions:

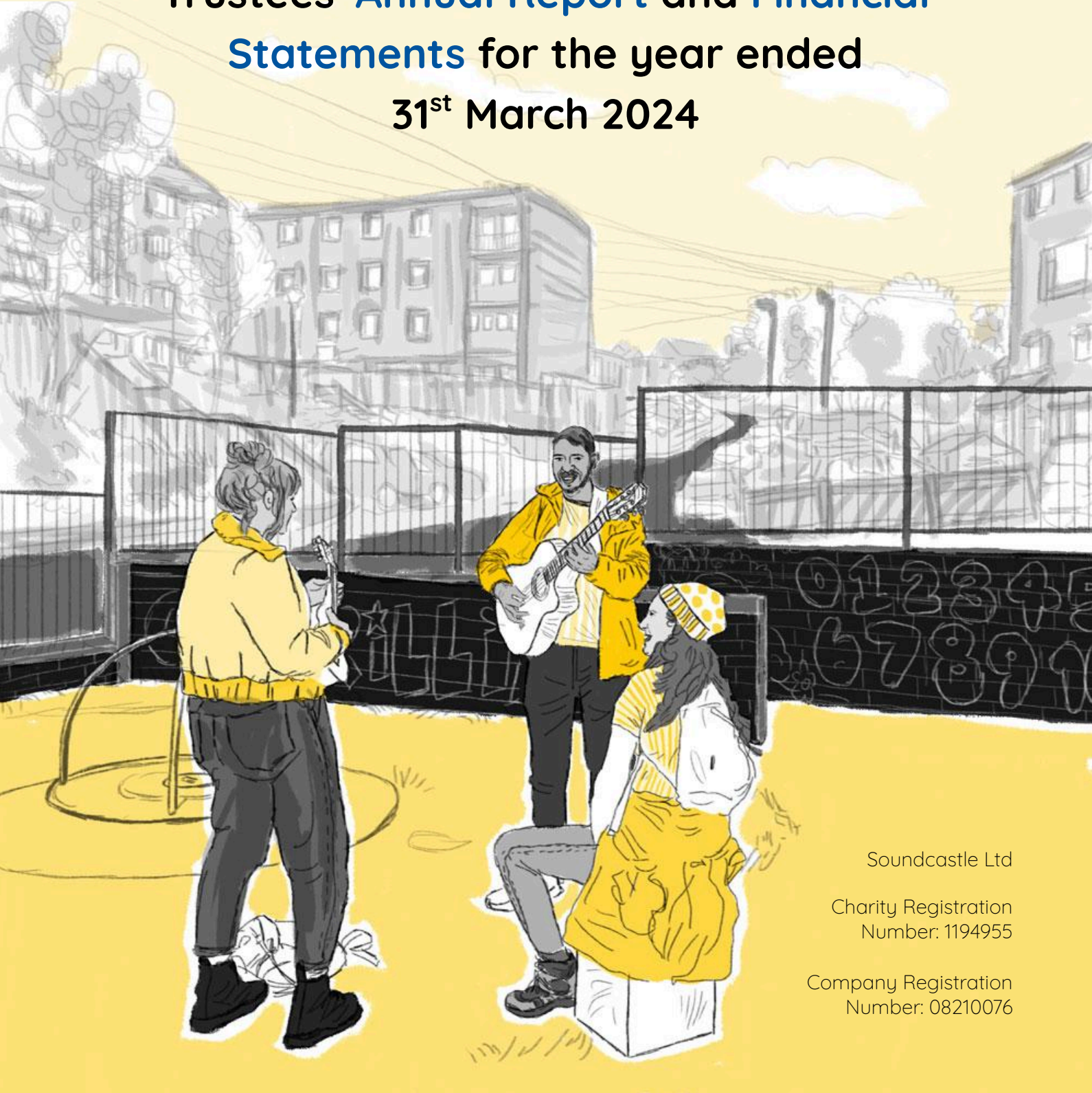
SOUNDCASTLE LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1194955

Accounts

SOUNDCASTLE

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2024



Soundcastle Ltd

Charity Registration
Number: 1194955

Company Registration
Number: 08210076

Contents

Administrative Information	1
Trustees Annual Report	2
Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements	17
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Soundcastle	18
Statement of Financial Activities for the Financial Year Ended 31 March 2024	19
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024	20
Notes to the accounts	21

Administrative Information

Trustees:	S Drake-Pullin (Co-Chair) L Becko-Vasiliadis (Co-Chair & Treasurer), resigned 27th Apr 2023 A Krishnan C Rubin, resigned 24th Sep 2024 R Jarratt H Collisson A Bhonagiri S Bell, appointed 3rd May 2024 B Reid, appointed 3rd May 2024
Charity Address:	Unit 1, 2nd Floor, Rock House 49 - 51 Cambridge Road Hastings East Sussex TN34 1DT
Bankers:	The Co-operative Bank p.l.c. P.O Box 101 1 Balloon Street Manchester M60 4EP Metro Bank p.l.c. One Southampton Row London WC1B 5HA
Accountant and Independent Examiner:	Manningtons 39 High Street, Battle, East Sussex TN33 0EE

2023-24

Trustees Annual Report

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024. Included within the trustees' report is the directors report as required by company law.

The reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Structure, Governance and Management

Soundcastle Ltd is a registered charity and a Company Limited by Guarantee with the Charity Registration Number 1194955. The governing document of Soundcastle Ltd is a memorandum and articles of association dated 16th March 2021.

The Trustees, who are also directors under company law, are appointed by ordinary resolution passed at a general meeting. One third of the members of the Trustees must retire by rotation but may stand for re-election. Trustees met every three months during the financial year in question.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31st March 2024 was five.

Objectives and Activities for the Public Benefit

Soundcastle is an award-winning, women-led charity, based in Hastings, East Sussex and working across London and South East England. We support the mental health of people facing social inequality, alongside building sector resilience in the arts nationally.

The objects of the charity are specifically restricted to the following:

- a. To advance education, including by (but not limited to) delivering programmes relating to the arts.
- b. To provide or assist in the provision of facilities, opportunities and activities relating to the arts in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such opportunities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity, disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life.
- c. To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society.

For the purpose of this clause 'socially excluded' means being excluded from society, or part of society, as a result of being a member of a socially and economically deprived community. The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and setting the grant making policy for the period.

We run transformational, long-term music programmes which increase confidence, reduce isolation and enhance wellbeing. We work within communities, widening access and increasing opportunities for those who are under-served by traditional publicly funded arts and culture.

Our wider impact comes through community music sector development. We are a leading voice in community music in the UK and advocate for better mental health awareness; delivering Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training and creative consultancy to cultural and community organisations nationally. Our highly successful MHFA training programme attracted attendees from local arts, voluntary, care, charity, and education sectors.

Our long-term music programmes - Musical Beacons and People's Music - are embedded in communities in Sussex and East London, providing deep and sustained creative engagement and mental health support for targeted groups.

All Soundcastle programmes are delivered in collaboration with community partners, combining our creative expertise with their knowledge of each community. This ensures we identify gaps in provision and design our programmes to meet this need, in areas of low cultural engagement.

The people that Soundcastle support are all directly impacted upon by reduced NHS services and the Cost of Living Crisis. The majority of our attendees experience socioeconomic disadvantage and are on the front line of rising costs. We provide targeted support for:

- Families with disabled and neurodivergent children. Many are on the autism spectrum and face challenges including anxiety, social/emotional problems, communication and confidence.
- Families with early years children facing barriers including socioeconomic deprivation, social exclusion, mental ill health, English as an additional language, living in temporary accommodation, and not in education, employment or training.
- Young parents and early years children living in supported housing, who face complex challenges as a result of domestic abuse, substance misuse or mental ill health.
- Adults on a journey of mental health recovery, experiencing daily challenges including anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder, substance abuse/addiction, self-harming, loneliness, low self-esteem and schizophrenia.
- Emerging music leaders facing barriers including socio-economic disadvantage, gender discrimination, LGBTQIA+ discrimination, disability discrimination, racism.

Our Approach

Everyone is creative. This belief is at the centre of our methodology for engaging with communities. We help people to find their creative spark through transformational creative programmes.

We use creative play as a tool to support connection. We create open, inclusive spaces that promote fun, exploration and imagination. We hear laughter, we see connection, we listen as people find their voices.

We use creative exploration to celebrate and expand the imagination, confidence and creative worlds of community members. Self-belief comes from close, positive interaction and we help people to play and sing together. Whilst each project is individual and unique, our focus is always on a collaborative approach to creativity.

Key Stats - Reach and Impact

- 3,334 total session attendances
- 4,090 hours of musical interaction between individual community members and facilitators

Worked directly with 907 community members:

- 485 Children and Young People (MB)
- 333 Parents and Carers (MB)
- 89 adults of a journey of mental health recovery (PM)

Delivered 348 creative sessions:

- 225 inclusive family creative play and music-making sessions (63 sessions within supported housing settings, 100 group sessions in local community settings, 53 1-2-1 sessions, 7 musical walkabouts, 2 community family fun days)
- 130 music for mental health recovery sessions
- Worked in partnership with 27 organisations
- Delivered community sessions in 19 locations
- 3 inclusive performances celebrating the voices of community members with a mental health diagnosis - combined live audience of 130 people
- 2 digital launches of new music created by community members with lived experience of mental ill health - combined digital audience of 465 people

Sector Development:

- 44 Sparking Change training and mentoring sessions delivered for 7 emerging music leaders
- 2 research partnerships - Birmingham City University and the University of Brighton
- 62 people trained in Mental Health First Aid
- 1 Youth Voice consultancy project with 28 children and young people (12-18)
- 135 arts and community practitioners supported through skills development and training sessions (University of Aberdeen, Royal College of Music, Walthamstow Toy Library)



Core Activities



Musical Beacons is our programme for families facing social inequality. We provide regular music sessions in community spaces, where families can learn, create and explore music together in a safe and supported environment. In 2023-24 we delivered 225 Musical Beacons sessions across London and Sussex, engaging 485 children and young people (0-11) and 333 parents and caregivers.

This included:

- 63 sessions within supported housing settings
- 100 group sessions in local community settings
- 53 1-2-1 sessions with early years disabled children
- 2 community family fun days
- 7 musical walkabouts

The specific need for each programme has been established through our co-production process. We co-create bespoke programmes with families to provide the best access and support they need.

In London, families with disabled children told us they faced multiple barriers to accessing provision in their community, including socioeconomic factors. They felt that activities in general weren't inclusive. Many families did not access any activities outside school and were extremely isolated. We now work with families with disabled children in multiple community spaces, through individual and group family sessions. We have built a new partnership with the Newham SEND hub and Altmore Children's Centre in Newham who host 1 to 1 sessions and refer families into the programme. We have also undertaken 2 pilot group sessions with Newham Music, the borough music education hub with further pilot sessions planned with Newham Music and Waltham Forest Music Service in summer 2024. These are the first steps towards building an inclusive pathway into local music provision that begins in early childhood.

Alongside this, we received a commission from the Lloyd Park Children's Charity to work with families with disabled and neurodivergent early years children in Grow Wild, an outdoor forest play space in Waltham Forest. This programme called 'Musical Climbers and Creators' will run to July 2024.

In Sussex, we work with young parents who have faced trauma due to complex challenges including homelessness, social isolation & fleeing violent, abusive relationships. They have had little access to support and feel isolated from local community activities. Throughout 2023-24, we ran sessions within three safehouses, supporting early years children, young parents and project workers. The safehouses are now looking for us to support their residents in engaging with external events in their local communities. In the St Leonards safehouse one of the Assistant Project Workers has now begun to take a steer on regular weekly music sessions for residents, which is opening up further legacy possibilities to explore in terms of engagement beyond Soundcastle.

Between September 2023 - March 2024, we delivered a pilot arts and creativity programme for early years children in Broomgrove, an area with high levels of deprivation and extremely low cultural

engagement within Hastings. The pilot has been delivered in partnership with Active Hastings and In2Play, funded by Hastings Borough Council through the Shared Prosperity Fund.

With a high level of local families previously not engaging in creative activities, we work in a deep and embedded way, ensuring we build trust by being present in the community. Through regular creative sessions at the Broomgrove Community Centre, and attendance at local community spaces including In2Play Outdoor Preschool, we are bringing the community together through conversation, creative play and collaboration.



People's Music (PM) celebrates the creativity, resilience and voice of people with a mental health diagnosis. We use collaborative music-making to strengthen mental health recovery, reduce social isolation and bring our community together through inspiring creative experiences.

The PM programme has developed in Adur, West Sussex through a process of consultation and co-production with over 200 adults with lived experience of mental ill health. We continue to work closely with sector partners Sussex Recovery College, West Sussex Mind, NHS Sussex Partnership and Going Local Social Prescribing.

Our London team consulted with a variety of stakeholders at local community spaces throughout the year to establish a new branch of the PM programme. This resulted in pilot sessions throughout 2023-24, engaging 25 adults in a programme of mental health aware music making for adults over 50 with lived experience of mental ill health (November - December 2023).

In 2023-24, we have engaged 89 community members on a journey of mental health recovery as well as performing and sharing a message about positive mental health to a combined audience of 595 members of the public. We co-produced four music for mental health recovery courses:

- Singing for Wellbeing (Adur)
- Ukulele Crew (Adur)
- New Rhythms (Adur)
- Join the Band (Chingford)

We have continued to co-produce the People's Music Collective - our flagship band that writes, records and performs their own brand new music.

The People's Music Collective were delighted to be invited to perform at the Walk the Chalk Festival at Seaford Head Nature Reserve. It was the band's first ever festival performance to a large public crowd and they were able to show resilience, teamwork and confidence as they embraced this opportunity to send out a positive message about mental health.

In 2024, we are building a new partnership with the London Philharmonic Orchestra (LPO) supporting the developing skills and ambition of PMC community members, with LPO players taking part in rehearsals and workshops leading up to the launch of their new EP in the Worthing Festival.

Programme Locations

MUSICAL BEACONS

- Newhaven
- Eastbourne
- Turner House, St Leonards
- Broomgrove Community Centre
- In2Play Outdoor Preschool
- Walk the Chalk Festival
- Mini Playhouse, Hastings
- Paradox Centre, Chingford Hall
- Epicentre in Cathall, Leytonstone
- Leytonstone Toy Library
- Altmore Children's Centre, East Ham
- Grow Wild, Lloyd Park Centre
- Artesian Gardens Playground on the Cathall Estate, Leytonstone

PEOPLE'S MUSIC

- Shoreham Centre
- Audio Active Recording Studios
- Walk the Chalk Festival
- Paradox Centre, Chingford, Waltham Forest
- Age UK, Chingford, Waltham Forest
- West Sussex Mind

Partnerships

All Soundcastle programmes are co-created in partnership with communities. We are delighted to have worked with a wide range of strategic partners throughout 2023-24, including:

- Active Hastings
- AGE UK
- Audio Active
- Create Music
- CREST Waltham Forest
- East Hastings Family Hub
- East Sussex Young Parents Service
- Going Local Social Prescribing
- Hastings Borough Council
- In2Play Outdoor Preschool
- Leytonstone Toy Library
- London Borough of Waltham Forest
- London Philharmonic Orchestra
- Newham Music
- Newham SEND Hub
- NHS Sussex Partnership
- Peabody Housing Association
- Public Health Waltham Forest
- Salvation Army Housing Association
- Southern Housing
- Spun Glass Theatre
- Sussex Recovery College
- The Lloyd Park Children's Charity
- Waltham Forest Music Education Hub
- Waltham Forest Parents Forum
- Walthamstow Toy Library
- West Sussex Mind

Impact

We monitor our impact using a streamlined evaluation framework based on our three core outcomes: increased confidence, reduced social isolation and enhanced wellbeing. We conduct evaluation processes involving all voices – community members, partners, facilitators, audiences and Soundcastle programme leads.

Our 2023-24 monitoring and evaluation demonstrates that we are consistently meeting all of our intended outcomes. **Data based on 128 feedback survey responses received in 2023-24*

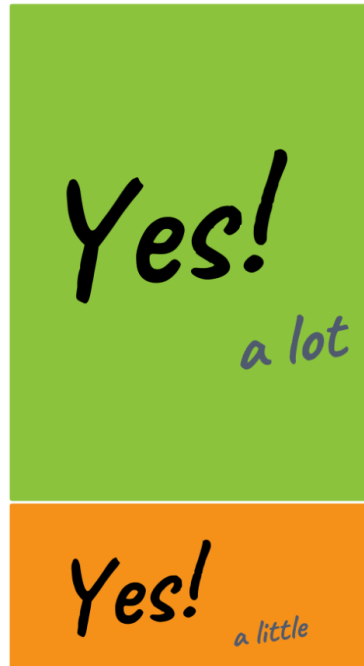


Being part of a Soundcastle music project has:

helped me improve my **confidence**

helped me feel **more connected** to others

improved my **wellbeing**



Increased Confidence

99.2% of respondents reported feeling an increase in confidence.

"My daughters were more confident to speak and play with other kids and people"

"I'm starting to believe in myself with support from others in the group"

"I don't have to worry about making mistakes - I can do it! And I am valued."

"I still find it astonishing that since joining PMC I have gone from having a panic attack at the thought of performing to being excited about and really enjoying sharing our music."

"My son has become so much more confident. He engages with the other children and has really started sharing."

Reduced Social Isolation

100% of respondents reported feeling an increase in connectedness to their community.

"I feel very at home within the Soundcastle music family and have gained new friends."

*"I made friends.
I want to come back.
There are nice people out there"*

"When I play with others I feel like I'm in a big family that really supports each other."

Enhanced Wellbeing

99.2% of respondents reported feeling enhanced wellbeing.

"It's been a lifeline. I felt so low last winter that I could hardly raise my head but now I feel like I've come a long way. I made it to every session and the music makes me feel like myself."

"It's offered me respite from what's going on inside my head and life. It's encouraged me to use music more outside of the course for my wellbeing."

"I get so much from being a part of this. It's not just a job, doing the music helps MY wellbeing too! I love being a part of it."

2023-24 community member EDI monitoring:

- 71% of survey respondents identified as female
- 51% identified as having a mental health condition
- 37% identified as disabled, 25% identified as from global majority backgrounds
- 23% identified as neurodivergent
- 5% identified as LGBTQ+

Case Studies

PEOPLE'S MUSIC: Larissa* lives with bipolar, has high social anxiety and low confidence. She had become extremely socially isolated following the pandemic.

Initially attending New Rhythms, as her confidence increased she progressed to People's Music Collective and attends weekly. She formed new friendships and started socialising outside of the sessions. After a sustained period of regular attendance, her confidence increased sufficiently to apply for a job and she is now a carer for 2 young autistic people. Significantly, she negotiated working days so that she would always have Tuesdays free to attend People's Music Collective which she says 'keep me well enough to function in my daily life and to hold down this job.'

MUSICAL BEACONS: Young parent, Kelly* and her child Kobi*, attended from when he was a newborn to the age of 5 months.

In Kelly's first session, her body language was very standoffish. She obviously didn't want to be there (and voiced as such), felt embarrassed and didn't want to get involved. "I didn't see the point in doing music" (Kelly). "Kelly sat there in that first session, whispering things to another young parent. She didn't want to make eye contact. She didn't know us or trust us." (Soundcastle Facilitator). In that first session, Kelly didn't know how to play or interact with Kobi and refused to engage.

A couple of weeks later, Kelly built the confidence to start helping Kobi. The first step was putting a little bell in Kobi's hand, helping him to shake it and also shaking another instrument herself. Then after around four sessions, very suddenly, A started singing along for the first time. She joined in and sang directly to Kobi "You are my sunshine". Kobi was smiling at her and interacting. "It was amazing to see Kelly singing directly to her baby, it was such a special interaction moment" (Soundcastle Facilitator).

Kelly told the facilitators that they've been singing Baby Beluga, another song, together outside of sessions. "It's his favourite one - it always makes him smile." (Kelly). Kelly started to realise that music was something Kobi enjoyed and a way they could feel close to each other. It was a sure way to get him smiling. From then on, A started regularly taking part in the actions and movement aspects of the sessions. She engaged Kobi and called his name, looking into his eyes. "She always comes to sessions every week... She is becoming an extremely attentive and communicative Mum, cooing, singing, and praising." (Partner Representative, ESYPS).

Sector Development

Consultancy & Training

Throughout 2023-24, Soundcastle has continued to deliver training and consultancy in support of the community arts sector. By delivering consultancy, we continue to expand our sector's understanding of high-quality co-production in community practice.

We have continued our training relationship with the Royal College of Music, providing a bi-yearly creative music class for all second year undergraduate students which introduces the principles of inclusive creative practice. We presented our work and theory of practice at the University of Aberdeen in November 2023.

We have continued to develop our Mental Health First Aid training offer in a mission to improve wellbeing, resilience and understanding of mental health across the sector. We have delivered MHFA training for organisations including Hastings Museum and Arts Gallery, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, The Hammond and Britten Pears Arts.

We have since been commissioned to create a youth manifesto with Aldeburgh Young Musicians, the training programme for young musicians (18 - 25) within Britten Pears Arts. This will conclude in October 2024.

Sparking Change

Between September 23 - March 24, we delivered a 6 month Sparking Change programme for emerging music leaders facing barriers in the sector. This involved:

- Individual mentoring with two Soundcastle team members
- Creative skills sessions in music facilitation
- Co-working sessions with peers and support from the Soundcastle team
- Two-part training series about the Power of Partnerships
- A qualification in Mental Health Awareness
- An Introduction to Fundraising session
- Signposting to further opportunities for paid work
- Traineeship, observation and volunteering opportunities within Soundcastle

100% of Sparking Change attendees reported increased confidence in their professional lives, improved connections with people across the community arts sector and feelings of enhanced wellbeing by the end of the programme.

Increased Confidence:

"Being part of such a supportive group where everyone was so open and ready to share their views and opinions gave me the confidence to do the same."
Sparking Change Trainee

Reduced Social Isolation:

"It has given me the chance to connect with young people in the industry as well as giving me advice on how to reach out to new organisations within the sector."
Sparking Change Trainee

Enhanced Wellbeing:

"I always left the sessions with a smile on my face! (So I think on reflection. It was nice to have the sessions in the morning then I felt energised and ready for the rest of my day!)"
Sparking Change Trainee

Research

We are in the process of building a new research partnership with Birmingham City University (BCU) as part of our current Youth Music fund. The Musical Beacons facilitation team will be undertaking training to embark on a research project in Autumn 2024. This will explore creative agency within Musical Beacons sessions in different spaces. The teams will be mentored by academics throughout the process, culminating in a public facing report and presentation.

We have continued to develop our research relationship with the University of Brighton's MA in Community Psychology programme. In March 2024, we welcomed two researchers with a focus on Social Research Practice, Julia Gonzalez and Grace Cruse, to the People's Music programme in Shoreham. This resulted in a published report in May 2024 which presented findings on how collaborative composition and creative decision-making can impact mental health recovery. The University of Brighton have indicated that they would like the research partnership to continue into the next academic year.

In February 2023 Ryan Humphrey submitted his PhD which included research into the People's Music Collective alongside interviews with Soundcastle directors exploring the values of ownership, transformation and ownership.

Internal Development

Wellbeing Agenda

In the past 12 months we have built on the findings from our internal wellbeing consultation and are proud to have:

- Formalised and published a Soundcastle Mental Health and Wellbeing Policy. This policy consists of five key sections; Policy Summary & Introduction, Terminology and Definitions, Aims, Policy objectives and Actions, Review.
- Introduced compulsory termly supervision for all staff who manage others and work directly in community contexts. This is a vital space in which people process the challenges that they experience, both working with vulnerable communities and in creating the healthiest relationships with peers.
- Moved our freelance staff team onto PAYE so that we can offer better support in terms of paid leave/ parental leave/ working conditions/ pensions and consistency of working pattern.
- Formalised line management/ review structures based on wellbeing. As a peer-led organisation we have always placed equal value on all voices in decision making, however by formalising this model we are able to better meet the needs of our team and centre their voices.
- Created a Wellness Action Plan that each team member completes confidentially and uses to influence their line management reviews and team meetings. This is helping us to create a highly tailored environment that meets the personal needs of each member of staff.
- Formed a training partnership with three other brilliant community music organisations so our teams can train together and share learning. This shared approach enables us to provide more training and commission sessions that the teams feel would be most valuable for their work.
- Recruited a board member with professional mental health experience, to help us further embed mental health awareness at the heart of Soundcastle.

In 2023-24, 100% of Soundcastle team members who disclosed poor mental health saw their wellbeing at work improve.

Advisory panel

The Soundcastle Advisory Panel has met twice during 2023-24; in July and January. The group is made up of representatives from across Soundcastle's programmes and community including partners/ trustees/ community members/ team members and critical friends. In July the main theme of the conversation was around Wellbeing at Work, with the panel supporting and challenging Soundcastle's initial wellbeing consultation explorations and findings. In January the focus was around how to champion and advocate for Soundcastle's co-production process, during a challenging fundraising climate. The panel continues to grow and diversify and aims to meet three times in 24-25. It forms a critical part of Soundcastle's decision making process and a hugely valuable resource in steering our thinking and development.

Training

Over 23/24 the whole Soundcastle staff met for 2 cross regional development days exploring part-time working, programme developments and team connection.

The facilitators took part in further internal training sessions on co-design and co-creation with early years children, reflective practice, whole group leadership and wider community engagement. One facilitator completed Makaton, level 1 and is using this to refresh our inclusive signing within our Musical Beacons sessions.

We began a new training partnership with New Note, Wishing Well and Brighton Music for Connection. This allows our facilitators to practise with larger groups and explore ideas with a wider pool. Soundcastle facilitators led the initial meeting on large group leadership skills. This was followed by a full day of trauma-informed practice in January 2024.

All members of staff working in community settings and those managing others now have compulsory termly supervisions with the Orange Collective. This is a proactive action to support our team as they process the complex challenges we face when delivering our programmes and supporting collegiate mental health in a constructive way.

Governance

There have been some changes to our Trustee Board, with one resignation and three new trustees recruited. Lawrence Becko stepped down in Summer 2023 and Soundcastle would like to thank him for his wonderful contribution to the charity as one of our first trustees. His expertise in organisational development supported our early steps as a charity and his support in developing a resilient and creative board has been hugely appreciated.

In Summer 2023 Aditi Bhonagiri joined Soundcastle's board of trustees, bringing a wealth of experience in mental health. Sophie Bell and Blair Reid joined us in Spring 2024, bringing specialisms in law and finance respectively.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

We value high levels of representation across the charity. In 2023-24, 86% of our staff team and board identify as female, 43% identify as primary (or equal) carer of a child or children under 18, 29% identify as from global majority backgrounds, 24% identify as disabled, 19% identify as LGBTQ+, 10% identify as neurodivergent. 100% of our staff team have lived experience of mental health challenges.

We have continued to develop our approach to diversity and inclusion and have made some significant developments in terms of our staffing and practice. These include:

- Recruiting a board member with lived experience of mental ill health to the Soundcastle trustee board
- Further recruitment of four voices from across Soundcastle's work as part of the Soundcastle Advisory Panel
- Targeted recruitment for our Sparking Change programme, bringing together a diverse cohort of young people who have faced barriers to accessing training and development opportunities. Following this, the recruitment of two of these Sparking Change attendees as Soundcastle trainees, providing a 6-month mentoring and delivery pathway
- Developing a new inclusive Musical Beacons family stay-and-play programme in Broomgrove, Hastings, supporting families who are in an area in the top 10% in the Index of Multiple Deprivation. This programme has been awarded continuation funding from Hastings Council, due to its highly successful engagement with vulnerable residents who have previously not engaged with community services
- The launch of a new series of one-to-one and group sessions for families with Disabled and/or Neurodivergent early years children in Waltham Forest and Newham
- Engagement of the Orange Collective as an external supervision partner who use inclusive supervision methods such as visual art processes to support the wellbeing of our diverse staff team. These are confidential sessions in which the supervisors gather themes and feed them back to a leadership team member, who then embeds change organisationally to meet staff needs.
- Ongoing conversations with music hubs around inclusive progression routes for disabled children age 0-6.
- Further training in inclusive communication methods - one team member trained in Makaton and is now teaching other team members some basic tools to embed and creating a pack of key signs for Soundcastle programmes.

Digital Reach (2023 - 2024)

YouTube views: 70,016

Facebook Reach: 22,438

Instagram Reach: 4,700

Total Facebook followers: 989 (+49)

Total Instagram followers: 839 (+141)

Total LinkedIn followers: 376

Total X followers: 1,941

Total Youtube subscribers: 477 (+223)

SoundCloud: 630

Future Plans (2024-25)

Programme Development

Musical Beacons will move into a research phase in Autumn 2024. Soundcastle facilitators will gather additional data from the London 1 to 1's, the Sussex safe houses and Broomgrove in Hastings to co-produce a report on creative agency.

In London, Musical Beacons will continue to support communities in Chingford and Cathall while in Hastings, Broomgrove delivery has been secured until December 2024. Our partnership with East Sussex Young Parents Service is ongoing in the Eastbourne and Newhaven safehouses and we continue to offer signposting to progression routes for the young parents involved.

People's Music Sussex will provide a rotation of New Rhythms, the Ukulele Crew and Singing for Wellbeing courses in partnership with Sussex Recovery College in Shoreham. The People's Music Collective will continue on a weekly basis.

In London, People's Music 'Join the Band' will move into a development phase in Summer 2024 with Age UK. We are looking to settle into termly delivery providing a creative musical space for adults over 50 who wish to use music to support their mental health.

Training and Consultancy

We will continue to build our sector presence as advocates and consultants for mental health in the arts alongside our training offer. We will present our approach to mental health and wellbeing at the Music Mark conference and a Sound Connections event in Autumn 2024. We are currently building a specific training website and looking into further conferences and networking events to attend in 2024/25.

Internal Skills Development

We will continue to foster leadership skills across the whole staff team to enhance our dynamism and responsiveness as an organisation. Within the leadership team we are looking to refresh our evaluation knowledge in line with the latest best practice after establishing a streamlined system in 2022.

We will continue to hone effective reflective practice and leadership skills so the teams remain confident and proactive on the ground. We have had the opportunity to bring facilitators together from different regions this year which has enabled us to share knowledge and build positive team relationships. We will build in more skills sharing opportunities in the year to come.

Financial Review

The financial statements attached detail the financial position of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Incoming resources for the year totalled £350,044 of which £259,633 were for restricted purposes. Outgoing resources for the year were £282,199 of which £251,254 were attributable to restricted funds. Restricted funds carried forward at the year end totalled £57,998 and unrestricted funds totalled £127,797. £30,000 remaining grant funds from Postcode Community Trust have been designated by the Trustees to support programme and core operating costs during the 2024-25 financial year and will not be held for reserves.

Our earned income was £37,351, representing approximately 11% of our total income through sales, commissions, coaching, consultancy and Mental Health First Aid training.

We are grateful for the ongoing support we have received from a wide variety of charitable funders including The National Foundation for Youth Music, Arts Council England, The National Lottery Community Fund, London Community Foundation, Sussex Community Foundation, Arts Award Access Fund, The Rayne Foundation, Postcode Society Trust, Children in Need, The Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust, The Souter Charitable Trust, City Bridge Foundation, Heads On VCSE Collaborative, The Sir Bernard and Lady Schreier Foundation, The Shared Prosperity Fund (through Hastings Borough Council), The London Borough of Waltham Forest Adult Learning Fund, Postcode Community Trust and The Chalk Cliff Trust.

We would like to extend our thanks to all our funders for their generous support of the charity's work in the 2023-24 financial year.

Reserves Policy

The trustees have considered the Soundcastle's need for reserves with reference to the level of risk it faces. They have concluded that it is important for the charity to always hold in financial reserves, as a minimum, the funds that would be required to ensure an ordered and proper closure of Soundcastle Ltd.

This level of reserves will fund:

- o Any redundancy payments due to employees.
- o Accountancy and other professional costs.
- o Costs relating to the termination of contracts including office rental and equipment hire.
- o A contingency sum held for outstanding liabilities.

This initial reserves position assumes that no immediate withdrawal of funding will occur. To mitigate the risks arising in the event of an immediate loss of funds, the trustees have established a policy whereby the charity holds unrestricted reserves at a level equivalent to three to six months' running costs. The trustees consider that this level of reserves should be maintained on an ongoing basis in order to ensure the future financial resilience of the charity.

As per the enclosed accounts, expenditure on running costs in 2023-24 was £282,199 and therefore the target level of reserves is between £70,550 and £141,100 in general funds.

On 31st March 2024 unrestricted reserves totalled £97,797, therefore the trustees are satisfied that the charity is maintaining sufficient reserves in line with the reserves policy.

Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements

The trustees (who are also directors of Soundcastle Ltd for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- o Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- o Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.
- o Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- o State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- o Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable 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 charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the trustees on **11/10/2024**

and signed on their behalf by:



Sarah Drake-Pullin
CHAIR of the BOARD of TRUSTEES

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Soundcastle Ltd for the year ended 31 March 2024

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 19 to 29.

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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.



Rowena T K Walsh (FCCA)

Date: 09.10.2024

Manningtons Chartered Accountants
39 High Street
Battle
East Sussex
TN33 0EE

Statement of Financial Activities for the Financial Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 31 March 2024	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds to 31 March 2023
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	2	2,501	-	2,501	8,153	-	8,153
Charitable activities	2	87,351	259,633	346,983	59,941	147,905	207,846
Interest Received	2	560	-	560	-	-	-
Total		90,412	259,633	350,044	68,094	147,905	215,999
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds		310		310	42	-	42
Charitable activities	3	30,635	251,254	281,889	29,491	209,103	238,594
Total		30,945	251,254	282,199	29,533	209,103	238,636
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers		59,467	8,379	67,845	38,561	(61,198)	(22,637)
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	- 1,455	1,455	-
Net movement in funds		59,467	8,379	67,845	37,106	(59,743)	(22,637)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		68,330	49,619	117,949	31,224	109,362	140,586
Total funds carried forward		127,797	57,998	185,794	68,330	49,619	117,949
The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.							
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.							

Balance Sheet as of 31st March 2024

	Notes	31 March 2024	31 March 2023
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	410	529
Total fixed assets		410	529
Current assets			
Debtors	7	22,924	5,580
Cash at bank and in hand	9	169,325	115,696
Total current assets		192,249	121,276
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	6,863	3,856
Net current assets/(liabilities)		185,386	117,420
Total assets less current liabilities		185,796	117,949
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	10		
Total net assets / (liabilities)		185,796	117,949
Funds of the Charity			
Restricted funds	11	57,998	49,619
Unrestricted funds	11	127,797	68,330
Total funds		185,796	117,949
For the year in question, the company was entitled to exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.			
Directors' responsibilities:			
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476.			
The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.			
These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to the members of the company.			
The notes on pages 21 to 29 form an integral part of the financial statements.			

Approved by the trustees on **11/10/2024** and signed on their behalf by:



Sarah Drake-Pullin
CHAIR of the BOARD of TRUSTEES

Notes to the accounts

Note 1: Accounting Policies

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

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), second edition - October 2019 (Charities SORP (FRS 102)); the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2016.

The charity has applied the exemption available to small charities in the Charities SORP (FRS 102) and does not include a Statement of Cash Flows in these Financial Statements.

Soundcastle Ltd 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 notes.

b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

c) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be reliably measured.

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

Donations are recognised when the charity receives the funds.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known and the receipt is expected. If the amount is not known the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

d) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the 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 funds which the donor has specified are solely to be used for particular activities.

e) 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.

f) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be recognised reliably.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT.

g) Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs. Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

h) Tangible Fixed Assets

Individual assets costing £550 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated evenly over their estimated useful economic lives, as follows:

Plant and machinery 15% reducing balance

Computer equipment 25% reducing balance

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measure at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

The gain or less arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the assets, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

i) Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss(if any).

j) Debtors

Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

k) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provision are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

l) Corporation Tax

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 objects.

m) Key estimates and accounting judgements

In applying the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions in determining the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities. The Trustees' judgements, estimates and assumptions are based on the best and most reliable evidence available at the time when the decisions are made, and are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be applicable. Due to the inherent subjectivity involved in making such judgements, estimates and assumptions, the actual results and outcomes may differ.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to the accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised, if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of revision and future periods, if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Note 2: Analysis of income

	2024		2023	
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies:				
Donations and gifts	2,501	-	2,501	8,153
Total	2,501	-	2,501	8,153
Interest Received				
Bank Interest Received	560	-	560	-
Total	560	-	560	-
Charitable activities:				
Grants	50,000	259,633	309,633	160,260
Earned Income	37,351	-	37,351	47,586
Total	87,351	259,633	346,983	207,846
Total income	90,412	259,633	350,044	215,999
During the period Soundcastle received the following amounts from Government grants:				
	£			
Arts Council England		47,910		
The National Lottery Community Fund		20,000		
London Borough of Waltham Forest		2,980		
Hastings Borough Council		18,750		
		89,640		

Note 3: Analysis of expenditure

	2024	2023
	£	£
Direct project costs	35,174	48,103
Depreciation	119	156
Salaries and wages	225,562	176,984
Travel	1,632	293
Staff training	-	125
Insurance	927	683
Rent	9,911	6,781
Other expenses	2,047	1,185
	275,371	234,310
Share of support costs (see note 4)	3,828	1,884
Share of governance costs (see note 5)	2,998	2,444
	282,197	238,638
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	30,945	29,533
Restricted funds	251,254	209,103
	282,199	238,636

Note 4: Governance and Other Support Costs

The total support costs and overheads attributable to charitable activity is apportioned as shown below:

	2024	2023
Support Costs	Total	Total
£	£	£
Website	140	95
Subscriptions	2,838	1,748
Advertising and Marketing	112	-
Postage and stationery	738	40
	3,828	1,884
Governance Costs	31 March 2024	31 March 2023
	£	£
Independent Examination	1,200	720
Accountancy Fees	1,200	1,200
Payroll Fees	598	524
	2,998	2,444

Note 5: Details of certain items of expenditure

	2024	2023
	£	£
Independent examiner's fees	1,200	720
Other accountancy fees	1,798	1,724
Total	2,998	2,444

Note 6: Employees

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries and wages	216,874	169,407
Social security costs	8,141	6,781
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	7,619	6,168
Other	-	(2,546)
Total staff costs	232,633	179,810

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000

8.2 Average head count in the year

	2024	2023
	15	12
Total	15	12

8.3 Key Management Personnel

The remuneration of the key management personnel is:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries and wages	101,008	110,130
Social security costs	8,709	9,438
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	4,041	4,406
Total staff costs	113,758	123,973

No employee received remuneration over £60,000.

Note 7: Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year		
	31 March 2024	31 March 2023
	£	£
Accrued income	16,730	1,455
Accrued Interest	560	-
Salaries Payable	-	-
Gift Aid Debtor	226	1,848
Accounts Receivable	5,408	2,277
Total	22,924	5,580

Note 8: Creditors & Accruals

Analysis of creditors: falling due within one year

	31 March 2024	31 March 2023
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	1,194	1,920
Accounts Payable	2,559	268
PAYE Payable	1,599	1,132
Earnings Orders Payable	154	-
Other creditors	1,356	536
Total	6,863	3,856

Deferred income comprises of income received by the charity in 2023 for activities taking place in 2024.

	£
Balance at 31 March 2023	-
Amounts released to income earned from charitable activities	-
Amount deferred in period	-
Balance at 31 March 2024	-

Note 9: Cash at bank and in hand

	31 March 2024	31 March 2023
	£	£
Current Account	11,734	113,050
PayPal	2,591	2,647
Soundcastle Ltd -Deposit	65,001	-
The Co-Operative Savings Account	90,000	-
Total	169,325	115,697

Note 10: Tangible Fixed Assets

	Plant and machinery	Computer Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2023	868	3,922	4,790
Additions	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	868	3,922	4,790
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2023	735	3,525	4,261
Charge for the year	20	99	119
At 31 March 2024	755	3,624	4,380
Net book value at 1 April 2023	133	397	529
Net book value at 31 March 2024	113	298	410

Note 11: Charity funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfer between funds	Balance at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£		£
Restricted Funds					
National Foundation for Youth Music	2,164	87,600	(81,359)	-	8,405
Arts Council England	-	47,910	(47,910)	-	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	7,000	20,000	(7,000)	-	20,000
London Community Foundation	6,455	15,000	(16,455)	-	5,000
Sussex Community Foundation	7,000	2,000	(9,000)	-	-
Arts Award Access Fund	-	740	-	-	740
The Rayne Foundation	4,000	12,000	(10,733)	-	5,267
Postcode Society Trust	7,000	-	(7,000)	-	-
Children in Need	10,000	-	(9,896)	-	104
The Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust	3,000	-	(3,000)	-	-
The Souter Charitable Trust	3,000	-	(3,000)	-	-
City Bridge Foundation	-	30,653	(25,336)	-	5,317
Heads On	-	20,000	(10,000)	-	10,000
The Sir Bernard and Lady Schreier Foundation	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
Hastings Borough Council/Shared Prosperity Fund	-	18,750	(15,585)	-	3,165
London Borough of Waltham Forest - Adult Learning Fund	-	2,980	(2,980)	-	-
	49,619	259,633	(251,254)	-	57,998
Unrestricted Funds					
Postcode Community Trust	-	50,000	(20,000)	-	30,000
The Chalk Cliff Trust	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-
General Funds	63,330	40,412	(5,945)	-	97,797
	68,330	90,412	(30,945)	-	127,797
Total Funds	117,949	350,045	(282,198)	-	185,796
2023 Comparatives:					
	Balance at 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfer between funds	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£		£
Restricted Funds					
National Foundation for Youth Music	33,785	33,988	(65,609)	-	2,164
Arts Council England	-	27,000	(27,000)	-	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	6,169	10,000	(9,169)	-	7,000
London Community Foundation	11,629	15,000	(21,629)	1,455	6,455
Sussex Community Foundation	5,000	15,000	(13,000)	-	7,000
Arts Award Access Fund	68	-	(68)	-	-
Trusthouse Community Foundation	9,500	-	(9,500)	-	-
Arts Council England: Cultural Recovery Fund	8,481	-	(8,481)	-	-
The Rayne Foundation	3,649	12,000	(11,649)	-	4,000
Postcode Society Trust	20,997	-	(13,997)	-	7,000
Jessie's Fund	2,084	-	(2,084)	-	-
The Nisbet Trust	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-
Government KickStarter training element	3,000	3,181	(6,181)	-	-
Children In Need	-	20,000	(10,000)	-	10,000
The Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust	-	3,000	-	-	3,000
The Foreshore Trust	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
Skipton Charitable Foundation	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
The Souther Charitable Trust	-	3,000	-	-	3,000
Worthing Community Trust	-	1,500	(1,500)	-	-
Waltham Forest Community In Fellowship Fund	-	2,236	(2,236)	-	-
	109,362	147,905	(209,103)	1,455	49,619

Unrestricted Funds					
The Chalk Cliff Trust	3,000	5,000	(3,000)	-	5,000
Children In Need	-	500	(500)	-	-
London Borough of Waltham Forest	1,500	1,455	(1,500)	(1,455)	-
General Funds	26,724	61,139	(24,532)	-	63,330
	31,224	68,094	(29,532)	(1,455)	68,330
Total Funds	140,586	215,999	(238,635)	-	117,949
Restricted Funds:					
Funder	Description of Fund				
National Foundation for Youth Music	Multi year grant funding received in 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial years in support of the cross-regional Musical Beacons and Sparking Change programmes, and development of the Soundcastle Health and Wellbeing Agenda.				
Arts Council England	Grant funding received in 2022/23 and 2023/24 to support People's Music Sussex programme delivery.				
The National Lottery Community Fund	Grant funding received in 2022/23 and 2023/24 to support People's Music Sussex programme delivery.				
London Community Foundation	Multi year grant received in 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial years for Musical Beacons London and People's Music London programme delivery.				
Sussex Community Foundation	Grant funding received in 2022/23 and 2023/24 for the People's Music Sussex programme, and the continuation of essential services.				
Arts Award Access Fund	Grant funding received in 2021/22 and 2023/24 financial years for delivery of Arts Award qualifications through Musical Beacons Sussex.				
Trusthouse Community Foundation	Grant Funding received in 2021/22 financial year for delivery of Musical Beacons Hastings sessions.				
Arts Council England: Cultural Recovery Fund	Grant funding received in 2021/22 to support Soundcastle's post pandemic recovery and core development.				
The Rayne Foundation	Multi year grant supporting the People's Music Sussex programme, instalments received in 2022/23 and 2023/24.				
Postcode Society Trust	Grant funding received in 2021/22 financial year for People's Music programme delivery.				
Jessie's Fund	Grant funding received in 2021/22 financial year for Musical Beacons Bristol programme delivery.				
The Nisbet Trust	Grant funding received in 2021/22 financial year for Musical Beacons Bristol programme delivery.				
Government KickStarter training element	Grant funding received in 2022/23 financial year for Musical Beacons London trainee placement.				
Children in Need	First two instalments of multi year grant received in 2022/23 financial year for Musical Beacons Sussex programme delivery.				
The Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust	Grant funding received in 2022/23 financial year for People's Music Sussex programme delivery.				
The Foreshore Trust	Grant funding received in 2022/23 financial year for Musical Beacons Hastings instruments.				
Skipton Charitable Foundation	Grant funding received in 2022/23 financial year for Musical Beacons Bristol instruments.				
The Souter Charitable Trust	Grant funding received in 2022/23 financial year for People's Music Sussex programme delivery.				
City Bridge Foundation	First instalments of multi year grant received in 2023/24 financial year for Musical Beacons London and People's Music London programme delivery.				
The Sir Bernard and Lady Schreier Foundation	Grant funding received in 2023/24 for People's Music Sussex programme delivery.				
Hastings Borough Council / Shared Prosperity Fund	Grant funding received in 2023/24 financial year for Musical Beacons Broomgrove programme delivery.				
London Borough of Waltham Forest - Adult Learning Fund	Grant funding received in 2023/24 to support People's Music London programme delivery.				
Worthing Community Trust	Grant funding received in 2022/23 financial year for People's Music Sussex programme delivery.				
Waltham Forest Community in Fellowship Fund	Grant funding received in 2022/23 financial year for Musical Beacons London programme delivery.				
Unrestricted Funds:					
Funder	Description of Fund				
Postcode Community Trust	Grant funding received in 2023-24 to support Soundcastle's charitable objectives and core operations.				
The Chalk Cliff Trust	Donation received in 2022/23 financial year in support of the Musical Beacons Sussex programme.				
Children in Need	Grant funding uplift received in 2022/23 financial year in support of increased core costs during cost of living crisis.				
London Borough of Waltham Forest	Donation received in 2022/23 financial year in support of the Musical Beacons London programme.				

Note 12: Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
Fund balances at 31 March 2024 represented by:			
Tangible assets	410	-	410
Current assets/(liabilities)	127,388	57,998	185,386
	127,797	57,998	185,796
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 represented by:			
Tangible assets	529	-	529
Current assets/(liabilities)	67,801	49,619	117,420
	68,330	49,619	117,949

Note 13: Trustees remuneration and expenses

The trustees, nor any persons connected with them received no remuneration or benefits for the performance of their duties.

Akhila Krishnan paid Soundcastle a monthly fee of £200 for a desk space at the Soundcastle offices for the period April 2023 to March 2024.

Trustee Indemnity insurance was purchased on 27 March 2024.

Note 14: Related party transactions

During the period in question there were the following related party transactions:

Rachael Perrin, Co-Founder and Strategic Development Lead

Gareth Wildig was paid £1,630 for website design, build and accessibility work plan photography and film work. He also received payment £288.64 as reimbursement of related expenses incurred. He is married to Rachael Perrin. From July 2023, Gareth Wildig became an employee of Soundcastle so no longer works for the charity on a freelance basis

All these services were reviewed and approved by the Board in advance of the work taking place.

SOUNDCASTLE LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1194955

Accounts

SOUNDCASTLE

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2023



Soundcastle Ltd

Charity Registration Number: 1194955

Company Registration Number: 08210076

Contents

Administrative Information	1
Trustees' Annual Report	2
Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements	17
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Soundcastle	19
Statement of Financial Activities for the Financial Year Ended 31 March 2023	20
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023	21
Notes to the accounts	23

Administrative Information

Trustees:	S Drake-Pullin (Co-Chair) L Becko-Vasiliadis (Co-Chair & Treasurer) (resigned 27/04/2023) A Krishnan C Rubin R Jarratt H Collisson A Bhonagiri (appointed 07/07/2023)
Charity Address:	Unit 1, 2nd Floor, Rock House 49 - 51 Cambridge Road Hastings East Sussex TN34 1DT
Bankers:	The Co-operative Bank p.l.c. P.O Box 101 1 Balloon Street Manchester M60 4EP
Accountant and Independent Examiner:	Manningtons 39 High Street, Battle, East Sussex TN33 0EE

Trustees' Annual Report

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023. Included within the trustees' report is the directors report as required by company law.

The reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice -Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Structure, Governance and Management

Soundcastle Ltd is a registered charity and a Company Limited by Guarantee with the Charity Registration Number 1194955. The governing document of Soundcastle Ltd is a memorandum and articles of association dated 16th March 2021.

The Trustees, who are also directors under company law, are appointed by ordinary resolution passed at a general meeting. One third of the members of the Trustees must retire by rotation but may stand for re-election. Trustees met every three months during the financial year in question.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31st March 2023 was 6.

Objectives and Activities for the Public Benefit

The objects of the charity are specifically restricted to the following:

- a. To advance education, including by (but not limited to) delivering programmes relating to the arts.
- b. To provide or assist in the provision of facilities, opportunities and activities relating to the arts in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such opportunities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity, disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life.

- c. To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society.

For the purpose of this clause 'socially excluded' means being excluded from society, or part of society, as a result of being a member of a socially and economically deprived community.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and setting the grant making policy for the period.

2022-23

Review of Activities and Achievements

- Overview
- Musical Beacons
- People's Music
- Soundcastle Community, Training and Consultancy
- Awards and Stats
- Future Plans

Soundcastle Overview

This has been a demanding and ultimately successful year for Soundcastle. In our 11th year, and the second as a registered charity, we have been navigating our way through the cost of living crisis and a challenging fundraising climate, working hard to ensure that our transformational music programmes continue to support those most in need.

Our Advisory Panel, made up of community members, partners and creative practitioners, have supported us to stay true to our vision that community voice remains at the heart of Soundcastle. We have a talented and diverse Board of Trustees and are feeling positive about moving forward under their guidance.

Our core Soundcastle team has shifted as we have said goodbye to two key members. Jenni Parkinson, one of the four founding directors of Soundcastle, has decided after 11 years of service that it is time to explore a new career path - we are thankful for the insight, vision and passion that she brought to Soundcastle over the years and wish her all the best for her future adventures. We have also bid farewell to Laurence Becko, one of our very first Trustees who offered a wealth of support and vital guidance as we made the transition to a charity.

We have made the decision to close the Bristol branch of Soundcastle (of which Jenni Parkinson was the regional lead) and focus on working in communities in which our director team is truly embedded. This means that we are now a South East based charity in terms of our community programmes, although our training and consultancy remains national. We continue to be advised and guided by the communities we partner with across Sussex and East London. Our specialisms remain in family and mental health contexts, embedding inspirational music programmes that respond to local needs. Soundcastle creative music

programmes work towards our social aims of increased confidence, reduced social isolation and enhanced wellbeing. In addition to this, our training offer in Mental Health First Aid is expanding and providing a vital new revenue stream to support our community practice.

We have welcomed two new music facilitators and two new trainee facilitators to our diverse staff team who have been exceptionally dedicated to the delivery of high quality, inspiring work. We have invested in training and now all staff are qualified in Mental Health First Aid. We have also engaged in Disability Equality training and continue to hold inclusive working at the centre of our practice. We are committed to our team's wellbeing and were Highly Commended in the Culture Health and Wellbeing Alliance 'Practising Well' award. This award focuses on practice that is leading the way in championing, delivering and embedding practitioner care into project design, commissioning and management. We are proud of everything we have achieved together this year and have renewed faith in our resilience as a charity during a challenging social climate. We are optimistic for future success and excited to follow through on our vision for 2023-24.

In the year 2022-2023:

Soundcastle delivered 353 creative music making sessions in community settings. We made creative music making accessible to 920 community members. This includes 498 children and young people and 422 adults facing challenging circumstances and socio-economic barriers to music making.

Soundcastle delivered 24 Training and Consultancy sessions. Our training programmes supported 225 creative professionals, including 136 early career professionals and students aged 18-25. Our consultancy supported 206 people, including 26 sector professionals and the voices of 180 children and young people aged 8-18.

Soundcastle launched our Mental Health First Aid training offer and delivered 12 training days to arts and cultural organisations and freelance practitioners. We have supported 95 creative professionals to achieve a Level 2 qualification and become Mental Health First Aiders. Additionally we have supported 6 young professionals to achieve a Level 1 qualification in Mental Health First Aid Awareness and 7 creative professionals to achieve a Level 3 qualification in Supervision for Mental Health First Aid.

Musical Beacons

Our Musical Beacons programme was embedded across East London, Sussex and Bristol throughout the year, providing high quality music making to families from a wide range of backgrounds. We have been working closely with families facing challenging life circumstances, including:

- Families with neurodiverse children
- Families with English as a second language
- Families with young parents living in supported housing

For many, it is their only access to free and inclusive creative activity. Our sensitive music facilitators support people to strengthen family bonds, form community friendships and explore self-expression through a range of creative music activities.

Over the past year we have developed and sustained a diverse range of strategic partnerships which provide essential entry points and referral routes, widening access to the programmes for the most vulnerable members of our communities. These include:

Music Hubs

- Create Music (Sussex)
- Bristol Beacon
- Newham Music
- Waltham Forest

Disability Services

- West of England Centre for Inclusive Living
- Bristol Autism Project
- Incredible Me
- The Lloyd Park Children's Charity
- Waltham Forest Parents Forum

Accommodation Partners

- Peabody Housing Association
- East Sussex Young Parents' Service
- Salvation Army Housing Association
- Turner House

Arts and Cultural Partners

- Spun Glass Theatre
- LYT Productions (Walk the Chalk project)
- Lewes District Council – Tourism and Arts
- London Borough of Waltham Forest

In the year 2022-2023:

Musical Beacons Bristol has:

- Delivered 66 music sessions for families with neurodiverse children.
- Reached 70 children and 48 adults.

Musical Beacons Sussex has:

- Delivered 74 in-house family music sessions.
- Reached 18 children and 15 young parents (aged 16-25) – living in safe houses with experience of past trauma and mental health challenges.
- Created and recorded 2 original pieces of music.
- Piloted 1 public pop-up Musical Beacons event for a public audience (16 attendees).

Musical Beacons London has:

- Delivered 129 family music sessions for families who have English as a second language and/or have children with a learning disability
- Reached 397 children and 273 adults
- Recorded 2 new songs live in Artesian Gardens Park, Leytonstone
- Hosted a family festival tea party for the Jubilee Celebrations in partnership with the Leytonstone Toy Library
- Delivered our first inclusive music making in water at Fellowship Square, supported by the London Borough of Waltham Forest council.

Our evaluation shows that we are consistently meeting all our social aims for families who regularly attend Musical Beacons sessions.

Increased Confidence

97% of community members who completed our feedback survey reported feeling an increase in confidence.

'Musical Beacons helps me to not worry about whatever other people think and to just focus on having fun with my children. It's made me more confident to interact with my kids in front of other people.' Parent, Musical Beacons Sussex

'Musical Beacons has provided a space where [my child] can freely express herself without fear of judgement.' Parent, Musical Beacons Bristol

'My child has become more confident in exploring the world around him; he uses sounds, different body movements and has learned to use music to soothe himself when things around him are becoming too much.' Parent, Musical Beacons London

Reduced Social Isolation

98% of community members who completed our feedback survey reported feeling an increase in connectedness to their community.

'The residents enjoy spending this time together with all the children. They can then sing the songs together outside of the sessions.' ESYPs project worker, Musical Beacons Sussex

'The group has been helping us to connect to other kids and parents through music and games, it is so helpful.' Parent, Musical Beacons London

'By meeting families of children with special educational needs, [my child] has integrated into a loving community where she's not singled out or left to think she's different.' Parent, Musical Beacons Bristol

Enhanced Wellbeing

100% of community members who completed our feedback survey reported feeling enhanced wellbeing.

'I feel so refreshed after singing. If I'm stressed it calms me down. The sessions take my mind off difficult things. And for him [her son] he loves the music, it makes him happy which makes me happy.' Parent, Musical Beacons Sussex

'Over several sessions, watching my daughter become more enthusiastic about not only making music, but also getting up and dancing to it has been brilliant, and has certainly helped pull me out of the post-covid gloom.' Parent, Musical Beacons Bristol

'Attending the sessions helps us to keep a stimulating daily routine where my child can learn and meet other children, socialise with them and sometimes make long lasting friendships with them. He loves attending the sessions.' Parent, Musical Beacons, London

People's Music

Our People's Music programme continues to expand in Sussex to offer safe and inclusive creative music sessions to adults with a mental health diagnosis. Alongside continued delivery of People's Music Collective and New Rhythms, we piloted our first Singing for Wellbeing and Ukulele programmes for adults in the early stages of mental health recovery. For many people, it has been their first opportunity to step out into their communities following prolonged periods of social isolation or hospital stays.

In addition to this, we have piloted our first People's Music programme in London! We are exploring the viability of regular music sessions during the week at the Paradox centre in Chingford where we already have a base for Musical Beacons.

Many of our community members face socio-economic barriers to attending creative activity, and People's Music is their only access to inclusive music making. Our music facilitators continue to support people to step out of their comfort zones, form community friendships and remove stigma around mental health.

Over the past year we have strengthened local partnerships with mental health services which provide essential entry points and referral routes, widening access to the programme for the most vulnerable members of our communities. These include:

Sussex

- Sussex Recovery College
- Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
- Coastal West Sussex Mind
- Worthing Mental Health Awareness
- Going Local - Social Prescribing

London

- Peabody Housing Association
- Waltham Forest Social Prescribing Network

In the Summer and Winter of 2022, the People's Music Collective, our band for adults on a journey of mental health recovery, gave their first live performances since the Covid lockdowns to a total of 97 audience members. The audience was invited to join in the singing and, looking ahead, the band decided they would like to promote their performances as interactive, sharing the concept of Singing for Wellbeing with more people. A film made of their December 'Winter Warmer' performance has since gained 378 digital views on YouTube alone, alongside great engagement on our social channels.

In the year 2022-2023 People's Music has:

- Delivered 32 People's Music Collective sessions
- Delivered 15 New Rhythms sessions
- Delivered 18 Ukulele Crew sessions
- Delivered 19 Singing for Wellbeing sessions
- Delivered 2 taster sessions with Coastal West Sussex MIND
- Launched and delivered a pilot of 5 Music for Wellbeing sessions in Chingford, London
- Reached 104 adults with a mental health diagnosis
- Given 2 live performances
- Created 1 promotional video
- Recorded 3 pieces of original music in preparation for an EP

Our evaluation shows that we are regularly meeting all our social aims for community members who attend a People's Music programme.

Increased Confidence

100% of community members who completed our feedback survey reported feeling an increase in confidence.

'It's made me feel like I can achieve anything'
New Rhythms member

'It's a fantastic place to come and socialise and it's given me the confidence to speak to people I wouldn't normally have.'
Singing for Wellbeing member

'I can now talk with people I don't know without the fear and anxiety I used to have and feel able to make mistakes and to try again'
Ukulele Crew member

'Prior to joining the PMC, singing in front of anyone was something I had never considered, even for a moment. Fast forward to now, and I have sung a solo in front of an audience, twice. This has had a knock on effect, in my life in general. My confidence is growing. I still have a way to go, to get where I would like to be, in that respect, but I am heading in the right direction.' PMC member

Reduced Social Isolation

98% of community members who completed our feedback survey reported feeling an increase in connectedness to their community.

'The music helps to calm you and lifted my spirits. Each week I feel a bit better and started to talk to people a bit more.'

Singing for Wellbeing member

'Meeting the same lovely people every week reminds me how many lovely people there are.'

New Rhythms member

'Seeing the same lovely group every week and sharing such joy means I feel very connected to everyone. I have learnt that even when I am having a terrible day I can still be with others and it actually helps the terrible times pass sooner.'

Ukulele Crew member

'I've been isolated for many years, since before the pandemic. The only regular contact I have with people is through the PMC and Soundcastle's courses. For me, having an outlet for people to interact with me is priceless. The framework of a course allows me to develop friendships and camaraderie with a group of people, over a period of time. I find I have strong bonds with my bandmates as a result. I'm hoping that over time, new opportunities and creative projects will develop with my band mates.'

PMC member

Enhanced Wellbeing

98% of community members who completed our feedback survey reported feeling enhanced wellbeing.

'It's the joy of the music and I even bought myself a ukulele now. I started to feel like my old self again.'

Ukulele Crew member

'It makes me look forward to something and feel part of something. We need people around us to feel supported.'

Singing for Wellbeing member

'When I leave the group I feel happier, more positive and my mood has been boosted'

New Rhythms member

'I've found my wellbeing has improved by having something positive in my weekly routine that breaks the monotony of the challenges I face. My mental wellbeing is better as a result of being around positive people and achieving cool things, like writing and performing new songs, and performing them live for an audience. This is something I did before I had my life destroyed and became very unwell. I feel like I am getting closer to being my old happy self, and also undoing the damage/trauma I have suffered. This journey has been long and challenging, but I have been fortunate to have Soundcastle along for the ride, providing me with opportunities to heal and progress.'

PMC member

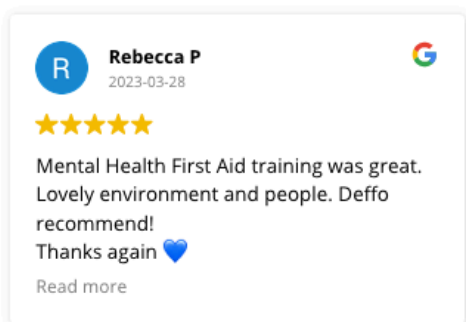
Training and Consultancy

Throughout 2022-23, Soundcastle has continued to offer five-star training and consultancy in support of the community arts sector.

Training

In Summer 2022, we completed our pilot Sparking Change programme for 18-25 year-olds and it is now in the process of being developed having recently received renewed funding from Youth Music. We are building an ongoing relationship with the Royal College of Music, providing a bi-yearly creative music class for all second-year undergraduate students which introduces the principles of inclusive creative practice.

This year, Soundcastle launched our Mental Health First Aid training offer in a mission to improve wellbeing, resilience and understanding of mental health across the sector.

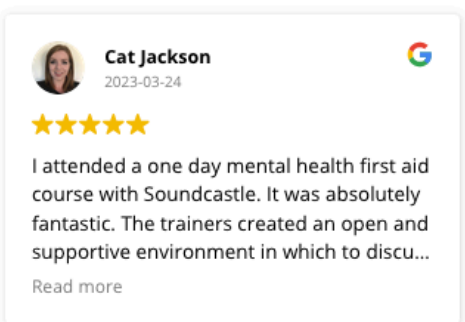


Rebecca P
2023-03-28

★★★★★

Mental Health First Aid training was great. Lovely environment and people. Deffo recommend! Thanks again ❤️

[Read more](#)

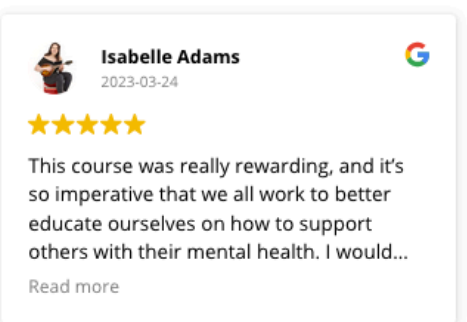


Cat Jackson
2023-03-24

★★★★★

I attended a one day mental health first aid course with Soundcastle. It was absolutely fantastic. The trainers created an open and supportive environment in which to discu...

[Read more](#)



Isabelle Adams
2023-03-24

★★★★★

This course was really rewarding, and it's so imperative that we all work to better educate ourselves on how to support others with their mental health. I would...

[Read more](#)

Google rating score: 5 of 5, based on 14 reviews

Consultancy

By delivering consultancy, we continue to expand our sector's understanding of high-quality co-production in community practice. In particular, our work with music hubs has opened space for youth voices to be heard. Soundcastle worked with the 6 South West London music hubs to deliver a consultation on the use of digital technology in music education which concluded in May 2022. In total, Soundcastle facilitators spoke to 180 young people ages 8 - 18, across 8 creative consultation sessions.

In the year 2022-2023 Soundcastle has:

Delivered 11 training sessions which have:

- Reached 225 sector professionals (of which 136 were early career professionals and students aged 18-25)

Delivered 12 Mental Health First Aid training programmes which have:

- Qualified 108 creative professionals in Mental Health First Aid

Delivered 13 consultancy sessions for 3 organisations (Abi D'Amore & Associates, Every Copy Counts, South West London Hubs) which have:

- Reached 26 sector professionals
- Reached 180 young people ages 8 - 18



Increased Confidence

'Sparking Change has made me more confident week by week with a comfortable, safe space for everyone and different ways to explore our creativity. Sparking Change has boosted my creativity as well as friendships in the community.'
Sparking Change Member

'I attended a one day mental health first aid course with Soundcastle. It was absolutely fantastic. The trainers created an open and supportive environment in which to discuss challenging themes safely. The content was interesting and perfectly pitched for the group. I now feel far better prepared to discuss mental health in the future.' MHFA Attendee

Reduced Social Isolation

'This course was really rewarding, and it's so imperative that we all work to better educate ourselves on how to support others with their mental health. I would recommend this course to all employers and employee's! Such a beautiful team of people ❤️' MHFA Attendee

'Through the Sparking Change programme, the Soundcastle team have managed to create such a welcoming and supportive space for us to learn and share within. The programme has allowed me to express myself and my creativity and connect with other young musicians on an open and vulnerable level.' Sparking Change Member

Enhanced Wellbeing

'The quality of the training was extremely high. There was a large amount of training content to get through, but Hannah and Gail were excellent facilitators. They made the day very interactive, and ensured the group felt safe and supported even when covering sensitive topics. Highly recommended.' MHFA Attendee

'The variety of all the training opportunities and events, including the 1-1 mentoring sessions, has been extremely inspiring and important during these months, as they have opened my eyes to many different aspects of community music and made me reflect on them, increase my self-awareness and acknowledge how all of us are completely unique and special.' Sparking Change Member

Digital Reach (2022 - 2023)

New Facebook followers: 58 (+93.3%)

Total Facebook followers: 943

Facebook reach: 6,456 (+7.3%)

Instagram reach: 13,817 (206.7%)

New Instagram followers: 80

Total followers Instagram: 698

Total followers on LinkedIn: 321

July 2022 to March 2023: +45 followers on
LinkedIn

New subscribers: 120

Total subscribers on YouTube: 253 (Valid
on 31st March 2023)

Total subscribers on YouTube: 276

YouTube views: 45,800

Followers on Twitter: 1,941

Future Plans (2023-24)

We are looking ahead to the coming year with a more positive funding outlook ahead! We will sustain and expand our work, embedding long term Musical Beacons and People's Music programmes which continue to respond to essential local needs. We will host our training and consultancy programmes with a greater emphasis on live (rather than online delivery), supporting the sector to engage with high quality working practice in community settings and always striving for positive social impact.

Internally, as always, we will build upon our existing skills, offering Racism Awareness training throughout Soundcastle. Further, we plan to focus on our staff's wellbeing at work, completing our team consultation process which will be followed by a formalisation of a Health and Wellbeing Agenda and Policy within the Soundcastle team.

We will continue developing and delivering our comprehensive fundraising strategy with an ongoing view to securing long term core costs. This will provide stability for our community partners, consistency for our staff team and, essentially, ongoing programmes for the community members who sit at the heart of our work.

2022-23 has been a year of transition, change and resilience. Our rewarding programme delivery and mission to make a positive difference to our sector reminds us of the importance of the work and the strong need in our communities. We are proud of how far we have come in a challenging social and fundraising climate, and we look ahead to the year to come with renewed focus and optimism!

Financial Review

The financial statements attached detail the financial position of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Incoming resources for the year totalled £215,999 of which £147,905 were for restricted purposes. Outgoing resources for the year were £238,636 of which £209,103 were attributable to restricted funds. Restricted funds carried forward at the year end totalled £49,619 and unrestricted funds totalled £68,330.

Our earned income was £47,586, representing 22% of our total income through sales, commissions, coaching, consultancy and Mental Health First Aid training.

We are grateful for the ongoing support we have received from a wide variety of charitable funders including Arts Council England, the National Foundation for Youth Music, The National Lottery Community Foundation, the London Community Foundation, Children in Need, Sussex Community Foundation, Arts Award Access Fund, the Trusthouse Community Foundation, the Rayne Foundation, Postcode Society Trust, Jessie's Fund, the London Borough of Waltham Forest, the Nisbet Trust, the Chalk Cliff Trust, the Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust, the Foreshore Trust, Skipton Charitable Foundation, the Souter Charitable Trust, the Waltham Forest Community in Fellowship Fund and Worthing Community Chest.

We would like to extend our thanks to all our funders for their generous support of the charity's work in the 2022-23 financial year.

Reserves Policy

The trustees have considered the Soundcastle's need for reserves with reference to the level of risk it faces. They have concluded that it is important for the charity to always hold in financial reserves, as a minimum, the funds that would be required to ensure an ordered and proper closure of Soundcastle Ltd.

This level of reserves will fund:

- Any redundancy payments due to employees.
- Accountancy and other professional costs.
- Costs relating to the termination of contracts including office rental and equipment hire.
- A contingency sum held for outstanding liabilities.

This initial reserves position assumes that no immediate withdrawal of funding will occur. To mitigate the risks arising in the event of an immediate loss of funds, the trustees have established a policy whereby the charity holds unrestricted reserves at a level equivalent to three months' core running costs. The trustees consider that this level of reserves should be maintained on an ongoing basis in order to ensure the future financial resilience of the charity.

As per the enclosed accounts, expenditure on core running costs in 2022/23 was £190,533 and therefore the minimum level of reserves is £47,633 in general funds.

Due to the charity's planned growth in 2023/24, projected expenditure on core running costs will be significantly higher at £245,820, therefore the minimum level of reserves required will be £61,455.

On 31st March 2023 unrestricted reserves totalled £68,330, therefore the trustees are satisfied that the charity is able to maintain sufficient reserves in line with the reserves policy during this period of growth.

Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements

The trustees (who are also directors of Soundcastle Ltd for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice 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 charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable 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 charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the trustees on 13th October 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



Sarah Drake-Pullin

CHAIR of the BOARD of TRUSTEES

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Soundcastle Ltd for the year ended 31 March 2023

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are set out on pages 20 to 34.

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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.



Manningtons Chartered Accountants
39 High Street,
Battle
East Sussex
TN33 0EE

Rowena T K Walsh (FCCA) Date: 03.10.2023

Statement of Financial Activities for the Financial Year Ended 31 March 2023

Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 31 March 2023	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds to 31 March 2022
Notes	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:						
Donations & legacies	2	8,153	-	8,153	1,962	1,962
Charitable activities	2	59,941	147,905	207,846	52,479	217,643
<i>Total</i>		68,094	147,905	215,999	54,441	217,643
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds		42	-	42	51	-
Charitable activities	3	29,491	209,103	238,594	44,320	180,410
<i>Total</i>		29,533	209,103	238,636	44,371	180,410
Net income / (expenditure) before transfers		38,561	- 61,198	- 22,637	10,070	37,233
Transfer between funds		- 1,455	1,455	-	-	-
<i>Net movement in funds</i>		37,106	- 59,743	- 22,637	10,070	37,233
<i>Reconciliation of funds:</i>						
Total funds brought forward		31,224	109,362	140,586	21,154	72,129
<i>Total funds carried forward</i>		68,330	49,619	117,949	31,224	109,362

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

Balance Sheet as of 31st March 2023

	Notes	31 March 2023 £	31 March 2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	529	685
<i>Total fixed assets</i>		529	685
Current assets			
Debtors	7	5,580	2,546
Cash at bank and in hand	9	115,696	146,132
<i>Total current assets</i>		121,276	148,678
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	3,856	8,777
<i>Net current assets/(liabilities)</i>		117,420	139,901
<i>Total assets less current liabilities</i>		117,949	140,586
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	10		-
<i>Total net assets/(liabilities)</i>		117,949	140,586
Funds of the Charity			
Restricted funds	11	49,619	109,362
Unrestricted funds	11	68,330	31,224
<i>Total funds</i>		117,949	140,586

For the year in question, the company was entitled to exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476.
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.
- These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and constitute the annual

accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to the members of the company.

- The notes on pages 23 to 34 form an integral part of the financial statements.

Approved by the trustees on 13th October 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Drake-Pullin', with a stylized, cursive script.

Sarah Drake-Pullin

CHAIR of the BOARD of TRUSTEES

Notes to the accounts

Note 1: Accounting Policies

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

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), second edition - October 2019 (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2016.

The charity has applied the exemption available to small charities in the Charities SORP (FRS 102) and does not include a Statement of Cash Flows in these Financial Statements.

Soundcastle Ltd 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 notes.

b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

c) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be reliably measured.

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

Donations are recognised when the charity receives the funds.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known and the receipt is expected. If the amount is not known the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

d) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the 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 funds which the donor has specified are solely to be used for particular activities.

e) 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.

f) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be recognised reliably.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT.

g) Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs. Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

h) Tangible Fixed Assets

Individual assets costing £550 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated evenly over their estimated useful economic lives, as follows:

Plant and machinery	15% reducing balance
Computer equipment	25% reducing balance

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measure at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

The gain or less arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the assets, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

i) Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss(if any).

j) Debtors

Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

k) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provision re normally recognised at their settle met amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

l) Corporation Tax

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 objects.

m) Key estimates and accounting judgements

In applying the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions in determining the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities. The Trustees' judgements, estimates and assumptions are based on the best and most reliable evidence available at the time when the decisions are made, and are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be applicable. Due to the inherent subjectivity involved in making such judgements, estimates ad assumptions, the actual results and outcomes may differ.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to the accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised, if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of revision and future periods, if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Note 2: Analysis of income

	2023			2022
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies:				
Donations and gifts	8,153	-	8,153	1,962
Total	8,153	-	8,153	1,962
Charitable activities:				
Grants	12,355	147,905	160,260	225,789
Earned Income	47,586	-	47,586	44,333
Total	59,941	147,905	207,846	270,122
Total income	68,094	147,905	215,999	272,084

During the period Soundcastle received the following amounts from Government grants:

	£
Arts Council	27,000
National Lottery Awards	10,000
Waltham Forest Community In Fellowship Fund	2,236
Waltham Forest Community Ward Funding	1,455
Kickstart Scheme	3,181
	43,872

Note 3: Analysis of expenditure

	2023	2022
	£	£
Direct project costs	48,103	61,088
Depreciation	156	204
Salaries and wages	176,984	156,562
Travel	293	41
Staff training	125	263
Insurance	683	-
Rent	6,781	2,856
Other expenses	1,185	600
	234,308	221,614
Share of support costs (see note 4)	1,884	1,113
Share of governance costs (see note 5)	2,444	2,003
	238,636	224,730
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	29,533	44,320
Restricted funds	209,103	180,410
	238,636	224,730

Note 4: Governance and Other Support Costs

The total support costs and overheads attributable to charitable activity is apportioned as shown below:

	2023	2022
	Support Costs	Total
	£	£
Website	95	95
Subscriptions	1,748	1,748
Postage and stationery	40	40
	1,884	1,884
	1,884	1,113

Governance Costs

	31 March 2023	31 March 2022
	£	£
Independent Examination	720	1,194
Accountancy Fees	1,200	272
Payroll Fees	524	537
	2,444	2,003

Note 5: Details of certain items of expenditure

	2023	2022
	£	£
Independent examiner's fees	720	1,194
Other accountancy fees	1,724	809
Total	2,444	2,003

Note 6: Employees

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries and wages	166,581	139,900
Social security costs	6,781	6,790
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	6,168	5,409
Other	(2,546)	4,462
Total staff costs	176,984	156,561

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000

8.2 Average head count in the year

	2023	2022
	12	11
Total	12	11

8.3 Key Management Personnel

The remuneration of the key management personnel is:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries and wages	110,130	116,538
Social security costs	9,438	10,016
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	4,406	4,662
Total staff costs	123,973	131,216

No employee received remuneration over £60,000.

Note 7: Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year

	31 March 2023	31 March 2022
	£	£
Accrued income	1,455	2,546
Salaries Payable	-	-
Gift Aid Debtor	1,848	-
Accounts Receivable	2,277	-
Total	5,580	2,546

Note 8: Creditors & Accruals

Analysis of creditors: falling due within one year

	31 March 2023	31 March 2022
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	1,920	7,772
Accounts Payable	268	-
PAYE Payable	1,132	-
Other creditors	536	1,005
Total	3,856	8,777

Deferred income comprises of income received by the Trust in 2022 for activities taking place in 2023.

	£
Balance at 31 March 2022	1,800
Amounts released to income earned from charitable activities	(1,800)
Amount deferred in period	-
Balance at 31 March 2023	-

Note 9: Cash at bank and in hand

	31 March 2023	31 March 2022
	£	£
Current Account	113,050	144,026
PayPal	2,647	2,106
Total	115,696	146,132

Note 10: Tangible Fixed Assets

	Plant and machinery	Computer Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
<u>Cost</u>			
At 1 April 2022	868	3,922	4,790
Additions	-	-	-
At 31 March 2023	868	3,922	4,790
<u>Depreciation</u>			
At 1 April 2022	712	3,393	4,105
Charge for the year	23	132	156
At 31 March 2023	735	3,525	4,261
Net book value at 1 April 2022	156	529	685
Net book value at 31 March 2023	133	397	529

Note 11: Charity funds

	Balance at 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfer between funds	Balance at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds					
National Foundation for Youth Music	33,785	33,988	(65,609)	-	2,164
Arts Council England	-	27,000	(27,000)	-	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	6,169	10,000	(9,169)	-	7,000
London Community Foundation	11,629	15,000	(21,629)	1,455	6,455
Sussex Community Foundation	5,000	15,000	(13,000)	-	7,000
Arts Award Access Fund	68	-	(68)	-	-
Trusthouse Community Foundation	9,500	-	(9,500)	-	-
Arts Council England: Cultural Recovery Fund	8,481	-	(8,481)	-	-
The Rayne Foundation	3,649	12,000	(11,649)	-	4,000
Postcode Society Trust	20,997	-	(13,997)	-	7,000
Jessie's Fund	2,084	-	(2,084)	-	-
The Nisbet Trust	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-
Government KickStarter training element	3,000	3,181	(6,181)	-	-
Children in Need	-	20,000	(10,000)	-	10,000
The Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust	-	3,000	-	-	3,000
The Foreshore Trust	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
Skipton Charitable Foundation	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
The Souter Charitable Trust	-	3,000	-	-	3,000
Worthing Community Trust	-	1,500	(1,500)	-	-
Waltham Forest Community in Fellowship Fund	-	2,236	(2,236)	-	-
	109,362	147,905	(209,103)	1,455	49,619
Unrestricted Funds					
The Chalk Cliff Trust	3,000	5,000	(3,000)	-	5,000
Children in Need	-	500	(500)	-	-
London Borough of Waltham Forest	1,500	1,455	(1,500)	(1,455)	-
General Funds	26,724	61,139	(24,532)	-	63,330
	31,224	68,094	(29,532)	(1,455)	68,330
Total Funds	140,586	215,999	(238,635)	-	117,949

2022 Comparatives:	Balance at 1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfer between funds	Balance at 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds					
National Foundation for Youth Music	1,410	92,890	(60,515)	-	33,785
Arts Council England	42,629	9,960	(52,589)	-	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	1,029	10,000	(4,860)	-	6,169
London Community Foundation	9,756	9,756	(7,883)	-	11,629
City Bridge Trust	10,976	-	(10,976)	-	-
Sussex Community Foundation	5,000	10,000	(10,000)	-	5,000
Arts Award Access Fund	1,329	-	(1,261)	-	68
Trusthouse Community Foundation	-	9,500	-	-	9,500
Arts Council England: Cultural Recovery Fund	-	32,040	(23,559)	-	8,481
The Rayne Foundation	-	12,000	(8,351)	-	3,649
Postcode Society Trust	-	20,997	-	-	20,997
Jessie's Fund	-	2,500	(416)	-	2,084
The Nisbet Trust	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Government KickStarter training element	-	3,000	-	-	3,000
	72,129	217,643	(180,410)	-	109,362
Unrestricted Funds					
Co-op Bank	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
The Baring Foundation	6,503	-	(6,503)	-	-
The Chalk Cliff Trust	-	3,000	-	-	3,000
Peabody Community Foundation	767	-	-	(767)	-
Social Investment Business Foundation	439	-	-	(439)	-
London Borough of Waltham Forest	-	1,500	-	-	1,500
General Funds	12,445	49,941	(36,868)	1,206	26,724
	21,154	54,441	(44,371)	-	31,224
Total Funds	93,283	272,084	(224,781)	-	140,586

Restricted Funds:

Funder

Description of Fund

National Foundation for Youth Music	Grant funding received in 2022/23 financial year in support of the cross-regional Musical Beacons and Sparking Change programmes, and development of the Soundcastle Health and Wellbeing Agenda.
Arts Council England	Grant funding received in 2022/23 to support People's Music Sussex programme delivery.
The National Lottery Community Fund	Grant funding received in 2022/23 to support People's Music Sussex programme delivery.
London Community Foundation	First instalment of multi year grant received in 2022/23 financial year for Musical Beacons and People's Music London programme delivery.
Sussex Community Foundation	Grant funding received in 2022/23 for the People's Music Sussex programme, and the continuation of essential services.
Arts Award Access Fund	Grant funding received in 2021/22 financial year for delivery of Arts Award qualifications through Musical Beacons Sussex.
Trusthouse Community Foundation	Grant Funding received in 2021/22 financial year for delivery of Musical Beacons Hastings sessions.
Arts Council England: Cultural Recovery Fund	Grant funding received in 2021/22 to support Soundcastle's post pandemic recovery and core development.
The Rayne Foundation	Second payment of multi year grant supporting the People's Music Sussex programme, received in 2022/23.
Postcode Society Trust	Grant funding received in 2021/22 financial year for People's Music programme delivery.
Jessie's Fund	Grant funding received in 2021/22 financial year for Musical Beacons Bristol programme delivery.
The Nisbet Trust	Grant funding received in 2021/22 financial year for Musical Beacons Bristol programme delivery.
Government KickStarter training element	Grant funding received in 2022/23 financial year for Musical Beacons London trainee replacement.
Children in Need	First two instalments of multi year grant received in 2022/23 financial year for Musical Beacons Sussex programme delivery.
The Ernerst Kleinwort Charitable Trust	Grant funding received in 2022/23 financial year for People's Music Sussex programme delivery.
The Foreshore Trust	Grant funding received in 2022/23 financial year for Musical Beacons Hastings instruments.
Skipton Charitable Foundation	Grant funding received in 2022/23 financial year for Musical Beacons Bristol instruments.
The Souter Charitable Trust	Grant funding received in 2022/23 financial year for People's Music Sussex programme delivery.
Worthing Community Trust	Grant funding received in 2022/23 financial year for People's Music Sussex programme delivery.
Waltham Forest Community in Fellowship Fund	Grant funding received in 2022/23 financial year for Musical Beacons London programme delivery.

Unrestricted Funds:

Funder

The Chalk Cliff Trust

Description of Fund

Donation received in 2022/23 financial year in support of the Musical Beacons Sussex programme.

Children in Need

Grant funding uplift received in 2022/23 financial year in support of increased core costs during cost of living crisis.

London Borough of Waltham Forest

Donation received in 2022/23 financial year in support of the Musical Beacons London programme.

Note 12: Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2023 represented by:			
Tangible assets	529	-	529
Current assets/(liabilities)	67,801	49,619	117,420
	<u>68,330</u>	<u>49,619</u>	<u>117,949</u>

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 March 2022 represented by:			
Tangible assets	685	-	685
Current assets/(liabilities)	30,539	109,362	139,901
	<u>31,224</u>	<u>109,362</u>	<u>140,586</u>

Note 13: Trustees remuneration and expenses

The trustees, nor any persons connected with them received no remuneration or benefits for the performance of their duties.

Akhila Krishnan paid Soundcastle a monthly fee of £200 for a desk space at the Soundcastle offices for the period July 2022 to March 2023.

Note 14: Related party transactions

During the period in question there were the following related party transactions:

Jennifer Parkinson, Co-Founder and Bristol Lead

Joao Ricardo Aguir was paid £370 for graphic design and video editing work. He is Jennifer Parkinson's partner.

Rachael Perrin, Co-Founder and Strategic Development Lead

Gareth Wildig was paid £3,800 for website design, build and accessibility workplan photography and film work. He also received payment £461.30 as reimbursement of related expenses incurred. He is married to Rachael Perrin.

All these services were reviewed and approved by the Board in advance of the work taking place.

SOUNDCASTLE LTD

England & Wales - Charity number 1194955

Accounts



Playful People Making Change

Trustees' **Annual Report** and **Financial Statements** for the year ended 31st March 2022



Soundcastle Ltd

Charity Registration Number: 1194955

Company Registration Number: 08210076



Contents

Administrative Information	3
Trustees' Annual Report	4
Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements	15
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Soundcastle	17
Statement of Financial Activities for the Financial Year Ended 31 st March 2022	19
Balance Sheet as of 31 st March 2022	20
Notes to the accounts	22

Administrative Information

Trustees:	S Drake-Pullin (Co-Chair), appointed 2 nd December 2020 L Becko-Vasiliadis (Co-Chair & Treasurer), appointed 2 nd December 2020 A Krishnan, appointed 2 nd December 2020 C Rubin, appointed 2 nd December 2020 R Jarratt, appointed 1 st May 2021 H Collisson, appointed 29 th March 2022
Charity Address:	Unit 1, 2nd Floor, Rock House 49 - 51 Cambridge Road Hastings East Sussex TN34 1DT
Bankers:	The Co-operative Bank p.l.c. P.O Box 101 1 Balloon Street Manchester M60 4EP
Accountant and Independent Examiner:	Beyond Profit Ltd G104 Bolton Arena Arena Approach Horwich Bolton BL6 6LB

Trustees' Annual Report

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022. Included within the trustees' report is the directors report as required by company law.

The reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Structure, Governance and Management

Soundcastle Ltd is a registered charity and a Company Limited by Guarantee with the Charity Registration Number 1194955. The governing document of Soundcastle Ltd is a memorandum and articles of association dated 16th March 2021.

The Trustees, who are also directors under company law, are appointed by ordinary resolution passed at a general meeting. One third of the members of the Trustees must retire by rotation but may stand for re-election. Trustees met every three months during the financial year in question.

Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £10 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees at 31st March 2022 was 6.

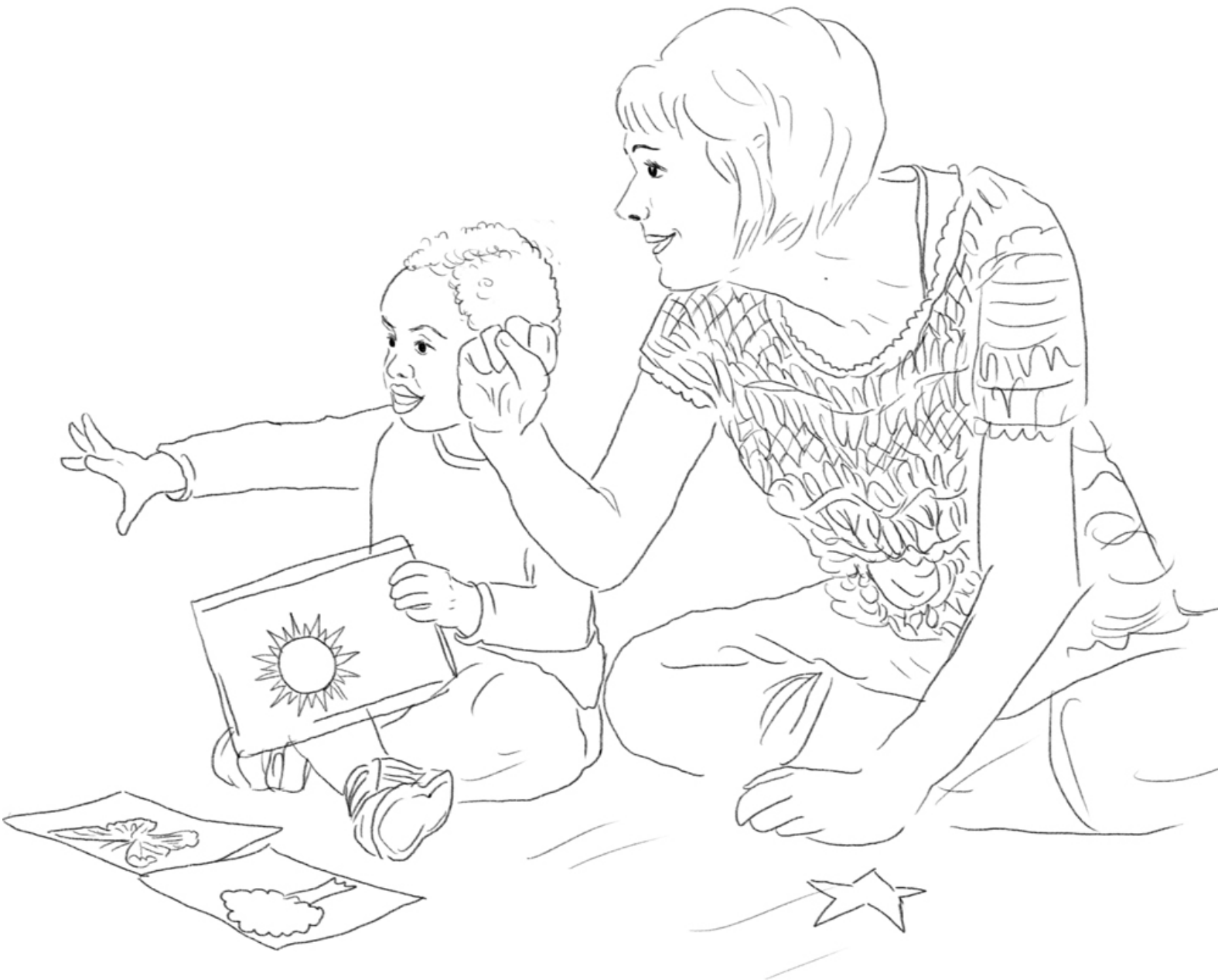
Objectives and Activities for the Public Benefit

The objects of the charity are specifically restricted to the following:

- a. To advance education, including by (but not limited to) delivering programmes relating to the arts.
- b. To provide or assist in the provision of facilities, opportunities and activities relating to the arts in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such opportunities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity, disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life.
- c. To promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society.

For the purpose of this clause 'socially excluded' means being excluded from society, or part of society, as a result of being a member of a socially and economically deprived community.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and setting the grant making policy for the period.



2021-22

Review of Activities and Achievements

- Overview.
- Musical Beacons.
- People's Music.
- Soundcastle Community, Training and Consultancy.
- Awards and Stats.
- Future Plans.

Soundcastle Overview

This has been a transformational year for Soundcastle! In our 10th year, we registered as a charity, opening up new opportunities and renewing our ambition to break down barriers to music making. We have appointed a diverse, talented and committed Board of Trustees who have offered new perspectives, useful challenges and complementary skills to the Leadership Team. We have also set up our first Advisory Panel, made up of community members, partners and creative practitioners, to increase representation and ensure that community voice remains at the heart of Soundcastle's vision.

We continue to be advised and guided by the communities we partner with across our three regions of Bristol, Sussex and East London. Our specialism remains in family and mental health contexts, embedding inspirational music programmes that respond to local needs. Soundcastle creative music programmes work towards our social aims of increased confidence, reduced social isolation and enhanced wellbeing. In addition to this, our training and consultancy offer is rapidly expanding, enabling us to share practice, support early career practitioners and play our part in the development of a connected and thriving community arts sector.

We have a diverse and growing team of music practitioners, producers and administrative staff who have been exceptionally dedicated to the delivery of high quality, inspiring work. We are committed to their wellbeing and were shortlisted for the Culture Health and Wellbeing Alliance 'Artists Practising Well' award. This award focuses on practice that is leading the way in championing, delivering and embedding practitioner care into project design, commissioning and management. We are proud of our team and everything we have achieved together this year, and we look forward to turning future plans into reality!



In the year 2021-2022:

Soundcastle delivered 168 creative music making sessions in community settings. We made creative music making accessible to 408 community members. This includes, 218 children and young people and 190 adults facing challenging circumstances and socio-economic barriers to music making.

Soundcastle delivered 24 Training and Consultancy sessions and connected 320 community music sector professionals via the Soundcastle Community.

Our training programmes supported 171 creative professionals, including 96 young people aged 18-25 at the start of their careers.

Our consultancy supported 30 sector professionals and included the voices of 425 children and young people.

Musical Beacons

Our Musical Beacons programme has expanded rapidly across all three regions, providing high quality music making to families from a wide range of backgrounds. For many people, it has been their first opportunity to step out of Covid isolation and back into their community. We have been working closely with families facing challenging life circumstances, including:

- Families with neurodiverse children.
- Families with English as a second language.
- Families with young parents living in supported housing.

For many, it is their only access to free and inclusive creative activity. Our sensitive music facilitators support people to strengthen family bonds, form community friendships and explore self-expression through a range of creative music activity.

Over the past year we have developed a diverse range of strategic partnerships which provide essential entry points and referral routes, widening access to the programmes for the most vulnerable members of our communities. These include:

Music Hubs

- Create Music (Sussex).
- Bristol Beacon.
- Newham Music.
- Waltham Forest.

Disability Services

- West of England Centre for Inclusive Living.
- Bristol Autism Project.
- Incredible Me.
- The Lloyd Park Children's Charity.
- Drake Music.

Accommodation Partners

- Peabody Housing Association.
- East Sussex Young Parents' Service.
- Salvation Army Housing Association.
- Turner House.

In the year 2021-2022:

Musical Beacons Bristol has:

- Delivered 22 family music sessions.
- Reached 61 children and 53 adults – families with neurodiverse children.

Musical Beacons Sussex has:

- Delivered 56 family music sessions.
- Reached 19 children and 18 young parents (aged 16-25) – living in safe houses with experience of past trauma and mental health challenges.
- Created and recorded 3 original pieces of music.

Musical Beacons London has:

- Delivered 52 family music sessions.
- Reached 119 children and 109 adults – families who have English as a second language and/or have children with a learning disability.
- Created and recorded 3 original pieces of music.

Our evaluation shows that we are regularly meeting all of our social aims for families who regularly attend Musical Beacons sessions.

Increased Confidence

100% of community members who completed our feedback survey reported feeling an increase in confidence.

“I feel like I can play instruments with my daughter now, and we can have fun together” Young Parent, Musical Beacons Sussex (Hastings).

“Being around many people from different backgrounds challenged me to be more outgoing” Parent, Musical Beacons London.

Reduced Social Isolation

100% of community members who completed our feedback survey reported feeling an increase in connectedness to their community.

“It brought us all closer together. It is something we all connected on and enjoyed.” Young Parent, Musical Beacons Sussex.

“Learning how to communicate with other parents” Parent, Musical Beacons London.

Enhanced Wellbeing

70% of community members who completed our feedback survey reported feeling enhanced wellbeing.

"It was the first time I have ever seen my child relax, it was priceless" Parent, Musical Beacons Bristol.

"Residents who were receiving support from Children Services developed their parenting skills and learnt to play and engage with their children through the support of Musical Beacons. They are flourishing now. These sessions are so valuable to parents who have experienced trauma in their own childhood." Jocelyn, Deputy Manager, East Sussex Young Parents Service, Musical Beacons Sussex.

"The singing and the children make me feel a lot happy instantly." Parent, Musical Beacons, London.

People's Music

Our People's Music programme has expanded in Sussex to offer safe and inclusive creative music sessions to adults with a mental health diagnosis. Alongside continued delivery of People's Music Collective, we launched our first New Rhythms programme for adults in the early stages of mental health recovery. For many people, it has been their first opportunity to step out of Covid isolation and back into their community.

Many of our community members face socio-economic barriers to attending creative activity, and People's Music is their only access to inclusive music making. Our music facilitators continue to support people to step out of their comfort zones, form community friendships and remove stigma around mental health.

Over the past year we have strengthened local partnerships with mental health services which provide essential entry points and referral routes, widening access to the programme for the most vulnerable members of our communities. These include:

- Sussex Recovery College.
- Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.
- West Sussex Mind.
- Worthing Mental Health Awareness.

During the Covid lockdowns, the People's Music Collective, our band for adults on a journey of mental health recovery, worked together to compose, record and launch their first EP 'UnLocked' entirely online. This was launched as part of the digital Brighton Fringe and has since gained 520 online views.

In the year 2021–2022 People’s Music has:

- Delivered 6 New Rhythms sessions.
- Delivered 32 People’s Music Collective sessions.
- Reached 19 adults with a mental health diagnosis.
- Created, recorded and launched an EP with 5 original pieces of music.
- Given a live Christmas performance.

Our evaluation shows that we are regularly meeting all of our social aims for community members who attend a People’s Music programme.

Increased Confidence

100% of community members who completed our feedback survey reported feeling an increase in confidence.

“I can speak up more now and tell people how I feel and how I am processing things. I don’t think I was doing that before and I only realised that in this music group.” New Rhythms member.

“Being in the group has encouraged me to step out of my comfort zone, quite a long way out on some occasions. Making my voice heard, literally, and being in a room of people who are actually aware that I am there, has made me realise that I am able to speak out, and express ideas, without being considered unimportant, or simply ignored. This has then impacted my life, outside of the group. When situations arise, whereby I have a choice whether to speak up, or not, I feel more able to let my voice be heard.” People’s Music Collective member.

Reduced Social Isolation

100% of community members who completed our feedback survey reported feeling an increase in connectedness to their community.

“Through the music, you can realise what it feels like to be part of a group. You don’t have to do everything all by yourself. You can all carry the weight together.” New Rhythms member.

“I have felt quite isolated, especially over the past couple of years. (I’m aware that I’m not the only one, for sure). I didn’t have a huge amount of friends to start with, but I have lost touch with some of them. Attending the PMC, whether it was virtually, on Zoom, or in person, has given me an extremely valuable, and very much needed, opportunity to connect with people. The fact that the people in question are warm and supportive, makes that all the more important.” People’s Music Collective member.

Enhanced Wellbeing

92% of community members who completed our feedback survey reported feeling enhanced wellbeing.

"I left each session feeling more positive for the day." New Rhythms member.

"If I'm feeling somewhat low, then attending the PMC sessions gives my mood a boost. Also, during the week, in between sessions, and even in the longer spaces between terms, I find myself giving thought to what we're currently working on, and that also gives me a lift. That boost, has on a number of occasions, prompted me to do something else creative at home, whether it be musical, or art & craft based. The group gives me motivation and enthusiasm." PMC member.

The Soundcastle Community, Training and Consultancy

Soundcastle's training and consultancy offer has grown consistently throughout 2021-22. We have continued to offer professional development training via the Soundcastle Community. This includes the monthly series of well-attended 'Refresh Your Practice' sessions, as well as the successful pilot of our Sparking Change programme for early career 18-25 year olds. The Soundcastle Community allows us to reach practitioners across the UK, enabling us to generate a positive impact on the community music sector at a national level. Delivering consultancy continues to expand an understanding of high-quality co-production in community practice. In particular, our work with music hubs has opened space for youth voices to be heard.

In the year 2021-2022 Soundcastle has:

- Connected 320 community music sector professionals via the Soundcastle Community.
- Delivered 16 training sessions which have:
 - Reached 171 sector professionals (of which 96 were early career professionals and students aged 18-25).
- Delivered 12 consultancy sessions for 3 organisations (Newham Music, South West Hubs and Every Copy Counts) which have:
 - Reached 30 sector professionals.
 - Included the voices of 425 children and young people.

Increased Confidence

"It has helped to give me more confidence in my ideas. This forced me to take some risks, which was both a little scary and welcome at the same time!" Soundcastle Community Member.

"I have a lot of self limiting beliefs about music and my abilities with teaching / facilitation, and over the years they have prevented me from pushing myself in these areas, even though I am so

passionate. I have had a business idea that I plan to pursue to do with music facilitation. I really think Soundcastle had a lot to do with that!" Soundcastle Community Member.

"I will always assume someone else knows better than me and have spent years and lots of money searching for a qualification that will convince me of my own competence. The brilliant thing about this was that you didn't try to indoctrinate us into delivering carbon copies of a set working model. Instead, it was about empowering us to trust our own instincts and be brave about trying new things, whilst being prepared to make mistakes. This was exactly what I needed!" Soundcastle Community Member.

Reduced Social Isolation

"It was so lovely to meet people who are not judgemental, lovely and acceptable. My first language isn't English and I face so many barriers in everyday life, but none of that ever happened in Soundcastle. I felt free to express myself." Soundcastle Community Member.

"I don't feel lonely anymore" Soundcastle Community Member.

"Truly a safe space ... that connection with other musicians up and down the country is quite vital and makes me feel like I'm not alone." Soundcastle Community Member.

Enhanced Wellbeing

"I have learned different things in terms of wellbeing and creativity. As a practitioner, I have to take care of myself by stretching and by reflecting with a healthy body and mind, and plan my course in a safe place, bringing a positive energy to participants." Soundcastle Community Member.

"It can be really easy to get sucked into the 'goal' and forget to enjoy playing / experimenting with yourself and others. That's been an incredibly positive realisation and has helped my wellbeing a lot." Soundcastle Community Member.

"It feels like something the industry has been crying out for, and I really appreciate that wellbeing is held at the heart of it all." Soundcastle Community Member.

Digital Reach (2021 - 2022)

- 856 people like and follow our Facebook page.
- Our Facebook activity reached 5,376 people.
- 1,868 people follow us on Twitter.
- 133 people subscribe to us on YouTube.
- We have 1,613 YouTube views.



- 510 people follow us on Instagram.
- 162 people follow us on LinkedIn.

Future Plans (2022–23)

We are looking ahead to the coming year with renewed energy and ambition! We plan to sustain and expand our work, embedding long term Musical Beacons and People's Music programmes which continue to respond to local need. The Soundcastle Community will continue to host our training and consultancy programmes, supporting the sector to engage with high quality working practice in community settings and striving for positive social impact.

Internally, we will build upon our existing skills, offering Mental Health First Aid and Disability Awareness training throughout Soundcastle. Further, we plan to focus on our staff's wellbeing at work, carrying out a consultation followed by a formalisation of our current focus on mental wellbeing within the Soundcastle family.

We will further diversify the Board of Trustees and Advisory Panel to ensure that a wide range of voices and lived experiences are fully represented. We will continue developing and delivering our comprehensive fundraising strategy with a view to securing long term core costs and providing stability for our community partners and wider staff team.

2021–22 has been a year of rapid expansion, rewarding programme delivery and tangible positive change. We are proud of all that we have achieved and look forward to the year to come!

Financial Review

The financial statements attached detail the financial position of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2022.

Incoming resources for the year totalled £272,084 of which £217,643 were for restricted purposes. Outgoing resources for the year were £224,781 of which £180,410 were attributable to restricted funds. Restricted funds carried forward at the year end totalled £109,362 and unrestricted funds totalled £31,224.

Our 2021–22 income and expenditure demonstrate the rapid growth of the charity in comparison to our previous financial accounts (during which periods we were operating as a not-for-profit social enterprise (Company Ltd by guarantee) prior to charity registration).

Our earned income also increased significantly in comparison to previous financial years, to £44,333, now representing 16% of our total income through sales, commissions, coaching and consultancy work.

In the year ended 31st March 2022, our largest funders have been the National Foundation for Youth Music and Arts Council England, together funding approximately 63% of our expenditure on charitable activities.

Alongside this, we are grateful for the ongoing support we have received from a wide variety of charitable funders including The National Lottery Community Foundation, the London Community Foundation, City Bridge Trust, Sussex Community Foundation, Arts Award Access Fund, the Trusthouse Community Foundation, the Rayne Foundation, Postcode Society Trust, the Social Investment Business Foundation, Jessie's Fund, the Co-operative Bank, the London Borough of Waltham Forest, the Baring Foundation, the Nisbet Trust and the Chalk Cliff Trust.

We would like to extend our thanks to all our funders for their generous support of the charity's work in the 2021-22 financial year.

Reserves Policy

The trustees have considered Soundcastle's need for reserves with reference to the level of risk it faces. They have concluded that it is important for the charity to always hold in financial reserves, as a minimum, the funds that would be required to ensure an ordered and proper closure of Soundcastle Ltd.

This level of reserves will fund:

- Any redundancy payments due to employees.
- Accountancy and other professional costs.
- Costs relating to the termination of contracts including office rental and equipment hire.
- A contingency sum held for outstanding liabilities.

This initial reserves position assumes that no immediate withdrawal of funding will occur. To mitigate the risks arising in the event of an immediate loss of funds, the trustees have established a policy whereby the charity's intention is to increase unrestricted reserves to a level equivalent to three months' core running costs, by 31st March 2023. The trustees consider that, once achieved, the target level of reserves should be maintained on an ongoing basis in order to ensure the future financial resilience of the charity.

As per the enclosed accounts, expenditure on core running costs in 2021/22 was £163,641 and therefore the target reserves are £40,910 in general funds. On 31st March 2022 the charity's unrestricted reserves totalled £31,224.

In light of the rapid growth in income and expenditure the charity has experienced in 2021-22, the trustees intend to review the reserves policy during the 2022-23 financial year to revise the target reserves figure to ensure it remains sufficient to cover 3 months' core running costs.

Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements

The trustees (who are also directors of Soundcastle Ltd for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

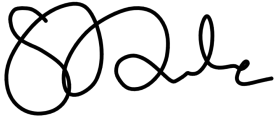
- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, 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 charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable 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 charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the trustees on 29th April 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



Sarah Drake-Pullin

CHAIR of the BOARD of TRUSTEES



Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Soundcastle Ltd for the year ended 31 March 2022

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2022 which are set out on pages 23 to 40.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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.



Emma Willder, FCMA, CGMA, CG (Affiliated) **Date:** 6 May 2022

Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.

Beyond Profit Ltd
G104 Bolton Arena
Arena Approach, Horwich
Bolton, BL6 6LB

Statement of Financial Activities for the Financial Year Ended 31st March 2022

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 31 March 2022
	Notes	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	2	1,962	-	1,962
Charitable activities	2	52,479	217,643	270,122
Total		54,441	217,643	272,084
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds		51	-	51
Charitable activities	3	44,320	180,410	224,730
Total		44,371	180,410	224,781
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers		10,070	37,233	47,303
Net movement in funds		10,070	37,233	47,303
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward		21,154	72,129	93,283
Total funds carried forward		31,224	109,362	140,586

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

Balance Sheet as of 31st March 2022

	Notes 31 March 2022	
		£
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	10	685
Total fixed assets		685
Current assets		
Debtors	7	2,546
Cash at bank and in hand	9	146,132
Total current assets		148,678
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	8,777
Net current assets/(liabilities)		139,901
Total assets less current liabilities		140,586
Total net assets / (liabilities)		140,586
Funds of the Charity		
Restricted funds	11	109,362
Unrestricted funds	11	31,224
Total funds		140,586

For the year in question, the company was entitled to exemption from an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

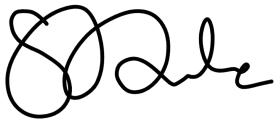
Directors' responsibilities:

- the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476.
- the directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to the members of the company.

The notes on pages 22 to 37 form an integral part of the financial statements.

Approved by the trustees on 29th April 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



Sarah Drake-Pullin

CHAIR of the BOARD of TRUSTEES

Notes to the accounts

Note 1: Accounting Policies

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

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), second edition – October 2019 (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2016.

The charity has applied the exemption available to small charities in the Charities SORP (FRS 102) and does not include a Statement of Cash Flows in these Financial Statements.

Soundcastle Ltd 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 notes.

As this is the first year of charity registration, prior year comparatives are not provided. The accounts for years prior to 31 March 2022 can be found on Companies House.

b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

c) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be reliably measured.

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

Donations are recognised when the charity receives the funds.

Legacies are recognised on receipted or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known and the receipt is expected. If the amount is not known the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

d) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the 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 funds which the donor has specified are solely to be used for particular activities.

e) 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.

f) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be recognised reliability.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT.

g) Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs. Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

h) Tangible Fixed Assets

Individual assets costing £550 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated evenly over their estimated useful economic lives, as follows:

Plant and machinery	15% reducing balance
Computer equipment	25% reducing balance

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measure at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

The gain or less arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the assets, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

i) Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss(if any).

j) Debtors

Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

k) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provision re normally recognised at their settle met amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

l) Corporation Tax

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 objects.

m) Key estimates and accounting judgements

In applying the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions in determining the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities. The Trustees' judgements, estimates and assumptions are based on the best and most reliable evidence available at the time when the decisions are made, and are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be applicable. Due to the inherent subjectivity involved in making such judgements, estimates and assumptions, the actual results and outcomes may differ.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to the accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised, if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of revision and future periods, if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Note 2: Analysis of income

	2022		
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
Donations and legacies:			
Donations and gifts	1,962	-	1,962
Total	1,962	-	1,962
Charitable activities:			
Grants	8,146	217,643	225,789
Earned Income	44,333	-	44,333
Total	52,479	217,643	270,122
Total income	54,441	217,643	272,084

During the period Soundcastle received the following amounts from Government grants:

	£
Arts Council	9,960
National Lottery Awards	10,000
Arts Council Cultural Recovery Fund	32,040
Kickstart Scheme	6,646
	58,646

During the period Soundcastle received the following amounts as donations:

	£
London Borough of Waltham Forest	1,500
	1,500

Note 3: Analysis of expenditure

	2022
	£
Direct project costs	61,088
Depreciation	204
Salaries and wages	156,562
Travel	41
Staff training	263
Rent	2,856
Other expenses	600
	221,614
Share of support costs (see note 4)	1,113
Share of governance costs (see note 5)	2,003
	224,730
Analysis by fund	
Unrestricted funds	44,320
Restricted funds	180,410
	224,730

Note 4: Governance and Other Support Costs

The total support costs and overheads attributable to charitable activity is apportioned as shown below:

	Support Costs	Total
	£	£
Website	69	69
Subscriptions	1,039	1,039
Postage and stationery	5	5
	1,113	1,113

Governance Costs	31 March 2021
	£
Independent Examination	1,194
Accountancy Fees	272
Payroll Fees	537
	2,003

Trustee Indemnity insurance was purchase on 28 March 2022. The apportioned cost of this is not material and is therefore not shown in the accounts.

Note 5: Details of certain items of expenditure

	2022
	£
Independent examiner's fees	1,194
Other accountancy fees	809
Total	2,003

Note 6: Employees

	2022
	£
Salaries and wages	139,900
Social security costs	6,790
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	5,409
Other	4,462
Total staff costs	156,561

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000

8.2 Average head count in the year

	2022
	11
Total	11

8.3 Key Management Personnel

The remuneration of the key management personnel is:

	2022
	£
Salaries and wages	116,538
Social security costs	10,016
Pension costs (defined contribution scheme)	4,662
Total staff costs	131,216

No employee received remuneration over £60,000.

Note 7: Debtors**Amounts falling due within one year**

	31 March 2022
	£
Accrued income	2,546
Total	2,546

Note 8: Creditors & Accruals**Analysis of creditors: falling due within one year**

	31 March 2022
	£
Accruals and deferred income	7,772
Other creditors	1,005
Total	8,777

Deferred income comprises of income received by the charity in 2021 for activities

	£
Balance at 31 March 2021	80,838
Amounts released to income earned from charitable activities	(80,838)
Amount deferred in period	1,800
Balance at 31 March 2022	1,800

Note 9: Cash at bank and in hand

	31 March 2022
	£
Current Account	144,026
PayPal	2,106
Total	146,132

Note 10: Tangible Fixed Assets

	Plant and machinery	Computer Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
<u>Cost</u>			
At 1 April 2021	868	3,922	4,790
Additions	-	-	-
At 31 March 2022	868	3,922	4,790
<u>Depreciation</u>			
At 1 April 2021	685	3,217	3,902
Charge for the year	27	176	203
At 31 March 2022	712	3,393	4,105
Net book value at 1 April 2021	183	705	888
Net book value at 31 March 2022	156	529	685

Note 11: Charity funds

	Balance at			Transfer	Balance at 31
	1 April 2021	Income	Expenditure	between funds	March 2022
	£	£	£		£
Restricted Funds					
National Foundation for Youth Music	1,410	92,890	(60,515)	-	33,785
Arts Council England	42,629	9,960	(52,589)	-	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	1,029	10,000	(4,860)	-	6,169
London Community Foundation	9,756	9,756	(7,883)	-	11,629
City Bridge Trust	10,976	-	(10,976)	-	-
Sussex Community Foundation	5,000	10,000	(10,000)	-	5,000
Arts Award Access Fund	1,329	-	(1,261)	-	68
Trusthouse Community Foundation	-	9,500	-	-	9,500
Arts Council England: Cultural Recovery Fund	-	32,040	(23,559)	-	8,481
The Rayne Foundation	-	12,000	(8,351)	-	3,649
Postcode Society Trust	-	20,997	-	-	20,997
Jessie's Fund	-	2,500	(416)	-	2,084
The Nisbet Trust	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Government KickStarter training element	-	3,000	-	-	3,000
	72,129	217,643	(180,410)	-	109,362
Unrestricted Funds					
Co-op Bank	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
The Baring Foundation	6,503	-	(6,503)	-	-
The Chalk Cliff Trust	-	3,000	-	-	3,000
Peabody Community Foundation	767	-	-	(767)	-
Social Investment Business Foundation	439	-	-	(439)	-
London Borough of Waltham Forest	-	1,500	-	-	1,500
General Funds	12,445	49,941	(36,868)	1,206	26,724
	21,154	54,441	(44,371)	-	31,224
Total Funds	93,283	272,084	(224,781)	-	140,586

Restricted Funds:

Funder	Description of Fund
National Foundation for Youth Music	Grant funding received in 2020/21 financial year in support of the cross-regional Musical Beacons programme and the Soundcastle Training Circle.
Arts Council England	Final payments of grants for People's Music and Musical Beacons South East programme received in 2021/22 financial year.
The National Lottery Community Fund	Grant funding received in 2021/22 financial year for People's Music programme delivery.
London Community Foundation	Final payment of multi year grant received in 2021/22 financial year for Musical Beacons London programme delivery.
City Bridge Trust	Remainder of grant funding received in 2020/21 supporting continuation and adaptation of Musical Beacons London in response to the impact of the pandemic.
Sussex Community Foundation	Grant funding received in 2021/22 for the People's Music programme, and the continuation of South East services during the pandemic.
Arts Award Access Fund	Grant funding received in 2021/22 financial year for delivery of Arts Award qualifications through Musical Beacons South East.
Trusthouse Community Foundation	Grant Funding received in 2021/22 financial year for delivery of Musical Beacons Hastings sessions.
Arts Council England: Cultural Recovery Fund	Grant funding received in 2021/22 to support Soundcastle's post pandemic recovery and core development.
The Rayne Foundation	First payment of multi year grant supporting the People's Music programme, received in 2021/22.
Postcode Society Trust	Grant funding received in 2021/22 financial year for People's Music programme delivery.
Jessie's Fund	Grant funding received in 2021/22 financial year for Musical Beacons Bristol programme delivery.



The Nisbet Trust

Grant funding received in 2021/22 financial year for Musical Beacons Bristol programme delivery.

Unrestricted Funds:

Funder

Description of Fund

Co-op Bank

Donation received in 2020/21 financial year for Musical Beacons equipment and resources.

The Baring Foundation

Grant funding received in the 2020/21 financial year towards the development and continuation of Soundcastle's mental health focussed work.

The Chalk Cliff Trust

Donation received in 2021/22 financial year in support of the Musical Beacons South East programme.

Peabody Community Foundation

Remainder of a grant received in the 2019/20 financial year in support of Musical Beacons London.

Social Investment Business Foundation

Remainder of a grant received in the 2019/20 financial year in support of People's Music.

London Borough of Waltham Forest

Donation received in 2021/22 financial year in support of the Musical Beacons London programme.

Note 12: Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
Fund balances at 31 March 2022 represented by:			
Tangible assets	685	-	685
Current assets/(liabilities)	30,539	109,362	139,901
	31,224	109,362	140,586

Note 13: Trustees remuneration and expenses

The trustees, nor any persons connected with them received no remuneration or benefits for the performance of their duties.

Hannah Collisson was appointed as a Trustee on 29 March 2022. Prior to her appointment as a Trustee she provided Marketing and PR support on a freelance basis. Since being appointed as a Trustee she no longer works in this capacity.

Akhila Krishnan paid Soundcastle a monthly fee of £75 for a desk space at the Soundcastle offices for the period May 2021 to February 2022.

Trustee Indemnity insurance was purchase on 28 March 2022. The apportioned cost of this is not material and is therefore not shown in the accounts.

Note 14: Related party transactions

During the period in question there were the following related party transactions:

Jennifer Parkinson, Co-founder and Bristol Lead

Joao Ricardo Aguiar was paid £968 for graphic design and video editing work. He is Jennifer Parkinson's partner.

Rachael Perrin, Co-Founder and Strategic Development Lead

Gareth Wildig was paid £3,666 for website design, build and accessibility workplan photography and film work. Gareth also paid Soundcastle a monthly fee of £75 for a desk space in the Soundcastle office for the period May 2021 to February 2022. He is married to Rachael Perrin.

All these services were reviewed and approved by the Board in advance of the work taking place.