BLUE CABIN CIO

England & Wales · Charity number 1195152

Details

Other names	BLUE CABIN
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2021-07-13
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	13 Brighton Gardens Gateshead NE8 4SN
Phone	07967719949
Email	hello@weareblueca bin.com
Website	www.weareblueca bin.com

Activities

Objects: TO RELIEVE THE NEEDS OF CARE-EXPERIENCED CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ANYWHERE IN THE UK BY INFLUENCING POLICY, CARRYING OUT RESEARCH AND PROVIDING ACCESS TO CREATIVE EXPERIENCES, TO HELP THEM TO GAIN SKILLS, INCREASE IN CONFIDENCE, BUILD STRONGER RELATIONSHIPS AND IMPROVE THEIR LIVES FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT.

Activities: Blue Cabin nurtures meaningful relationships between care experienced individuals, and the people and organisations who are part of their lives. Creativity is at the heart of all that we do. We prioritize work in the North East.We provide access to creative experiences, training for the adults in their lives and carry out research and evaluation to influence practice and policy.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Disability, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups

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Geography

- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£484,809	£447,120	-	-
2024-03-31	£480,847	£398,503	-	-
2023-03-31	£307,919	£330,440	-	-
2022-03-31	£667,152	£443,457	£223,695	3

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Adam David Kent	Chair	2021-07-13
Adele Brown		2025-07-15
Alexandria Bradley		2025-07-15
Catherine Hearne		2021-10-11
Mark Dibble		2021-10-11
Rohima Poosch		2026-01-22
Sedil Kilic		2022-02-01
Wendy Price		2023-07-10

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BLUE CABIN CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1195152

Accounts

Charity registration number 1195152 (England and Wales)

BLUE CABIN CIO

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

BLUE CABIN CIO

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Adam Kent - Chair	
	Catherine Hearne - Vice Chair	
	Mark Dibble - Vice Chair	
	Wendy Price	
	Sedil Kilic	
	Adele Brown	(Appointed 15 July 2025)
	Alexandria Bradley	(Appointed 15 July 2025)
Charity number (England and Wales)	1195152	
Principal address	13 Brighton Gardens Gateshead Tyne And Wear NE8 4SN	
Independent examiner	RMT Ribchesters Finchale House Belmont Business Park Durham DH1 1TW	

BLUE CABIN CIO

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 6
Independent examiner's report	7
Statement of financial activities	8
Balance sheet	9
Statement of cash flows	10
Notes to the financial statements	11 - 22

BLUE CABIN CIO

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)(effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

Blue Cabin CIO exists to relieve the needs of care-experienced children and young people anywhere in the UK by influencing policy, carrying out research and providing access to creative experiences, to help them to gain skills, increase in confidence, build stronger relationships and improve their lives for the public benefit.

Significant Activities

Within the last 12 months we have worked with care-experienced children and young people and adults aged from 0 to 27 years old. We have worked closely with 5 local authorities, and a wide range of partners and charities to deliver projects that benefit care-experienced children and young people. Our financial position remains strong and we now have 8 members of staff.

In the past 12 months we have provided:

- 430 engagements of babies, children and young people (aged 0–17) in 190 hours of delivery
- 283 engagements of care leavers in 101 hours of delivery
- 364 engagements of carers and family members in 122 hours of delivery
- 273 engagements of Local Authority staff in 161 hours of delivery
- 433 engagements of Local Authority staff and other professionals in 74 hours of training
- Our podcasts were also played or downloaded 882 times

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Our Creative Programmes and Interventions for the year included:

Creative Aid

In December 2022, Blue Cabin and Nepacs were awarded funding by the National Lottery Community Fund to deliver a three- year creative arts programme with care-experienced young men serving sentences at Deerbolt Prison in County Durham. We have entered year two of Creative Aid and the young men have created artists' books and an online exhibition showcasing their work, created with visiting artists in residence. Participants have also had the opportunity to achieve an Arts Award qualification.

Creative Life Story Work

The Creative Life Story Work project has an international reach, helping practitioners deliver better life story work for care experienced children and young people. In 2024/25, there were 80,000 views of the website, with people from across the UK, the USA, Ireland, Australia, the Netherlands and many more locations accessing the resources. In addition, more than 700 people and organisations are Creative Life Story Work members, giving them access to all the resources on the website and 12 Live Classrooms per year.

Life story work with refugee and asylum seeking children and young people

A new partnership between Blue Cabin, Children and Families Across Borders, and Therapeutic Life Story Work International has been formed, to develop life story work resources specifically for refugee and asylum-seeking children and young people who have recently arrived in the UK.

This is The Place

Our early years music-making programme expanded to Redcar and Cleveland, after a successful first year in Darlington. Music-making sessions, packs and training for practitioners support care experienced babies and children aged 0 to 5 to form attachments with their carers and children are given music-making equipment to take with them to future homes.

Action Research – Artful Alliance

In 2023/24, Blue Cabin completed its first national action research project, *Artful Alliance*, in partnership with Arts Council England. Working with four Virtual Schools and four cultural organisations across England, the project explored how creativity can strengthen the education and wellbeing of care-experienced children and young people. Key learning highlighted the importance of fair freelance partnerships, therapeutic supervision, and engaging carers, teachers and social workers in creative education. The findings have been shared nationally through an evaluation report and partner events, extending the impact across the sector.

Arts Award

Through Arts Award we supported care-experienced children and young people to achieve a national qualification whilst developing their confidence and skills in creativity, communication and leadership.

Co-creating with young people – Adopt Bats

A group of young people from Tees Valley made a short film about adoption, sharing their own experiences of being adopted and examples of the questions they get asked along the way. Naming themselves 'Adopt Bats', the group worked with Blue Cabin's associate artists for six months before premiering their film to an audience of family, friends, social care professionals and council staff.

Our work with Virtual Schools

Children in Gateshead, Darlington, Newcastle, Redcar and Cleveland and Nottingham took part in unique, creative activities which help them build relationships, learn new skills and be seen, heard and valued.

Sing Our Story

Sing Our Story is a personalised song-writing programme created by London-based charity, Groundswell Arts. Groundswell Arts and Blue Cabin are collaborating to deliver Sing Our Story in North East England for the first time, with a focus on care-experienced babies and children, creating songs which are given to the children to keep and which form part of their records.

Volunteers

This year, we were pleased to welcome two new volunteers to the Blue Cabin team. Babs is supporting *This is the Place*, our programme of regular music-making sessions for babies and their foster carers. Andrea is contributing her time and skills across a range of Blue Cabin projects. Their support strengthens our capacity to deliver creative experiences and underlines the important role volunteers play in helping us to build safe, supportive and creative spaces for care-experienced children, young people and their carers.

Working with Trauma Quality Mark

In 2024, Blue Cabin was awarded the Bronze Working with Trauma Quality Mark by One Small Thing, recognising our commitment to trauma-aware practices. This accreditation underscores our dedication to embedding trauma-informed approaches across our operations, ensuring that everyone receives the support and care they deserve.

Environmental Sustainability

Blue Cabin has achieved a Bronze Investors in the Environment accreditation, recognising our commitment to reducing our environmental impact through actionable steps. Over the past year, we have established an Environment Working Group, calculated our carbon footprint, published an Environment and Sustainability Policy, surveyed travel habits among staff, volunteers and trustees, and hosted a staff swap shop to reduce waste. This accreditation was awarded through Going Green Together, a regional VCSE pilot initiative promoting climate action in the North East.

Financial review

Unrestricted funds are to be allocated as follows:

Detail	£
2024/2025 reserves	46,000
Staff Operating costs	72,600
Trauma Informed	10,000
Care Experienced Consultants	10,000
Environment and Sustainability	5,000
Resources and Equipment	5,000
Training and Governance	5,000
Total	153,600

Reserves Policy

Trustees have agreed that our target for free reserves is 3 months of operating costs. The trustees have set a target of £46,000 of free reserves which has been met by the organisation.

The trustees are satisfied with the financial performance of the charity in the period and its position at the period end.

Funding

The trustees are incredibly grateful to the following core funders who have supported Blue Cabin this year:

Esmee Fairburn Foundation
Tyne and Wear Community Foundation
Garfield Weston Foundation
The Leathersellers
Sir James Knott Trust
People's Postcode Lottery
The Rayne Foundation
The Alchemy Foundation
Pattinson Estate Agents

And we’re equally grateful to our project funders who have supported our various programmes of work:

The National Foundation for Youth Music
The Segelman Trust
The Clothworkers' Foundation
Arts Council England
The National Lottery
Tyne and Wear Community Foundation
Newcastle City Council
Netherton Park Trust

Plans for future periods
Looking ahead to 2025/26, Blue Cabin will begin delivering the first year of its 2025–2028 business plan. Our focus will be on strengthening organisational resilience, deepening impact and expanding our reach.

Key areas of work will include:

- Strengthening organisational capacity: recruiting and embedding an Operations Lead, reviewing internal systems, and supporting trustee development and succession planning.
- Diversifying and growing income streams: working with Care-Experienced Consultants to review our Ethical Fundraising Strategy, seeking new multi-year core funders, and increasing earned income through consultancy, training and commissioning.
- Deepening impact through evaluation and learning: rolling out our new impact framework across all programmes, co-developing evaluation tools with artists and participants, and using findings to inform practice and policy.
- Expanding partnerships and advocacy: continuing to grow collaborations with Local Authorities, Virtual Schools, cultural organisations and national networks, while amplifying the voices of care-experienced people through creative advocacy and storytelling.
- Embedding equity, diversity and inclusion: developing and implementing an organisational EDI framework with measurable goals, diversifying recruitment pathways, and ensuring communications and creative outputs are inclusive and representative.

Structure, governance and management

Organisational Structure
Blue Cabin began in 2016 and in July 2021 successfully converted to a Charity Incorporated Organisation. We operate under the Charity Commission’s model constitution.

Currently, there are 7 trustees, including a Chair of the Board and two Vice-Chairs. We are constituted to meet a minimum of 4 times per year, and in practice, we have an additional 2 away-days per annum.

The Board already operates a model which includes subcommittees and task and finish groups. Currently, we have Safeguarding, Finance, Experts by Experience, Trauma Informed and Environmental working groups. These adapt with the company's needs; however, the Safeguarding group will remain.

Subcommittees meet in advance of the quarterly Board Meetings, and Board representatives in the subgroups feedback to the Chair and the main Board.

Dealing with conflicts of interest is built into our governing document and each new trustee is supported through an induction process to ensure responsibilities in this area are understood. Trustees must declare the nature and extent of any interest, direct or indirect in a proposed transaction or arrangement with Blue Cabin and they must absent themselves from any discussion or vote pertaining to that matter. Conflicts of Interest are minuted.

Risk Management

Blue Cabin maintains an Organisational Risk Register, this is:

-A standing item agenda on the quarterly board meetings

-Discussed on a monthly basis in the Managing Director's 1:1 with the Chair of the Board

Currently the highest rated risk is Local Authority match Income. Local Authority match funding is always present on our risk register and reviewed regularly. We continually mitigate against the potential loss of this funding through:

- Having multiple partnerships across several Local Authorities
- Continuing to be strong partners that have excellent relationships with Local Authority staff
- Continuing to evidence the benefits of our work and how they align with Local Authority priorities.

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:
Adam Kent - Chair
Catherine Hearne - Vice Chair
Mark Dibble - Vice Chair
Wendy Price
Sedil Kilic
Adele Brown (Appointed 15 July 2025)
Alexandria Bradley (Appointed 15 July 2025)

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



.....
Adam Kent - Chair
Trustee

Date: .....29/10/2025.....

BLUE CABIN CIO

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF BLUE CABIN CIO

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Blue Cabin CIO (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000, the independent examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 charity as required by section 130 of the Charities Act 2011.

2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or

3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a true and fair view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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 financial statements to be reached.

RMT Ribchesters
Finchale House
Belmont Business Park
Durham
DH1 1TW

Date: .....29/10/2025.....

BLUE CABIN CIO

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	**3**	207,425	-	207,425	166,000	-	166,000
Charitable activities	**4**	16,251	261,050	277,301	62,218	252,629	314,847
Other income	**5**	83	-	83	-	-	-
Total income		223,759	261,050	484,809	228,218	252,629	480,847
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	**6**	178,009	269,111	447,120	153,663	244,840	398,503
Total expenditure		178,009	269,111	447,120	153,663	244,840	398,503
Net income/(expenditure)		45,750	(8,061)	37,689	74,555	7,789	82,344
Transfers between funds		(10,000)	10,000	-	(28,800)	28,800	-
Net movement in funds	**9**	35,750	1,939	37,689	45,755	36,589	82,344
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		117,850	165,668	283,518	72,095	129,079	201,174
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		153,600	167,607	321,207	117,850	165,668	283,518

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

BLUE CABIN CIO

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £	2024 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**13**		2,482		385
Current assets					
Debtors	**14**	22,329		15,104	
Cash at bank and in hand		307,355		278,258	
		329,684		293,362	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**15**	(10,959)		(10,229)	
Net current assets			318,725		283,133
Total assets less current liabilities			321,207		283,518
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	**16**		167,607		165,668
Unrestricted funds	**17**		153,600		117,850
			321,207		283,518

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on .....29/10/2025.....

.....
Adam Kent - Chair
Trustee

BLUE CABIN CIO

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	**20**		32,420		94,034
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(3,323)		-	
Net cash used in investing activities			(3,323)		-
Net cash generated from financing activities			-		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			29,097		94,034
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			278,258		184,224
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			307,355		278,258

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Blue Cabin CIO is a charitable incorporated organisation registered in England and Wales. The registered office is 13 Brighton Gardens, Gateshead, NE8 4SN.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)(Effective 1 January 2019)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Grants of a revenue nature are credited to income in the period to which they relate.

Trading income includes income from the provision of consultancy services, training courses, and other fee-based activities carried out to raise funds in support of the charity’s objectives. Income from services is recognised when the service has been provided in full, or in proportion to the stage of completion of the service at the reporting date, where outcomes can be reliably measured and it is probable that the income will be received.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

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

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

Governance costs
Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting with the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the independent examination fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

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

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures and fittings	3 years on cost
Computers	3 years on cost

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 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).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Financial instruments
The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 ‘Basic Financial Instruments’ and Section 12 ‘Other Financial Instruments Issues’ of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets
Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore generally exempt from income tax and corporation tax on its charitable activities, provided that income is applied for charitable purposes.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

1.12 Grants Payable

Grants payable are recognised as expenditure when a valid expectation has been established with the recipient that the charity will make the grant and any performance conditions attached to the grant are within the control of the charity. Where grants are conditional on performance or other specified criteria, they are recognised once those conditions are met.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

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

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Grants	207,425	166,000

3 Income from donations and legacies **(Continued)**

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Grants		
Esmee Fairburn Foundation	69,425	31,000
The Segelman Trust	-	70,000
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland	9,500	13,000
The National Foundation for Youth Music	-	2,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	25,000	20,000
The Leathersellers	22,000	20,000
Sir James Knott Trust	10,000	10,000
People's Postcode Lottery	50,000	-
The Rayne Foundation	20,000	-
The Alchemy Foundation	1,000	-
Other	500	-
	207,425	166,000

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Support for young people						
Grants received	-	194,335	194,335	45,500	186,059	231,559
Ancillary trading income	16,243	62,378	78,621	14,945	66,570	81,515
Other income	8	4,337	4,345	1,773	-	1,773
	16,251	261,050	277,301	62,218	252,629	314,847

4 Income from charitable activities **(Continued)**

Charitable activities grants analysis

	Support for young people 2025 £	Support for young people 2024 £
The National Foundation for Youth Music	53,343	61,500
The Segelman Trust	15,000	-
The Clothworkers' Foundation	3,900	-
Arts Council England	5,000	45,500
The National Lottery	89,642	88,559
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland	24,950	-
Newcastle City Council	500	-
County Durham Community Foundation	(6,000)	6,000
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	-	30,000
Netherton Park Trust	8,000	-
Other	-	-
	194,335	231,559

5 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Sale of equipment	83	-

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Support for young people 2025 £	Support for young people 2024 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs	141,695	113,542
Project delivery costs	236,604	200,106
Resources	12,026	6,463
Venue hire	8,624	8,303
	398,949	328,414
Grant funding of activities (see note 7)	4,000	14,000
Share of support and governance costs (see note 8)		
Support	44,171	56,089
	447,120	398,503
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	178,009	153,663
Restricted funds	269,111	244,840
	447,120	398,503

7 Grants payable

	Support for young people 2025 £	Support for young people 2024 £
Grants to institutions:		
Ambassador Theatre Group	1,000	3,500
Norfolk City Council	1,000	3,500
Not Pants CIC	1,000	3,500
Care to Dance CIC	1,000	3,500
	4,000	14,000

-

8 Support costs allocated to activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation	1,226	751
HR and health & safety	3,773	2,359
Insurance	2,008	1,975
IT software, licensing and subscriptions	6,376	5,120
Staff training	3,968	21,250
Postage and stationery	1,039	625
Website development	11,488	1,470
Travel costs and sundry	5,702	8,066
Bookkeeping and management	4,615	3,450
Payroll fees	1,323	1,373
Legal and professional fees	428	7,600
Governance costs	2,225	2,050
	44,171	56,089
Analysed between:		
Support for young people	44,171	56,089

9 Net movement in funds

	2025	2024
	£	£
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the independent examination of the charity's financial statements	2,225	2,050
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	1,226	751

10 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the current year or prior year. None of the trustees received any expenses for the current year or prior year.

11 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
Charitable activity staffing	8	6

11 Employees (Continued)

Employment costs	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	133,007	107,563
Social security costs	5,929	3,815
Other pension costs	2,759	2,164
	141,695	113,542

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings	Computers	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2024	559	1,695	2,254
Additions	-	3,323	3,323
At 31 March 2025	559	5,018	5,577
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2024	538	1,331	1,869
Depreciation charged in the year	21	1,205	1,226
At 31 March 2025	559	2,536	3,095
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2025	-	2,482	2,482
At 31 March 2024	21	364	385

14 Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	18,480	11,020
Other debtors	1,283	3,038
Prepayments and accrued income	2,566	1,046
	22,329	15,104

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	3,797	-
Trade creditors	2,400	6,704
Other creditors	474	454
Accruals and deferred income	4,288	3,071
	10,959	10,229

16 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Cool Things Darlington	20,000	9,000	(12,544)	-	16,456
Creative Life Story Work	18,550	36,507	(37,417)	10,000	27,640
Artist Support	1,098	-	(1,098)	-	-
Early Years Darlington	59,720	57,410	(62,168)	-	54,962
Prisons	42,500	89,642	(92,814)	-	39,328
Newcastle Cool Things	12,000	10,000	(14,666)	-	7,334
Arts Award	8,300	10,140	(17,840)	-	600
Sing our Story	3,500	3,600	(4,275)	-	2,825
Gateshead Virtual School	-	23,801	(13,339)	-	10,462
Redcar Virtual School	-	8,000	-	-	8,000
Environmental	-	4,950	(4,950)	-	-
Arts Award Explore	-	8,000	(8,000)	-	-
	165,668	261,050	(269,111)	10,000	167,607

16 Restricted funds **(Continued)**

Previous year:	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Cool Things Darlington	13,000	30,000	(23,000)	-	20,000
Training and Consultancy	6,700	3,200	(9,900)	-	-
Creative Life Story Work	53,435	54,570	(94,455)	5,000	18,550
Artist Support	-	2,500	(1,402)	-	1,098
Early Years Darlington	27,219	75,299	(42,798)	-	59,720
Prisons	28,725	87,060	(73,285)	-	42,500
Newcastle Cool Things	-	-	-	12,000	12,000
Arts Award	-	-	-	8,300	8,300
Sing our Story	-	-	-	3,500	3,500
	129,079	252,629	(244,840)	28,800	165,668

The restricted funds of the charity are utilised for the purposes outlined within the trustees report.

During the year the trustees decided to allocate £10,000 of unrestricted funds to the restricted fund Creative Life Story Work by way of a transfer.

17 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Staff operating costs	17,624	-	-	54,976	72,600
Non-staff operating costs	7,629	-	-	(7,629)	-
VAT	874	-	-	(874)	-
Leathersellers	20,000	-	-	(20,000)	-
Segelman Trust	35,000	-	-	(35,000)	-
Trauma Informed	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
Care Experienced Consultants	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
Environment and Sustainability	-	-	-	5,000	5,000
Resources and Equipment	-	-	-	5,000	5,000
Training and Governance	-	-	-	5,000	5,000
General funds	36,723	223,759	(178,009)	(36,473)	46,000
	117,850	223,759	(178,009)	(10,000)	153,600

17 Unrestricted funds **(Continued)**

Previous year:	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Arts Award	2,444	45,500	(39,644)	(8,300)	-
Trauma-informed, Self-care, Therapeutic supervision	1,600	-	(1,600)	-	-
Staff operating costs	625	1,524	(625)	16,100	17,624
Non-staff operating costs	3,600	4,029	-	-	7,629
VAT	1,436	-	(562)	-	874
Leathersellers	-	-	-	20,000	20,000
Segelman Trust	-	-	-	35,000	35,000
General funds	62,390	177,165	(111,232)	(91,600)	36,723
	72,095	228,218	(153,663)	(28,800)	117,850

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025	Restricted funds 2025	Total 2025
	£	£	£
At 31 March 2025:			
Tangible assets	2,482	-	2,482
Current assets/(liabilities)	151,118	167,607	318,725
	153,600	167,607	321,207

	Unrestricted funds 2024	Restricted funds 2024	Total 2024
	£	£	£
At 31 March 2024:			
Tangible assets	385	-	385
Current assets/(liabilities)	117,465	165,668	283,133
	117,850	165,668	283,518

19 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2024 - none).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

20	Cash generated from operations	2025 £	2024 £
	Surplus for the year	37,689	82,344
	Adjustments for:		
	Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	1,226	751
	Movements in working capital:		
	(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(7,225)	7,543
	Increase in creditors	730	3,396
	Cash generated from operations	32,420	94,034

21 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charity had no material debt during the year.

BLUE CABIN CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1195152

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1195152

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

FOR

BLUE CABIN CIO

RMT Ribchesters
Accountants and Business Advisors
Finchale House
Belmont Business Park
Durham
DH1 1TW

BLUE CABIN CIO

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 5
Independent Examiner's Report	6
Statement of Financial Activities	7
Balance Sheet	8
Cash Flow Statement	9
Notes to the Cash Flow Statement	10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 to 22

BLUE CABIN CIO

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Blue Cabin CIO exists to relieve the needs of care-experienced children and young people anywhere in the UK by influencing policy, carrying out research and providing access to creative experiences, to help them to gain skills, increase in confidence, build stronger relationships and improve their lives for the public benefit.

Significant activities

Within the last 12 months we have worked with care-experienced children and young people and adults aged from 6 weeks to 27 years old. We have worked closely with 4 local authorities, and charities to deliver projects that benefit their care-experienced children and young people. Our financial position remains strong and we now have 2 full time and 5 part time staff members.

In the past 12 months we have had 434 engagements of babies, children and young people aged 0-13, who took part in 170 hours of activities. We have had 133 engagements of care leavers aged 17-25, who took part in 77 hours of activities and 342 engagements of 'family members' (including kinship carers, foster carers, birth family members) taking part alongside babies, children and young people in 154 hours of activities. There were also 435 engagements of LA staff attending to co-facilitate / support activities in 213 hours of support.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Our Creative Programmes and Interventions for the year included:

Experts By Experience

This year we've spent time exploring the best way to strengthen the inclusion of care-experienced voices and experiences in our design and planning. The Experts by Experience project team included care-experienced professionals and we are very aware of the need to ensure all voices are heard and given equal value. Over the next year, we will pilot ways of consulting experts by experience - people with lived experience of receiving a service, such as children's social care - on specific, time limited projects. We will review and respond to learning throughout.

All About Me Creative Experiences

Across 2023/24 we facilitated a combination of face to face and online All About Me Creative Experiences for care experienced children and young people and their trusted adults, in partnership with Gateshead Council and funded by the Integrated Care Board. Each child and their adult take part in over 14 hours of creative therapeutic activities in a group setting, facilitated by Associate Artists and Pastoral Support Workers.

Arts Award

Through Arts Award we supported care-experienced children and young people to achieve a national qualification whilst developing their confidence and skills in creativity, communication and leadership. We've recently launched a range of packages for virtual schools, helping them give their pupils the opportunity to achieve Arts Award accreditation.

Creative Aid

In December 2022, Blue Cabin and Nepacs were awarded funding by the National Lottery Community Fund to deliver a three- year creative arts programme with care-experienced young men serving sentences at Deerbolt Prison in County Durham. Year one of Creative Aid is now complete and 10 lads (the term we use to describe Creative Aid participants, preferred by the lads themselves) have explored artforms including poetry, scriptwriting, typography, graphic design and portraits with visiting artists.

Creative Life Story Work

There have been 11,000 visitors to our Creative Life Story Work website since we launched it in November 2022, with the aim of helping people deliver better life story work for children and young people. Over 50 hours of training was provided across 17 'live classrooms' which resulted in 331 engagements from professionals (largely social workers in training, local authority staff, and freelancers) working with care experienced people.

Darlington Cool Things

We've continued our partnership with Darlington Virtual School and, in 2023/24, 47 children and 20 of their supporting adults have taken part in creative experiences. Family events held at venues including Theatre Hullabaloo and Raby Castle have included a show, such as Thumbelina or Fireside Stories with Santa, followed by creative activities led by our Associate Artists. Four young people achieved their Arts Award Explore after learning how to make animated short films during a summer school with Associate Artist, Laura Degnan.

This is The Place

This is the Place, is our programme of music-making for children and young people aged 0 to 5, alongside their foster carers. We delivered more than 65 hours of regular music sessions for babies aged 0 to five (207 engagements) and their carers (179 engagements), alongside training for foster carers and council staff, to allow music-making to continue at home. We also worked with musicians, Carol Bowden and Katie Doherty, to develop a bank of free, early years music resources which is available on our website.

Working to become a Trauma Informed Organisation

An awareness of trauma underpins all our work. And now, Blue Cabin is on the path to achieving the Working with Trauma Quality Mark. This is a set of best practice standards in trauma-informed working which will help us embed trauma-aware practices throughout the organisation.

Environmental Working Group

Blue Cabin joined forces with other VCSE organisations in the North East through Becoming Green Together. We've formed an environmental working group, attended training on managing waste, travel plans and continual improvement, and will put a new Sustainability Policy and Action Plan into place in 2024.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

Unrestricted funds are to be allocated as follows:

Detail	£
2023/2024 reserves	36,723
Leathersellers	20,000
Segelman Trust	35,000
Staff operating costs	7,624
Non-staff operating costs	17,629
VAT	874
Total	117,850

Reserves policy

Trustees have agreed that our target for free reserves is 3 months of operating costs. The trustees have set a target of £36,000 of free reserves which has been met by the organisation.

The trustees are satisfied with the financial performance of the charity in the period and it's position at the period end.

Funding

The trustees are incredibly grateful to the following core funders who have supported Blue Cabin this year:

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
Garfield Weston
Segelman Trust
Sir James Knott Trust
The Leathersellers Foundation
Tyne and Wear Community Foundation

And we're equally grateful to our project funders who have supported our various programmes of work:

The National Lottery Community Fund
Arts Council England
Tyne and Wear Community Foundation
County Durham Community Foundation
Creative Darlington
The Arts Society Tyneside
Darlington Borough Council
Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
South Tyneside Council
Gateshead Integrated Care Board
Youth Music

FUTURE PLANS

Looking ahead, we are excited about the future and the new initiatives on the horizon. Our commitment to becoming an accredited Trauma Informed Organisation and our participation in the Becoming Green Together initiative reflect our strong belief and dedication to continuous improvement and sustainability. The upcoming pilot projects, expansion of our volunteer programme, and new partnerships with local authorities are just a few examples of how we plan to broaden our impact and reach even more care-experienced individuals. With the continued support of our funders, partners, and the young people we work alongside, we are confident that Blue Cabin will continue to thrive and make a lasting difference in the lives of those we support. Areas of work will include:

Future-proofing Creative Life Story Work

In 2024/25 we'll boost the sustainability of our Creative Life Story Work programme. Through grant funding from Tyne and Wear Community Foundation, we have the support of a business consultant who will help us develop a business plan to include a staffing model and income generation targets.

Recruiting New Volunteers

Following the success and learning gained through supporting our first volunteer, we plan on recruiting for two volunteer roles to support our This is The Place programme as it expands into Redcar & Cleveland.

North East of England Local Authority Partners

We aim to help even more care-experienced children and young people benefit from stronger relationships with the people in their lives, by developing relationships with new local authority partners. Building on the success of our existing partnerships, we plan to establish links with virtual schools, fostering and workforce development teams.

New Projects Starting

New partnership projects with Adoption Tees Valley, Gateshead Virtual School and Newcastle Virtual School are underway.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Organisational structure

Blue Cabin began in 2016 and in July 2021 successfully converted to a Charity Incorporated Organisation. We operate under the Charity Commission's model constitution.

Currently, there are 7 trustees, including a Chair of the Board and two Vice-Chairs. We are constituted to meet a minimum of 4 times per year, and in practice, we have an additional 2 away-days per annum.

The Board already operates a model which includes subgroups and task and finish groups. Currently, we have Safeguarding, Finance, Experts by Experience, and Environmental working groups. These adapt with the company's needs; however, the Investment Principles subcommittee will remain in place to support monitoring the organisation's progress against stated targets, as will the Safeguarding working group.

Subcommittees meet in advance of the quarterly Board Meetings, and Board representatives in the subgroups feedback to the Chair and the main Board.

Dealing with conflicts of interest is built into our governing document and each new trustee is supported through an induction process to ensure responsibilities in this area are understood. Trustees must declare the nature and extent of any interest, direct or indirect in a proposed transaction or arrangement with Blue Cabin and they must absent themselves from any discussion or vote pertaining to that matter. Conflicts of Interest are minuted.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

Blue Cabin maintains an Organisational Risk Register, this is:
-A standing item agenda on the quarterly board meetings
-Discussed on a monthly basis in the Managing Director's 1:1 with the Chair of the Board

Currently the highest rated risk is Local Authority match Income. Local Authority match funding is always present on our risk register and reviewed regularly. We continually mitigate against the potential loss of this funding through:
-Having multiple partnerships across several Local Authorities
-Continuing to be strong partners that have excellent relationships with Local Authority staff
-Continuing to evidence the benefits of our work and how they align with Local Authority priorities.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1195152

Principal address

13 Brighton Gardens
Gateshead
Tyne and Wear
NE8 4SN

Trustees

C Hearne - Vice Chair
A D Kent - Chair
S Kilic
R Humphrey
M Dibble - Vice Chair
E K Mooney Mitchell
W Price (appointed 10/7/2023)

Independent Examiner

David Holloway BA(HONS) FCA DChA
RMT Ribchesters
Accountants and Business Advisors
Finchale House
Belmont Business Park
Durham
DH1 1TW

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 10 September 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



A D Kent - Chair - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF BLUE CABIN CIO

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Blue Cabin CIO
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Blue Cabin CIO (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement
Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material 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 Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.



David Holloway BA(HONS) FCA DChA

RMT Ribchesters
Accountants and Business Advisors
Finchale House
Belmont Business Park
Durham
DH1 1TW

10 September 2024

BLUE CABIN CIO

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	166,000	-	166,000	68,760
Charitable activities	3				
Support for young people		62,218	252,629	314,847	239,159
Total		228,218	252,629	480,847	307,919
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	4				
Support for young people		153,663	244,840	398,503	330,440
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		74,555	7,789	82,344	(22,521)
Transfers between funds	13	(28,800)	28,800	-	-
Net movement in funds		45,755	36,589	82,344	(22,521)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		72,095	129,079	201,174	223,695
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		117,850	165,668	283,518	201,174

The notes form part of these financial statements

BLUE CABIN CIO

BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	10	385	-	385	1,136
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	11	4,204	10,900	15,104	22,644
Cash at bank		123,490	154,768	278,258	184,226
		127,694	165,668	293,362	206,870
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	12	(10,229)	-	(10,229)	(6,832)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		117,465	165,668	283,133	200,038
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		117,850	165,668	283,518	201,174
NET ASSETS		117,850	165,668	283,518	201,174
FUNDS	13				
Unrestricted funds				117,850	72,095
Restricted funds				165,668	129,079
TOTAL FUNDS				283,518	201,174

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 10 September 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

A D Kent - Chair - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

BLUE CABIN CIO

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	94,032	8,910
Net cash provided by operating activities		94,032	8,910
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	(694)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		-	(694)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		94,032	8,216
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		184,226	176,010
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		278,258	184,226

The notes form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	82,344	(22,521)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	751	667
Decrease in debtors	7,540	28,732
Increase in creditors	3,397	2,032
Net cash provided by operations	94,032	8,910

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.23	Cash flow	At 31.3.24
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank	184,226	94,032	278,258
	184,226	94,032	278,258
Total	184,226	94,032	278,258

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

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

Grants
Grants of a revenue nature are credited to income in the period to which they relate.

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

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.

Charitable activities
Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs
Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting with the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the independent examination fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	-	straight line over 3 years
Computer equipment	-	straight line over 3 years

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

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

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

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

continued...

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Financial instruments
The company has elected to apply the provisions of section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the company's balance sheet when the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets
Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Classification of financial liabilities
Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the company after deducting all of its liabilities.

Basic financial liabilities
Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, bank loans, other loans, and preference shares that are classified as debt, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Grants	166,000	68,760

continued...

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES - continued

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	31,000	54,100
The Segelman Trust	70,000	2,000
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland	13,000	10,000
The National Foundation	2,000	-
Creative Fuse	-	2,660
Garfield Weston Foundation	20,000	-
The Leathersellers	20,000	-
Sir James Knott Trust	10,000	-
	166,000	68,760

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	2024	2023
		£	£
Grants	Support for young people	231,559	122,652
Consultancy and training	Support for young people	81,515	115,590
Shop income	Support for young people	1,773	917
		314,847	239,159

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	30,000	32,500
Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland	-	8,642
The Arts Society	-	2,998
The National Foundation	61,500	15,000
County Durham Community Foundation	6,000	19,500
The National Lottery	88,559	44,012
Arts Council England	45,500	-
	231,559	122,652

continued...

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Grant funding of activities (see note 5)	Support costs (see note 6)	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Support for young people	328,414	14,000	56,089	398,503

5. GRANTS PAYABLE

	2024	2023
	£	£
Support for young people	14,000	-

The total grants paid to institutions during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Care to Dance CIC	3,500	-
Ambassador Theatre Group	3,500	-
Norfolk County Council	3,500	-
Not Pants CIC	3,500	-
	14,000	-

6. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management	Finance	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Support for young people	53,952	87	2,050	56,089

7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

8. STAFF COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	107,563	98,990
Social security costs	3,815	3,623
Other pension costs	2,164	1,903
	113,542	104,516

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
Staff	6	4

continued...

8. STAFF COSTS - continued

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

9. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	68,760	-	68,760
Charitable activities			
Support for young people	22,655	216,504	239,159
Total	91,415	216,504	307,919
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Support for young people	160,811	169,629	330,440
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(69,396)	46,875	(22,521)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	141,491	82,204	223,695
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	72,095	129,079	201,174

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024	559	1,695	2,254
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2023	352	766	1,118
Charge for year	186	565	751
At 31 March 2024	538	1,331	1,869
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2024	21	364	385
At 31 March 2023	207	929	1,136

continued...

11. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	11,020	17,840
Other debtors	2,164	3,875
VAT	874	-
Prepayments	1,046	929
	15,104	22,644

12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	6,704	244
Taxation and social security	-	3,624
Other creditors	3,525	2,964
	10,229	6,832

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.23	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.3.24
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	62,390	65,933	(91,600)	36,723
Arts Award	2,444	5,856	(8,300)	-
Trauma-informed, Self-care, Therapeutic supervision	1,600	(1,600)	-	-
Staff operating costs	625	899	16,100	17,624
Non-staff operating costs	3,600	4,029	-	7,629
VAT	1,436	(562)	-	874
Leathersellers	-	-	20,000	20,000
Segelman Trust	-	-	35,000	35,000
	72,095	74,555	(28,800)	117,850
Restricted funds				
Cool Things Darlington	13,000	7,000	-	20,000
Training and Consultancy	6,700	(6,700)	-	-
Creative Life Story Work	53,435	(39,885)	5,000	18,550
Artist Support	-	1,098	-	1,098
Early Years Darlington	27,219	32,501	-	59,720
Prisons	28,725	13,775	-	42,500
Newcastle Cool Things	-	-	12,000	12,000
Arts Award	-	-	8,300	8,300
Sing our story	-	-	3,500	3,500
	129,079	7,789	28,800	165,668
TOTAL FUNDS	201,174	82,344	-	283,518

continued...

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	177,165	(111,232)	65,933
Arts Award	45,500	(39,644)	5,856
Trauma-informed, Self-care, Therapeutic supervision	-	(1,600)	(1,600)
Staff operating costs	1,524	(625)	899
Non-staff operating costs	4,029	-	4,029
VAT	-	(562)	(562)
	228,218	(153,663)	74,555
Restricted funds			
Cool Things Darlington	30,000	(23,000)	7,000
Training and Consultancy	3,200	(9,900)	(6,700)
Creative Life Story Work	54,570	(94,455)	(39,885)
Artist Support	2,500	(1,402)	1,098
Early Years Darlington	75,299	(42,798)	32,501
Prisons	87,060	(73,285)	13,775
	252,629	(244,840)	7,789
TOTAL FUNDS	480,847	(398,503)	82,344

continued...

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	13,000	55,051	(5,661)	62,390
Arts Award	7,000	(4,556)	-	2,444
Health and safety audit and training	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Safeguarding training and development	7,500	(7,500)	-	-
Project activity	50,000	(50,000)	-	-
Staff and freelance team training	6,000	(6,000)	-	-
Trauma-informed, Self-care, Therapeutic supervision	37,000	(35,400)	-	1,600
Solicitor fees for contract development	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Creative Life Story Work website development	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Travel	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
Business costs	5,991	(5,991)	-	-
Staff operating costs	-	-	625	625
Non-staff operating costs	-	-	3,600	3,600
VAT	-	-	1,436	1,436
	141,491	(69,396)	-	72,095
Restricted funds				
Cool Things Darlington	20,000	(7,000)	-	13,000
Training and Consultancy	600	6,100	-	6,700
Redcar and Cleveland	6,604	(6,604)	-	-
Creative Life Story Work	55,000	(1,565)	-	53,435
Early Years Darlington	-	27,219	-	27,219
Prisons	-	28,725	-	28,725
	82,204	46,875	-	129,079
TOTAL FUNDS	223,695	(22,521)	-	201,174

continued...

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	70,617	(15,566)	55,051
Arts Award	20,798	(25,354)	(4,556)
Health and safety audit and training	-	(3,000)	(3,000)
Safeguarding training and development	-	(7,500)	(7,500)
Project activity	-	(50,000)	(50,000)
Staff and freelance team training	-	(6,000)	(6,000)
Trauma-informed, Self-care, Therapeutic supervision	-	(35,400)	(35,400)
Solicitor fees for contract development	-	(5,000)	(5,000)
Creative Life Story Work website development	-	(5,000)	(5,000)
Travel	-	(2,000)	(2,000)
Business costs	-	(5,991)	(5,991)
	91,415	(160,811)	(69,396)
Restricted funds			
Cool Things Darlington	16,000	(23,000)	(7,000)
Training and Consultancy	6,700	(600)	6,100
Redcar and Cleveland	15,800	(22,404)	(6,604)
Creative Life Story Work	96,792	(98,357)	(1,565)
Early Years Darlington	37,200	(9,981)	27,219
Prisons	44,012	(15,287)	28,725
	216,504	(169,629)	46,875
TOTAL FUNDS	307,919	(330,440)	(22,521)

continued...

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	13,000	120,984	(97,261)	36,723
Arts Award	7,000	1,300	(8,300)	-
Health and safety audit and training	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Safeguarding training and development	7,500	(7,500)	-	-
Project activity	50,000	(50,000)	-	-
Staff and freelance team training	6,000	(6,000)	-	-
Trauma-informed, Self-care, Therapeutic supervision	37,000	(37,000)	-	-
Solicitor fees for contract development	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Creative Life Story Work website development	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Travel	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
Business costs	5,991	(5,991)	-	-
Staff operating costs	-	899	16,725	17,624
Non-staff operating costs	-	4,029	3,600	7,629
VAT	-	(562)	1,436	874
Leathersellers	-	-	20,000	20,000
Segelman Trust	-	-	35,000	35,000
	141,491	5,159	(28,800)	117,850
Restricted funds				
Cool Things Darlington	20,000	-	-	20,000
Training and Consultancy	600	(600)	-	-
Redcar and Cleveland	6,604	(6,604)	-	-
Creative Life Story Work	55,000	(41,450)	5,000	18,550
Artist Support	-	1,098	-	1,098
Early Years Darlington	-	59,720	-	59,720
Prisons	-	42,500	-	42,500
Newcastle Cool Things	-	-	12,000	12,000
Arts Award	-	-	8,300	8,300
Sing our story	-	-	3,500	3,500
	82,204	54,664	28,800	165,668
TOTAL FUNDS	223,695	59,823	-	283,518

continued...

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	247,782	(126,798)	120,984
Arts Award	66,298	(64,998)	1,300
Health and safety audit and training	-	(3,000)	(3,000)
Safeguarding training and development	-	(7,500)	(7,500)
Project activity	-	(50,000)	(50,000)
Staff and freelance team training	-	(6,000)	(6,000)
Trauma-informed, Self-care, Therapeutic supervision	-	(37,000)	(37,000)
Solicitor fees for contract development	-	(5,000)	(5,000)
Creative Life Story Work website development	-	(5,000)	(5,000)
Travel	-	(2,000)	(2,000)
Business costs	-	(5,991)	(5,991)
Staff operating costs	1,524	(625)	899
Non-staff operating costs	4,029	-	4,029
VAT	-	(562)	(562)
	319,633	(314,474)	5,159
Restricted funds			
Cool Things Darlington	46,000	(46,000)	-
Training and Consultancy	9,900	(10,500)	(600)
Redcar and Cleveland	15,800	(22,404)	(6,604)
Creative Life Story Work	151,362	(192,812)	(41,450)
Artist Support	2,500	(1,402)	1,098
Early Years Darlington	112,499	(52,779)	59,720
Prisons	131,072	(88,572)	42,500
	469,133	(414,469)	54,664
TOTAL FUNDS	788,766	(728,943)	59,823

Transfers between funds

During the year the trustees decided to allocate £28,800 of unrestricted funds to four restricted funds by way of a transfer. Being £5,000 distributed to Creative Life Story Work, £12,000 distributed to Newcastle Cool Things, £8,300 to Arts Award and £3,500 to Sing our Story.

continued...

14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024.

BLUE CABIN CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1195152

Accounts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1195152

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

FOR

BLUE CABIN CIO

Ribchesters
Chartered Accountants
Finchale House
Belmont Business Park
Durham
DH1 1TW

BLUE CABIN CIO

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 5
Independent Examiner's Report	6
Statement of Financial Activities	7
Balance Sheet	8
Cash Flow Statement	9
Notes to the Cash Flow Statement	10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 to 19

BLUE CABIN CIO

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Blue Cabin CIO exists to relieve the needs of care-experienced children and young people anywhere in the UK by influencing policy, carrying out research and providing access to creative experiences, to help them to gain skills, increase in confidence, build stronger relationships and improve their lives for the public benefit.

Significant activities

Within the last 12 months we have worked closely with five local authorities to deliver projects that benefit their care-experienced children and young people. Our financial position remains strong and we now have 2 full time and 4 part time staff members.

In the past 12 months we have engaged with over 165 care experienced children and over 108 supporting adults (including kinship carers, foster carers, birth family members) through our programmes. We have also supported 185 local authority staff through high quality training.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Our Creative Programmes and Interventions for the year included:

Creative Life Story Work

We've partnered with local authorities and Professor Richard Rose of Therapeutic Life Story Work International to roll out this new way of delivering life story work in three local authority areas in the North East of England. Evaluation by Coram and Ipsos Mori has shown that Creative Life Story Work strengthens relationships between care-experienced children and young people and adults in their lives, and that 85% of local authority staff who responded to a survey thought that it is more effective than traditional life story work.

"The new model has already shown how a more creative approach can encourage young people to explore their emotions, which in turn has a positive impact on their relationships with the adults in their lives." Councillor Gary Haley, Gateshead Council.

Darlington Cool Things

Working with Darlington Virtual School, we've facilitated creative opportunities for care-experienced children aged between two and 16. Blue Cabin's Associate Artists have led opportunities to take part in drama, visual arts and Arts Award activities, and the children and young people and their carers experienced performances by Darlington Hippodrome and Theatre Hullabaloo.

Creative Aid

In December 2022, Blue Cabin and Nepacs were awarded funding by the National Lottery Community Fund to deliver a creative arts programme with care-experienced young men serving sentences at Deerbolt Prison in County Durham. Over three years, Creative Aid will include artist-led workshops and support for participants to achieve an Arts Award accreditation. The project aims to support the young men to build stronger relationships with each other, their families and prison staff, and to give them a better chance of a positive future on release from prison. Participants on the programme will also work towards an Arts Award accreditation.

"...[Art is] helping you talk when no-one else is around. It's an expression in many ways..." Creative Aid participant.

The Studio of the Fostered Heroes

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council commissioned Blue Cabin to respond to an idea put forward by a member of its Children in Care Council, who wanted to raise awareness of what it's like to be in care. The result was The Studio of the Fostered Heroes, a group whose ages ranged from eight to 21 years and who worked with Blue Cabin's professional artists to make a six minute animated film sharing their experiences of being in care. The film was screened to Redcar and Cleveland's staff and elected members and has been watched more than 1,000 times to date.

"I learned a lot about myself during this process. One thing is that no matter how hard it gets I am not alone, and I know other young people in similar situations." Studio of the Fostered Heroes member.

This is the Place

This programme of music for children and young people aged 0 to 17, together with the adults in their lives, takes place at cultural venues in Darlington, giving care-experienced families the opportunity to experience the town's cultural offer together, perhaps for the first time. It includes training for foster carers and Darlington Borough Council staff, allowing them to continue music-making with children at home and outside of the sessions, and children are given a song bag and song book which they can take with them if they transition to a new home.

Artsmark Creative Consultation

Blue Cabin was commissioned to carry out a creative consultation with children and young people in the North East of England, as part of Arts Council England's wider exploration into the potential use of the Artsmark programme in virtual schools. 26 children and young people, who receive support from virtual schools in Darlington, Hartlepool or Redcar and Cleveland, took part, sharing their views on creativity within their virtual school experience.

Arts Award

Through Arts Award we support care-experienced children and young people to achieve a national qualification whilst developing their confidence and skills in creativity, communication and leadership. An Arts Award Discover in a Day pilot project saw children and young people in Darlington and Redcar take part in two days of animation, film-making and painting, with our Associate Artists. A six-week programme is also underway with virtual schools in Redcar and Cleveland.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

Unrestricted funds are to be allocated as follows:

Detail	£
2022/2023 reserves	62,390
Arts Award	2,444
Trauma informed, Self care, Therapeutic supervision	1,600
Staff operating costs	625
Non-staff operating costs	3,600
VAT	1,436
Total	72,095

Reserves policy

Trustees have agreed that our target for free reserves is 3 months of operating costs. The trustees have set a target of £26,000 of free reserves which has been met by the organisation.

The trustees are satisfied with the financial performance of the charity in the period and it's position at the period end.

Funding

The trustees are incredibly grateful to the following core funders who have supported Blue Cabin this year:

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
Segelman Trust
Tyne and Wear Community Foundation

And we're equally grateful to our project funders who have supported our various programmes of work:

Arts Council England
County Durham Community Foundation
Creative Darlington
Darlington Borough Council
Gateshead Integrated Care Board
Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council
The Arts Society Tyneside
The National Lottery Community Fund
Youth Music

FUTURE PLANS

Artful Alliance

As a result of this year's Artsmark Creative Consultation, Arts Council England has awarded Blue Cabin funding to deliver a national action-learning programme bringing together Virtual Schools and creative organisations.

Impact framework

We're working with tialt (There is an Alternative) to develop a Blue Cain Impact Framework and to identify appropriate ways to gather evidence of change and outcomes for our participants.

Trauma-informed accreditation

Following completion of Trauma Awareness training with Kazzum Arts, we have developed a timeline to gain accreditation with One Small Thing within the next 12 months and have developed an informal learning network with Unique Voice and Nepacs to support us on this journey.

Experts By Experience

Scoping is underway for the development of a new Experts by Experience group to help inform Blue Cabin's work. We envisage the group will include people care, fostering, adoption and social work.

Volunteer development

We're keen to build on what we learnt from our first volunteer placement and hope to expand Blue Cabin's volunteering offer by bringing on board five more volunteers.

Environmental Working Group

Blue Cabin is continuing to monitor its environmental impact and put in place measures to reduce carbon emissions. A new working group will support this work.

Expansion of Blue Cabin Board of Trustees

Recruitment is planned to further strengthen our Board of Trustees with a new appointment.

Collaboration with Sing Up Foundation

Blue Cabin will work with Sing Up Foundation on a new set of resources to support people running music-making which aims to improve the wellbeing of children and young people.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

Organisational structure

Blue Cabin began in 2016 and in July 2021 successfully converted to a Charity Incorporated Organisation. We operate under the Charity Commission’s model constitution.

Currently, there are 6 trustees, including a Chair of the Board. We are constituted to meet a minimum of 4 times per year, and in practice, we have an additional 2 away-days per annum.

The Board already operates a model which includes subgroups and task and finish groups. Currently, we have Safeguarding, Comms, and Investment Principles working groups. These adapt with the company's needs; however, the Investment Principles subcommittee will remain in place to support monitoring the organisation’s progress against stated targets, as will the Safeguarding working group.

Subcommittees meet in advance of the quarterly Board Meetings, and Board representatives in the subcommittees feedback to the Chair and the main Board.

Dealing with conflicts of interest is built into our governing document and each new trustee is supported through an induction process to ensure responsibilities in this area are understood. Trustees must declare the nature and extent of any interest, direct or indirect in a proposed transaction or arrangement with Blue Cabin and they must absent themselves from any discussion or vote pertaining to that matter. Conflicts of Interest are minuted.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

Blue Cabin maintains an Organisational Risk Register, this is:
-A standing item agenda on the quarterly board meetings
-Discussed on a monthly basis in the Managing Director's 1:1 with the Chair of the Board

Currently the highest rated risk is Local Authority match Income. Local Authority match funding is always present on our risk register and reviewed regularly. We continually mitigate against the potential loss of this funding through:
-Having multiple partnerships across several Local Authorities
-Continuing to be strong partners that have excellent relationships with Local Authority staff
-Continuing to evidence the benefits of our work and how they align with Local Authority priorities.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1195152

Principal address

13 Brighton Gardens
Gateshead
Tyne and Wear
NE8 4SN

Trustees

C Hearne
A D Kent - Chair
S Kilic
R Humphrey
M Dibble - Vice Chair
E K Mooney Mitchell

Independent Examiner

David Holloway BA(HONS) FCA DChA
Ribchesters
Chartered Accountants
Finchale House
Belmont Business Park
Durham
DH1 1TW

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 3 July 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



A D Kent - Chair - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF BLUE CABIN CIO

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Blue Cabin CIO
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Blue Cabin CIO (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement
Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material 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 Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

David Holloway BA(HONS) FCA DChA

Ribchesters
Chartered Accountants
Finchale House
Belmont Business Park
Durham
DH1 1TW

Date: .....

BLUE CABIN CIO

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Year Ended 31.3.23 Total funds £	Period 13.7.21 to 31.3.22 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	68,760	-	68,760	164,305
Charitable activities	3				
Support for young people		22,655	216,504	239,159	502,847
Total		91,415	216,504	307,919	667,152
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	4				
Support for young people		160,811	169,629	330,440	443,457
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(69,396)	46,875	(22,521)	223,695
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		141,491	82,204	223,695	-
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		72,095	129,079	201,174	223,695

The notes form part of these financial statements

BLUE CABIN CIO

BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	1,136	-	1,136	1,111
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	6,144	16,500	22,644	51,374
Cash at bank		71,647	112,579	184,226	176,010
		77,791	129,079	206,870	227,384
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(6,832)	-	(6,832)	(4,800)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		70,959	129,079	200,038	222,584
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		72,095	129,079	201,174	223,695
NET ASSETS		72,095	129,079	201,174	223,695
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				72,095	141,491
Restricted funds				129,079	82,204
TOTAL FUNDS				201,174	223,695

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 3 July 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

A D Kent - Chair - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

BLUE CABIN CIO

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Year Ended 31.3.23 £	Period 13.7.21 to 31.3.22 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	8,910	177,570
Net cash provided by operating activities		8,910	177,570
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(694)	(1,560)
Net cash used in investing activities		(694)	(1,560)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		8,216	176,010
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		176,010	-
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		184,226	176,010

The notes form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	Year Ended 31.3.23 £	Period 13.7.21 to 31.3.22 £
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(22,521)	223,695
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	667	449
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	28,732	(51,374)
Increase in creditors	2,032	4,800
Net cash provided by operations	8,910	177,570

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.22 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.23 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	176,010	8,216	184,226
	176,010	8,216	184,226
Total	176,010	8,216	184,226

The notes form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

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

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

Charitable activities
Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs
Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting with the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the independent examination fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	-	straight line over 3 years
Computer equipment	-	straight line over 3 years

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

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

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

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

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Financial instruments
The company has elected to apply the provisions of section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

continued...

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Financial instruments are recognised in the company's balance sheet when the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets
Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Classification of financial liabilities
Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the company after deducting all of its liabilities.

Basic financial liabilities
Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, bank loans, other loans, and preference shares that are classified as debt, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Year Ended 31.3.23	Period 13.7.21 to 31.3.22
	£	£
Donations	-	3,254
Grants	68,760	161,051
	68,760	164,305

continued...

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES - continued

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	Year Ended 31.3.23	Period 13.7.21 to 31.3.22
	£	£
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	54,100	75,750
The Segelman Trust	2,000	67,301
The Rayne Foundation	-	15,000
The Thrive Approach	-	3,000
Tyne and Wear Community Foundation	10,000	-
Creative Fuse	2,660	-
	68,760	161,051

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	Year Ended 31.3.23	Period 13.7.21 to 31.3.22
		£	£
Grants	Support for young people	122,652	346,280
Consultancy and training	Support for young people	115,590	156,567
Shop income	Support for young people	917	-
		239,159	502,847

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	Year Ended 31.3.23	Period 13.7.21 to 31.3.22
	£	£
What Works for Children's Social Care	-	337,608
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	32,500	-
The Customs House	-	1,500
The Baring Foundation	-	7,172
Tyne and Wear Community Foundation	8,642	-
The Arts Society	2,998	-
The National Foundation	15,000	-
County Durham Community Foundation	19,500	-
National Lottery	44,012	-
	122,652	346,280

continued...

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Support costs (see note 5)	Totals
	£	£	£
Support for young people	272,699	57,741	330,440

5. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management	Finance	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Support for young people	55,173	78	2,490	57,741

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the period ended 31 March 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the period ended 31 March 2022.

7. STAFF COSTS

	Year Ended 31.3.23	Period 13.7.21 to 31.3.22
	£	£
Wages and salaries	98,990	73,822
Social security costs	3,623	1,666
Other pension costs	1,903	1,636
	104,516	77,124

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	Year Ended 31.3.23	Period 13.7.21 to 31.3.22
Staff	4	3

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

continued...

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	164,305	-	164,305
Charitable activities			
Support for young people	119,963	382,884	502,847
Total	284,268	382,884	667,152
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Support for young people	142,777	300,680	443,457
NET INCOME	141,491	82,204	223,695
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	141,491	82,204	223,695

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2022	559	1,001	1,560
Additions	-	694	694
At 31 March 2023	559	1,695	2,254
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2022	165	284	449
Charge for year	187	482	669
At 31 March 2023	352	766	1,118
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2023	207	929	1,136
At 31 March 2022	394	717	1,111

continued...

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	17,840	47,634
Other debtors	3,875	2,944
Prepayments	929	796
	22,644	51,374

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	244	-
Taxation and social security	3,624	3,286
Other creditors	2,964	1,514
	6,832	4,800

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.22	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.3.23
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	13,000	55,051	(5,661)	62,390
Arts Award	7,000	(4,556)	-	2,444
Health and safety audit and training	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Safeguarding training and development	7,500	(7,500)	-	-
Project activity	50,000	(50,000)	-	-
Staff and freelance team training	6,000	(6,000)	-	-
Trauma-informed, Self-care, Therapeutic supervision	37,000	(35,400)	-	1,600
Solicitor fees for contract development	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Creative Life Story Work website development	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Travel	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
Business costs	5,991	(5,991)	-	-
Staff operating costs	-	-	625	625
Non-staff operating costs	-	-	3,600	3,600
VAT	-	-	1,436	1,436
	141,491	(69,396)	-	72,095
Restricted funds				
Cool Things Darlington	20,000	(7,000)	-	13,000
Training and Consultancy	600	6,100	-	6,700
Redcar and Cleveland	6,604	(6,604)	-	-
Creative Life Story Work	55,000	(1,565)	-	53,435
Early Years Darlington	-	27,219	-	27,219
Prisons	-	28,725	-	28,725
	82,204	46,875	-	129,079
TOTAL FUNDS	223,695	(22,521)	-	201,174

continued...

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	70,617	(15,566)	55,051
Arts Award	20,798	(25,354)	(4,556)
Health and safety audit and training	-	(3,000)	(3,000)
Safeguarding training and development	-	(7,500)	(7,500)
Project activity	-	(50,000)	(50,000)
Staff and freelance team training	-	(6,000)	(6,000)
Trauma-informed, Self-care, Therapeutic supervision	-	(35,400)	(35,400)
Solicitor fees for contract development	-	(5,000)	(5,000)
Creative Life Story Work website development	-	(5,000)	(5,000)
Travel	-	(2,000)	(2,000)
Business costs	-	(5,991)	(5,991)
	91,415	(160,811)	(69,396)
Restricted funds			
Cool Things Darlington	16,000	(23,000)	(7,000)
Training and Consultancy	6,700	(600)	6,100
Redcar and Cleveland	15,800	(22,404)	(6,604)
Creative Life Story Work	96,792	(98,357)	(1,565)
Early Years Darlington	37,200	(9,981)	27,219
Prisons	44,012	(15,287)	28,725
	216,504	(169,629)	46,875
TOTAL FUNDS	307,919	(330,440)	(22,521)

continued...

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	141,491	(128,491)	13,000
Arts Award	-	7,000	7,000
Health and safety audit and training	-	3,000	3,000
Safeguarding training and development	-	7,500	7,500
Project activity	-	50,000	50,000
Staff and freelance team training	-	6,000	6,000
Trauma-informed, Self-care, Therapeutic supervision	-	37,000	37,000
Solicitor fees for contract development	-	5,000	5,000
Creative Life Story Work website development	-	5,000	5,000
Travel	-	2,000	2,000
Business costs	-	5,991	5,991
	141,491	-	141,491
Restricted funds			
Cool Things Darlington	20,000	-	20,000
Training and Consultancy	600	-	600
Redcar and Cleveland	6,604	-	6,604
Creative Life Story Work	55,000	-	55,000
	82,204	-	82,204
TOTAL FUNDS	223,695	-	223,695

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	284,268	(142,777)	141,491
Restricted funds			
Cool Things Darlington	30,000	(10,000)	20,000
Training and Consultancy	1,500	(900)	600
Redcar and Cleveland	6,604	-	6,604
Creative Life Story Work	337,608	(282,608)	55,000
The Baring Foundation	7,172	(7,172)	-
	382,884	(300,680)	82,204
TOTAL FUNDS	667,152	(443,457)	223,695

continued...

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2023.

BLUE CABIN CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1195152

Accounts

B260

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1195152

APPROVAL

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE PERIOD 13 JULY 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022

FOR

BLUE CABIN CIO

Ribchesters
Chartered Accountants
Finchale House
Belmont Business Park
Durham
DH1 1TW

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD 13 JULY 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 6
Independent Examiner's Report	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9
Cash Flow Statement	10
Notes to the Cash Flow Statement	11
Notes to the Financial Statements	12 to 17

BLUE CABIN CIO

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE PERIOD 13 JULY 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the period 13 July 2021 to 31 March 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Blue Cabin CIO exists to relieve the needs of care-experienced children and young people anywhere in the UK by influencing policy, carrying out research and providing access to creative experiences, to help them to gain skills, increase in confidence, build stronger relationships and improve their lives for the public benefit.

Significant activities

Within the last 12 months we have converted from a Community Interest Company to Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Our financial position has strengthened and we now have 2 full time and one part time staff members.
We have established a Board of Trustees with membership from 4 new Trustees with one being care experienced. This takes our Board size to 6. Collectively our Trustees have a wealth of experience in education, the arts, media, business and health, research and community music.

We have engaged with over 700 care experienced children and over 600 adults in their lives through our programmes.

We have also focused our energies on:

Developing a new business plan

Supported by ICA:UK we have undergone a 6 month business planning process which has involved reviewing and updating our company values, assessing the current needs and trends, carrying out a horizon scan and creating a Theory of Change. Early 2022 will see the launch of our new 4 year business plan.

9 steps to safer practice

We worked with the NSPCC who carried out an organisation-wide safeguarding review, including policies and processes which focused on safeguarding, governance and recruitment.

Web redesign

A website working group led a process to review our existing website to ensure that it represents our company values, vision and tells the story of participant impact.

Trauma informed

With support from the Baring Foundation we underwent a focused piece of work to ensure that our Associate Artists can take part in regular reflection sessions, monthly therapeutic supervision, safe online reporting and sharing of learning and access to a therapist if needed.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE PERIOD 13 JULY 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE
Charitable activities
Our Creative Programmes and Interventions for the year included:

FEEL CREATIVE
Feel Creative, funded by the Adoption Support Fund and developed in partnership with South Tyneside Council.
We worked in partnership with the Connected Carers team to create a brand new feelings resource for children and young people under special guardianship orders. The aim of this project was to support children and young people to explore, discuss and manage their feelings, particularly in relation to the Covid-19 emergency.

Working in partnership with South Tyneside Council a range of creative packs were designed and were hand delivered to over 40 children, between the ages of 0-14.

DARLINGTON COOL THINGS PROJECT
August creative day
21 care experienced children and young people took part in our first face to face creative event in 2021, hosted at Darlington Hippodrome Theatre and facilitated by 3 Associate Artists Elena Miller, Alison McGowan and Carol Bowden.

December creative day
6 care experienced children and young people and their 6 trusted adults attended a beautiful event facilitated by Associate Artist Michelle Wood, and were also audience members of Mavis Sparkle, a festive show at Darlington National Theatre for Children, Theatre Hullabaloo.

CREATIVE LIFE STORY WORK
Across 2021-2022 we facilitated a combination of face to face and online All About Me Creative Experiences for 93 care experienced children and young people and 93 of their trusted adults. Each child and their adult take part in over 14 hours of creative therapeutic activities in a group setting, facilitated by Associate Artists and Pastoral Support Workers. Feedback includes:

"I have enjoyed the All about me session with the girls. The girls have really enjoyed the sessions and it has helped them to talk about their feelings." (Foster Carer)

"THANK YOU FOR MAKING ME HAPPY (front of the card) I enjoyed every second of it because it is fun and we will know how to do it so if we make a mistake I can learn from it. The bit I did not enjoy is the break because it made us have less time and that made me sad, so next time can the break be shorter. I would love to do it again. I put all my hard work into arts and crafts. Thank you for letting me join in." (Child)

We have also facilitated 16 Live Classrooms reaching over 500 foster carers and local authority staff covering topics such as trauma, attachment, life story work and recovery. Feedback for each session has been overwhelmingly positive.

In addition to this we have facilitated 16 bespoke Critical Friend sessions for 3 Local Authorities enabling them to develop life story work policies procedures, quality assurance processes and consider ways to embed the model long term.

Over 500 foster carers and staff members have logged on and accessed content from our Creative Life Story Work online platform, where they can access toolkits, blogs, podcasts and videos about Creative Life Story Work and associated resources.

CREATIVE AID - Care Leavers in Deerbolt Prison
[Art is] helping you talk when no-one else is around. It's an expression in many ways. (Young man who is serving a sentence at Deerbolt Prison)

During COVID-19, Blue Cabin and Nepacs (a charity which promotes a positive future for prisoners, offenders and their relatives) co-funded a creative consultation process with 12 young men at Deerbolt Prison called Creative Aid.
The aim was to find out what impact being creative has on their lives, and discover what they would like to achieve through creative activities longer term. [I would like to do] meaningful drawing. Things that I've gone through and faced.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE PERIOD 13 JULY 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022

The overall vision of the 3 year programme we are seeking funding for, is to support the young men to be recognised as artists and feel a sense of belonging in society.

MUSIC AID

Working with Gateshead and South Tyneside Music Education Hub (GSTMEH) we carried out creative consultations with children and young people to find out how they engage with music. The responses and findings from Music Aid will support development of the Music Education offer across the two Local Authorities

PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT

Funded by UK Youth, Associate Artist, Paul, delivered a remote photography project for 10 care experienced children and 14 of their trusted adults who are in connected carer families. The children and young people received packs of materials, including cameras, along with three films from the artist, introducing different techniques and themes/ challenges to try at home in their own time.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

Unrestricted funds are to be allocated as follows:

Detail	£
2021/2022 reserves	13,000
Arts Award	7,000
Health and safety audit and training	3,000
Safeguarding training and development	7,500
Project activity	50,000
Staff and freelance team training	6,000
Trauma informed, Self care, Therapeutic supervision	37,000
Solicitor fees for contract development	5,000
Creative Life Story Work website development	5,000
Travel	2,000
Business costs	5,991
Total	141,491

Reserves policy

Trustees have agreed that our target for free reserves is 3 months of operating costs. As the organisations turnover and subsequent operating costs have increased over the past 12 months the trustees have set a target of March 2022/2023 to reach the new free reserve target of £26,000.

The Trustees are satisfied with the financial performance of the charity in the period and it's position at the period end.

FUTURE PLANS

Blue Cabin Business Plan 2022 - 2026

Plans for future years include:

-Developing a Life span approach to providing and delivering creative activities and interventions. This will see us expand into Early Years, Care experienced Parents, Supervised Contact Time and work in prisons.

-Consolidating and expanding our training on best practice within the cultural sector for working with Care Experienced Individuals.

-Further diversifying our Board to include more Care Experienced Individuals and support ways into working within the Creative Sector for CEI.

Strands of Work (Operational Plan)

Creative Life Story Work

-Building upon the success of the current programme funded by What Works Centre for Social Care, where we are working in partnership with Darlington, Gateshead and South Tyneside Local Authorities, we will build partnerships with up to 3 new local authorities (in and outside of the NE) over the next 3 years, securing and mixture of Local Authority and grant funding.

-Through continued and new partnerships we aim to work with 1000 LA staff and foster carers to provide them with training and resources in Creative Life Story Work.

-We will support up to 300 children and young people to take part in All About Me Creative Experiences alongside their trusted adults.

-We will launch a new Creative Life Story Work website.

Prisons - Creative Aid

-Working in partnership with Nepacs (a North East Charity working with prisoners and their families) we intend to deliver a 3-year co-creation programme with young men who are Care Leavers, in Deerbolt Prison. Applications have been submitted to Paul Hamlyn Foundation and The National Lottery Partnerships fund for £274,000. Secured funding will support us to work in depth with 24 young men over a period of 3 years as participants and a further 70 young men as audience members of creative events and activities.

-The vision of the programme is to support the young men to be recognised as artists and feel a sense of belonging in society. The young men hope to develop their confidence and wellbeing.

Creative Engagement across the North East

-Building upon our long term successful partnerships with Darlington and South Tyneside Councils we will continue to strengthen and develop our creative engagement work with them by delivering creative projects and interventions each year. We aim to work with 50 children per year, per Local Authority through delivering a range of creative activities including one off creative events, long term workshops and opportunities to be audience members of cultural events in their home town or city.

-We will develop 1 new Local Authority partner per year to further our reach.

Arts Award and Arts Mark

-A key stand of our 2022 - 2026 Business Plan is Arts Award and ArtsMark. We will work strategically to consult with Virtual Schools across the North East to find out what creative activities they currently offer, what the barriers to engagement are, and how Arts Award and ArtsMark could add value to their work as Virtual Schools. Learning and Findings will be shared nationally and will inform a long term activity plan for Blue Cabin detailing how we can support care experienced children and young people to achieve Arts Award across the North East.. We aim to support at least 20 children and young people per year through accreditation.

Development Work

Our long term goal is to develop a life span approach to our work, meaning, we will have creative interventions available to care experienced children and young people from 0-25. We will develop opportunities and programmes focused on:

-Early Years
-Care Leavers
-Into Employment
-To support supervised contact (family time)

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

Blue Cabin began in 2016 and in July 2021 successfully converted to a Charity Incorporated Organisation. We operate under the Charity Commission's model constitution.

Currently, there are 6 trustees, including a Chair of the Board. We are constituted to meet a minimum of 4 times per year, and in practice, we have an additional 2 away-days per annum.

The Board already operates a model which includes subgroups and task and finish groups. Currently, we have Safeguarding, Comms, and Investment Principles working groups. These adapt with the company's needs; however, the Investment Principles subcommittee will remain in place to support monitoring the organisation's progress against stated targets, as will the Safeguarding working group.

Subcommittees meet in advance of the quarterly Board Meetings, and Board representatives in the subcommittees feedback to the Chair and the main Board.

Dealing with conflicts of interest is built into our governing document and each new trustee is supported through an induction process to ensure responsibilities in this area are understood. Trustees must declare the nature and extent of any interest, direct or indirect in a proposed transaction or arrangement with Blue Cabin and they must absent themselves from any discussion or vote pertaining to that matter. Conflicts of Interest are minuted.

Risk management

Blue Cabin maintains an Organisational Risk Register, this is:
-A standing item agenda on the quarterly board meetings
-Discussed on a monthly basis in the Managing Director's 1:1 with the Chair of the Board

Currently the highest rated risk is Local Authority match Income. Local Authority match funding is always present on our risk register and reviewed regularly. We continually mitigate against the potential loss of this funding through:
-Having multiple partnerships across several Local Authorities
-Continuing to be strong partners that have excellent relationships with Local Authority staff
-Continuing to evidence the benefits of our work and how they align with Local Authority priorities.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1195152

Principal address

13 Brighton Gardens
Gateshead
Tyne and Wear
NE8 4SN

Trustees

C Hearne (appointed 11/10/2021)
A D Kent - Chair (appointed 13/7/2021)
S Kilic (appointed 1/2/2022)
R Humphrey (appointed 11/10/2021)
M Dibble (appointed 11/10/2021)
E K Mooney Mitchell (appointed 13/7/2021)

FUTURE PLANS

Blue Cabin Business Plan 2022 - 2026

Plans for future years include:

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-Building upon the success of the current programme funded by What Works Centre for Social Care, where we are working in partnership with Darlington, Gateshead and South Tyneside Local Authorities, we will build partnerships with up to 3 new local authorities (in and outside of the NE) over the next 3 years, securing and mixture of Local Authority and grant funding.

-Through continued and new partnerships we aim to work with 1000 LA staff and foster carers to provide them with training and resources in Creative Life Story Work.

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-We will launch a new Creative Life Story Work website.

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-The vision of the programme is to support the young men to be recognised as artists and feel a sense of belonging in society. The young men hope to develop their confidence and wellbeing.

Creative Engagement across the North East

-Building upon our long term successful partnerships with Darlington and South Tyneside Councils we will continue to strengthen and develop our creative engagement work with them by delivering creative projects and interventions each year. We aim to work with 50 children per year, per Local Authority through delivering a range of creative activities including one off creative events, long term workshops and opportunities to be audience members of cultural events in their home town or city.

-We will develop 1 new Local Authority partner per year to further our reach.

Arts Award and Arts Mark

-A key stand of our 2022 - 2026 Business Plan is Arts Award and ArtsMark. We will work strategically to consult with Virtual Schools across the North East to find out what creative activities they currently offer, what the barriers to engagement are, and how Arts Award and ArtsMark could add value to their work as Virtual Schools. Learning and Findings will be shared nationally and will inform a long term activity plan for Blue Cabin detailing how we can support care experienced children and young people to achieve Arts Award across the North East.. We aim to support at least 20 children and young people per year through accreditation.

Development Work

Our long term goal is to develop a life span approach to our work, meaning, we will have creative interventions available to care experienced children and young people from 0-25. We will develop opportunities and programmes focused on:

-Early Years

-Care Leavers

-Into Employment

-To support supervised contact (family time)

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF BLUE CABIN CIO

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Blue Cabin CIO

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Blue Cabin CIO (the Trust) for the period 13 July 2021 to 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of FCA DChA which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material 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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

David Holloway
FCA DChA
Ribchesters
Chartered Accountants
Finchale House
Belmont Business Park
Durham
DH1 1TW

Date: 5th October 2022

BLUE CABIN CIO

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE PERIOD 13 JULY 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Donations and legacies	2	164,305	-	164,305
Charitable activities				
Support for young people		119,963	382,884	502,847
Total		284,268	382,884	667,152
EXPENDITURE ON				
Charitable activities	4			
Support for young people		142,777	300,680	443,457
NET INCOME		141,491	82,204	223,695
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		141,491	82,204	223,695

The notes form part of these financial statements

BLUE CABIN CIO

BALANCE SHEET
31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible assets	8	1,111	-	1,111
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors	9	4,970	46,404	51,374
Cash at bank		136,924	39,086	176,010
		141,894	85,490	227,384
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(1,514)	(3,286)	(4,800)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		140,380	82,204	222,584
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		141,491	82,204	223,695
NET ASSETS		141,491	82,204	223,695
FUNDS	11			
Unrestricted funds				141,491
Restricted funds				82,204
TOTAL FUNDS				223,695

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on .....23/09/22..... and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
A D Kent - Chair - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

BLUE CABIN CIO

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE PERIOD 13 JULY 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Cash generated from operations	1	177,570
Net cash provided by operating activities		177,570
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(1,560)
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		(1,560)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		176,010
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		-
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		176,010

The notes form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE PERIOD 13 JULY 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	£
Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	223,695
Adjustments for:	
Depreciation charges	449
Increase in debtors	(51,374)
Increase in creditors	4,800
Net cash provided by operations	177,570

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 13.7.21 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.22 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	-	176,010	176,010
	-	176,010	176,010
Total	-	176,010	176,010

The notes form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD 13 JULY 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

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

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

Charitable activities
Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs
Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting with the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the independent examination fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	-	straight line over 3 years
Computer equipment	-	straight line over 3 years

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

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

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

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

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Financial instruments
The company has elected to apply the provisions of section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

continued...

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Financial instruments are recognised in the company's balance sheet when the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets
Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Classification of financial liabilities
Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the company after deducting all of its liabilities.

Basic financial liabilities
Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, bank loans, other loans, and preference shares that are classified as debt, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	£
Donations	3,254
Grants	161,051
	164,305

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	£
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation	75,750
The Segelman Trust	67,301
The Rayne Foundation	15,000
The Thrive Approach	3,000
	161,051

continued...

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	£
Grants	Support for young people	346,280
Consultancy and training	Support for young people	156,567
		502,847

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	£
What Works for Children's Social Care	337,608
The Customs House	1,500
The Baring Foundation	7,172
	346,280

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Support costs (see note 5)	Totals
	£	£	£
Support for young people	408,554	34,903	443,457

5. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management	Finance	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Support for young people	33,511	172	1,220	34,903

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the period ended 31 March 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the period ended 31 March 2022.

7. STAFF COSTS

	£
Wages and salaries	73,822
Social security costs	1,666
Other pension costs	1,636
	77,124

The average monthly number of employees during the period was as follows:

Staff	3

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

continued...

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings	Computer equipment	Totals
	£	£	£
COST			
Additions	559	1,001	1,560
DEPRECIATION			
Charge for year	165	284	449
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2022	394	717	1,111

9. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	£
Trade debtors	47,634
Other debtors	2,944
Prepayments	796
	51,374

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	£
Taxation and social security	3,286
Other creditors	1,514
	4,800

continued...

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	141,491	(128,491)	13,000
Arts Award	-	7,000	7,000
Health and safety audit and training	-	3,000	3,000
Safeguarding training and development	-	7,500	7,500
Project activity	-	50,000	50,000
Staff and freelance team training	-	6,000	6,000
Trauma-informed, Self-care, Therapeutic supervision	-	37,000	37,000
Solicitor fees for contract development	-	5,000	5,000
Creative Life Story Work website development	-	5,000	5,000
Travel	-	2,000	2,000
Business costs	-	5,991	5,991
	141,491	-	141,491
Restricted funds			
Cool Things Darlington	20,000	-	20,000
Training and Consultancy	600	-	600
Redcar and Cleveland	6,604	-	6,604
Creative Life Story Work	55,000	-	55,000
	82,204	-	82,204
TOTAL FUNDS	223,695	-	223,695

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	284,268	(142,777)	141,491
Restricted funds			
Cool Things Darlington	30,000	(10,000)	20,000
Training and Consultancy	1,500	(900)	600
Redcar and Cleveland	6,604	-	6,604
Creative Life Story Work	337,608	(282,608)	55,000
The Baring Foundation	7,172	(7,172)	-
	382,884	(300,680)	82,204
TOTAL FUNDS	667,152	(443,457)	223,695

continued...

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the period ended 31 March 2022.