

**BRIGHTON  
PEOPLE'S  
THEATRE**

**Annual Report**  
April 2024 — March 2025

**BELONG**

# HELLO

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# A message from our Chair



This second year of the current BPT Business Plan has seen a huge level of activity from our small charity. I am particularly proud that BPT was invited to present Born and Bread as part of the Brighton Festival. As one of the most significant arts festivals in the UK, it was thrilling to see the Brighton community front and centre. Hawk in the Valley and Mabrouk are both projects that demonstrate the innovative ways BPT is fulfilling its core mission to offer access to the arts for communities who are often excluded from culture nationally and locally. Both projects not only tell stories that are often hidden from mainstream culture, but they also introduce new local participants to the work of BPT.

The body of work BPT has produced, and that is in active development, demonstrates that BPT is not simply holding a mirror up to nature but is instead involved in an active dialogue with the community it works with. It is great that this dialogue also extends out into the arts community with BPT sharing our learning with artists through our BPT training for professionals.

The core team that delivers BPT’s work have engaged with a large pool of participants and freelancers. The sheer level of activity produced on such a small annual budget remains impressive, but it does also highlight the continuingly strained funding streams available for arts charities and for social enterprises. As BPT moves forward, there is greater talk of sustainability, not only financial sustainability but also creative sustainability and mental health wellbeing to ensure that BPT remains a creative force of good in Brighton for years to come.

Thomas Hescott, December 2025

95%

95% of participants say they have an increased sense of belonging

90%

90% of our participants say their wellbeing has improved





# A message from our CEO & Artistic Director

At the end of the second year of delivering our business plan to bring people together to be part of something bigger than ourselves, we have plenty of achievements to celebrate.

## Our artistic work

Our show Born and Bread was programmed as part of the Brighton Festival in May 2024. Our cast and crew went above and beyond to entertain and move Festival audiences.

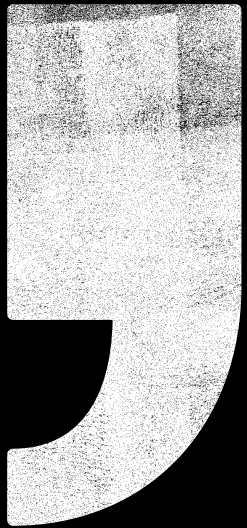
77%

77% had never done theatre before.

100%

100% of people involved in our work would recommend us to a friend.

We started work on a new show, The Museum of Life, exploring the complexities of ageing with our members. And we involved people with heritage from Arabic-speaking countries in the development of Mabrouk and with people living in Whitehawk in the creation of Hawk in the Valley.



## Our team

Our tiny team of 3 part-time staff, the equivalent of 2 full-time staff, made all this happen. Again, we are indebted to the continued support of the Paul Hamlyn Foundation and this year, the Garfield Weston Foundation, whose core funding has enabled us to thrive.

We have also created work for 12 freelancers; sound designers, writers, movement directors, lighting designers, set designers, assistant directors, stage managers, dramaturgs and writers alongside specialists carrying out administrative, evaluation, finance and fundraising tasks for the organisation.

## Our learning

We were delighted with the uptake of our first-ever People’s Theatre Training, which saw directors and producers from across the UK come to Brighton to learn about our methodology, including from Glyndebourne and Chichester Festival Theatre.

As our thoughts turn towards what comes next after the third year of our business plan, we commissioned Terry Adams to carry out an independent evaluation of our work. This will be instrumental in shaping the future direction of the organisation based on all that we have learnt.

Naomi Alexander, December 2025



# The BPT Story...

We are a theatre company that brings people together. Owned and loved by the people of Brighton. We make our work over a cup of coffee, a shared story, a workshop, a show, a magical world appearing in a local park.

## Who we are

Brighton People’s Theatre was started by Naomi Alexander in 2015 out of a desire to create theatre in a way that was more relevant and accessible to most people.

Brighton People’s Theatre is open to everyone in the Greater Brighton area who is over 18 and doesn’t earn their living as a professional artist. Everyone is welcome; however, we prioritise our resources to ensure that people with the lowest socioeconomic status can get involved. We think this is the fairest way of doing things. We pay childcare and bus fares for those who need them so they can join in.

77% of people we work with have never done anything like this before.



90%

90% of our participants have increased their knowledge of theatre.

## Why we exist

Theatre should bring people together, but analysis of the Arts Council’s own Taking Part data shows that public subsidy of the arts reinforces and recreates social division.

Our research, led by communities in Brighton, shows that people from lower socioeconomic backgrounds often feel excluded from publicly subsidised arts. Research led by the Warwick Commission shows that it is the most wealthy, least ethnically diverse and most well educated 8% of the population who are the main consumers and producers of publicly subsidised arts.

We think this is a social justice issue, and we want to change it.

## Our Team

CEO and Artistic Director	Naomi Alexander
Associate Director	Jack Parris
Communications Manager	Niamh Hicks

## Our Trustees

Thomas Hescott Chair  
Helen Rice Vice-Chair (resigned July 2024)  
Jenni Lewin-Turner  
Munya Muchati (resigned September 2024)  
Lily Einhorn  
Paul Hughes  
Anna Jefferson  
Parul Chatterjee (appointed September 2024)








**Our Vision and Mission is simple**

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**We bring people in Brighton Together...  
...to play, to laugh, to create, to think, to talk,  
to perform, to applaud, to agree, to disagree,  
to empathise, to sing, to dance, to cry, to listen,  
to learn, to connect, to understand, to be  
understood, to be seen, to belong, to trust,  
to be part of something bigger than ourselves.**



# Key Achievements...

## Workshop programme

Between July and December 2024, Brighton People’s Theatre delivered 17 drop-in workshops, offering a space to play, create and connect. We offered these on a Pay What You Decide basis to remove cost barriers. 130 people attended, with a mix of new and returning participants. The workshops were led by our Associate Director, Jack Parris, and the sessions used play and improvisation to build confidence, creativity and connection.



Brighton People’s Theatre  
Annual Report April 2024 - March 2025

70%

70% of our cohort are from working class backgrounds

Between June and July 2024, Brighton People’s Theatre delivered a six-week open access development programme for Songbird Cafe. Six Pay What You Decide workshops engaged 47 participants exploring story, character and music with professional artists, alongside dramaturgical and R&D sessions shaping the new work.

**“The BPT workshops were better than I expected! I was looking for a chance to be playful, use my body, get out of my own head and connect with others, and the workshops did all of that and more!”**

—  
Weekly workshop participant



91

We ran 91 workshops, attended by 232 people

Our monitoring data shows around a third (31%) reported a mental health condition, slightly higher than the local average of 27%. Just over a quarter (28%) shared that they live with another long-term or chronic condition, compared with 37% locally.

We also see higher levels of neurodivergent conditions than in the wider population. Five per cent identified as having a cognitive or learning disability (2.4% locally), while 26% identified as autistic and 31% as having ADHD or ADD, compared with local figures of 1.2% and 4% respectively.

These insights help us better understand our community and shape a creative offer that’s inclusive, supportive and responsive to participants’ needs.



F

I've loved BPT since I joined. People are very friendly and welcoming. No one takes themselves too seriously, which I think really helps. There's a strong sense of community.

,



# Born and Bread

A standout moment in 2024 was Born and Bread, our Brighton Festival commission.



Over nine months, 30 non-professional performers co-created the show, which was written from 100 community conversations exploring food, home, and belonging.

Developed through 24 workshops across Brighton and refined in 30 rehearsals, the production evolved from a show about food into a powerful exploration of what it means to ‘belong’ in Brighton in 2024.

Set in a bustling community kitchen, the performance followed 30 bakers attempting to bake bread. The show culminated in a shared meal of soup and bread served to the audience by the cast whilst nailing a three part harmony! The soup was cooked live onstage by our community food partners The Real Junk Food Project.

Featuring original songs, the show was a joyful, moving celebration of community and connection. The five sold-out performances at the Attenborough Centre reached 800 people.

*“I think you underestimate the joy you bring to people's lives; it truly is magic. I loved every minute of this time and can't wait for the next project.”*

Born and Bread cast member

100

We had conversations with 100 people across the city



*““It has brought amazing people into my life. People I feel I can be myself with and connect with on a different level, as we would maybe have never crossed paths if it weren't for BPT. I have friends for life from this process. I feel like I have better mental health as I have opportunities to express myself and better wellbeing in general, and so much more confidence.”*

Born and Bread cast member

800

800 people saw Born and Bread at Brighton Festival



# Museum of Life

Since early 2024, Brighton People’s Theatre has been exploring the theme of Ageing: From Cradle to Grave through a rich programme of activity designed to connect, empower, and create.



Brighton People’s Theatre  
Annual Report April 2024 - March 2025

Since then, we’ve delivered 45 workshops, alongside two public Conversation Sessions at Brighton Dome, where over 40 people shared their experiences in one-to-one and group conversations. Across the year, we’ve spoken to more than 70 people about ageing, uncovering moving, funny, and complex stories that reflect life across generations.

Participants named the project The Museum of Life. We secured Arts Council funding to develop the script and rehearse toward a first public sharing.

Since then, we’ve run 12 weekly scriptwriting sessions, 6 dramaturgy workshops with Lou Cope, and launched a producing group to give participants insight into the full creative process. This new approach, giving members the opportunity to get involved in all aspects of the theatre making process, deepens skills, confidence, and ownership.

*“As a mum with very little time to myself, being part of Museum of Life has been invaluable to my wellbeing. It’s given me a sense of purpose and identity. I love how we’ve explored all the different contexts of the life journey and seeing how that varies for each person. It’s been wonderful co-creating the show with my BPT family, and I can’t wait to perform it on stage.*

Participant feedback



45

We’ve delivered 45 workshops on the theme of ageing

In March 2026, we’ll share this work-in-progress with potential national co-producing partners. This is part of our new strategic plan to explore a new model for co-producing co-created theatre with partners across the UK in 2026.

70

We’ve had conversations with 70 people on the theme of ageing







BPT has given me a new lease of life  
and helped me to enjoy life so much  
more.





# Mabrouk

Research and Development

In Spring 2025, BPT collaborated with Brighton’s Arabic communities on a co-created theatre project called Mabrouk.



Facilitated by Tanushka Marah to inform the writing of an original script by Suhayla El-Bushra, the project fostered connection, cultural pride, and collective joy.

Funded by Arts Council England, Shubbak Festival, and the Enjoolata Foundation, BPT ran 12 theatre and script-development workshops in the Spring. Each session combined food and storytelling, creating a space for sharing traditions, memories, and creative ideas.

18 Arabic community members participated in the first stages of this exciting new project, sharing lived experience around Mabrouk - forming friendships, gaining confidence, connecting with playful resilience.

We collaborated with the Trust for Developing Communities to include a support worker, ensuring participants felt safe and free to play.

*“This project helped me realise that I’m not alone in my struggles and that my story matters. It gave me the confidence to share parts of myself I’ve kept hidden for so long. I’m grateful for this space, and I now feel more connected to my roots and the people around me.”*

Mabrouk Participant



Maya Rezk, part of the cast of Born and Bread, became Assistant Producer for Mabrouk and is being mentored to access pathways into further training.

Suhayla El-Bushra is writing a script, aiming to complete it by September 2025. This project reflects BPT’s commitment to co-creation, cultural belonging, and empowering community voices through joyful, inclusive theatre.



18

18 Arabic community members participated in this Research and Development project



# Hawk in the Valley

In Autumn 2024, BPT convened a steering committee of Whitehawk residents to shape a new community theatre project.



The group selected local artist Jools Voce, and chose “Opportunity” as the project’s theme. They named the project Hawk in the Valley.

The project was funded by the Estates Development Budget, and ran from January to April 2025 and focused on residents across East Brighton—including Whitehawk, Bristol Estate, and Manor Farm.

15

We held 15 community conversation sessions with local residents

25

Friends & family saw the original sharing

Jools held 15 community conversations at a range of local venues, including cafés, GP surgeries, the Royal Sussex County Hospital, and the Whitehawk bus garage. From these, she formed a core group who took part in 12 weekly workshops and 2 rehearsals at Robert Lodge on Monday mornings.

*“The enthusiasm was infectious, and the energy on stage was incredible.”*

Audience feedback



Together, they co-created a 15-minute theatre piece inspired by the idea of a bus journey through Whitehawk, using participants' stories and experiences. The piece was performed in April to an invited audience of 25 family, friends and partners, followed by a shared meal and discussion about future development.

*“I only came in the room to be nosy, but I got involved as it was so much fun and now I can’t wait to do it again.”*


Participant feedback

*“It brought us together - laughing together.”*

Participant feedback

*“We arrived as different people from different backgrounds, just like people on a bus, but unlike people on a bus, we got to know each other and gelled together as a group.”*

Participant feedback



I absolutely love the weekly workshops. They are so varied and interesting, I learn a lot but also have such a laugh when I am there. I feel like I can play as an adult which doesn't happen often.



# Cultural Bridge Programme

In June 2024 English Theatre Leipzig (ETL) came to Brighton as part of the Cultural Bridge Programme funded by Arts Council England and the Goethe Institut. Their team of 4 spent a week with the BPT team, observing our approach to co-creating.

They participated in two workshops (Drop-In and Songbird Cafe) and then were given a warm welcome by our BPT members; going on a local history tour with Alan, making an Iranian tile with Monir, and having a homemade curry with Aditi.

In October 2024, the BPT team visited Leipzig and took part in an R&D for English Theatre Leipzig's Anthropocene. This was a fantastic opportunity to share practice across borders, and begin to think about how our work can have influence further afield.



# People's Theatre Training

Our first ever People's Theatre Training took place at ACCA at Sussex University in July 2024. We were joined by theatre directors and producers from across the UK and Ireland.

Over 4 days we shared our approach to co-creating theatre; from the process we use to enable our members to choose a theme to explore, to the highs and lows of production week.



***"Absolutely jam-packed of concrete, useful tools and examples of care-driven, thoughtful practice when directing co-creative work."*** Training Participant

# Funding and Finance

## In our third financial accounting period as a registered charity, BPT had:

- **Income of £178,031**
- **Expenditure of £169,976**
- **Just under 3 months running costs of £19,000 held in reserves**

Whilst the overall financial climate for small arts charities like ours has been challenging this year, we are incredibly grateful for all the income we have received from our funders and from people who have been to see our shows or attended our workshops.

We are very grateful for the continued support from the Paul Hamlyn Foundation and Arts Council England without which we would not have been able to operate over the last 12 months. We are also grateful to the Garfield Weston Foundation, the Enjoolata Foundation, the East Brighton Trust, the City Council’s Estate Development Budget, Shubbak Festival and Brighton Dome and Festival for supporting us with a range of small grants and commissions.

We are also very grateful for the in-kind support that we received from our partners, in particular the Trust for Developing Communities and ACCA.

There was a slight fall in our percentage of earned income, down to 10.2% from 13.5% last year.

We have also launched a new regular giving scheme known as the BPT 100. This is our way of involving people who want to support our work in sustaining the activity of the charity through regular monthly donations. We are hoping to grow this over the coming years.

Our full annual accounts are available on request and on the Charity Commission website.

## Trustee statement

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

## Public benefits

Brighton People’s Theatre recognises and celebrates the creativity inherent in everyone. We want to build and sustain mutually beneficial, collaborative relationships with people living in the city. We place a special emphasis on involving those who have had the fewest opportunities to make and consume publicly funded culture.

We believe in the intrinsic value of the arts and culture and want to extend this value to as many people as possible. We also want to democratise the way the arts are funded, produced and consumed in the UK.

## Governing document

Brighton People’s Theatre is a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and is governed by its constitution.

## Reference and Administration details

<b>Registered Charity Number</b>	1196082
<b>Registered Office</b>	The Old Courthouse 118 Church Street Brighton BN1 1UD
<b>Independent examiner</b>	F1 CRT Limited Flat 24 Wellingtonia Court Laine Close Brighton BN1 6TD



# Interview with...



**What is your name?**

Amro Tabari.

**How old are you?**

39 years old.

**Where do you live?**

In Brighton.

**What is your job?**

I am a renewable energy engineer. I also volunteer in multiple locations, including Oxfam on North Street and with GoodGym.

**How did you first find out about BPT?**

I found out about BPT through Instagram after coming across one of their posts.

**What were your first impressions?**

My first impression of BPT was very positive. It came across as an inclusive, community-focused, and genuinely welcoming space. It felt like a place where people could come together with no previous knowledge or experience of creating theatre, while still being relaxed, supported, and accessible.

**What have you done with BPT?**

I have been involved in several acting workshops and have recently been cast as part of a production scheduled for 2026.

**What impact has BPT had on your life?**

BPT has had a very positive impact on my life. It has helped me confidently answer the question, "What do you do for fun?", something I'm very proud of. I can now say that I am an amateur theatre actor and a member of BPT. It has also helped me express myself better in everyday life. As someone whose life includes a form of activism, theatre training has given me the confidence and energy to face crowds, share my thoughts publicly and loudly, and stand my ground. On top of that, it's simply a lot of fun.

**Before you joined BPT had you ever done anything like this before?**

No, I hadn't done anything like this before. Being part of BPT encouraged me to apply for extra roles in film productions, which I wouldn't have considered previously.

**Is there anything else you want to say?**

I am always grateful for the opportunities BPT has given me, especially being able to stand on stage and recite a poem that is very dear to my heart, written by Mahmoud Darwish.





# Interview with...



**What is your name?**  
Deeksha Billa.

**How old are you?**  
25 years old.

**Where do you live?**  
I live in Brighton.

**What is your job?**  
I'm working as an Assistant Reception Manager at a hotel.

**How did you first find out about BPT?**  
I found out about BPT through an Instagram post shared by a mutual friend about their drop-in workshops.

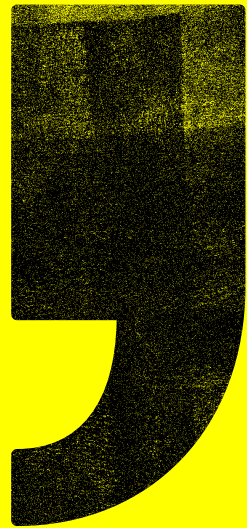
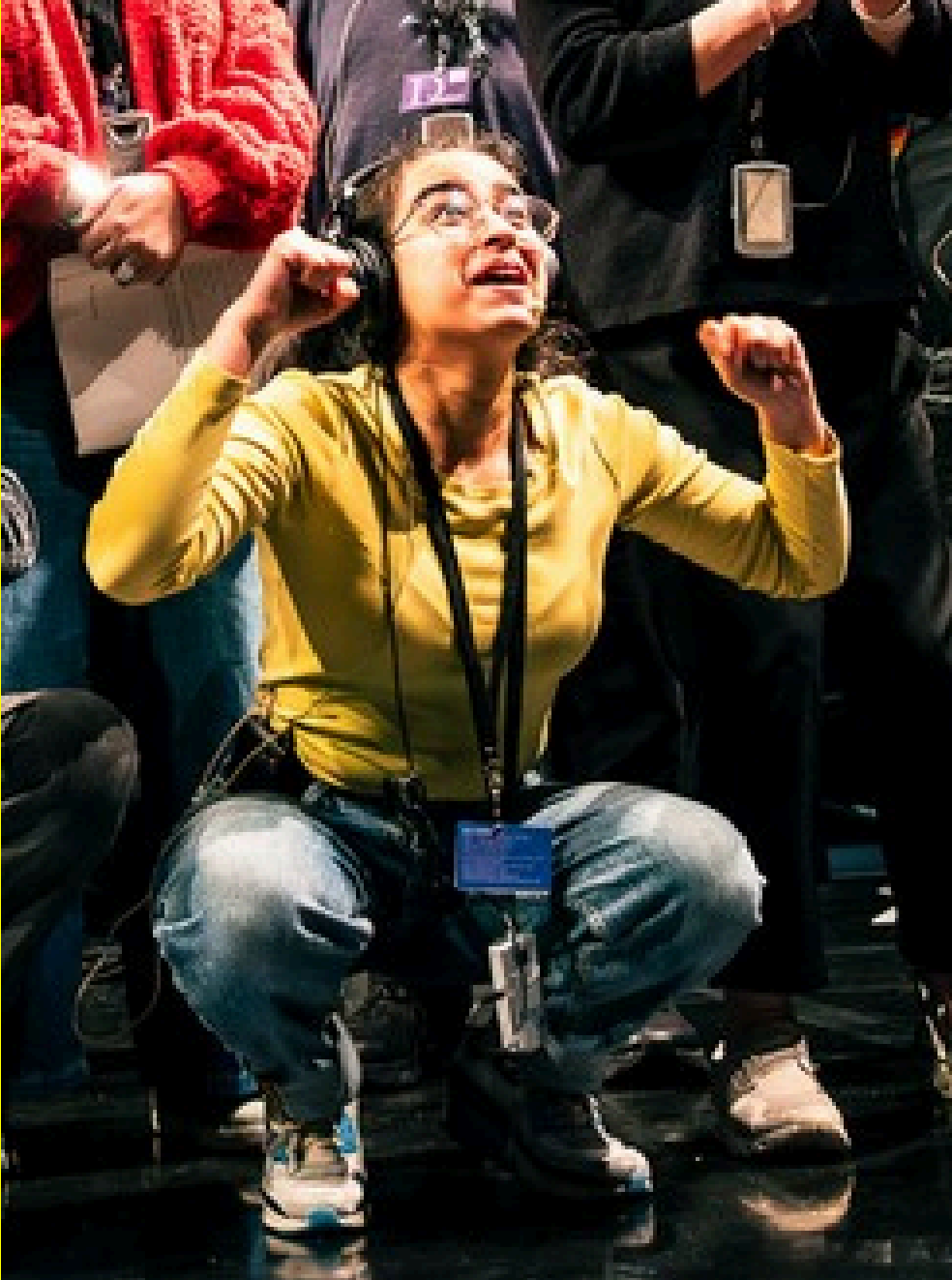
**What were your first impressions?**  
My first impression was that this was a community of genuinely talented, warm, and welcoming people.

**What have you done with BPT?**  
I've been involved in The Songbird Café and The Museum of Life.

**What impact has BPT had on your life?**  
Theatre has always been an important part of my life. It's where I reset. BPT gave me that space again. A space that was just for me, where I could be creative without pressure. It felt safe, comfortable, and energising. I walked in excited every time and walked out lighter, smiling, and genuinely happy.

**Before you joined BPT had you ever done anything like this before?**  
Yes. I've been involved in theatre since I was 12. I've performed in Broadway-style school productions, professional stage theatre, and street theatre during my undergraduate years. Theatre has always been part of how I express myself.

**Is there anything else you want to say?**  
Tuesday evenings are non-negotiable for me now. Wherever I am, that time is blocked for BPT. Being part of a show, committing to the process, and moving through multiple workshops where we brainstormed, acted, sang, laughed, and fully lived those two hours has been genuinely special. I'm very grateful to be part of it.





Connect with us on social:

-  @brightonpeoplestheatre
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Sign up to our mailing list via:  
[brightonpeoplestheatre.org](https://brightonpeoplestheatre.org)

Contact us via:  
[hello@brightonpeoplestheatre.org](mailto:hello@brightonpeoplestheatre.org)

Thanks to our funders and supporters:



ATTENBOROUGH  
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FOR THE  
CREATIVE  
ARTS



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**



CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015  
FOR  
BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CO

P1 CRT Limited  
Flat 24 Wellingtonia Court  
Laine Close  
Brighton  
East Sussex  
BN1 6TD



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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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## **BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

##### **Objectives and aims**

The objects of the charity are:

To advance education for public benefit through:

a). The promotion of the arts, in particular but not exclusively, in the performing arts:

b). Promoting, presenting, producing and organising community participation in high quality arts provision for public benefit.

##### **Significant activities**

Brighton People's Theatre has 3 strands to its works:

1. Participation.

2. Plays.

3. Research.

We place communities within areas of socio-economic deprivation at the heart of our creative offer. The charity is transforming the ways we make theatre and how we tell the tales of our city, for our city.

##### **Public benefit**

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in the planning of future activities.

This is set out in their report.

#### **ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

##### **Charitable activities**

The detailed annual report, attached as an appendix, sets out the activities during the period.

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

##### **Financial position**

The charity achieved a surplus of £12,254 (2024 Surplus £12) and this has been added to the reserves brought forward to leave £31,352 to be carried forward.

##### **Reserves policy**

The charity has a designated fund of £19,000 to cover the cost of closure/winding up. This amount was set up from when the charity was previously a CIC (charitable incorporated company).

It is the policy of the charity to maintain free unrestricted reserves of 3 months annual running costs which would equate to approximately £21,000.

#### **FUTURE PLANS**

These are set out in the attached annual report.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust.



# **BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

#### **Charity constitution**

The charity was registered on the 8th October 2021 as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

It took over the operations of Brighton People's Theatre CIC on the same date.

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

##### **Appointment of charity trustees.**

a). Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of 3 years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

b). In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

##### **Number of charity trustees.**

a). There must be at least 3 charity trustees. If the number falls below this minimum, the remaining trustee or trustees may act only to call a meeting of the charity trustees, or appoint a new charity trustee.

b). The maximum number of charity trustees is 12. The charity trustees may not appoint any charity trustee if as a result the number of charity trustees would exceed the maximum.

### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

#### **Registered Charity number**

1196082

#### **Principal address**

C/O Age UK Brighton and Hove  
29 Prestonville Road  
Brighton  
East Sussex  
BN1 3U

#### **Trustees**

A S Parsons (Vice Chair)  
T J Hescon (Chair)  
L H E Einhorn  
M Muchati (resigned 17.12.24)  
P D Hughes  
J Lewis-Turner  
H Rice (resigned 13.6.24)  
P Chatterjee (appointed 11.9.24)  
F Mazy O'Neill (appointed 20.1.25)

#### **Independent Examiner**

Christopher Robert Tyler FCA ICAEW  
F1 CRT Limited  
Flat 24 Wellington Court  
Nine Close  
Brighton  
East Sussex  
BN1 6TD

#### **CEO and Artistic Director**

Mark Vassler

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Bankers**

The Co-Operative Bank.

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

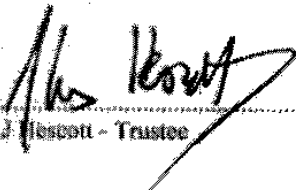
The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 20/1/26 and signed on its behalf by:

  
T.J. Prescott - Trustee



**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO**

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Brighton People's Theatre CIO**

**I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Brighton People's Theatre CIO (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2025.**

**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**

**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.**



**Christopher Robert Tyler FCA DChA FCIE**

**FI CRT Limited  
Flat 24 Wellingtonia Court  
Laine Close  
Brighton  
East Sussex  
BN1 6TD**

**Date: 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO****STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Charitable activities	3				
Art Projects and Events		109,381	63,650	173,031	150,547
Other trading activities	2	<u>5,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>
Total		<u>114,381</u>	<u>63,650</u>	<u>178,031</u>	<u>155,547</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
Raising funds		4,624	6,770	11,394	7,163
Charitable activities	4				
Art Projects and Events		93,833	61,079	154,912	142,837
Support Costs		<u>3,670</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,670</u>	<u>1,336</u>
Total		<u>102,127</u>	<u>67,849</u>	<u>169,976</u>	<u>151,336</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		12,254	(4,199)	8,055	4,211
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total funds brought forward		19,098	4,199	23,297	19,086
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>31,352</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,352</u>	<u>23,297</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements



**BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO****BALANCE SHEET**  
**31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	10	920	-	920	5,743
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>112,095</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>112,095</u>	<u>62,846</u>
		113,015	-	113,015	68,589
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(81,663)	-	(81,663)	(45,292)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>31,352</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,352</u>	<u>23,297</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		31,352	-	31,352	23,297
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>31,352</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,352</u>	<u>23,297</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	12				
Unrestricted funds				31,352	19,098
Restricted funds				-	<u>4,199</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				<u>31,352</u>	<u>23,297</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on  
20/1/2026 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
T J Hescott - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**I. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019), Financial Reporting Standard FRS102 '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.

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

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

**Income**

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

Grants from government and other agencies have been included as income from activities in furtherance of the charity's objects in the year in which they are receivable and certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Investment and other income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

No amounts are included in the accounts for services donated by volunteers.

**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.

**Tangible fixed assets**

The costs of tangible fixed assets are written off over their useful economic life as follows:

Computer equipment - 3 years straight line.

Individual fixed assets costing more than £250 or more are capitalised at cost.

The charity carries out regular impairment reviews of its fixed assets.

**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.



**BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025****1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued****Pension cost**

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.

The scheme is available to all eligible employees and is managed by NEST. The employer contribution in 2024/25 was 8% and the employee contribution was 3%.

**2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Employment allowance	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>

**3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Activity	2025	2024
		£	£
Workshop and other income	Art Projects and Events	18,191	21,229
Grants	Art Projects and Events	<u>154,840</u>	<u>129,318</u>
		<u>173,031</u>	<u>150,547</u>

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
Arts Council England - Born and Bread	-	30,000
Arts Council England - Leipzig Cultural Bridge	500	-
Arts Council England - Mabrouk Workshop	18,681	-
Arts Council England - The Songbird Cafe R&D	-	3,961
Brighton and Hove City Council - Collaboration Fund	-	2,300
Brighton and Hove City Council - Estates Development	3,304	-
Brighton and Hove City Council - Mabrouk Workshop	5,000	-
Brighton Dome and Festival	23,000	-
The Enjoolata Foundation	6,415	-
The Goethe Institut	4,500	-
Garfield Weston	20,000	-
Heritage Lottery	-	9,974
Ian Askew Charitable Trust	500	-
A Lacy Tate Trust	-	500
The Orange Tree Trust	-	5,000
The Paul Hamlyn Foundation	71,334	51,583
Postcode Society Trust	-	25,000
Sussex Community Foundation	750	-
Unity Theatre	-	1,000
University of Brighton - Internship	<u>856</u>	-
	<u>154,840</u>	<u>129,318</u>

Amounts received and deferred to 2025/26 were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Paul Hamlyn	27,083	33,417
Enjoolata Foundation	3,585	5,000
The Goethe Institut	-	4,500
Arts Council England - Mabrouk Workshop	9,435	-

BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - continued

Arts Council England - Museum of Life	28,080	-
Brighton and Hove City Council - Estates Development	5,176	-

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 5) £	Totals £
Art Projects and Events	134,912	-	134,912
Support Costs	-	3,670	3,670
	<u>134,912</u>	<u>3,670</u>	<u>138,582</u>

5. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs £
Support Costs	<u>3,670</u>

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

	2025 Support Costs £	2024 Total activities £
Independent Examination	1,320	1,200
Governance costs - other	<u>2,350</u>	<u>136</u>
	<u>3,670</u>	<u>1,336</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**Trustees' expenses**

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

7. STAFF COSTS

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Salaries		
Employers national insurance	76,479	76,328
Employers pension costs	6,602	6,286
	<u>1,692</u>	<u>1,652</u>

The average number of employees during the period was 4 (2024 : 4).

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



**BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**7. STAFF COSTS - continued**

The charity consider its key management personnel comprises the Trustees and the CEO and Artistic Director. Total employment benefits to its key management personnel (including employers national insurance and pension contributions) was £35,934.

**8. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (2024)**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Charitable activities			
Art Projects and Events	97,127	53,420	150,547
Other trading activities	<u>5,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,000</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>102,127</u>	<u>53,420</u>	<u>155,547</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising funds	4,679	2,484	7,163
Charitable activities			
Art Projects and Events	96,100	46,737	142,837
Support Costs	<u>1,336</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,336</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>102,115</u>	<u>49,221</u>	<u>151,336</u>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	12	4,199	4,211
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward	19,086	-	19,086
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u>19,098</u>	<u>4,199</u>	<u>23,297</u>

**9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

**COST**

At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025

Computer  
equipment  
£

500

**DEPRECIATION**

At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025

500

**NET BOOK VALUE**

At 31 March 2025

-

At 31 March 2024

-

**BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	500	5,643
Other debtors	<u>420</u>	<u>100</u>
	<u>920</u>	<u>5,743</u>

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other creditors	8,304	2,375
Deferred income	<u>73,359</u>	<u>42,917</u>
	<u>81,663</u>	<u>45,292</u>

**12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.4.24	Net movement in funds	At 31.3.25
	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	98	12,254	12,352
Designated fund - Costs of Closure/Winding Up	<u>19,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,000</u>
	19,098	12,254	31,352
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
The Songbird Cafe	1,452	(1,452)	-
Mabrouk Conversation	<u>2,747</u>	<u>(2,747)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>4,199</u>	<u>(4,199)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>23,297</u>	<u>8,055</u>	<u>31,352</u>

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	114,381	(102,127)	12,254
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
The Songbird Cafe	-	(1,452)	(1,452)
Born and Bread	23,000	(23,000)	-
Estates Development (Hawk in The Valley)	4,034	(4,034)	-
Leipzig Cultural Bridge	5,000	(5,000)	-
Mabrouk Conversation	-	(2,747)	(2,747)
Mabrouk Workshop	30,181	(30,181)	-
Museum of Life	<u>1,415</u>	<u>(1,415)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>63,650</u>	<u>(67,849)</u>	<u>(4,199)</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>178,031</u>	<u>(169,976)</u>	<u>8,055</u>

# **BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO**

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

### **12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	86	12	58
Designated fund - Costs of Closure/Winding Up	19,000	-	19,000
	<u>19,086</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>19,098</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
The Songbird Cafe	-	1,452	1,452
Mabrouk Conversation	-	2,747	2,747
	<u>-</u>	<u>4,199</u>	<u>4,199</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>19,086</u>	<u>4,211</u>	<u>23,297</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	102,127	(102,115)	12
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
The Songbird Cafe	3,961	(2,509)	1,452
Born and Bread	37,185	(37,185)	-
Collaboration Fund	2,300	(2,300)	-
Mabrouk Conversation	9,974	(7,227)	2,747
	<u>53,420</u>	<u>(49,221)</u>	<u>4,199</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>155,547</u>	<u>(151,336)</u>	<u>4,211</u>

The purpose of each restricted fund was as follows:

1. Arts Council England - The Songbird Cafe R&D - To research and develop a family friendly musical about loneliness, isolation and mental health.
2. Arts Council England - Born and Bread - To produce a show which was co-created with over 100 people in the city, taking conversations about food and belonging as the starting point for creative development.
3. Brighton and Hove City Council - Collaboration Fund - To enable the organisation to collaborate with ThirdSpace Theatre (formerly Windmill Young Actors).
4. Goethe Institut - Cultural Bridge - To enable the organisation to collaborate internationally with English Theatre Leipzig in the next financial year 2024-2025.
5. Heritage Lottery Fund - Mabrouk in a Conversation - To enable the organisation to carry out conversations with people with Arabic speaking heritage in the city as the starting point for a new show.



**BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

6. Estates Development (Hawk in The Valley). To enable residents in Whitehawk to co-create an original show about opportunities and tour it to local community venues.

7. Mabrouk Workshop. To enable people with heritage from Arabic speaking communities to participate in workshops to inform the writing of an original script by playwright Sahayla El-Bushra.

8. Museum of Life. To enable anyone in the city to co-create an original show about the human experience of ageing from cradle to grave.

**13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.

CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015  
FOR  
BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CO

P1 CRT Limited  
Flat 24 Wellingtonia Court  
Laine Close  
Brighton  
East Sussex  
BN1 6TD

**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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<b>Independent Examiner's Report</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Statement of Financial Activities</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Notes to the Financial Statements</b>	<b>7 to 13</b>



## **BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

##### **Objectives and aims**

The objects of the charity are:

To advance education for public benefit through:

a). The promotion of the arts, in particular but not exclusively, in the performing arts:

b). Promoting, presenting, producing and organising community participation in high quality arts provision for public benefit.

##### **Significant activities**

Brighton People's Theatre has 3 strands to its works:

1. Participation.

2. Plays.

3. Research.

We place communities within areas of socio-economic deprivation at the heart of our creative offer. The charity is transforming the ways we make theatre and how we tell the tales of our city, for our city.

##### **Public benefit**

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in the planning of future activities.

This is set out in their report.

#### **ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

##### **Charitable activities**

The detailed annual report, attached as an appendix, sets out the activities during the period.

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

##### **Financial position**

The charity achieved a surplus of £12,254 (2024 Surplus £12) and this has been added to the reserves brought forward to leave £31,352 to be carried forward.

##### **Reserves policy**

The charity has a designated fund of £19,000 to cover the cost of closure/winding up. This amount was set up from when the charity was previously a CIC (charitable incorporated company).

It is the policy of the charity to maintain free unrestricted reserves of 3 months annual running costs which would equate to approximately £21,000.

#### **FUTURE PLANS**

These are set out in the attached annual report.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust.

# **BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

#### **Charity constitution**

The charity was registered on the 8th October 2021 as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

It took over the operations of Brighton People's Theatre CIC on the same date.

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

##### **Appointment of charity trustees.**

a). Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of 3 years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

b). In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

##### **Number of charity trustees.**

a). There must be at least 3 charity trustees. If the number falls below this minimum, the remaining trustee or trustees may act only to call a meeting of the charity trustees, or appoint a new charity trustee.

b). The maximum number of charity trustees is 12. The charity trustees may not appoint any charity trustee if as a result the number of charity trustees would exceed the maximum.

### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

#### **Registered Charity number**

1196082

#### **Principal address**

C/O Age UK Brighton and Hove  
29 Prestonville Road  
Brighton  
East Sussex  
BN1 3U

#### **Trustees**

A S Parsons (Vice Chair)  
T J Hescon (Chair)  
L H E Einhorn  
M Muchati (resigned 17.12.24)  
P D Hughes  
J Lewis-Turner  
H Rice (resigned 13.6.24)  
P Chatterjee (appointed 11.9.24)  
F Mazy O'Neill (appointed 20.1.25)

#### **Independent Examiner**

Christopher Robert Tyler FCA ICAEW  
F1 CRT Limited  
Flat 24 Wellington Court  
Nine Close  
Brighton  
East Sussex  
BN1 6TD

#### **CEO and Artistic Director**

Mark Vassler

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Bankers**

The Co-Operative Bank.

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

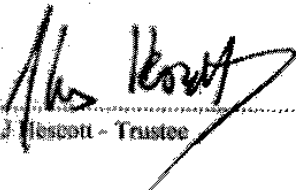
The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 20/1/26 and signed on its behalf by:

  
T.J. Prescott - Trustee



**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO**

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Brighton People's Theatre CIO**

**I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Brighton People's Theatre CIO (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2025.**

**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**

**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.**



**Christopher Robert Tyler FCA DChA FCIE**

**FI CRT Limited  
Flat 24 Wellingtonia Court  
Laine Close  
Brighton  
East Sussex  
BN1 6TD**

**Date: 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO****STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Charitable activities	3				
Art Projects and Events		109,381	63,650	173,031	150,547
Other trading activities	2	<u>5,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>
Total		<u>114,381</u>	<u>63,650</u>	<u>178,031</u>	<u>155,547</u>
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<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total funds brought forward		19,098	4,199	23,297	19,086
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>31,352</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,352</u>	<u>23,297</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO****BALANCE SHEET**  
**31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	10	920	-	920	5,743
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>112,095</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>112,095</u>	<u>62,846</u>
		113,015	-	113,015	68,589
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(81,663)	-	(81,663)	(45,292)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>31,352</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,352</u>	<u>23,297</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		31,352	-	31,352	23,297
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>31,352</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,352</u>	<u>23,297</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	12				
Unrestricted funds				31,352	19,098
Restricted funds				-	<u>4,199</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				<u>31,352</u>	<u>23,297</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on  
20/1/2026 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
T J Hescott - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements



**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**I. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019), Financial Reporting Standard FRS102 '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.

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

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

**Income**

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

Grants from government and other agencies have been included as income from activities in furtherance of the charity's objects in the year in which they are receivable and certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Investment and other income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

No amounts are included in the accounts for services donated by volunteers.

**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.

**Tangible fixed assets**

The costs of tangible fixed assets are written off over their useful economic life as follows:

Computer equipment - 3 years straight line.

Individual fixed assets costing more than £250 or more are capitalised at cost.

The charity carries out regular impairment reviews of its fixed assets.

**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.

**BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025****1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued****Pension cost**

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.

The scheme is available to all eligible employees and is managed by NEST. The employer contribution in 2024/25 was 8% and the employee contribution was 3%.

**2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Employment allowance	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>

**3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Activity	2025	2024
		£	£
Workshop and other income	Art Projects and Events	18,191	21,229
Grants	Art Projects and Events	<u>154,840</u>	<u>129,318</u>
		<u>173,031</u>	<u>150,547</u>

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
Arts Council England - Born and Bread	-	30,000
Arts Council England - Leipzig Cultural Bridge	500	-
Arts Council England - Mabrouk Workshop	18,681	-
Arts Council England - The Songbird Cafe R&D	-	3,961
Brighton and Hove City Council - Collaboration Fund	-	2,300
Brighton and Hove City Council - Estates Development	3,304	-
Brighton and Hove City Council - Mabrouk Workshop	5,000	-
Brighton Dome and Festival	23,000	-
The Enjoolata Foundation	6,415	-
The Goethe Institut	4,500	-
Garfield Weston	20,000	-
Heritage Lottery	-	9,974
Ian Askew Charitable Trust	500	-
A Lacy Tate Trust	-	500
The Orange Tree Trust	-	5,000
The Paul Hamlyn Foundation	71,334	51,583
Postcode Society Trust	-	25,000
Sussex Community Foundation	750	-
Unity Theatre	-	1,000
University of Brighton - Internship	<u>856</u>	-
	<u>154,840</u>	<u>129,318</u>

Amounts received and deferred to 2025/26 were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Paul Hamlyn	27,083	33,417
Enjoolata Foundation	3,585	5,000
The Goethe Institut	-	4,500
Arts Council England - Mabrouk Workshop	9,435	-

**BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - continued**

Arts Council England - Museum of Life	28,080	-
Brighton and Hove City Council - Estates Development	5,176	-

**4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 5) £	Totals £
Art Projects and Events	134,912	-	134,912
Support Costs	-	3,670	3,670
	<u>134,912</u>	<u>3,670</u>	<u>138,582</u>

**5. SUPPORT COSTS**

	Governance costs £
Support Costs	<u>3,670</u>

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

	2025 Support Costs £	2024 Total activities £
Independent Examination	1,320	1,200
Governance costs - other	<u>2,350</u>	<u>136</u>
	<u>3,670</u>	<u>1,336</u>

**6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**Trustees' expenses**

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

**7. STAFF COSTS**

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Salaries		
Employers national insurance	76,479	76,328
Employers pension costs	6,602	6,286
	<u>1,692</u>	<u>1,652</u>

The average number of employees during the period was 4 (2024 : 4).

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



**BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**7. STAFF COSTS - continued**

The charity consider its key management personnel comprises the Trustees and the CEO and Artistic Director. Total employment benefits to its key management personnel (including employers national insurance and pension contributions) was £35,934.

**8. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (2024)**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Charitable activities			
Art Projects and Events	97,127	53,420	150,547
Other trading activities	5,000	-	5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>102,127</b>	<b>53,420</b>	<b>155,547</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising funds	4,679	2,484	7,163
Charitable activities			
Art Projects and Events	96,100	46,737	142,837
Support Costs	1,336	-	1,336
<b>Total</b>	<b>102,115</b>	<b>49,221</b>	<b>151,336</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4,199</b>	<b>4,211</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward	19,086	-	19,086
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b>19,098</b>	<b>4,199</b>	<b>23,297</b>

**9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

**COST**

At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025

Computer  
equipment  
£

500

**DEPRECIATION**

At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025

500

**NET BOOK VALUE**

At 31 March 2025

-

At 31 March 2024

-

**BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	500	5,643
Other debtors	<u>420</u>	<u>100</u>
	<u>920</u>	<u>5,743</u>

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other creditors	8,304	2,375
Deferred income	<u>73,359</u>	<u>42,917</u>
	<u>81,663</u>	<u>45,292</u>

**12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.4.24	Net movement in funds	At 31.3.25
	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	98	12,254	12,352
Designated fund - Costs of Closure/Winding Up	<u>19,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,000</u>
	19,098	12,254	31,352
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
The Songbird Cafe	1,452	(1,452)	-
Mabrouk Conversation	<u>2,747</u>	<u>(2,747)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>4,199</u>	<u>(4,199)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>23,297</u>	<u>8,055</u>	<u>31,352</u>

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

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	114,381	(102,127)	12,254
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
The Songbird Cafe	-	(1,452)	(1,452)
Born and Bread	23,000	(23,000)	-
Estates Development (Hawk in The Valley)	4,034	(4,034)	-
Leipzig Cultural Bridge	5,000	(5,000)	-
Mabrouk Conversation	-	(2,747)	(2,747)
Mabrouk Workshop	30,181	(30,181)	-
Museum of Life	<u>1,415</u>	<u>(1,415)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>63,650</u>	<u>(67,849)</u>	<u>(4,199)</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>178,031</u>	<u>(169,976)</u>	<u>8,055</u>

# **BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO**

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

### **12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	86	12	58
Designated fund - Costs of Closure/Winding Up	19,000	-	19,000
	<u>19,086</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>19,098</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
The Songbird Cafe	-	1,452	1,452
Mabrouk Conversation	-	2,747	2,747
	<u>-</u>	<u>4,199</u>	<u>4,199</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>19,086</u>	<u>4,211</u>	<u>23,297</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	102,127	(102,115)	12
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
The Songbird Cafe	3,961	(2,509)	1,452
Born and Bread	37,185	(37,185)	-
Collaboration Fund	2,300	(2,300)	-
Mabrouk Conversation	9,974	(7,227)	2,747
	<u>53,420</u>	<u>(49,221)</u>	<u>4,199</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>155,547</u>	<u>(151,336)</u>	<u>4,211</u>

The purpose of each restricted fund was as follows:

1. Arts Council England - The Songbird Cafe R&D - To research and develop a family friendly musical about loneliness, isolation and mental health.
2. Arts Council England - Born and Bread - To produce a show which was co-created with over 100 people in the city, taking conversations about food and belonging as the starting point for creative development.
3. Brighton and Hove City Council - Collaboration Fund - To enable the organisation to collaborate with ThirdSpace Theatre (formerly Windmill Young Actors).
4. Goethe Institut - Cultural Bridge - To enable the organisation to collaborate internationally with English Theatre Leipzig in the next financial year 2024-2025.
5. Heritage Lottery Fund - Mabrouk in a Conversation - To enable the organisation to carry out conversations with people with Arabic speaking heritage in the city as the starting point for a new show.

**BRIGHTON PEOPLE'S THEATRE CIO**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

**12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

6. Estates Development (Hawk in The Valley). To enable residents in Whitehawk to co-create an original show about opportunities and tour it to local community venues.

7. Mabrouk Workshop. To enable people with heritage from Arabic speaking communities to participate in workshops to inform the writing of an original script by playwright Sahayla El-Bushra.

8. Museum of Life. To enable anyone in the city to co-create an original show about the human experience of ageing from cradle to grave.

**13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.