



OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
GROUP ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Company number 00882226
Charity number 2488833

**OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
CHAIR'S STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

As I reflect as Chair, I look back with both wonder and joy over the last 12 months and I wanted to start my contribution for this Annual Report by thanking my trustee colleagues. Each one of them gives their time freely as a volunteer to guide, steer and support The Octagon as a charity, using their networks to fundraise, their knowledge and skills to enable the team to make popular, bold and adventurous theatre and ensure that we continue to provide Bolton communities with life-affirming creative experiences.

That brings me on to the team who've worked fabulously as ever, going over, above and beyond. However, it's hard. It's really hard for charities right now. Tough decisions are being made that are hurting the arts, communities and creativity. The Octagon has worked hard to limit that in Bolton. It's clear to me that with the strong leadership from both Roddy, our Chief Executive and Lotte, our Artistic Director, the team have pulled together to respond to the challenge. Over the last 12-months, we have outperformed against our key measures and we've pulled back a significant planned deficit thanks to careful financial stewardship, and joint board and team focus and I'll be honest, a bit of good fortune too. We've led, delivered and co-produced some beltin' theatre, and using the Chair's prerogative – Animal Farm being my personal favourite – together with delivering events and activities that have been family friendly [and some not so], to bring laughter, tears and joy to Bolton. We've worked in schools, libraries and community settings to inspire people young and old. We've brought in new talent, local talent and superstar talent too. It would be remiss of me not to say a special thanks to Peter Kay who had people queuing beyond our venue and around the Bolton Town Hall, bringing light to an otherwise grey December day. This is what we do and the impact that we have.

As I look ahead, it's with a careful blend of optimism and hope. We've got to see what a new government brings, and together with board colleagues I'm supporting our Chief Executive's message in ensuring that Bolton gets its fair share when it comes to the essential investment in arts and culture. We're dreaming big with ideas that will not only have an impact now but will engineer the creative skills and talents of future generations. We know we can only achieve our goals through working in partnership and we have partnerships in abundance. Yes, the environment throws its curveballs and that will continue, but I'm proud that The Octagon is both responsive and resilient.

This set of accounts are not just the facts and figures of The Octagon, it's a story of our impact and how we make every penny work for creativity, arts and culture in Bolton and beyond. I'd like to finish by saying thanks to our principle funders at the Arts Council, Bolton Council and Greater Manchester Combined Authority for their ongoing commitment, together with all of our other grant funders. I'd also like to thank our corporate supporters who've stood by us in challenging financial times for them and of course, thanks to our audience and donors who keep buying tickets to come and see the great theatre and events that we're delivering, because without you all, there is no Octagon.

Darren Knight
Chair of the Board of Trustees

**OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
TRUSTEES' AND DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

DIRECTORS

Name	Nominee/Elected	Appointed/Resigned	Position	Subcommittee (see key below)
D J Knight	Elected trustee		Chair	FR, PE
S A Young	Elected trustee		Vice Chair	FR
S D Plant	Elected trustee		Chair FR	FR
Dr E K Alladi	Elected trustee			PE
H Bowdur	Elected trustee			FR
L A Harvey	Elected trustee	Resigned 27/11/23	Chair PE	PE
S Hussain	Elected trustee	Resigned 27/11/23		PE
V E Jackson	Elected trustee	Resigned 27/11/23		PE
T A Lewyckyj -Wood	Elected trustee			PE
Cllr M Murray	BMBC nominee	Resigned 04/05/2024		
F L Noden	Elected trustee			FR
I Tabbron	Elected trustee			FR
Cllr H Fairclough	BMBC nominee			
Cllr N Ayub	BMBC nominee	Appointed 27/11/23		
S Germaine-Cox	Elected trustee	Appointed 27/11/23	Chair PE	PE
H Critchlow	Elected trustee	Appointed 27/11/23		FR
J Leigh	Elected trustee	Appointed 27/11/23		PE
J Griffiths	Elected trustee	Appointed 27/11/23		

KEY TO SUBCOMMITTEES FR – Finance and Resources Sub-committee
PE – People and Equality Sub-committee

COMPANY SECRETARY K B Jones

KEY STAFF

R Gauld	Chief Executive	
L Wakeham	Artistic Director	
K B Jones	Head of Finance and Business	
M Irving-Murphy	Head of Operations and Customer Experience	
C Whitwood	Head of Production	
C Rachwal	Head of Marketing and Communications	
D Fearnley	Head of Development	
I Woolrich	Head of Creative Engagement	Resigned 26/08/2024
W Treasure	Head of Producing	

**REGISTERED OFFICE AND
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS** Howell Croft South
Bolton
BL1 1SB

AUDITORS Sumer Auditco Limited
The Beehive
City Place
Gatwick
RH6 0PA

BANKERS Barclays Bank plc
1 Market Street
Bolton
BL1 1XA

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED TRUSTEES' AND DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees present their annual report together with the consolidated financial statements of the charity and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 March 2024.

REPORTING FRAMEWORK

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and 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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019), referred to as the Charities SORP (FRS 102) (second edition – October 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Charitable objects

The objectives of the charity are:

"to promote, maintain, improve and advance education, particularly by the production of educational plays and the encouragement of the Arts, including the arts of drama, mime, dance, singing, and music".

We achieve these objectives through the operation of the Octagon Theatre in Bolton and the creation of theatre productions for regional and national audiences, including work off-site, on tour and online; and through extensive programmes of learning and participation with, by and for our community.

Activities

The charity's main activities are:

- Producing and presenting high quality theatre productions that are accessible and relevant for the communities of Bolton and beyond. The programme includes a range of new, contemporary and classic plays, including musicals and family shows. In-house productions are made and rehearsed in Bolton, with a skilled local workforce alongside artists drawn from across the UK; co-productions are made with a range of exciting artistic collaborators who share our values; and presenting work is programmed to provide a diverse line-up of the best quality touring performing arts, ranging from popular entertainment to thought-provoking new work.
- Inspiring and engaging young people and adults to take part in creative activities. These involve a wide range of theatre and creative practices that encourage theatre practice, creativity, collaboration and communication. Often we work with other partners to reach and engage participants, including schools with whom we work to enhance and enrich student learning, and
- Developing the talent and professional skills of the theatre and creative industries. This includes opportunities for new work to be developed and showcased, support for artists at all stages of their career to improve their work and employability, and training for college and university students to ensure they are industry ready.

Organisational mission, values and goals

Our vision: Our community will be stronger, happier and healthier with more creativity at its heart.

Our mission: We use theatre and arts to create unforgettable experiences that celebrate, inspire and elevate our community.

Our cause: We will excite and unite people through brilliant, bold theatre and arts. We will enrich and change peoples' lives by encouraging their expression and freedom. We will be a catalyst for our community to be more inclusive and more creative.

Our values:

- Creativity– We are imaginative, playful, artistic and resourceful. We are storytellers and we encourage everyone's potential to express themselves.
- Inclusivity – We listen, learn and change so that we can become more inclusive. We want everyone to feel safe and at home with the Octagon. We are richer and stronger together.
- Care - We care about people, their feelings and wellbeing. We care about our work and doing the best that we can. We care about our community and our environment.
- Curiosity – We are open minded, brave and willing to take risks. We enjoy learning and create a safe space for ideas and debate. We choose curiosity over judgement.

**OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
TRUSTEES' AND DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

- Integrity – We are authentic and honest. We treat people with respect and fairness. We are responsible and accountable. We deliver on what we promise.

Organisational goals to 2027:

- Improve our resilience through growing our income and reach and maximising our new venue.
- Value our people in a culture where they can thrive, contribute, learn, and are able to balance work and life effectively.
- Stage work that is Bold, Adventurous and Popular, supporting others to flourish, and contributing to a vibrant and diverse creative ecology.
- Widen who we work with to be vital to our community, building meaningful partnerships and advocating for the difference we can make.
- Octagon for everyone, placing inclusion, diversity and access at the heart of what we do, and ensuring that people feel the Octagon is for them.
- Environmental responsibility, taking action to reduce our impact and contribute towards Net Zero by 2038.

Public benefit

In shaping the objectives and planning the activities for the year, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance on public benefit and fee charging. The charity relies on grants and the income from fees and charges to cover its operating costs.

Beneficiaries

A total of 166,241 people benefited from the charity's work over the year including participants, audiences at the Octagon and audiences at partner venues across the country.

Pricing policy

We are committed to providing accessible and affordable theatre experiences for everyone, whilst recognising that the charity requires sufficient income to deliver its activities effectively. The trustees have set a policy that includes free events throughout the year, free and £4 tickets for those on low incomes, and a range of price points for customer choice including desirable seats at £15 tickets for every performance. Dynamic pricing allows the charity to increase the highest prices in line with demand, whilst keeping the lowest ticket prices static to ensure affordability.

Impact assessment

The trustees periodically commission impact studies to understand how the Octagon makes a positive contribution to Bolton and the surrounding area. The most recent study in 2021, and drawing upon data from previous years, found that the charity:

- Generated an annual economic impact of £10.8m per year, of which £8.43m is captured within Greater Manchester and £5.89m within Bolton itself.
- Generated social impact of £0.89m per year through health, education and volunteering.
- Produced a total benefit cost ratio of £13.44 to every £1 of public sector investment (Arts Council England, Bolton Council and Greater Manchester Combined Authority).
- Produced a benefit cost ratio to Bolton Council of £43 in GVA and social impact for every £1 of revenue investment.
- Improved Bolton's reputation, with 96% of audiences surveyed saying that the Octagon was good for Bolton's reputation, and over £1m of positive media coverage generated every year.

The study went on to assess the benefits arising in Bolton specifically over the next 25 years because of the theatre's redevelopment and estimated a net value of £110m, which compared to £90.1m pre-redevelopment, is £19.1m of additional impact in Bolton.

The trustees are pleased and proud to see such strong evidence of the Octagon's economic and social impact, in addition to its cultural contribution. The report states that the Octagon "represents good value for money in the public sector and especially so within the arts and cultural sector". The trustees look forward to seeing the Octagon's impact grow in the years ahead.

Contribution of volunteers

Volunteers play a vital and varied role in the life of the Trust: as trustees, providing customer care, and providing pastoral support during creative engagement activities. We are grateful to them all for their continued support and contribution. Volunteers gave 4,578 hours over the year, an increase of over 1,000 hours on the previous year.

**OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
TRUSTEES' AND DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

2023/24 year was a highly successful year in almost every respect, despite the ongoing difficult economic circumstances. We were delighted to be named as Manchester's Leading Arts and Culture Venue at the 2023 This Is Manchester Awards, reflecting the Octagon's reputation as a leading regional theatre.

Productions

During the year 68,433 people attended Octagon productions at our theatre in Bolton. An estimated 89,736 people saw an Octagon production, co-production or originated production elsewhere in the UK.

Our 2023/24 productions were:

The Book of Will by Lauren Gunderson. Directed by Lotte Wakeham. 17th May – 3rd June 2023. Co-production with Queen's Theatre Hornchurch and Shakespeare North Playhouse.

- "Poignant testament to friendship and collaboration" – The Stage
- "Generous hearted comedy" – The Guardian

Blonde Bombshells of 1943 by Alan Plater. Directed by Zoé Waterman. 9th June – 1st July 2023. Co-production with Stephen Joseph Theatre and Theatre By The Lake.

- "Perfect summer treat" – The Bolton News
- "Music is just stunning" – Manchester Theatres
- "Glorious" – Theatre Reviews North

A View From The Bridge by Arthur Miller. Directed by Holly Race Roughan. 8th – 30th September 2023. Co-production with Headlong, Chichester Festival Theatre and Rose Theatre.

- "Powerful, poignant and at times heartbreaking" – Bolton News
- "Thrilling and dynamic" – The Guardian
- "Emotional and Powerful" – Manchester Theatres

Jeeves and Wooster in Perfect Nonsense based on the works of P.G Wodehouse, adapted by The Goodale Brothers. Directed by Marieke Audsley. 4th – 21st October 2023. Co-production with Wiltshire Creative.

- "A spiffingly perfect evening of entertainment" – Fairy Powered Productions
- "Terrific fun" – Daily Mail
- "A glorious escape from reality" – Broadway World

Around the World in 80 Days by Jules Verne, adapted by Susannah Pearse and Kate Ferguson. Directed by Kash Arshad. 16th November 2023 – 6th January 2024.

- "A totally winning performance" – What's On Stage
- "Captivates audiences of all ages" – I Love MCR
- "Feel-good Fun" – Manchester Theatres

Animal Farm, based on the novel by George Orwell. Adapted by Ian Wooldridge. Directed by Iqbal Khan. 22nd January – 1st February 2024. Co-production with Hull Truck Theatre and Derby Theatre.

- "Intensely physical, visceral adaptation of Orwell's timeless classic" – The Stage
- "Must-watch" – The Bolton News
- "A dark & powerful play" – Theatre Reviews North

Northanger Abbey, based on the novel by Jane Austen. Adapted by Zoe Cooper. Directed by Tessa Walker. 1st – 23rd March 2024. Co-production with Orange Tree Theatre, Stephen Joseph Theatre and Theatre By The Lake.

"Zoe Cooper's incisive adaptation approaches the tale from a fresh, contemporary angle" – The Stage

- "Austen would thoroughly approve of this playful adaptation" – Evening Standard
- "Inspired" – The Times

We were delighted that our previous production of *The Book Thief* (2022) was shortlisted for Best Musical at the prestigious UK Theatre Awards in 2023. Natalie Blair, who made her stage debut in our 2022 production of *Spring and Port Wine* was shortlisted for Best Performer in a Play at the 2023 Stage Debut Awards – the second year running that an Octagon actor has been a finalist for this award.

In addition to our productions and co-productions, we expanded our programme of touring shows and entertainment. We were delighted to welcome Original Theatre with their production of *The Time Machine* and Northern Broadsides with *Quality Street*. Comedy and music shows proved popular with audiences, as well as our growing programme of family shows. Julie Hesmondhalgh staged a glorious and poignant one-woman play, *These I Love*, recounting memories of her late father of growing up in Lancashire.

A highlight of our year was *Peter Kay's Christmas Octagon Fundraiser*. We are incredibly grateful to Peter Kay, an alumnus of the Octagon's youth theatre, for giving three exclusive performances in our intimate auditorium including brand new material. Peter generously donated these performances, raising £80k for the Octagon, with the resulting media coverage reaching over 40m people across the UK.

**OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
TRUSTEES' AND DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Groups and projects

We continue to run a wide range of creative activities for people of all ages, including our Youth Theatre and ArtBeat for over 50s, Bridges – our enduring programme of work for people with additional needs and learning disabilities, and our Womens' Group for women refugees and asylum seekers.

Our projects during 2023/24 included:

Sharing Stories Our first full year of this programme saw extensive work in libraries across Bolton, schools and community settings. *Sharing Stories* works with children and families to improve literacy, communication and creativity. Our evidence is showing a positive impact, improving vital life skills and encouraging arts engagement with families who might not otherwise attend the Octagon. Sharing Stories is supported by the Oglesby Charitable Trust and the UK Prosperity Fund.

Unlocking Wellbeing This is a partnership programme led by Bolton CVS and Bolton Carer Support, to reduce health inequalities faced by Carers. The Octagon is providing a Wellbeing strand to tackle isolation and increase Carers' voice and confidence. Unlocking Wellbeing is funded by the National Lottery Communities Fund.

During the year, 420 creative engagement sessions were delivered to 8,022 people. These included 53 sessions focused on community cohesion and 97 sessions focused on health and wellbeing.

Organisational achievements

Our commitment to fair pay was recognised by the Octagon being shortlisted for the Industry Trailblazer Award at the Real Living Wage Champion Awards 2023. During this year we also became a Disability Confident Employer, recognising our commitment to being an inclusive workplace.

Environmental responsibility

For the first time we are publishing our environmental impact: 319 tonnes CO₂e in 2023/24. The largest portion of this is audience travel. We have an environmental action plan to reduce our impact, with the ambition of achieving Net Zero by 2038.

Fundraising

The trustees place great importance on relationships with donors and are committed to ensuring best practice. There is an in-house development team, and no other professional fundraiser or commercial participator carried out any fundraising activities during the financial year.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Overview

Taking into account Theatre Tax Relief generated through Octagon Theatre Productions Ltd, the Group completed its financial year with a financial deficit on unrestricted funds of £103,622 (2023 – surplus £148,169) after transfers and designations. The charity has reassessed its operational model in the year and carried out a restructure which lead to some staff posts being made redundant and an ongoing cost saving.

At the year end the Trust's funds stood at:

	£'000
Unrestricted funds:	
General funds	938
Designated funds	939
	<u>1,877</u>
Restricted funds	179
	<u>2,056</u>

Trading subsidiaries

Octagon Catering Services (OCS) generated a profit of £5,450 (2023 – £18,139). The directors are exploring the best options for the company and have prepared budgets and forecasts.

The other wholly owned trading subsidiary, Octagon Theatre Productions Ltd, is the production vehicle for our plays, and has generated a theatre tax credit of £305,358 (2023 – £282,447) although this includes amounts due to fellow theatres.

Investment policy and review

Surplus funds are placed on deposit with our bankers. There are no fixed asset investments.

**OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
TRUSTEES' AND DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Risk management

The trustees discuss and approve a risk register on an annual basis, and the Finance and Resources Sub-Committee review this on a bi-monthly basis. The greatest risks facing the charity, and the approach to their management, is summarised as follows:

Restabilising customers and customer income	As we operate through the cost-of-living crisis, there remains uncertainty about audience numbers and income. Box office revenue continues to fluctuate. There is a national story that regional theatre attendances have not yet consistently returned to pre-pandemic levels, and this reflects the Octagon position. Given that customer generated income forms the majority of turnover, this is naturally the highest risk facing the charity. We have invested in programming that has popular appeal and appeal to new audiences and undertaken regular market research to better understand our customers, their motivations and expectations. We have increased spending in marketing and invested in detailed strategy to increase engagement across audiences, participants and donors including greater use of marketing segmentation, social media, and brand promotion. This work is being matched by grassroots audience development with family audiences and South Asian audiences.
Failure to meet earned income targets	Box office, co-production and catering income targets are set clearly and specifically, allowing for frequent review throughout the year. There are regular forecasts to monitor income and expenditure, with scope for in-year adjustments to respond to any risks and take corrective actions where necessary. The trustees have determined to maintain sufficient reserves to mitigate against any shortfalls as we work to return to normal trading levels from 2024 onwards.
Reliance and uncertainty on grant income	There is a proactive approach to maintaining positive relationships with all funding stakeholders, and to monitoring the policy context the Trust operates within. The trustees and key staff have recently reviewed our short to medium term priorities and ensured these are aligned to our major stakeholders: Arts Council England, Bolton Council and Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA). We have confirmed 2023-2027 funding from Arts Council England and GMCA, and ongoing funding from Bolton Council.
Increases in costs and inflation	In line with the economy, we have experienced significant increases in utilities prices and other fixed costs. We have undertaken a review of all budgets and contracts and instigated a major savings plan that has reduced the total increase to overheads. We continue to tightly control expenditure whilst also investing in cost saving measures where prudent to do so.
Limited organisational capacity, resilience, and accommodation	<p>The redevelopment of the theatre has significantly improved our accommodation and opened new opportunities for income generation through venue hire and improved audience experience. However, the economic circumstances are frustrating our ability to realise the potential of this. The trustees recognise that the Octagon's resources are currently limited.</p> <p>Our workforce is our greatest asset, and the trustees place considerable importance on maintaining a healthy and capable team. Staff and freelancers have co-designed new values and a cultural statement for the Trust. Trustees have invested in improving pay and increasing staff training.</p> <p>Since vacating our previous workshop and store building, we are working towards new premises for storage in Bolton, and a collaborative approach to scenery construction with the Royal Exchange Theatre in Manchester.</p>
Failure to meet expectations	The trustees regularly evaluate the performance of the charity and the quality of the theatre's work. This includes artistic outcomes, reputation, audience satisfaction and stakeholder requirements. Customer surveys are carried out throughout the year to understand areas of success and improvement in production, customer services and other areas. Net Promoter Score is used across all areas of the charity to measure customer satisfaction.
Underrepresentation of diversity	The trustees recognise that the Octagon does not yet fully reflect the diversity of the population it serves. Good progress has been made in recent years to improve diversity within our creative practices, the appointment of freelancers and the appointment of trustees. Improving the diversity of our permanent staff and audiences is now the focus of our attention. The trustees are investing and/or prioritising fundraising towards audience development and programme for under-represented communities.

**OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
TRUSTEES' AND DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Climate change

Climate change is arguably the greatest risk facing the global community. The trustees have made reducing environmental impact one of the charity's goals. The redeveloped theatre has already significantly reduced our carbon footprint, but we are committed to further reductions. A comprehensive new action plan including audience travel, building facilities, procurement, production practices, ethical finance and other factors is in development. Our ambition is to become a Net Zero organisation by 2038, in line with the Greater Manchester city-region target.

Reserves

The Trustees established a reserves policy in 2012, as amended by subsequent decisions, to address both the short-term and long-term needs of the charity. In 2016, Trustees made a decision to increase the reserves to mitigate risks associated with the capital project and temporary closure of the theatre.

The policy required:

Cash reserve	500,000
Fixed asset replacement	90,096 (balance of the original allocation of £130k)
Programme support 21/22	30,000
Capital programme	70,000

To which was added an additional £130,000 designated fund for COVID support.

At the end of the year the charity had £1,583,528 (2023 - £1,570,306 in the bank account, which includes restricted capital grants and donations of £179,441 (2023- £123,106) along with other restricted and designated funds.

The free reserves (unrestricted funds not invested in fixed assets or otherwise designated) were £217,366 (2023 - £316,394).

FUTURE PLANS

In 2024/25, we expect to keep building on our recent success of producing high quality experiences for wide range of local and national audiences.

Bolton has been named Greater Manchester's Town of Culture 2025. This is a fantastic opportunity to support artists and grassroots organisations, and to promote the rich culture offer in our borough. The Octagon will be hosting the launch and an installation during 'Put Big Light On' Festival, as well as providing resources for artists partners in addition to our year-long programme of work. Crucially, the Town of Culture year is a catalyst for a larger, more inclusive cultural offer and we will be working with Bolton Council and others to implement the borough's new cultural strategy.

Our produced/co-produced programme will include:

- *Brassed Off* adapted by Paul Allen, based on the screenplay by Mark Herman, directed by Liz Stevenson. A co-production with Theatre by the Lake and Stephen Joseph Theatre.
- *Stones in his Pockets* by Marie Jones, directed by Matthew McElhinney. A co-production with Bam Theatre and Wiltshire Creative.
- *The Jungle Book* adapted by Andrew Pollard, based on the book by Rudyard Kipling, music by Ziad Jabero, directed by Sarah Punshon.
- *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck, directed by Sarah Bringham. A co-production with Derby Theatre, Hull Truck Theatre and Theatre by the Lake.

For the first time, we will be reviving two previous hit productions for both Bolton audiences and national touring. This new model will allow us to maximise the financial returns on the investment made in successful shows. In early 2025, we will be reviving *Animal Farm* and touring to theatre across the UK, and *Shirley Valentine*, with a Lancashire specific tour.

Another new venture will be the Bolton Comedy Festival in July 2024. Building on our growth in comedy programming, the profile of our recent Peter Kay performances, and Bolton's reputation for producing outstanding comedians, we will be hosting some of the funniest people in the UK for a weekend of live comedy.

We will be welcoming Rifco Theatre to the Octagon for the first time with their critically acclaimed Immersive DJ show, *Pali and Jay's Ultimate Asian Wedding DJ*. With support from the Foyle Foundation, we will be increasing our audience development with South Asian audiences during 2024 and 2025.

In the autumn of 2024, we will be launching *The Agency* in Bolton, specifically in Farnworth. The Agency is an internationally proven creative entrepreneurship programme that enables young people aged 15 to 25 from underserved areas to generate social change projects based on the needs they identify in their own communities. We are looking forward to working with Battersea Arts Centre,

**OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
TRUSTEES' AND DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

People Palace Projects and the other UK partners. Our thanks to the Kristian Gerhard Jebsen Foundation, whose support of The Agency, has enabled our first year of activity.

We are excited to enter the second year of Sharing Stories and witness the fantastic impact this programme is having in enhancing essential life skills and encouraging first time participation in arts and culture. During 2024/25 we will begin planning a second phase and begin fundraising for 2026 onwards.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated June 6 1966, as amended by special resolutions dated October 7 1983, August 15 1986, September 11 1995 and November 25 2002.

Members of the company

The only members of the company are those appointed as trustees and directors. They cease to be members of the company on their resignation as trustees and directors.

Appointment of Directors and Trustees

The trustees, who are also the Directors of the Company, are appointed as follows:

- Bolton Council nominates up to three directors
- Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA, formerly AGMA) nominates up to two directors
- Other directors are appointed at the Annual General Meeting

Excluding the nominated directors, at each AGM, one third of the Directors retire by rotation, being the longest in office and are eligible for re-election. Trustees normally serve two terms of three years each.

Trustee recruitment, induction and training

The trustees endeavour to ensure that they have within their number the appropriate range of skills and abilities, and from time to time will seek to identify individuals, who they believe can contribute essential knowledge and experience, to recruit to the Board.

New trustees are identified through open advertisement alongside targeted recruitment. The board endeavours to ensure that the trustees collectively have a relevant range of skills and abilities, including appropriate representation of Bolton's community and demographics.

New trustees receive induction meetings with the Chair and Chief Executive to brief them on the organisation, as well as information on their legal and fiduciary responsibilities. Outside of board meetings, all trustees are encouraged to attend performances and other events to keep informed of the Theatre's activities. Training for trustees is provided as necessary.

Organisation

The board, which must be no less than three members nor more than twenty, administers the Charity and meets as necessary. Normally meetings are bi-monthly with an annual away-day. All trustees are expected to adhere to a Code of Conduct. Conflicts of interest must be recorded on an annual basis and declared at each meeting.

In December 2018 the board re-organised its activities into two sub-committees: a Finance and Resources Sub-Committee that has responsibility for finance, funding, risk and the capital project; and a People and Equalities Sub-Committee that has responsibility for human resources, diversity and inclusion. Both sub-committees have delegated authority from the board within specific terms of reference.

A Chief Executive is appointed by the board, to whom the trustees have delegated authority for operational matters within the overall strategy agreed by the board.

Pay and remuneration for senior staff

The remuneration of senior staff is determined on appointment, based upon comparable benchmarks, and subsequently adjusted in line with other staff pay. The board reviews staff pay annually, and it is normally increased in accordance with average earnings and inflation, if resources allow.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations/charities

None of our trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the Trust.

The Trust has worked in partnership over many years with major funders Arts Council England, Bolton Council and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority. Both the Arts Council and Bolton Council have committed significant funds to support the re-development of the Theatre. Bolton Council are the landlords of the theatre.

During the year, the University of Bolton and Bolton at Home made significant financial contributions as Principal Sponsor and Major Partner respectively.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
TRUSTEES' AND DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

The trustees (who are also directors of Octagon Theatre Trust Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102) (second edition – October 2019);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

STATEMENT OF DISCLOSURE TO AUDITORS


We, the trustees and directors of the company who held office at the date of approval of these Financial Statements as set out above each confirm, so far as we are aware, that:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and
- we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

SMALL COMPANY PROVISIONS AND APPROVAL

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

Approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:



D J Knight
Director

Date: **25TH NOVEMBER 2024.**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF THE OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Octagon Theatre Trust (the 'charity') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Group and parent Charity Statements of Financial Activities, the Group, and parent Charity's Balance Sheets, the Group and Parent Charity's Statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and parent charitable company's affairs as at March 31 2024 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and parent charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate. Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's or parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue. Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with the audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and parent charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF THE OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and sufficient accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charitable company's financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the directors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, set out in the Directors' and Trustees' Annual Report, the trustees (who are also the directors of the parent charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the groups and parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the group or parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud, which is detailed below.

We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general commercial and sector experience, and through discussions with the trustees (as required by auditing standards) and discussed with the trustees the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations. We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit. The potential effect of these laws and regulations on the financial statements varies considerably.

Firstly, the charitable company is subject to laws and regulations that directly affect the financial statements including financial reporting legislation and taxation legislation. We assessed the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement items.

Secondly, the company is subject to many other laws and regulations where the consequences of non-compliance could have a material effect on amounts or disclosures in the financial statements, for instance through the imposition of fines or litigation. We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an effect: charities legislation, laws related to health and safety, employment laws, gender pay gap, GDPR and consumer protection.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Through these procedures we did not become aware of any actual or suspected non-compliance.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF THE OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

standards would identify it. In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined below to detect material misstatement due to fraud:

- Matters are discussed amongst the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud
- Identifying and assessing the design and effectiveness of controls that management have in place to prevent and detect fraud
- Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud following discussions with management and enquiring as to whether management have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members and its trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Nilesh Modhvadia (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Sumer Auditco Limited (Statutory Auditor)
The Beehive, City Place, Gatwick, RH6 0PA.

Date: 25/11/24

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
GROUP STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (including the income and expenditure account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted			Total	Total
		General	Designated	Restricted	2024	2023
		Funds	Funds	Funds	£	£
		£	£	£		
INCOME						
Incoming resources from generated funds:						
Donations	2	1,004,961	-	98,823	1,103,784	974,020
Charitable activities	3	1,742,337	-	73,778	1,816,115	1,855,362
Other trading activities	4	564,557	-	-	564,557	515,589
Investment income - bank interest		48,193	-	-	48,193	3,034
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		3,360,048	-	172,601	3,532,649	3,348,005
EXPENDITURE						
Costs of raising funds	6	468,011	-	-	468,011	437,162
Expenditure on charitable activities	7	3,358,410	16,926	58,873	3,434,209	3,227,221
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		3,826,421	16,926	58,873	3,902,220	3,664,383
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)						
BEFORE TRANSFERS		(466,373)	(16,926)	113,728	(369,571)	(316,378)
Transfers between funds	17	57,393	-	(57,393)	-	-
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)						
BEFORE TAXATION		(408,980)	(16,926)	56,335	(369,571)	(316,378)
TAXATION - Theatre Tax Credit	5	305,358	-	-	305,358	282,447
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)						
AFTER TAXATION - NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(103,622)	(16,926)	56,335	(64,213)	(33,931)
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	17	1,041,777	955,864	123,106	2,120,747	2,154,678
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	17	938,155	938,938	179,441	2,056,534	2,120,747

The notes on pages 23 to 39 form part of these financial statements.

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
CHARITY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (including the income and expenditure account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Incoming resources from generated funds:						
Donations	2	1,004,961	-	98,823	1,103,784	974,020
Charitable activities	3	3,043,398	-	73,778	3,117,176	3,320,052
Other trading activities	4	227,891	-	-	227,891	192,832
Investment income - bank interest		48,193	-	-	48,193	3,034
TOTAL INCOME		4,324,443	-	172,601	4,497,044	4,489,938
EXPENDITURE						
Costs of raising funds	6	136,795	-	-	136,795	117,594
Expenditure on charitable activities	7	4,354,113	16,926	58,873	4,429,912	4,409,464
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		4,490,908	16,926	58,873	4,566,707	4,527,058
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) BEFORE TRANSFERS		(166,465)	(16,926)	113,728	(69,663)	(37,120)
Transfers between funds	17	57,393	-	(57,393)	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(109,072)	(16,926)	56,335	(69,663)	(37,120)
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	17	1,054,345	955,864	123,106	2,133,315	2,170,435
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	17	945,273	938,938	179,441	2,063,652	2,133,315

The notes on pages 23 to 39 form part of these financial statements.

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
GROUP BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	11		840,028		850,072
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock	13	12,557		9,391	
Debtors	14	982,553		698,547	
Cash at Bank and in Hand		<u>1,583,528</u>		<u>1,570,306</u>	
		2,578,638		2,278,244	
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due in one year	15	<u>1,106,208</u>		<u>708,991</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>1,472,430</u>		<u>1,569,253</u>
			2,312,458		2,419,325
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due in more than one year	16		<u>255,924</u>		<u>298,578</u>
NET ASSETS			<u>2,056,534</u>		<u>2,120,747</u>
FUNDS					
<i>Unrestricted charitable funds</i>					
General fund	17	1,057,394		1,166,466	
Designated fund	17	<u>938,938</u>		<u>955,864</u>	
			1,996,332		2,122,330
<i>Restricted charitable funds</i>			<u>179,441</u>		<u>123,106</u>
Total charitable funds	17		2,175,773		2,245,436
<i>Non charitable trading subsidiaries</i>			<u>(119,239)</u>		<u>(124,689)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>2,056,534</u>		<u>2,120,747</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies.

The financial statements were approved by the board of Trustees on 25TH NOVEMBER 2024 and were signed on its behalf by.

C.D. Knight 25/11/24
 DJ Knight – Director

Company registration number: 00882226

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
CHARITY BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	11		832,888		848,714
Investments	12		<u>1,100</u>		<u>1,100</u>
			833,988		849,814
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock	13	-	-	-	-
Debtors	14	979,965		696,486	
Cash at Bank and in Hand		<u>1,574,867</u>		<u>1,557,708</u>	
		2,554,832		2,254,194	
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due in one year	15	<u>1,069,244</u>		<u>672,115</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
			<u>1,485,588</u>		<u>1,582,079</u>
			2,319,576		2,431,893
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due in more than one year	16		<u>255,924</u>		<u>298,578</u>
NET ASSETS					
			<u>2,063,652</u>		<u>2,133,315</u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted					
General fund	17	945,273		1,054,345	
Designated funds	17	<u>938,938</u>		<u>955,864</u>	
			1,884,211		2,010,209
Restricted					
	17		<u>179,441</u>		<u>123,106</u>
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>2,063,652</u>		<u>2,133,315</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies.

The financial statements were approved by the board of Trustees on 25th NOVEMBER 2024 and were signed on its behalf by.


D J Knight – Director

Company registration number: 00882226

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
GROUP AND CHARITY STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

		Group	Group	Charity	Charity
		2024	2023	2024	2023
	notes	£	£	£	£
Cash used in operating activities	22	87,100	442,637	83,056	436,493
Cashflows from investing activities					
Interest and dividends		48,193	3,034	48,193	3,034
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(122,071)	(36,497)	(114,090)	(36,497)
Proceeds of sale of fixed assets		-	-	-	-
Payments to acquire investments		-	-	-	-
Cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		(73,878)	(33,463)	(65,897)	(33,463)
Cashflows from financing activities					
Proceeds from new borrowings		-	-	-	-
Repayment of borrowing		-	-	-	-
Cash from financing activities		-	-	-	-
Increase/(decrease) in cash & cash equivalents in the year		13,222	409,174	17,159	403,030
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		1,570,306	1,161,132	1,557,708	1,154,678
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward		1,583,528	1,570,306	1,574,867	1,557,708
Cash and cash equivalents consist of:					
Cash at bank and in hand		1,583,528	1,570,306	1,574,867	1,557,708
Current asset investments		-	-	-	-
		1,583,528	1,570,306	1,574,867	1,557,708

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Company information

Octagon Theatre Trust Limited is a charitable company registered as a Charity in England and Wales and a company limited by guarantee. The Charity has two trading subsidiaries named Octagon Catering Services Limited and Octagon Theatre Productions Ltd. The registered office of all entities is Howell Croft South, Bolton, BL1 1SB.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the charitable company, 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', the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Going Concern

The Trustees have addressed the impact of the current economic environment post COVID 19 and have prepared bank forecasts that demonstrate that the company has adequate cash reserves and is able to manage its cashflow and they have concluded that there are no issues concerning the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. For this reason, the accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Income recognition

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

Grants, whether of a capital or revenue nature, are recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions have been met and it is probable that the income will be received.

Donations from individuals and other bodies (not being of the nature of a grant) are recognised when receivable.

Earned income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable for services and goods supplied, net of discounts and VAT.

In kind support consisting of donated facilities is recognised as income when the charity has control over the facilities, the receipt of economic benefit is probable and can be measured reliably. The facilities are recognised at the value the charity would have been prepared to pay for them. A corresponding amount is included as expenditure.

Deferred income

Income is only deferred and included in creditors when:

- The income relates to a future accounting period
- A sales invoice has been raised ahead of the work being carried out and there is no contractual entitlement to the income until the work has been done
- Not all the terms and conditions of the grant have been met, including the incurring of expenditure and the grant conditions are such that unspent grant must be refunded

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

Costs of raising funds	including those associated with fundraising activities, managing investments and commercial trading by the subsidiary company.
Charitable activities	costs of undertaking the work of the charity.

The charity is registered for VAT and is able to recover some of the input tax charged as it relates to VATable supplies. Costs are stated net of the recoverable amount of VAT, where VAT has been charged.

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions which assist the work of the charity either by supporting the delivery of charitable activities or by supporting the generation of funds. They include property costs, back office functions, staff costs, depreciation, finance costs and professional fees. The basis of allocations is set out in note 8.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Individual fixed assets costing more than £500 are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful lives on a straight-line basis as set out below.

Depreciation rates are as follows:

Long leasehold land and buildings	10% straight line
Premises refurbishment	2% on additions pre 31/03/14, 4% on additions thereafter
Fixtures, fittings & equipment*	10% and 20%,
Computer equipment	25%

*Assets acquired under finance lease are depreciated over the life of the leases, which equates to 5 years on current agreements.

Taxation

The Charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

General unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Designated unrestricted funds have been designated by the Trustees for particular purposes and are also unrestricted as the Trustees can re-assign those monies if they so desire.

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

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

The charity has only basic financial instruments which are initially recorded at cost, subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Group financial statements

The financial statements consolidate the results of the charity and its wholly owned subsidiaries, Octagon Catering Services Ltd and Octagon Theatre Productions Ltd, on a line by line basis.

Capital grants

Capital grants received by the charity are accounted for as income in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to receive the income and included within restricted reserves until the conditions of the grant have been fulfilled.

Within the subsidiary companies, Capital grants are recognised at the fair value of the asset received or receivable. Grants are not recognised until there is reasonable assurance that the company will comply with the conditions attaching to them and the grants will be received. Capital grants are recognised using the accrual model and the performance model. Under the accrual model, capital grants relating to revenue are recognised on a systematic basis over the periods in which the company recognises the related costs for which the grant is intended to compensate. Grants that are receivable as compensation for expenses or losses already incurred or for the purpose of giving immediate financial support to the entity with no future related costs are recognised in income in the period in which it becomes receivable. Grants relating to assets are recognised in income on a systematic basis over the expected useful life of the asset. Where part of a grant relating to an asset is deferred, it is recognised as deferred income and not deducted from the carrying amount of the asset.

The treatment of capital grants received by the subsidiary companies is aligned with that of the charity on consolidation and grants which were received from the charity are eliminated on consolidation.

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

Judgements are made by Trustees in the process of applying the Charity's accounting policies. Key judgements are estimating the useful lives of fixed assets, going concern and any bad debt provision. These uncertainties are not thought to pose a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts and assets within the next financial year.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees, agreeing the contribution rates with each individual. The contributions are paid to a third party who invests the contributions in a money purchase plan. Contributions are charged to the SoFA as they become payable.

The charity also makes contributions to the actors Equity Pension fund in respect of the relevant qualifying workers. Contributions are charged to the SoFA as they become payable.

Financial instruments

The following assets and liabilities are classified as financial instruments - trade debtors, trade creditors, concessionary loans receivable and concessionary loans payable.

Trade debtors and trade creditors are respectively debt instruments and financial liabilities measured at amortised cost. Concessionary loans receivable and concessionary loans payable are respectively debt instruments and financial liabilities measured at amortised cost.

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	2024			2023		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
2 DONATIONS						
Revenue grants:						
Arts Council England	625,359	-	625,359	625,359	-	625,359
Bolton MBC	145,380	-	145,380	145,380	-	145,380
GMCA	117,920	-	117,920	107,200	-	107,200
The Oglesby Charitable Trust	-	-	-	-	11,681	11,681
	<u>888,659</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>888,659</u>	<u>877,939</u>	<u>11,681</u>	<u>889,620</u>
 Donations & legacies						
General donations	116,302	-	116,302	70,780	-	70,780
In kind support	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital project	-	98,823	98,823	-	13,620	13,620
Learning & participation	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>116,302</u>	<u>98,823</u>	<u>215,125</u>	<u>70,780</u>	<u>13,620</u>	<u>84,400</u>
 Total for group	<u>1,004,961</u>	<u>98,823</u>	<u>1,103,784</u>	<u>948,719</u>	<u>25,301</u>	<u>974,020</u>
Donation from OCS Ltd	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total for company	<u>1,004,961</u>	<u>98,823</u>	<u>1,103,784</u>	<u>948,719</u>	<u>25,301</u>	<u>974,020</u>

Allocations to designated funds are shown in note 17.

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

3 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2024			2023		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	Restated £	£	Restated £
Group						
Theatre and performance						
Charity Income (as below)	1,709,329	-	1,709,329	1,667,620	-	1,667,620
Octagon Theatre Productions	998,153	-	998,153	1,183,643	-	1,183,643
Eliminated on consolidation						
intercompany charges	(998,153)	-	(998,153)	(1,183,643)	-	(1,183,643)
	1,709,329	-	1,709,329	1,667,620	-	1,667,620
Learning and Participation						
Charity Income (as below)	33,008	73,778	106,786	28,125	159,617	187,742
	33,008	73,778	106,786	28,125	159,617	187,742
Total per Group	1,742,337	73,778	1,816,115	1,695,745	159,617	1,855,362
Charity						
Theatre and performance						
Box office	1,339,610	-	1,339,610	1,427,541	-	1,427,541
Grants	-	-	-	-	-	-
Co-productions	294,364	-	294,364	201,644	-	201,644
Royalties receivable	2,100	-	2,100	-	-	-
Other income	56,536	-	56,536	10,788	-	10,788
Ancillary trading	16,719	-	16,719	27,647	-	27,647
	1,709,329	-	1,709,329	1,667,620	-	1,667,620
Production sub contractor fees (eliminated on consolidation)	1,301,061	-	1,301,061	1,464,690	-	1,464,690
Learning and Participation						
Fees & earned income	33,008	-	33,008	28,125	-	28,125
Grants	-	73,778	73,778	-	159,617	159,617
	33,008	73,778	106,786	28,125	159,617	187,742
Total per Charity	3,043,398	73,778	3,117,176	3,160,435	159,617	3,320,052
4 INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES						
Sponsorship	137,250	-	137,250	126,236	-	126,236
Management charge/rent	60,000	-	60,000	50,000	-	50,000
Hire income	24,985	-	24,985	16,596	-	16,596
Sales commissions	5,656	-	5,656	-	-	-
Per charity	227,891	-	227,891	192,832	-	192,832
Less eliminated on consolidation:						
Management charge/rent to OCS Ltd	(60,000)	-	(60,000)	(50,000)	-	(50,000)
Add subsidiary income OCS Ltd	396,666	-	396,666	372,757	-	372,757
Per group	564,557	-	564,557	515,589	-	515,589

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

6 TRADING SUBSIDIARIES

	Octagon Catering Services Ltd		Octagon Theatre Productions Ltd	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Turnover	396,666	372,257	998,153	1,183,643
Cost of sales	301,092	274,893	1,301,061	1,464,690
Gross profit	95,574	97,364	(302,908)	(281,047)
Administration Expenses	90,124	79,725	2,450	1,400
Operating profit/loss	5,450	17,639	(305,358)	(282,447)
Other income	-	500	-	-
Net profit/loss before taxation	5,450	18,139	(305,358)	(282,447)
(Tax charge)/Theatre tax credit	-	-	305,358	282,447
Net profit after taxation	5,450	18,139	-	-
Total assets	30,340	24,007	305,358	282,447
Total liabilities (excluding capital grant)	(149,579)	(148,696)	(304,358)	(281,447)
Capital grant	-	-	-	-
Net funds	(119,239)	(124,689)	1,000	1,000

Octagon Catering Services Ltd (OCS LTD)

The subsidiary operates the bar and catering services within the theatre. On consolidation the management charge of £60,000 (2023 - £50,000) is eliminated. .

Octagon Theatre Productions Ltd (OTP)

OTP has been formed to undertake the production, running and closure of in house theatrical productions on behalf of the charity. It subcontracts the production work back to the charity, and is eligible to claim theatre tax relief.

OTP's income derives from charity. On consolidation income from the charity of £998,153 (2023 - £1,183,643) is eliminated against theatre production costs and the direct costs of £1,301,061 (2023 - £1,464,690) are eliminated against production subcontractor fees in the charity.

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

6 COSTS OF RAISING FUNDS

	2024			2023		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Inter company provision re OCS	-	-	-	(14,950)	-	(14,950)
Support costs	136,795	-	136,795	132,544	-	132,544
Per charity	136,795	-	136,795	117,594	-	117,594
OCS	391,216	-	391,216	354,618	-	354,618
Less provision	-	-	-	14,950	-	14,950
Less management charge	(60,000)	-	(60,000)	(50,000)	-	(50,000)
Total fundraising in Group	468,011	-	468,011	437,162	-	437,162

No costs were charged to designated or restricted funds in either year.

7 CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE

Theatre and performance	4,040,584	-	4,040,584	4,016,227	-	4,016,227
Learning and participation	330,455	58,873	389,328	277,121	105,302	382,423
Capital project	-	-	-	-	10,814	10,814
Charged to restricted fund	-	-	-	(131,681)	131,681	-
Per charity	4,371,039	58,873	4,429,912	4,161,667	247,797	4,409,464
<i>Less eliminated on consolidation:</i>						
Grant to OCS Ltd	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charges from OTP Ltd	(995,703)	-	(995,703)	(1,182,243)	-	(1,182,243)
Per group	3,375,336	58,873	3,434,209	2,979,424	247,797	3,227,221

Charges to restricted funds in respect of grants shown in note 2 have been made. Details of the grants are shown in note 17.

Depreciation of £16,926 (2022 - £28,069) and a loss on disposal of fixed assets £nil (2023 - £nil) have been charged to designated funds as shown in note 17.

Expenditure in the charity is analysed as follows:

	Direct costs	Direct salaries & actors' fees	Support costs	Total
	£	£	£	£
2023/24				
Theatre and performance	2,130,981	233,150	1,676,453	4,040,584
Learning and participation	52,396	21,833	315,099	389,328
Capital project	-	-	-	-
	2,183,377	254,983	1,991,552	4,429,912
2022/23				
Theatre and performance	1,997,464	448,521	1,570,242	4,016,227
Learning and participation	71,372	19,991	291,080	382,423
Capital project	10,814	-	-	10,814
	2,079,650	468,512	1,861,302	4,409,464

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

8 SUPPORT & GOVERNANCE COSTS

			Costs of raising funds	Theatre & Performance	Learning & participation	Total 2023
	Marketing £	Governance £	£	£	£	£
2023/24						
Salaries	-	64,939	129,878	909,146	194,817	1,298,780
Marketing costs	144,691	-	-	-	-	144,691
Establishment costs	2,980	11,922	2,980	208,633	71,531	298,046
Insurance	-	-	-	26,732	8,911	35,643
Legal & professional	-	8,742	-	48,555	2,556	59,853
Administration costs	11,085	2,771	2,771	88,680	8,314	113,621
Finance charges	1,842	411	411	13,138	1,232	16,834
Staff training and recruitment	3,021	755	755	24,166	2,266	30,963
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	1,176	-	-	115,975	12,765	129,916
	164,595	89,540	136,795	1,435,025	302,392	2,128,347
Allocation of marketing support costs	(164,595)	-	-	156,365	8,230	-
Allocation of governance costs	-	(89,540)	-	85,063	4,477	-
	-	-	136,795	1,676,453	315,099	2,128,347
2022/23						
Support costs						
Support salaries costs	-	62,614	125,227	876,590	187,841	1,262,272
Marketing costs	134,133	-	-	-	-	134,133
Establishment costs	2,399	9,595	2,399	167,905	57,567	239,865
Insurance	-	-	-	17,443	5,814	23,257
Legal & professional	-	8,994	-	12,678	667	20,339
Administration costs	14,057	3,514	3,514	112,456	10,543	144,084
Finance charges	3,327	832	832	26,616	2,495	34,102
Staff training and recruitment	2,288	572	572	18,289	1,715	23,434
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	1,168	-	-	108,848	12,344	122,360
	157,370	84,121	132,544	1,340,825	278,986	1,993,846
Allocation of marketing support costs	(157,370)	-	-	149,502	7,869	-
Allocation of governance costs	-	(84,121)	-	79,915	4,206	-
	-	-	132,544	1,570,242	291,061	1,993,846

Support costs are allocated on the following basis:

Area	Basis	Comment
Marketing costs	estimate of usage	net of any direct attribution
Support salaries	estimate of time spent	
Other costs:		
Property	Space	
Irrecoverable VAT (after any direct attribution)	Head count	net of any direct attribution
All other costs	estimate of usage/head count	
Depreciation	estimate of usage	

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

9 STAFF INFORMATION

	2024	2023
	£	£
a Employees		
Salaries and wages	1,351,532	1,270,173
Pension costs	37,426	26,086
Employer's NI contributions	118,451	101,568
	<u>1,507,409</u>	<u>1,397,827</u>
Staff costs for the Trading subsidiary included above	<u>181,496</u>	<u>120,501</u>

Employees earning more than £60,000pa (excluding employer's nlc and pension contributions):

	2024	2023
	number	number
£60,000 - £70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

The key management of the charity comprise the trustees and senior staff (as set out on page1) and the key management of the group are the same people plus a catering manager. The trustees do not receive any remuneration for their services

The total employee benefits of other key management were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Charity	<u>386,436</u>	<u>375,395</u>
Group	<u>386,436</u>	<u>375,395</u>

b Actors and stage managers

	2024	2023
	£	£
Fees	227,851	439,110
Pension contributions (Equity)	-	4,348
	<u>227,851</u>	<u>443,458</u>

c Group average staff numbers

The average number of employees, excluding the actors and stage manager referred to above, was as follows:-

	2024	2024	2023	2023
	Average	Average FTE	Average	average FTE
	number	number	number	number
Employees	81	53	86	55
	<u>81</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>55</u>

10 NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) BEFORE TRANSFERS (for the Group)

This is stated after charging/(crediting):

Auditors remuneration:-

	2024	2023
	£	£
Audit fees	19,950	4,100
Accountancy fees	(2,601)	6,025
Finance lease charges	-	-
Depreciation of fixed assets	132,115	122,221
Trustees remuneration	-	-
Trustees expenses	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

11 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

GROUP	Leasehold Property £	Fixtures & Fittings £	Computer Equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
As at April 1 2023	597,435	611,683	94,507	1,303,625
Additions	-	108,216	13,855	122,071
Disposals	-	-	(23,760)	(23,760)
As at 31 March 2024	<u>597,435</u>	<u>719,899</u>	<u>84,602</u>	<u>1,401,936</u>
Depreciation				
As at April 1 2023	116,170	269,115	68,268	453,553
Charge for the year	58,084	58,270	15,761	132,115
Disposals	-	-	(23,760)	(23,760)
As at 31 March 2024	<u>174,254</u>	<u>327,385</u>	<u>60,269</u>	<u>561,908</u>
Net Book Value				
As at 31 March 2024	<u>423,181</u>	<u>392,514</u>	<u>24,333</u>	<u>840,028</u>
As at 31 March 2023	<u>481,265</u>	<u>342,568</u>	<u>26,239</u>	<u>850,072</u>
COMPANY				
Cost or valuation				
As at April 1 2023	597,435	609,069	94,507	1,301,011
Additions	-	100,235	13,855	114,090
Disposals	-	-	(23,760)	(23,760)
As at 31 March 2024	<u>597,435</u>	<u>709,304</u>	<u>84,602</u>	<u>1,391,341</u>
Depreciation				
As at April 1 2023	116,170	267,859	68,268	452,297
Charge for the year	58,084	56,071	15,761	129,916
Disposals	-	-	(23,760)	(23,760)
As at 31 March 2024	<u>174,254</u>	<u>323,930</u>	<u>60,269</u>	<u>558,453</u>
Net Book Value				
As at 31 March 2024	<u>423,181</u>	<u>385,374</u>	<u>24,333</u>	<u>832,888</u>
As at 31 March 2023	<u>481,265</u>	<u>341,210</u>	<u>26,239</u>	<u>848,714</u>

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

12 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

The charity has owns 100% of the Issued share capital of the following companies:

Name	Company no.	Investment		Activity
		2024	2023	
		£	£	
Octagon Catering Services Ltd	2095489	100	100	Catering & bar services
Octagon Theatre Productions Ltd	9260244	1,000	1,000	Theatre productions
		<u>1,100</u>	<u>1,100</u>	

	GROUP 2024	GROUP 2023 Restated	COMPANY 2024	COMPANY 2023 Restated
	£	£	£	£
13 STOCKS				
Stock of goods for resale	<u>12,557</u>	<u>9,391</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
14 DEBTORS				
Trade debtors	<u>40,921</u>	<u>87,699</u>	<u>40,698</u>	<u>87,699</u>
Grants and income receivable	-	-	-	90,880
Octagon Catering Services Ltd	-	-	113,956	112,221
Inter company provision re OCS	-	-	(112,221)	(112,221)
Octagon Theatre Productions Ltd	-	(939)	303,018	189,228
VAT refundable	-	17,202	-	17,202
Other debtors	-	144	-	144
Theatre Tax Credit receivable	305,358	282,447	-	-
Prepayments	<u>636,274</u>	<u>311,894</u>	<u>634,614</u>	<u>311,333</u>
	<u>962,553</u>	<u>698,547</u>	<u>979,965</u>	<u>696,486</u>
15 CREDITORS falling due within one year				
Trade creditors	<u>80,977</u>	<u>80,383</u>	<u>76,543</u>	<u>75,377</u>
Other taxes and social security	<u>34,747</u>	<u>51,093</u>	<u>18,285</u>	<u>32,184</u>
Accruals	<u>355,737</u>	<u>442,933</u>	<u>341,140</u>	<u>429,972</u>
Other creditors	<u>25,414</u>	<u>27,336</u>	<u>23,943</u>	<u>27,336</u>
Bolton Council re lease premium	<u>42,655</u>	-	<u>42,655</u>	-
Income and grants in advance	<u>566,678</u>	<u>107,246</u>	<u>566,678</u>	<u>107,246</u>
	<u>1,106,208</u>	<u>708,991</u>	<u>1,069,244</u>	<u>672,115</u>

All income and grants in advance brought forward are released in the subsequent year.

16 CREDITORS falling due within more than one year

Bolton Council re lease premium	<u>255,924</u>	<u>298,578</u>	<u>255,924</u>	<u>298,578</u>
	<u>255,924</u>	<u>298,578</u>	<u>255,924</u>	<u>298,578</u>

The balance of the lease premium is payable in seven equal annual instalments commencing in April 2023. No interest is payable

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

17 STATEMENT OF FUNDS

Group	2022/23				b/f and c/f 31/03/2023	2023/24			
	01/04/2022	Income	Expenditure	TTR & Transfers		Income	Expenditure	TTR & Transfers	31/03/2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds:									
General fund	893,588	3,163,087	(3,269,972)	255,074	1,041,777	3,360,048	(3,826,421)	362,751	938,165
Designated Funds (see details below)	1,065,981	-	(146,614)	36,497	955,864	-	(16,926)	-	938,938
	<u>1,959,569</u>	<u>3,163,087</u>	<u>(3,416,586)</u>	<u>291,571</u>	<u>1,997,641</u>	<u>3,360,048</u>	<u>(3,843,347)</u>	<u>362,751</u>	<u>1,877,083</u>
Restricted Funds:									
As below	195,109	184,918	(247,797)	(9,124)	123,106	172,801	(58,873)	(57,393)	179,441
Total Funds	2,154,678	3,348,005	(3,664,383)	282,447	2,120,747	3,532,849	(3,902,220)	305,358	2,056,534

Funds analysed between charitable and non-charitable:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Charity unrestricted and designated	1,884,211	2,010,209
Add back provision on Inter company eliminated on consolidation	112,220	112,220
Charity restricted	<u>179,441</u>	<u>123,106</u>
	<u>2,175,872</u>	<u>2,245,535</u>
Trading subsidiaries	<u>(119,239)</u>	<u>(124,689)</u>
	<u>2,056,633</u>	<u>2,120,846</u>

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

17 STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

COMPANY	2022/23				b/f and c/f 31/03/2023 01/04/2023	2023/24			
	01/04/2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	TTR & Transfers £		Income £	Expenditure £	TTR & Transfers £	31/03/2024 £
Unrestricted funds:									
General fund	909,345	4,305,020	(4,132,647)	(27,373)	1,054,345	4,324,443	(4,490,808)	57,393	945,273
Designated funds:									
Invested in fixed assets	835,298	-	(121,881)	38,497	849,814	-	(16,926)	-	832,888
Programme support	30,000	-	-	-	30,000	-	-	-	30,000
Workshop removal	21,467	-	(21,467)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Covid Recovery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital project	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital project - reserves	3,166	-	(3,166)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital replacement unallocated	76,050	-	-	-	76,050	-	-	-	76,050
	1,065,981	-	(146,614)	36,497	955,864	-	(16,926)	-	938,938
Total unrestricted funds	1,975,326	4,305,020	(4,279,261)	9,124	2,010,269	4,324,443	(4,507,834)	57,393	1,884,211
Restricted Funds:									
The Oglesby Charitable Trust	-	11,681	(11,681)	-	-	-	-	-	-
University of Bolton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- writing & talent development	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COVID related funding:									
ACE - CRF1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ACE - CRF2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ACE - CRF3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	120,000	-	(120,000)	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Lindbury Trust	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Project Grants & donations	-	13,620	(10,814)	(2,806)	-	98,823	-	(49,800)	49,023
	120,000	25,301	(142,495)	(2,806)	-	98,823	-	(49,800)	49,023
Project funds									
Theatre	3,818	-	-	(3,818)	-	-	-	-	-
Learning & participation	71,291	159,617	(105,302)	(2,500)	123,106	73,778	(58,873)	(7,593)	130,418
	75,109	159,617	(105,302)	(6,318)	123,106	73,778	(58,873)	(7,593)	130,418
Total restricted funds	195,109	184,918	(247,797)	(9,124)	123,106	172,601	(58,873)	(57,393)	179,441
Total Funds	2,170,435	4,489,938	(4,527,058)	-	2,133,375	4,497,044	(4,566,707)	-	2,063,652

Analysis of restricted project grants

	2022/23				b/f and c/f 31/03/2023 01/04/2023	2023/24			
	01/04/2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	TTR & Transfers £		Income £	Expenditure £	TTR & Transfers £	31/03/2024 £
Theatre									
LGBT Foundation	3,818	-	(3,818)	-	-	-	-	-	-
	3,818	-	(3,818)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Learning and participation									
Donations - Youth theatre	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IGEN Trust	20,848	-	(20,848)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oglesby	-	110,000	(7,712)	-	102,288	10,000	(45,136)	-	67,150
Bolton CVS - Unlocking wellbeing	-	14,625	(4,981)	-	9,644	53,104	(6,230)	-	56,518
Bolton CVS - Health and Wellbeing	5,486	-	(1,642)	-	3,844	50	(2,531)	(1,363)	-
Kickstart	-	5,979	(5,979)	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Ragdoll Foundation	8,688	12,000	(14,358)	-	7,330	3,874	(4,974)	(6,230)	-
Provincial/Walsh Trust for Bolton	2,500	-	-	(2,500)	-	-	-	-	-
Bridges The Big give	-	-	-	-	-	6,750	-	-	6,750
Schools	-	6,709	(6,709)	-	-	-	-	-	-
National Lottery Community Fund - ReAct	32,771	10,304	(43,075)	-	-	-	-	-	-
	71,291	159,617	(105,302)	(2,500)	123,106	73,778	(58,873)	(7,593)	130,418

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

17 STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

Transfers 2023/24

Transfers have been made during the year in respect of LED lighting fixed asset additions.

	Rebuild Reserves	Investment in fixed assets	New Designations	Total
	£	£	£	£
General fund	-	49,800	-	49,800
Designated - invested in Fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Designated - workshop removal	-	-	-	-
Designated - capital project	-	-	-	-
Designated - capital reserve	-	-	-	-
Designated - capital replacement	-	-	-	-
ACE CRF1	-	-	-	-
Learning and participation	-	-	-	-
Capital Project Grants & donations	-	(49,800)	-	(49,800)
	-	-	-	-

Transfers 2022/23

The programme fund was re-designated in the year to support costs in 22/23.

A new designated fund has been created to cover the costs of moving out of the old workshop in early 22/23.

Transfers have been made to the designated fund for investment in fixed assets, as detailed below, so that the closing balance equals the net book value of fixed assets at the year end.

	Rebuild Reserves	Investment fixed assets	New Designations	Total
	£	£	£	£
General fund	-	(33,691)	-	(33,691)
Designated - invested in Fixed assets	-	36,497	-	36,497
Designated - workshop removal	-	-	-	-
Designated - capital project	-	-	-	-
Designated - capital reserve	-	-	-	-
Designated - capital replacement	-	-	-	-
ACE CRF1	-	-	-	-
Learning and participation	-	-	-	-
Capital Project Grants & donations	-	(2,806)	-	(2,806)
	-	-	-	-

Garfield Weston Foundation

To meet the ongoing costs of the pandemic, both capital and revenue.

LGBT Foundation

Towards ongoing project costs

IGEN Trust

Towards the Academy project

Bolton CVS - Health and Wellbeing

Towards community health and wellbeing

National Lottery Community Fund - ReAct

Towards work with over 50s.

Provincial/Walsh Trust for Bolton

Towards the Academy project

It is expected that all the above funds will be utilised in the 23/24

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

18 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Company fund balances at March 31 2024

are represented by:-

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted	Total
	General	Designated	Funds	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	1,100	832,888	-	833,988
Net current assets	1,200,097	106,050	179,441	1,485,588
Creditors due in more than one year	(255,924)	-	-	(255,924)
	<u>945,273</u>	<u>938,938</u>	<u>179,441</u>	<u>2,063,652</u>

Company fund balances at March 31 2023

are represented by:-

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted	Total
	General	Designated	Funds	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	-	849,814	-	849,814
Net current assets	1,352,923	106,050	123,106	1,582,079
Creditors due in more than one year	(298,578)	-	-	(298,578)
	<u>1,054,345</u>	<u>955,864</u>	<u>123,106</u>	<u>2,133,315</u>

Free Reserves:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net current assets	<u>1,200,097</u>	<u>1,352,923</u>

19 CONSTITUTION

The Company is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. In the event of the Company being wound up the members are committed to contributing £1 each.

20 TAXATION

The company is a registered charity and is entitled to claim annual exemption from UK corporation tax under sections 466 to 477 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010.

21 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

The company had no capital commitments at the year end (2023 - none).

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

22 RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASHFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	Group 2024	Group 2023	Charity 2024	Charity 2023
	£	£	£	£
Net income/(expenditure)	(64,213)	(33,931)	(69,663)	(37,120)
Add back depreciation	132,115	122,221	129,916	121,981
Deduct interest income shown in investing activities	(48,193)	(3,034)	(48,193)	(3,034)
Deduct profit/add back losses on disposals of FA	-	-	-	-
Decrease/(increase) in stock	(3,166)	(1,720)	-	-
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(284,006)	65,913	(283,479)	82,818
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	354,564	293,188	354,476	271,848
Net cash generated from/(used in) operating activities	87,101	442,637	83,057	436,493

23 MOVEMENT IN NET DEBT

Group	at 31/3/23	cashflows	Lease premium	other non cash	
	£	£	£	£	£
Cash and cash equivalents					
Cash at bank and in hand	1,570,306	13,222	-	-	1,583,528
Debt					
Bolton MBC re lease premium	(298,578)	-	(298,579)	-	(255,924)
Cash and cash equivalents net of debt	1,271,728				1,327,604
Charity					
Cash and cash equivalents					
Cash at bank and in hand	1,557,708	17,159	-	-	1,574,867
Debt					
Bolton MBC re lease premium	(298,578)	-	(298,579)	-	(255,924)
Cash and cash equivalents net of debt	1,259,130				1,318,943

There were no acquisitions or disposals of subsidiaries; foreign exchange movements; or market value changes in the period.

24 LEASE COMMITMENTS

a Operating leases

In 2022, the charity entered into a lease with Bolton Council for the theatre. The lease commenced on August 31 2021 and runs until June 2120. There is no rent payable under the lease, but there is a lease premium of £503,762. The initial instalment of the lease premium was paid in 2022 of £240,000 plus VAT and the balance is payable in equal annual instalments commencing August 31 2024 and is provided for in these accounts.

A condition of the lease was the granting of the charge in favour of ACE referred to in note 26.

b Finance leases

The charity and group had no obligations under finance leases in either this or the preceding year.

OCTAGON THEATRE TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

25 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Details of the grant support from organisations who nominated directors and other organisations with which the charity works closely is shown in the statement of funds note.

Details of the trading between the charity and its subsidiaries is shown in the notes to the SoFA.

E K Alladi, a trustee, is also an actor and following the audition was cast in the play An Adventure. He was engaged on standard Equity terms and was paid a total fee of £Nil (2023 - £4,408) including pension contributions.

There are no other related party transactions that are required to be disclosed.

26 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Capital grants

In previous years the charity has received funding from Arts Council England (ACE) for the redevelopment of the theatre from ACE National Lottery funding and jointly from ACE and Bolton MBC for the improvement of the lighting and sound system. The assets created are subject to ACE normal terms and conditions and property assets cannot be disposed of at any time or equipment within ten years without ACE prior written consent, and any proceeds of sale may be repayable in proportion to the funding received.

These liabilities are not expected to crystallise and therefore the grant, relating to capital items, has been taken to a restricted reserve and related depreciation is being charged against the fund each year. However, as all the other restrictions had been met the grant was released to unrestricted funds in 20/21.

27 CHARGES

The Arts Council England (ACE) was a major funder of the capital works carried out by Bolton Council on the theatre building. In order to safeguard the interests of the funder and to facilitate the granting of the lease by the Council to the Charity, ACE has been given a charge of the leasehold property known as the Octagon Theatre, Howell Croft South Bolton.

28 RESTATEMENT OF COMPARATIVES

We have restated the creditor note 15 comparative balances as it has been identified that there was an error between the note and the balance sheet in the financial statements last year. The accruals figure and consequently the total has been increased by £90,880 for both the company and for the group. The accruals balance for 2023 has been restated from £339,092 to £429,972 for the company and from £352,053 to £442,833 for the group. The total creditors for 2023 has been restated from £581,235 to £672,115 for the company and from £618,111 to £708,991 for the group. The balance sheet remains unchanged.

We have also restated the 2023 comparative amount for hire income from £16,547 to £16,596 as it has been identified that the income note 4 did not properly add up to the total in the financial statements last year.

