

Live
Music
Now

TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES



Annual Report

2023 - 2024

Contents



4	MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE TRUSTEES
7	MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE
8	MUSIC IN EDUCATION
18	MUSIC IN HEALTH
42	MUSIC IN PLACE
44	OUR MUSICIANS
54	LOOKING FORWARD
56	FUNDING & FUNDRAISING
58	CONTACT US

Message from the Chair of the Trustees

Sir Vernon Ellis

In 1977, Sir Ian Stoutzker, alongside his close friend Lord Yehudi Menuhin, founded a groundbreaking organisation to bring live music to those who had little access to it. The vision laid out by Ian and Yehudi has touched the lives of countless individuals over the past 47 years. Live Music Now has brought joy, comfort and healing to those in need through over 100,000 interactive music workshops led by thousands of specially trained musicians. His passing in April 2024 leaves a legacy of improved well-being and community connections, which will continue to grow. Ian's vision and commitment will always be seen as the sine qua non.

This was a challenging year for the charity. The continued funding and financial pressures affecting the entire charity sector have been juxtaposed against an ever-increasing need for our work. Adapting to these challenges, Live Music Now has undertaken a restructure to both improve our economic outlook and support the development of our impact.

The Board remains committed to Live Music Now's role as a leader, working locally and nationally in collaboration with others to forge a unified strategy for change. The evolution of Live Music Now will enable us to continue in that role, driving forward research, building deep expertise, and supporting our partners across Education, Health and Place. Work with Arts Councils across the UK has focused on diversifying our musicians' workforce, increasing employment for disabled and neuro-divergent musicians' and better reflecting our participants in our workforce.



Live Music Now is thinking carefully about our role across the sector, and how our 47 years of experience and knowledge can be shared more broadly. The changes made in this year will enable us to take a cause-based approach. Over the next year we will step up our work to articulate that impact and advocate for the role music has to play in addressing significant social needs.

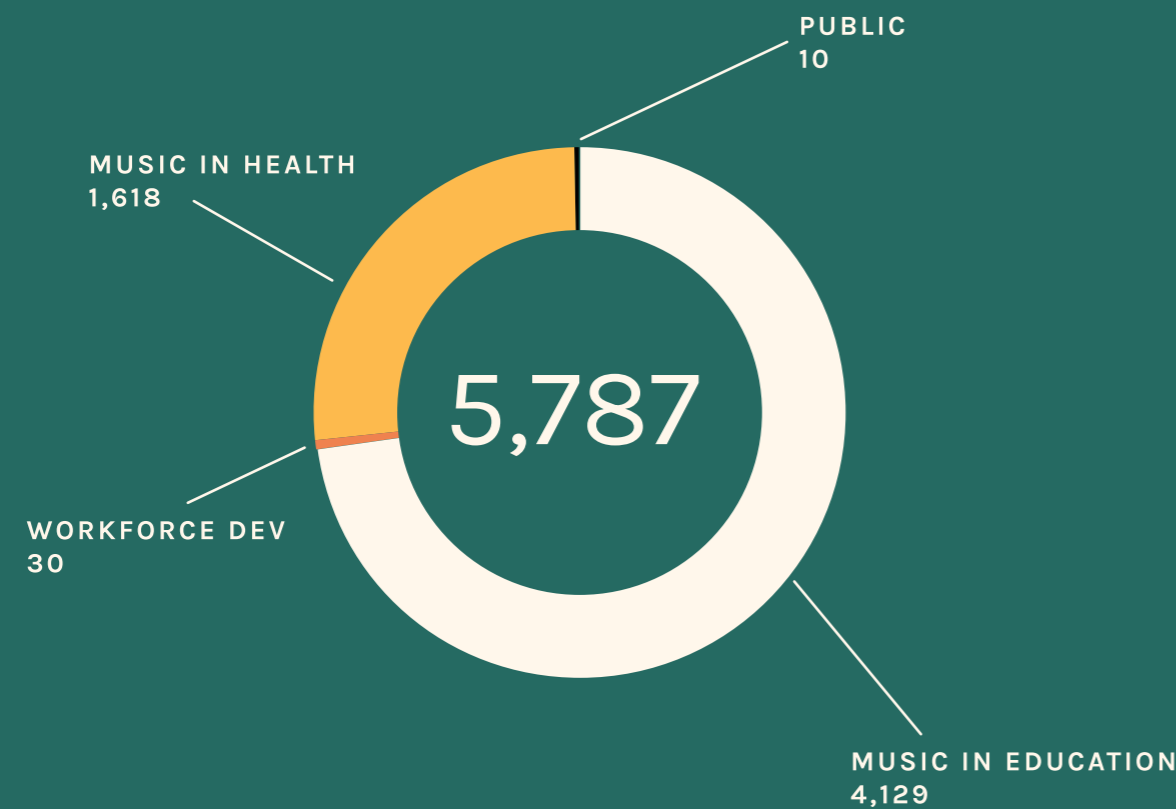
This has not been an easy year for our staff, and I commend their continued dedication to musicians, our participants and each other. Our funding partners have shown flexibility and openness, and an ongoing commitment to delivering change alongside communities.

I remain deeply convinced that music provides a unique role in our society, providing joy, inspiration and opportunity, speaking across all facets of our community. The changes undergone by Live Music Now will enable us to adapt to the continuously evolving landscape and ensure that, as with Sir Ian and Yehudi's vision, everyone has access to the life-changing power of music.

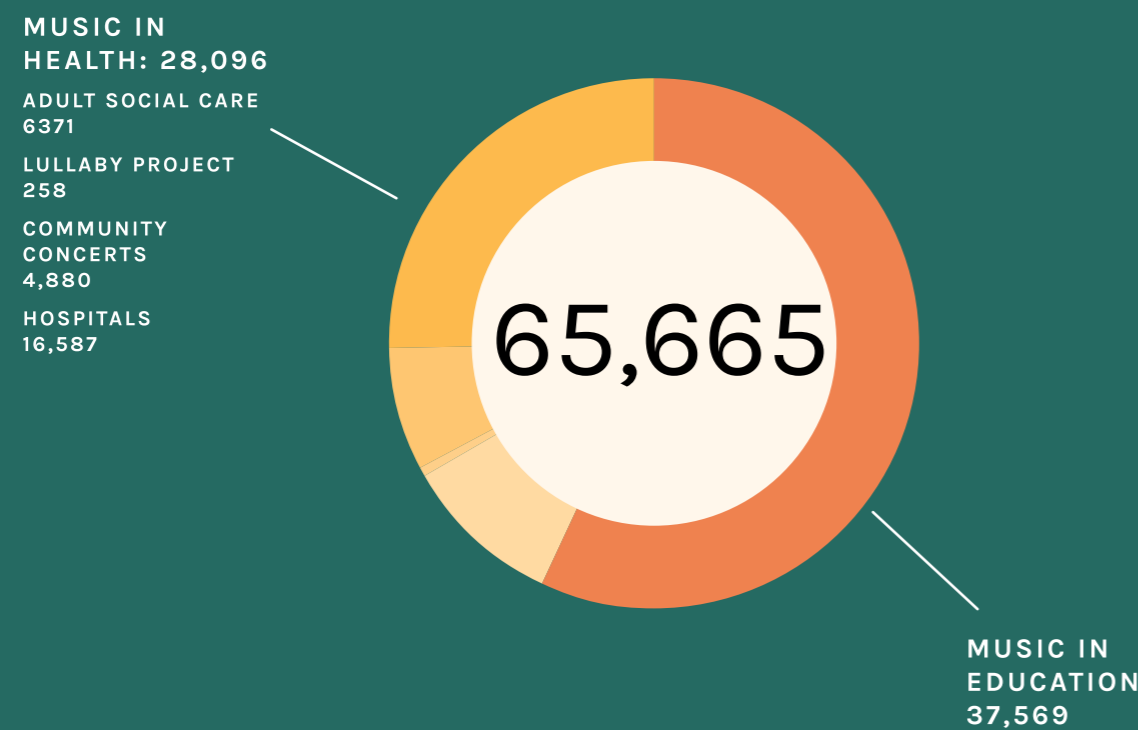


Sir Ian Stoutzker and Sir Vernon Ellis in 2018. Read more about Sir Ian Stoutzker's remarkable contributions to the music and art world [here](#).

Total Sessions 2023-24



Total Audience 2023-24



Message from the Chief Executive

Janet Fischer



Chief Executive Janet Fischer about to run the TCS London Marathon raising funds for Live Music Now.

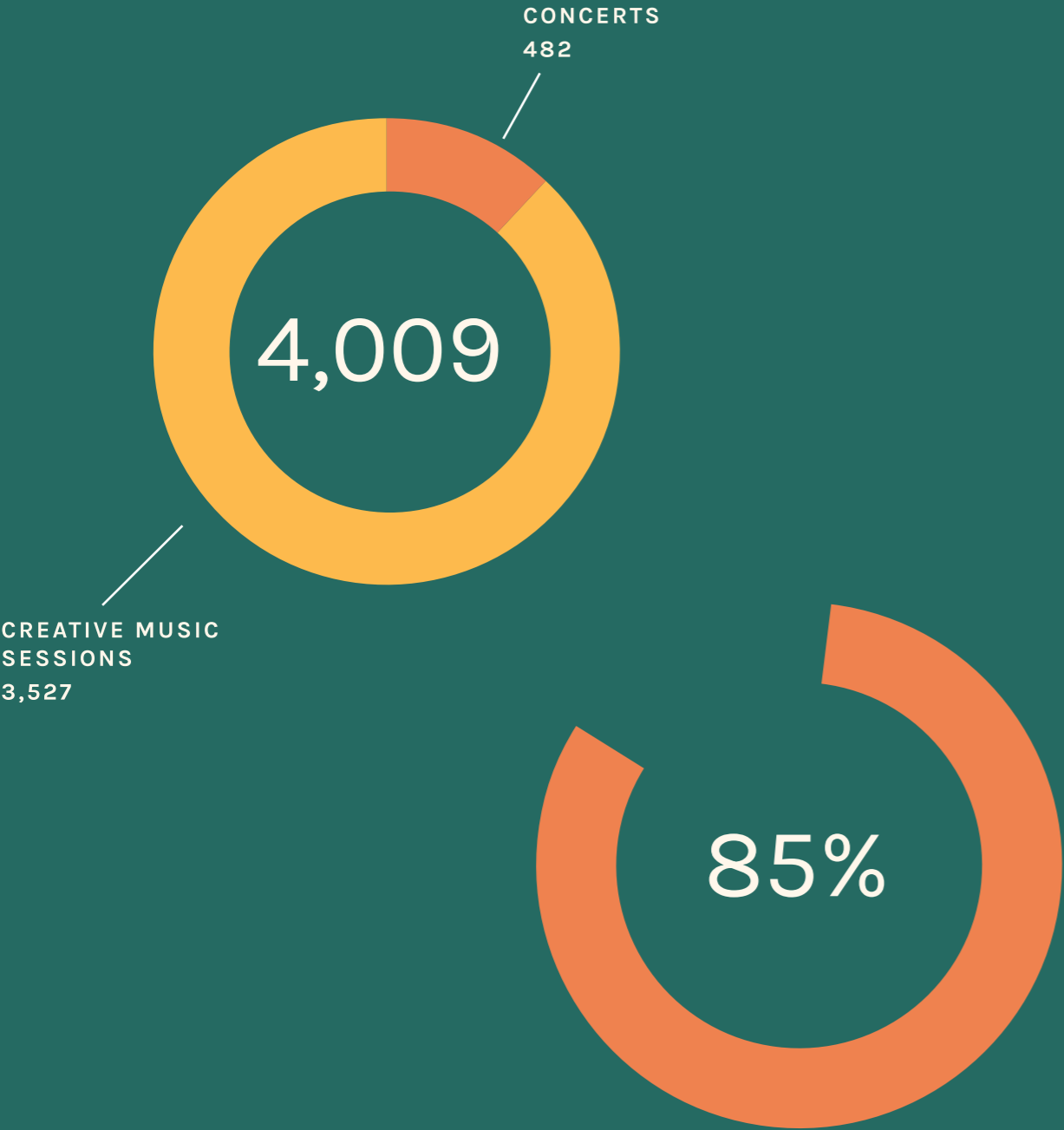
Reflecting on this past year at Live Music Now, I am struck by both the challenges we've faced and the moments of profound joy we've witnessed through the transformative power of music. Though we've had to make some difficult decisions in an increasingly challenging landscape, our impact has never been stronger – delivering more sessions than ever before alongside our trusted partners and exceptional musicians.

Our dedicated staff team and deeply invested board have shown unwavering commitment to our mission of championing social impact through music. Together, we've grown and diversified our musicians' workforce, making it more representative of the communities we serve and evolved our programmes to leave a legacy of music and impact, empowering others to use music for change.

Working alongside our partners in education, health, and place, we continue to witness how music builds agency, connection, and resilience. Leading this remarkable team is a profound privilege, yet I'm acutely aware of how much more we must do to support our communities during these challenging times.

Music in Education

Sessions 2023-24



3047 OF OUR TOTAL MUSIC IN EDUCATION SESSIONS WERE WITH CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE WITH ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS.

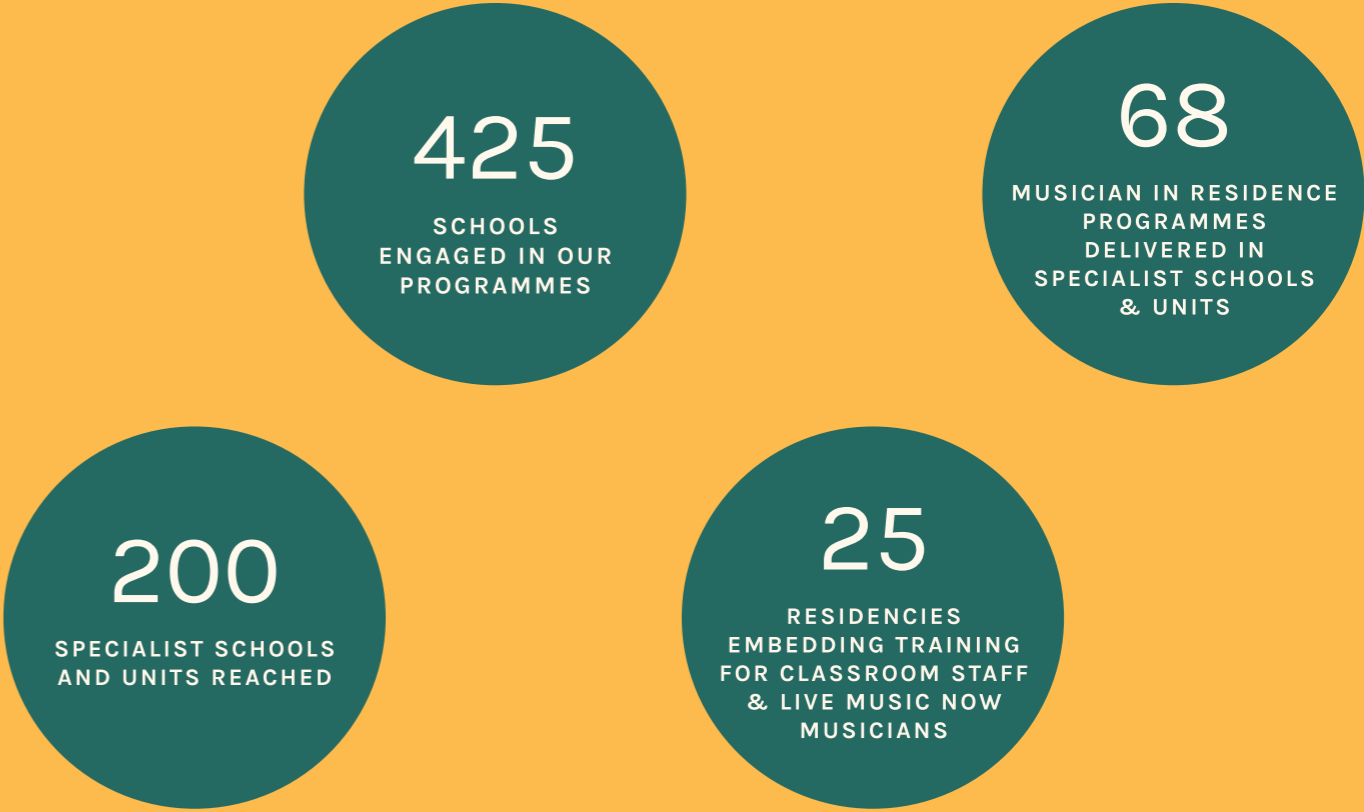
During 2023-24, Live Music Now’s Music in Education work continued to focus on expanding access to music for children and young people with additional learning needs.

Recognising that many Disabled children lack access to specialist music provision, our programmes connect skilled musicians with schools and communities to bridge this gap. Through creative music projects and participatory concerts, students across England, Wales and Northern Ireland are supported to work with their peers to explore and create their own music, as well as experience different styles of music performed by Live Music Now musicians.

The sessions offer opportunities for personal, social and musical growth, as well as supporting broader goals such as environmental awareness and cross cultural connections.

As a result, Live Music Now’s efforts have been recognized with multiple nominations in The Music & Drama Education Awards 2024, celebrating our progressive and inclusive impact in music education.

Reach 2023-24



AUTISM RESOURCE BASES MUSIC PROGRAMME

Research shows that many autistic children appear to have a special affinity for music, which can be used to support language development, social skills and emotional regulation. It's thought that around 5-10% may have unusual musical potential through exceptional auditory development that occurs in the early years. However, nationally, music provision in Autism Resource Bases is inconsistent.

Thanks to funding from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, Youth Music and the National Lottery through Arts Council England, and the Vernon Ellis Foundation, we are piloting a music programme with Autism Resource Bases in England and Northern Ireland. The aim is to increase opportunities for children and young people to engage and interact through creative music activities.

In 2023-24, the second year of the programme, 140 children from 10 schools in Liverpool, Somerset, Belfast, Islington and Harrow worked alongside their teachers and Live Music Now musicians to explore, create and perform their own music. Schools consistently reported the positive impact

of the music sessions on children's levels of confidence and engagement, alongside communication skills.

With our partners Resonate Music Hub (Liverpool), Sound Foundation Somerset Music Hub, Harrow Music Hub, and the music education charity Music Masters, we remain committed to advocating for the vital importance of tailored music provision for autistic children and young people.

“The pupils have benefitted so much, their confidence has sky-rocketed! They were so happy with the end result.”

TEACHER

Read more about our work in Autism Resource Bases [here](#).



MUSICAL MONDAYS

Live Music Now's Musical Mondays reached an impressive 17,441 children across England and Wales in 2023-24, using music to support mental health, cultural connection, and emotional expression among young people. Through virtual concerts featuring Live Music Now musicians, pupils across Manchester, Cumbria, Merseyside, Norfolk & Suffolk, Essex and Wales, engaged with live music directly from their classrooms. These interactive sessions, supported by local music hubs, allowed students to experience the joy and relaxation of music, with many describing the concerts as "calm", "exciting" and "joyful."

In May 2023, Musical Mondays Eurovision Special connected 73,000 students from Liverpool City Region, Ukraine, and Poland in a unique celebration. Folk trio Fernleaf led a lively mix of UK and European songs, followed by 180 pupils joining the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic in a powerful cross-cultural exchange. Part of the "United By Music" initiative, this event showcased music's role in fostering connection and unity across borders. Through programmes like these, Live Music Now continues to demonstrate the power of music to enrich lives and build global connections.

Read more about our Musical Monday series [here](#).



INSPIRE: MUSICIANS IN RESIDENCE IN DERRY

In 2023/24, jazz musician John Leighton served as "Musician in Residence" at Ardnashee College in Derry as part of Live Music Now's Inspire programme, which enhances musical opportunities for children and young people with additional learning needs. Supported by Derry City and Strabane District Council and Ulster Garden Villages, the residency allowed John to work with 45 students in small groups, tailoring sessions to their musical interests and accessibility needs. Through these sessions, students explored, created, and performed their own music, while developing communication skills, self-expression, and confidence.

The entire school also enjoyed participatory concerts by Live Music Now groups throughout the year, showcasing a variety of musical styles. Teachers observed remarkable engagement, including students with complex needs, noting the joy and connection music brought to their lives. BBC Radio's Mark Patterson visited a session in December, capturing the positive impact on students and staff alike.

[Listen here.](#)

HARMONY IN THE DUNES IN SOUTH WALES

Harmony in the Dunes was an innovative project by Plantlife Cymru and Live Music Now, designed to connect primary school students in South Wales with nature through music.

The pilot took place across four schools, where students visited local dune ecosystems to discover the rich biodiversity within these landscapes. Inspired by their experiences, each class collaborated with Live Music Now musicians to create original songs that reflected the beauty and importance of these habitats.

The project blended environmental education with music, encouraging students to express their newfound

knowledge through melody and rhythm. The compositions ranged from lively pieces to tranquil tunes, mirroring the dynamic dunes.

The initiative concluded with a showcase where students performed their pieces, promoting both artistic expression and environmental awareness.

Supported by the EU LIFE Programme, National Lottery Heritage Fund, and A&B Cymru's CultureStep, Harmony in the Dunes demonstrated the power of interdisciplinary learning to inspire and educate. This project was nominated for an Environmental award at the 2024 Arts and Business Cymru awards.



Watch the Musical Dunes video
and read more [here](#).



HARMONI YN Y TWYNI:

MAE PLANTLIFE CYMRU A LIVE MUSIC NOW YN DECHRAU'R PROSIECT ARBROFOL 'TWYNI CERDDOROL' SY'N CYSYLLTU MYFYRWYR A NATUR

Mewn menter arbrofol, mae Plantlife Cymru a Live Music Now wedi ymuno i gyflwyno 'twyni cerddorol' i ysgolion cynradd yn Ne Cymru gan greu cyswllt cytûn rhwng addysg, ymwybyddiaeth amgylcheddol a byd cerddoriaeth.

Cynhaliwyd y prosiect peilot ar draws pedair ysgol gynradd yn Ne Cymru lle'r oedd myfyrwyr yn mynd ar ymweliadau â systemau twyni lleol oedd yn agoriad llygad iddyn nhw. Roedd y teithiau'n datgelu byd cudd o fywyd planhigion gwyllt yn byw o fewn y tirweddau naturiol hyn.

Wedi cael eu trwytho gyda gwybodaeth newydd am bwysigrwydd cynnal yr ecosystemau eiddil hyn, gofynnwyd i bob Dosbarth gyflawni her unigryw - i gyfansoddi caneuon gwreiddiol oedd yn cael eu hysbrydoli gan eu profiadau. I sicrhau bywyd i'w gweledigaethau cerddorol, roedd cerddorion Live Music Now yn cydweithio gyda'r myfyrwyr gan drawsnewid eu hymwybyddiaeth amgylcheddol newydd i alawon oedd yn adleisio harddwch y twyni.

Roedd y prosiect 'twyni cerddorol' nid yn unig yn pontio'r gofod rhwng addysg amgylcheddol a'r celfyddydau ond hefyd yn rhoi cyfle uniongyrchol i fyfyrwyr ymchwilio a gwerthfawrogi rhyfeddodau naturiol yn eu hardal nhw eu hunain.

"Y syniad oedd creu profiad synhwyaidd ar gyfer y myfyrwyr gan uno hud natur gyda phŵer cerddoriaeth," meddai Jen Abel Cyfarwyddwr Live Music Now Cymru. "Roedd y twyni'n datblygu nid yn unig yn ystafell ddosbarth ond hefyd yn llwyfan

i greadigrwydd lle'r oedd myfyrwyr yn darganfod rhythm y byd naturiol."

Roedd y cyfansoddiadau oedd yn dilyn yn ymestyn o alawon hyfryd oedd yn adleisio egni'r twyni i alawon mwy tawel oedd yn adleisio tawelwch y dirwedd arfordirol. Roedd mynegiadau cerddorol y myfyrwyr nid yn unig yn arddangos eu talentau artistig ond hefyd yn cynnig iddyn nhw gyfrwng pwerus i gyfathrebu pwysigrwydd cynnal ecosystemau lleol.

Ar ddiwedd y prosiect, cafwyd arddangosfa lle'r oedd myfyrwyr yn perfformio eu cyfansoddiadau ar gyfer eu cyfoedion a'u hathrawon. Roedd y prosiect 'twyni cerddorol' nid yn unig yn meithrin cysylltiad dyfnach rhwng myfyrwyr a natur ond hefyd yn amlygu'r potensial ar gyfer ymagweddau posibl ar gyfer agweddau rhyngddisgyblaethol, newydd i addysg.

Cefnogir 'Darluniau Deinamig y Twyni' gan y Rhaglen EU LIFE a Chronfa Treftadaeth y Loteri Cenedlaethol. Partneriaid y Prosiect yw Bywyd Planhigion Naturiol Lloegr, Yr Ymddiriedolaeth Genedlaethol ac Adnoddau Naturiol Cymru a'r Ymddiriedolaethau Bywyd Gwyllt. Mae Cysylltiadau Gwyrdd Pen y Bont ar Ogwr yn cael eu cefnogi gan Gronfa Cymuned Loteri Cenedlaethol. Mae Bywyd Planhigion Cymru a Live Music Now wedi derbyn buddsoddiad gan A&B CultureStep Cymru i atgyfnerthu a datblygu eu partneriaeth greadigol.

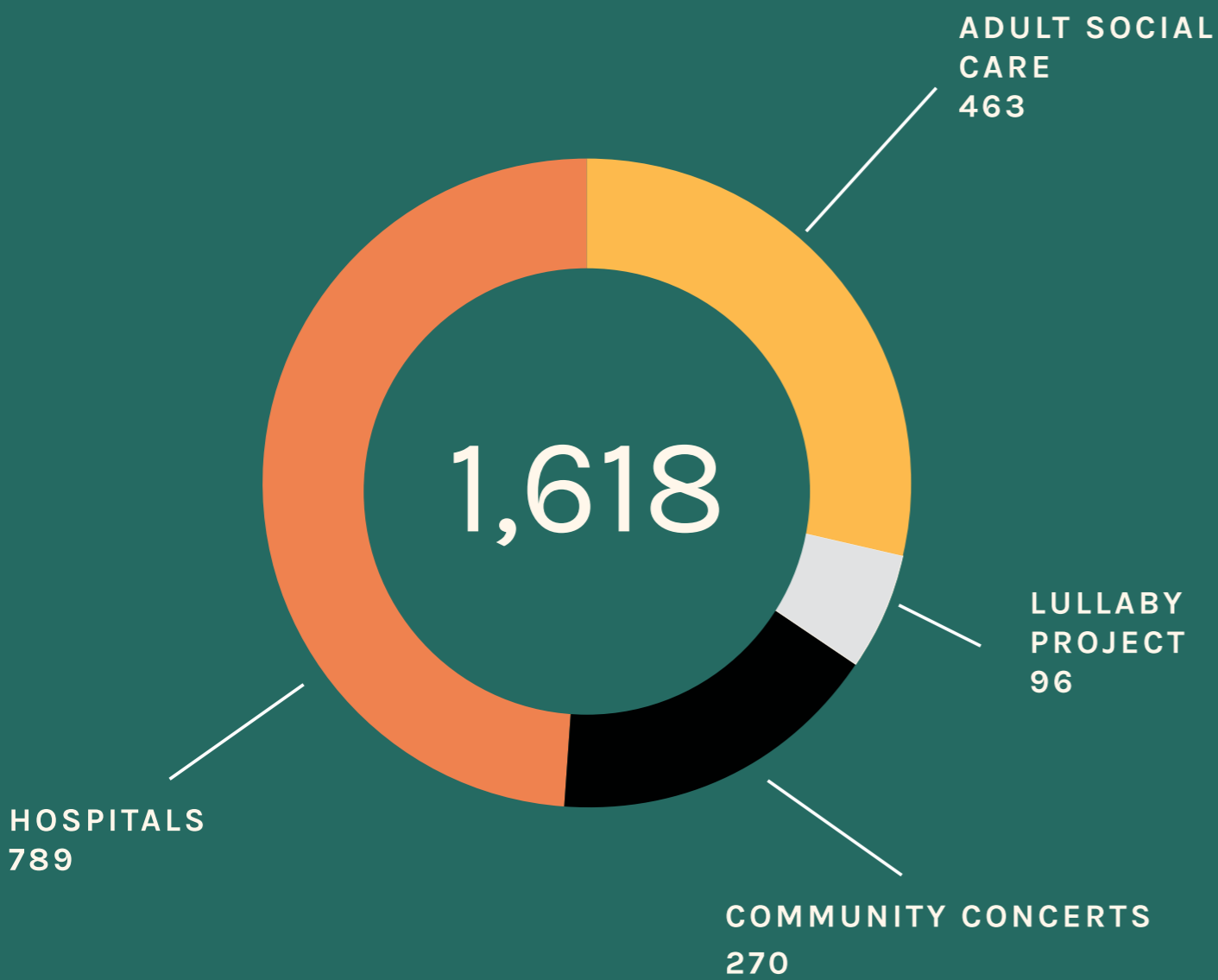
Gwelwch a chlywch mwy isod!

Gwylwch Fersiwn isdeitlau Cymraeg y ffilm yma.



Music in Health

Total Sessions 2023-24



Live Music Now’s needs-based, impactful Music In Health programme offers support for people in health, community and care settings across the life course. Our models, delivered by trained professional musicians:

- Animate Spaces
- Support Individuals & Communities
- Address Medical Needs & Life Challenges
- Empower Health and Care Professionals

As a UK-wide charity we also play a leading role in National Creative Health Initiatives.

‘The staff have seen first-hand the impact music can make – we’ve always known but for staff to witness the impact there’s not one staff member that wouldn’t say the same thing – they were all buzzing.’

CARE HOME MANAGER



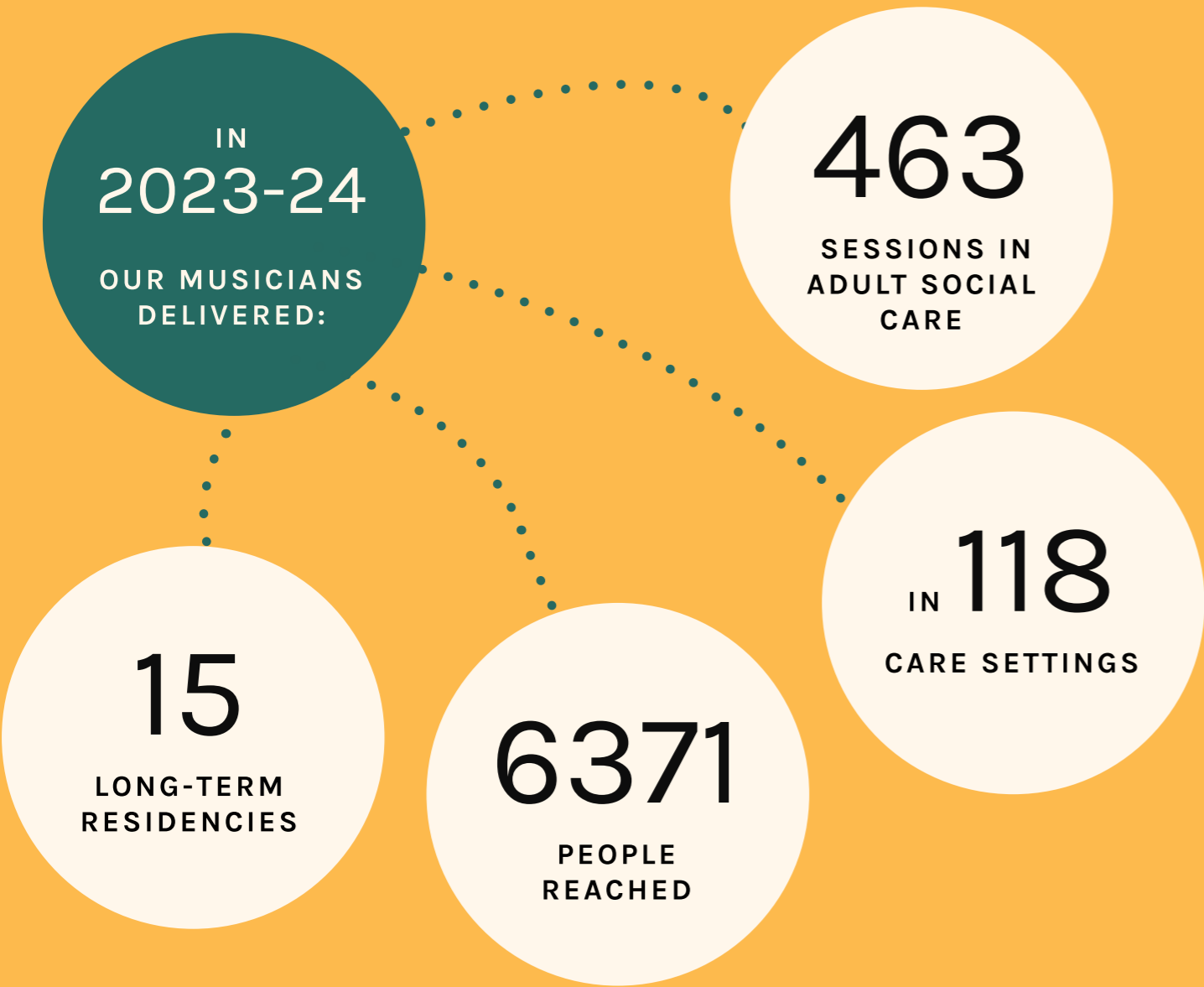
Music in Health

Live Music in Care

Our *Live Music in Care* model integrates live music with workforce development and wellbeing initiatives to create a holistic approach to care. Developed in partnership with the University of Winchester, this model brings professional musicians into care settings for residencies where they work alongside staff and residents, including people living with dementia. Through activities such as making music, skills training, co-delivery, planning,

and reflection, the model nurtures and enhances "Musical Care" across the setting. Outcomes include increased understanding, confidence, and skills for care teams, alongside improved well-being and engagement for residents. The whole care environment benefits as music becomes an integrated part of daily life, enriching relationships and supporting individual health benefits for residents.

Reach 2023-24



Impact 2023-24

OUR PARTICIPATORY PERFORMANCES IN CARE HOMES HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE MOOD AND ENGAGEMENT OF THE RESIDENTS.

In 88 feedback responses from care staff, 97% reported positive responses from the residents to the performances, with a demonstrable shift from reserved, quiet, passive/still to interested, entertained, chatty, friendly, enthusiastic or appreciative.

Top level mood ratings, as observed by staff, went up from 14% before the activity to 90% during the activity and 94% after the activity ended.

Observed engagement with the performance and musician increased from a top level baseline of 16% to 87% during the performance and 92% afterwards.



MUSIC IN DEMENTIA CARE: THE BEECHES CARE HOME

In Spring 2023, Live Music Now delivered a ten-week Live Music in Care project at The Beeches Care Home in Merseyside to support residents living with dementia. Funded by Parkhaven Trust through the PH Holt Foundation, musicians Elfair Dyer (harp) and Ste Forshaw (guitar/vocals) led weekly interactive music sessions across three units, engaging up to 15 residents per session.

Through music, the project successfully lifted residents' moods, encouraged participation, and improved their relationships with each other and staff.

The impact was profound, with staff noting that music brought joy and helped less-mobile and non-verbal residents to sing and move along with the music, enhancing their daily lives and connection to the group. Staff also benefited from the sessions, gaining confidence in using music as a tool for dementia care and experiencing boosted morale from seeing the positive effects on residents.

The Beeches team has since integrated more music into daily routines, demonstrating the long-lasting benefits of this project.

“To see the change in people’s faces and to see those who have got up, who usually choose not to walk, moving their legs and having a dance... it had a real positive effect on our unit.”

SAM BRADLEY, CARE STAFF MEMBER, ELM WING

Read more [here](#).



BUILDING CONFIDENCE AND CONNECTION AT THE PARAMS

In Winter 2023-24, Live Music Now delivered an 11-week music project at The Params, a family-run care home in Purley, London, with funding from the City Bridge Foundation.

Duo Furioso, two skilled cellists, guided residents and care staff in interactive music sessions, focusing on empowering staff to lead these activities independently.

By the end, staff had fully embraced the music-making process, enhancing the residents' lives.

Evaluation feedback from staff who had taken part in our Live Music In Care workforce development residencies confirmed a positive impact on their ability to use music in their care work. On a 1-5 rating (with 5 being the highest impact) 75% rated their understanding, confidence and skills in use of music in care as 5 'Very Good' and 25% rated as 4 'Good'.

The project highlights the transformative power of music in care, fostering connection and creativity that continues even beyond the programme's conclusion.

“Doing the music sessions had a huge impact. They helped to get the connections back. Not only for the relationships with residents, but also as a team as well; lifting the energy of the team and the energy of the room. After you had done that session, if you had to go and sort out the washing or do other jobs you are feeling energised by it and feel good.”

STAFF MEMBER

Learn more about our work in care homes [here](#).



Music in Health

Community Concerts

Loneliness significantly impacts health, posing a risk even greater than obesity and physical inactivity, with strong evidence linking social isolation to increased premature mortality. Regular cultural engagement, like attending musical events, has been shown to reduce the risk of depression, especially for older adults. Live music plays a unique role in fostering social bonding by creating a welcoming and relaxed environment where people feel safe to connect.

Our Songs and Scones programme, monthly memory cafés, and All Together Now series for families with additional needs are designed with this in mind. These programmes bring people together through live music, offering inclusive spaces where attendees can enjoy beautiful performances, socialise, and build meaningful connections.

Reach 2023-24

270
COMMUNITY
CONCERTS

47
SERIES ACROSS
ENGLAND,
NORTHERN IRELAND
& WALES

4,880
PEOPLE REACHED



Live Music Now musician Louis Bingham performs at the Eden Project. Event hosted in collaboration with Memory Matters Cornwall and the Cornwall Memory Cafe Network. Hosted and funded by Nature’s Way.

SONGS & SCONES

BUILDING COMMUNITIES AND ALLEVIATING LONELINESS FOR THOSE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA

The Songs & Scones programme offers live music socials for people facing loneliness and isolation, especially older adults. Monthly sessions combine live music with social time and refreshments, fostering a warm, safe environment for community connection.

Recent evaluations of our partnership programme with Medway Libraries showed

that 85% of participants felt more connected to their community, with 80% reporting improved positivity.

These events are often fully booked, underscoring their popularity and impact. Medway Council’s support reflects the programme’s alignment with local priorities in social engagement and community building.

“Medway Council is delighted to be a partner and support Song & Scones. This programme has helped create a community safe space for older people living independently in the community who may feel isolated, to come together and meet new people in a welcoming and accessible environment. The benefits and the outcomes of the project are far reaching across multiple Council services.”

ROBYN GOLDSMITH, MEDWAY COUNCIL CULTURE DEVELOPMENT MANAGER.

Find out more about Songs & Scones [here](#).



“Songs and Scones makes me feel happy and part of a social group. I have reduced my anti-depressants since coming here. It is the highlight of my week.”

PARTICIPANT



COMFORTED BY THE COMPANY

NEWHAM COMMUNITY SONGWRITING PROJECT UNITES OLDER RESIDENTS IN A MUSICAL CELEBRATION

In a heartwarming showcase of community spirit, residents of Newham came together for the end-of-project performance of a unique songwriting initiative with Live Music Now.

The project, a collaboration between Community Transport Newham and two talented Live Music Now musicians, Ainsley Hamill and Toby Shaer, unfolded over six weeks, culminating in the creation and recording of a song titled “Comforted by the Company”.

Aimed at fostering connections among older members of the community, the songwriting project saw participants from diverse backgrounds joining forces to share their stories and create music. Despite many having migrated to Newham from different places, the participants expressed a shared sense of belonging and warmth through the project, echoing sentiments of unity in the song’s lyrics:

The impact of the project extended beyond the music, as revealed in the end-of-project evaluation forms. An overwhelming 100%

of participants either “Agreed” or “Strongly Agreed” with the statement, “Taking part in the music sessions [this project] has made me feel more positive.” One participant even shared that the experience had made her feel “Alive and wonderful”.

The collaborative effort of Live Music Now, Community Transport Newham, and the talented musicians not only resulted in a beautiful musical composition but also left a lasting imprint on the well-being and positivity of those involved.

As the song “Comforted by the Company” resonates through the community, it stands as a testament to the transformative power of music and community engagement, proving that in Newham, harmony can be found in the shared experiences of its residents.

“I feel comforted by the company, I’m comforted with you here. It feels like home.”

Find out more about Comforted by the Company [here](#).



CONCERTS FOR FAMILIES WITH
ADDITIONAL NEEDS

Live Music Now’s All Together Now concerts offered a welcoming social morning of live music, conversation, and refreshments for Medway families with children and young people with additional learning needs and disabilities. These relaxed events provided a wonderful opportunity for families to come together, enjoy interactive music sessions led by Live Music Now musicians, and share in a friendly, inclusive atmosphere.

Following the music, families had time to socialize over free refreshments, creating a space for connection and enjoyment. As one participant put it, “I am full of sunshine because I am enjoying the music.”

“I really enjoyed in and felt it benefitted all three of my children, two who have SEND and one who doesn’t. It was lovely to watch them be able to participate in something together”

2024 MEDWAY PARENT

Read more [here](#).



Music in Health

Live Music in Hospitals

Live Music Now works in hospitals across England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Our musicians take live music to public and clinical spaces; in waiting areas, on wards and at bedsides. The work has an animating, positive impact on hospitals, changing the experience of staying in, working in and visiting them; bringing relief from anxiety and loneliness.

Feedback from 12 hospital arts coordinators this year highlighted that our work significantly boosts staff and patient morale while alleviating anxiety and loneliness among patients.

Reach 2023-24

32
HOSPITALS

OVER
16,587
PEOPLE IN HOSPITALS
AND HOSPICES IN
ENGLAND, WALES &
NORTHERN IRELAND

13
MUSICAL
RESIDENCIES



Boosts
patient, staff
and visitor
mood

Reduces
patient
anxiety

Reduces
patient
loneliness

MUSICIANS IN HOSPITALS

Live Music Now musician Maz O'Connor brought warmth and connection to stroke wards at Lewisham Hospital through a residency in Spring 2023. Engaging patients with live music tailored to their tastes, Maz helped lift spirits, reduce loneliness, and bring comfort to patients. Her sensitive

approach fostered emotional moments, including singing an Australian sea shanty for a patient who became visibly moved. These interactions illustrate how music can touch lives deeply, providing solace and companionship in challenging times.

Read more about Maz' experience [here](#).

Violinist Henry Webster spent the summer of 2023 performing at North Middlesex and Basildon hospitals, with a focus on creating personal musical connections with patients and staff. Henry's interactions ranged from improvising personalized pieces to playing Bach for classical music enthusiasts. His

experience emphasizes how live music can alleviate anxiety, uplift spirits, and foster unexpected, joyful interactions in hospital settings, transforming the hospital environment for patients and healthcare workers alike.

Read Henry's full reflection [here](#).



CELEBRATING NHS 75:
A MILESTONE OF MUSIC
AND CARE



On July 5, 2023, Live Music Now celebrated the 75th anniversary of the NHS, recognizing its vital role as the UK's universal healthcare provider since 1948. Live Music Now has been partnering with the NHS since 1977, bringing live music into healthcare settings to support the well-being of patients, visitors, and staff.



In Wales, our musicians Seren Winds opened the NHS 75 celebrations at the Senedd Cymru/Welsh Parliament, reflecting over 30 years of collaboration with NHS Cymru to use music for health outcomes.



At Alder Hey Children's Hospital in Liverpool, a two-year programme funded by Youth Music focuses on mental health support for young patients, with nine musicians observing significant improvements in children's well-being and confidence.



Our partnership with North Bristol NHS Trust's Fresh Arts programme, established in 2018, brings music to the wards of Southmead and Cossham hospitals, benefiting both patients and staff.



In Calderdale and Dewsbury, we work with the South West Yorkshire NHS Foundation in care settings for older adults, younger adults with learning disabilities, and forensic health services, where music is used to uplift and connect residents.



Our Lullaby Projects, delivered in partnership with NHS and community organizations, support maternal mental health, early childhood development, and family well-being, with projects like the one in Toxteth, Liverpool, reaching families from the Sudanese community.



At Royal Brompton Hospital in Chelsea, we provide weekly live music sessions, bringing comfort and connection to patients, visitors, and staff.

BELFAST DAY CENTRES
WITH BELFAST HEALTH &
SOCIAL CARE TRUST

In Northern Ireland, Live Music Now collaborated with the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust to deliver concerts for older people attending day centres across Belfast, supported by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's Arts and Older People Programme, marking three decades of music-making in the region.

Live Music Now's enduring partnership with the NHS demonstrates the powerful role of music in enhancing healthcare environments and supporting the mental and emotional well-being of all who experience it.



Read more about our NHS collaborations [here](#).

FEEDBACK FROM OVER 100 SURVEYS CONDUCTED AT THE
BELFAST DAY CENTRE EVENTS SHOW:



“I loved the relaxed atmosphere and the easy humour. It's also great to have a live music event of such quality presented so close to home. Thank you!”

“Brilliant idea to develop for older people who can interact and enjoy music - keep these activities going.”

“It was a most enjoyable experience. Felt very welcome. Really enjoyed the musician’s interaction”

Music in Place

Live Music Now's **Music in Place** strategy integrates musicians as vital contributors within communities. This approach connects with local authorities, NHS Integrated Care Boards, social care, children's services, music education hubs, and other cultural organisations to deliver equitable access to music and address local social issues. By positioning musicians as key figures in their own communities, the programme promotes economic and cultural engagement while nurturing local talent and fostering long-term relationships.

Focused on co-creation, our strategy prioritizes communities facing social exclusion and health inequalities. Currently, research and development pilots are underway in Medway, Merseyside, Neath Port Talbot in Wales and Limavady in Northern Ireland—areas marked by high deprivation and significant health challenges. Partnerships with universities support long-term evaluation and learning, ensuring community-driven outcomes are tracked and met through collaborative, impactful interventions.

THE LEAP - CELEBRATING LIMAVADY'S HERITAGE THROUGH MUSIC

Award-winning Live Music Now musicians Conor Lamb and Deirdre Galway of Réalta performed at Roe Valley Arts and Cultural Centre in April 2023, premiering "The Leap," a piece inspired by Limavady and commissioned by Live Music Now Northern Ireland. Over the past five years, the musicians have connected with the community by performing in local schools, centres, and care homes. The performance

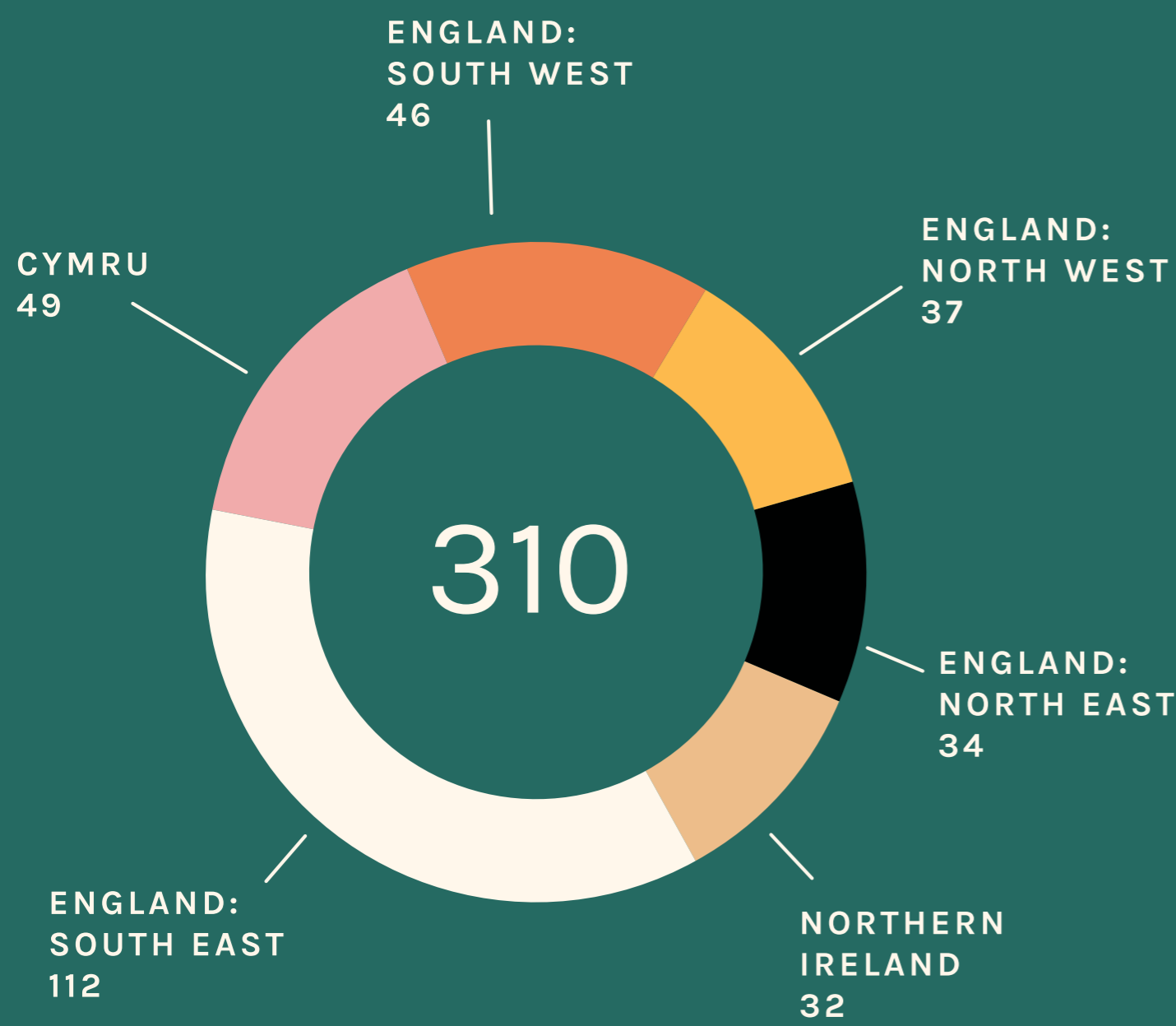
included young musicians from Jimmy O'Hara Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann and poet Anne McMaster. Supported by the Bank of Ireland Begin Together Arts Fund, in partnership with Business to Arts and the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, this project connects residents to their heritage and fosters a sense of pride in local traditions.

Read more about "The Leap" [here](#).



Our Musicians

Musicians 2023-24



Our musicians are at the heart of everything we do; without them, the transformative impact we bring to communities wouldn't be possible. We continuously invest in their development through robust training and mentoring programmes, designed to build their confidence and equip them with a versatile toolkit of skills they can rely on throughout their careers.

Following an induction and foundational training supported by their initial community performances in a variety of settings, each musician embarks on a unique development journey shaped by their personal interests and experiences.

The progression opportunities we offer are guided by our Competency and Training Frameworks: Inspire, for working with children and young people, and Live Music in Care, for work in adult social care settings. These frameworks provide benchmarks for musicians' growth, encourage self-reflection, help identify training needs, and enable us to assess and foster quality practice.

To further enhance diversity, we work with partners like Diverse Artists Network to increase the representation of artists in our programme.



FILKIN'S DRIFT

870 MILES – 2 MUSICIANS – 40 SHOWS

“Is there a way to tour where we can get a sense of the places we're visiting, and approach touring in a more sustainable way?”

SETH BYE, FILKIN'S DRIFT

To celebrate the release of their album, Rembard's Retreat, Live Music Now musicians Seth Bye and Chris Roberts of the folk duo Filkin's Drift embarked on a unique and ambitious journey. They walked the entire 870-mile Wales Coast Path, performing nightly shows along the way. This approach not only showcased their music but also redefined sustainable touring.

Amidst the ongoing climate crisis and a renewed desire for connection in a post-COVID world, Filkin's Drift explored a bold alternative to conventional music tours. Their journey drew inspiration from the ancient Welsh bardic tradition, in which music and walking are deeply connected—

reflected in the Welsh words Cerdd (music) and Cerdded (to walk). By traveling on foot, the duo integrated the experience of the landscape into their music, gathering songs, stories, and sounds from the people and places they encountered. These experiences enriched their performances, creating a musical tapestry of the Welsh coast.

The tour, called CERDD // ED, addressed global environmental concerns locally, showcasing an innovative model for low-impact touring. Supported by Help Musicians and Fusion Gig Bags, and fundraising for Live Music Now, Filkin's Drift's journey highlighted a creative and sustainable approach to touring, demonstrating how music and community engagement can thrive with minimal environmental impact.

Watch and listen to Filkin's Drift incredible journey through their weekly video blogs [here](#).



MUSICIANS' LISTING
2023-2024

MUSICIANS

CYRMU		
Luke	Adams	Voice, Guitar - Ukulele, Guitar - Acoustic
Michael	Blanchfield	Piano
Lizzie	Bonsell	Flute, Saxophone, Piano
Emma	Craig	Saxophone
Lowri	Evans	Guitar - Ukulele, Piano, Guitar - Acoustic, Voice
Daisy	Evans	Clarinet
Giordano	Ferla	Piano
Amruta	Garud	Harmonium
Michael	Gibbs	French Horn
Polly	Gibbs	Bassoon
Sam	Green	Drum Kit
Harry	Greenway	Percussion
James	Harrison	Congas
Tom	Harvey	Guitar - Acoustic, Guitar - Electric
Katie	Hole	Bass Clarinet
Delyth	Jenkins	Piano, Harp
Angharad	Jenkins	Fiddle
Maddie	Jones	Piano, Guitar - Acoustic, Voice
Aneirin	Jones	Fiddle
Richard	Jones	Voice
Eryl	Jones	Voice, Guitar - Banjo, Mandolin, Guitar - Acoustic
Nils	Kavanagh	Piano
Richy	Lewis	Voice, Piano
Katie	Lower	Flute
Andy	Mackenzie	Guitar - Ukulele, Guitar - Banjo, Guitar - Acoustic
Kirsten	Miller	Cello
Corey	Morris	Trumpet
Megan	Morris	Harp
Shelley	Musker Turner	Harp
Tom	Owen	Guitar - Acoustic, Violin

Gruffudd	Owen	Drum Kit
Laura	Potter	Clarinet
Greg	Robley	Guitar - Acoustic, Piano, Voice - Bass
Megan	Rushbrook	Piano
Cameron	Saint	Double Bass
Clement	Saynor	Guitar - Bass Guitar, Double Bass
Dora	Seaton	Piano
Bethan	Semmens	Harp
Rachel	Starritt	Piano
Tom	Taffinder	French Horn
Dafydd	Thomas	Trombone
Lowri	Thomas	Flute, Viola
Billy	Thompson	Violin
Siobhan	Waters	Saxophone, Voice
Josh	Whyte	Guitar - Acoustic
Jordan	Williams	Cello
Eric	Wolfe-Gordon	Oboe
Dean	Yhnell	Voice - Beatboxer
ENGLAND: NORTH EAST		
Sam	Barrett	Mandolin, Guitar - Banjo, Guitar - 12 string
Emily	Bowden	Piano, Voice, Violin
Ford	Collier	Tabla, Penny Whistle, Guitar - Acoustic, Voice
Matthew	Cotterhill	Sousaphone
Andrew	Cox	Saxophone
Simon	Czestochowski	Trumpet
Will	Fletcher	Percussion
David	Gray	Melodeon
Katie	Griffin	Guitar - Banjo, Voice
Merle	Harbron	Voice, Violin
Jade	Harris	Voice

Tom	Hawthorn	Drum Kit
Samuel	Hodgson	Voice, Guitar - Acoustic
Rosie	Hood	Violin, Voice
Ruth	Lee	Voice, Harp
Nicolas	Lewis	Guitar - Acoustic
Katie	MacLeod	Guitar - Acoustic, Voice, Cello
Joss	Mann-Hazell	Double Bass
Michael	McLernon	Piano, Cajon, Drum Kit, Piano Accordion
Harry	Orme	Guitar, Vocals
Samuel	Partridge	Duet Concertina
Graziana	Presicce	Piano
Matt	Quinn	Duet Concertina
Jamie	Roberts	Voice, Guitar - Acoustic
Simon	Robinson	Banjo
Chris	Ruffoni	Guitar - Bass Guitar
Suzi	Saperia	Voice
Joe	Skelton	Guitar
Grace	Smith	Fiddle
Michael	Thacker	Clarinet, Double Bass, Guitar - Acoustic
Stephen	Travers	Voice, Bouzouki, Guitar - Acoustic
Joanne	Veal	Recorder, Clarinet
ENGLAND: NORTH WEST		
Sarah	Austen	Clarinet, Flute, Saxophone
Jonathan	Bates	Tenor Horn
Emma	Black	Guitar - Acoustic
Gillian	Blair	Saxophone
Nicole	Boardman	Voice - Mezzo-Soprano
Adam	Bowman	Oboe
Mickey	Bryan	Piano, Saxophone
Philippa	Bryan	Voice, Flute
Michael	Cavanagh	Baritone Horn
Elfair	Dyer	Harp
Tom	Edwards	French Horn
Steven	Forshaw	Guitar - Acoustic, Vocals
Rachel	Fright	Piano
James	Girling	Guitar - Classical
Ben	Gorb	Guitar - Acoustic, Voice
Abigail	Hammett	Viola
Esme	Higgins	Guitar - Acoustic, Ukulele
Cara	Houghton	Flute
David	Kelly	Drum Kit

Borna	Kuca	Mandolin, Guitar - Classical
Leila	Marshall	Piccolo, Flute
Rebecca	McIlroy	Harp
Eleanor	Mills	Saxophone, Clarinet, Bassoon
Elinor	Nicholson	Harp
Lucy	Nolan	Harp
Rafael	Onyett	Guitar - Classical
Iwan	Owen	Piano
Alice	Phelps	Voice, Double Bass
Hedi	Pinkerfeld	Guitar
Chris	Robertson	Euphonium
Edward	Robinson	Voice - Baritone
Sam	Rodwell	Guitar - Classical
Ben	Sayah	Guitar - Bass Guitar
Jamie	Smith	Cornet
Jessica	Tomlinson	Saxophone, Clarinet
Dan	Walsh	Banjo, Guitar, Vocals
ENGLAND: SOUTH EAST		
Jernej	Albreht	Clarinet
Gavin	Alexander	Voice, Guitar - Acoustic
Charlotte	Badham	Voice
Jali	Bakary Konteh	Kora
Luke	Baxter	Marimba
Rosie	Bergonzi	Steelpan/Handpan
Daria	Bitsiuk	Piano
André	Borges	Flute, Saxophone
Dunia	Botic	Voice
Jonatan	Bougt	Guitar - Classical, Theorbo
Rosie	Bowker	Piccolo, Flute
James	Bramley	Theorbo, Lute
Gideon	Brooks	Trumpet
Ben	Brown	Guitar - Acoustic, Voice
Josh	Brown	Saxophone
Harry	Buckoke	Viola da Gamba
Seth	Bye	Fiddle
Joseph	Cavalli-Price	Voice - Tenor, Piano
Marie	Cayeux	Voice
Adam	Clark	Guitar - Banjo, Voice, Guitar - Acoustic
Chris	Claxton	Tuba
Georgina	Dadson	Guitar - Acoustic
Glain	Dafydd	Harp

MUSICIANS LISTINGS

Reuben	Dakin	Saxophone
Fernando	de Morais Machado	Percussion, Guitar - Acoustic
Dominic	Degavino	Piano
Sian	Dicker	Voice - Soprano
Alua	Do Nascimento	Vibraphone
Twm	Dylan	Guitar - Acoustic
Llinos	Emanuel	Voice
Fábio	Fernandes	Lute, Guitar - Classical
Carys	Gittins	Flute
Konstantinos	Glynos	Qanun/Kanun
James	Goodwin	Trombone
Karla	Grant	Voice - Soprano
Rudy	Green	Kora
Simon	Guémy	Cello
Ainsley	Hamill	Voice
Emma	Harding	Flute
Charlotte	Hardy	Flute, Voice
Thomas	Harvey	Piano, Voice, Guitar - Acoustic
Rachel	Hayter	Flute
Todd	Henkin	Harmonica, Guitar - Acoustic
Urska	Horvat	Cello
Alis	Huws	Harp
Michael	Iskas	Viola
Charlotte	Jolly	Guitar - Acoustic, Bass Clarinet, Clarinet
Timothy	Karp	Lute, Guitar - Classical, Guitar - Acoustic
Saki	Kato	Guitar
Lydia	Kenny	Saxophone
Ellie	Knott	Flute
Helen	Lacey	Voice - Soprano
Charlie	Law	Piano, Guitar, Voice
Joseph	Leighton	Guitar - Acoustic
Edward	Leung	Piano
Clea	Llewellyn-Hurst	Piano, Guitar - Acoustic, Voice
Stella Marie	Lorenz	Piano
Nicola	Lyons	Fiddle, Vocals
Meera	Maharaj	Flute
Camilla	Marchant	Piccolo, Flute
Sydney Grace	Mariano	Violin, Violin
Andrew	Mellor	Clarinet
Inigo	Mikeleiz-Berrade	Accordion

Hugh	Millington	Guitar - Classical
Lance	Mok	Piano
Luiz	Morais	Classical Guitar
Elliott	Morris	Guitar - Acoustic, Voice
Aleksandra	Myslek	Piano
Emily	Newman	Bassoon
Miriam	Nohl	Viola da Gamba, Cello
Maz	O'Connor	Voice, Guitar - Acoustic
Emily	Owen	Voice - Soprano
Anna	Phillips	Harp
Magnus	Pickering	Cornet
Daniel	Pickering	Trombone
Tom	Pickering	Traverso, Harpsichord, Recorder
Joe	Pollard	Saxophone
Clara	Pople	Voice, Electronic - Loopstation
Alice	Poppleton	Violin
Aeron	Preston	Voice - Tenor, Organ, Piano
Mared	Pugh-Evans	Harp
Suzie	Qiu	Viola, Violin
Holly	Redshaw	Bassoon
Mary	Reid	Harp
Patrick	Rimes	Violin, Viola
Noga	Ritter	Voice
Chris	Roberts	Guitar - Acoustic
Mark	Rogers	Piano
Hollie	Rogers	Voice, Guitar - Acoustic
Jacob	Rosenberg	Trumpet
Katie	Sazanova	Flute
Toby	Shaer	Fiddle
Amelia	Shakespeare	Recorder, Cornet, Flute
Alise	Silina	Accordion
Julia	Solomon	Voice - Mezzo-Soprano
Joe	Steele	Saxophone
Helena	Svigelj	Cello
Anwen	Thomas	Harp
Peter	Thornton	Guitar - Electric
Akeim	Toussaint Buck	Voice
Janice	Tsui	Piano
Lise	Vandersmissen	Harp
Alba	Viana Costa Cabral	Guitar - Acoustic, Voice
Naomi	Warburton	Violin
Claire	Ward	Voice - Soprano

Dan	Watt	Percussion
Kristiina	Watt	Voice - Soprano, Theorbo, Lute
Henry	Webster	Fiddle
Alexander	Willett	French Horn
Karen	Wong	Piccolo, Flute
Teresa	Wrann	Recorder
Zoë	Wren	Piano, Voice, Guitar - Acoustic
Nic	Zupparidi	Guitar - Acoustic, Guitar - Banjo, Mandolin
Agnieszka	Zyniewicz	Viola
SOUTH WEST		
Louis	Bingham	Cittern, Guitar - Acoustic
Alison	Boden	Viola, Violin
Holly	Carter	Voice, Guitar - Acoustic
Aaron	Catlow	Violin
Archie	Churchill-Moss	Accordion
Lorna	Davis	Cello
Josh	Doughty	Kora
Ali	Elmubarak	Oud
Sadie	Fleming	Voice, Guitar
Alex	Garden	Fiddle
Alexander	Gichohi	Drum Kit, Guitar - Acoustic
Simon	Gilliver	Flute, Piano
Nadine	Gingell	Voice, Guitar - Acoustic
Roland	Harrad	Guitar - Acoustic, Voice
Kit	Hawes	Mandolin, Voice, Guitar - Acoustic
Lucy	Hewson	Viola, Violin
Natalie	Holmes	Guitar - Ukulele, Guitar - Acoustic, Piano, Voice
Elly	Hopkins	Voice
David	Hughes	Piano, Guitar - Acoustic
Daniel	Inzani	Harp, Piano, Accordion
Danielle	Jones	Cello
Nathaniel	Jones	Violin
Jim	Jones	Voice, Drum Kit, Guitar - Acoustic
Phil	King	Guitar - Acoustic
Anna	Ling	Guitar - Acoustic, Voice
David	Little	Piano, Guitar - Acoustic
Caelia	Lunniss	Violin
Bryony	Middleton	Piano, Oboe

Ruth	Molins	Piccolo, Flute
Servo	Mputu	Percussion, Congas, Guitar
Stuart	Oliver	Guitar - Acoustic
Jacob	Perry	Euphonium, Saxophone, Clarinet
Polly	Phillips	Saxophone, Clarinet, Bassoon
Sebastian	Poznansky	Cello
Harriet	Riley	Xylophone, Vibraphone, Marimba
Alain	Rouamba	Kora, Djembe
Katy	Rowe	Violin
Jo	Silverston	Cello
Emma	Stansfield	Violin, Viola
Kitty	Stewart	Guitar - Ukulele
Knud	Stuwe	Oud
Chris	Webb	Voice, Guitar - Acoustic
Alex	Wilson	Voice, Violin, Piano
BexX	Woodward	Guitar - Acoustic
NORTHERN IRELAND		
Paddy	Anderson	Piano, Guitar - Spanish/ Flamenco
Rohan	Armstrong	Drum Kit, Guitar - Acoustic, Double Bass
William	Brown	Voice, Guitar - Acoustic
Neil	Burns	Voice, Guitar - Acoustic, Piano
Ellen	Campbell	Voice - Soprano
Ailbhe	Clancy	Violin
Martin	Coyle	Mandolin, Guitar, Bouzouki
Aoife	Dennedy	Cello
Deirdre	Galway	Voice, Guitar - Acoustic
Victoria	Geelan	Percussion, Voice
Meilana	Gillard	Voice, Saxophone
Jared	Green	Piano, Voice, Guitar
Ciara	Jackson	Flute
Karen	Jennings	Guitar - Ukulele, Piano, Violin
Conor	Lamb	Uilleann Pipes
John	Leighton	Piano
Kevin	McCullagh	Fiddle
Annemarie	McGahon	Viola, Violin
Aideen	McGinn	Voice
Ryan	McGroarty	Voice, Guitar
Lorna	McLaughlin	Accordion, Piano, Voice

Joleen	McLaughlin	Mandolin, Piano, Harp
Louis	McTeggart	Guitar - Acoustic
Ceilin	Murphy	Violin, Voice, Piano
Rebecca	Murphy	Voice
Hannah	Murray	Voice, Trumpet
Fíona	Ní Mhearáin	Flute
Anna	Nolan	Guitar, Voice
Vourneen	Ryan	Flute
Amanda	St. John	Voice, Guitar - Acoustic
Rowan	Warner-Leicester	Guitar - Ukulele, Guitar - Acoustic
Cindy	Yung	Piano

More information on our musicians can be found on our website [here](#)



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Looking Forward



As Live Music Now evolves alongside our communities, we have taken a significant step towards a more sustainable and impactful future. Our deep regional partnerships and focus on connecting local musicians with their communities remains essential, underpinning all our work. The establishment of three core strands - Music in Health, Music in Education, and Music in Place - represents a strategic evolution that will enable us to build deeper expertise whilst maintaining our vital local connections across the three nations we serve. This new structure reflects our commitment to developing specialist knowledge and excellence in each area of our work. By moving away from a purely geographic approach to one that combines specialist expertise with local delivery, we are better positioned to respond to the complex challenges facing our communities.

Our Music in Health strand will strengthen our partnerships with the health and social care sector, whilst our Music in Education strand will deepen our role in inclusive education. The Music in Place strand will look at addressing wider determinants of health in Medway and Northern Ireland, alongside expanding our work in Heritage and place-building.

In response to the challenging economic climate and increasing operational costs, we have taken decisive action to ensure our long-term sustainability. While the difficult decision to reduce our core costs resulted in farewells to valued colleagues, it has enabled us to create a more resilient organisation better equipped to weather future challenges. This restructuring maintains our commitment to supporting regional musicians and local project delivery whilst streamlining our operational model.

Looking ahead, we recognise that the social issues we address - isolation, mental health challenges, and inequality - are likely to intensify. Our adapted business model positions us to respond effectively to these growing needs whilst ensuring our own sustainability. We are focusing on developing longer-term partnerships and leading research across the cultural, heritage, public health, and education sectors, creating collaborative solutions to endemic social issues.

Our commitment to maintaining strong local and regional partnerships remains unwavering. These relationships are fundamental to our impact and effectiveness, enabling us to deliver programmes that truly respond to local needs while benefiting from our enhanced organisational expertise. By combining deep specialist knowledge with strong local connections, we are building an organisation that can both survive and thrive in challenging times.

As we implement these changes, we remain focused on our core mission of bringing the transformative power of music to those who need it most. Through this period of evolution, we are creating a more resilient, expert, and impactful organisation that can continue to serve our communities effectively for years to come.

Funding & Fundraising

Live Music Now is deeply grateful for the generous support we receive from trusts, foundations, institutional funders, and individual donors. Many of our supporters contribute regularly, helping us cover essential running costs, launch new initiatives, provide musician training, and sustain our ongoing programmes. This year, we extend heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported us—whether through donations in memory of loved ones,

organising fundraisers, taking on personal challenges, or giving anonymously. From funding a warm drink for an isolated older adult to sponsoring a full series of concerts for children in special schools, every contribution makes a meaningful impact. We also thank the music hubs, schools, and health and care partners who collaborate with us to bring the power of music to those who need it most. Thank you for making a difference in people’s lives.

CENTRAL
Backstage Trust
Big Give Trust
Constance Travis Charitable Trust
Daniell Trust
Headley Trust
John Lewis Partnership
Leathersellers' Company
Linbury Trust
Paul Hamlyn Foundation
Rank Foundation
Rayne Foundation
Sir Ian Stoutzker
Utley Foundation
Vernon Ellis Foundation
Youth Music
CYMRU
Arts & Business Cymru
Arts Council of Wales
Awen Cultural Trust
Between the Trees Festival
Cardiff and Vale UHB
Cardiff City Council
Castle Dairies

Criccieth Festival
ICF Dementia Friendly Communites Fund
Isle of Anglesey County Council
Moondance Foundation
National Lottery - Awards for All
National Lottery Community Fund (People's Projects)
Neath Port Talbot Council
Newport Live
North Wales International Music Festival
PlantLife Cymru
Simon Gibson Charitable Trust
Swansea Bay UHB
Tŷ Cerdd
Volant Covid-19 Fund
ENGLAND
Alice Ellen Cooper Dean Charitable Foundation
Ann Duchess of Westminster's Charity
Arts Council England
Boshier Hinton Foundation
Bryan Foster Charitable Trust
Burges Salmon Charitable Trust
Burghley Family Trust
Burghley Family Trust
Charles & Elsie Sykes Trust

Charles & Elsie Sykes Trust
CHCP Foundation
Cherry Family Foundation
City Bridge Foundation
Clare Milne Trust
Cotton Industry War Memorial Trust
D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust
David Family Foundation
David Solomons Charitable Trust
Devon Music Education Hub
Dowager Eleanor Peel Charitable Trust
Dr & Mrs A Darlington Charitable Trust
Eveson Charitable Trust
Fairfield Charitable Trust
Garrick Charitable Trust
Gibbons Family Trust
Golsoncott Foundation
Hays Travel Foundation
Hendy Foundation
Hull & East Riding Charitable Trust
Ironmongers' Company
J & M Britton Charitable Trust
John Horseman Trust
John Lyon's Charity
Kathleen Beryl Sleigh Charitable Trust
Kathleen Hannay Memorial Charity
Keith Howard Foundation
KH Foundation
Lanyado Fund
Leeds City Council
London Community Foundation
Lord & Lady Lurgan Trust
Lord Cozens Hardy Trust
Loudon Charitable Trust
Lucille Graham Trust
Maingot Charitable Trust
Marjorie Green Charitable Trust
Mayfield Valley Arts Trust
Medway Council
Millichope Foundation
Millichope Foundation
Mrs Pat Ripley's Charitable Trust
National Lottery Community Fund

Noël Coward Foundation
Norman Family Charitable Trust
North Yorkshire County Council
Northbrook Community Trust
NYMAZ
Percival Whitley Educational Trust
Portal Grant Trust
Rhododendron Trust
Shared Prosperity Fund Medway
Singer Foundation
Sir George Martin Trust
Sound Foundation Somerset
SoundStorm
St Hilda's Trust
Sylvia & Colin Shepherd Trust
Valentine Charitable Trust
Veronica Awdry Charitable Trust
Viscount Amory Charitable Trust
Wade's Charity
Westminster Council
Whitaker Charitable Trust
Whitwam Family Charitable Trust
Wixamtree Trust
NORTHERN IRELAND
Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
Arts Council of Northern Ireland Arts and Older People Programme
Arts Council of Northern Ireland Rural Engagement Arts Programme
Arts Council of Northern Ireland Young People and Wellbeing Arts Programme
Arts Council of Northern Ireland Lottery Project Funding
Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
Black Santa Appeal
Business to Arts - Bank of Ireland
Community Foundation Northern Ireland
Derry City and Strabane District Council
Keadue Community Grants Fund
Public Health Agency
Ulster Garden Villages





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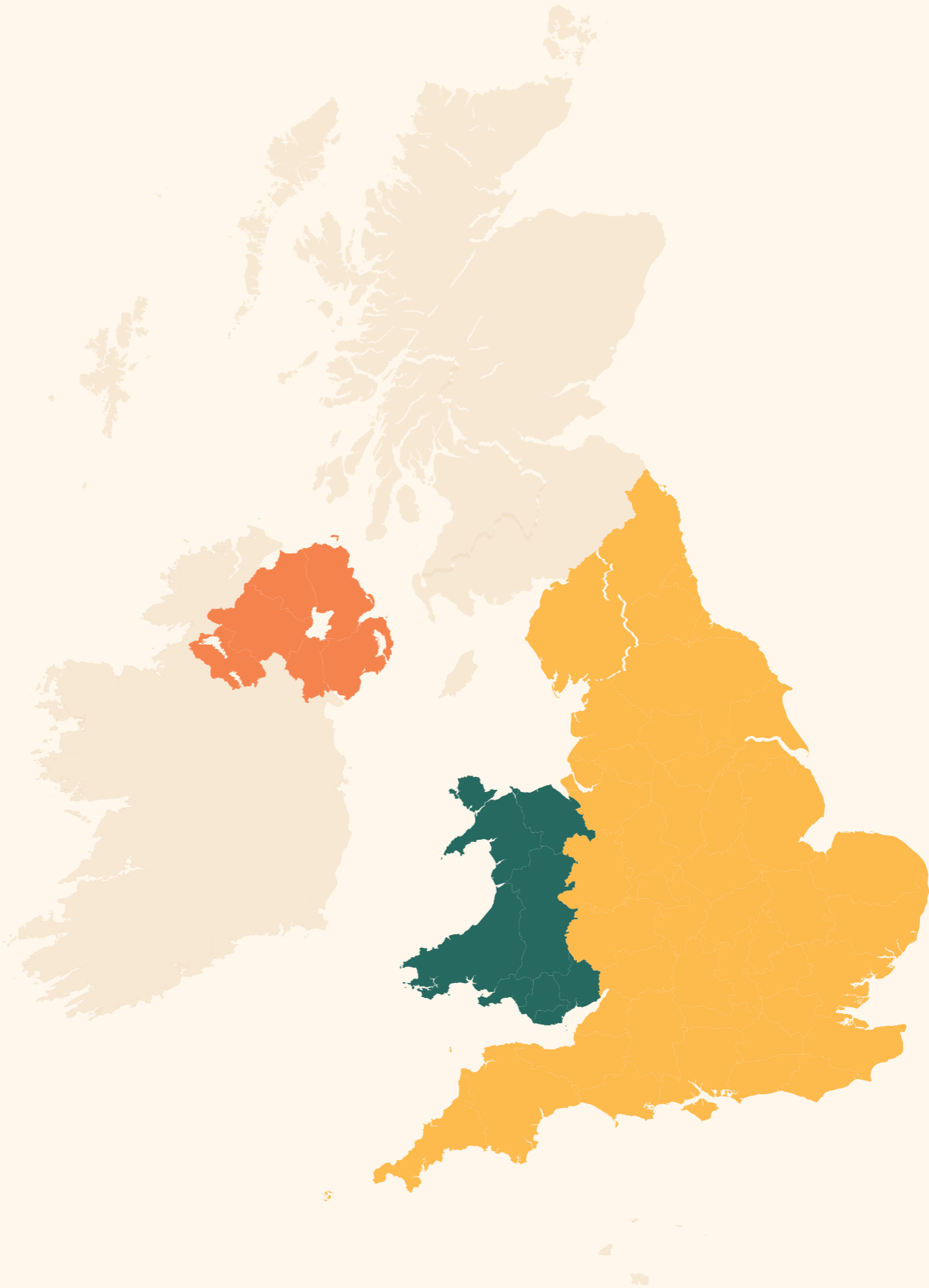
Live Music Now
46 Montclair Drive
Liverpool
L18 0HB
0151 222 0018
info@livemusicnow.org.uk

www.livemusicnow.org.uk



Registered Charity No. 273596 (England & Wales)
Live Music Now Limited is registered in England
and Wales No.1312283

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Live
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Trustees' Annual Report



The trustees are pleased to submit their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements (Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011), the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2015) issued by the Charity Commission.

Directors and Trustees

Members of the Board of Trustees are the directors of the charitable company ('the charity') and are trustees for the purposes of charity law. Throughout this report members are collectively referred to as the trustees. Those serving on the date this report was approved are:

- Patron HM King Charles III
- Founder President Sir Ian Stoutzker (21 January 1929 - 6 April 2024)
- Sir Vernon Ellis
- Mr Michael Bass (appointed October 2024)
- Ms Lisa Calmiano
- Mr Edward Charlesworth (appointed October 2024)
- Mrs Lowri Clement
- Mr Malcolm Emery (appointed April 2023; resigned January 2024)
- Dr Peter Freedman
- Ms Colleen Keck
- Mrs Caroline Llewellyn (resigned March 2024)
- Mr Peter McInerney (appointed October 2024)
- Mr Simon Millward
- Professor Adam Ockelford
- Dr Rumina Önaç (appointed October 2024)
- Lady Charlotte Tyrwhitt (resigned July 2023)
- Chief Executive Officer Janet Fischer FRSA (appointed Company Secretary October 2024)
- Executive Director Nina Swann (appointed Company Secretary January 2023; resigned October 2024)

Auditor Kate Taylor FCA
Simpson Wreford LLP Wellesley House

Duke of Wellington Avenue Royal Arsenal,
London, SE18 6SS

Bankers
NatWest, PO Box 1357, 169 Victoria Street,
London, SW1E 5BT

In addition to the main central fund banks above, each branch has its own banking arrangements.

Structure, governance and Management Constitution

Live Music Now Limited ("Live Music Now") is a charity governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association incorporated on 3 May 1977 and revised on 10 January 2006, 10 March 2008,

6 March 2012, 3 April 2017 and 7 March 2019, and is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital.

As of 31 March 2024, 7 members had guaranteed £1 each in the event of the winding up of the company.

Live Music Now is a registered charity in England and Wales (273596).

Reference & Administrative Details of the Charity, its Trustees & Advisers:

Charity Name LIVE MUSIC NOW LIMITED (Live Music Now)

Charity Registration number 273596 (England and Wales)

Company Registration number 1312283

Registered address: Live Music Now, 46 Montclair Drive, Liverpool L18 0HB

Selection of Trustees

The first trustees were appointed by a majority of the subscribers to the Memorandum and Articles of Association. Every trustee has the power to nominate another trustee who must then be approved by the trustees. The minimum number of trustees is 5 and the maximum is 20.

Induction and Training of Trustees New trustees are recruited via an open application recruitment process or in partnership with specialist organisations. Potential new trustees are interviewed by the Chair and members of the Nominations committee before being invited to stand as candidates. Once appointed, new trustees are provided with an induction pack which includes a copy of the Constitution, the description of trustees' roles and responsibilities, background information and internal documents relating to the principal activities of the charity.

New trustees are supported during their induction by the Chair, Chief Executive Officer, Operations Manager and relevant Branch/Strategic Director. Relevant external training opportunities for trustees are brought to the attention of trustees by the Chief Executive.

Organisational Structure

Live Music Now Limited operates on a national, regional and local level and is comprised of four English branches covering North East, North West, South West and South East England and national branches in Northern Ireland and Wales. The registered office was, until October 2021, in London where the acting Executive Director was based, and has been moved to Liverpool in line with the charity's new strategic intent. As of the 1 April 2013, Live Music Now Scotland operates as a devolved charity registered in Scotland. Governance and finance of Live Music Now Scotland is the responsibility of the Live Music Now Scotland Board of Trustees, and the Scottish charity continues to work within the framework of Live Music Now.

Chaired by Sir Vernon Ellis, the charity's

trustees take final responsibility for the general and financial wellbeing of the scheme.

Sir Ian Stoutzker was appointed Founder President of the charity on his retirement from the Board in 2018.

Objectives & Activities

The trustees meet at least three times a year, the AGM held not more than 15 months after the holding of the last preceding AGM to approve the independently examined accounts. The Chief Executive Officer and the Executive Director are responsible for the management and support of the team of Directors; overview of the financial position nationally, including branches; management of central tasks; development of the scheme nationally and development and coordination of national policies; reporting to the Board of Trustees on behalf of the team of Directors. The Senior Management Team (comprising of the CEO, Executive Director, National Directors and Strategic Directors) are also responsible for raising funds to support the core costs of the organisation, reporting to the Chairman and Board of Trustees.

Two Strategic Directors lead the development of Live Music Now's work in the areas of Adult Social Care and Healthcare, Children & Young People, and Musicians' Development delivered through the branch network across the UK.

Each branch is run by a Director. Branch Directors are responsible for raising funds to support activities of the charity in their region, and overall financial and project management of their branch. They are supported by a network of voluntary advisors, grouped by branch into committees, chaired by the Trustee based in their region.

The Operations Manager supports the Senior Management Team and coordinates external and internal communications and information systems, and the role holder is the stated Data Protection contact. International activity across the UK

(including Scotland) is coordinated by the International Development Director who is currently also the Director of Live Music Now Scotland.

Risk Assessment

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charity and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks. This assessment is undertaken on an annual basis. The major risk to which the charity is exposed is a failure in raising sustainable core income, and the Trustees are exploring new streams of fundraising to address this. The impacts of inflation remained challenging during this year. The Senior Management Team reviewed the ongoing risks and issues monthly and the Finance and Risk Committee reviewed the ongoing risks and mitigations at each meeting. In particular:

- Increase in costs due to the cost-of-living crisis, impacting on the Live Music Now's expenditure, but also placing significant pressure on partners and musicians.
- Loss in revenue due to a challenging fundraising climate.
- Staff wellbeing and burnout, including in our musicians workforce. The charity continues the musicians' wellbeing and training programme through support from the Backstage Trust, John Lewis and Arts Council England.
- The lack of Unrestricted Reserve held by the charity. The organisation is supported by a letter of underwrite by the Chair but rebuilding the Unrestricted Reserve is a key priority.

Objects

The objects for which the Company is established are:

- To advance the education of the public and promote their health and wellbeing, by providing high quality interactive

music performances, in particular among those members of the public who would otherwise be deprived of the benefit of performances of live music and other performing arts.

- To advance the musical education of musicians at the outset of their careers as performing artists by providing them with support, specialist training and the opportunities to perform and work in public.

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance on public benefit and fee charging. Live Music Now relies on grants and the income from fees and charges to cover its operating costs. In setting the level of fees, charges and concessions, the trustees give careful consideration to the accessibility of Live Music Now activities for those on low incomes but balances this against the necessity to pay the musicians on our scheme a living wage, in line with the Musician Union's guidance 'Fair Pay for Fair Play'.

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular,

- the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

Aims

Live Music Now aims to provide high quality participatory performances and workshops in community settings, especially for those who are normally excluded from opportunities to experience live music through ill health, disability, isolation or poverty. Live Music Now activities are intended to be entertaining, educational and therapeutic; the majority of its work is delivered within projects featuring



regular music sessions and working over the medium to long term to provide lasting benefits for participants. It also provides a wide variety of paid performing experiences for exceptionally talented professional musicians. Musicians are supported through an induction and training programme to equip them with the necessary skills to act as music leaders, both during their work with Live Music Now and subsequently, in the wider profession.

In 2021, after several months of consultation internally and with partner organisations, public agencies, and communities at large, we developed an ambitious new Strategic Intent for Live Music Now. The core of our new strategic intent is the belief that Live Music Now is an organisation delivering social impact through music. We create that social impact through musicians, whom we consider to be our most valuable partners and our greatest asset. We seek to serve the ever-increasing need from communities facing social exclusion and disadvantage, both across the UK and internationally.

In summary, it includes the following:

- Live Music Now aims to expand its Live Music in Care programme, working with leading care sector partners. We will ensure our work reaches those most in need and is based on the very latest neurological evidence concerning music and dementia.
- Live Music Now aims to develop its programme for children with SEND and their families, through specialist support for Autism Resource Bases and the continued work on our Inspire programme.
- Live Music Now will continue to diversify and develop the musicians on its scheme. They will all receive a high standard of care from recruitment, through to induction, specialist training, mentoring and further development. We will provide an even wider range of specialist training options.

Strategies for implementation

Project Delivery

Live Music Now delivers projects of local, regional and national significance through its UK branch network, targeting two priority beneficiary groups to maximise impact:

- Older people (including those living with dementia)
- Children & Young People (particularly those with Disabilities or additional learning needs)

In addition, Live Music Now branches respond to local need in devising specific programmes to provide access to the benefits of live music for other disadvantaged groups, such as isolated rural communities, refugees, those living with mental illness, the homeless and adults and young people in the justice system.

Live Music Now has prioritised the development of long-term, progressive projects with partners, and programmes of repeat visits with established settings, to maximise the impact of live music for our beneficiary groups.

Trustees work closely with Directors as appropriate to support and develop activity.

Trustees review summary reports of branches' progress on a regular basis. Live Music Now branches have scope to respond to local circumstances and funding opportunities to deliver projects with the 2 beneficiary groups and develop new work.

Musicians

Musicians are recruited from a wide variety of musical genres and backgrounds, and selected through an open and inclusive recruitment process to ensure best fit. Musicians recruitment is coordinated by the Executive Director with direct support from regional Branch Directors.

Musicians joining the scheme are taken through a comprehensive induction process and offered training opportunities in order to

provide continual professional development in the area of music leadership. Training, also a significant central activity, is led by the Branch Directors, with specialist input from the Executive and Strategic Directors.

Monitoring

Live Music Now monitors its activities closely in order to be as accountable as possible, and to use feedback from musicians and participants to inform future work.

Monitoring of branches' activity in terms of recruitment, performances/workshops delivered, musicians' fitness for purpose, training offered and development of new projects (principally through the Annual Review process) aims to provide the organisation with an overview of activity, areas of weakness and opportunities for development.

The Strategic Directors lead on the development of new monitoring and evaluation tools to embed expertise and inform future delivery.

Policies are reviewed annually with regard to Safeguarding Children, Working with Vulnerable Adults, Cultural Diversity and Equal Opportunities, Disability/Access and Data Protection in order to work as effectively as possible with our beneficiaries.

Promoting the charity

The charity works to raise its public profile, with a view to supporting fundraising and public awareness of its activities and may from time to time employ PR consultants to assist on specific projects.

A regular e-newsletter and social media communications are produced and managed centrally with additional printed materials relating to specific areas of work.

The charity fosters relationships with key partners including NHS trusts, education authorities and independent agencies in order to develop new areas of work, led by the Strategic Directors in concert with the network of Branch Directors.

Finances

The Executive Director holds the key responsibility for coordinating and generating fundraising for central funds. Strategic Directors focus on raising development funds such as grants supporting new activity at a national level and funds for expansion of the work with the core beneficiary groups.

Branch Directors focus on raising project funds on a regional basis, coordinated via a central funding database, and in liaison with the Executive Director and the wider Director team. Quarterly budgets and financial reports, showing branch performance as well as consolidated figures, are produced for the Trustees' monitoring purposes.



Financial Review

Chairman's statement on Reserves Policy

The accounts as presented according to the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2015) show a consolidated position across all the charity's activities.

The trustees have reviewed the charity's needs for reserves in line with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission. It is the policy of the charity to carry forward sufficient funds in reserve to cover any anticipated shortfall within the year over the organisation's running costs, in excess of income. This takes into account the current level of our core support and delays or changes in receipt of grants or donations towards core costs.

In the past, we have raised substantial sums to reserves through major charitable events which have enabled us to grow and to support our core costs, which are always under review to ensure that they remain modest considering the scope of our activities, but which are essential to the success of our scheme. Whilst every effort will be made to continue this activity, in the present economic circumstances this is much more difficult. The charity now operates a full cost recovery policy, and the key priority is to restore a positive balance in the unrestricted reserve.

Reserves at the year-end within the branches' separate General Funds will be used for project delivery in the coming year. The year-end level of unrestricted general reserves is -£60,445. Restricted reserves are

£455,455. The trustees would ideally like to build general unrestricted reserves to equate to 6 months running costs at current levels, in monetary figures this would amount to about £450,000. The trustees continue to plan to mitigate any potential risks to the charity's finances.

Live Music Now has undertaken a redundancy and restructure process to reduce core expenditure by 15% and improve efficiency alongside implementing mandatory full cost recovery across all programmes. There has been a particular focus on unrestricted and core fundraising and work towards reducing dependence on in-year fundraising. The charity expects to return to a positive unrestricted reserve at the end of 24/25.

As in previous years, the trustees have been comfortable that the charity is a going concern despite its negative unrestricted reserves on the basis of confirmed donations into the unrestricted fund for the next financial year and ongoing support from Trustees and donors.

Principal Funding Sources

Funds are drawn from charitable trusts, public funding bodies and local authorities, private donations, corporate donors and sponsors, and payments for services from project partners.

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

Through our social media, website, events, and other communications, we regularly tell our supporters about how their funds are making a difference through music to people's lives. We strictly adhere to the Fundraising Regulator's code of fundraising practice. All fundraisers representing us receive training to understand the standards we expect when representing us externally, to ensure a positive experience for everyone. We will always take action if those acting on our behalf fail to meet our high standards, and we will never sell data to anyone else without their express permission. LMN

has a procedure for handling complaints and we are committed to dealing with all complaints constructively, impartially, and promptly.

Trustees' responsibilities

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 group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable 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 charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for

safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit "Charities and Public Benefit".

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Sir Vernon Ellis

Chairman

Date: 29/01/25

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S
REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF LIVE MUSIC NOW FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Live Music Now (‘the charity’) for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Statement of Cashflows, Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the 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 charity’s affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its 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.

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 Charity 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 about the charity’s ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date 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 our 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 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 (incorporating the strategic report and the directors’ report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees’ report (incorporating the strategic report and the directors’ report) have 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 Charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees’ Annual Report.

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 accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- certain disclosures of trustees’ remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees’ responsibilities statement set out on page 10 the trustees 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 they 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 Charity’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 Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our 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.

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.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the computer software and support sector;

- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the Companies Act 2006, data protection and safeguarding;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

Audit response to risks identified

We assessed the susceptibility of the company’s financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in Note 1 were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind

significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation and;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity’s trustees, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity’s 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 Charity’s trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

**Kate Taylor FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Simpson Wreford LLP,
Statutory Auditors and Chartered Accountants**

Wellesley House
Duke of Wellington Avenue
Royal Arsenal
London
SE18 6SS

Date: 31 January 2025

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT. FOR THE YEAR
ENDED 31 MARCH 2024.

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
				2024	2023
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	377,830	783,215	1,161,045	870,356
Charitable activities	3	331,735	51,680	383,415	411,196
Investments	4	286	-	286	71
Other income	4	-	-		-
Total		709,851	834,895	1,544,746	1,281,623
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	48,778	55,834	104,611	71,336
Charitable activities	6	760,811	744,607	1,505,418	1,503,110
Total		809,588	800,441	1,610,029	1,574,445
Net income/ (expenditure)					
		(99,737)	34,455	(65,283)	(292,823)
Transfers between funds				-	
Net movement in funds		(99,737)	34,455	(65,283)	(292,823)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		39,292	421,000	460,292	753,115
Total funds carried forward	16	(60,445)	455,455	395,010	460,292

All amounts relate to continuing activities within the United Kingdom.

There are no recognised gains and losses other than those included in the statement of financial activities.

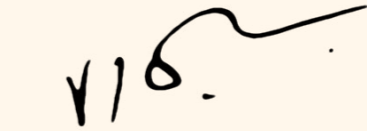
The notes on pages 18 to 26 form part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2024

		2024	2023
	Note	£	£
Fixed assets	12	3,082	4,680
Current assets			
Debtors	13	210,285	99,562
Cash at bank and in hand		348,059	526,053
Total current assets		558,344	625,615
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	(166,416)	(70,002)
Net current assets		391,928	555,612
Net assets		395,010	560,292
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	14	-	(100,000)
		395,010	460,292
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted funds		455,455	421,000
Unrestricted income funds	16	(60,445)	39,292
General funds		395,010	460,292

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Approved by the board of trustees on 29th January 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Sir Vernon Ellis
Chairman
Company Number - 1312283

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
Cash used in operating activities			
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	17	(78,280)	(207,784)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest income		286	71
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	-
Cash provided by/(used) in investing activities		286	71
Cash flows from financing activities			
Loan converted to donation		(100,000)	-
Cash provided by/(used) in financing activities		(100,000)	-
(Decrease)/Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(177,994)	(207,713)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		526,053	733,766
Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		348,059	526,053

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

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and in the preceding year.

Company information

Live Music Now is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. The registered office is 46 Montclair Drive, Liverpool, L18 0HB

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the financial Report Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015), (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006.

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

The effects of events relating to the year ended 31 March 2024 which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 31 March 2024 and the results for the year ended on that date. The Live Music Now meets the definition of

a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements. There are no material uncertainties about the charity’s ability to continue as a going concern.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted general funds – these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

Unrestricted designated funds – these are funds that the Trustees have designated, to support the running costs of the Charity.

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

1 - ACCOUNTING POLICIES
(CONTINUED)

Incoming resources

Incoming resources are from donations, grants, sponsorship receipts, gift aid, and bank interest and are credited gross in the year in which they are receivable. If expenditure has been incurred for which sponsorship income or similar is expected to cover it then the associated income has been accrued.

Certain fundraising events are designated to provide reserves for future recurring costs. Such income is credited to the general fund. Other minor fundraising events are carried out by the branches and the income is in the general fund.

Resources expended

All expenditure is charged in the year in which it is incurred.

Project delivery costs are the costs associated with arranging and holding a musical event other than musicians' fees and expenses which are under performance costs.

Certain support and administration costs are allocated to project delivery costs using a set percentage. For the head office, 25% of costs are allocated in this way, whilst for other branches the percentage is 85%. Fundraising activities are an allocation of staff time, derived in the current year by the percentage of staff time spent fundraising. Rental costs are charged to the SOFA on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Tangible fixed assets

All tangible assets are stated at cost less depreciation

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

Computer equipment	5 years
straight line	

Pension costs

The charity operates a personal pension plan scheme for several employees. The contributions payable for the year are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities.

Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits

Taxation

The company is a registered charity and therefore is not liable for income tax or corporation tax on income derived from its charitable activities, as it falls within the various exemptions available to registered charities.

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measure at their settlement value.

1 - ACCOUNTING POLICIES
(CONTINUED)

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors and provisions

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

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2 - INCOME FROM DONATIONS & LEGACIES

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Government & other public authorities	142,467	26,095	168,562	102,866
Supporters, including corporate sponsors & general public	164,668	3,244	167,912	111,274
Charitable institutions	70,695	753,876	824,571	656,215
	<u>337,830</u>	<u>783,215</u>	<u>1,161,045</u>	<u>870,356</u>

3 - INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Earned income	<u>331,735</u>	<u>51,680</u>	<u>383,415</u>	<u>411,196</u>

4 - INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS & OTHER INCOME

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Bank interest	286	-	286	71
	<u>286</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>286</u>	<u>71</u>

5 - RAISING FUNDS EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising consultant	13,850	-	13,850	6,910
Fundraising costs	12,120	-	12,120	3,102
Community fundraiser	-	6,666	6,666	-
Development costs	22,808	49,168	71,975	61,324
	<u>48,778</u>	<u>55,834</u>	<u>104,611</u>	<u>71,336</u>

6 - ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2024			2023		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	£	Funds	Funds	£
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Musicians fees and expenses	295,939	313,320	609,259	316,873	292,998	609,871
Recruitment, auditions and training	1,541	44,360	45,901	13,503	41,663	55,166
Project expenses - other	51,474	42,532	94,006	68,352	47,041	115,393
Project delivery costs	176,906	269,675	446,581	189,716	215,702	405,418
Governance costs	16,679	2,661	19,339	12,055	-	12,055
Administration and office costs	44,069	-	44,069	305,206	-	305,206
	<u>760,811</u>	<u>744,607</u>	<u>1,505,418</u>	<u>905,705</u>	<u>597,405</u>	<u>1,503,110</u>

7 - ANALYSIS OF GOVERNANCE COSTS

	General support	Governance	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£	£
Board meeting costs	-	1,508	1,508	713
Accountancy fees	13,832	-	13,832	7,343
Audit fees	-	4,000	4,000	4,000
Independent examiners fees				
	<u>13,832</u>	<u>5,508</u>	<u>19,339</u>	<u>12,055</u>

8 - ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£
Rent, rates, heating & lighting	38,076	24,406
Office expenses (including accountancy)	56,788	60,418
Insurance	3,063	2,384
Bank charges	2,667	1,752
Staff Salaries and NI costs	663,535	669,646
Staff expenses	11,443	9,174
Sundry	921	2,570
Depreciation	1,598	1,598
	<u>778,090</u>	<u>771,948</u>
Allocated director and project costs to project delivery costs	453,188	405,418
Allocated development director and community fundraiser to fundraising costs	78,641	61,324
Administration and office support	246,261	305,206

9 - ANALYSIS OF STAFF COSTS & EXPENSES AND THE COST OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£
Wages & Salaries	598,085	598,572
Social security costs	53,158	59,292
Pension costs	12,292	11,782
	663,535	669,646

The number of higher paid employees was:

In the band £60,001 to £70,000 – 1 (2022: £60,001 to £70,000 – 1).

10 - STAFF NUMBERS

	2024 Total	2023 Total
Charitable activities and fundraising	15	14
Management	2	3
	17	17

Staff numbers represent the full time equivalent, total headcount was 23 (2023: 22)

The key management personnel remuneration totals £130,000 (2023: £130,000).

No special retirement or leaving payments were made during the year (2023: £nil). Pension contributions totaling £12,291 (2023: £11,782) were made during the year. As at the 31 March 2024 there was £2,831 in outstanding contributions payable (2024: £2,728).

Redundancy payments totalling £44,069 have been accrued during the year (2023: £nil), all payments were made in 2024/2025 from unrestricted funds.

11 - TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£
Expenses reimbursed	373	364

No trustees received any remuneration during the year (2023: £nil)

In addition to the normal staff the charity uses musicians on a short-term contract basis from a pool of approximately 310 approved musicians. The numbers used fluctuate according to the type of concerts provided throughout the year. Musicians are paid fees and subsistence expenses and in the year a total of £609,259 (2023: £609,871) was paid.

12 - TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Total £
Cost	
At 1 April 2023	7,988
Additions	-
Disposals	-
At 31 March 2024	7,988
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2023	3,308
Depreciation charge	1,598
At 31 March 2024	4,906
Net book values	
31 March 2024	3,082
31 March 2023	4,680

13 - DEBTORS

	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Sundry debtors	143,768	84,572
Accrued income	66,517	14,990
	210,285	99,562

14.1 - CREDITORS: AMOUNTS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Other creditors	81,078	49,032
Accruals	47,569	3,500
Taxation and social security	37,769	17,471
	166,416	70,002

14.2 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS DUE AFTER ONE YEAR

Loan	-	100,000
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During the year to 31 March 2024 an interest free loan of £100,000 which was received from the Chair (The Vernon Ellis Foundation) in the year to 31 March 2020 was converted to an unrestricted donation. As at 31 March 2024 £nil was outstanding (2023: £100,000).

15 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£
Carrying value of financial assets measured at amortised cost	204,305	93,582
Carrying value of financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	128,647	152,532

16 - FUNDS

	Balance at 1 Apr 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 Mar 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds	421,000	834,895	(800,441)		455,455
General fund	39,292	709,851	(809,588)		(60,445)
	460,292	1,544,746	(1,610,029)	-	395,009

Within restricted reserves there are material funds carried forward as follows

People's Project -	£62,584
Youth Music -	£46,788

There is a negative balance on unrestricted general funds at the year end of (£60,445). This is mostly due to the timing of redundancy payments, for the year ended 31 March 2024 total redundancy payments of £44,069 have been recognised as an accrual, whilst the planned timing of these payments is in 24/25, unrestricted funds have been raised in 24/25 to cover these payments. The charity expects to return to a positive Unrestricted Reserve at the end of 24/25.

17 - RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£
Net movement in funds	(65,283)	(292,823)
Add back: Depreciation	1,598	1,598
Deduct: interest shown in investing activities	(286)	(71)
(Increase) in debtors	(110,722)	48,929
(Decrease) in creditors	96,414	34,583
	(78,280)	(207,784)

18 - CONTROLLING PARTY

The trustees of Live Music Now Limited are considered to be the controlling party of the company.

19 - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year a payment of £554.68 (2023: £1,501.72) was received from Live Music Now Scotland, a charity with a number of common trustees. During the year Live Music Now also received donations on behalf of Live Music Now Scotland, totaling £450 (2023: £186), these were paid direct to Live Music Now Scotland in full.

During the year total donations of £5,100 (2023: £15,057.25) were received directly from the trustees.

During the year to 31 March 2020 an interest free loan of £100,000 was received from the Chair (The Vernon Ellis Foundation). In the year to 31 March 2024 this loan has been converted to an unrestricted donation.

The Vernon Ellis Foundation also made a donation in the year ended 31 March 2024 of £11,522 (2023: £1,700).

20 - CAPITAL

Live Music Now Limited is a charitable company, limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The members have agreed to contribute £1 each to the Charity’s assets in the event of it winding up, if its assets should prove insufficient to cover its liabilities, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the company

ceases to be a member, and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.





CONTACT US

Live Music Now
46 Montclair Drive
Liverpool
L18 0HB
0151 222 0018
info@livemusicnow.org.uk

www.livemusicnow.org.uk



Registered Charity No. 273596 (England & Wales)
Live Music Now Limited is registered in England
and Wales No.1312283

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