

THE BLACK-E

England & Wales · Charity number 501859

Details

Other names	GREAT GEORGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL PROJECT LIMITED, THE BLACKIE
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	01056472
Registered	1972-10-10
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	1 Great George Street Liverpool L1 5EW
Phone	01517095109
Email	staff@theblack-e.co.uk
Website	www.theblack-e.co.uk

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN AND BY MEANS OF ALL THE ARTS INCLUDING PERFORMING ARTS, VISUAL ARTS APPLIED ARTS AND EXPERIMENTAL WORK IN THE ARTS AND BY IMPROBING STANDARDS OF EXECUTION AND APPRECIATION OF THE ARTS. (FOR FURTHER DETAILS SEE CLAUSE 3 OF THE MEMORANDUM)

Activities: The activities of the Charity are the promotion of the Arts and Education through a cultural programme at the Charity's premises and elsewhere, which combines the activities of contemporary arts centre and community centre.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Amateur Sport, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Liverpool City

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-04-05	£287,400	£334,216	-	-
2024-04-05	£11,120	£621,361	£2,181,502	6
2023-04-05	£339,282	£327,791	-	-
2022-04-05	£281,056	£340,741	-	-
2021-04-05	£308,301	£292,497	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ANDREA VAZ		2024-03-28
CRAIG ROGERS		2024-03-28
JANINE ROSS		2024-03-28
Jemima Khalli		2014-02-04
Miguel Doforo		2024-11-13
PATRICK JENNINGS		2023-11-29
RAHMA KINGFISHER		2024-03-28
Wendy Patricia Harpe		1968-05-05

THE BLACK-E

England & Wales - Charity number 501859

Accounts

Company registration number (England and Wales)

The Black-E

Annual report and unaudited financial statements

For the year ended 5 April 2025

The Black-E

Legal and administrative information

Charity registration	England and Wales
Charity registration number	501859
Country of incorporation	United Kingdom (England and Wales)
Company registration number	1056472
Principal and registered address	The Black-E Great George Street Liverpool L1 5EW
Trustees	Mr P Jennings Dr Rahma Kingfisher Ms Andrea Vaz Ms Janine Ross Mr Craig Rogers Mr Akil Morgan (resigned 10 November 2024) Ms A Ankrah (resigned 28 April 2024) Ms J Green Mrs W Harpe Ms J Khali
Archive Sub-Committee Members	
Chairperson	Mr P Jennings
Independent examiner	DJH Chester Limited Chester House Lloyd Drive Cheshire Oaks Business Park Ellesmere Port England CH65 9HQ

The Black-E

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The Black-E

Trustees' report (including directors' report)

For the year ended 5 April 2025

Structure, governance and management

The Trustees, who are also Directors of the charity for the purposes of Company Law, present their Annual Report and the Financial Statements for the year ended 5th April 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)".

The information contained in this Annual Report is both complemented and augmented by information available on the website, www.theblack-e.org.

The Charity

Great Georges Community Cultural Project, now operating as The Black-E, is a charitable company limited by guarantee and with no share capital. The Company is registered in England and Wales, No. 01056472. The principal governing document is the company Memorandum and Articles of Association. The charity is registered with the Charity Commission No. 501859. The principal address and registered office of the Company is:

The Black-E
1 Great George Street Liverpool
L1 SEW

The day-to-day management of the charity is vested in The Chief Executive Officer with support from the Arts Development Director for Children and Young People, the Associate Cultural Directors, and associate staff who develop and deliver activity and meet through a weekly all-team meeting.

Over the year professional support on bookkeeping, financial management and governance has been provided by ERC Accountants, Haissaata Diallo and Ms Joyce Kanini.

The Black-E

Trustees' report (including directors' report) (continued)

For the year ended 5 April 2025

Objectives and activities

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

The objects for which the charity is established are:

- a. To advance the education of the public in and by means of all the arts including performing arts, visual arts, applied arts and experimental work in the arts and by improving standards of execution and appreciation of the arts.

- a. To provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure-time occupation in the interests of social welfare for members of the public at large and for persons who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, poverty or social or economic circumstances, with the object of improving conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities are intended.

- a. To establish and maintain Community Centre for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Merseyside Area and to promote all or any objects for the benefit of the said inhabitants which now are or hereafter may be deemed by law to be charitable.

The creation of contexts (both social and environmental) which encourage an improved and meaningful relationship between artists and communities for the creation's presentation and promotion of contemporary work of high quality and originality. This means that the Black-E is committed to:

Access - both providing access and improving access to the artist and for the artist, and for those individuals and groups already involved in the arts as well as for those with no previous involvement with the arts - for example by the provision of workshops both as part of the ongoing programme and in conjunction with residencies, performances; by establishing an on-going dialogue between artists and their audiences through repeated visits and work, and by running seminars, residencies, etc. which enable artists to meet and work together.

Positive action - in relation to artists who are discriminated against - and in relation to communities and individuals who are discriminated against or disadvantaged - to provide opportunities for such artist communities, and individuals to give expression to their experience, their needs, and their aspirations, and to celebrate their achievements and rediscover their history.

Education (learning and unlearning) and training - both by and for artists - and both by and for communities and individuals- with a view to improving performance, understanding, and communication. The creation of opportunities and contexts which enable people to actively participate in creative activities a participation based in "doing" as well as "viewing" - in order, amongst other aims, to further democratise the arts.

The creation of opportunities and contexts which enable people to actively participate in creative activities a participation based in "doing" as well as "viewing" - in order, amongst other aims, to further democratise the arts.

Indeed, since democracy rests on the creation of a common language, and since the arts remain among the most restricted of languages, such involvement aims to promote democratisation not only through a shared understanding of these languages but also through growth and development in the languages themselves.

The Black-E

Trustees' report (including directors' report) (continued)

For the year ended 5 April 2025

This means the Black-E is committed to:

- a. the creation and exploration of forms in which "audience" participation is fundamental.
- b. experiment to make a contribution to the research and development which is essential if new forms and techniques are to emerge to give expression to the worlds of today and tomorrow.

The recognition and valuing of cultural diversity. This means the Black-E is committed to:

- b. promoting work which reflects the experience and concerns of those groups within our society whose voices have been marginalised, 'anthropologised' or ignored.
- a. programming across the spectrum of creative activities - the fine arts, the popular arts, the performing arts, the making arts, creative and co-operative games, contemporary media, and traditional crafts - to promote and develop harmony rather than hierarchy between forms, and additionally to promote and develop cross-fertilisation and positive interaction between forms.
- a. a perspective of the arts which is local, regional, national, and international - to stimulate and develop a sense of cultural and geographical inter-relatedness and variety.

From all the above, in committing itself to exploring and recreating the relationship between contemporary society and the contemporary artist and between contemporary society and creative activities and opportunities, the Black-E is committing itself to a two-in-one duality - to the development of communities and to the development of artists.

In terms of communities, then such a commitment is based on a recognition of the role of the arts in community development: every community issue is also an issue to be explored through the arts. In terms of artists, then such a commitment is based on the complementary recognition that - only given the opportunity - everyone is an artist. In terms of communities, then such a commitment is based on a recognition of the role of the arts in community development: every community issue is also an issue to be explored through the arts. In terms of artists, then such a commitment is based on the complementary recognition that - only given the opportunity - everyone is an artist.

And if all the earlier text had to be summed up in seven words?

Our continuing objectives for the year 2024-25 were: -

To continue to produce and promote the Arts of Survival combined arts cultural programme, embracing the Gallery, Archive, publications, drama, and especially Kinetic Theatre Programme (dance, circus, physical theatre), in conjunction with hires to and 'sharings' with commercial and cultural organisations. All underpinned by a commitment to cultivating cultural diversity and delivering inclusion and equity.

To prioritise work for young people in the Youth Arts Programme and Cultural Programme. To bring our ongoing support on Hip-Hop into Black-E to train and conduct workshops and deliver a film project. This is work that we are committed to and have delivered during our Youth Arts Schemes and are now well on the way to delivering with our 8-Excellent Program.

To strengthen the Trustee Board with active local members, who reflect the diversity of our intent to support greater participation of Black and ethnic minority peoples, in the cultural pipeline. Fortnightly staff planning and action meetings to support detailed planning and organisational work to produce the overall cultural programme in line with strategies and objectives determined by the Trustees.

The Black-E

Trustees' report (including directors' report) (continued)

For the year ended 5 April 2025

Achievements and performance

In February 2024, I took the interim role as the Chair of the Charity. We are now working again with our community to re-new our ambition and plans. 2024 has centred on helping us transition to our Trustees for Life and founders Bill & Wendy Harpe, after nearly 60 years becoming Patrons. Bill, as a dancer, choreographer and Wendy, as a maker and facilitator of community involving work that cannot be replaced. Indeed, the Charity has remained resilient and succeeded where others have long since gone because of how the Trust board was set up. Bill Harpe for most of his career combined two distinct roles, being an unpaid-trustee: with being a very poorly paid Artistic Director - often surrendering his salary to projects like supporting the training of local emergent artists. As a global reaching multi ethnic community based, artist led charity - Bill and Wendy were pioneers on volunteerism, social action and building social movements - and they placed these ideas and their methodology at the heart of the charity. It is a heavy burden as the current Chair of Trustees to try and emulate these values and ideas - but it must be done.

It has also been a year of the CEO working to retain and grow our regular funding base and we thank the Arts Council Relationship Team for their wise counsel, constructive feedback and support in this difficult year. With the help of the trustees, our local Liverpool community and partners pulling together to retain our ACE fun9ing. However, we have a long way to go in keeping up with cost increases and replacing other funding that we were unable to retain. 2025 will see the CEO raise funding for operational costs and building and maintenance costs so that The Black - E can continue to serve the global minority community, connect with the Arts and ensure the wider communities health and wellbeing is maintained.

The first new work Mary Seacole to Joan Stober was delivered in 2023, allowing us to use our beautiful multi-space building and work with community to create site specific and immersive work. This first work in the cycle enabled us, through community workshops in drumming, gospel music, dance & movement, circus and the visual & textile arts to explore the lives of two great Black women. This new work also created a means to share with a wider audience the well-known story of Mary Seacole from her own words: 'The Wonderful Adventures of Mary Seacole in Many Lands'. This formed the basis of brilliant children and young people centred work designed and led by our Development Manager. Together with the lesser known, but courageous and inspiring life of the late Joan Stober (nee Morten) a former Liverpool resident. Joan was one of the first Black British born nurses at the start of the NHS in July 1948, in the 1980's she was a race equality campaigner and civil rights activists, who during her time in the USA, was a friend to Martin Luther King jnr.

The planning of the second series working with our Chinese community, Liverpool University and our wider partners is well underway. A further piece of work is in the pipeline it is the story of Kitty's Amelia. The slave ship made four voyages transporting enslaved people (1804-1807) this work will centre on the last legal slave voyage in October 1807 from the Port of Liverpool.

Over the year we staged and hosted many events across our 500-capacity main space, studio, seminar rooms, and particularly in the intimacy of our 150-seater Chamber Theatre and our cafe & gallery space. We are particularly proud to have worked with IRIE! dance theatre, Kauma Arts and One Dance UK in securing an exhibition that captures a history of Black British Dance. As a promoter of participatory work, much of the work we undertake is not visible as part of our events programme. It is in our small and intimate spaces, where we deliver workshops for children, young people and adults that we see experimentation, collaboration and creative synergy that yields new ideas, fosters new partnership and drives creative ambition.

Our annual Chinese New Year celebration saw over 3,600 visitors to The Black-E throughout the day, and increase of 1,600 visitors on 2024. The audience enjoyed a 5-hour marathon of dance, circus and workshops together with free lunch.

The Black-E

Trustees' report (including directors' report) (continued)

For the year ended 5 April 2025

The Black-E also hosted its first Neurodiverse Festival of Arts with Wilfull Misfits and aims for this to be an annual event. The Black-E is a fully accessible building and we are fully inclusive working with children and young people who have SEND needs and neurodiverse.

The Black-E Black Dance Forum is providing an opportunity for world class discussion, with dance leaders, practitioners and facilitators. Together with dancers and dance makers sharing their practice. In honour of its founder Bill Harpe, African Routes Revival incorporating the Black Dance Forum was a huge success and the planning has begun for African Routes 2025: Equal Measures again working with Karen Gallagher Associates, IRIE! dance theatre and a plethora of other artists in the genre.

Creative learning for children and young people, within a professional community arts space remains central to our vision. Over the Summer of 2024, we delivered five weeks of The Black-E Youth Arts Scheme. Each week had a different theme that embraced filming, dance, aerial art, hip hop and beat box which came together as a Scheme finale where our Children and Young People curated a Carnival, a celebration of five weeks. Our Children and Young people invited their parents, carers, guardians and families to a Carnival of everything Art and Culture. We also supported our year-long Eat Your heArt Out Festival with over 100 children and young people. Providing a year of holiday arts, circus skills and play fed by practicing artists, making a space to create new work. With funding from Merseyside Play Action Council (MPAC) and the government Holiday Activity and Food programme (HAF) and private donations, it was possible to make this free for all CYP and provide a hot meal, snacks, fresh fruit and a food hamper for families experiencing need. Liverpool is a city with a proud history, people who work hard - but it is also a city with significant inequality and economic deprivation. For over fifty years the Black-E's ethos has been about feeding the body and soul -arts and food go hand in hand.

Over the year we have further invested in our new Binaural Sounds Studio, working with a youth group Wilful Misfits. This is located on the fourth floor Cultural Hub, creating better spaces for cultural partners like Company of Friends. Company of Friends' work continues to celebrate the talent and perspectives of performing artists with lived experience of learning disability. Bringing innovation and fresh insights to classic texts including Shakespeare's *Tempest*, and others. We are proud to work with partners who are fostering innovation and enabling artists to deliver quality for all our community.

We have reaffirmed our commitment to continuing a distinctive participatory arts programme -that is fuelled by a community arts model of delivering risk and quality in equal measure. Of broadening our audience reach and cultivating a cultural pipeline that speaks with and to the experience of those often excluded from the arts & cultural industries: Black and ethnic minority people, women, Disabled people and our diverse working-class community here in Liverpool. The trustees of the Black-E are committed to being the change to ensure that we create spaces and opportunities for new work and voices to flourish.

The Trustees acknowledge that work would not be possible without all our staff, sessional artists, sessional workers, volunteers and interns across who all continue to work hard. Thank you to all for putting people at the centre of delivering the great experiences that make the Black-E the national centre for participatory arts!

During the last year The Black-E has hosted organisations such as: the Launch the first Neurodiverse Festival of Arts,, CBBC Filming, Feeding Liverpool, The World Transformed, YPAS, the Northwest region Scouts, NHS 75 Anniversary, The UK Cycling Charity, Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service, The Black-E Patrons Ga/a, Hip Hop events, The Great Christmas Orchestra, Laura May Ltd Visually Impaired Choir, the National Youth Choir, Bataala Festival, Capoeira for.All, Leap Dance Festival, the Royal Court, Big Condo, What we did next choir, Creative Encounters, Liverpool 5 Rhythms, Fallen Angels, BBC Three, The Neurodiverse Festival of Arts, Liverpool City Region Growth Platform, the Race Equality Hub, various student theatres and many more.

The Black-E has become the home of community groups such as Company of Friends, Collective Encounters, Liverpool Inclusiveness Theatre, Wilful Misfits, Creators Academy, Drag Cage, Jennifer Johns, Tai Chi, Community and League Table Tennis, QiPao, UK Pheonix Chinese Cultural and Artistic Association, Company 8, Kung Fu, Boss Breakers, RAWD, Local Welcome and Flow Project.

The Black-E

Trustees' report (including directors' report) (continued)

For the year ended 5 April 2025

With IRIE! dance theatre, our resident dance artists, delivered successful projects who, have not only performed their finished production of GROUNDATION, whilst on a global tour. IRIE! have also had successful workshops with our younger and older audiences and a very successful outreach programme that held workshops for over 700 children and young people in St Helens and Knowsley.

The Summer of 2024 was the first time in almost 60 years The Black-E closed for a week due to racist behaviour and its inability to keep families arriving and departing to the Youth Arts Scheme safe. It is a huge credit to our staff and artists that we were able to get up and continue to deliver our Youth Arts Scheme online overnight, without disruption to our Children and Young People. The CEO and a Trustee delivered 45 hampers, a week's worth of food, to families who were in receipt of Benefit Related Free School Meals from the funding received from HAF and MPAC.

The Black-E has completed an extremely busy year culminating in being awarded The Arts and Creativity Community Impact Award, The Black-E were nominated anonymously, and we still don't know who nominated us. All of the Trustees, the CEO and staff look forward to another successful year.

Risks and reserves

The continuing major risks to which the charity is exposed as identified by the Trustees have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate these risks, including regular periodic reviews of income and expenditure and cash flow and the revision of commitments and expenditure in relation to income.

The Trustees have reviewed and updated the Corporate Risk Register and will be kept under ongoing review on a quarterly with senior staff.

The Trustees have identified that if the Charity was to suffer a major loss of funding, it would need to keep reserves of £60,000. As the restricted and designated reserves are held within the buildings, free reserves as at 5 April 2025 were £58,646.

In addition, if the Charity was to suffer a significant loss of funding, it would consider the possibility of the sale of an asset, namely the property at 5 Huskisson Street, Liverpool, which would guarantee the Charity for at least for another 5 -7 years. This is subject to lease renewal with LCC.

The Trustees have no plans to wind down the charity. With regards to the cultural programme, the major risks are linked to funding availability. Core funding risks are mitigated by the fact that The Black-E holds funding agreements with both Arts Council England as a National Portfolio client. In addition, as a national centre for participatory arts, the Trustees can mitigate risk by:

Reliance on growing volunteers, working with paid artists -reducing revenue costs and using high value film & TV, sports, and commercial hires, that generates income to cross subsidise our cultural programme.

Based on a fundraising strategy approved by the Trustees, The Black-E continues to make applications and submissions for funding of the cultural programme to charitable trusts, local and national government departments, and other bodies.

The future finances of The Black-E are dependent on a balance of income from grants, and rental from hires.

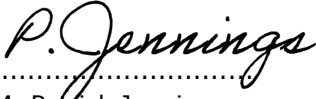
In this financial year the charge by the Millennium Commission, an 80-year charge over The Black-E building and land together with a floating charge over all assets, has been satisfied.

The Arts Council has fixed 20-year charge over the Black-E building and land, currently remains remains, but as this was available to be removed from November 2024 the Trustees now need to also progress its satisfaction.

The Black-E

Trustees' report (including directors' report) (continued) For the year ended 5 April 2025

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



.....
Mr Patrick Jennings

Date: 28/01/26

The Black-E

Independent examiner's report

To the trustees of The Black-E

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Black-E (the charity) for the year ended 5 April 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement - matter of concern identified

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

I have completed my examination. I have identified the following matters that should be taken into account to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

- b. The total combined balance and analysis of restricted funds for the current and comparative years as presented has not been verified to underlying records.
- c. The valuation of buildings has been determined by trustees only.
- d. For the current year, income and expenditure in relation to the ACE Revenue funding has been classified under charitable activities. Comparative figures have not been adjusted and therefore may not be directly comparable. Overall movement in funds is not affected.

I confirm that apart from the matters of concern set out above, no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the Companies Act 2006.
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a true and fair view, which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I confirm that there are no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

The Black-E

Independent examiner's report (continued)

To the trustees of The Black-E

DJH Chester Limited

Chester House

Lloyd Drive

Cheshire Oaks Business Park

Ellesmere Port

England

CH65 9HQ

Date:

The Black-E

Statement of financial activities Including income and expenditure account

For the year ended 5 April 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	30,813	-	30,813	5,842	235,066	240,908
Charitable activities	4	-	210,691	210,691	655	-	655
Other trading activities	5	39,992	-	39,992	53,503	3,623	57,126
Investments	6	5,904	-	5,904	318	-	318
Total income		<u>76,709</u>	<u>210,691</u>	<u>287,400</u>	<u>60,318</u>	<u>238,689</u>	<u>299,007</u>
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	7	-	-	-	41,860	251,708	293,568
Charitable activities	8	123,525	210,691	334,216	-	-	-
Total expenditure		<u>123,525</u>	<u>210,691</u>	<u>334,216</u>	<u>41,860</u>	<u>251,708</u>	<u>293,568</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		(46,816)	-	(46,816)	18,458	(13,019)	5,439
Transfers between funds		171,897	(171,897)	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains and losses:							
Revaluation of tangible fixed assets		-	-	-	-	450,000	450,000
Net movement in funds		<u>125,081</u>	<u>(171,897)</u>	<u>(46,816)</u>	<u>18,458</u>	<u>436,981</u>	<u>455,439</u>
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 6 April 2024		<u>144,584</u>	<u>1,173,886</u>	<u>1,318,470</u>	<u>126,126</u>	<u>736,904</u>	<u>863,030</u>
Fund balances at 5 April 2025		<u>269,665</u>	<u>1,001,989</u>	<u>1,271,654</u>	<u>144,584</u>	<u>1,173,885</u>	<u>1,318,469</u>

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

The Black-E

Balance sheet

As at 5 April 2025

		2025		2024	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13		1,213,008		1,213,372
Current assets					
Debtors	14	5,091		61,858	
Investments	15	-		100,000	
Cash at bank and in hand		176,912		43,507	
		<u>182,003</u>		<u>205,365</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	<u>(123,357)</u>		<u>(100,268)</u>	
Net current assets			58,646		105,097
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>1,271,654</u>		<u>1,318,469</u>
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	18		1,001,989		1,173,885
Unrestricted funds	19		269,665		144,584
			<u>1,271,654</u>		<u>1,318,469</u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 5 April 2025.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 28/01/26

P. Jennings
.....
Mr Patrick Jennings

The Black-E

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 5 April 2025

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Black-E is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is The Black-E, Great George Street, Liverpool, L1 5EW.

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a statement of cash flows.

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

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Charitable funds

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

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

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

1.4 Income

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

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

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

The Black-E

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 5 April 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

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

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

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

Freehold buildings	Nil
Fixtures and fittings	25% reducing balance

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

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

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

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

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

1.9 Financial instruments

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

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

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

The Black-E

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 5 April 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial assets

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

Basic financial liabilities

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

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

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

Derecognition of financial liabilities

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

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

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.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

The Black-E

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 5 April 2025

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Donations and gifts	30,813	-	30,813	5,842	235,066	240,908
	<u>30,813</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,813</u>	<u>5,842</u>	<u>235,066</u>	<u>240,908</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Community arts and recreational facilities						
Bar sales	-	-	-	655	-	655
Grants	-	210,691	210,691	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>210,691</u>	<u>210,691</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>210,691</u>	<u>210,691</u>	<u>655</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>655</u>

Performance related grants analysis

	Community arts and recreational facilities
	2025
	£
ACE Revenue Grant	194,691
HAF Grant	16,000
	<u>194,691</u>
	<u>210,691</u>

The Black-E

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 5 April 2025

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Great George Street Venue Hire	37,092	-	37,092	53,003	-	53,003
Huskisson Streets Venue Hire	2,900	-	2,900	500	3,623	4,123
Other trading activities	39,992	-	39,992	53,503	3,623	57,126

6 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Interest receivable	5,904	318

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Fundraising and publicity						
Staging fundraising events	-	-	-	669	135,852	136,521
Fundraising agents	-	-	-	21,481	(1,061)	20,420
Advertising	-	-	-	-	27,151	27,151
Other fundraising costs	-	-	-	10,089	89,207	99,296
Staff costs	-	-	-	9,621	559	10,180
	-	-	-	41,860	251,708	293,568

The Black-E

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 5 April 2025

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Community arts and recreational facilities 2025 £
Direct costs	
Staff costs	44,843
Depreciation and impairment	364
Agency and sessional workers	118,577
Equipment costs	2,717
Advertising and marketing	9,212
Music licence	2,705
	<u>178,418</u>
Share of support and governance costs (see note 9)	
Support	155,798
	<u>334,216</u>
Analysis by fund	
Unrestricted funds	123,525
Restricted funds	210,691
	<u>334,216</u>

9 Support costs allocated to activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Staff costs	15,078	-
Telephone and website	15,525	-
Premises costs	106,194	-
Accounts and bookkeeping	10,528	-
Legal and professional	34	-
Bank charges	1,229	-
General expenses	7,210	-
	<u>155,798</u>	<u>-</u>
Analysed between:		
Community arts and recreational facilities	<u>155,798</u>	<u>-</u>

The Black-E

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 5 April 2025

10 Trustees

During the year, one trustee took up a paid role to act as Chief Executive. The charity commission have been notified. Expenses incurred are reimbursed to the Chief Executive in relation to duties as Chief Executive but not for acting as a trustee. No payments were made to trustees for acting as trustees.

11 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
Administration and finance	1	1
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Employment costs	2025	2024
	£	£
Staff costs	59,921	10,180
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Staff costs above include one legally classified employee, together with the costs of the chief executive, charity administrators and finance assistants all of whom were self-employed. These costs represent the remuneration of key management personnel.

Operational workers and artists, who are paid as self-employed workers and used in the daily operation of the charity and to facilitate the various charitable projects, are not included in the average number of employees above. The average number of self-employed workers in addition to the key management personnel for the year was 15. These workers are not legally classified as employees. Their costs are include within agency and sessional workers costs.

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

Remuneration of key management personnel

The key management personnel are deemed to be the chief executive, charity administrator and finance assistants and their remuneration is included within staff costs noted above.

12 Taxation

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

The Black-E

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 5 April 2025

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold buildings	Fixtures and fittings	Total
	£	£	£
Cost or valuation			
At 6 April 2024	1,211,917	11,449	1,223,366
At 5 April 2025	1,211,917	11,449	1,223,366
Depreciation and impairment			
At 6 April 2024	-	9,994	9,994
Depreciation charged in the year	-	364	364
At 5 April 2025	-	10,358	10,358
Carrying amount			
At 5 April 2025	1,211,917	1,091	1,213,008
At 5 April 2024	1,211,917	1,455	1,213,372

The Black-E, the former Great George Street Congregational Church and the land, was donated to the charity in 1982. The original cost is not known. The trustees are consulting with advisors to determine the most appropriate way to value the building, including the cost of upgrading the building, and how to disclose this and the related depreciation in the financial statements. The buildings are therefore carried at revalued amount and not depreciated.

Included within freehold buildings includes property at 5 Huskisson Street which has been valued by the Trustees as at 5 April 2024 at £450,000. The trustees are of the opinion that this value remains the same as at 5 April 2025.

The buildings at Great George Street are subject to fixed and floating charges by the Arts Council.

At 5 April 2025, had the revalued assets been carried at historic cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses, their carrying amount would have been approximately £200,000 (2024 - £200,000).

14 Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	5,091	3,289
Prepayments and accrued income	-	58,569
	5,091	61,858

The Black-E

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 5 April 2025

15 Current asset investments

	2025	2024
	£	£
Unlisted investments	-	100,000
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

16 Loans and overdrafts

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other loans	74,700	80,700
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Payable within one year	74,700	80,700
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Borrowings	74,700	80,700
Other taxation and social security	1,596	-
Trade creditors	5,358	5,358
Other creditors	799	9,530
Accruals and deferred income	40,904	4,680
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	<u>123,357</u>	<u>100,268</u>

The Black-E

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 5 April 2025

18 Restricted funds

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

	At 6 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 5 April 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Building fund	155,204	-	-	-	155,204
Arts Council Building fund	365,000	-	-	-	365,000
Veolia Trust Building fund	31,784	-	-	-	31,784
Granada Foundation	9,400	-	-	(9,400)	-
Fashions Bequest	6,822	-	-	(6,822)	-
Liverpool City Voluntary fund	5,910	-	-	(5,910)	-
ACE Revenue	87,724	194,691	(194,691)	(87,724)	-
LCC Project grants	4,585	-	-	(4,585)	-
Liverpool Culture/HAF	53,459	16,000	(16,000)	(53,459)	-
Sally & Kevin's Bequest	17,016	-	-	(17,016)	-
Other	(13,019)	-	-	13,019	-
	<u>723,885</u>	<u>210,691</u>	<u>(210,691)</u>	<u>(171,897)</u>	<u>551,988</u>
Revaluation reserve	450,000	-	-	-	450,000
	<u><u>450,000</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>450,000</u></u>
Previous year:	At 6 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 5 April 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Building funds	155,204	-	-	-	155,204
Arts Council Building fund	365,000	-	-	-	365,000
Veolia Trust Building fund	31,784	-	-	-	31,784
Granada Foundation	9,400	-	-	-	9,400
Fashions Bequest	6,822	-	-	-	6,822
Liverpool City Voluntary	5,910	25,523	(25,523)	-	5,910
ACE Revenue	87,724	194,692	(194,692)	-	87,724
LCC Project grants	4,585	-	-	-	4,585
Liverpool Culture/HAF	53,459	-	-	-	53,459
Sally & Kevin's Bequest	17,016	-	-	-	17,016
Vola Consortium	-	8,374	(8,374)	-	-
MPAC	-	10,100	(10,100)	-	-
Other	-	-	(13,019)	-	(13,019)
	<u>736,904</u>	<u>238,689</u>	<u>(251,708)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>723,885</u>
Revaluation reserve	-	-	-	-	450,000
	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>450,000</u></u>

The Black-E

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 5 April 2025

18 Restricted funds

(Continued)

The building and Arts Council Capital Grants funds are for Building Refurbishment.

Veolia Trust Grant is for the Kitchen refurbishment.

Granada Foundation Grant is for Streaming Equipment and Music Technology Studio.

Fashions Bequest Fund is for Gallery Exhibitions and Online Games.

ACE Revenue grant is to support the ongoing community arts projects.

MPAC grant is for Youth Arts Play Scheme and Healthy Eating project.

Sally and Kevin's bequest fund is for Youth Music and workshops.

Liverpool HAF is for holiday activities and food programmes to provide free places at holiday clubs for children.

Liverpool City Council Grants are for refurbishment of the property.

Vola Consortium helps support organisations to provide skills, employment and criminal justice in Liverpool.

19 Unrestricted funds

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

	At 6 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 5 April 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	144,584	76,709	(123,525)	171,897	269,665
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Previous year:	At 6 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 5 April 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	126,126	60,318	(41,860)	-	144,584
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Unrestricted funds include an amount set aside by the trustees of £120,000 in respect of 5 Huskisson Road.

The Black-E

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 5 April 2025

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
At 5 April 2025:			
Tangible assets	211,019	1,001,989	1,213,008
Current assets/(liabilities)	58,646	-	58,646
	<u>269,665</u>	<u>1,001,989</u>	<u>1,271,654</u>
	<u><u>269,665</u></u>	<u><u>1,001,989</u></u>	<u><u>1,271,654</u></u>
	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
At 5 April 2024:			
Tangible assets	56,501	1,156,871	1,213,372
Current assets/(liabilities)	88,083	17,014	105,097
	<u>144,584</u>	<u>1,173,885</u>	<u>1,318,469</u>
	<u><u>144,584</u></u>	<u><u>1,173,885</u></u>	<u><u>1,318,469</u></u>

21 Related party transactions

Transactions with related parties

During the year the charity entered into the following transactions with related parties:

At the year end there was a balance outstanding and due to the charity of £5,090 from W Harpe, founder and former trustee.

THE BLACK-E

England & Wales - Charity number 501859

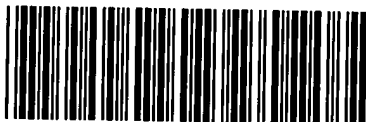
Accounts

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1056472

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 501859

The Black-E
Company Limited by Guarantee
Unaudited Financial Statements
5 April 2024

MONDAY



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COMPANIES HOUSE

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial Statements

Year ended 5 April 2024

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The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 5 April 2024

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 5 April 2024.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	The Black-E
Charity registration number	501859
Company registration number	1056472
Principal office and registered office	1 Great George Street Liverpool L1 5EW

The trustees

Mr P Jennings	(Appointed 29 November 2023)
Dr Rahma Kingfisher	(Appointed 1 April 2024)
Mr Aki Morgan	(Appointed 24 April 2024)
Ms Andrea Vas	(Appointed 1 April 2024)
Ms Janine Ross	(Appointed 1 April 2024)
Mr Craig Rogers	(Appointed 1 April 2024)
Ms S Eyo	(Resigned 19 October 2023)
Mrs T Afful	(Resigned 28 February 2024)
Mr C Allen	(Resigned 13 May 2023)
Ms A Ankrah	(Resigned 28 April 2024)
Ms J Green	
Mr B Harpe	(Resigned 20 July 2023)
Mrs W Harpe	(Appointed 29 November 2023)
Ms J Khalli	
Mr I Freeman	(Resigned 28 February 2024)
Mr R Pritchard	(Resigned 17 November 2023)

Archive Sub-Committee Members

The persons who have acted as Archive Sub-committee members during the year are:

Chairperson Mr P Jennings

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

The Trustees, who are also Directors of the charity for the purposes of Company Law, present their Annual Report and the Financial Statements for the year ended 5th April 2024.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's memorandum and articles of association, the Companies Act 2006' and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)"

The information contained in this Annual Report is both complemented and augmented by information available on the website, www.theblack-e.org.

The Charity

Great Georges Community Cultural Project, now operating as The Black-E, is a charitable company limited by guarantee and with no share capital. The Company is registered in England and Wales, No. 01056472. The principal governing document is the company Memorandum and Articles of Association. The charity is registered with the Charity Commission No. 501859. The principal address and registered office of the Company is:

The Black-E
1 Great George Street
Liverpool
L1 5EW

The day-to-day management of the charity is vested in The Chief Executive Officer with support from the Arts Development Director for Children and Young People, the Associate Cultural Directors, and associate staff who develop and deliver activity and meet through a weekly all-team meeting.

Over the year professional support on bookkeeping, financial management and governance has been provided by ERC Accountants, Haissaata Diallo and Ms Joyce Kanini.

Independent examiner	Richard Brown FCA FCCA Hanover Buildings 11-13 Hanover Street Liverpool L1 3DN
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The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

Structure, governance and management

Method of appointment of trustees

The Trustees are "the keepers of the vision". Experts overseeing Trustees should be on Tap and not on Top as Trustees. The Trustees aim to ensure that they are reflective of the local community (50% of Trustees have a connection with Liverpool) and in terms of gender, race, disability and class - and that they possess collectively the arts, cultural and community experience and the expertise to exercise their responsibilities and to provide the Black-E with "affection, protection, and direction." Trustees are recruited through both advertising, as well as person to person contact, networking and contact with the cultural and CYP programmes. The Trustees bring to their responsibilities a combination of experience, skills and qualifications in the following areas: architecture and planning; building construction; financial control, accountancy and bookkeeping; fundraising; law; voluntary sector management; arts administration and management; cultural policy; environmental issues; event promotion, production, and direction; exhibition curation; marketing; leisure services management; local government; security; equal opportunities; cultural diversity; youth work; education and training; arts and disability; arts therapy; information technology; film & media; literature; drama; music; dance; fashion; visual arts and crafts; games; sport and recreation.

Induction and training trustees

New Trustees are inducted through meetings and through documentation. Monthly Trustees meetings begin with a morning training session in a specific area of responsibility (e.g., Charity Law, the Disability Discrimination Act, equal opportunities, safeguarding, audited accounts, etc.) The Trustees are responsible "for steering the ship". This means that the Trustees take decisions to ensure that there is a balance between resources available for the capital programme and for the cultural programme, that there is a balance between the cultural programme and hires, and that there is a balance within the cultural programme between 'performing' and 'making' arts, and between youth arts and the programme'. Management accounts, audited accounts, and revisions of business plans are received, considered, and determined by the Trustees. Ad-hoc Building Sub Committee, Audit Sub Committee, Archive Sub Committee and Personnel Sub Committee are from time to time given delegated powers in relation to their respective areas, and report back to Trustees meetings. Staff take decisions of detail within parameters set by the Trustees, e.g., the detail of the Gallery or Cultural Programme and key policies including Financial Standing Orders, "It takes a Village...." Safeguarding Policy.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

Objectives and activities

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

The objects for which the charity is established are:

- a) To advance the education of the public in and by means of all the arts including performing arts, visual arts, applied arts and experimental work in the arts and by improving standards of execution and appreciation of the arts.
- b) To provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure-time occupation in the interests of social welfare for members of the public at large and for persons who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, poverty or social or economic circumstances, with the object of improving conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities are intended.
- c) To establish and maintain Community Centre for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Merseyside Area and to promote all or any objects for the benefit of the said inhabitants which now are or hereafter may be deemed by law to be charitable.

The creation of contexts (both social and environmental) which encourage an improved and meaningful relationship between artists and communities for the creation's presentation and promotion of contemporary work of high quality and originality. This means that the Black-E is committed to:

- a) access - both providing access and improving access to the artist and for the artist, and for those individuals and groups already involved in the arts as well as for those with no previous involvement with the arts - for example by the provision of workshops both as part of the ongoing programme and in conjunction with residencies, performances; by establishing an on-going dialogue between artists and their audiences through repeated visits and work, and by running seminars, residencies, etc. which enable artists to meet and work together.
- b) positive action - in relation to artists who are discriminated against - and in relation to communities and individuals who are discriminated against or disadvantaged - to provide opportunities for such artist communities, and individuals to give expression to their experience, their needs, and their aspirations, and to celebrate their achievements and rediscover their history.
- c) education (learning and unlearning) and training - both by and for artists - and both by and for communities and individuals- with a view to improving performance, understanding, and communication. The creation of opportunities and contexts which enable people to actively participate in creative activities a participation based in "doing" as well as "viewing" - in order, amongst other aims, to further democratise the arts.

The creation of opportunities and contexts which enable people to actively participate in creative activities a participation based in "doing" as well as "viewing" - in order, amongst other aims, to further democratise the arts.

Indeed, since democracy rests on the creation of a common language, and since the arts remain among the most restricted of languages, such involvement aims to promote democratisation not only through a shared understanding of these languages but also through growth and development in the languages themselves.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

This means the Black-E is committed to:

- a) the creation and exploration of forms in which "audience" participation is fundamental.
- b) experiment to make a contribution to the research and development which is essential if new forms and techniques are to emerge to give expression to the worlds of today and tomorrow.

The recognition and valuing of cultural diversity. This means the Black-E is committed to:

- a) promoting work which reflects the experience and concerns of those groups within our society whose voices have been marginalised, 'anthropologised' or ignored.
- b) programming across the spectrum of creative activities - the fine arts, the popular arts, the performing arts, the making arts, creative and co-operative games, contemporary media, and traditional crafts - to promote and develop harmony rather than hierarchy between forms, and additionally to promote and develop cross-fertilisation and positive interaction between forms.
- c) a perspective of the arts which is local, regional, national, and international - to stimulate and develop a sense of cultural and geographical inter-relatedness and variety.

From all the above, in committing itself to exploring and recreating the relationship between contemporary society and the contemporary artist and between contemporary society and creative activities and opportunities, the Black-E is committing itself to a two-in-one duality - to the development of communities and to the development of artists.

In terms of communities, then such a commitment is based on a recognition of the role of the arts in community development: every community issue is also an issue to be explored through the arts. In terms of artists, then such a commitment is based on the complementary recognition that - only given the opportunity - everyone is an artist. In terms of communities, then such a commitment is based on a recognition of the role of the arts in community development: every community issue is also an issue to be explored through the arts. In terms of artists, then such a commitment is based on the complementary recognition that - only given the opportunity - everyone is an artist.

And if all the earlier text had to be summed up in seven words?

Our continuing objectives for the year 2023-24 were: -

To continue to produce and promote the Arts of Survival combined arts cultural programme, embracing the Gallery, Archive, publications, drama, and especially Kinetic Theatre Programme (dance, circus, physical theatre), in conjunction with hires to and 'sharings' with commercial and cultural organisations. All underpinned by a commitment to cultivating cultural diversity and delivering inclusion and equity.

To prioritise work for young people in the Youth Arts Programme and Cultural Programme. To bring our ongoing support on Hip-Hop into Black-E to train and conduct workshops and deliver a film project. This is work that we are committed to and have delivered during our Youth Arts Schemes and are now well on the way to delivering with our B-Excellent Program.

To strengthen the Trustee Board with active local members, who reflect the diversity of our intent to support greater participation of Black and ethnic minority peoples, in the cultural pipeline. Fortnightly staff planning and action meetings to support detailed planning and organisational work to produce the overall cultural programme in line with strategies and objectives determined by the Trustees.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

Achievements and performance

Trustee Review of Activities and Future Developments

In February 2024, I took the interim role as the Chair of the Charity. We are now working again with our community to re-new our ambition and plans. This year has centred on helping us transition to our Trustees for Life and founders Bill & Wendy Harpe, after nearly 60 years becoming Patrons. Bill, as a dancer, choreographer and Wendy, as a maker and facilitator of community involving work that cannot be replaced. Indeed, the Charity has remained resilient and succeeded where others have long since gone because of how the Trust board was set up. Bill Harpe for most of his career combined two distinct roles, being an unpaid-trustee: with being a very poorly paid Artistic Director - often surrendering his salary to projects like supporting the training of local emergent artists. As a global reaching multi ethnic community based, artist led charity - Bill and Wendy were pioneers on volunteerism, social action and building social movements - and they placed these ideas and their methodology at the heart of the charity. It is a heavy burden as the current Chair of Trustees to try and emulate these values and ideas - but it must be done.

It has also been a year of the CEO working to retain and grow our regular funding base and we thank the Arts Council Relationship Team for their wise counsel, constructive feedback and support in this difficult year. With the help of the trustees, our local Liverpool community and partners pulling together to retain our ACE funding. However, we have a long way to go in keeping up with cost increases and replacing other funding that we were unable to retain. 2024 will see the CEO raise funding for operational costs and building and maintenance costs so that The Black - E can continue to serve the global minority community, connect with the Arts and ensure the wider communities health and wellbeing is maintained.

The first new work Mary Seacole to Joan Stober was delivered in 2023, allowing us to use our beautiful multi-space building and work with community to create site specific and immersive work. This first work in the cycle enabled us, through community workshops in drumming, gospel music, dance & movement, circus and the visual & textile arts to explore the lives of two great Black women. This new work also created a means to share with a wider audience the well-known story of Mary Seacole from her own words: 'The Wonderful Adventures of Mary Seacole in Many Lands'. This formed the basis of brilliant children and young people centred work designed and led by our Development Manager. Together with the lesser known, but courageous and inspiring life of the late Joan Stober (nee Morten) a former Liverpool resident. Joan was one of the first Black British born nurses at the start of the NHS in July 1948, in the 1980's she was a race equality campaigner and civil rights activists, who during her time in the USA, was a friend to Martin Luther King jnr.

The planning of the second series working with our Chinese community and Liverpool University is well underway.

Over the year we staged and hosted many events across our 500-capacity main space, studio, seminar rooms, and particularly in the intimacy of our 150-seater Chamber Theatre and our café & gallery space. We are particularly proud to have worked with IRIE! Dance Theatre, Kauma Arts and One Dance UK in securing an exhibition that captures a history of Black British Dance. As a promoter of participatory work, much of the work we undertake is not visible as part of our events programme. It is in our small and intimate spaces, where we deliver workshops for children, young people and adults that we see experimentation, collaboration and creative synergy that yields new ideas, fosters new partnership and drives creative ambition.

Our most successful Chinese New Year celebration to date, saw over 2,000 people visit our building and a 5 hour marathon of dance, circus and workshops for all to enjoy.

The Black-E

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Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

The Black-E Black Dance Forum is providing an opportunity for world class discussion, with dance leaders, practitioners and facilitators. Together with dancers and dance makers sharing their practice. The plan for 2024 is to broaden the Black Dance Forum and plan a revival of African routes, incorporating Black Dance Forum, in honour of its founder Bill Harpe.

Creative learning for children and young people, within a professional community arts space remains central to our vision. Over the Summer of 2023, we collaborated with the Big Condo on a new video, involving 12 young people, building skills in film, digital and cultural confidence to tell their story through music and film. We also supported our year-long Eat Your heArt Out Festival with over 100 children and young people. Providing a year of holiday arts, circus skills and play led by practicing artists, making a space to create new work. With funding from Merseyside Play Action Council (MPAC) and the government Holiday Activity and Food programme (HAF) and private donations, it was possible to make this free for all CYP and provide a hot meal, snacks, fresh fruit and a food hamper for families experiencing need. Liverpool is a city with a proud history, people who work hard - but it is also a city with significant inequality and economic deprivation. For over fifty years the Black-E's ethos has been about feeding the body and soul -arts and food go hand in hand.

Over the year we have further invested in our new Binaural Sounds Studio, working with a youth group Wilful Misfits. This is located on the fourth floor Cultural Hub, creating better spaces for cultural partners like Company of Friends. Company of Friends' work continues to celebrate the talent and perspectives of performing artists with lived experience of learning disability. Bringing innovation and fresh insights to classic texts including Shakespeare's *Tempest*, and others. We are proud to work with partners who are fostering innovation and enabling artists to deliver quality for all our community.

We have reaffirmed our commitment to continuing a distinctive participatory arts programme -that is fuelled by a community arts model of delivering risk and quality in equal measure. Of broadening our audience reach and cultivating a cultural pipeline that speaks with and to the experience of those often excluded from the arts & cultural industries: Black and ethnic minority people, women, Disabled people and our diverse working-class community here in Liverpool. The trustees of the Black-E are committed to being the change to ensure that we create spaces and opportunities for new work and voices to flourish.

The Trustees acknowledge that work would not be possible without all our staff, sessional artists, sessional workers, volunteers and interns across who all continue to work hard. Thank you to all for putting people at the centre of delivering the great experiences that make the Black-E the national centre for participatory arts!

During the last year The Black-E has hosted organisations such as: the Launch of Afro vision, CBBC-Filming, Feeding Liverpool, The World Transformed, YPAS, the Northwest region Scouts, NHS 75 Anniversary, The UK Cycling Charity, Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service, The Black-E Patrons Gala, Hip Hop events, The Great Christmas Orchestra, Laura May Ltd Visually Impaired Choir, the National Youth Choir, Batala Festival, Capoeira for All, Leap Dance Festival, the Royal Court, Big Condo, What we did next choir, Creative Encounters, Liverpool 5 Rhythms, Fallen Angels, BBC Three, The Neurodiverse Festival of Arts, Liverpool City Region Growth Platform, the Race Equality Hub, various student theatres and many more.

The Black-E has become the home of community groups such as Company of Friends, Collective Encounters, Liverpool Inclusiveness Theatre, Wilful Misfits, Creators Academy, Drag Cage, Jennifer Johns, Tai Chi, Community and League Table Tennis, QiPao, Company B, Kung Fu, Boss Breakers, RAWD, Local Welcome and Flow Project.

With IRIE! dance theatre, our resident dance artists, delivered successful projects who, have not only

The Black-E

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Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

performed their research and development phase of GROUNDATION, but have had successful workshops with our younger and older audiences and a very successful outreach programme that held workshops for over 700 children and young people. The Black-E have launched Afro-vision (during Eurovision) The Black-E Peoples Gala, The Black-E Patrons Gala and it's most successful Chinese New Year celebrations.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

Financial review

The results for the year and the charity's financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements. The principal funding sources are detailed under note 4 to the accounts, Income from charitable activities.

The plan for years 2025, 2026 and 2027, having already raised over £40,000 for projects this year is to raise £300,000 (£100,000) per year in operating costs. The Black - E are working with the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to raise maintenance and energy efficiency funding, this will be in the region of £1 - £1.5 million over 5 years. The Black - E are currently working with Liverpool University Architect School to achieve these goals.

Risk and Reserves

The major risks to which the charity is exposed as identified by the Trustees have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate these risks, including regular periodic reviews of income and expenditure and cash flow and the revision of commitments and expenditure in relation to income. The Trustees also have a Corporate Risk Register, which is kept under ongoing review and jointly updated with senior staff.

The Trustees take the view that if the Charity was to suffer a major loss of funding, it would need to keep reserves of £10,000. In addition, if the Charity was to suffer a significant loss of funding, it would use the £100,000 currently held by Barclays Bank for other purposes to wind down the charity. The Trustees have no plans to wind down the charity. With regards to the cultural programme, the major risks are linked to funding availability. Core funding risks are mitigated by the fact that The Black-E holds funding agreements with both Arts Council England as a National Portfolio client. In addition, as a national centre for participatory arts, the Trustees can mitigate risk by:

1. Reliance on growing volunteers, working with paid artists -reducing revenue costs.
2. Using high value film & TV, sports and commercial hires, that generates income to cross subsidise our cultural programme.

On the basis of a fundraising strategy approved by the Trustees, The Black-E continues to make applications and submissions for funding of the cultural programme to charitable trusts, local and national government departments, and other bodies.

The future finances of The Black-E (as analysed in the current Business Plan) are dependent on a balance of income from (a) grants, and (b) rental from hires. Rental from hires of the completed building will not 'leap' to an optimal level following relaunch but is predicted to grow over a 5-year period.

1. the Millennium Commission required and has taken a 1st fixed 80-year charge over The Black-E building and land together with a floating charge over all assets, and
2. the Arts Council has required and taken a second fixed 20-year charge over the Black-E building and land, this is available to be removed from November 2024.

Fixed Assets

In the year ended 5 April 2012, the Trustees agreed that the Report and Accounts as produced be adopted and approved, and that a capital asset of £200,000, being the Trustees' own valuation of the current value in use of the Great George Street building, be revalued accordingly.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

The Trustees again discussed the independent valuation of the building: 1 Great George Street and concluded there was no cost benefit, or any material benefit to the charity. This decision was taken because the cost of a valuation would be in the region of £16k. The building has both fixed and floating charges on the property register linked to grants received from the Arts Council of England and other lottery funders. Further the property has a fixed use, a restriction which means that it can only be used as cultural facility and change of use would be required. These factors greatly reduce the value of the building and taking account of this the Trustees unanimously continue to see no benefit in an independent valuation.

Small company provisions

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

The trustees' annual report was approved on 21 November 2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Patrick Jennings

Mr P Jennings
Trustee

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Black-E

Year ended 5 April 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Black-E ('the charity') for the year ended 5 April 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Black-E *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Richard Brown

Richard Brown FCA FCCA
Independent Examiner

Hanover Buildings
11-13 Hanover Street
Liverpool
L1 3DN

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 5 April 2024

		2024	2023		
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total funds	Total funds
	Note	funds	funds	£	£
		£	£		
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	5,843	235,066	240,909	225,473
Charitable activities	6	655	–	655	8,245
Other trading activities	7	53,503	3,623	57,126	105,277
Investment income	8	318	–	318	287
Total income		<u>60,319</u>	<u>238,689</u>	<u>299,008</u>	<u>339,282</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of other trading activities	9	41,861	251,707	293,570	327,791
Total expenditure		<u>41,861</u>	<u>251,707</u>	<u>293,570</u>	<u>327,791</u>
Net gains on investments	10	–	(450,000)	(450,002)	–
Net income and net movement in funds		<u>18,458</u>	<u>436,982</u>	<u>455,440</u>	<u>11,491</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		126,127	736,904	863,031	851,540
Total funds carried forward		<u>144,585</u>	<u>1,173,886</u>	<u>1,318,471</u>	<u>863,031</u>

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

The notes on pages 16 to 30 form part of these financial statements.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Position

5 April 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	15	1,213,372	763,253
Current assets			
Debtors	16	61,860	38,731
Investments	17	100,000	100,000
Cash at bank and in hand		43,506	62,965
		<u>205,366</u>	<u>201,696</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	<u>100,267</u>	<u>101,918</u>
Net current assets		<u>105,099</u>	<u>99,778</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>1,318,471</u>	<u>863,031</u>
Net assets		<u>1,318,471</u>	<u>863,031</u>
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		1,173,886	736,904
Unrestricted funds		144,585	126,127
Total charity funds	19	<u>1,318,471</u>	<u>863,031</u>

For the year ending 5 April 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The statement of financial position
continues on the following page.

The notes on pages 16 to 30 form part of these financial statements.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Position *(continued)*

5 April 2024

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 21 November 2024, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Patrick Jennings

Mr P Jennings
Trustee

The notes on pages 16 to 30 form part of these financial statements.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 5 April 2024

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 1 Great George Street, Liverpool, L1 5EW.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

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. As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the independent examination in order to design procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control. Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.

Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.

Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our independent examination.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Freehold property	- Nil - See note 13
Fixtures and fittings	- 25% reducing balance

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Impairment of fixed assets *(continued)*

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments *(continued)*

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

4. Limited by guarantee

The Black-E was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee under the Companies Act 1985 on 01/06/1972. The liability of the members is limited to £1.00.

5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Donations			
General Donations	620	–	620
Just Giving	–	–	–
Chinese New Year	1,600	–	1,600
Grants			
ACE Capital Grant	–	–	–
ACE NW Revenue	–	194,692	194,692
Liverpool City Voluntary	–	–	–
L C C - Project Grants	3,623	2,400	6,023
Liverpool Culture City	–	–	–
Liverpool HAF	–	19,500	19,500
M P A C	–	10,100	10,100
UBELE Initiative	–	–	–
VOLA	–	8,374	8,374
	<u>5,843</u>	<u>235,066</u>	<u>240,909</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations			
General Donations	200	–	200
Just Giving	102	–	102
Chinese New Year	2,488	–	2,488

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

5. Donations and legacies *(continued)*

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Grants			
ACE Capital Grant	–	22,500	22,500
ACE NW Revenue	–	112,024	112,024
Liverpool City Voluntary	–	7,550	7,550
L C C - Project Grants	–	5,860	5,860
Liverpool Culture City	–	49,249	49,249
Liverpool HAF	–	7,500	7,500
M P A C	–	17,500	17,500
UBELE Initiative	–	500	500
VOLA	–	–	–
	<u>2,790</u>	<u>222,683</u>	<u>225,473</u>

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Bar Sales	655	655	8,008	8,008
Hospitality - Inhouse	–	–	12	12
Miscellaneous Income	–	–	225	225
	<u>655</u>	<u>655</u>	<u>8,245</u>	<u>8,245</u>

7. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Venue hire	53,003	3,623	56,626
Huskisson rental	500	–	500
	<u>53,503</u>	<u>3,623</u>	<u>57,126</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Venue hire	104,711	–	104,711
Huskisson rental	566	–	566
	<u>105,277</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>105,277</u>

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

8. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Bank Interest	<u>318</u>	<u>318</u>	<u>287</u>	<u>287</u>

9. Costs of other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£
Staff Costs	9,621	559	10,180
Governance costs	21,482	(1,061)	20,421
Premises costs	10,089	89,206	99,296
Office costs	–	27,151	27,151
Project costs	669	135,852	136,522
	<u>41,861</u>	<u>251,707</u>	<u>293,570</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
Staff Costs	3,782	100,829	104,612
Governance costs	8,255	–	8,255
Premises costs	93,024	2,784	95,808
Office costs	17,439	–	17,439
Project costs	11,831	89,847	101,677
	<u>134,331</u>	<u>193,460</u>	<u>327,791</u>

10. Net gains on investments

	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Gains/(losses) on freehold property	<u>450,000</u>	<u>450,000</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>

11. Net income

Net income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>485</u>	<u>446</u>

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

12. Independent examination fees

	2024	2023
	£	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>2,200</u>	<u>2,100</u>

13. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and consultancy	21,746	105,757
Social security costs	1,838	355
Other employee benefits	397	-
	<u>23,981</u>	<u>106,112</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 1 (2023: 7) with staffing being mainly made up of freelancers and contractors during the year. The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Number of staff - Finance	-	1
Number of staff - Director	1	1
Number of staff - CYP manager	-	1
Number of staff - Administration	-	1
Number of staff - Cleaning	-	1
Number of staff - Maintenance	-	1
Number of staff - Communications	-	1
	<u>1</u>	<u>7</u>

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2023: Nil).

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

14. Trustee remuneration and expenses

Included above are fees and expenses of Mr Harpe in respect of services provided to the charity. The amount included in the year was £Nil (2023: £10,420).

1 Trustees were reimbursed for their travel expenses in respect of their attendance at Council meetings. The amounts totalled £2,178 for the year ending 5th April 2024 (2023: 2 Trustees totalling £4,575).

Bill Harpe was a non-paid Trustee - but in addition held the paid position as Cultural Director or Artistic Director and this was a paid position. He was therefore not paid to be a Trustee. He was however paid for his cultural leadership and day to day management of the arts and community operation. The governing document allowed this, so far as he was not involved in setting his own remuneration. Bill Harpe and Wendy Harpe were not involved in setting remuneration. Both ACE and the Charity Commission were aware of this position over the last 50 years.

The Trustees agreed, prior to 2019, that Bill Harpe would begin the process of stepping back and eventually down. Bill Harpe was paid a 'pension' - which covered his role as Joint Cultural Director, together with activity to transmit his work, including Intellectual Property and ideas to the next generation. This included work on the publication, archive and the notation of the great dance works that had framed the creation of the charity and indeed informed the re-development of the actual building space of the Black-E. In accordance with the Governing Documents, Bill Harpe was paid -but the potential conflict continued to be managed, as he neither set, nor participated in setting payments.

As of 31/07/23 Bill Harpe is no longer a Director or Trustee and was on his retirement removed as a person with Significant Control. No payments have been made to Bill Harpe since April 2023. It is possible that in future, Trustees may seek to make an ex-gratia payment relating to 5 Huskisson Street and/or Bill's new role as a Patron. If this was to be done, it would be discussed and agreed by vote by the Trustees, taking account of our Conflicts of Interest Policy, Charity Commission guidance on on making ex-gratia payments (including the reputational risk of not making such a payment) and any payment would be derived from earned income and not existing charitable funds.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

15. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost			
At 6 April 2023	769,417	10,845	780,262
Additions	–	604	604
Revaluations	450,000	–	450,000
At 5 April 2024	<u>1,219,417</u>	<u>11,449</u>	<u>1,230,866</u>
Depreciation			
At 6 April 2023	7,500	9,509	17,009
Charge for the year	–	485	485
At 5 April 2024	<u>7,500</u>	<u>9,994</u>	<u>17,494</u>
Carrying amount			
At 5 April 2024	<u>1,211,917</u>	<u>1,455</u>	<u>1,213,372</u>
At 5 April 2023	<u>761,917</u>	<u>1,336</u>	<u>763,253</u>

The Black-E, the former Great George Street Congregational Church and the land, was donated to the charity in 1982. The original cost is not known. The trustees are consulting with advisors to determine the most appropriate way to value the building, including the cost of upgrading the building, and how to disclose this and the related depreciation in the financial statements.

The Millennium Commission is available to be removed from November 2024. It is required and has taken a first fixed 80 years charge over the Black-E building and the land together with a floating charge over all assets and the Arts Council has required and taken a second fixed 20 years charge over the Black-E building and the land.

5 Huskisson Street has been valued by the Trustees as at 05/04/2024 at £450,000, this is valued lower than market value based on similar properties sold in the area.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

15. Tangible fixed assets *(continued)*

Tangible fixed assets held at valuation

In respect of tangible fixed assets held at valuation, the aggregate cost, depreciation and comparable carrying amount that would have been recognised if the assets had been carried under the historical cost model are as follows:

	Freehold property £
At 5 April 2024	
Aggregate cost	207,500
Aggregate depreciation	<u>(7,500)</u>
Carrying value	<u><u>200,000</u></u>
At 5 April 2023	
Aggregate cost	207,500
Aggregate depreciation	<u>(7,500)</u>
Carrying value	<u><u>200,000</u></u>

16. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Prepayments and accrued income	58,569	38,440
Other debtors	<u>3,291</u>	<u>291</u>
	<u><u>61,860</u></u>	<u><u>38,731</u></u>

17. Investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Other investments	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>

18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other loans	80,832	80,701
Trade creditors	5,357	–
Accruals and deferred income	4,680	9,624
Social security and other taxes	–	2,453
Other creditors	<u>9,398</u>	<u>9,140</u>
	<u><u>100,267</u></u>	<u><u>101,918</u></u>

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

18. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year *(continued)*

The bank overdrafts are secured against the credit balance of £100,000 held by Barclays Bank as an investment.

Monies received LCC was given as a loan on the understanding that The Black-E as a recipient of LCC funding would pay it back as long as The Black-E were funded.

19. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 6 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains and losses £	At 5 April 2024 £
General Unrestricted fund	(25,423)	60,319	(41,861)	–	(6,965)
Designated Unrestricted Fund	151,550	–	–	–	151,550
	<u>126,127</u>	<u>60,319</u>	<u>(41,861)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>144,585</u>

	At 6 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains and losses £	At 5 April 2023 £
General Unrestricted fund	(15,691)	116,599	(134,331)	–	(33,423)
Designated Unrestricted Fund	159,550	–	–	–	159,550
	<u>143,859</u>	<u>116,599</u>	<u>(134,331)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>126,127</u>

Restricted funds

	At 6 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains and losses £	At 5 April 2024 £
Restricted Fund	<u>736,904</u>	<u>238,689</u>	<u>(251,707)</u>	<u>450,000</u>	<u>1,173,886</u>

	At 6 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains and losses £	At 5 April 2023 £
Restricted Fund	<u>707,681</u>	<u>222,683</u>	<u>(193,460)</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>736,904</u>

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

19. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

Arts Council Capital Grant is for Building Refurbishment.

Veolia Trust Grant is for the Kitchen refurbishment.

Granada Foundation Grant is for Streaming Equipment and Music Technology Studio.

Fashions Bequest Fund is for Gallery Exhibitions and Online Games. Fashions Bequest Fund is for Gallery Exhibitions and Online Games.

MPAC grant is for Youth Arts Play Scheme and Healthy Eating project.

Sally's bequest fund is for Youth Music and workshops.

Liverpool HAF is for holiday activities and food programmes to provide free places at holiday clubs for children.

Liverpool City Council Grants are for refurbishment of the property.

Vola Consotrium helps support organisations to provide skills, employment and criminal justice in Liverpool.

Feeding Liverpools is a food alliance for Liverpool residents.

20. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	56,501	1,156,871	1,213,372
Current assets	188,351	17,015	205,366
Creditors less than 1 year	(100,267)	–	(100,267)
Net assets	<u>144,585</u>	<u>1,173,886</u>	<u>1,318,471</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	90,050	673,203	763,253
Current assets	137,995	63,701	201,696
Creditors less than 1 year	(101,918)	–	(101,918)
Net assets	<u>126,127</u>	<u>736,904</u>	<u>863,031</u>

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2024

21. Restricted funds

	06-Apr-23	Income	Expenditure	05-Apr-24
	£	£	£	£
Building Fund	155,204	–	155,204	–
Arts Council England - Building Project	365,000	–	365,000	–
Veolia Trust - Building Project	31,784	–	31,784	–
Granada Foundation	9,400	–	9,400	–
Fashions Bequest Fund	6,822	–	6,822	–
MPAC	–	10,100	10,100	–
Liverpool City Council Funds	63,954	25,523	89,477	–
ACE NW Revenue	87,724	194,692	282,416	–
Sally & Kevin's Bequest - Youth Music	17,016	–	–	17,016
Vola Consortium	–	8,374	8,374	–
Transfer of funds	–	(706,870)	(706,780)	–
Total	736,904	(468,181)	251,707	17,016

Included in the income from ACE is an amount accrued for the quarter ending 31st March 2024 totalling £48,673.

22. Designated funds

	06-Apr-23	Income	Expenditure	05-Apr-24
	£	£	£	£
Main Space Floor Improvement	2,000	–	2,000	–
Patron's New Commission's Fund	10,000	–	10,000	–
5 Huskisson Repair & Development	11,000	500	11,500	–
Edward Murphy - Celebration & staffing	8,550	–	8,550	–
5 Huskisson Lease Renewal	120,000	–	–	120,000
Total	151,550	500	32,050	120,000

THE BLACK-E

England & Wales - Charity number 501859

Accounts

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1056472

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 501859

**The Black-E
Company Limited by Guarantee
Unaudited Financial Statements
5 April 2023**

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial Statements

Year ended 5 April 2023

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The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 5 April 2023

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 5 April 2023.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	The Black-E
Charity registration number	501859
Company registration number	1056472
Principal office and registered office	1 Great George Street Liverpool L1 5EW

The trustees

Ms S Eyo	(Resigned 19 October 2023)
Ms C Malcolm	
Mr S Knox	(Resigned 31 October 2022)
Mrs T Afful	(Appointed 22 January 2023)
Mr C Allen	(Resigned 13 May 2023)
Ms A Ankrah	(Appointed 1 November 2022)
Mr T Burke	(Resigned 31 October 2022)
Ms J Green	
Mr B Harpe	(Resigned 20 July 2023)
Mrs W Harpe	
Mrs B Benjamin	(Appointed 31 October 2022)
Mr J Cullen	(Resigned 22 January 2023)
Ms J Khalli	
Mr I Freeman	(Appointed 22 January 2023)
Mr R Pritchard	(Appointed 22 January 2023)

Archive Sub-Committee Members

The persons who have acted as Archive Sub-committee members during the year are:

Chairperson	Ian Freeman
Deputy Chairperson	Ms. Wendy Harpe

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

The Trustees, who are also Directors of the charity for the purposes of Company Law, present their Annual Report and the Financial Statements for the year ended 5th April 2023.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's memorandum and articles of association, the Companies Act 2006' and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)"

The information contained in this Annual Report is both complemented and augmented by information available on the website, www.theblack-e.org.

The Charity

Great Georges Community Cultural Project, now operating as The Black-E, is a charitable company limited by guarantee and with no share capital. The Company is registered in England and Wales, No. 01056472. The principal governing document is the company Memorandum and Articles of Association. The charity is registered with the Charity Commission No. 501859. The principal address and registered office of the Company is:

The Black-E
1 Great George Street
Liverpool
L1 5EW

The day-to-day management of the charity is vested in The Director of Cultural Operations with support from Arts Development Manager for Children and Young People, associate development staff and the Associate Cultural Directors, who develop and deliver activity and meet through an all-team meeting.

Over the year professional support on bookkeeping, financial management and governance was provided by Seelan and from August 2022 onwards by Mr David Wareing.

Independent examiner

Richard Brown FCA FCCA
Hanover Buildings
11-13 Hanover Street
Liverpool
L1 3DN

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

Structure, governance and management

Method of appointment of trustees

The Trustees are "the keepers of the vision". Experts overseeing Trustees should be on Tap and not on Top as Trustees. The Trustees aim to ensure that they are reflective of the local community (50% of Trustees have a connection with Liverpool) and in terms of gender, race, disability and class - and that they possess collectively the arts, cultural and community experience and the expertise to exercise their responsibilities and to provide the Black-E with "affection, protection, and direction." Trustees are recruited through both advertising, as well as person to person contact, networking and contact with the cultural and CYP programmes. The Trustees bring to their responsibilities a combination of experience, skills and qualifications in the following areas: architecture and planning; building construction; financial control, accountancy and bookkeeping; fundraising; law; voluntary sector management; arts administration and management; cultural policy; environmental issues; event promotion, production, and direction; exhibition curation; marketing; leisure services management; local government; security; equal opportunities; cultural diversity; youth work; education and training; arts and disability; arts therapy; information technology; film & media; literature; drama; music; dance; fashion; visual arts and crafts; games; sport and recreation.

Induction and training trustees

New Trustees are inducted through meetings and through documentation. Quarterly Trustees meetings begin with a morning training session in a specific area of responsibility (e.g., Charity Law, the Disability Discrimination Act, equal opportunities, safeguarding, audited accounts, etc.) The Trustees are responsible "for steering the ship". This means that the Trustees take decisions to ensure that there is a balance between resources available for the capital programme and for the cultural programme, that there is a balance between the cultural programme and hires, and that there is a balance within the cultural programme between 'performing' and 'making' arts, and between youth arts and the programme'. Management accounts, audited accounts, and revisions of business plans are received, considered, and determined by the Trustees. Ad-hoc Building Sub Committee, Audit Sub Committee, Archive Sub Committee and Personnel Sub Committee are from time to time given delegated powers in relation to their respective areas, and report back to Trustees meetings. Staff take decisions of detail within parameters set by the Trustees, e.g., the detail of the Gallery or Cultural Programme and key policies including Financial Standing Orders, It takes a Village.... Safeguarding Policy.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

Objectives and activities

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

The objects for which the charity is established are:

- a) To advance the education of the public in and by means of all the arts including performing arts, visual arts, applied arts and experimental work in the arts and by improving standards of execution and appreciation of the arts.
- b) To provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure-time occupation in the interests of social welfare for members of the public at large and for persons who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, poverty or social or economic circumstances, with the object of improving conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities are intended.
- c) To establish and maintain Community Centre for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Merseyside Area and to promote all or any objects for the benefit of the said inhabitants which now are or hereafter may be deemed by law to be charitable.

The creation of contexts (both social and environmental) which encourage an improved and meaningful relationship between artists and communities for the creation's presentation and promotion of contemporary work of high quality and originality. This means that the Black-E is committed to:

- a) access - both providing access and improving access to the artist and for the artist, and for those individuals and groups already involved in the arts as well as for those with no previous involvement with the arts - for example by the provision of workshops both as part of the ongoing programme and in conjunction with residencies, performances; by establishing an on-going dialogue between artists and their audiences through repeated visits and work, and by running seminars, residencies, etc. which enable artists to meet and work together.
- b) positive action - in relation to artists who are discriminated against - and in relation to communities and individuals who are discriminated against or disadvantaged - to provide opportunities for such artist communities, and individuals to give expression to their experience, their needs, and their aspirations, and to celebrate their achievements and rediscover their history.
- c) education (learning and unlearning) and training - both by and for artists - and both by and for communities and individuals- with a view to improving performance, understanding, and communication. The creation of opportunities and contexts which enable people to actively participate in creative activities a participation based in "doing" as well as "viewing" - in order, amongst other aims, to further democratise the arts.

Indeed, since democracy rests on the creation of a common language, and since the arts remain among the most restricted of languages, such involvement aims to promote democratisation not only through a shared understanding of these languages but also through growth and development in the languages themselves.

This means the Black-E is committed to:

- a) the creation and exploration of forms in which "audience" participation is fundamental.
-

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

b) experiment to make a contribution to the research and development which is essential if new forms and techniques are to emerge to give expression to the worlds of today and tomorrow.

The recognition and valuing of cultural diversity. This means the Black-E is committed to:

a) promoting work which reflects the experience and concerns of those groups within our society whose voices have been marginalised, 'anthropologised' or ignored.

b) programming across the spectrum of creative activities - the fine arts, the popular arts, the performing arts, the making arts, creative and co-operative games, contemporary media, and traditional crafts - to promote and develop harmony rather than hierarchy between forms, and additionally to promote and develop cross-fertilisation and positive interaction between forms.

c) a perspective of the arts which is local, regional, national, and international - to stimulate and develop a sense of cultural and geographical inter-relatedness and variety.

From all the above, in committing itself to exploring and recreating the relationship between contemporary society and the contemporary artist and between contemporary society and creative activities and opportunities, the Black-E is committing itself to a two-in-one duality - to the development of communities and to the development of artists.

In terms of communities, then such a commitment is based on a recognition of the role of the arts in community development: every community issue is also an issue to be explored through the arts. In terms of artists, then such a commitment is based on the complementary recognition that - only given the opportunity - everyone is an artist.

And if all the earlier text had to be summed up in seven words?

Our continuing objectives for the year 2022-23 were: -

To continue to produce and promote the Arts of Survival combined arts cultural programme, embracing the Gallery, Archive, publications, drama, and especially Kinetic Theatre Programme (dance, circus, physical theatre), in conjunction with hires to and 'sharings' with commercial and cultural organisations. All underpinned by a commitment to cultivating cultural diversity and delivering inclusion and equity.

To prioritise work for young people in the Youth Arts Programme and Cultural Programme - Black-E managed to do 14 Play Scheme sessions during the limited opening time. To bring our ongoing support on Hip-Hop into Black-E to train and conduct workshops and deliver a film project. Whilst we have made a start through holding meetings with young people interested in progressing this. It does however remain work that we are committed to.

To strengthen the Trustee Board with active local members, who reflect the diversity of our intent to support greater participation of Black and ethnic minority peoples, in the cultural pipeline. Fortnightly staff planning and action meetings to support detailed planning and organisational work to produce the overall cultural programme in line with strategies and objectives determined by the Trustees.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

Achievements and performance

Trustee Review of Activities and Future Developments

In December 2022, I took over as the Chair of the Charity, during a period that marked a significant moment in our shared history. As a charity born in the devastating flu pandemic of 1968, we have now worked again with our community to re-new our ambition and plans in the aftermath of the devastating COVID19 global pandemic. This year has centred on helping us transition to our Trustees for Life and founders Bill & Wendy Harpe, after over fifty years becoming Patrons. Bill, as a dancer, choreographer and Wendy, as a maker and facilitator of community involving work cannot be replaced. Indeed, the Charity has remained resilient and succeeded where others have long since gone because of how the Trust board was set up. Bill Harpe for most of his career combined two distinct roles, being an unpaid-trustee: with being a very poorly paid Artistic Director - often surrendering his salary to projects like supporting the training of local emergent artists. As a community based, artist led charity - Bill and Wendy were pioneers on volunteerism, social action and building social movements - and they placed these ideas and their methodology at the heart of the charity. It is a heavy burden as the current Chair of Trustees to try and emulate these values and ideas - but it must be done.

It has also been a year of the trustees working to retain and grow our regular funding base and we thank the Arts Council Relationship Team for their wise counsel, constructive feedback and support in this difficult year. With the help of the trustees, our local Liverpool community and partners pulling together we retained and nearly doubled our ACE funding. However, we have a long way to go in keeping up with cost increases and replacing other funding that we were unable to retain. In May 2022, we we kicked off a three-year programme of work thematically centred around health, wellbeing and a bold desire to see our local and global communities that we connect with flourish.

Fittingly in May 2022 we welcomed SuAndi OBE of our Northwest partner, the National Black Arts Alliance, to help us mark (through new spoken word) the legacy of one of our other the founders, the late Sally Morris. Together with James MacRitchie's unwavering dedication on helping bring together the selected writings on dance by Bill Harpe. The publishing of this important text was made possible with the kind support of the designer: Victoria Adenugba, Jacqueline McKenzie and the National Black Artist Alliance (NBAA).

This cultural partnership with NBAA would also enable our Associate Cultural Director , Dr Rebecca Amissah MD to kick-start the development of the first work of three-new full-scale works in a community involving People's Opera & Dance Cycle. This first new work Mary Seacole to Joan Stober A People's Opera and Dance is allowing us to use our beautiful multi-space building and work with community to create site specific and immersive work. This first work in the cycle enabled us, through community workshops in drumming, gospel music, dance & movement, circus and the visual & textile arts to explore the lives of two great Black women. This new work also created a means to share with a wider audience the well-known story of Mary Seacole from her own words: 'The Wonderful Adventures of Mary Seacole in Many Lands'. This formed the basis of brilliant children and young people centred work designed and led by our Development Manager and film artist Rachael Statham. Together with the lesser known, but courageous and inspiring life of the late Joan Stober (nee Morten) a former Liverpool resident. Joan was one of the first Black British born nurses at the start of the NHS in July 1948, in the 1980's she was a race equality campaigner and civil rights activists, who during her time in the USA, was a friend to Martin Luther King jnr.

Over the year we staged and hosted may events across our 500-capacity main space, studio, seminar rooms, and particularly in the intimacy of our 150-seater Chamber Theatre and our café & gallery space. We are particularly proud to have worked with IRIE! Dance Theatre, Kauma Arts and One Dance UK in securing an exhibition that captures a history of Black British Dance. As a promoter of participatory

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

work, much of the work we undertake is not visible as part our events programme. It is in our small and intimate spaces, where we deliver workshops for children, young people and adults that we see experimentation, collaboration and creative synergy that yields new ideas, fosters new partnership and drives creative ambition.

It was a commitment to creative ambition, that powered the Trustees decision to re-start our Annual Black Dance Forum. As the Chair, it was a great privilege to be able to work with Bill Harpe, Dr Rebecca Amissah and others in re-starting our annual forum for Black Dance. Providing an opportunity for world class discussion, with dance leaders, practitioners and facilitators. Together with dancers and dance makers sharing their practice. We were excited to manage the selection and commission of new dance work, with a focus on participation from three great makers: Michael Joseph MA - who was asked to create an intergenerational dance work. The Scottish based dance maker, Chinyanta Kabaso who created a work with and for young people from our local community here in Liverpool. The local and emergent group of dancers working with Liverpool based Joao Landim, who was commissioned to use film and workshops with young people to create a new work.

Creative learning for children and young people, within a professional community arts space remains central to our vision. Over the Summer of 2022, we collaborated with the Big Condo on a new video, involving 12 young people, building skills in film, digital and cultural confidence to tell their story through music and film. We also supported our year-long Eat Your heArt Out Festival with over 100 children and young people. Providing a year of holiday arts, circus skills and play led by practicing artists, making a space to create new work. With funding from Merseyside Play Action Council (MPAC) and the government Holiday Activity and Food programme and private donations, it was possible to make this free for all CYP and provide a hot meal, snacks, fresh fruit and a food hamper for families experiencing need. Liverpool is a city with a proud history, people who work hard - but it is also a city with significant inequality and economic deprivation. For over fifty years the Black-E's ethos has been about feeding the body and soul -arts and food go hand in hand.

Over the year we were able to invest in our new Binaural Sounds Studio, and the fourth floor Cultural Hub, creating better spaces for cultural partners like Company of Friends. Company of Friends' work continues to celebrate the talent and perspectives of performing artists with lived experience of learning disability. Bringing innovation and fresh insights to classic texts including Shakespeare's Tempest, and others. We are proud to work with partners who are fostering innovation and enabling artists to deliver quality for all our community.

We have reaffirmed our commitment to continuing a distinctive participatory arts programme -that is fuelled by a community arts model of delivering risk and quality in equal measure. Of broadening our audience reach and cultivating a cultural pipeline that speaks with and to the experience of those often excluded from the arts & cultural industries: Black and ethnic minority people, women, Disabled people and our diverse working-class community here in Liverpool. The trustees of the Black-E are committed to being the change to ensure that we create spaces and opportunities for new work and voices to flourish.

The Trustees acknowledge that the impossible of 2022 -2023 would not have been possible, without - all our staff, sessional artists, sessional workers, volunteers and interns across who all continue to work hard. Thank you to all for putting people at the centre of delivering the great experiences that make the Black-E the national centre for participatory arts!

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

Financial review

The results for the year and the charity's financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements. The principal funding sources are detailed under note 4 to the accounts, Income from charitable activities.

Risk and Reserves

The major risks to which the charity is exposed as identified by the Trustees have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate these risks, including regular periodic reviews of income and expenditure and cash flow and the revision of commitments and expenditure in relation to income. The Trustees also have a Corporate Risk Register, which is kept under ongoing review and jointly updated with senior staff.

The Trustees take the view that if the Charity was to suffer a loss of major loss of funding, it would need to keep reserves of £10,000. In addition, if the Charity was to suffer a significant loss of funding, it would use the £100,000 currently held by Barclays Bank for other purposes to wind down the charity. The Trustees have no plans to wind down the charity. With regards to the cultural programme, the major risks are linked to funding availability. Core funding risks are mitigated by the fact that The Black-E holds funding agreements with both Arts Council England as a National Portfolio client. In addition, as a national centre for participatory arts, the Trustees can mitigate risk by:

1. Reliance on growing volunteers, working with paid artists -reducing revenue costs.
2. Using high value film & TV, sports and commercial hires, that generates income to cross subsidise our cultural programme.

On the basis of a fundraising strategy approved by the Trustees, The Black-E continues to make applications and submissions for funding of the cultural programme to charitable trusts, local and national government departments, and other bodies.

The future finances of The Black-E (as analysed in the current Business Plan) are dependent on a balance of income from (a) grants, and (b) rental from hires. Rental from hires of the completed building will not 'leap' to an optimal level following relaunch but is predicted to grow over a 5-year period.

1. the Millennium Commission required and has taken a 1st fixed 80-year charge over The Black-E building and land together with a floating charge over all assets, and
2. the Arts Council has required and taken a second fixed 20-year charge over the Black-E building and land.

Fixed Assets

In the year ended 5 April 2012, the Trustees agreed that the Report and Accounts as produced be adopted and approved, and that a capital asset of £200,000, being the Trustees' own valuation of the current value in use of the Great George Street building, be revalued accordingly.

The Trustees again discussed the independent valuation of the building: 1 Great George Street and concluded there was no cost benefit, or any material benefit to the charity. This decision was taken because the cost of a valuation would be in the region of £16k. The building has both fixed and floating charges on the property register linked to grants received from the Arts Council of England and other lottery funders. Further the property has a fixed use, a restriction which means that it can only be used as cultural facility and change of use would be required. These factors greatly reduce the value of the building and taking account of this the Trustees unanimously continue to see no

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

benefit in an independent valuation.

Small company provisions

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

The trustees' annual report was approved on 21/12/23 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Ms A Ankrah
Trustee

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Black-E

Year ended 5 April 2023

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Black-E ('the charity') for the year ended 5 April 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Black-E *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Richard Brown FCA FCCA
Independent Examiner

Hanover Buildings
11-13 Hanover Street
Liverpool
L1 3DN

21/12/23

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 5 April 2023

		2023		2022	
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	2,790	222,683	225,473	216,248
Charitable activities	6	8,245	–	8,245	3,776
Other trading activities	7	105,277	–	105,277	60,836
Investment income	8	287	–	287	197
Total income		<u>116,599</u>	<u>222,683</u>	<u>339,282</u>	<u>281,057</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of other trading activities	9	<u>134,331</u>	<u>193,460</u>	<u>327,791</u>	<u>340,743</u>
Total expenditure		<u>134,331</u>	<u>193,460</u>	<u>327,791</u>	<u>340,743</u>
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds					
		<u>(17,732)</u>	<u>29,223</u>	<u>11,491</u>	<u>(59,686)</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		143,859	707,681	851,540	911,226
Total funds carried forward		<u>126,127</u>	<u>736,904</u>	<u>863,031</u>	<u>851,540</u>

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

The notes on pages 15 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Position

5 April 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	14	763,253	755,342
Current assets			
Debtors	15	38,731	22,572
Investments	16	100,000	100,000
Cash at bank and in hand		62,965	62,643
		<u>201,696</u>	<u>185,215</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	<u>101,918</u>	<u>89,017</u>
Net current assets		<u>99,778</u>	<u>96,198</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>863,031</u>	<u>851,540</u>
Net assets		<u>863,031</u>	<u>851,540</u>
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		736,904	707,681
Unrestricted funds		<u>126,127</u>	<u>143,859</u>
Total charity funds	18	<u>863,031</u>	<u>851,540</u>

For the year ending 5 April 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The statement of financial position
continues on the following page.

The notes on pages 15 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Position *(continued)*

5 April 2023

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 21/12/23, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Ms A Ankrah
Trustee

The notes on pages 15 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 5 April 2023

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 1 Great George Street, Liverpool, L1 5EW.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

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. As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the independent examination in order to design procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control. Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.

Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.

Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our independent examination.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Freehold property	-	Nil - See note 13
Fixtures and fittings	-	25% reducing balance

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Impairment of fixed assets *(continued)*

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments *(continued)*

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

4. Limited by guarantee

The Black-E was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee under the Companies Act 1985 on 01/06/1972. The liability of the members is limited to £1.00.

5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations			
General Donations	200	–	200
Just Giving	102	–	102
Chinese New Year	2,488	–	2,488
Grants			
ACE Capital Grant	–	22,500	22,500
ACE NW Revenue	–	112,024	112,024
Arts Council Recovery Fund	–	–	–
Liverpool City Voluntary	–	7,550	7,550
L C C - Project Grants	–	5,860	5,860
Liverpool Culture City	–	49,249	49,249
Liverpool HAF	–	7,500	7,500
M P A C	–	17,500	17,500
UBELE Initiative	–	500	500
	<u>2,790</u>	<u>222,683</u>	<u>225,473</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Donations			
General Donations	209	–	209
Just Giving	–	–	–
Chinese New Year	633	–	633

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

5. Donations and legacies *(continued)*

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Grants			
ACE Capital Grant	–	–	–
ACE NW Revenue	112,024	–	112,024
Arts Council Recovery Fund	31,500	–	31,500
Liverpool City Voluntary	–	21,450	21,450
L C C - Project Grants	–	–	–
Liverpool Culture City	48,832	–	48,832
Liverpool HAF	–	–	–
M P A C	–	1,600	1,600
UBELE Initiative	–	–	–
	<u>193,198</u>	<u>23,050</u>	<u>216,248</u>

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Bar Sales	8,008	8,008	2,396	2,396
Commissions	–	–	769	769
Hospitality - Inhouse	12	12	11	11
Miscellaneous Income	225	225	300	300
Sales	–	–	300	300
	<u>8,245</u>	<u>8,245</u>	<u>3,776</u>	<u>3,776</u>

7. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Venue hire	104,711	104,711	58,386	58,386
House rental	566	566	2,450	2,450
	<u>105,277</u>	<u>105,277</u>	<u>60,836</u>	<u>60,836</u>

8. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Bank Interest	<u>287</u>	<u>287</u>	<u>197</u>	<u>197</u>

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

9. Costs of other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Staff Costs	3,782	100,829	104,612
Governance costs	8,255	–	8,255
Premises costs	93,024	2,784	95,808
Office costs	17,439	–	17,439
Project costs	11,831	89,847	101,677
	<u>134,331</u>	<u>193,460</u>	<u>327,791</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Staff Costs	110,561	35,000	145,561
Governance costs	3,529	–	3,529
Premises costs	66,132	2,800	68,932
Office costs	72,752	–	72,752
Project costs	22,495	27,474	49,969
	<u>275,469</u>	<u>65,274</u>	<u>340,743</u>

10. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>446</u>	<u>–</u>

11. Independent examination fees

	2023 £	2022 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>2,100</u>	<u>2,100</u>

12. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	105,757	143,490
Social security costs	355	2,071
	<u>106,112</u>	<u>145,561</u>

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

12. Staff costs *(continued)*

The average head count of employees during the year was 7 (2022: 5). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Number of staff - Finance	1	1
Number of staff - Director	1	1
Number of staff - CYP manager	1	1
Number of staff - Administration	1	1
Number of staff - Cleaning	1	1
Number of staff - Maintenance	1	–
Number of staff - Communications	1	–
	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

13. Trustee remuneration and expenses

Included above are fees and expenses of Mr Harpe in respect of services provided to the charity. The amount included in the year was £10,420 (2022: £19,421).

2 Trustees were reimbursed for their travel expenses in respect of their attendance at Council meetings. The amounts totalled £1,702 for the year ending 5th April 2023 (2022: 3 Trustees totalling £518).

Bill Harpe was a non-paid Trustee - but in addition held the paid position as Cultural Director or Artistic Director and this was a paid position. He was therefore not paid to be a Trustee. He was however paid for his cultural leadership and day to day management of the arts and community operation. The governing document allowed this, so far as he was not involved in setting his own remuneration. Bill Harpe and Wendy Harpe were not involved in setting remuneration. Both ACE and the Charity Commission were aware of this position over the last 50 years.

The Trustees agreed, prior to 2019, that Bill Harpe would begin the process of stepping back and eventually down. Bill Harpe was paid a 'pension' - which covered his role as Joint Cultural Director, together with activity to transmit his work, including Intellectual Property and ideas to the next generation. This included work on the publication, archive and the notation of the great dance works that had framed the creation of the charity and indeed informed the re-development of the actual building space of the Black-E. In accordance with the Governing Documents, Bill Harpe was paid -but the potential conflict continued to be managed, as he neither set, nor participated in setting payments.

Over 2022/23 - payments made to Bill Harpe were based on his continuing contribution and handover, which in March 2023 would culminate in his Retirement and stepping away as a Cultural Director. During this period, Dr Rebecca Amissah functioned as a Cultural Facilitator, and as Joint Cultural Director met with funders, etc. Dr Rebecca as Joint Cultural Director was not paid and as part of the transition agreement, in 2023 became a Trustee and Director. Dr Rebecca remains non-paid.

As of 31/07/23 Bill Harpe is no longer a Director or Trustee and was on his retirement removed as a person with Significant Control. No payments have been made to Bill Harpe since April 2023. It is possible that in future, Trustees may seek to make an ex-gratia payment relating to 5 Huskisson Street and/or Bill's new role as a Patron. If this was to be done, it would be discussed and agreed by vote by the Trustees, taking account of our Conflicts of Interest Policy, Charity Commission guidance on on making ex-gratia payments (including the reputational risk of not making such a payment) and any payment would be derived from earned income and not existing charitable funds.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost			
At 6 April 2022	762,842	9,063	771,905
Additions	6,575	1,782	8,357
At 5 April 2023	<u>769,417</u>	<u>10,845</u>	<u>780,262</u>
Depreciation			
At 6 April 2022	7,500	9,063	16,563
Charge for the year	–	446	446
At 5 April 2023	<u>7,500</u>	<u>9,509</u>	<u>17,009</u>
Carrying amount			
At 5 April 2023	<u>761,917</u>	<u>1,336</u>	<u>763,253</u>
At 5 April 2022	<u>755,342</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>755,342</u>

The Black-E, the former Great George Street Congregational Church and the land, was donated to the charity in 1982. The original cost is not known. The trustees are consulting with advisors to determine the most appropriate way to value the building, including the cost of upgrading the building, and how to disclose this and the related depreciation in the financial statements.

The Millennium Commission required and has taken a first fixed 80 years charge over the Black-E building and the land together with a floating charge over all assets and the Arts Council has required and taken a second fixed 20 years charge over the Black-E building and the land.

Tangible fixed assets held at valuation

In respect of tangible fixed assets held at valuation, the aggregate cost, depreciation and comparable carrying amount that would have been recognised if the assets had been carried under the historical cost model are as follows:

	Freehold property £
At 5 April 2023	
Aggregate cost	207,500
Aggregate depreciation	<u>(7,500)</u>
Carrying value	<u>200,000</u>
At 5 April 2022	
Aggregate cost	207,500
Aggregate depreciation	<u>(7,500)</u>
Carrying value	<u>200,000</u>

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

15. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	–	4,878
Prepayments and accrued income	38,440	6,000
Other debtors	291	11,694
	<u>38,731</u>	<u>22,572</u>

16. Investments

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other investments	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>

17. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other loans	80,701	80,700
Accruals and deferred income	9,624	3,957
Social security and other taxes	2,453	2,673
Other creditors	–	1,470
Other creditors	9,140	217
	<u>101,918</u>	<u>89,017</u>

The bank overdrafts are secured on 5 Huskisson Street, land at the rear of 5 Huskisson Street and the south side of 17 Canning Street and the credit balance of £100,000 held by Barclays Bank as an investment.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

18. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 6 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 5 April 2023 £
General Unrestricted fund	(15,691)	116,599	(126,331)	(25,423)
Designated Unrestricted Fund	159,550	–	(8,000)	151,550
	<u>143,859</u>	<u>116,599</u>	<u>(134,331)</u>	<u>126,127</u>

	At 6 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 5 April 2022 £
General Unrestricted fund	1,771	258,007	(275,469)	(15,691)
Designated Unrestricted Fund	159,550	–	–	159,550
	<u>161,321</u>	<u>258,007</u>	<u>(275,469)</u>	<u>143,859</u>

Restricted funds

	At 6 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 5 April 2023 £
Restricted Fund	707,681	222,683	(193,460)	736,904

	At 6 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 5 April 2022 £
Restricted Fund	749,905	23,050	(65,274)	707,681

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

18. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

Arts Council Capital Grant is for Building Refurbishment.

Veolia Trust Grant is for the Kitchen refurbishment.

Granada Foundation Grant is for Streaming Equipment and Music Technology Studio.

Fashions Bequest Fund is for Gallery Exhibitions and Online Games. Fashions Bequest Fund is for Gallery Exhibitions and Online Games.

MPG grant is for Youth Arts Play Scheme and Healthy Eating project.

Trust House Foundation Grant is for After School Project and Play Activities.

Sally's bequest fund is for Youth Music and workshops.

Liverpool HAF is for holiday activities and food programmes to provide free places at holiday clubs for children.

The Ubele Initiative funds are to promote and support African diaspora led infrastructure and to act as catalysts for social and economic change.

Liverpool City Council Grants are for refurbishment of the property.

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	90,050	673,203	763,253
Current assets	137,995	63,701	201,696
Creditors less than 1 year	(101,918)	–	(101,918)
Net assets	<u>126,127</u>	<u>736,904</u>	<u>863,031</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	90,139	665,203	755,342
Current assets	142,737	42,478	185,215
Creditors less than 1 year	(89,017)	–	(89,017)
Net assets	<u>143,859</u>	<u>707,681</u>	<u>851,540</u>

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

20. Restricted funds

	06-Apr-22	Income	Expenditure	05-Apr-23
	£	£	£	£
Building Fund	197,704	–	42,500	155,204
Arts Council England - Building Project	427,500	22,500	85,000	365,000
Veolia Trust - Building Project	39,999	–	8,215	31,784
Granada Foundation	12,000	–	2,600	9,400
Fashions Bequest Fund	8,712	–	1,890	6,822
MPAC	–	17,500	17,500	–
Liverpool City Voluntary	–	7,550	1,640	5,910
ACE NW Revenue	–	112,024	24,300	87,724
L C C - Project Grants	–	5,860	1,275	4,585
Liverpool Culture City / HAF	–	56,749	3,290	53,459
UBELE Initiative	–	500	500	–
Sally & Kevin's Bequest - Youth Music	21,766	–	4,750	17,016
Total	707,681	222,683	193,460	736,904

21. Designated funds

	06/04/2022	Income	Expenditure	05/04/2023
	£	£	£	£
Games and Publications	8,000	–	8,000	8,000
Main Space Floor Improvement	2,000	–	–	2,000
Patron's New Commission's Fund	10,000	–	–	10,000
5 Huskisson Repair & Development	11,000	–	–	11,000
Edward Murphy - Celebration & staffing	8,550	–	–	8,550
5 Huskisson Lease Renewal	120,000	–	–	120,000
Total	159,550	–	8,000	151,550

THE BLACK-E

England & Wales - Charity number 501859

Accounts

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1056472

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 501859

**The Black-E
Company Limited by Guarantee
Unaudited Financial Statements
5 April 2023**

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial Statements

Year ended 5 April 2023

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The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 5 April 2023

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 5 April 2023.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	The Black-E
Charity registration number	501859
Company registration number	1056472
Principal office and registered office	1 Great George Street Liverpool L1 5EW

The trustees

Ms S Eyo	(Resigned 19 October 2023)
Ms C Malcolm	
Mr S Knox	(Resigned 31 October 2022)
Mrs T Afful	(Appointed 22 January 2023)
Mr C Allen	(Resigned 13 May 2023)
Ms A Ankrah	(Appointed 1 November 2022)
Mr T Burke	(Resigned 31 October 2022)
Ms J Green	
Mr B Harpe	(Resigned 20 July 2023)
Mrs W Harpe	
Mrs B Benjamin	(Appointed 31 October 2022)
Mr J Cullen	(Resigned 22 January 2023)
Ms J Khalli	
Mr I Freeman	(Appointed 22 January 2023)
Mr R Pritchard	(Appointed 22 January 2023)

Archive Sub-Committee Members

The persons who have acted as Archive Sub-committee members during the year are:

Chairperson	Ian Freeman
Deputy Chairperson	Ms. Wendy Harpe

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

The Trustees, who are also Directors of the charity for the purposes of Company Law, present their Annual Report and the Financial Statements for the year ended 5th April 2023.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's memorandum and articles of association, the Companies Act 2006' and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)"

The information contained in this Annual Report is both complemented and augmented by information available on the website, www.theblack-e.org.

The Charity

Great Georges Community Cultural Project, now operating as The Black-E, is a charitable company limited by guarantee and with no share capital. The Company is registered in England and Wales, No. 01056472. The principal governing document is the company Memorandum and Articles of Association. The charity is registered with the Charity Commission No. 501859. The principal address and registered office of the Company is:

The Black-E
1 Great George Street
Liverpool
L1 5EW

The day-to-day management of the charity is vested in The Director of Cultural Operations with support from Arts Development Manager for Children and Young People, associate development staff and the Associate Cultural Directors, who develop and deliver activity and meet through an all-team meeting.

Over the year professional support on bookkeeping, financial management and governance was provided by Seelan and from August 2022 onwards by Mr David Wareing.

Independent examiner

Richard Brown FCA FCCA
Hanover Buildings
11-13 Hanover Street
Liverpool
L1 3DN

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

Structure, governance and management

Method of appointment of trustees

The Trustees are "the keepers of the vision". Experts overseeing Trustees should be on Tap and not on Top as Trustees. The Trustees aim to ensure that they are reflective of the local community (50% of Trustees have a connection with Liverpool) and in terms of gender, race, disability and class - and that they possess collectively the arts, cultural and community experience and the expertise to exercise their responsibilities and to provide the Black-E with "affection, protection, and direction." Trustees are recruited through both advertising, as well as person to person contact, networking and contact with the cultural and CYP programmes. The Trustees bring to their responsibilities a combination of experience, skills and qualifications in the following areas: architecture and planning; building construction; financial control, accountancy and bookkeeping; fundraising; law; voluntary sector management; arts administration and management; cultural policy; environmental issues; event promotion, production, and direction; exhibition curation; marketing; leisure services management; local government; security; equal opportunities; cultural diversity; youth work; education and training; arts and disability; arts therapy; information technology; film & media; literature; drama; music; dance; fashion; visual arts and crafts; games; sport and recreation.

Induction and training trustees

New Trustees are inducted through meetings and through documentation. Quarterly Trustees meetings begin with a morning training session in a specific area of responsibility (e.g., Charity Law, the Disability Discrimination Act, equal opportunities, safeguarding, audited accounts, etc.) The Trustees are responsible "for steering the ship". This means that the Trustees take decisions to ensure that there is a balance between resources available for the capital programme and for the cultural programme, that there is a balance between the cultural programme and hires, and that there is a balance within the cultural programme between 'performing' and 'making' arts, and between youth arts and the programme'. Management accounts, audited accounts, and revisions of business plans are received, considered, and determined by the Trustees. Ad-hoc Building Sub Committee, Audit Sub Committee, Archive Sub Committee and Personnel Sub Committee are from time to time given delegated powers in relation to their respective areas, and report back to Trustees meetings. Staff take decisions of detail within parameters set by the Trustees, e.g., the detail of the Gallery or Cultural Programme and key policies including Financial Standing Orders, It takes a Village.... Safeguarding Policy.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

Objectives and activities

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

The objects for which the charity is established are:

- a) To advance the education of the public in and by means of all the arts including performing arts, visual arts, applied arts and experimental work in the arts and by improving standards of execution and appreciation of the arts.
- b) To provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure-time occupation in the interests of social welfare for members of the public at large and for persons who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, poverty or social or economic circumstances, with the object of improving conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities are intended.
- c) To establish and maintain Community Centre for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Merseyside Area and to promote all or any objects for the benefit of the said inhabitants which now are or hereafter may be deemed by law to be charitable.

The creation of contexts (both social and environmental) which encourage an improved and meaningful relationship between artists and communities for the creation's presentation and promotion of contemporary work of high quality and originality. This means that the Black-E is committed to:

- a) access - both providing access and improving access to the artist and for the artist, and for those individuals and groups already involved in the arts as well as for those with no previous involvement with the arts - for example by the provision of workshops both as part of the ongoing programme and in conjunction with residencies, performances; by establishing an on-going dialogue between artists and their audiences through repeated visits and work, and by running seminars, residencies, etc. which enable artists to meet and work together.
- b) positive action - in relation to artists who are discriminated against - and in relation to communities and individuals who are discriminated against or disadvantaged - to provide opportunities for such artist communities, and individuals to give expression to their experience, their needs, and their aspirations, and to celebrate their achievements and rediscover their history.
- c) education (learning and unlearning) and training - both by and for artists - and both by and for communities and individuals- with a view to improving performance, understanding, and communication. The creation of opportunities and contexts which enable people to actively participate in creative activities a participation based in "doing" as well as "viewing" - in order, amongst other aims, to further democratise the arts.

Indeed, since democracy rests on the creation of a common language, and since the arts remain among the most restricted of languages, such involvement aims to promote democratisation not only through a shared understanding of these languages but also through growth and development in the languages themselves.

This means the Black-E is committed to:

- a) the creation and exploration of forms in which "audience" participation is fundamental.
-

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

b) experiment to make a contribution to the research and development which is essential if new forms and techniques are to emerge to give expression to the worlds of today and tomorrow.

The recognition and valuing of cultural diversity. This means the Black-E is committed to:

a) promoting work which reflects the experience and concerns of those groups within our society whose voices have been marginalised, 'anthropologised' or ignored.

b) programming across the spectrum of creative activities - the fine arts, the popular arts, the performing arts, the making arts, creative and co-operative games, contemporary media, and traditional crafts - to promote and develop harmony rather than hierarchy between forms, and additionally to promote and develop cross-fertilisation and positive interaction between forms.

c) a perspective of the arts which is local, regional, national, and international - to stimulate and develop a sense of cultural and geographical inter-relatedness and variety.

From all the above, in committing itself to exploring and recreating the relationship between contemporary society and the contemporary artist and between contemporary society and creative activities and opportunities, the Black-E is committing itself to a two-in-one duality - to the development of communities and to the development of artists.

In terms of communities, then such a commitment is based on a recognition of the role of the arts in community development: every community issue is also an issue to be explored through the arts. In terms of artists, then such a commitment is based on the complementary recognition that - only given the opportunity - everyone is an artist.

And if all the earlier text had to be summed up in seven words?

Our continuing objectives for the year 2022-23 were: -

To continue to produce and promote the Arts of Survival combined arts cultural programme, embracing the Gallery, Archive, publications, drama, and especially Kinetic Theatre Programme (dance, circus, physical theatre), in conjunction with hires to and 'sharings' with commercial and cultural organisations. All underpinned by a commitment to cultivating cultural diversity and delivering inclusion and equity.

To prioritise work for young people in the Youth Arts Programme and Cultural Programme - Black-E managed to do 14 Play Scheme sessions during the limited opening time. To bring our ongoing support on Hip-Hop into Black-E to train and conduct workshops and deliver a film project. Whilst we have made a start through holding meetings with young people interested in progressing this. It does however remain work that we are committed to.

To strengthen the Trustee Board with active local members, who reflect the diversity of our intent to support greater participation of Black and ethnic minority peoples, in the cultural pipeline. Fortnightly staff planning and action meetings to support detailed planning and organisational work to produce the overall cultural programme in line with strategies and objectives determined by the Trustees.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

Achievements and performance

Trustee Review of Activities and Future Developments

In December 2022, I took over as the Chair of the Charity, during a period that marked a significant moment in our shared history. As a charity born in the devastating flu pandemic of 1968, we have now worked again with our community to re-new our ambition and plans in the aftermath of the devastating COVID19 global pandemic. This year has centred on helping us transition to our Trustees for Life and founders Bill & Wendy Harpe, after over fifty years becoming Patrons. Bill, as a dancer, choreographer and Wendy, as a maker and facilitator of community involving work cannot be replaced. Indeed, the Charity has remained resilient and succeeded where others have long since gone because of how the Trust board was set up. Bill Harpe for most of his career combined two distinct roles, being an unpaid-trustee: with being a very poorly paid Artistic Director - often surrendering his salary to projects like supporting the training of local emergent artists. As a community based, artist led charity - Bill and Wendy were pioneers on volunteerism, social action and building social movements - and they placed these ideas and their methodology at the heart of the charity. It is a heavy burden as the current Chair of Trustees to try and emulate these values and ideas - but it must be done.

It has also been a year of the trustees working to retain and grow our regular funding base and we thank the Arts Council Relationship Team for their wise counsel, constructive feedback and support in this difficult year. With the help of the trustees, our local Liverpool community and partners pulling together we retained and nearly doubled our ACE funding. However, we have a long way to go in keeping up with cost increases and replacing other funding that we were unable to retain. In May 2022, we we kicked off a three-year programme of work thematically centred around health, wellbeing and a bold desire to see our local and global communities that we connect with flourish.

Fittingly in May 2022 we welcomed SuAndi OBE of our Northwest partner, the National Black Arts Alliance, to help us mark (through new spoken word) the legacy of one of our other the founders, the late Sally Morris. Together with James MacRitchie's unwavering dedication on helping bring together the selected writings on dance by Bill Harpe. The publishing of this important text was made possible with the kind support of the designer: Victoria Adenugba, Jacqueline McKenzie and the National Black Artist Alliance (NBAA).

This cultural partnership with NBAA would also enable our Associate Cultural Director , Dr Rebecca Amissah MD to kick-start the development of the first work of three-new full-scale works in a community involving People's Opera & Dance Cycle. This first new work Mary Seacole to Joan Stober A People's Opera and Dance is allowing us to use our beautiful multi-space building and work with community to create site specific and immersive work. This first work in the cycle enabled us, through community workshops in drumming, gospel music, dance & movement, circus and the visual & textile arts to explore the lives of two great Black women. This new work also created a means to share with a wider audience the well-known story of Mary Seacole from her own words: 'The Wonderful Adventures of Mary Seacole in Many Lands'. This formed the basis of brilliant children and young people centred work designed and led by our Development Manager and film artist Rachael Statham. Together with the lesser known, but courageous and inspiring life of the late Joan Stober (nee Morten) a former Liverpool resident. Joan was one of the first Black British born nurses at the start of the NHS in July 1948, in the 1980's she was a race equality campaigner and civil rights activists, who during her time in the USA, was a friend to Martin Luther King jnr.

Over the year we staged and hosted may events across our 500-capacity main space, studio, seminar rooms, and particularly in the intimacy of our 150-seater Chamber Theatre and our café & gallery space. We are particularly proud to have worked with IRIE! Dance Theatre, Kauma Arts and One Dance UK in securing an exhibition that captures a history of Black British Dance. As a promoter of participatory

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

work, much of the work we undertake is not visible as part our events programme. It is in our small and intimate spaces, where we deliver workshops for children, young people and adults that we see experimentation, collaboration and creative synergy that yields new ideas, fosters new partnership and drives creative ambition.

It was a commitment to creative ambition, that powered the Trustees decision to re-start our Annual Black Dance Forum. As the Chair, it was a great privilege to be able to work with Bill Harpe, Dr Rebecca Amissah and others in re-starting our annual forum for Black Dance. Providing an opportunity for world class discussion, with dance leaders, practitioners and facilitators. Together with dancers and dance makers sharing their practice. We were excited to manage the selection and commission of new dance work, with a focus on participation from three great makers: Michael Joseph MA - who was asked to create an intergenerational dance work. The Scottish based dance maker, Chinyanta Kabaso who created a work with and for young people from our local community here in Liverpool. The local and emergent group of dancers working with Liverpool based Joao Landim, who was commissioned to use film and workshops with young people to create a new work.

Creative learning for children and young people, within a professional community arts space remains central to our vision. Over the Summer of 2022, we collaborated with the Big Condo on a new video, involving 12 young people, building skills in film, digital and cultural confidence to tell their story through music and film. We also supported our year-long Eat Your heArt Out Festival with over 100 children and young people. Providing a year of holiday arts, circus skills and play led by practicing artists, making a space to create new work. With funding from Merseyside Play Action Council (MPAC) and the government Holiday Activity and Food programme and private donations, it was possible to make this free for all CYP and provide a hot meal, snacks, fresh fruit and a food hamper for families experiencing need. Liverpool is a city with a proud history, people who work hard - but it is also a city with significant inequality and economic deprivation. For over fifty years the Black-E's ethos has been about feeding the body and soul -arts and food go hand in hand.

Over the year we were able to invest in our new Binaural Sounds Studio, and the fourth floor Cultural Hub, creating better spaces for cultural partners like Company of Friends. Company of Friends' work continues to celebrate the talent and perspectives of performing artists with lived experience of learning disability. Bringing innovation and fresh insights to classic texts including Shakespeare's Tempest, and others. We are proud to work with partners who are fostering innovation and enabling artists to deliver quality for all our community.

We have reaffirmed our commitment to continuing a distinctive participatory arts programme -that is fuelled by a community arts model of delivering risk and quality in equal measure. Of broadening our audience reach and cultivating a cultural pipeline that speaks with and to the experience of those often excluded from the arts & cultural industries: Black and ethnic minority people, women, Disabled people and our diverse working-class community here in Liverpool. The trustees of the Black-E are committed to being the change to ensure that we create spaces and opportunities for new work and voices to flourish.

The Trustees acknowledge that the impossible of 2022 -2023 would not have been possible, without - all our staff, sessional artists, sessional workers, volunteers and interns across who all continue to work hard. Thank you to all for putting people at the centre of delivering the great experiences that make the Black-E the national centre for participatory arts!

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

Financial review

The results for the year and the charity's financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements. The principal funding sources are detailed under note 4 to the accounts, Income from charitable activities.

Risk and Reserves

The major risks to which the charity is exposed as identified by the Trustees have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate these risks, including regular periodic reviews of income and expenditure and cash flow and the revision of commitments and expenditure in relation to income. The Trustees also have a Corporate Risk Register, which is kept under ongoing review and jointly updated with senior staff.

The Trustees take the view that if the Charity was to suffer a loss of major loss of funding, it would need to keep reserves of £10,000. In addition, if the Charity was to suffer a significant loss of funding, it would use the £100,000 currently held by Barclays Bank for other purposes to wind down the charity. The Trustees have no plans to wind down the charity. With regards to the cultural programme, the major risks are linked to funding availability. Core funding risks are mitigated by the fact that The Black-E holds funding agreements with both Arts Council England as a National Portfolio client. In addition, as a national centre for participatory arts, the Trustees can mitigate risk by:

1. Reliance on growing volunteers, working with paid artists -reducing revenue costs.
2. Using high value film & TV, sports and commercial hires, that generates income to cross subsidise our cultural programme.

On the basis of a fundraising strategy approved by the Trustees, The Black-E continues to make applications and submissions for funding of the cultural programme to charitable trusts, local and national government departments, and other bodies.

The future finances of The Black-E (as analysed in the current Business Plan) are dependent on a balance of income from (a) grants, and (b) rental from hires. Rental from hires of the completed building will not 'leap' to an optimal level following relaunch but is predicted to grow over a 5-year period.

1. the Millennium Commission required and has taken a 1st fixed 80-year charge over The Black-E building and land together with a floating charge over all assets, and
2. the Arts Council has required and taken a second fixed 20-year charge over the Black-E building and land.

Fixed Assets

In the year ended 5 April 2012, the Trustees agreed that the Report and Accounts as produced be adopted and approved, and that a capital asset of £200,000, being the Trustees' own valuation of the current value in use of the Great George Street building, be revalued accordingly.

The Trustees again discussed the independent valuation of the building: 1 Great George Street and concluded there was no cost benefit, or any material benefit to the charity. This decision was taken because the cost of a valuation would be in the region of £16k. The building has both fixed and floating charges on the property register linked to grants received from the Arts Council of England and other lottery funders. Further the property has a fixed use, a restriction which means that it can only be used as cultural facility and change of use would be required. These factors greatly reduce the value of the building and taking account of this the Trustees unanimously continue to see no

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

benefit in an independent valuation.

Small company provisions

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

The trustees' annual report was approved on 21/12/23 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Ms A Ankrah
Trustee

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Black-E

Year ended 5 April 2023

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Black-E ('the charity') for the year ended 5 April 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Black-E *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Richard Brown FCA FCCA
Independent Examiner

Hanover Buildings
11-13 Hanover Street
Liverpool
L1 3DN

21/12/23

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 5 April 2023

		2023		2022	
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	2,790	222,683	225,473	216,248
Charitable activities	6	8,245	–	8,245	3,776
Other trading activities	7	105,277	–	105,277	60,836
Investment income	8	287	–	287	197
Total income		<u>116,599</u>	<u>222,683</u>	<u>339,282</u>	<u>281,057</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of other trading activities	9	<u>134,331</u>	<u>193,460</u>	<u>327,791</u>	<u>340,743</u>
Total expenditure		<u>134,331</u>	<u>193,460</u>	<u>327,791</u>	<u>340,743</u>
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds					
		<u>(17,732)</u>	<u>29,223</u>	<u>11,491</u>	<u>(59,686)</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		143,859	707,681	851,540	911,226
Total funds carried forward		<u>126,127</u>	<u>736,904</u>	<u>863,031</u>	<u>851,540</u>

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

The notes on pages 15 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Position

5 April 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	14	763,253	755,342
Current assets			
Debtors	15	38,731	22,572
Investments	16	100,000	100,000
Cash at bank and in hand		62,965	62,643
		<u>201,696</u>	<u>185,215</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	<u>101,918</u>	<u>89,017</u>
Net current assets		<u>99,778</u>	<u>96,198</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>863,031</u>	<u>851,540</u>
Net assets		<u>863,031</u>	<u>851,540</u>
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		736,904	707,681
Unrestricted funds		<u>126,127</u>	<u>143,859</u>
Total charity funds	18	<u>863,031</u>	<u>851,540</u>

For the year ending 5 April 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The statement of financial position
continues on the following page.

The notes on pages 15 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Financial Position *(continued)*

5 April 2023

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 21/12/23, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Ms A Ankrah
Trustee

The notes on pages 15 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 5 April 2023

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 1 Great George Street, Liverpool, L1 5EW.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

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. As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the independent examination in order to design procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control. Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.

Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.

Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our independent examination.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Freehold property	-	Nil - See note 13
Fixtures and fittings	-	25% reducing balance

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Impairment of fixed assets *(continued)*

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Financial instruments *(continued)*

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

4. Limited by guarantee

The Black-E was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee under the Companies Act 1985 on 01/06/1972. The liability of the members is limited to £1.00.

5. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations			
General Donations	200	–	200
Just Giving	102	–	102
Chinese New Year	2,488	–	2,488
Grants			
ACE Capital Grant	–	22,500	22,500
ACE NW Revenue	–	112,024	112,024
Arts Council Recovery Fund	–	–	–
Liverpool City Voluntary	–	7,550	7,550
L C C - Project Grants	–	5,860	5,860
Liverpool Culture City	–	49,249	49,249
Liverpool HAF	–	7,500	7,500
M P A C	–	17,500	17,500
UBELE Initiative	–	500	500
	<u>2,790</u>	<u>222,683</u>	<u>225,473</u>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Donations			
General Donations	209	–	209
Just Giving	–	–	–
Chinese New Year	633	–	633

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

5. Donations and legacies *(continued)*

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Grants			
ACE Capital Grant	–	–	–
ACE NW Revenue	112,024	–	112,024
Arts Council Recovery Fund	31,500	–	31,500
Liverpool City Voluntary	–	21,450	21,450
L C C - Project Grants	–	–	–
Liverpool Culture City	48,832	–	48,832
Liverpool HAF	–	–	–
M P A C	–	1,600	1,600
UBELE Initiative	–	–	–
	<u>193,198</u>	<u>23,050</u>	<u>216,248</u>

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Bar Sales	8,008	8,008	2,396	2,396
Commissions	–	–	769	769
Hospitality - Inhouse	12	12	11	11
Miscellaneous Income	225	225	300	300
Sales	–	–	300	300
	<u>8,245</u>	<u>8,245</u>	<u>3,776</u>	<u>3,776</u>

7. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Venue hire	104,711	104,711	58,386	58,386
House rental	566	566	2,450	2,450
	<u>105,277</u>	<u>105,277</u>	<u>60,836</u>	<u>60,836</u>

8. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Bank Interest	<u>287</u>	<u>287</u>	<u>197</u>	<u>197</u>

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

9. Costs of other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Staff Costs	3,782	100,829	104,612
Governance costs	8,255	–	8,255
Premises costs	93,024	2,784	95,808
Office costs	17,439	–	17,439
Project costs	11,831	89,847	101,677
	<u>134,331</u>	<u>193,460</u>	<u>327,791</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Staff Costs	110,561	35,000	145,561
Governance costs	3,529	–	3,529
Premises costs	66,132	2,800	68,932
Office costs	72,752	–	72,752
Project costs	22,495	27,474	49,969
	<u>275,469</u>	<u>65,274</u>	<u>340,743</u>

10. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>446</u>	<u>–</u>

11. Independent examination fees

	2023 £	2022 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>2,100</u>	<u>2,100</u>

12. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	105,757	143,490
Social security costs	355	2,071
	<u>106,112</u>	<u>145,561</u>

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

12. Staff costs *(continued)*

The average head count of employees during the year was 7 (2022: 5). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Number of staff - Finance	1	1
Number of staff - Director	1	1
Number of staff - CYP manager	1	1
Number of staff - Administration	1	1
Number of staff - Cleaning	1	1
Number of staff - Maintenance	1	–
Number of staff - Communications	1	–
	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

13. Trustee remuneration and expenses

Included above are fees and expenses of Mr Harpe in respect of services provided to the charity. The amount included in the year was £10,420 (2022: £19,421).

2 Trustees were reimbursed for their travel expenses in respect of their attendance at Council meetings. The amounts totalled £1,702 for the year ending 5th April 2023 (2022: 3 Trustees totalling £518).

Bill Harpe was a non-paid Trustee - but in addition held the paid position as Cultural Director or Artistic Director and this was a paid position. He was therefore not paid to be a Trustee. He was however paid for his cultural leadership and day to day management of the arts and community operation. The governing document allowed this, so far as he was not involved in setting his own remuneration. Bill Harpe and Wendy Harpe were not involved in setting remuneration. Both ACE and the Charity Commission were aware of this position over the last 50 years.

The Trustees agreed, prior to 2019, that Bill Harpe would begin the process of stepping back and eventually down. Bill Harpe was paid a 'pension' - which covered his role as Joint Cultural Director, together with activity to transmit his work, including Intellectual Property and ideas to the next generation. This included work on the publication, archive and the notation of the great dance works that had framed the creation of the charity and indeed informed the re-development of the actual building space of the Black-E. In accordance with the Governing Documents, Bill Harpe was paid -but the potential conflict continued to be managed, as he neither set, nor participated in setting payments.

Over 2022/23 - payments made to Bill Harpe were based on his continuing contribution and handover, which in March 2023 would culminate in his Retirement and stepping away as a Cultural Director. During this period, Dr Rebecca Amissah functioned as a Cultural Facilitator, and as Joint Cultural Director met with funders, etc. Dr Rebecca as Joint Cultural Director was not paid and as part of the transition agreement, in 2023 became a Trustee and Director. Dr Rebecca remains non-paid.

As of 31/07/23 Bill Harpe is no longer a Director or Trustee and was on his retirement removed as a person with Significant Control. No payments have been made to Bill Harpe since April 2023. It is possible that in future, Trustees may seek to make an ex-gratia payment relating to 5 Huskisson Street and/or Bill's new role as a Patron. If this was to be done, it would be discussed and agreed by vote by the Trustees, taking account of our Conflicts of Interest Policy, Charity Commission guidance on on making ex-gratia payments (including the reputational risk of not making such a payment) and any payment would be derived from earned income and not existing charitable funds.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost			
At 6 April 2022	762,842	9,063	771,905
Additions	6,575	1,782	8,357
At 5 April 2023	<u>769,417</u>	<u>10,845</u>	<u>780,262</u>
Depreciation			
At 6 April 2022	7,500	9,063	16,563
Charge for the year	–	446	446
At 5 April 2023	<u>7,500</u>	<u>9,509</u>	<u>17,009</u>
Carrying amount			
At 5 April 2023	<u>761,917</u>	<u>1,336</u>	<u>763,253</u>
At 5 April 2022	<u>755,342</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>755,342</u>

The Black-E, the former Great George Street Congregational Church and the land, was donated to the charity in 1982. The original cost is not known. The trustees are consulting with advisors to determine the most appropriate way to value the building, including the cost of upgrading the building, and how to disclose this and the related depreciation in the financial statements.

The Millennium Commission required and has taken a first fixed 80 years charge over the Black-E building and the land together with a floating charge over all assets and the Arts Council has required and taken a second fixed 20 years charge over the Black-E building and the land.

Tangible fixed assets held at valuation

In respect of tangible fixed assets held at valuation, the aggregate cost, depreciation and comparable carrying amount that would have been recognised if the assets had been carried under the historical cost model are as follows:

	Freehold property £
At 5 April 2023	
Aggregate cost	207,500
Aggregate depreciation	(7,500)
Carrying value	<u>200,000</u>
At 5 April 2022	
Aggregate cost	207,500
Aggregate depreciation	(7,500)
Carrying value	<u>200,000</u>

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

15. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	–	4,878
Prepayments and accrued income	38,440	6,000
Other debtors	291	11,694
	<u>38,731</u>	<u>22,572</u>

16. Investments

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other investments	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>

17. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other loans	80,701	80,700
Accruals and deferred income	9,624	3,957
Social security and other taxes	2,453	2,673
Other creditors	–	1,470
Other creditors	9,140	217
	<u>101,918</u>	<u>89,017</u>

The bank overdrafts are secured on 5 Huskisson Street, land at the rear of 5 Huskisson Street and the south side of 17 Canning Street and the credit balance of £100,000 held by Barclays Bank as an investment.

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

18. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 6 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 5 April 2023 £
General Unrestricted fund	(15,691)	116,599	(126,331)	(25,423)
Designated Unrestricted Fund	159,550	–	(8,000)	151,550
	<u>143,859</u>	<u>116,599</u>	<u>(134,331)</u>	<u>126,127</u>

	At 6 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 5 April 2022 £
General Unrestricted fund	1,771	258,007	(275,469)	(15,691)
Designated Unrestricted Fund	159,550	–	–	159,550
	<u>161,321</u>	<u>258,007</u>	<u>(275,469)</u>	<u>143,859</u>

Restricted funds

	At 6 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 5 April 2023 £
Restricted Fund	707,681	222,683	(193,460)	736,904

	At 6 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 5 April 2022 £
Restricted Fund	749,905	23,050	(65,274)	707,681

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

18. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

Arts Council Capital Grant is for Building Refurbishment.

Veolia Trust Grant is for the Kitchen refurbishment.

Granada Foundation Grant is for Streaming Equipment and Music Technology Studio.

Fashions Bequest Fund is for Gallery Exhibitions and Online Games. Fashions Bequest Fund is for Gallery Exhibitions and Online Games.

MPG grant is for Youth Arts Play Scheme and Healthy Eating project.

Trust House Foundation Grant is for After School Project and Play Activities.

Sally's bequest fund is for Youth Music and workshops.

Liverpool HAF is for holiday activities and food programmes to provide free places at holiday clubs for children.

The Ubele Initiative funds are to promote and support African diaspora led infrastructure and to act as catalysts for social and economic change.

Liverpool City Council Grants are for refurbishment of the property.

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	90,050	673,203	763,253
Current assets	137,995	63,701	201,696
Creditors less than 1 year	(101,918)	–	(101,918)
Net assets	<u>126,127</u>	<u>736,904</u>	<u>863,031</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	90,139	665,203	755,342
Current assets	142,737	42,478	185,215
Creditors less than 1 year	(89,017)	–	(89,017)
Net assets	<u>143,859</u>	<u>707,681</u>	<u>851,540</u>

The Black-E

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 5 April 2023

20. Restricted funds

	06-Apr-22	Income	Expenditure	05-Apr-23
	£	£	£	£
Building Fund	197,704	–	42,500	155,204
Arts Council England - Building Project	427,500	22,500	85,000	365,000
Veolia Trust - Building Project	39,999	–	8,215	31,784
Granada Foundation	12,000	–	2,600	9,400
Fashions Bequest Fund	8,712	–	1,890	6,822
MPAC	–	17,500	17,500	–
Liverpool City Voluntary	–	7,550	1,640	5,910
ACE NW Revenue	–	112,024	24,300	87,724
L C C - Project Grants	–	5,860	1,275	4,585
Liverpool Culture City / HAF	–	56,749	3,290	53,459
UBELE Initiative	–	500	500	–
Sally & Kevin's Bequest - Youth Music	21,766	–	4,750	17,016
Total	707,681	222,683	193,460	736,904

21. Designated funds

	06/04/2022	Income	Expenditure	05/04/2023
	£	£	£	£
Games and Publications	8,000	–	8,000	8,000
Main Space Floor Improvement	2,000	–	–	2,000
Patron's New Commission's Fund	10,000	–	–	10,000
5 Huskisson Repair & Development	11,000	–	–	11,000
Edward Murphy - Celebration & staffing	8,550	–	–	8,550
5 Huskisson Lease Renewal	120,000	–	–	120,000
Total	159,550	–	8,000	151,550

THE BLACK-E

England & Wales - Charity number 501859

Accounts

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

THE BLACK-E

Formerly known as
GREAT GEORGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL PROJECT LTD
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

Charity Registration No 501859

Company Registration No 01056472 (England and Wales)

THE BLACK-E
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE GREAT GEORGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL PROJECT LIMITED)
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

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Great Georges Community Cultural Project Ltd was incorporated in England on 1st June 1972.

Company Number: 1056472

The Charity is registered with the Charity Commission

Charity Number: 501859

THE BLACK-E
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE GREAT GEORGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL PROJECT LIMITED)
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

The Trustees, who are also Directors of the charity for the purposes of Company Law, present their Annual Report and the Financial Statements for the year ended 5th April 2021.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's memorandum and articles of association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)"

The information contained in this Annual Report is both complemented and augmented by information available on the website, www.theblack-e.co.uk.

THE CHARITY

Great Georges Community Cultural Project, now operating as The Black-E, is a charitable company limited by guarantee and with no share capital. The Company is registered in England and Wales, No. 01056472. The principal governing document is the company Memorandum and Articles of Association. The charity is registered with the Charity Commission No. 501859.

The principal address and registered office of the Company is:

The Black-E
1 Great George Street,
Liverpool,
L1 5EW.

The day to day management of the charity is vested in Steven Smith and Wes Wilkie, acting Co-Directors and the weekly staff meeting.

THE BLACK-E
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE GREAT GEORGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL PROJECT LIMITED)
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Method of appointment of trustees

The Trustees are "the keepers of the vision". Experts overseeing Trustees should be on Tap and not on Top as Trustees.

The Trustees aim to ensure that they are representative in terms of gender, race, disability and class - and that they possess collectively the experience and the expertise to exercise their responsibilities and to provide the Black-E with "affection, protection, and direction."

Trustees are recruited through person to person contact, networking and contact with the cultural and capital programmes.

The Trustees bring to their responsibilities a combination of experience, skills and qualifications in the following areas: architecture and planning; building construction; financial control, accountancy and bookkeeping; fundraising; law; voluntary sector management; arts administration and management; cultural policy; environmental issues; event promotion, production, and direction; exhibition curation; marketing; leisure services management; local government; security; equal opportunities; cultural diversity; youth work; education and training; arts and disability; arts therapy; information technology; film & media; literature; drama; music; dance; fashion; visual arts and crafts; games; sport and recreation.

Profile April 5th 2021: Black British 5; White British 6: Male 5; Female 6; Disabled 2.

Induction and training of trustees

New Trustees are inducted through meetings and through documentation. Quarterly Trustees meetings begin with a morning training session in a specific area of responsibility (e.g. Charity Law, the Disability Discrimination Act, equal opportunities, safeguarding, audited accounts, etc.)

The Trustees are responsible "for steering the ship". This means that the Trustees take decisions to ensure that there is a balance between resources available for the capital programme and for the cultural programme, that there is a balance between the cultural programme and hires, and that there is a balance within the cultural programme between 'performing' and 'making' arts, and between 'youth arts' and the 'main programme'. Management accounts, audited accounts, and revisions of business plans are received, considered, and determined by the Trustees. The Building Sub Committee, Audit Sub Committee, Archive Sub Committee and Personnel Sub Committee have delegated powers in relation to their respective areas, and report back to Trustees meetings.

Staff take decisions of detail within parameters set by the Trustees, e.g. the detail of the Gallery or Youth Arts Programme.

THE BLACK-E
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE GREAT GEORGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL PROJECT LIMITED)
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

The objects for which the charity is established are:

- a) To advance the education of the public in and by means of all the arts including performing arts, visual arts, applied arts and experimental work in the arts and by improving standards of execution and appreciation of the arts.
- b) To provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure-time occupation in the interests of social welfare for members of the public at large and for persons who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, poverty or social or economic circumstances, with the object of improving conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities are intended.
- c) To establish and maintain Community Centre for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Merseyside Area and to promote all or any objects for the benefit of the said inhabitants which now are or hereafter may be deemed by law to be charitable.

The creation of contexts (both social and environmental) which encourage an improved and meaningful relationship between artists and communities for the creation, presentation and promotion of contemporary work of high quality and originality. This means that the Black-E is committed to:

- a) access - both providing access and improving access to the artist and for the artist, and for those individuals and groups already involved in the arts as well as for those with no previous involvement with the arts - for example by the provision of workshops both as part of the ongoing programme and in conjunction with residencies, performances; by establishing an on-going dialogue between artists and their audiences through repeated visits and work, and by running seminars, residencies, etc. which enable artists to meet and work together.
- b) positive action - in relation to artists who are discriminated against - and in relation to communities and individuals who are discriminated against or disadvantaged - in order to provide opportunities for such artists, communities, and individuals to give expression to their experience, their needs, and their aspirations, and in order to celebrate their achievements and rediscover their history.
- c) education (learning and unlearning) and training - both by and for artists - and both by and for communities and individuals- with a view to improving performance, understanding, and communication.

The creation of opportunities and contexts which enable people to actively participate in creative activities - a participation based in "doing" as well as "viewing" - in order, amongst other aims, to further democratise the arts.

Indeed, since democracy rests on the creation of a common language, and since the arts remain among the most restricted of languages, such involvement aims to promote democratisation not only through a shared understanding of these languages but also through growth and development in the languages themselves.

THE BLACK-E
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE GREAT GEORGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL PROJECT LIMITED)
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (Continued)

This means the Black-E is committed to:

- a) the creation and exploration of forms in which "audience" participation is fundamental.
- b) experiment in order to make a contribution to the research and development which is essential if new forms and techniques are to emerge to give expression to the worlds of today and tomorrow.

The recognition and valuing of cultural diversity. This means the Black-E is committed to:

- a) promoting work which reflects the experience and concerns of those groups within our society whose voices have been marginalised, anthropologised or ignored.
- b) programming across the spectrum of creative activities - the fine arts, the popular arts, the performing arts, the making arts, creative and co-operative games, contemporary media, and traditional crafts - in order to promote and develop harmony rather than hierarchy between forms, and additionally to promote and develop cross-fertilisation and positive interaction between forms.
- c) a perspective of the arts which is local, regional, national, and international - in order to stimulate and develop a sense of cultural and geographical inter-relatedness and variety.

From all the above it can be seen that, in committing itself to exploring and recreating the relationship between contemporary society and the contemporary artist and between contemporary society and creative activities and opportunities, the Black-E is committing itself to a two-in-one duality - to the development of communities and to the development of artists.

In terms of communities, then such a commitment is based on a recognition of the role of the arts in community development: every community issue is also an issue to be explored through the arts. In terms of artists, then such a commitment is based on the complementary recognition that - only given the opportunity - everyone is an artist.

And if all the earlier text had to be summed up in seven words?

CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL
QUALITY AND EQUALITY

THE BLACK-E
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE GREAT GEORGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL PROJECT LIMITED)
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (Continued)

The main objectives for the year 2020-21 were: -

- 1) To prioritise work for young people in the Youth Arts Programme and Cultural Programme - Black-E managed to do 14 Play Scheme sessions during the limited opening time.
- 2) To continue to produce and promote the combined arts cultural programme, embracing the Gallery, Archive, publications, drama, and especially Kinetic Theatre Programme (dance, circus, physical theatre), in conjunction with hires to and 'sharings' with commercial and cultural organisations.
3. To research Hip-Hop and to bring Hip-Hop artists into Black-E to train and conduct workshops. Whilst we have made a start through holding meetings with young people interested in progressing this area of work we have, largely due to Covid, made less progress than we would have hoped. It does however still remain work that we are committed to.
- 4) To oversee the Small Capital Programme. We have made considerable progress and the work, if not for Covid, would have been completed.

Weekly staff meetings undertook the detailed planning and organisational work to produce the overall cultural programme in line with strategies and objectives determined by the Trustees. Hires and 'sharings' were achieved through networking with organisations and individuals, and through the rentals page of the Black-E website. The activities undertaken are itemised in some detail in the accounts within the Cultural Activities Schedule, under 'Cultural and Further Education' and 'Activities'. The continuing programme (offering a mix of 'viewing' and 'doing') was reviewed and approved by the Trustees.

Due to COVID 19 lock down, the Black-E building was closed for nine months during the period March 2020 to March 2021. We were able to open for limited periods in the autumn. During the year 42 youth circus workshops were conducted at the Black-E, 20 by online platforms and 5 in public parks. We also joined Fair Share and now provide food regularly to local families of play scheme and Youth Circus workshop participants. Because of the restrictions, Black-E was not able invite any national or international circus companies to conduct workshops and to perform at Black-E. Steve Morgan Foundation funded £900 towards buying Circus Equipment and Black-E bought the Circus Equipment and distributed to the homes of Circus Students to train at home during the lock down period and for further use.

Every year Black-E hosts Chinese New Year in Black-E building. This was not possible in 2021 due to COVID lock down. During the limited opening period, Black-E's space was used for activities included: weekly - Company of Friends, Inklings, Mersey Swing, and one offs, like Black Fest, British Cross, City Theatre, Fallen Angels Dance Group, Five Rythms Dance, Herald Vineyard Church, Nuclear Blast for Photoshoot, Griffith for Paranormal Activity House of Suarez for Vogue Ball.

Our website needed to be updated in 2019. The lock down allowed Karl Eversley to work on updating the Black-E website for six months and it is now operational. We also now have both a Face book page, and a twitter account. Pages have been added to the Archive website - 'A Gift of Ideas', for those familiar with The Black-E and for those encountering the Project for the first time.

THE BLACK-E
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COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The activities of the Company are the promotion of the arts and education through a cultural programme at the Company's premises and elsewhere, which combines the activities of a contemporary arts centre and community centre. The cultural programme benefitted significantly from the earlier completion of the capital programme, principally one of interior redevelopment ("a new building within old walls") including the creation of a large-scale in-the-round performance / exhibition / meeting / workshop space, the Main Space. Future developments include a smaller capital programme, for exterior work in relation to access and engagement, and completion of some outstanding interior work.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The activities undertaken are itemised in some detail in the accounts within the Cultural Activities Schedule, under 'Cultural and Further Education' and 'Activities'. These activities correspond to the objectives described earlier under Objectives and Activities.

Cultural Programme fundraising activities have focused on continuing to ensure both

1. Funding over the years 2020-21 and 2021-22 from the Arts Council England North under the National Portfolio Scheme, and
2. On-going support from Liverpool City Council (Arts Funding) through 2020-21 and 2021-22.

Both these objectives have been achieved.

COVID-19 EMERGENCY - The Black-E closed to the public on Monday 16th March 2020, and core staff began to work from home from Friday March 20th. This also reduced Black-E's hires income to £4,064 in 2020/21 from £49,765 in 2019/20. But in terms of a financial summary, between April 2020 to March 2021, the Black-E has gained one Emergency grant of £40,844 from ACE and a Recovery Fund £63,370 from ACE), and other COVID related grants of £7500 from Liverpool City Council, and £5000 from P H Holt Foundation, £5000 from Community Foundation Merseyside £3,676 from Merseyside Play Action Council for Youth Activities throughout the year. The Black-E also received £10,000 from Fanchons Bequest for Gallery Exhibitions and other projects like Publication, etc. So despite the lock down and our inability to earn money through Hires and events, we managed to survive.

As referred to in previous Reports, communities are always fearful when organisations in which they are involved undergo a major capital refurbishment, and this was the case with communities benefiting from activities at The Black-E following re-launch in 2010. They were fearful that the organisation would change its nature, become 'posh', be less welcoming, and might introduce prices or price rises which didn't exist before, especially in a period of austerity and cutbacks. The main challenge facing The Black-E, following re-launch in extended and refurbished spaces, has been to retain its welcoming and community friendly nature. It is a challenge which we are confident has been met.

The opportunities, given both the enhanced scale and the location of the building, and the commitment of all those involved in the organisation, remain extraordinary. Following the 2010 re-launch, it remains clear from the continuing very positive feedback from communities and individuals, that the re-launched Black-E has retained its welcome, its conviviality and its ethos. This continues to be particularly evident in both the new relationships and the on-going relationships with the young people participating in the cultural programme and their supportive families

THE BLACK-E
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COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Regarding the Small Capital Programme, the building work has been ongoing at the Black-E alongside both our Hires programme and Cultural Programme. Following further preparatory work with our Architects KKA and Quantity Surveyors Youdan Briggs, practical building work began in 2016.

A great deal of very important work has been completed including: - creation of x2 fully equipped functions rooms in Annexe, redeveloped child friendly Kitchen, redeveloped Studio facilities, restored/improved toilets, flooring laid to lower balcony, stairwell flooring completed, decorations improved, additional storage capacity created, upgraded IT capability (including for streaming) etc.

Additional emergency/priority work and unexpected work has also been completed including: - following the puncture of the Main Space underfloor heating pipe(s) and severely damaged floor due to the hammering in of over 70 nails, Black-E staff have had to work with Quantity Surveyor, Architect, floor specialist and insurers to appropriately amend the situation. This remained ongoing at the end of 2018-19.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The results for the year and the charity's financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statements.

The principal funding sources are detailed under note 4 to the accounts, Income from charitable activities. The key objectives of the charity are in the process of being significantly expanded in the cultural programme.

Reserves policy

The sale of one of the organisation's assets in 2014 - 40 Canning Street, was undertaken in order to pay off deficits resulting from the capital and cultural programmes, to extend the lease on 5 Huskisson Street, and to provide a small reserve fund. The deficit having now been eliminated, the Black-E holds a small unrestricted reserve fund. The Black-E is in the process of extending the lease on 5 Huskisson Street.

The designated funds are determined by the Trustees and detailed in note 13 to the accounts. It is anticipated that the single designated fund for Games Publications will contribute towards further publications in the area of participatory theatre and participatory exhibition.

THE BLACK-E
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE GREAT GEORGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL PROJECT LIMITED)
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

Risk policy

The major risks to which the charity is exposed as identified by the Trustees have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate these risks, including regular periodic reviews of income and expenditure and cash flow and the revision of commitments and expenditure in relation to income.

With regards to the cultural programme, the major risks are linked to funding availability. Core funding risks are mitigated by the fact that The Black-E holds funding agreements with both Arts Council England North West, and Liverpool City Council (Arts Funding) - both through to March 2022.

Continued support for a further year, in line with other arts organisations, has been agreed by Liverpool City Council (Arts Funding) for 2019-20 – 2021-22. National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) funding from Arts Council England (ACE) for the year 2015/16 to 2017/18 was notably reduced by 35%, further ACE have informed the Black-E of their decision to maintain this level of funding for the years 2018-22. An Arts Council England Small Capital grant of £450,000 for both interior and exterior work in 2016, 2017 & 2018 was approved.

On the basis of a fundraising strategy approved by the Trustees, The Black-E continues to make applications and submissions for funding of the cultural programme to charitable trusts, local and national government departments, and other bodies.

Obtaining project funding is always a risk, but risks are mitigated by The Black-E's track record in fundraising and the wider potential for local, national and European funding on account of and following the 2010 relaunch of the Black-E in a much enhanced and refurbished building (including the unique in-the-round Main Space with a capacity of 550 and 2 overlooking balconies).

The future finances of The Black-E (as analysed in the current Business Plan) are dependent on a balance of income from (a) grants, and (b) rental from hires. Rental from hires of the completed building will not 'leap' to an optimal level following relaunch, but is predicted to grow over a 5-year period (extended now due to the anticipated Small Capital Programme work during 2019/20. Optimal income continues to grow following the installation of the main lift in October 2010, and the issue of an annual license in January 2011. The building is Disability Discrimination Act compliant. –

The financial climate has meant that the last 3 years and the current year have been - and the following 3-4 years (at least) will be - among the most challenging of periods in the life of The Black-E.

In respect of grants for the capital programme:

1. the Millennium Commission required and has taken a 1st fixed 80-year charge over The Black-E building and land together with a floating charge over all assets, and
2. the Arts Council has required and taken a second fixed 20-year charge over the Black-E building and land.

THE BLACK-E
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE GREAT GEORGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL PROJECT LIMITED)
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

FIXED ASSETS

In the year ended 5 April 2012, the Trustees agreed that the Report and Accounts as produced be adopted and approved, and that a capital asset of £200,000, being the Trustees' own valuation of the current value in use of the Great George Street building, be revalued accordingly.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Following the successful relaunch and the completion of the capital programme, the plans for the future continue to embrace both consolidation and growth - consolidation of the nature of the activities and of the benefiting communities - and growth of the activities to bring all old and new areas of the building into full life. The Small Building Programme work being undertaken will support the Black-E's development in the future.

THE BLACK-E
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE GREAT GEORGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL PROJECT LIMITED)
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

THE TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS

The persons who have acted as Trustees during the year are: -

Chairperson	Position Vacant
Deputy Chairperson	The Charity have chosen to have a rotating Chair for Trustees Meetings
	Mr. Christopher Allen
	Mrs. Bertha Benjamin
	Mr. Tom Burke
	Mr. Jimmy Cullen
	Mrs. Susan Eyo
	Ms. Janet Green
	Mr. Bill Harpe
	Ms. Wendy Harpe
	Ms. Jemima Khalli
	Mr. Stephen Knox
	Ms. Carol Malcolm

BUILDING SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The persons who have acted as Building Sub-Committee members during the year are:

Chairperson	Mr. Stephen Knox
	Mr. Bill Harpe
	Ms. Wendy Harpe

AUDIT SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The persons who have acted as Audit Sub-committee members during the year are:

Chairperson	Ms. Wendy Harpe
	Mrs. Bertha Benjamin
	Mr. Bill Harpe

PERSONNEL SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The persons who have acted as Personnel Sub-committee members during the year are:

Chairperson	Mr. Jimmy Cullen
	Ms. Wendy Harpe
	Mr. Bill Harpe

THE BLACK-E
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COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

ARCHIVE SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The persons who have acted as Archive Sub-committee members during the year are:

Chairperson	Mr. Bill Harpe
Deputy Chairperson	Ms. Wendy Harpe Mr. Stephen Knox

ADVISERS AND AGENTS (Continued)

The Company's Bankers are:	Barclays Bank Plc., 48b - 50 Lord Street, Liverpool L2 1TD
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The Company's Solicitors are:	Thos. R Jones & Son, 4 Sefton Road, Litherland, Liverpool L21 7PG
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The Company's Independent Examiner are:	Mr. Gary Wood Business Accounting Services 111 Mount Pleasant Liverpool L3 5TF
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THE BLACK-E
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE GREAT GEORGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL PROJECT LIMITED)
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are the 'Keepers of the Vision'

The Trustees, who are also the directors of The Black-E for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
 - state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

SMALL COMPANY PROVISIONS

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

By order of the Board

Wendy Harpe
Trustee



THE BLACK-E

(FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE GREAT GEORGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL PROJECT LIMITED)

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of THE BLACK-E

I report on the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 5th April 2021 which are set out on pages 15 to 28.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

THE BLACK-E
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE GREAT GEORGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL PROJECT LIMITED)
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of THE BLACK-E

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Gary Wood, FCCA

29 December 2021

Business Accounting Services
Chartered Certified Accountants
111 Mount Pleasant
Liverpool
L3 5TF

THE BLACK-E
 (FORMERLY KNOWN AS GREAT GEORGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL PROJECT LIMITED)
 COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
 INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £	Note Ref.
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	1,390	-	1,390	-1,350	3
Charitable activities	287,335	80,648	367,983	226,965	4
Total	<u>288,725</u>	<u>80,648</u>	<u>369,373</u>	<u>228,315</u>	
Expenditure on:					
Raising Funds	716	-	716	999	5
Charitable activities	280,917	10,864	291,781	241,150	6
Total	<u>281,633</u>	<u>10,864</u>	<u>292,497</u>	<u>242,149</u>	
Net (expenditure)/income	<u>7,092</u>	<u>69,784</u>	<u>76,876</u>	<u>(13,834)</u>	
Net movement in funds	<u>7,092</u>	<u>69,784</u>	<u>76,876</u>	<u>(13,834)</u>	
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	154,229	680,121	834,350	848,184	
Total funds carried forward	<u>161,321</u>	<u>749,905</u>	<u>911,226</u>	<u>834,350</u>	


The Statement of Financial Activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

THE BLACK-E
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS GREAT GEORGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL PROJECT LIMITED)
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 5TH APRIL 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets:			
Tangible Assets	9	739,381	729,829
Current assets:			
Debtors	10	56,405	83,532
Investments	14	100,000	100,000
Cash at bank and in hand		96,357	111,085
Total current assets		<u>252,762</u>	<u>294,617</u>
Liabilities:			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(80,917)</u>	<u>(190,096)</u>
Net Current Assets or Liabilities		<u>171,845</u>	<u>104,521</u>
Total Net Assets		<u>911,226</u>	<u>834,350</u>
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds	12	<u>749,905</u>	<u>680,121</u>
Unrestricted Funds			
Designated Funds:	13	159,000	147,000
General Unrestricted funds		2,321	7,229
Total unrestricted funds		<u>161,321</u>	<u>154,229</u>
Total charity funds		<u>911,226</u>	<u>834,350</u>

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on *26 January 2022*.

.....

Stephen Knox
Trustee

Company Registration No 01056472

THE BLACK-E
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS GREAT GEORGES COMMUNITY CULTURAL PROJECT LIMITED)
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

1 Accounting Policies

Charity information

The Black E is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 1 Great George Street, Liverpool, L1 5EW.

1.1 Accounting Convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the charity's memorandum and articles of association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The accounts have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

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

The accounts have been prepared on the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

The Charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for Charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

1.2 Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis that assumes that the charity will continue to receive the support of its bankers, creditors and funders. Funding has been secured from the Arts Council England North West and from Liverpool City Council.

At the time of approving the accounts, 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 accounts.

THE BLACK-E
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COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

1.3 Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Income from donations and grants, including capital grants, is included when these are receivable, except as follows:

- When donors specify that donations and grants given to the charity must be used in future accounting

- When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included until the preconditions for use have been met.

When donors specify that donations and grants, including capital grants, are for particular restricted purposes, which do not amount to preconditions regarding entitlement, this income is included as restricted funds when receivable.

Voluntary income includes discretionary grants for projects, goods and services where no service agreement or contract exists.

Other grants, which have particular service requirements and which are provided in accordance with a contract or service level agreement are included in the Statement of Financial Activities under the heading Charitable Activities.

Interest is included when receivable.

1.4 Expenditure

Expenditure reflects all amounts paid and accrued during the year. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates. All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource.

Charitable expenditure

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

Governance costs

These represent costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

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1.5 Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost or deemed cost for land and buildings on transition to FRS102, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Leasehold property	In accordance with the terms of the lease
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	33% p.a. on a straight line basis

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

1.6 Impairment of Fixed Assets

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

1.7 Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

1.8 Financial Instruments

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

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

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

Basic Financial Assets

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

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Basic Financial liabilities

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

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

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

Derecognition of Financial Liabilities

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

1.9 Investments

The Trustees consider that monies held with Barclays Bank on deposit should be regarded as current asset investment.

1.10 Accumulated funds

Funds held by the charity are:

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

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for a particular purpose. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.11 Taxation

The charity benefits from various exemptions from taxation afforded by tax legislation and is not liable to corporation tax on income or gains falling within those exemptions. Recovery is made of tax deducted from qualifying income and from receipts under Gift Aid.

The charity is not able to recover Value Added Tax. Expenditure is recorded in the accounts inclusive of VAT.

1.12 Employee Benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

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.

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

2 Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements

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

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

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
General Donations	1,390	-	1,390	58
Chinese New Year Donation	-	-	-	1,292
	1,390	-	1,390	1,350
Year ended 5 April 2020	1,350	-	1,350	1,350

4 Income from Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Cultural Activities	287,335	80,648	367,983	226,965
Year ended 5 April 2020	220,415	6,550	226,965	226,965

Included within Income relating to Cultural Activities are the following grants:

	£	£
Arts Council - Capital Grant	61,072	-
Liverpool City Council - Capital Grant	-	-
Arts Council - Revenue Grant	112,024	110,000
Arts Council England - Emergency Fund	40,844	-
Arts Council England - Recovery Fund	63,370	-
Liverpool Culture City	48,832	51,402
Liverpool Discretionary Fund	7,500	-
P H Holt Foundation	5,000	-
Community Foundation Merseyside	5,000	-
Fashions Bequest Fund	10,000	-
Steve Morgan Foundation	900	-
LCVS Community Impact Fund	-	1,500
Merseyside Play Action Council	3,676	2,250
Duchy Lancaster Benevolent Fund	-	1,800
Austin Pilkington Fund	-	1,000
Rushworth Foundation	2,500	2,500
	360,718	170,452

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5 Cost of Raising Funds	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Marketing	500	-	500	783
Just Giving charges	216	-	216	216
	<u>716</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>716</u>	<u>999</u>
Year ended 5 April 2020	<u>999</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>999</u>	<u>999</u>

6 Charitable Activities	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Staff costs	166,810	-	166,810	142,278
Governance costs (see note 8)	2,356	-	2,356	4,794
Premises costs	48,728	-	48,728	21,599
Office costs *	53,820	-	53,820	30,790
Project costs	9,203	10,864	20,067	41,689
	<u>280,917</u>	<u>10,864</u>	<u>291,781</u>	<u>241,150</u>
Year ended 5 April 2020	<u>221,090</u>	<u>20,060</u>	<u>241,150</u>	<u>241,150</u>

* Office costs includes £35,643 for the write off of legal expenses incurred in previous years, which the trustees had expected to be able to recover.

7 Employees

Number of Employees	No.	No.
The average monthly number of employees during the year was:	7	7
Employment Costs	£	£
Wages and Salaries	97,916	84,322
Social Security Costs	3,073	3,473
Other Pension Costs	1,176	1,033
Staff Training	746	760
Self employed workers	63,899	52,690
	<u>166,810</u>	<u>142,278</u>

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

8 Governance Costs comprise:

Independent examiner's fee	2,100	2,100
Trustees Expense	121	2,241
Library & Subscription	135	453
	<u>2,356</u>	<u>4,794</u>

Trustees' expenses

Three Trustees were reimbursed for their travel expenses in respect of their attendance at Council meetings. Total of £121 for 1 Trustee (3 Trustees £1,551.30 in 2020).

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9 Tangible fixed Assets

	Leasehold Property £	Assets Under Construction £	Fixtures Fittings & Equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 6 April 2020	207,500	529,829	9,063	746,392
Additions	-	9,552	-	9,552
At 5 April 2021	<u>207,500</u>	<u>539,381</u>	<u>9,063</u>	<u>755,944</u>
Depreciation				
At 6 April 2020	7,500	-	9,063	16,563
Charge for the year	-	-	-	-
At 5 April 2021	<u>7,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,063</u>	<u>16,563</u>
Net book value				
At 5 April 2021	<u>200,000</u>	<u>539,381</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>739,381</u>
At 5 April 2020	<u>200,000</u>	<u>529,829</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>729,829</u>

Leasehold Land and Buildings

	Historical Cost £	Unexpired Lease Term Years
5 Huskisson Street, Liverpool	7,500	-
1 Great George Street, Liverpool	<u>200,000</u>	799
	<u>207,500</u>	

The Black-E, the former Great George Street Congregational Church, was donated to the charity in 1982. The original cost is not known. The trustees consider the cost of carrying out a professional valuation to include the asset at a value in the financial statements to be considerable compared to the limited additional benefit derived by users of the financial statements.

The Millennium Commission required and has taken a first fixed 80 years charge over the Black-E building and the land together with a floating charge over all assets and the Arts Council has required and taken a second fixed 20 years charge over the Black-E building and the land.

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	2021	2020
	£	£
10 Debtors and Prepayments		
Liverpool Culture City Grant	4,884	-
Arts Council - Recovery Fund 1	6,337	
Legal Expense Claim - Ansvar Insurance	35,643	71,286
Space Hire	-	3,085
Prepayment	9,541	9,111
Company of Friends	-	50
	<u>56,405</u>	<u>83,532</u>
11 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		
Bank Overdraft	-	109,055
Trade Creditors	11,295	11,367
Liverpool City Council	69,206	69,206
Accruals and Deferred Income	416	468
	<u>80,917</u>	<u>190,096</u>

The bank overdrafts are secured on 5 Huskisson Street, land at the rear of 5 Huskisson Street and the south side of 17 Canning Street and the credit balance of £100,000 held by Barclays Bank as an investment.

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COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

12 Restricted Funds	Movement in Funds			Balance at 5 April 2021 £
	Balance 6 April 2020 £	Transfers In/ Income £	Transfers Out/ Expenditure £	
Building	197,704			197,704
Arts Council England - Building Project	366,428	61,072		427,500
Veolia Trust - Building Project	39,999	-		39,999
Liverpool City Council - Building Project.				
Prior year adjustment	-	-	-	-
Granada Foundation	12,000	-	-	12,000
Awards For All - Making a Difference	1,805	-	-	1,805
Community Foundation Merseyside		5,000	5,000	-
Fashions Bequest Fund		10,000	1,288	8,712
Merseyside Play Action Council - Y A		3,676	3,676	-
Steve Morgan Foundation		900	900	-
Trust House Foundation - After S. P.	5,419	-	-	5,419
Edward Murphy - 50th Year Celebration	30,000	-	-	30,000
50th Year Celebration - Anonymous	5,000	-	-	5,000
Sally & Kevin's Bequest - Youth Music	21,766	-	-	21,766
	<u>680,121</u>	<u>80,648</u>	<u>10,864</u>	<u>749,905</u>

Arts Council Capital Grant is for Building Refurbishment.

Veolia Trust Grant is for Building Refurbishment.

Granada Foundation Grant is for Streaming Equipment and Music Technology Studio.

Awards For All Grant is for Video Production and Editing Project for disaffected people in Liverpool One.

Community Foundation for Merseyside/LCR Cares COVID 19 Community Support Fund is for Website

Maintenance, Youth Circus workers Fee and Play Scheme Materials and Equipment.

Fashions Bequest Fund is for Gallery Exhibitions and Onlines Games.

MPAC grant is for Youth Arts Play Scheme and Healthy Eating project.

Steve Morgan Foundation Fund is for the purchase of Youth Circus Equipment.

Trust House Foundation Grant is for After School Project.

Edward Murphy's Fund is for the The Black-E's 50th year of celebration.

50th Year celebration grant is from anonymous donor to celebrate Black-E's 50th year

Sally & Kevin's bequest fund is for Youth Music and workshops.

Prior year adjustment

The Black-E received funds from Liverpool City Council to assist with the building project. In previous years accounts these funds had been treated as grants, whereas they were loans from the Council. The trustees have restated the brought forward reserves and comparative figures to correct this error.

THE BLACK-E
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COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

13 Designated Funds

	Movement in Funds			Balance at 5 April 2021
	Balance 6 April 2020	Transfers In/ Income	Transfers Out/ Expenditure	
Games and Publications	8,000	-	-	8,000
Main Space Floor Improvement	9,000	-	(8,000)	1,000
Research and Development	10,000	-	-	10,000
5 Huskisson Repair & HMO	-	20,000	-	20,000
5 Huskisson Lease Renewal	120,000	-	-	120,000
	<u>147,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>(8,000)</u>	<u>159,000</u>

The Games and Publications Fund is to cover costs in relation to the Black-E's publications.

Main Space Floor Improvement Fund is to cover the cost of any repair or to replace the wooden floor.

Research and Development Fund is to cover the cost of Travel regarding Fundraising Research work.

5 Huskisson Repair & HMO is to to repair the house in order to get the HMO status from LCC.

5 Huskisson Lease Renewal Fund is to renew 5 Huskisson Street House renewal with Liverpool City Council.

14 Investments

	2021	2020
	£	£
Cost as at 5 April 2020 and 2021	<u>100,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>

The investment is held as security by Barclays Bank plc against the overdraft facility.

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£
Fund balances at 5 April 2021 are represented by:			
Tangible Fixed Assets	74,178	665,203	739,381
Current Assets	168,060	84,702	252,762
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(80,917)	-	(80,917)
	<u>161,321</u>	<u>749,905</u>	<u>911,226</u>

16 Company limited by guarantee

The Black-E was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee under the Companies Act 1985 on 01/06/1972. The liability of the members is limited to £1.00.

THE BLACK-E
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

17 Related Party transactions

	2021	2020
	£	£
Total Remuneration	<u>29,808</u>	<u>27,134</u>
Number of working Trustees	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>

Included above are fees and expenses of Mr Harpe in respect of services provided to the charity.

The amount so included in the year was £16,874 (£17,208 in 2020).

Mr Harpe is required to occupy the flat at 5 Huskisson Street in order to fulfil his commitments to the charity. All the establishment costs associated with the flat are met by the charity which is £17,525 (£20,410 in 2020).

18. Financial Instruments

	2021	2020
	£	£
Carrying amount of Financial Assets		
Debt Instruments measured at cost	<u>243,221</u>	<u>285,506</u>
Carrying amount of Financial Liabilities		
Measured at cost	<u>80,917</u>	<u>190,096</u>

The following pages do not form part of the statutory financial statements which are subject of the independent examiner's report on pages 13 to 14.

THE BLACK-E
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 COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
 DRAFT ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

CULTURAL ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Arts Council England - Revenue Grant	112,024		112,024	110,000
Arts Council England - Emergency Fund	40,844		40,844	
Arts Council England - Recovery Fund	63,370		63,370	
Liverpool Culture City	48,832		48,832	51,402
Liverpool Discretionary Fund	7,500		7,500	
Rushworth Foundation	2,500		2,500	2,500
P H Holt Foundation	5,000		5,000	-
Community Foundation Merseyside - COVID 19 Fund		5,000	5,000	
Fashions Bequest Fund		10,000	10,000	
M P A C - Y A Play Scheme		3,676	3,676	2,250
Steve Morgan Foundation		900	900	
LCVS Community Impact Fund - Y A Play Scheme			-	1,500
Duchy Lancaster Benevolent Fund - Y A Play Scheme			-	1,800
Austin Pilkington Fund - Y A Play Scheme			-	1,000
Rental Income	3,000	-	3,000	5,814
Hire Income	4,064	-	4,064	49,765
Earned Income	201	-	201	934
Sundry Donations (Including Fundraising & Gift Aid)	1,390	-	1,390	58
Chinese New Year Donation	-	-	-	1,292
TOTAL	288,725	19,576	308,301	228,315

RESOURCES EXPENDEDCULTURAL AND FURTHER EDUCATION

Youth Workshop & Sessions	2,961	4,614	7,575	14,309
TOTAL	2,961	4,614	7,575	14,309

THE BLACK-E
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 COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
 DRAFT ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

CULTURAL ACTIVITY SCHEDULE(Continued)

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
ACTIVITIES				
Small Events				
Creative and Co-operative Games			-	15
Kinetic Theatre - Arts Council	6,090	3,800	9,890	13,855
Community Foundation for Merseyside - LCR Cares		1,162	1,162	-
Fashions Bequest Fund		1,288	1,288	
Awards For All - Video Project		-	-	1,129
Trust House - After School Project			-	12,381
New Year Card	152		152	-
TOTAL	6,242	6,250	12,492	27,380

CULTURAL AND FURTHER EDUCATIONEMPLOYEE COSTS

Wages, Salaries and Fees	144,290	-	144,290	116,602
Employers National Insurance	3,073	-	3,073	3,473
Employers Pension	1,176	-	1,176	1,033
Staff Training & Recruitment	746	-	746	760
Accommodation Expenses	17,525	-	17,525	20,410
TOTAL	166,810	-	166,810	142,278

THE BLACK-E
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COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
DRAFT ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

CULTURAL ACTIVITY SCHEDULE(Continued)

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
PREMISES COSTS				
Maintenance	17,189		17,189	19,741
Light and Heat	21,338		21,338	29,845
Insurance and Security	10,201		10,201	11,495
Old Creditors Written off	-		-	(39,482)
TOTAL	48,728	-	48,728	21,599
GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES				
Telephone	3,753	-	3,753	3,711
Postage	333	-	333	413
Stationery and Printing	909	-	909	2,540
Computer Costs	1,203	-	1,203	150
Transport	1,109	-	1,109	1,066
Trustees Expenses	121	-	121	2,241
Hospitality	9	-	9	252
Library and Subscription	135	-	135	453
Marketing	500	-	500	783
Bank Interest Charges	5,728	-	5,728	1,683
Hires - Staffing & Equipment	1,057	-	1,057	18,470
Website Updating	-	-	-	1,875
To write off Legal Expense	35,643	-	35,643	-
Volunteer's Expense	10	-	10	97
TOTAL	50,510	-	50,510	33,734
LEGAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXPENSES				
Independent Examination Fee	2,100	-	2,100	2,100
Legal Expenses	4,066	-	4,066	533
Just Giving & Paypal Charges	216	-	216	216
TOTAL	6,382	-	6,382	2,849
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	281,633	10,864	292,497	242,149
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	7,092	8,712	15,804	(13,834)
Balance brought forward	154,229	258,694	412,923	426,757
Balance carried forward	161,321	267,406	428,727	412,923

THE BLACK-E
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 COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
 DRAFT ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5TH APRIL 2021

CAPITAL REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT SCHEDULE

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 £	2020 £
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Arts Council England		61,072	61,072	-
Liverpool City Council		-	-	-
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	-	61,072	61,072	-
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Professional Fees				
KKA Limited - Architect's Fees		-	-	2,323
Youdan Briggs Ltd - QS Project Management		-	-	22,920
PC upgrading		-	-	1,196
Construction Expense		9,552	9,552	28,448
Guisseppe Lund - Handrails Materials Advance Retd		-	-	(40,000)
Bank Charges		-	-	5,321
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	-	9,552	9,552	20,208
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	-	51,520	51,520	(20,208)
Balance brought forward	-	(108,402)	(108,402)	(88,194)
Balance carried forward	-	(56,882)	(56,882)	(108,402)