

# THE MANCHESTER YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATRE LIMITED

England & Wales · Charity number 501953

## Details

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|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Other names    | CONTACT, CONTACT THEATRE, T/A CONTACT THEATRE COMPANY   |
| Status         | Registered  |
| Legal form     | Charitable company                                      |
| Company number | <a href="#">01066757</a>                                |
| Registered     | 1972-10-31  |
| Register       | <a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a> |

## Contact

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|         |   |
|---------|---|
| Address | Contact Theatre<br>Devas Street<br>Manchester<br>M15 6JA          |
| Phone   | 01612740600   |
| Email   | <a href="mailto:info@contactmcr.com">info@contactmcr.com</a>      |
| Website | <a href="http://www.contactmcr.com">http://www.contactmcr.com</a> |

## Activities

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**Objects:** The promotion and advancement of arts and culture, for the public benefit, in particular through the production and presentation of a high quality programme to include the arts of drama, spoken word, comedy, dance and music. The promotion and advancement of cultural and creative education for young people by the provision of workshops, training courses and other learning opportunities.?

**Activities:** Contact is a dynamic arts organisation and charity based in Manchester with young people at its heart. We work locally, nationally, and internationally to provide life changing opportunities for the next generation of creative leaders, artists, and audiences, redefining theatre for the 21st Century and presenting and producing a diverse artistic program in our building and beyond.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Other Finance, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science, Economic/community Development/employment, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- Bolton
- Bury
- Manchester City
- Oldham
- Rochdale
- Salford City
- Stockport
- Tameside
- Trafford
- Wigan

## Finances

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| Period end | Income     | Expenditure | Assets     | Employees |
|------------|------------|-------------|------------|-----------|
| 2025-03-31 | £1,609,189 | £1,669,016  | £6,694,758 | 23        |
| 2024-03-31 | £1,608,480 | £2,124,055  | £6,736,954 | 29        |
| 2023-03-31 | £1,521,634 | £2,636,693  | £7,253,148 | 34        |
| 2022-03-31 | £1,982,766 | £2,487,671  | £8,203,277 | 38        |
| 2021-03-31 | £2,716,948 | £1,847,113  | £8,708,182 | 30        |

## Trustees

| Name                      | Role | Appointed  |
|---------------------------|------|------------|
| Ben Anderson              |      | 2024-06-12 |
| Faidat Ope                |      | 2021-03-03 |
| Oluwapelumi Fatayo        |      | 2023-03-22 |
| Patrycja Swiderska        |      | 2024-06-12 |
| Professor Jerome de Groot |      | 2023-03-22 |

**THE MANCHESTER YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATRE LIMITED**

England & Wales - Charity number 501953

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# Accounts

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REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 01066757 (England and Wales)  
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 501953

**Report of the Trustees and**  
**Audited Consolidated Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**  
**for**  
**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Contents of the Consolidated Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Report of the Interim Chairs  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

It has been a year of consolidation and rebuilding for Contact set against a continuing difficult time for UK Arts. Our team has continued to make a difference in the lives of young people, communities and artists across Greater Manchester. In line with our short-term business plan to continue to safeguard the future of Contact amongst uncertain times, we have sought stability and been careful in our decision-making. The world continues to be a challenging place for our young people and Contact has provided a safer space for them, to be themselves, to explore and to grow.

Time has been spent re-establishing relationships across the city region with partners, communities and funders; and on ensuring that Contact continues to be part of conversations and maximising the impact for the young people that we serve. An increased focus on young people's participation activities has meant that many young people have had the opportunity to develop their skills, to make connections, build networks and further Contact's mission to Change the Face of UK Culture.

Contact has been able to leverage its assets and provide huge amounts of support to artists and community groups, continuing ongoing relationships and establishing new partners with shared values. A busy programme of public events has kept the teams busy working with corporate clients and grassroots organisations, ensuring that the wider public audience of Greater Manchester are still engaging with work in the building.

Both the Charity sector and UK Arts are vital to the country. However, with less and less funding available and continuing increases in running costs it is more important now than ever that the work of Contact and partner organisations continues to build communities, platform voices and provide meaningful learning and development opportunities.

In the latter half of the year we set about recruiting our new leadership team. This involved a shift in focus and the recruitment of a CEO role, replacing the previous Artistic Director/CEO joint model. In February we announced the appointment of Jack Dale-Dowd as CEO, who has to this point been leading Contact out of a difficult few years as Interim Executive Director. Jack has a long history with Contact, first starting as a Technician and working across many teams in his time at Contact. He and the reformed new senior team are focusing on Contact's long term stability and success, ensuring that we support and uplift our young people and those from Global Majority, Disabled, Queer, Neurodivergent and Working Class communities.

Intentionally, this year has been quieter than previous years, to address the difficult climate and to reorganise operations, but still a hive of activity.

My fellow trustees and I are extremely pleased at the distance travelled this year, as demonstrated in these annual accounts; steps taken to build a reserve, whilst exceeding the target number of young people's participations that have been provided, new and exciting projects that have started, that will culminate next year and a varied programme of public facing events.

I give my thanks to the tremendous work of the staff team and trustees during this period of change, Contact champions the values of our young people and communities and this continues to set us apart across the city region and beyond, and it is due to the efforts of all of us that this continues to be successful.

Contact continues to reinvent itself; following what is important to young people in each generation. In a world where young people are facing immense challenges, Contact will continue to raise up the voices of those not heard, provide a much needed home for artists that have something to say about the world we all live in and champion the voices of young people.

The Report of the Chair was approved by the trustees of the charity on 12/11/25 and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Professor J de Groot  
Interim Chair of the Board

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Report of the Trustees** **for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

The Trustees are pleased to present their Annual Report of the Trustees together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ending 31 March 2025 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' Report and Accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2022, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

##### **Objectives and Activities**

Our vision is a world where young people are empowered by creativity and the arts.

Our mission is to change the face of UK culture.

From our sustainable creative building in Manchester, we do this by:

- Empowering young people from all backgrounds as creative leaders and agents of social change
- Supporting the next generation of artists and creatives
- Inspiring new audiences with stories and experiences that reflect our community

Our values are:

- We take a young-person centred approach to decision-making
- We promote inclusion, access, understanding between communities, and a commitment to anti-racism
- We foster artistic excellence, integrity and creative risk taking
- We nurture new artists, creative leaders and audiences
- We care for our health, each other and our community
- We care for our planet and environment, working towards a carbon neutral future

We use these values to inform our activity, and as the framework for evaluating our progress. In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

Our main areas of activity are:

- Providing transformative experiences for young people
- Producing high quality new work with a focus on social realities
- Operating a unique, ethical and welcoming building. Contact is an environmentally sustainable building with an energy rating of A.

#### **Main Areas of Activity 2024-25**

Our activity is multi-faceted and diverse, ensuring young people have access to creative learning programmes as well as world-class entertainment and artwork. The artistic programme maintains a focus on pressing social issues relevant to young people, giving voice to early career artists and those embarking on their careers from the communities that we serve. Our on-going target is that 50% of the artists that we support are Global Majority, markedly higher than local or national averages.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Report of the Trustees** **For the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

#### OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES - continued

##### Main Areas of Activity 2024-25 - continued

Our presented programme of theatre, music, spoken word, dance, comedy and cabaret, although reduced this year, features early career and first-time artists alongside internationally acclaimed companies. Contact audiences get to be the first to experience innovative and pioneering shows that go on to major venues and festivals, and to experience the work of artists who go on to renowned and award-winning careers, as well as those presenting work across the world in mid-large scale productions.

Within our iconic castle the atmosphere is open and welcoming, with local young people populating the most front-facing roles. Contact provides a meeting place for young people, communities and artists to work and socialise together. We provide free Wi-Fi, and there is no obligation to buy or consume anything in our public spaces. We also present a high-quality visual art programme of exhibitions and artists' films that complement and often relate to the performance programme. These are curated across public spaces around the building, and are always free to enter. As an organisation championing young people, Contact pays all staff the national living wage, regardless of age. The Trustees are proactive in ensuring that our activities benefit the public and young people, and as a consequence have considered the guidance in all our activities and fee charging.

The Agency was in its fourth year of an original five-year funding agreement ending in June 2025, but this has been extended to 1 July 2026. Agents from Moston and Harpurhey completed the program with three being selected for funding and two seeing their projects through to delivery. Graduate agents of the programme have continued to deliver their projects and apply for funding to expand their work in their communities. Regular activity takes place at Contact such as graduate project, The Life Room, a space for men to meet and provide a community of support to each other. Contact continues to work in collaboration with national partners in London, Belfast, Chester and Southampton with additional partners in Bolton joining, thanks to support from the National Community Lottery Fund.

CYC produced Third Space, a performance created by a neurodivergent cast of young people, working with a neurodivergent director and young technicians. This performance was created for a neurodivergent audience and received feedback from those far and wide who had travelled to attend. Work started on a second project, Creatively Minded Men, funded by The Baring Foundation that will culminate in 2025, part of a cohort of organisations across the country exploring mental health, young men and theatre.

Music Drop, Pop Up Beats and Studio School were delivered consistently through the year after taking a brief break towards the end of 2022 to refine delivery and project designs. Level Up restarted in October 2023 as a 10-week short course. We had one consistent facilitator throughout, with a different industry professional running a masterclass each week, sharing their expertise and industry knowledge, supporting young people in learning how to become an artist and make money from their music. In September 2023, we established a very fruitful partnership with Nordoff and Robbins, the music therapy charity, to place a music therapist in residence within Contact - the first iteration of this pilot of its kind - to support our delivery of music projects. With the addition of a music therapist, we were able to add further therapeutic value and legitimacy to our projects such as Pop Up Beats and Studio School, in addition to being able to offer more 1-2-1 sessions with young people who were in need of further support to access our projects. We have worked successfully with a large number of PRU, SEMH, SEND and Hospital school settings, including Leo Kelly and Galaxy House, as part of our pilot projects into working closely with music therapy and are building up a large database of potential referral partners for future music projects as a result of the evaluations into these activities.

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Report of the Trustees**  
**For the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES - continued

Main Areas of Activity 2024-25 - continued

**CONT:Acting:**, a redesigned version of our entry level drama drop in, provided sustained engagement to two cohorts of young people, learning from expert practitioners in a range of performance techniques and styles, culminating in a performance in our studio theatre exploring their own narrative.

**Future Fires:** We continued to seek funding for future fires whilst supporting the latest cohort to further develop their projects. A model with fewer contact hours for participants is still proving to be effective, though over a longer period of time for the young people to further develop their ideas. An impactful programme that we will endeavour to deliver again.

**Community Space In-Kind Support:** As part of Contact's commitment to supporting the local communities in which it serves, we have continued to offer space in-kind to various community groups on a long-term basis who align themselves closely with Contact's mission, aim and values. These have included Uncurbed Collective, Kids of Colour, 42nd Street, Muslim Social Justice Initiative and Brighter Sound. On a shorter-term scale, we have also supported Manchester Carnival, Afrocats, Night People, Community Arts North West, GMYN and Create, Define Release.

**Re:Con:** recruited four new programmer/producers, who have continued to work with our programming team at Contact to further develop their skills in producing and programming to culminate in a final project delivered as part of Queer Contact 2025. This continues a long-standing program empowering young programmers/producers with work-place experience and key support to develop core skills. Previous Re:Con members have become both freelance and permanent producers at Contact, as well as Trustees and Chair of the Board.

**Queer Contact:** continued its tradition of celebrating a spectrum of queer lived experience with a smaller festival in partnership with new caterer, amplifying voices of queer artists across the UK and beyond, featuring our Cabaret, Comedy, a Quiz night and an event organised by Re:Con to build communities for young queer people focused on activities such as dance, crafting and DJing.

**Commissioning & Artist Support** continued with local artists benefiting from support to develop new works, including Malandra Jacks, Night People, Afreena Islam-Wright, Richochet Theatre, Rory Aaron, Tom Bass, Knock 'n' Nash and Antimatter amongst others.

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Marketing

A new Communications Manager joined us in year and has revamped Contact's Comms Strategy. Driving increased engagement and re-enforcing Contact as a thought leader in the field of youth engagement and youth voice. Engagement and followers have increased significantly across our social channels, in part due to an increase in storytelling and additional partnership work, tapping into followers of other organisations we're working with.

Commercial

The commercial team has been oversubscribed with space hires activity and demand has outstripped capacity at points throughout the year. High profile clients such as The Guardian and Captain Sandy supplemented our public facing programme giving a wider range to the offering we would otherwise have presented. Coram Shakespeare schools returned for their Autumn showcase and the number of enquiries continued to grow through the year. Further work is now underway to review profit margins to increase the amount of income generated for the group.

Contact's Anti-Racism Training package was delivered however with fewer clients than in previous years. This change was due to capacity initially and additional support was procured to administrate this offering. We continue to have interest in the package and during 2025-26 seek to expand this package to realise further earning potential whilst having a positive impact.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Report of the Trustees** **for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

#### FINANCIAL REVIEW

##### Unrestricted Funds

The group had a deficit of £47,552 for the year (2024: £515,575).

At the year end the group's unrestricted reserves stood at £93,072 surplus (2024: £29,127 deficit).

At the year end the company's unrestricted reserves stood at £98,009 surplus (2024: £29,745 deficit).

The principal sources of income were grants and donations, income from the artistic programme and commercial hires. Arts Council England, GMCA, Manchester City Council, Coutts Foundation and University of Manchester were our principal funders

In October 2022 Contact received news on the NPO application to secure ACE funding for 2023-2026, in which £2,799,891 was granted (£933,297 per annum). Despite strong feedback, amongst the challenging funding landscape, ACE were not able to award an uplift in this NPO round. The 2023-2026 NPO period will focus on delivering an innovative response to ACE's Let's Create strategy in the three key areas: Creative People, Cultural Communities and Creative & Cultural Country. This work builds on roots which are well embedded within Contact: youth voice, supporting artists and creative work to empower people from underserved communities.

We were successful in attracting unrestricted funds of £1,454,751 (2024: £1,521,724) including:

- Arts Council England - £933,297 (2024: £933,297)
- Greater Manchester Combined Authority - £106,700 (2024: £106,700)
- Manchester City Council - £35,676 (2024: £35,676)
- University of Manchester - £41,080 (2024: £41,080)
- Coutts Foundation - £55,000 (2024: £55,000)
- Donations - £2,639 (2024: £7,055)

##### Restricted Funds

We brought forward non-capital restricted project funds of £67,658 (2024: £48,778) During the year, we were successful in attracting restricted project funds of £154,438 (2024: £86,756), made up by:

- The Agency - £98,668 (2024: £71,450) to continue with the Agency project in partnership with Battersea Arts Centre. The project has received funding for a five-year period between 2022 and 2026.
- Wolfson Foundation - £49,500 (2024: £nil) towards the installation of LED lighting in the Theatre.

We carry forward restricted non-capital project funds of £122,177 (2024: £67,658).

##### Investment policy and objectives

The Trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of running Contact, have kept available funds in an interest-bearing deposit account and seek to achieve a rate on deposit which matches or exceeds inflation as measured by the retail prices index.

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

FINANCIAL REVIEW - continued

Policy on reserves

Our goal is to maintain three months' operating costs, however the financial year end surplus of £93,072 (2024: deficit of £29,127) is not enough to cover this. Post year end reserves continued to be depleted but expenditure reductions have been initiated including a recruitment freeze for non critical posts and staffing restructure. Activities have been reduced for the remainder of 2025/26 with a change in leadership and revised smaller staff structure to take Contact forward into 2025/26. A reviewed focus on ways of working to enable activities to continue focussing on income generation over the coming financial year is underway in order to build resilience and reflate reserves gradually.

The successful Arts Council England NPO application secures our next funding cycle, along with confirmed ongoing funding from MCC, GMCA, and UoM, however the board are supporting the senior management team to recalibrate the business model, in order to achieve the medium to long-term goal of building reserves back up. Despite the ongoing challenges, the trustees are confident in the strong governance processes, healthy board structure, and the decisive leadership under Jack Dale-Dowd, such that the organisation will continue to adapt to the changing landscape.

Contact remained at 'minor' risk according to Arts Council England's risk assessment, in response to the pragmatic action taken to build resilience, and the recruitment of further expertise and experience to the Board of trustees. Our internal risk register rating has been kept as 'high' in 2024-25 with actions being taken to reduce this rating.

In the effort to create a more commercial programme, this coming year we will see the introduction of events that focus on:

- Fashion
- Music
- Gaming
- Sport
- Comedy
- Teacher Training and Career Development
- Family and school focussed shows for holiday periods including an annual pantomime

Additionally, we will create more consultancy packages following the model of our successful Anti-Racism Package. These will focus on the following areas:

- Youth Governance
- Safeguarding and Social Media
- Climate Confidence

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Aims and key objectives for future periods

Contact's current focus is on business planning and strategic direction for the next five years. This work is well underway and will be completed by end of Q3 25-26. The direction of travel for Contact is a refining of our activities, focusing our efforts in youth engagement and artist development on local communities that are less represented in the sector.

The first stage of a 5 year staff plan has been implemented with further changes planned in the coming years, as funds allow, to build capacity across the organisation. Remaining a lean core staff team, but building up to allow an agile approach to deliver.

25-26 will bring a slightly more active public offer, with the return of panto in December, a busy autumn programme of partnership and collaboration and Queer Contact growing slightly in the final quarter of the year. Engagement activity is being reviewed by our new Head of Engagement to launch a new Engagement Strategy, along with our new Creative Strategy that will respond to the constant changes across the country and with our young people.

The work that Contact will do and partnerships that it will continue with will be much more intentional, following the year of consolidation, we are cautiously stepping forward whilst remaining committed to our mission.

A small programme of capital works has been identified and funding is being sought to refresh certain untouched areas of the building whilst aiming to deliver on sustainability upgrades and replacement of end of life plant equipment.

New partnerships are being forged with Manchester Metropolitan University and others, whilst existing partnerships are being planned over a longer period of time, enabling both Contact and our partners to be more impactful and more effective.

We are excited for what the future holds for Contact, our work now is more important than ever.

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

GOING CONCERN

The Trustees have carefully considered The Charity's going concern position with regard to its Arts Council England's National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) funding. Contact has recently been awarded funding for the next cycle of NPO funding which covers the three years from April 2023 to March 2026 and we understand that this funding has been extended into 2026-27 year although this has not been formally notified in writing. Manchester City Council and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) have confirmed funding for the period to March 2026 and we are in active discussions with them about future funding, seeking uplift in both cases. Although the NPO funding continues at the same level, we continue to seek new funding partners and have been successful at increasing funds to support our core work.

Contact's reserve policy requirement of free reserves covering three months' operating costs are not met at the end of the period. Contact has budgets in place to build free reserves toward three months operating costs over the current NPO funding period.

Contact has prepared mitigation steps including new financial and commercial strategies over the next two years to build free reserve and continue to focus on its mission by:

- Prioritising value for money programme.
- Continue to drive cost cutting exercises to reduce expenditure.
- New business model to generate voluntary and trading income.
- Robust financial monitoring and assessment using monthly management accounts.
- Financial health check through stringent monthly cash flow forecast and quarterly budget review.
- Maximise the efficiency of its commercial business model to generate income.

The Trustees recognise the current financial position of Contact and, having assessed the new financial and commercial strategies including the cash position and the mitigation steps (including the renewal of the current overdraft facility as a buffer), are therefore satisfied that it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

#### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

##### Governing document

Manchester Young People's Theatre, also known as Contact, is a registered charity (no. 501953) and a company (No. 1066757) limited by guarantee. The governing documents of Contact are its Memorandum and Articles of Association, which were revised on 21 March 2021. The company was incorporated on 18 August 1972 and registered as a charity on 31 October 1972. The Trustees of the Contact guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the Charity in the event of a winding up.

##### Appointment, induction and training of Trustees

Trustees retire after three years by rotation. These Trustees may offer themselves for re-appointment for a second term. All new Trustees are recruited via a thorough process led by the Resources Board. Candidates are interviewed by a panel of Trustees and a separate panel of young people and if appropriate recommended to the Board for appointment.

New Board members undertake a series of induction meetings with the Board Chair, the Senior Management Team and staff, and a comprehensive induction pack is provided. Board-wide training is arranged as required. The Board includes one representative from the University of Manchester, one representative from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and one representative from Manchester City Council, though the latter two posts are currently vacant.

##### Organisation

The Trustee Board has the following sub committees; Resources, Artistic Evaluation, and Trading Boards. These committees meet at least four times a year with meetings scheduled to allow reporting back to the Board each quarter.

The Trustees ensure the accuracy of all financial information through the work of its Resources Board, which reviews all financial information, the development of business systems and procedures, and progress in income generation and fundraising strategies. The Resources Board, which meets on a quarterly basis, develops and monitors Contact's Financial Regulations and Risk Register. In addition, it reviews operational risks in relation to employment issues as well as keeping abreast of changes in employment law and developing relevant policies. The Resources Board also reviews Health & Safety policy and procedures as well as Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy procedures. Members of the Resources Board bring expertise on business planning, equality, diversity and inclusion, HR and finance.

In terms of service quality, all individual projects undertaken by the organisation are subject to risk assessment, monitoring and evaluation procedures. Reports are made quarterly to the Trustees. The Trustees also monitor the quality of services through its Artistic Evaluation Board, which also meets quarterly.

##### Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

None of our Trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work as Trustees with the Charity.

Any connection between a Trustee or Senior Manager of Contact with a production company, contracted actor, performer, or exhibitor must be disclosed to the full Board of Trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. Contact has a Conflict of Interest Policy and Register of Interests.

Contact and the University of Manchester have an agreement which allows Contact to lease the building from the University, to access some facilities and services, and to collaborate with the University on programming events for and by students.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Report of the Trustees** **for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

#### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

##### Pay policy for senior staff

The Directors, who are Contact's Trustees, consider themselves and the Senior Management Team to be key management personnel in charge of directing, controlling, running and operating Contact on a day-to-day basis. All Directors give their time freely and no Director received remuneration for being a Director/Trustee in the year. Details of related party transactions are disclosed in note 31 to the accounts.

Salaries are benchmarked against market rates for all staff. The pay of senior staff is reviewed annually and normally increased in accordance with inflation and at the same rate as other staff.

##### Risk management

The Trustees review the objectives, services, management and regular funding of the organisation as part of an ongoing planning and review process, which includes the development of a Five Year Business Plan. The Plan assesses Contact's development and sets targets in relation to a number of risk factors, including financial, operational, governance and external factors.

In addition, the Resources Board reviews the risk process. These are also the routes for any additional areas of concern highlighted by the review of the Plan or arising through changes in external circumstances, new activities or changes in the law. The risk is assessed and any further action is identified and parameters are agreed. The risk register, with any additional supporting information, is then reported to the Board quarterly through the Finance & Risk Committee Report.

The Senior Management Team assesses day-to-day risks within the remit agreed by the Board, identifying areas of concern, understanding risk analysis and agreeing decisions within agreed parameters.

The Trustees have reviewed the major risks that could impact on Contact. These are:-

| <b>Risk</b>  | <b>Mitigation</b>  |
|--|--|
| Increasing costs due to energy and cost of living crisis                     | Focus of the Resources Board, implementing cost saving measures and developing additional fundraising capacity   |
| Inability to meet increased income targets                                   | Focus of the Resources Board, strengthening staff team and marketing, communications and sales function  |
| Cuts in existing public sector funding                                       | Regular dialogue with our funders, reporting our social impact and reach, and business planning around new commercial models of income                     |
| Inability to retain existing staff and recruit new staff due to low salaries | Focus of the Resources Board, review of salaries and cost base   |
| Cash flow and management of cash flow  | Careful management of cash flows by finance team. Resources Board focus, implementing cost saving measures and developing additional fundraising capacity. |

The Board of Trustees and staff undergo regular training and professional development to ensure that they remain abreast of current developments, changes in statutes and best practice.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Report of the Trustees** **for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

#### Reference and Administrative Details

#### Directors and Trustees

The Directors of the Charitable Company (the Charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charity law. The Trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| Chair                                   | Ms B Ikpasaja   | Resigned on 18 September 2025  |
| Interim Chairs                          | Mr B Anderson<br>Professor J de Groot   | Appointed on 18 September 2025<br>Appointed on 18 September 2025                       |
| Trustees                                | Ms F Ope<br>Mr O Fatayo<br>Ms P Swiderska<br>Mr P Olubayo<br>Ms T Olaniran<br>Ms J Y Cheung | Resigned on 12 March 2025<br>Resigned on 24 April 2025<br>Resigned on 26 December 2024 |
| Manchester City Council representative  | Replacement pending   |  |
| GMCA representative                     | Replacement pending   |  |
| University of Manchester representative | Professor J de Groot  |  |

#### Key Management personnel

#### Senior Leadership

Chief Executive Officer Mr J Dale-Dowd

Director of Finance Mr F Bradley

#### Senior Management

Head of Creative Engagement Ms L Whitehurst  
Role discontinued Resigned on 31 January 2025

Head of HR & Wellbeing Ms C Lee Appointed 1 June 2025

Head of Development Ms J Hall Appointed 1 June 2025

Head of Engagement Ms B Rigby Appointed 1 June 2025

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

Reference and Administrative Details (continued)

Registered Company number  
01066757 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number  
501953

Registered office  
Contact Theatre  
Devas Street  
Off Oxford Road  
Manchester  
M15 6JA

Auditors  
Ascendis Audit Limited  
Unit 3, Building 2  
The Colony  
Altrincham Road  
Wilmslow  
SK9 4LY

Solicitors  
Gateley LLP  
Ship Canal House  
98 King Street  
Manchester  
M3 3AP

Bankers  
NatWest Bank plc  
1 Spinningfields Square  
Manchester  
M3 3AP

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on Contact's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITOR

Each trustee has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The trustees confirm that there is no relevant audit information that they know of and which they know the auditor is unaware.

POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

There are no post balance sheet events to disclose.

AUDITORS

The auditors, Ascendis Audit Limited, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 12/11/25 ..... and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Professor J de Groot  
Interim Chair of the Board

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of  
Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The) (the 'charitable parent company') and its subsidiary ("the group") for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position, the Charitable Parent Company Statement of Financial Position, the consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and applicable law United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the charitable parent company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

**Basis for opinion**

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

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the groups and the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

**Other information**

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Report of the Chair and the Report of the Trustees, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of  
Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Report of the Chair and the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Chair and the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

**Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

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

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

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

**Responsibilities of trustees**

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

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

**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors 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.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:
- We obtained an understanding of laws and regulations that affect the charity, focusing on those that has a direct effect on the financial statements or that has a fundamental effect on its operations. Key laws and regulations that were identified included UK Building Regulations, the Health & Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019, and Charity Commission requirements.
- We reviewed the Trustees' meeting minutes for evidence of non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations.

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of  
Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements - continued

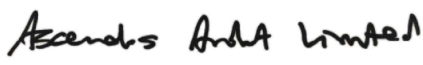
- We gained an understanding of the controls that the Trustees have in place to prevent and detect fraud. We enquired of the Trustees about any incidences of fraud that had taken place during the accounting period.
- The risk of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud was discussed within the audit team and tests were planned and performed to address these risks. We identified the potential for fraud in the following areas: misappropriation of cash and other assets.
- We reviewed the financial statements disclosures and tested to supporting documentation to assess the compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above.
- We enquired of the Trustees about actual and potential litigation and claims.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify and unusual or unexpected relationships that might indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud due to management override of internal controls we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates were indicative of a potential bias.

Due to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations and cannot be expected to detect all fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

**Use of our report**

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

  
.....

Paul Allan Byrne BA (Double Hons) FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Ascendis Audit Limited, Statutory Auditor

Unit 3, Building 2  
The Colony  
Altrincham Road  
Wilmslow  
SK9 4LY

Date: 3/12/25  
.....

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

|   | Notes  | 31 March<br>2025<br>Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | 31 March<br>2025<br>Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | 31 March<br>2025<br>Total<br>Funds<br>£ | 31 March<br>2024<br>Total<br>Funds<br>£ |
|---|--------|--|--|---|---|
| Income and endowments from                            |        |  |  |   |   |
| Donations and Legacies                                | 2      | 2,674  | -  | 2,674                                   | 7,055                                   |
| <b>Charitable Activities</b>                          |        |  |  |   |   |
| Grants - Core Funding                                 | 6 & 7  | 1,116,753                                      | -  | 1,116,753                               | 1,116,753                               |
| Operation of building & related<br>artistic programme | 6 & 8  | 160,786  | -  | 160,786                                 | 160,722                                 |
| Provision of participatory<br>activities              | 6 & 9  | 4,062  | 104,938                                      | 109,000                                 | 93,318                                  |
| Health & Science Activities                           | 6 & 10 | -  | -  | -                                       | 567                                     |
| Other trading activities                              | 3      | 115,232  | -  | 115,232                                 | 175,005                                 |
| Investment income                                     | 4      | 244  | -  | 244                                     | (1,321)                                 |
| Other income  | 5      | 55,000   | 49,500                                       | 104,500                                 | 56,381                                  |
| <b>Total income</b>                                   |        | <u>1,454,751</u>                               | <u>154,438</u>                               | <u>1,609,189</u>                        | <u>1,608,480</u>                        |
| <b>Expenditure on</b>                                 |        |  |  |   |   |
| Resources expended                                    | 11     | 148,896  | -  | 148,896                                 | 189,597                                 |
| <b>Charitable activities</b>                          |        |  |  |   |   |
| Operation of building & related<br>artistic programme | 12     | 1,074,566                                      | 329,894                                      | 1,404,460                               | 1,778,609                               |
| Provision of participatory<br>activities              | 12     | 62,836   | 52,824                                       | 115,660                                 | 142,891                                 |
| Health & Science Activities                           | 12     | -  | -  | -                                       | 12,958                                  |
| <b>Total expenditure</b>                              |        | <u>1,286,298</u>                               | <u>382,718</u>                               | <u>1,669,016</u>                        | <u>2,124,055</u>                        |
| <b>Net surplus/(expenditure) before<br/>tax</b>       |        | 168,453  | (228,280)                                    | (59,827)                                | (515,575)                               |
| Taxation  | 13     | 12,075   | -  | 12,075                                  | -                                       |
| <b>Net surplus/(expenditure) after<br/>tax</b>        |        | 180,528  | (228,280)                                    | (47,752)                                | (515,575)                               |
| Transfers between funds                               | 26     | (58,329)                                       | 58,329                                       | -                                       | -                                       |
| <b>Net movement in funds</b>                          |        | 122,199  | (169,951)                                    | (47,752)                                | (515,575)                               |
| <b>Reconciliation of funds</b>                        |        |  |  |   |   |
| Total funds bought forward                            |        | (29,127)                                       | 6,766,700                                    | 6,737,573                               | 7,253,148                               |
| <b>Total funds carried forward</b>                    |        | <u>93,072</u>                                  | <u>6,596,749</u>                             | <u>6,689,821</u>                        | <u>6,737,573</u>                        |

The notes on pages 22 to 42 form an integral part of these financial statements.

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Consolidated Statement of Financial Position  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

|  | Notes | 31 March<br>2025<br>Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | 31 March<br>2025<br>Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | 31 March<br>2025<br>Total<br>Funds<br>£ | 31 March<br>2024<br>Total<br>Funds<br>£ |
|--|-------|--|--|---|---|
| <b>Fixed Assets</b>  |       |  |  |   |   |
| Tangible Assets  | 19    | 14,207   | 6,597,418                                    | 6,611,625                               | 6,900,806                               |
| <b>Current Assets</b>  |       |  |  |   |   |
| Debtors  | 21    | 96,734   | 24,150                                       | 120,884                                 | 57,729                                  |
| Cash At Bank   | 29    | 78,723   | 115,607                                      | 194,330                                 | 85,631                                  |
|  |       | <u>175,457</u>                                 | <u>139,757</u>                               | <u>315,214</u>                          | <u>143,360</u>                          |
| <b>Creditors</b>   |       |  |  |   |   |
| Amounts Falling Due Within One Year                          | 22    | (96,592)                                       | (49,199)                                     | (145,791)                               | (193,039)                               |
| <b>Net current assets/(liabilities)</b>                      |       | <u>78,865</u>                                  | <u>90,558</u>                                | <u>169,423</u>                          | <u>(46,679)</u>                         |
| <b>Total assets plus/(less) current assets/(liabilities)</b> |       | 93,072   | 6,687,976                                    | 6,781,048                               | 6,851,127                               |
| <b>Creditors</b>   |       |  |  |   |   |
| Amounts Falling Due After More Than One Year                 | 24    | -  | (91,227)                                     | (91,227)                                | (113,554)                               |
| <b>Net assets</b>  |       | <u>93,072</u>                                  | <u>6,596,749</u>                             | <u>6,689,821</u>                        | <u>6,737,573</u>                        |
| <b>Funds</b>   |       |  |  |   |   |
| Unrestricted Funds   | 26    |  |  | 93,072                                  | (29,127)                                |
| Restricted Funds   | 26    |  |  | 6,596,749                               | 6,766,700                               |
| <b>Total funds</b>   |       |  |  | <u>6,689,821</u>                        | <u>6,737,573</u>                        |

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 12/11/25  
and were signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Professor J de Groot

Interim Chair of the Board

The notes on pages 22 to 42 form an integral part of these financial statements.

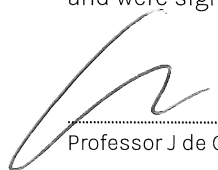
**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Company Statement of Financial Position**

**31 March 2025**

|  | Notes | 31 March<br>2025<br>Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | 31 March<br>2025<br>Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | 31 March<br>2025<br>Total<br>Funds<br>£ | 31 March<br>2024<br>Total<br>Funds<br>£ |
|--|-------|--|--|---|---|
| <b>Fixed assets</b>  |       |  |  |   |   |
| Tangible Assets  | 19    | 14,207   | 6,597,418                                    | 6,611,625                               | 6,900,806                               |
| Investments  | 20    | 1  | -  | 1                                       | 1                                       |
|  |       | <u>14,208</u>                                  | <u>6,597,418</u>                             | <u>6,611,626</u>                        | <u>6,900,807</u>                        |
| <b>Current assets</b>  |       |  |  |   |   |
| Debtors  | 21    | 122,234  | 24,150                                       | 146,384                                 | 71,676                                  |
| Cash At Bank   |       | 58,160   | 115,607                                      | 173,767                                 | 56,065                                  |
|  |       | <u>180,394</u>                                 | <u>139,757</u>                               | <u>320,151</u>                          | <u>127,741</u>                          |
| <b>Creditors</b>   |       |  |  |   |   |
| Amounts Falling Due Within One Year                          | 22    | (96,593)                                       | (49,199)                                     | (145,792)                               | (178,039)                               |
| <b>Net current assets/(liabilities)</b>                      |       | <u>83,801</u>                                  | <u>90,558</u>                                | <u>174,359</u>                          | <u>(50,298)</u>                         |
| <b>Total assets plus/(less) current assets/(liabilities)</b> |       | <u>98,009</u>                                  | <u>6,687,976</u>                             | <u>6,785,985</u>                        | <u>6,850,509</u>                        |
| <b>Creditors</b>   |       |  |  |   |   |
| Amounts Falling Due After More Than One Year                 | 24    | -  | (91,227)                                     | (91,227)                                | (113,554)                               |
| <b>Net assets</b>  |       | <u>98,009</u>                                  | <u>6,596,749</u>                             | <u>6,694,758</u>                        | <u>6,736,955</u>                        |
| <b>Funds</b>   |       |  |  |   |   |
| Unrestricted Funds   |       |  |  | 98,009                                  | (29,745)                                |
| Restricted Funds   |       |  |  | 6,596,749                               | 6,766,700                               |
| <b>Total funds</b>   |       |  |  | <u>6,694,758</u>                        | <u>6,736,955</u>                        |

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 12/11/25 and were signed on its behalf by:



.....  
Professor J de Groot

Interim Chair of the Board

The notes on pages 22 to 42 form an integral part of these financial statements.

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

|  |      | 31 March<br>2025 | 31 March<br>2024 |
|--|------|------------------|------------------|
|  | Note | £                | £                |
| Cash flows from operating activities                 | 27   | 219,963          | (73,558)         |
| Tax paid   |      | (12,323)         | -                |
| Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities  |      | <u>207,640</u>   | <u>(73,558)</u>  |
| Cash flows from investing activities                 |      |                  |                  |
| Interest receivable and similar income               |      | 244              | (1,321)          |
| Purchase of tangible fixed assets                    |      | (45,544)         | (818)            |
| Net cash outflow from investing activities           |      | <u>(45,300)</u>  | <u>(2,139)</u>   |
| Cash flows from financing activities                 |      |                  |                  |
| Repayment of loans and borrowings                    |      | (21,540)         | (20,782)         |
| Interest payable                                     |      | (25,205)         | (26,882)         |
| Net cash outflow from financing activities           |      | <u>(46,745)</u>  | <u>(47,664)</u>  |
| Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | 29   | 115,595          | (123,361)        |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April                 | 29   | 78,735           | 202,096          |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March                | 29   | <u>194,330</u>   | <u>78,735</u>    |

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 22 to 42 form an integral part of these financial statements.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

##### Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Contact meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The financial statements are prepared in Pound Sterling (£), which is the functional currency of the entity. Amounts are rounded to the nearest £.

##### Basis of consolidation

The group financial statements consolidate the financial statements of the company and its subsidiary undertaking drawn up to 31 March 2025.

A subsidiary is an entity controlled by the charity. Control is achieved where the charity has the power to govern the financial and operating policies of that entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

The subsidiary undertaking was incorporated as a subsidiary on 1 April 2020 and was dormant from that date until 31 March 2022. Its results and balances have therefore only been consolidated from 1 April 2022.

Intercompany transactions and balances between the charity and its subsidiary undertaking are eliminated in full on consolidation.

No Statement of Financial Activities is presented for the charitable parent company as permitted by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006. The charity made a deficit after tax of £42,197 (2024: £516,193).

##### Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

##### Significant judgements

The judgements (apart from those involving estimations) that management has made in the process of applying the accounting policies and that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are as follows:

- Determination of whether there are indicators of impairment of the tangible fixed assets. Factors taken into consideration in reaching such a decision include the economic viability and expected future financial performance or charitable use of the asset.
- Determination of whether leases entered into as lessee are operating or finance leases. These decisions depend on an assessment of whether the risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred from the lessor to the lessee on a lease by lease basis.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued** **for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

##### Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Accounting estimates and assumptions are made concerning the future and, by their nature, will rarely equal the related actual outcome. The key assumptions and other sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are as follows:

- Determination of recoverability of trade debtors. A specific provision is made against certain debts where in the opinion of the trustees the debt is not fully recoverable.
- Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the assets and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. In re-assessing asset lives, factors such as technological innovation, product life cycles and maintenance are taken into account. Residual value assessments consider issues such as future market conditions, the remaining life of the asset and projected disposal values.

##### Income recognition policies

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- the Charity has entitlement to the funds;
- any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met or are fully within the control of the Charity;
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable; and
- the amount can be measured reliably.

Income received in advance of a theatrical performance or provision of other specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

##### Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

##### Grants Receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

##### Deferred Income

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in those periods. Such income is only deferred when:

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

##### Investment Income

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued** **for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

##### Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds: comprise the costs of trading including commercial hires and their associated support costs and fundraising support costs.
- Expenditure on charitable activities: includes the costs of performances, touring, participatory work and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the Charity and their associated support costs. Expenditure on the capital redevelopment project is also included in this heading.
- Other expenditure: represents those items not falling into any other heading.
- Irrecoverable VAT: is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

##### Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the charity's work but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back-office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support Contact's artistic programme and participatory activities. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 14.

##### Governance Costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meeting and reimbursed expenses.

##### Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Where the Charity's trading turnover is higher (or lower) than the small trading exemption, UK corporation tax is provided at amounts expected to be paid (or recovered) using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or subsequently enacted at the reporting date on trading profits.

The Charity will claim Theatre Tax Credits for loss making performances in line with HMRC guidance when eligible.

Its subsidiary, Contact Events Limited, is subject to corporation tax provided at amounts expected to be paid (or recovered) using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or subsequently enacted at the reporting date.

##### Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight-line basis as follows:

| <u>Asset Category</u>         | <u>Annual rate</u> |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Long term leasehold buildings | 2 - 10%            |
| Fixtures and fittings         | 3.85 - 20%         |
| Computer equipment            | 33.33%             |
| Motor vehicles                | 20%                |
| Land                          | Not depreciated    |

Building redevelopment construction costs are capitalised in the year they occur and depreciated over the remaining length of the lease. Fixtures and fittings purchased as part of the capital redevelopment

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

**Tangible fixed assets - continued**

project are not depreciated until the date of use. Professional fees relating to the capital redevelopment project have been expensed in the year they occurred.

Donated fixed assets are recognised at fair value which is the amount Contact would have been willing to pay for the items on the open market.

**Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments.

**Debtors**

Trade debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered less any provision for doubtful debts. Prepayments and other debtors are valued at amortised cost.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents**

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

**Creditors and Provisions**

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

**Borrowings**

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on an accruals basis.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after reporting due.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity.

Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific artistic projects being undertaken by the charity.

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

**Pensions and other post-retirement obligations**

The charity contributes to a group money purchase defined contribution pension scheme operated by The People's Pension. New and existing employees are automatically enrolled into the money purchase scheme unless they have exercised the right to opt out of scheme membership.

Employees join the money purchase pension scheme operated by The People's Pension, contract directly with the insurance company. The charity makes a matching contribution of 3% of salary to this pension scheme and acts as agent in collecting and paying over employee pensions contributions. The contributions made for the accounting period are treated as an expense and were £11,278 (2024: £15,666). There were no contributions outstanding at the balance sheet date.

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Operating Leases

Rental charges are charged on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

Going concern

The Trustees have carefully considered The Charity's going concern position with regard to its Arts Contact has recently been awarded funding for the next cycle of NPO funding which covers the three years from April 2023 to March 2026 and we understand that this funding has been extended into 2026-27 year although this has not been formally notified in writing. Council England's National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) funding. Contact has recently been awarded funding for the next cycle of NPO funding which covers the three years from April 2023 to March 2026 and further with the additional 2026-27 year open for applications from ACE. Manchester City Council and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) have confirmed funding for the period to March 2026. Although the NPO funding continues at the same level, we continue to seek new funding partners and have been successful at increasing funds to support our core work.

The Charity is unlikely to meet its commercial profit targets for 2025-26 though we plan to develop these income streams further in 2026-27. This will have a potential impact on the Charity bottom line.

Contact's reserve policy requirement of free reserves covering three months' operating costs are not met at the end of the period. Contact has budgets in place to build free reserves toward three months operating costs over the current NPO funding period.

Contact has prepared mitigation steps including new financial and commercial strategies over the next two years to build free reserve and continue to focus on its mission by:

- Prioritising value for money programme.
- Continue to drive cost cutting exercises to reduce expenditure.
- New business model to generate voluntary and trading income.
- Robust financial monitoring and assessment using monthly management accounts.
- Financial health check through stringent monthly cash flow forecast and quarterly budget review.
- Maximise the efficiency of its commercial business model to generate income.

The Trustees recognise the current financial position of Contact and, having assessed the new financial and commercial strategies including the cash position and the mitigation steps (including the renewal of the current overdraft facility as a buffer), are therefore satisfied that it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

|           | 2025         | 2024         |
|-----------|--------------|--------------|
|           | £            | £            |
| Donations | 2,639        | 7,055        |
| Legacies  | <u>35</u>    | <u>-</u>     |
|           | <u>2,674</u> | <u>7,055</u> |

Income from donations includes Gift Aid from individual giving. From time to time Contact benefits from the involvement and support of volunteers. In accordance with accounting standards, the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

|    |   |                  |                  |
|----|---|------------------|------------------|
| 3. | OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES                                    |                  |                  |
|    |   | 2025             | 2024             |
|    |   | £                | £                |
|    | Bar & catering  | (300)            | 6,984            |
|    | Hire of spaces  | 110,303          | 137,283          |
|    | Hire of equipment   | -                | 356              |
|    | Office hires  | 7,379            | 7,792            |
|    | Retail  | 83               | 4,023            |
|    | Consultancy fee   | 2,320            | 15,720           |
|    | Commission income   | (4,553)          | 2,265            |
|    | Services income   | -                | 582              |
|    |   | <u>115,232</u>   | <u>175,005</u>   |
| 4. | INVESTMENT INCOME   | 2025             | 2024             |
|    |   | £                | £                |
|    | Investment income   | <u>244</u>       | <u>(1,321)</u>   |
| 5. | OTHER INCOME  |                  |                  |
|    |   | Unrestricted     | Restricted       |
|    |   | Funds            | Funds            |
|    |   | 2025             | 2025             |
|    |   | £                | £                |
|    | Coutts Foundation revenue grant                             | 50,000           | -                |
|    | Coutts Foundation cost of living payment                    | 5,000            | -                |
|    | Other   | -                | -                |
|    | Wolfson Foundation  | -                | 49,500           |
|    |   | <u>55,000</u>    | <u>49,500</u>    |
|    |   | <u>104,500</u>   | <u>56,381</u>    |
| 6. | INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES                           | 2025             | 2024             |
|    | Activity  | £                | £                |
|    | Grants - Core Funding (note 7)                              | 1,116,753        | 1,116,753        |
|    | Operation of building & related artistic programme (note 8) | 160,786          | 160,722          |
|    | Provision of participatory activities (note 9)              | 109,000          | 93,318           |
|    | Health & Science Activities (note 10)                       | -                | 567              |
|    |   | <u>1,386,539</u> | <u>1,371,360</u> |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

7. UNRESTRICTED GRANT INCOME FROM CORE FUNDERS

|  | 2025             | 2024             |
|--|------------------|------------------|
|  | £                | £                |
| Arts Council   | 933,297          | 933,297          |
| GMCA (Greater Manchester Culture & Social Impact Fund) | 106,700          | 106,700          |
| Manchester City Council                                | 35,676           | 35,676           |
| University of Manchester                               | 41,080           | 41,080           |
|  | <u>1,116,753</u> | <u>1,116,753</u> |

All relate to unrestricted funds.

8. INCOME FROM OPERATION OF BUILDING AND RELATED ARTISTIC PROGRAMME

|                                  | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>2025<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2025<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2025<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2024<br>£ |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Income from theatre performances | <u>160,786</u>                     | <u>-</u>                         | <u>160,786</u>              | <u>160,722</u>              |

9. INCOME FOR PROVISION OF PARTICIPATORY ACTIVITIES

|  | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>2025<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2025<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2025<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2024<br>£ |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| BBC Reverse Mentoring                              | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 300                         |
| The Agency   | 4,062                              | 98,668                           | 102,730                     | 78,018                      |
| Youth & Play (Young Manchester)                    | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 15,000                      |
| Manchester City Council (Pop Up<br>Beats Workshop) | -                                  | 6,270                            | 6,270                       | -                           |
|  | <u>4,062</u>                       | <u>104,938</u>                   | <u>109,000</u>              | <u>93,318</u>               |

10. INCOME FOR HEALTH & SCIENCE ACTIVITIES

|       | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>2025<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2025<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2025<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2024<br>£ |
|-------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| GMCDP | <u>-</u>                           | <u>-</u>                         | <u>-</u>                    | <u>567</u>                  |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

11. RESOURCES EXPENDED

Raising donations and legacies

|                               | 2025           | 2024           |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                               | £              | £              |
| Fundraising support costs     | 79,481         | 93,032         |
| Commercial trading operations | <u>69,415</u>  | <u>96,565</u>  |
|                               | <u>148,896</u> | <u>189,597</u> |

12. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

|   | Operation of<br>building &<br>related<br>artistic<br>programme<br>2025<br>£ | Provision of<br>participatory<br>activities<br>2025<br>£ | Health &<br>Science<br>Activities<br>2025<br>£ | Total<br>2025<br>£ | Total<br>2024<br>£ |
|---|---|--|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| Salaries                                      | 630,261   | 38,296   | -  | 668,557            | 859,906            |
| Facilitator fees, project<br>costs & expenses | 3,756   | 12,973   | -  | 16,729             | 40,885             |
| Travel, accommodation &<br>subsistence        | 3,376   | 3,125  | -  | 6,501              | 1,391              |
| Production & touring costs                    | 32,179  | 46,763   | -  | 78,942             | 92,960             |
| Artists fees and box office<br>splits         | 54,492  | 8,276  | -  | 62,768             | 89,976             |
| Commissioning & artist<br>development         | -   | -  | -  | -                  | 3,100              |
| Box office & marketing<br>costs               | 2,236   | 5,310  | -  | 7,546              | 16,284             |
| Premises & technical costs                    | 214,591   | 838  | -  | 215,429            | 243,797            |
| Finance charges                               | 25,187  | 18   | -  | 25,205             | 26,882             |
| Recruitment & training                        | 14,572  | 61   | -  | 14,633             | 5,624              |
| Bad debts & write offs                        | -   | -  | -  | -                  | -                  |
| Depreciation                                  | 334,725   | -  | -  | 334,725            | 362,351            |
| Governance costs<br>(note 14)                 | 45,182  | -  | -  | 45,182             | 103,483            |
| Support costs (note 14)                       | <u>43,903</u>   | <u>-</u>   | <u>-</u>                                       | <u>43,903</u>      | <u>87,819</u>      |
|   | <u>1,404,460</u>  | <u>115,660</u>   | <u>-</u>                                       | <u>1,520,120</u>   | <u>1,934,458</u>   |

Of the expenditure amounting to £1,520,120 (2024: £1,934,458), £1,137,402 (2024: £1,520,547) was charged to unrestricted funds and £382,718 (2024: £413,911) was charged to restricted funds.

13. TAXATION

|                    | 2025            | 2024     |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------|
|                    | £               | £        |
| Theatre Tax Relief | <u>(12,075)</u> | <u>-</u> |
|                    | <u>(12,075)</u> | <u>-</u> |

The Group has no liability to tax in either year as it made taxable losses on its trading activities in both years. At the year end the amount of trading losses to carry forward amounted to £57,820 (2024: £2,759).

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

14. ANALYSIS OF GOVERNANCE AND SUPPORT COSTS

|                                       | General support<br>2025<br>£ | Governance function<br>2025<br>£ | Total<br>2025<br>£ | Total<br>2024<br>£ | Basis of<br>apportionment |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Catering for board & trustee meetings | -                            | 2,656                            | 2,656              | 80                 | Direct                    |
| Salaries, wages and related costs     | 512                          | -                                | 512                | 28,412             | Staff time                |
| General office costs                  | 43,391                       | 31,526                           | 74,917             | 147,846            | Direct                    |
| Audit & tax fees                      | -                            | 11,000                           | 11,000             | 14,964             | Direct                    |
|                                       | <u>43,903</u>                | <u>45,182</u>                    | <u>89,085</u>      | <u>191,302</u>     |                           |

15. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging:

|                             | 2025<br>£  | 2024<br>£  |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|
| Depreciation - owned assets | 334,725    | 362,351    |
| Operating leases            | 2,136      | 2,136      |
| Audit fees                  | 10,250     | 14,114     |
| Non audit fees              | <u>750</u> | <u>850</u> |

Of the audit fees in 2024, £4,764 was payable to the previous auditor in respect of their 2023 audit.

16. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

Except those disclosed in note 31, no trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration or any other benefit from the group during the year.

The group paid £nil (2024: £130) for reimbursed expenses to two trustees during the year, of which £nil (2024: £50) was for reimbursement of travelling cost and £nil (2024: £80) was for reimbursement of a board dinner. No other trustees have received any reimbursed expenses during the year.

17. STAFF COSTS

|                       | 2025<br>£      | 2024<br>£        |
|-----------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Wages and salaries    | 720,655        | 973,060          |
| Social security costs | 43,585         | 48,618           |
| Pension costs         | 11,278         | 15,666           |
| Redundancy costs      | 8,000          | -                |
|                       | <u>783,518</u> | <u>1,037,344</u> |

The average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees (including casual and part-time staff) during the year was as follows:

|                                     | 2025<br>No. | 2024<br>No. |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Permanent staff including part-time | <u>23</u>   | <u>29</u>   |

One employee received emoluments between £60,001 - £70,000 (2024 - nil). No employees were paid over £70,001 in either year.

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

17. STAFF COSTS - continued

Pension costs are allocated to activities in proportion to the related staffing costs incurred.

The key management personnel of Contact comprise the Trustees, the Chief Executive Officer, the Head of Creative Engagement (role now discontinued), and the Director of Finance. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £187,751 (2024: £200,260).

18. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

|   | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>£ |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Income and endowments from<br>Donations and legacies  | 7,055                      | -                        | 7,055               |
| <b>Charitable Activities</b>                          |                            |                          |                     |
| Grants – Core Funding                                 | 1,116,753                  | -                        | 1,116,753           |
| Operation of building & related artistic<br>programme | 160,722                    | -                        | 160,722             |
| Provision of participatory activities                 | 6,562                      | 86,756                   | 93,318              |
| Health & Science Activities                           | 567                        | -                        | 567                 |
| Other trading activities                              | 175,005                    | -                        | 175,005             |
| Investment income                                     | (1,321)                    | -                        | (1,321)             |
| Other income  | 56,381                     | -                        | 56,381              |
| <b>Total income</b>                                   | <u>1,521,724</u>           | <u>86,756</u>            | <u>1,608,480</u>    |
| <br>  |                            |                          |                     |
| Expenditure on<br>Resources expended                  | 189,597                    | -                        | 189,597             |
| <b>Charitable Activities</b>                          |                            |                          |                     |
| Operation of building & related artistic<br>programme | 1,445,632                  | 332,977                  | 1,778,609           |
| Provision of participatory activities                 | 73,044                     | 69,847                   | 142,891             |
| Health & Safety Activities                            | 1,871                      | 11,087                   | 12,958              |
| <b>Total expenditure</b>                              | <u>1,710,144</u>           | <u>413,911</u>           | <u>2,124,055</u>    |
| <br>  |                            |                          |                     |
| Net expenditure before tax                            | (188,420)                  | (327,155)                | (515,575)           |
| Taxation  | -                          | -                        | -                   |
| <b>Net expenditure after tax</b>                      | <u>(188,420)</u>           | <u>(327,155)</u>         | <u>(515,575)</u>    |
| <br>  |                            |                          |                     |
| Transfers between funds                               | (13,058)                   | 13,058                   | -                   |
| <br>  |                            |                          |                     |
| Net movement in funds                                 | (201,478)                  | (314,097)                | (515,575)           |
| <br>  |                            |                          |                     |
| Reconciliation of funds                               |                            |                          |                     |
| Total funds brought forwards                          | 172,351                    | 7,080,797                | 7,253,148           |
| <br>  |                            |                          |                     |
| <b>Total funds carried forward</b>                    | <u>(29,127)</u>            | <u>6,766,700</u>         | <u>6,737,573</u>    |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

19. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Group and company

|                       | Freehold<br>Property<br>£ | Fixtures<br>and<br>Fittings<br>£ | Motor<br>Vehicles<br>£ | Computer<br>Equipment<br>£ | Totals<br>£       |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>COST</b>           |                           |                                  |                        |                            |                   |
| At 1 April 2024       | 10,465,508                | 227,474                          | 15,469                 | 174,713                    | 10,883,164        |
| Additions             | -                         | 45,544                           | -                      | -                          | 45,544            |
| At 31 March 2025      | <u>10,465,508</u>         | <u>273,018</u>                   | <u>15,469</u>          | <u>174,713</u>             | <u>10,928,708</u> |
| <b>DEPRECIATION</b>   |                           |                                  |                        |                            |                   |
| At 1 April 2024       | 3,701,069                 | 110,987                          | 15,469                 | 154,833                    | 3,982,358         |
| Charge for year       | 308,775                   | 15,949                           | -                      | 10,001                     | 334,725           |
| At 31 March 2025      | <u>4,009,844</u>          | <u>126,936</u>                   | <u>15,469</u>          | <u>164,834</u>             | <u>4,317,083</u>  |
| <b>NET BOOK VALUE</b> |                           |                                  |                        |                            |                   |
| At 31 March 2025      | <u>6,455,663</u>          | <u>146,082</u>                   | <u>-</u>               | <u>9,880</u>               | <u>6,611,625</u>  |
| At 31 March 2024      | <u>6,764,439</u>          | <u>116,487</u>                   | <u>-</u>               | <u>19,880</u>              | <u>6,900,806</u>  |

20. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

Company

Share in  
subsidiary  
undertaking  
£  
1

As at 1 April 2024 and at 31 March 2025

Details of the investment in which the company holds more than 20% of the nominal value of any class of share capital are as follows:

| <u>Undertaking</u>           | <u>Company<br/>Number</u> | <u>Registered office</u>                             | <u>Holding</u> | <u>Proportion of shares<br/>and voting rights held</u> |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|--|----------------|--|
| Contact<br>Events<br>Limited | 12543422                  | Devas Street, Oxford<br>Road, Manchester, M15<br>6JA | Ordinary       | 100%   |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

20. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS - continued

Contact Events Limited

|                                  | Year ended<br>31 March 2025 | Year ended<br>31 March 2024 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                  | £                           | £                           |
| Income                           | 116,432                     | 144,678                     |
| Expenditure                      | (121,990)                   | (104,966)                   |
| Trading (loss)/profit            | (5,558)                     | 39,712                      |
| Profit gift aided to the charity | -                           | (39,712)                    |
| (Loss)/result for the year       | (5,558)                     | -                           |
|                                  | 31 March<br>2025            | 31 March<br>2024            |
|                                  | £                           | £                           |
| Total Assets                     | 22,925                      | 69,219                      |
| Total Liabilities                | (27,862)                    | (68,598)                    |
| Net (Liabilities)/Assets         | (4,937)                     | 621                         |

The subsidiary ceased trading on 30 September 2024 and is now dormant.

21. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

|                                | Group   |        | Company |        |
|--------------------------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
|                                | 2025    | 2024   | 2025    | 2024   |
|                                | £       | £      | £       | £      |
| Trade debtors                  | 32,190  | 33,165 | 29,828  | 4,017  |
| Amount owned by subsidiary     | -       | -      | 27,862  | 53,598 |
| VAT                            | 22,580  | 1,949  | 22,580  | 681    |
| Corporation tax                | 24,398  | -      | 24,398  | -      |
| Prepayments and accrued income | 41,716  | 22,615 | 41,716  | 13,380 |
|                                | 120,884 | 57,729 | 146,384 | 71,676 |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

22. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

|   | Group          |                | Company        |                |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|   | 2025           | 2024           | 2025           | 2024           |
|   | £              | £              | £              | £              |
| Other loans (see note 25)                     | 22,327         | 21,540         | 22,327         | 21,540         |
| Bank overdraft                                | -              | 6,896          | -              | 6,896          |
| Trade creditors                               | 34,012         | 66,584         | 34,012         | 66,584         |
| Social security and other taxes               | 12,617         | 25,415         | 12,617         | 25,415         |
| Other creditors and custodian funds (note 23) | 7,493          | 13,032         | 7,494          | 13,032         |
| Accruals                                      | 22,906         | 33,566         | 22,906         | 18,566         |
| Deferred income                               | 46,436         | 26,006         | 46,436         | 26,006         |
|   | <u>145,791</u> | <u>193,039</u> | <u>145,792</u> | <u>178,039</u> |

Deferred income comprises advance ticket sales for performances of shows and income for projects due to take place after 31 March 2025 and is analysed below:

Group and company

|                  | 2025          | 2024          |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                  | £             | £             |
| At 1 April       | 26,006        | 12,407        |
| Released in year | (26,006)      | (12,407)      |
| Deferred in year | 46,436        | 26,006        |
| At 31 March      | <u>46,436</u> | <u>26,006</u> |

23. CUSTODIAN FUNDS

Contact acted as a custodian trustee during the year for five independent projects run by ex-participants of Contact's programmes. All funds are held as cash in bank.

| Group and company    | Balance at<br>1 April 2024 | Funds<br>received | Funds paid      | Balance at<br>31 March 2025 |
|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
|                      | £                          | £                 | £               | £                           |
| Hate Crime Awareness | 40                         | -                 | -               | 40                          |
| Uniquely Us          | 626                        | -                 | -               | 626                         |
| Dawn to the Light    | 175                        | -                 | -               | 175                         |
| Kulture Fest         | 12,180                     | -                 | (11,338)        | 842                         |
|                      | <u>13,021</u>              | <u>-</u>          | <u>(11,338)</u> | <u>1,683</u>                |

24. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

Group and company

|                       | 2025          | 2024           |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------|
|                       | £             | £              |
| Other loans (note 25) | <u>91,227</u> | <u>113,554</u> |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

25. LOANS

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

| Group and company                                 | 2025<br>£     | 2024<br>£     |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Amounts falling due within one year on demand:    |               |               |
| Other loans                                       | <u>22,327</u> | <u>21,540</u> |
| Amounts falling between one and two years:        |               |               |
| Other loans - 1-2 years                           | <u>23,141</u> | <u>22,327</u> |
| Amounts falling due between two and five years:   |               |               |
| Other loans - 2-5 years                           | <u>68,086</u> | <u>71,988</u> |
| Amounts falling due in more than five years:      |               |               |
| Repayable by instalments:                         |               |               |
| Other loans over more than 5 years by instalments | <u>-</u>      | <u>19,239</u> |

Manchester City Council has provided a £200,000 loan at a rate of 2.7% + the EC Reference Rate which is the variable rate. Manchester City Council holds quasi-security over The Manchester Young People's Theatre building, whereby a negative pledge is in place.

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

26. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

For the year ended 31 March 2025

|   | At 1 Apr 2024           | Net<br>movement<br>in funds | Transfers<br>between<br>funds | At<br>31 Mar 2025       |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
|   | £                       | £                           | £                             | £                       |
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b>                           |                         |                             |                               |                         |
| Unrestricted fund                                   | (85,051)                | 180,528                     | (2,405)                       | 93,072                  |
| Designated fund (Capital Redevelopment Project)     | 55,924                  | -                           | (55,924)                      | -                       |
|   | <u>(29,127)</u>         | <u>180,528</u>              | <u>(58,329)</u>               | <u>93,072</u>           |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>                             |                         |                             |                               |                         |
| The Agency (Reaching Communities) 2021-26           | 25,109                  | 50,928                      | -                             | 76,037                  |
| Weston Culture Fund                                 | 2,038                   | -                           | -                             | 2,038                   |
| Curiosity Fund                                      | 500                     | -                           | -                             | 500                     |
| Building fund                                       | 6,699,042               | (280,394)                   | 55,924                        | 6,474,572               |
| Diverse Action (Live Art UK)                        | 1,206                   | -                           | -                             | 1,206                   |
| Capsule 2119  | 589                     | -                           | -                             | 589                     |
| Youth & Play (Young Manchester)                     | 21,498                  | -                           | -                             | 21,498                  |
| Manchester City Council Health & Care Commissioning | 13,759                  | -                           | -                             | 13,759                  |
| The Agency Alumni                                   | 2,529                   | -                           | -                             | 2,529                   |
| BBC reverse mentoring                               | 430                     | -                           | -                             | 430                     |
| Manchester City Council - Pop Up Beats Workshop     | -                       | 3,591                       | -                             | 3,591                   |
| CYC Baring  | -                       | (2,405)                     | 2,405                         | -                       |
|   | <u>6,766,700</u>        | <u>(228,280)</u>            | <u>58,329</u>                 | <u>6,596,749</u>        |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>                                  | <u><u>6,737,573</u></u> | <u><u>(47,752)</u></u>      | <u><u>-</u></u>               | <u><u>6,689,821</u></u> |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

26. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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

|   | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b>                           |                            |                            |                           |
| Unrestricted fund                                   | <u>1,466,827</u>           | <u>(1,286,299)</u>         | <u>180,528</u>            |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>                             |                            |                            |                           |
| The Agency (Reaching Communities) 2021-26           | 98,668                     | (47,740)                   | 50,928                    |
| Weston Culture Fund                                 | -                          | -                          | -                         |
| Curiosity Fund                                      | -                          | -                          | -                         |
| Building fund                                       | 49,500                     | (329,894)                  | 280,394                   |
| Diverse Actions (Live Art UK)                       | -                          | -                          | -                         |
| Capsule 2119  | -                          | -                          | -                         |
| Youth & Play (Young Manchester)                     | -                          | -                          | -                         |
| Manchester City Council Health & Care Commissioning | -                          | -                          | -                         |
| The Agency Alumni                                   | -                          | -                          | -                         |
| BBC reverse mentoring                               | -                          | -                          | -                         |
| Manchester City Council - Pop Up Beats Workshop     | 6,270                      | (2,679)                    | 3,591                     |
| CYC Baring  | -                          | (2,405)                    | (2,405)                   |
|   | <u>154,438</u>             | <u>(382,718)</u>           | <u>(228,280)</u>          |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>                                  | <u><u>1,621,265</u></u>    | <u><u>(1,669,017)</u></u>  | <u><u>(47,752)</u></u>    |

There were no significant transfers between reserves during the period.

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

26. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

For the year ended 31 March 2024

|   | At 1 Apr 2023<br>£ | Net<br>movement<br>in funds<br>£ | Transfers<br>between<br>funds<br>£ | At<br>31 Mar 2024<br>£ |
|---|--------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b>                           |                    |                                  |                                    |                        |
| Unrestricted fund                                   | 116,427            | (188,420)                        | (13,058)                           | (85,051)               |
| Designated fund (Capital Redevelopment Project)     | <u>55,924</u>      | <u>-</u>                         | <u>-</u>                           | <u>55,924</u>          |
|   | 172,351            | (188,420)                        | (13,058)                           | (29,127)               |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>                             |                    |                                  |                                    |                        |
| The Agency (Reaching Communities) 2021-26           | 3,973              | 21,136                           | -                                  | 25,109                 |
| Weston Culture Fund                                 | 2,038              | -                                | -                                  | 2,038                  |
| Curiosity Fund                                      | 500                | -                                | -                                  | 500                    |
| Building fund                                       | 7,032,019          | (332,977)                        | -                                  | 6,699,042              |
| Diverse Actions (Live Art UK)                       | 1,206              | -                                | -                                  | 1,206                  |
| MCR Active - Holiday Action Fund                    | 2,457              | (12,992)                         | 10,535                             | -                      |
| Youth & Play (Young Manchester)                     | 11,282             | 10,216                           | -                                  | 21,498                 |
| Manchester City Council Health & Care Commissioning | 16,863             | (3,104)                          | -                                  | 13,759                 |
| The Agency Alumni                                   | 2,529              | -                                | -                                  | 2,529                  |
| GMCA Outreach                                       | -                  | (355)                            | 355                                | -                      |
| GMCVO - Trauma responsive                           | 5,460              | (7,635)                          | 2,175                              | -                      |
| BBC Reverse Mentoring                               | 1,590              | (1,160)                          | -                                  | 430                    |
| More Than Skin Deep                                 | -                  | 7                                | (7)                                | -                      |
| Capsule 2119  | 880                | (291)                            | -                                  | 589                    |
|   | <u>7,080,797</u>   | <u>(327,155)</u>                 | <u>13,058</u>                      | <u>6,766,700</u>       |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>                                  | <u>7,253,148</u>   | <u>(515,575)</u>                 | <u>-</u>                           | <u>6,737,573</u>       |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

26. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

For the year ended 31 March 2024

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

|   | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Unrestricted funds                                  |                            |                            |                           |
| Unrestricted funds                                  | <u>1,521,724</u>           | <u>(1,710,144)</u>         | <u>(188,420)</u>          |
|   | 1,521,724                  | (1,710,144)                | (188,420)                 |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>                             |                            |                            |                           |
| The Agency (Reaching Communities)<br>2021 - 26      | 71,456                     | (50,320)                   | 21,136                    |
| Building fund                                       | -                          | (332,977)                  | (332,977)                 |
| Youth & Play (Young Manchester)                     | 15,000                     | (4,784)                    | 10,216                    |
| Capsule 2119  | -                          | (291)                      | (291)                     |
| Manchester City Council Health & Care Commissioning | -                          | (3,104)                    | (3,104)                   |
| GMCA Outreach                                       | -                          | (355)                      | (355)                     |
| GMCVO - Trauma responsive                           | -                          | (7,635)                    | (7,635)                   |
| More Than Skin Deep                                 | -                          | 7                          | 7                         |
| BBC reverse mentoring                               | 300                        | (1,460)                    | (1,160)                   |
| MCR Active - Holiday Action Fund                    | <u>-</u>                   | <u>(12,992)</u>            | <u>(12,992)</u>           |
|   | <u>86,756</u>              | <u>(413,911)</u>           | <u>(327,155)</u>          |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>                                  | <u>1,608,480</u>           | <u>(2,124,055)</u>         | <u>(515,575)</u>          |

There were no significant transfers between reserves in 2024.

**Funds**

| Name of fund                                | Description, nature and purpose of the fund  |
|---|--|
| Unrestricted fund                           | The "unrestricted reserves" after allowing for all designated funds and including unrestricted fixed assets.   |
| Designated fund                             | Designated fund for Capital Redevelopment Project  |
| Name of restricted fund                     | Description, nature and purpose of the fund  |
| <b>Active</b>                               |  |
| The Agency (Reaching Communities) 2021 - 26 | Reaching Communities is funding the continuation of The Agency Project. This covers Battersea Arts Centre in 2024/25.  |
| Building Fund                               | The Building fund was established to rebuild and extend the existing theatre and was funded by The Arts Council of England. Expenditure represents the annual depreciation charge. Capital Redevelopment costs are transferred to the Building fund. |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

26. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Completed

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Weston Culture Fund                                 | Garfield Weston Foundation funded cultural organisations to restart their work after Covid-19 and to re-engage audiences it supported and outdoor programme of activities and events  |
| Curiosity Fund                                      | A partnership between BBC Children in Need and Wellcome which funded a new arts project for children aged 15 - 16 within an area of high deprivation who may have been disabled or experience mental health issues  |
| Diverse Action (Live Art UK)                        | Contact was a partner in the Live Art UK Diverse Actions project which commissioned BAME live art artists to make new work  |
| Capsule 2119  | The PRS Foundation supported the creation and performance of 16 new songs that subsequently became a time capsule for the Year 2119 placed within Contact's refurbished building  |
| Youth & Play (Young Manchester)                     | Young Manchester funded a grant to co-deliver a 12 month pilot project that enabled young people from working class backgrounds in Manchester to explore art and activism   |
| Manchester City Council Health & Care Commissioning | A one off project in 2023/24 where Manchester City Council funded a community Arts Intervention with young parents in Wythenshawe   |
| The Agency Alumni                                   | Another project funded as part of The Agency Project  |
| BBC Reverse Mentoring                               | This scheme connected 25 young people from Contact's network to 25 staff members across BBC Children & BBC Education in a 12 month reciprocal mentoring scheme  |
| Wolfson Foundation                                  | This was a one off project in 2024/25 which funded capital expenditure (being LED lighting throughout the Theatre).   |
| Manchester City Council - Pop Up Beats Workshop     | Pop Up Beats was a music programme in 2024/25 which was delivered in schools, rather than at Contact. The aim was to use group music making, with live instruments, to improve young people's mental health and wellbeing, as well as developing their self-confidence. Led by a Music Therapist in Residence, from Nordoff & Robbins, in schools/educational settings. |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

|     |  |                 |                 |
|-----|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| 27. | RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATIONS |                 |                 |
|     |  | 2025            | 2024            |
|     |  | £               | £               |
|     | Deficit for the reporting period   | (59,827)        | (515,575)       |
|     | Adjustments for:   |                 |                 |
|     | Depreciation charges   | 334,725         | 362,351         |
|     | Interest payable   | 25,205          | 26,882          |
|     | Interest receivable  | (244)           | 1,321           |
|     | Decrease/(increase) in debtors   | (38,757)        | 126,492         |
|     | (Decrease)/increase in creditors   | <u>(41,139)</u> | <u>(75,029)</u> |
|     | Net cash generated by/(used in) operations                               | <u>219,963</u>  | <u>(73,558)</u> |

|     |                                       |                |                |
|-----|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 28. | ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS |                |                |
|     |                                       | 2025           | 2024           |
|     |                                       | £              | £              |
|     | Notice deposits (less than 3 months)  | 194,330        | 85,631         |
|     | Bank overdraft                        | <u>-</u>       | <u>(6,896)</u> |
|     | Total cash and cash equivalents       | <u>194,330</u> | <u>78,735</u>  |

|     |   |                  |                |                  |
|-----|---|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| 29. | ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET (DEBT)/FUNDS |                  |                |                  |
|     |   | At 1 Apr 2024    | Cash flow      | At 31 Mar 2025   |
|     |   | £                | £              | £                |
|     | Net cash                                |                  |                |                  |
|     | Cash at bank                            | 85,631           | 108,699        | 194,330          |
|     | Bank overdraft                          | <u>(6,896)</u>   | <u>6,896</u>   | <u>-</u>         |
|     | Total                                   | <u>78,735</u>    | <u>115,595</u> | <u>194,330</u>   |
|     | Debt                                    |                  |                |                  |
|     | Other loan due < 1 year                 | (21,540)         | (787)          | (22,327)         |
|     | Other loan due > 1 year                 | <u>(113,554)</u> | <u>22,327</u>  | <u>(91,227)</u>  |
|     | Total                                   | <u>(135,094)</u> | <u>21,540</u>  | <u>(113,554)</u> |
|     | Net (debt)/funds                        | <u>(56,359)</u>  | <u>137,135</u> | <u>80,776</u>    |

30. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

At the reporting date the group and company had capital commitments amounting to £nil (2024: £3,147).

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

Group and company

|                         |            |            |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|
|                         | 2025       | 2024       |
|                         | £          | £          |
| Not later than one year | <u>534</u> | <u>534</u> |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

31. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Contact and the University of Manchester have an agreement which allows for Contact to lease the building from the University, to access some facilities and services, and to collaborate with the University on programming some events for and by students. On this basis Contact feels it is appropriate to disclose transactions with the University as related party transactions.

The University of Manchester awarded grants to Contact of £41,080 (2024: £41,080). The Arts Council of England which provides core funding to Contact has a charge over the land and buildings of Contact.

Contact received consultancy service income, box office income, hire of space and other income of £2,866 (2024: £4,583) from the University of Manchester, of which £301 (2024: £nil) was deferred at the year end. There was an outstanding balance due from the University of £1,179 as at 31 March 2025 (2024: £600). Contact purchased goods and services from the University of Manchester amounting to £nil (2024: £40) during the year. There were no outstanding balances due to the University at either year end.

Two trustees were engaged on a freelance basis for various projects throughout the previous year, although not in their role as trustees; Ms A Wilson (resigned 15/11/2023) received £300, and Mr C Cremin (resigned 15/11/2023) received £500. There were no such transactions in the current year.

Donations from Trustees amounted to £nil (2024: £nil) in the year.

There were no outstanding balances due to/from any trustees as at 31 March 2025 (2024: £nil).

At the reporting date the charity was owed £27,862 (2024: £53,598) by Contact Events Limited.

32. GENERAL INFORMATION

The charity is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and has no share capital. In the event of Contact being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

The registered office address is Contact Theatre, Devas Street, off Oxford Road, Manchester, M15 6JA. Contact is the leading UK arts organisation to place young people's leadership and decision making at the heart of everything. Our main areas of activity are:

- Providing transformative opportunities for young people
- Producing high quality new work with a focus on pressing social realities and presenting the future mainstream with a diverse and pioneering programme
- Operating a unique, ethical and welcoming building.

**THE MANCHESTER YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATRE LIMITED**

England & Wales - Charity number 501953

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# Accounts

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**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 01066757 (England and Wales)**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 501953**

**Report of the Trustees and**  
**Audited Consolidated Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**  
**for**  
**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Report of the Chair  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

A challenging year for Contact set against the wider challenges in UK Arts, Contact has continued its mission to change the face of UK culture. A reimagining of Contact's short term business model was required to be implemented to ensure that the vital work undertaken with young people across Greater Manchester and beyond could continue to reach those in need and help them change their lives through the arts. Contact works with young people that are less well served by other organisations and whilst young people continue to be impacted by national and world events, the journey continues for Contact in developing our offer for these beneficiaries.

A full restructuring of the staff team took place across the year through formal process and natural progression culminating in the appointment of Jack Dale-Dowd as Interim Executive Director upon the resignation of Keisha Thompson as Artistic Director & CEO. The Board of Trustees appointed Jack with a remit to stabilise and reorganise activities to ensure the long-term sustainable future of the charity. Contact had other changes across the leadership team with departures from Senior members and the appointment of a new Chair of Trustees.

Throughout the year our building welcomed many artists, young people, audience members and corporate partners, engaging in activities from participation in our media lounge to award ceremonies in our main auditorium. Partnerships were launched with local community organisations to support their work with young people and introduce new young people to Contact.

Work is ongoing to review Contact's artistic and participation offer with additional organisations across Greater Manchester developing further offers that take forward Contact's ethos to deliver for young people.

Our commitment to anti-racism continues to be channelled both through our internal work, and an increased focus on expanding the delivery of our Anti-Racism training offer. Growing a commercial offer that remains firmly within our values has been a priority for Contact, ensuring that all work we do contributes directly to our mission: to change the face of UK culture, of which anti-racist practise is crucial. With a further focus on commercial activity this year, space hire has been prioritised to host additional events with the team focussing on how associations with external clients can add value to both parties while furthering Contact's work.


Contact's artistic offer remains bold - even though currently reduced - through investing programming in local, early-career artists doing exciting work. Here Contact partners with other organisations as well as supporting the ongoing development of artworks created by young people. Productions from visiting companies and commercial clients continue to offer Contact's audiences unique cultural experiences, building curiosity and loyalty within the Oxford Road community. Participation projects throughout the year have enriched the lives of young people, who demonstrate their connection to Contact through their use of the building as not only a place to learn and develop, but also as a hub to relax and be themselves. The programme continues to be a unique offer in Manchester, co-produced with Contact's young programming team and full of reasons to return.

The current year 2024-2025 follows as a year of consolidation, delivering wide ranging young people's participation activities whilst continuing to build the financial resilience that Contact requires. All to ensure we can continue to serve our beneficiaries for the future.

We remain steadfast in our commitment to providing transformative experiences for young people. That means, nurturing new artists, caring for each other and the environment, promoting inclusion and understanding between communities and a commitment to anti-racism.

This year has presented Contact with another set of unique challenges, each requiring action rooted in care and nuance. We look forward to a year of building resilience for Contact whilst ensuring that our values and mission are carried out through our work at Contact and with partners.

The Report of the Chair was approved by the trustees of the charity on .....11 Dec 2024..... and signed on its behalf by:

  
Bella (Dec 11, 2024 13:59 GMT)  
Ms B Ikpasaja  
Chair of the Board

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Report of the Trustees** **for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

The Trustees are pleased to present their Annual Report of the Trustees together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ending 31 March 2024 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' Report and Accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2022, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

##### **Objectives and Activities**

Our vision is a world where young people are empowered by creativity and the arts.

Our mission is to change the face of UK culture.

From our sustainable creative building in Manchester, we do this by:

- Empowering young people from all backgrounds as creative leaders and agents of social change
- Supporting the next generation of artists and creatives
- Inspiring new audiences with stories and experiences that reflect our community

Our values are:

- We take a young-person centred approach to decision-making
- We promote inclusion, access, understanding between communities, and a commitment to anti-racism
- We foster artistic excellent, integrity and creative risk-taking
- We nurture new artists, creative leaders and audiences
- We care for our health, each other and our community
- We care for our planet and environment, working towards a carbon neutral future

We use these values to inform our activity, and as the framework for evaluating our progress. In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

Our main areas of activity are:

- Providing transformative experiences for young people
- Producing high quality new work with a focus on social realities
- Operating a unique, ethical and welcoming building. Contact is an environmentally sustainable building with an energy rating of A.

#### **Main Areas of Activity 2023-24**

Our activity is multi-faceted and diverse, ensuring young people have access to creative learning programmes as well as world-class entertainment and artwork. The artistic programme maintains a focus on pressing social issues relevant to young people, giving voice to early career artists and those embarking on their careers from the communities that we serve. Contact is a leader in the field of diversity and representation, both of which are at the core of both our produced and presented work. Our on-going target is that 50% of the artists that we support are from a Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic background, markedly higher than local or national averages, and a target we again met in 2023-24.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Report of the Trustees** **For the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES - continued**

##### **Main Areas of Activity 2023-24 - continued**

Our presented programme of theatre, music, spoken word, dance, comedy and cabaret features early career and first-time artists alongside internationally acclaimed companies. Contact audiences get to be the first to experience innovative and pioneering shows that go on to major venues and festivals, and to experience the work of artists who go on to renowned and award-winning careers, as well as those presenting work across the world in mid-large scale productions.

Within this iconic building the atmosphere is open and welcoming, with local young people populating the most front-facing roles. Contact provides a meeting place for young people, communities and artists to work and socialise together. We provide free Wi-Fi, and there is no obligation to buy or consume anything in our public spaces. We also present a high-quality visual art programme of exhibitions and artists' films that complement and often relate to the performance programme. These are curated across public spaces around the building, and are always free to enter. As an organisation championing young people, Contact pays all staff the national living wage, regardless of age. The Trustees are proactive in ensuring that our activities benefit the public and young people, and as a consequence have considered the guidance in all our activities and fee charging.

**The Agency** is in its third year of a new five-year era, with a cycle ending in June 2024. 16 agents from Moston and Harpurhey completed the program with three being selected for funding. Graduate agents of the programme have been successful in their application for funding to support further iterations of their projects, such as an additional £12,000 to support Kulturfest, a festival celebrating African Culture in North Manchester, being delivered for a second time in the community. Contact continues to work in collaboration with national partners in London, Belfast, Chester and Southampton, thanks to support from the National Community Lottery Fund.

**CYC** produced two works across this period: Hand Me Down, a theatrical fashion show protesting the growth of the fast fashion industry and promoting sustainability which saw the company partner with The National Trust's new site in Manchester City Centre, Castlefield Viaduct, and CYC x Panto, a new opportunity for our young people to engage with our co-production of our commercial Christmas offer, providing each of the company an opportunity to have a part in a full production run, work on the technical side of the production or look to produce wraparound activities alongside the production.

**Music Drop, Level Up, Pop Up Beats and Studio School** were delivered consistently through the year after taking a brief break towards the end of 2022 to refine delivery and project designs. In September 2023, we established a very fruitful partnership with Nordoff and Robbins, the music therapy charity, to place a music therapist in residence within Contact - the first iteration of this pilot of its kind - to support our delivery of music projects. With the addition of a music therapist, we were able to add further therapeutic value and legitimacy to our projects such as Level Up and Studio School, in addition to being able to offer more 1-2-1 sessions with young people who were in need of further support from an access point of view to access our projects. We have worked successfully with a large number of PRU and Hospital school settings, including Leo Kelly and Galaxy House, as part of our pilot projects into working closely with music therapy and are building up a large database of potential referral partners for future music projects as a result of the evaluations into these activities.

**RevAMP:** In June 2023, we were approached by partner organisations Home and Venture Arts to ask if we could carry on the legacy of a project which had been developed by these two organisations that they could no longer host, called AMP. This project supported young people aged 18-30 who were disabled to access music sessions, produce their own music works and look to host their own music nights. Contact looked to take on this project and group in a new, updated version of the project based upon the participants feedback, called revAMP, which has been delivered out of Contact's Media Lounge bi-weekly since September 2023.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Report of the Trustees** **For the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES - continued**

##### **Main Areas of Activity 2023-24 – continued**

**Future Fires:** In December 2023, we delivered a more condensed version of our socially engaged community action project, Future Fires, called “Future Fires Quick Fire Edition” and provided training to five young people to support them take their ideas of social change projects in their community and provide seed funding to deliver these sessions locally. We supported four incredible projects, ranging from support groups for young, queer people who have felt excluded from their faiths and communities, to an app to support people make friends, to the production of a show about climate change.

**Community Space In-Kind Support:** As part of Contact’s commitment to supporting the local communities in which it serves, we have continued to offer space in-kind to various community groups on a long-term basis who align themselves closely with Contact’s mission, aim and values. These have included Proud and Loud, Kids of Colour, 42<sup>nd</sup> Street and Brighter Sound. On a shorter-term scale, we have also supported Please Wait in the Foyer, a project supporting young care leavers to create creative responses to the funding shortages for young people in care to access cultural educational opportunities, and Olympias Music Foundation, to provide use of our Media Lounge in-kind for their beneficiaries accessing music education. At the end of 2023, we also worked to develop a new Community In-Kind Space Hire Process, meaning we opened up the application process to new community groups to apply for space in-kind for two years of space support, and we engaged a group of young people to support in choosing the organisations we would be looking to support. This has resulted in partnerships being extended for Kids of Colour, Proud and Loud, 42<sup>nd</sup> Street and Brighter Sound, and a new partnership starting between ourselves and Muslim Social Justice Initiative for the next two years.

**Re:Con** recruited three new programmer/producers in January 2023, who have continued to work with our programming team at Contact to further develop their skills in producing and programming to culminate in a final project. This continues a long-standing program empowering young programmers/producers with work-place experience and key support to develop core skills. Previous Re:Con members have become both freelance and permanent producers at Contact, as well as Trustees and Chair of the Board.

**Queer Contact** continued its tradition of celebrating a spectrum of queer lived experience with a smaller festival amplifying voices of queer artists across the UK and beyond, featuring our Vogue Ball, partnering with Manchester Academy and hosting of the LGBTQ+ Network Conference: Of Hope and Joy, celebrating and lifting up the queer community and working together to commission new queer artists for the future iteration of the conference.

**Commissions** continued with local artists benefiting from financial, strategic and artistic support to develop new works, including Malandra Jacks in the sold-out showing of their work, Census, and our very own Keisha Thompson in her work 14%, which discussed themes of feminism and national pride against a backdrop of football and pregnancy.

**Drama and English Teacher Network** continued to be delivered in partnership with HOME, The Royal Exchange Theatre and the Palace and Opera House in order to increase creative education opportunities within the curriculum and develop stronger relations between teachers and the cultural institutions in Greater Manchester. We hosted four further Network meetings this year which were well attended by a wide variety of schools, teachers and cultural networks, each hosted at a different partner venue each time.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Report of the Trustees** **for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

#### **ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

##### **Marketing**

The majority of staff operate within a mix of in-person/at home scheduling, continuing our commitment to more flexible working and hybridity across the organisation since the pandemic. Participation programmes encourage young people to engage in a way that suits them, supporting those who prefer to engage remotely. Board meetings run in a hybrid fashion, allowing Trustees to contribute to ongoing governance work without travel.

Contact's marketing and communication strategy has continued to be used and adapted throughout the last period of time. In December 2023 we announced the departure of Keisha Thompson as Artistic Director/CEO and the appointment of Jack Dale-Dowd as Interim Executive Director, strategy and support provided by Communications Consultant, Helen Palmer, and PR support from freelance PR Binita Walia. Community specific audience engagement freelancer Sharon Raymond was employed to raise the profile of the artistic program and other activities.

Booking trends fluctuated as with our change in activities with a very successful pantomime in partnership with Eight Freestyle during December 2023. There were a number of successful performances across the Autumn season with high profile Commercial hires alongside programmed works and commissioned shows, including 14% by Keisha Thompson.

Whilst usually dark in January with a Spring programme, part of the measures to stabilise the organisation was a reduction in activities across the final quarter of the year. Queer Contact was marked with The House of Suarez Vogue Ball and The LGBT+ Arts & Culture Network Conference.

This quieter period posed challenges from a profile point of view: these quieter moments were filled with looking back at various productions and projects from years passed and further comms around our participation programme.

##### **Commercial**

The commercial team has been oversubscribed with space hires activity and demand has outstripped capacity at points throughout the year. High profile clients such as The Guardian and Captain Sandy supplemented our public facing programme giving a wider range to the offering we would otherwise have presented. Coram Shakespeare schools returned for their Autumn showcase and the number of enquiries continued to grow through the year. Further work is now underway to review profit margins to increase the amount of income generated for the group.

Contact's Anti-Racism Training package was delivered however with fewer clients than in previous years. This change was due to capacity initially and additional support was procured to administrate this offering. We continue to have interest in the package and during 2024-25 seek to expand this package to realise further earning potential whilst having a positive impact.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Report of the Trustees** **for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

##### **Unrestricted Funds**

The group had an operating deficit of £188,420 for the year (2023: £492,824).

At the year end the group's unrestricted reserves stood at £29,127 deficit (2023: £172,351 surplus).

At the year end the company's unrestricted reserves stood at £29,745 deficit (2023: £172,351 surplus).

The principal sources of income were grants and donations, income from the artistic programme and commercial hires. Arts Council England, GMCA, Manchester City Council, Coutts Foundation and University of Manchester were our principal funders

In October 2022 Contact received news on the NPO application to secure ACE funding for 2023-2026, in which £2,799,891 was granted (£933,297 per annum). Despite strong feedback, amongst the challenging funding landscape, ACE were not able to award an uplift in this NPO round. The 2023-2026 NPO period will focus on delivering an innovative response to ACE's Let's Create strategy in the three key areas: Creative People, Cultural Communities and Creative & Cultural Country. This work builds on roots which are well embedded within Contact: youth voice, supporting artists and creative work to empower people from underserved communities.

We were successful in attracting unrestricted funds of £1,521,724 (2023: £1,521,634), including:

- Arts Council England - £933,297 (2023: £933,297)
- Greater Manchester Combined Authority - £106,700 (2023: £97,000)
- Manchester City Council - £35,676 (2023: £30,000)
- University of Manchester - £41,080 (2023: £41,080)
- Coutts Foundation - £55,000 (2023: £55,000)
- Donations - £7,055 (2023: £3,320)

##### **Restricted Funds**

We brought forward non-capital restricted project funds of £48,778 (2023: £229,404). During the year, we were successful in attracting restricted project funds of £86,756 (2023: £141,841), made up by:

- BBC (reverse mentoring) - £300 with a balance of £430 to deliver reciprocal mentoring scheme, partnering twenty-five young people with senior BBC staff.
- The Agency - £71,456 with a balance of £25,109 to continue with the Agency project in partnership with Battersea Arts Centre and People's Palace Projects. The project has received funding for a five-year period between 2022 and 2027.
- Youth & Play (Creative Connections) - £15,000 with a balance of £21,498 to deliver a week full of free developmental sessions for youth sector and arts sector workers.

We carry forward restricted non-capital project funds of £67,658 (2023: £48,778).

##### **Investment policy and objectives**

The Trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of running Contact, have kept available funds in an interest-bearing deposit account and seek to achieve a rate on deposit which matches or exceeds inflation as measured by the retail prices index.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Report of the Trustees** **for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW - continued**

##### **Policy on reserves**

We highlighted the importance across the medium-term of building and maintaining a healthy general reserve, post capital project, however inflationary pressures on the cost side, and commercial and fundraising setbacks have resulted in a greater deficit than anticipated. Our goal is to maintain three months' operating costs, however we end the financial year with deficit of £29,127. Post year end reserves continued to be depleted, expenditure reductions were initiated including a recruitment freeze for non critical posts and staffing restructure. Activities have been reduced for the remainder of 2023/24 with a change in leadership and revised smaller staff structure to take Contact forward into 2024/25. A reviewed focus on ways of working to enable activities to continue focussing on income generation over the coming financial year is underway in order to build resilience and reflate reserves gradually.

The successful Arts Council England NPO application secures our next funding cycle, along with confirmed ongoing funding from MCC, GMCA, and UoM, however the board are supporting the senior management team to recalibrate the business model, in order to achieve the medium to long-term goal of building reserves back up. Despite the ongoing challenges, the trustees are confident in the strong governance processes, healthy board structure, and the decisive leadership under Jack Dale-Dowd, such that the organisation will continue to adapt to the changing landscape.

Contact remained at 'minor' risk according to Arts Council England's risk assessment, in response to the pragmatic action taken to build resilience, and the recruitment of further expertise and experience to the Board of trustees. This risk rating has now increased to 'moderate' in 2023-24 with actions being taken to reduce this rating.

In the effort to create a more commercial programme, this coming year we will see the introduction of events that focus on:

- Fashion
- Music
- Gaming
- Sport
- Comedy
- Teacher Training and Career Development
- Family and school focussed shows for holiday periods including an annual pantomime

Additionally, we will create more consultancy packages following the model of our successful Anti-Racism Package. These will focus on the following areas:

- Youth Governance
- Safeguarding and Social Media
- Climate Confidence

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Report of the Trustees** **for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

#### **PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS**

##### **Aims and key objectives for future periods**

The leadership change in December 2023 marked the start of a period of consolidation for Contact, with Jack Dale-Dowd overseeing a stabilisation and refining of activities. With many staff changes in the preceding period, the focus for the staff team is on processing following a huge amount of change and refining how Contact now operates.

The Trustees supported by the senior team are planning for the future of Contact with work underway to define the future Executive leadership of the organisation. Plans are underway to have this confirmed and recruited prior to the end of the Interim Executive Director's contract to allow for handover and continuity.

A refreshing of the artistic strategy and business plan will take place in 2025-26 in advance of future core funding applications to existing funders. The process will focus on ensuring that Contact continues to offer unique experiences and activities for the young people of Greater Manchester, especially those less well resourced. A continued focus on partnership working will be a significant contribution to the future ways of working, recognising that Contact has expertise and a track record and can reach further with the support of other organisations.

Continued small works around the Contact building focus on energy efficiency with the roll out of a Wolfson Foundation funded LED replacement project and a review of all premises processes underway to ensure best value and sustainable practice is continued to be championed.

We continue our partnership with music therapy charity Nordoff & Robbins through 2024-25 with ambition for this to be sustained into the future, with joint funding bids being developed, both organisations hope to be able to sustain this vitally important and impactful work.

Contact's relationship with University of Manchester will continue to develop through a partnership and further funding for activity in this next year. Discussions with other HE providers, Manchester Metropolitan University and The Arden School, are underway to further develop wide ranging and mutually beneficial relationships. A successful partnership with SICK! Festival has reintroduced both organisations and their new leadership teams, with an appetite to explore further ways of working together in the future.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Report of the Trustees** **for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

#### **GOING CONCERN**

The Trustees have carefully considered The Charity's going concern position with regard to its Arts Council England's National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) funding. Contact has recently been awarded funding for the next cycle of NPO funding which covers the three years from April 2023 to March 2026 and further with the additional 2026-27 year open for application from ACE. Manchester City Council and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) have confirmed funding for the period to March 2026 and we are in active discussions with them about future funding, seeking uplift in both cases. Although the NPO funding continues at the same level, we continue to seek new funding partners and have been successful at increasing funds to support our core work.

The Charity is unlikely to meet its commercial profit targets for 2024-25 though we plan to develop these income streams further in 2025-26. This will have a potential impact on the Charity bottom line.

Contact's reserve policy requirement of free reserves covering three months' operating costs are not met at the end of the period. Contact has budgets in place to build free reserves toward three months operating costs over the current NPO funding period.

Contact has prepared mitigation steps including new financial and commercial strategies over the next two years to build free reserve and continue to focus on its mission by:

- Prioritising value for money programme.
- Continue to drive cost cutting exercises to reduce expenditure.
- New business model to generate voluntary and trading income.
- Robust financial monitoring and assessment using monthly management accounts.
- Financial health check through stringent monthly cash flow forecast and quarterly budget review.
- Maximise the efficiency of its commercial business model to generate income.

The Trustees recognise the current financial position of Contact and, having assessed the new financial and commercial strategies including the cash position and the mitigation steps (including the renewal of the current overdraft facility as a buffer), are therefore satisfied that it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Report of the Trustees** **for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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

##### **Governing document**

Manchester Young People's Theatre, also known as Contact, is a registered charity (no. 501953) and a company (No, 1066757) limited by guarantee. The governing documents of Contact are its Memorandum and Articles of Association, which were revised on 21 March 2021. The company was incorporated on 18 August 1972 and registered as a charity on 31 October 1972. The Trustees of the Contact guarantee to contribute and amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the Charity in the event of a winding up.

##### **Appointment, induction and training of Trustees**

Trustees retire after three years by rotation. These Trustees may offer themselves for re-appointment for a second term. All new Trustees are recruited via a thorough process led by the Resources Board. Candidates are interviewed by a panel of Trustees and a separate panel of young people and if appropriate recommended to the Board for appointment.

New Board members undertake a series of induction meetings with the Board Chair, the Senior Management Team and staff, and a comprehensive induction pack is provided. Board-wide training is arranged as required. The Board includes one representative from the University of Manchester, one representative from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and one representative from Manchester City Council, though the latter two posts are currently vacant.

##### **Organisation**

The Trustee Board has the following sub committees; Resources, Artistic Evaluation, and Trading Boards. These committees meet at least four times a year with meetings scheduled to allow reporting back to the Board each quarter.

The Trustees ensure the accuracy of all financial information through the work of its Resources Board, which reviews all financial information, the development of business systems and procedures, and progress in income generation and fundraising strategies. The Resources Board, which meets on a quarterly basis, develops and monitors Contact's Financial Regulations and Risk Register. In addition, it reviews operational risks in relation to employment issues as well as keeping abreast of changes in employment law and developing relevant policies. The Resources Board also reviews Health & Safety policy and procedures as well as Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy procedures. Members of the Resources Board bring expertise on business planning, equality, diversity and inclusion, HR and finance.

In terms of service quality, all individual projects undertaken by the organisation are subject to risk assessment, monitoring and evaluation procedures. Reports are made quarterly to the Trustees. The Trustees also monitor the quality of services through its Artistic Evaluation Board, which also meets quarterly.

##### **Related parties and co-operation with other organisations**

None of our Trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work as Trustees with the Charity. Ms A Wilson and Mr C Cremin were engaged on a freelance basis for various projects during the year.

Any connection between a Trustee or Senior Manager of Contact with a production company, contracted actor, performer, or exhibitor must be disclosed to the full Board of Trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. Contact has a Conflict of Interest Policy and Register of Interests.

Contact and the University of Manchester have an agreement which allows Contact to lease the building from the University, to access some facilities and services, and to collaborate with the University on programming events for and by students.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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

##### **Pay policy for senior staff**

The Directors, who are Contact's Trustees, consider themselves and the Senior Management Team to be key management personnel in charge of directing, controlling, running and operating Contact on a day-to-day basis. All Directors give their time freely and no Director received remuneration for being a Director/Trustee in the year. Details of related party transactions are disclosed in note 30 to the accounts.

Salaries are benchmarked against market rates for all staff. The pay of senior staff is reviewed annually and normally increased in accordance with inflation and at the same rate as other staff.

##### **Risk management**

The Trustees review the objectives, services, management and regular funding of the organisation as part of an ongoing planning and review process, which includes the development of a Four Year Business Plan. The Plan assesses Contact's development and sets targets in relation to a number of risk factors, including financial, operational, governance and external factors.

In addition, the Resources Board reviews the risk process. These are also the routes for any additional areas of concern highlighted by the review of the Plan or arising through changes in external circumstances, new activities or changes in the law. The risk is assessed and any further action is identified and parameters are agreed. The risk register, with any additional supporting information, is then reported to the Board quarterly through the Resources Board Report.

The Senior Management Team assesses day-to-day risks within the remit agreed by the Board, identifying areas of concern, understanding risk analysis and agreeing decisions within agreed parameters.

The Trustees have reviewed the major risks that could impact on Contact. These are:-

| <b>Risk</b>  | <b>Mitigation</b>   |
|--|---|
| Increasing costs due to energy and cost of living crisis                     | Focus of the Resources Board, implementing cost saving measures and developing additional fundraising capacity  |
| Inability to meet increased income targets                                   | Focus of the Resources Board, strengthening staff team and marketing, communications and sales function   |
| Cuts in existing public sector funding                                       | Regular dialogue with our funders, reporting our social impact and reach, and business planning around new commercial models of income                        |
| Inability to retain existing staff and recruit new staff due to low salaries | Focus of the Resources Board, review of salaries and cost base  |
| Cash flow and management of cash flow  | Careful management of cash flows by finance team.<br>Resources Board focus, implementing cost saving measures and developing additional fundraising capacity. |

The Board of Trustees and staff undergo regular training and professional development to ensure that they remain abreast of current developments, changes in statutes and best practice.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Report of the Trustees** **for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

#### **Reference and Administrative Details**

##### **Directors and Trustees**

The Directors of the Charitable Company (the Charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charity law. The Trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| Chair                                       | Ms B Ikpasaja<br>Ms A Wilson<br><br>Mr J Atkinola   | (appointed 15 November 2023)<br>(appointed 14 June 2023 and<br>resigned 15 November 2023)<br>(resigned 14 June 2023)   |
| Trustees                                    | Ms G Flynn<br>Ms F Ope<br>Ms R Tennenhaus<br>Mr C Cremin<br>Mr P Olubayo<br>Ms T Olaniran<br>Ms J Y Cheung<br>O Fatayo<br>Ms P Swiderska<br>Mr B Anderson | (resigned 11 September 2024)<br><br>(resigned 14 June 2023)<br>(resigned 15 November 2023)<br><br><br><br><br><br>(appointed 12 June 2024)<br>(appointed 12 June 2024) |
| Secretary                                   | Mr S Moon<br>Role discontinued  | (resigned 30 June 2023)  |
| Manchester City Council<br>representatives  | Replacement pending   |  |
| GMCA representatives                        | Replacement pending   |  |
| University of Manchester<br>representatives | Professor J de Groot  |  |

##### **Key Management personnel**

|  |                                 |  |
|--|---------------------------------|--|
| Head of Operations/Interim<br>Executive Director | J Dale-Dowd                     | (appointed 15 December 2023 to<br>Interim<br>Executive Director)                                       |
| Artistic Director/Chief Executive                | K Thompson<br>Role discontinued | (resigned 14 December<br>2023 as Chief Executive and<br>resigned 7 March 2024 as Artistic<br>Director) |
| Head of Creative Engagement                      | L Whitehurst                    |  |
| Director of Finance                              | F Bradley<br>S Moon             | (appointed 31 October 2023)<br>(resigned 30 June 2023)   |
| Head of Marketing &<br>Communications            | M Barham<br>Role discontinued   | (resigned 26 June 2023)  |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**Reference and Administrative Details**

**Registered Company number**

01066757 (England and Wales)

**Registered Charity number**

501953

**Registered office**

Contact Theatre  
Devas Street  
Off Oxford Road  
Manchester  
M15 6JA

**Auditors**

Ascendis Audit Limited  
Unit 3, Building 2  
The Colony  
Altrincham Road  
Wilmslow  
SK9 4LY

**Solicitors**

Gateley LLP  
Ship Canal House  
98 King Street  
Manchester  
M3 3AP

**Bankers**

NatWest Bank plc  
1 Spinningfields Square  
Manchester  
M3 3AP

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on Contact's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

**DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITOR**

Each trustee has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The trustees confirm that there is no relevant audit information that they know of and which they know the auditor is unaware.


**POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS**

Post balance sheet events are disclosed in note 31.

**AUDITORS**

The auditors, Ascendis Audit Limited, who were appointed from this year, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on .....11 Dec 2024..... and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Bella (Dec. 11, 2024 13:59:11)  
Ms B Ikpasaja  
Chair of Trustees

## **Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The) (the 'charitable parent company') and its subsidiary ("the group") for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position, the Charitable Parent Company Statement of Financial Position, the consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP – FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and applicable law United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

### **Basis for opinion**

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

### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the groups and the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### **Other information**

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Report of the Chair and the Report of the Trustees, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

## **Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

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

- the information given in the Report of the Chair and the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Chair and the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

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

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

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

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

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

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

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors 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.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

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

We obtained an understanding of laws and regulations that affect the charity, focusing on those that has a direct effect on the financial statements or that has a fundamental effect on its operations. Key laws and regulations that were identified included UK Building Regulations, the Health & Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, the Companies Act 2006, and Charity Commission requirements.

We reviewed the Trustees' meeting minutes for evidence of non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations.

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of  
Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements - continued**

We gained an understanding of the controls that the Trustees have in place to prevent and detect fraud. We enquired of the Trustees about any incidences of fraud that had taken place during the accounting period.

The risk of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud was discussed within the audit team and tests were planned and performed to address these risks. We identified the potential for fraud in the following areas: misappropriation of cash and other assets.

We reviewed the financial statements disclosures and tested to supporting documentation to assess the compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above.

We enquired of the Trustees about actual and potential litigation and claims.

We performed analytical procedures to identify and unusual or unexpected relationships that might indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.

In addressing the risk of fraud due to management override of internal controls we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates were indicative of a potential bias.

Due to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations and cannot be expected to detect all fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

**Use of our report**

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

*Ascendis Audit Limited*  
.....

Paul Allan Byrne BA (Double Hons) FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of Ascendis Audit Limited, Statutory Auditor  
Unit 3, Building 2  
The Colony Wilmslow  
Altrincham Road  
Wilmslow  
SK9 4LY

Date: **11 December 2024**  
.....

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

|  |        | 31 March<br>2024           | 31 March<br>2024         | 31 March<br>2024    | 31 March<br>2023    |
|--|--------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|  | Notes  | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>£ |
| <b>Income and endowments from</b>                  |        |                            |                          |                     |                     |
| Donations and Legacies                             | 2      | 7,055                      | -                        | 7,055               | 3,320               |
| <b>Charitable Activities</b>                       |        |                            |                          |                     |                     |
| Grants – Core Funding                              | 6 & 7  | 1,116,753                  | -                        | 1,116,753           | 1,101,377           |
| Operation of building & related artistic programme | 6 & 8  | 160,722                    | -                        | 160,722             | 172,590             |
| Provision of participatory activities              | 6 & 9  | 6,562                      | 86,756                   | 93,318              | 114,422             |
| Health & Science Activities                        | 6 & 10 | 567                        | -                        | 567                 | 18,119              |
|  |        |                            | -                        |                     |                     |
| Other trading activities                           | 3      | 175,005                    | -                        | 175,005             | 186,612             |
| Investment income                                  | 4      | (1,321)                    | -                        | (1,321)             | 2,417               |
| Other income                                       | 5      | 56,381                     | -                        | 56,381              | 64,618              |
| <b>Total income</b>                                |        | <u>1,521,724</u>           | <u>86,756</u>            | <u>1,608,480</u>    | <u>1,663,475</u>    |
| <b>Expenditure on</b>                              |        |                            |                          |                     |                     |
| Resources expended                                 | 11     | 189,597                    | -                        | 189,597             | 204,905             |
| <b>Charitable activities</b>                       |        |                            |                          |                     |                     |
| Operation of building & related artistic programme | 12     | 1,445,632                  | 332,977                  | 1,778,609           | 2,062,093           |
| Provision of participatory activities              | 12     | 73,044                     | 69,847                   | 142,891             | 298,449             |
| Health & Science Activities                        | 12     | 1,871                      | 11,087                   | 12,958              | 71,246              |
| <b>Total expenditure</b>                           |        | <u>1,710,144</u>           | <u>413,911</u>           | <u>2,124,055</u>    | <u>2,636,693</u>    |
| <b>Net expenditure before tax</b>                  |        | (188,420)                  | (327,155)                | (515,575)           | (973,218)           |
| Taxation   |        | -                          | -                        | -                   | 23,089              |
| <b>Net expenditure after tax</b>                   |        | <u>(188,420)</u>           | <u>(327,155)</u>         | <u>(515,075)</u>    | <u>(950,129)</u>    |
| <b>Transfers between funds</b>                     | 25     | <u>(13,058)</u>            | 13,058                   | -                   | -                   |
| <b>Net movement in funds</b>                       |        | (201,478)                  | (314,097)                | (515,575)           | (950,129)           |
| <b>Reconciliation of funds</b>                     |        |                            |                          |                     |                     |
| Total funds brought forward                        |        | 172,351                    | 7,080,797                | 7,253,148           | 8,203,277           |
| <b>Total funds carried forward</b>                 |        | <u>(29,127)</u>            | <u>6,766,700</u>         | <u>6,737,573</u>    | <u>7,253,148</u>    |

The notes on pages 22 to 43 form an integral part of these financial statements.

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Consolidated Statement of Financial Position  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

|   | Notes | 31 March<br>2024<br>Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | 31 March<br>2024<br>Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | 31 March<br>2024<br>Total<br>Funds<br>£ | 31 March<br>2023<br>Total<br>Funds<br>£ |
|---|-------|--|--|---|---|
| <b>Fixed Assets</b>                                   |       |  |  |   |   |
| Tangible Assets                                       | 18    | 19,038   | 6,881,768                                    | 6,900,806                               | 7,262,339                               |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                                 |       |  |  |   |   |
| Debtors   | 20    | 57,729   | -  | 57,729                                  | 184,221                                 |
| Cash At Bank  | 28    | 24,871   | 60,760                                       | 85,631                                  | 202,096                                 |
|   |       | <u>82,600</u>                                  | <u>60,760</u>                                | <u>143,360</u>                          | <u>386,317</u>                          |
| <b>Creditors</b>                                      |       |  |  |   |   |
| Amounts Falling Due Within One Year                   | 21    | (130,765)                                      | (62,274)                                     | (193,039)                               | (260,414)                               |
| <b>Net current assets/(liabilities)</b>               |       | <u>(48,165)</u>                                | <u>(1,514)</u>                               | <u>(49,679)</u>                         | <u>125,903</u>                          |
| <b>Total assets less current assets/(liabilities)</b> |       | <u>(29,127)</u>                                | <u>6,880,254</u>                             | <u>6,851,127</u>                        | <u>7,388,242</u>                        |
| <b>Creditors</b>                                      |       |  |  |   |   |
| Amounts Falling Due After More Than One Year          | 23    | -  | (113,554)                                    | (113,554)                               | (135,094)                               |
| <b>Net assets/(liabilities)</b>                       |       | <u>(29,127)</u>                                | <u>6,766,700</u>                             | <u>6,737,573</u>                        | <u>7,253,148</u>                        |
| <b>Funds</b>  |       |  |  |   |   |
| Unrestricted Funds                                    | 25    |  |  | (29,127)                                | 172,351                                 |
| Restricted Funds                                      | 25    |  |  | 6,766,700                               | 7,080,797                               |
| <b>Total funds</b>                                    |       |  |  | <u>6,737,573</u>                        | <u>7,253,148</u>                        |

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on .....11 Dec 2024.....  
and were signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Bella Dec 11, 2024 11:59 AM

Ms B Ikpasaja  
Chair of Trustees


The notes on pages 22 to 43 form an integral part of these financial statements.

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Company Statement of Financial Position  
31 March 2024**

|   | Notes | 31 March<br>2024<br>Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | 31 March<br>2024<br>Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | 31 March<br>2024<br>Total<br>Funds<br>£ | 31 March<br>2023<br>Total<br>Funds<br>£ |
|---|-------|--|--|---|---|
| <b>Fixed assets</b>                                   |       |  |  |   |   |
| Tangible Assets                                       | 18    | 19,038   | 6,881,768                                    | 6,900,806                               | 7,262,339                               |
| Investments   | 19    | 1  | -  | 1                                       | 1                                       |
|   |       | <u>19,039</u>                                  | <u>6,881,768</u>                             | <u>6,900,807</u>                        | <u>7,262,340</u>                        |
| <b>Current assets</b>                                 |       |  |  |   |   |
| Debtors   | 20    | 71,676   | -  | 71,676                                  | 179,240                                 |
| Cash At Bank  |       | (4,695)  | 60,760                                       | 56,065                                  | 202,096                                 |
|   |       | <u>66,981</u>                                  | <u>60,760</u>                                | <u>127,741</u>                          | <u>381,336</u>                          |
| <b>Creditors</b>                                      |       |  |  |   |   |
| Amounts Falling Due Within One Year                   | 21    | (115,765)                                      | (62,274)                                     | (178,039)                               | (255,434)                               |
|   |       | <u>(48,784)</u>                                | <u>(1,514)</u>                               | <u>(50,298)</u>                         | <u>125,902</u>                          |
| <b>Net current assets/(liabilities)</b>               |       |  |  |   |   |
|   |       | <u>(29,745)</u>                                | <u>6,880,254</u>                             | <u>6,850,509</u>                        | <u>7,388,242</u>                        |
| <b>Total assets less current assets/(liabilities)</b> |       |  |  |   |   |
|   |       | <u>(29,745)</u>                                | <u>6,766,700</u>                             | <u>6,736,955</u>                        | <u>7,253,148</u>                        |
| <b>Creditors</b>                                      |       |  |  |   |   |
| Amounts Falling Due After More Than One Year          | 23    | -  | (113,554)                                    | (113,554)                               | (135,094)                               |
|   |       | <u>(29,745)</u>                                | <u>6,766,700</u>                             | <u>6,736,955</u>                        | <u>7,253,148</u>                        |
| <b>Net assets</b>                                     |       |  |  |   |   |
| <b>Funds</b>  |       |  |  |   |   |
| Unrestricted Funds                                    |       |  |  | (29,745)                                | 172,351                                 |
| Restricted Funds                                      |       |  |  | 6,766,700                               | 7,080,797                               |
| <b>Total funds</b>                                    |       |  |  | <u>6,736,955</u>                        | <u>7,253,148</u>                        |

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on .....11 Dec 2024.....  
and were signed on its behalf by:

  
Bella (Dec 11, 2024 19:59:47)  
Ms B Ikpasaja  
Chair of Trustees

The notes on pages 22 to 43 form an integral part of these financial statements.

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

|  |      | 31 March<br>2024 | 31 March<br>2023 |
|--|------|------------------|------------------|
|  | Note | £                | £                |
| Cash flows from operating activities       | 26   | (73,558)         | (451,077)        |
| Theatre tax relief                         |      | -                | 23,089           |
| Net cash outflow from operating activities |      | <u>(73,558)</u>  | <u>(427,988)</u> |
| Cash flows from investing activities       |      |                  |                  |
| Interest receivable and similar income     |      | (1,321)          | 2,417            |
| Purchase of tangible fixed assets          |      | (818)            | (46,346)         |
| Net cash outflow from investing activities |      | <u>(2,139)</u>   | <u>(43,929)</u>  |
| Cash flows from financing activities       |      |                  |                  |
| Repayment of loans and borrowings          |      | (20,782)         | (18,670)         |
| Interest payable                           |      | (26,882)         | (19,613)         |
| Net cash outflow from financing activities |      | <u>(47,664)</u>  | <u>(38,283)</u>  |
| Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents  | 28   | (123,361)        | (510,200)        |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April       | 28   | 202,096          | 712,296          |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March      | 28   | <u>78,735</u>    | <u>202,096</u>   |

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 22 to 43 form an integral part of these financial statements.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

##### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Contact meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The financial statements are prepared in Pound Sterling (£), which is the functional currency of the entity. Amounts are rounded to the nearest £.

##### **Basis of consolidation**

The group financial statements consolidate the financial statements of the company and its subsidiary undertaking drawn up to 31 March 2024.

A subsidiary is an entity controlled by the charity. Control is achieved where the charity has the power to govern the financial and operating policies of that entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

The subsidiary undertaking was incorporated as a subsidiary on 1 April 2020 and was dormant from that date until 31 March 2022. Its results and balances have therefore only been consolidated from 1 April 2022.

Intercompany transactions and balances between the charity and its subsidiary undertaking are eliminated in full on consolidation.

No Statement of Financial Activities is presented for the charitable parent company as permitted by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006. The charity made a deficit after tax of £516,193 (2023: £950,129).

##### **Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

##### **Significant judgements**

The judgements (apart from those involving estimations) that management has made in the process of applying the accounting policies and that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are as follows:

- Determination of whether there are indicators of impairment of the tangible fixed assets. Factors taken into consideration in reaching such a decision include the economic viability and expected future financial performance or charitable use of the asset.
- Determination of whether leases entered into as lessee are operating or finance leases. These decisions depend on an assessment of whether the risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred from the lessor to the lessee on a lease by lease basis.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued** **for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

##### **Key sources of estimation uncertainty**

Accounting estimates and assumptions are made concerning the future and, by their nature, will rarely equal the related actual outcome. The key assumptions and other sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are as follows:

- Determination of recoverability of trade debtors. A specific provision is made against certain debts where in the opinion of the trustees the debt is not fully recoverable.
- Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the assets and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. In re-assessing asset lives, factors such as technological innovation, product life cycles and maintenance are taken into account. Residual value assessments consider issues such as future market conditions, the remaining life of the asset and projected disposal values.

##### **Income recognition policies**

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- the Charity has entitlement to the funds;
- any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met or are fully within the control of the Charity;
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable; and
- the amount can be measured reliably.

Income received in advance of a theatrical performance or provision of other specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

##### **Donations and legacies**

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

##### **Grants Receivable**

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

##### **Deferred Income**

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in those periods. Such income is only deferred when:

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

##### **Investment Income**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued** **for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

##### **Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds: comprise the costs of trading including commercial hires and their associated support costs and fundraising support costs.
- Expenditure on charitable activities: includes the costs of performances, touring, participatory work and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the Charity and their associated support costs. Expenditure on the capital redevelopment project is also included in this heading.
- Other expenditure: represents those items not falling into any other heading.
- Irrecoverable VAT: is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

##### **Allocation of support costs**

Support costs are those functions that assist the charity's work but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back-office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support Contact's artistic programme and participatory activities. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 13.

##### **Governance Costs**

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meeting and reimbursed expenses.

##### **Taxation**

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Where the Charity's trading turnover is higher (or lower) than the small trading exemption, UK corporation tax is provided at amounts expected to be paid (or recovered) using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or subsequently enacted at the reporting date on trading profits.

Its subsidiary, Contact Events Limited, is subject to corporation tax provided at amounts expected to be paid (or recovered) using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or subsequently enacted at the reporting date.

##### **Tangible fixed assets**

Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight-line basis as follows:

| <u>Asset Category</u>         | <u>Annual rate</u> |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Long term leasehold buildings | 2 - 10%            |
| Fixtures and fittings         | 3.85 - 20%         |
| Computer equipment            | 33.33%             |
| Motor vehicles                | 20%                |

Land is not depreciated.

Building redevelopment construction costs are capitalised in the year they occur and depreciated over the remaining length of the lease. Fixtures and fittings purchased as part of the capital redevelopment project are not depreciated until the date of use. Professional fees relating to the capital redevelopment project have been expensed in the year they occurred.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued** **for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

##### **Tangible fixed assets - continued**

Donated fixed assets are recognised at fair value which is the amount Contact would have been willing to pay for the items on the open market.

##### **Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments.

##### **Debtors**

Trade debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments and other debtors are valued at amortised cost.

##### **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

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

##### **Creditors and Provisions**

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

##### **Borrowings**

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on an accruals basis.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after reporting due.

##### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity.

Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific artistic projects being undertaken by the charity.

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

##### **Operating Leases**

Rental charges are charged on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

##### **Pensions and other post-retirement obligations**

The charity contributes to a group money purchase defined contribution pension scheme operated by The People's Pension. New and existing employees are automatically enrolled into the money purchase scheme unless they have exercised the right to opt out of scheme membership.

Employees join the money purchase pension scheme operated by The People's Pension, contract directly with the insurance company. The charity makes a matching contribution of 3% of salary to this pension scheme and acts as agent in collecting and paying over employee pensions contributions. The contributions made for the accounting period are treated as an expense and were £15,666 (2023: £21,997). There were no contributions outstanding at the balance sheet date.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued** **for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

##### **Going concern**

The Trustees have carefully considered The Charity's going concern position with regard to its Arts Council England's National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) funding. Contact has recently been awarded funding for the next cycle of NPO funding which covers the three years from April 2023 to March 2026 and further with the additional 2026-27 year open for applications from ACE. Manchester City Council and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) have confirmed funding for the period to March 2026. Although the NPO funding continues at the same level, we continue to seek new funding partners and have been successful at increasing funds to support our core work.

The Charity is unlikely to meet its commercial profit targets for 2024-25 though we plan to develop these income streams further in 2025-26. This will have a potential impact on the Charity bottom line.

Contact's reserve policy requirement of free reserves covering three months' operating costs are not met at the end of the period. Contact has budgets in place to build free reserves toward three months operating costs over the current NPO funding period.

Contact has prepared mitigation steps including new financial and commercial strategies over the next two years to build free reserve and continue to focus on its mission by:

- Prioritising value for money programme.
- Continue to drive cost cutting exercises to reduce expenditure.
- New business model to generate voluntary and trading income.
- Robust financial monitoring and assessment using monthly management accounts.
- Financial health check through stringent monthly cash flow forecast and quarterly budget review.
- Maximise the efficiency of its commercial business model to generate income.

The Trustees recognise the current financial position of Contact and, having assessed the new financial and commercial strategies including the cash position and the mitigation steps (including the renewal of the current overdraft facility as a buffer), are therefore satisfied that it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

#### 2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

|           | 2024         | 2023         |
|-----------|--------------|--------------|
|           | £            | £            |
| Donations | <u>7,055</u> | <u>3,320</u> |

Income from donations includes Gift Aid from individual giving. From time to time Contact benefits from the involvement and support of volunteers. In accordance with accounting standards, the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

|                      | 2024           | 2023           |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                      | £              | £              |
| Accountancy services | -              | 37,517         |
| Bar & catering       | 6,984          | 19,461         |
| Hire of spaces       | 137,283        | 115,584        |
| Hire of equipment    | 356            | -              |
| Office hires         | 7,792          | 7,875          |
| Retail               | 4,023          | 6,175          |
| Consultancy fee      | 15,720         | -              |
| Commission income    | 2,265          | -              |
| Services income      | 582            | -              |
|                      | <u>175,005</u> | <u>186,612</u> |

**4. INVESTMENT INCOME**

|                   | 2024           | 2023         |
|-------------------|----------------|--------------|
|                   | £              | £            |
| Investment income | <u>(1,321)</u> | <u>2,417</u> |

**5. OTHER INCOME**

|  | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>2024<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2024<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2024<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2023<br>£ |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Coutts Foundation revenue grant          | 50,000                             | -                                | 50,000                      | 50,000                      |
| Coutts Foundation cost of living payment | 5,000                              | -                                | 5,000                       | 5,000                       |
| Insurance claim                          | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 9,618                       |
| Other                                    | 1,381                              | -                                | 1,381                       | -                           |
|  | <u>56,381</u>                      | <u>-</u>                         | <u>56,381</u>               | <u>64,618</u>               |

**6. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

|  |           | 2024             | 2023             |
|--|-----------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Activity</b>                                    |           | £                | £                |
| Grants - Core Funding                              | (note 7)  | 1,116,753        | 1,101,377        |
| Operation of building & related artistic programme | (note 8)  | 160,722          | 172,590          |
| Provision of participatory activities              | (note 9)  | 93,318           | 114,422          |
| Health & Science Activities                        | (note 10) | <u>567</u>       | <u>18,119</u>    |
|  |           | <u>1,371,360</u> | <u>1,406,508</u> |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**7. UNRESTRICTED GRANT INCOME FROM CORE FUNDERS**

|  | 2024             | 2023             |
|--|------------------|------------------|
|  | £                | £                |
| Arts Council   | 933,297          | 933,297          |
| GMCA (Greater Manchester Culture & Social Impact Fund) | 106,700          | 97,000           |
| Manchester City Council                                | 35,676           | 30,000           |
| University of Manchester                               | 41,080           | 41,080           |
|  | <u>1,116,753</u> | <u>1,101,377</u> |

All relate to unrestricted funds.

**8. INCOME FROM OPERATION OF BUILDING AND RELATED ARTISTIC PROGRAMME**

|                                      | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>2024<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2024<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2024<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2023<br>£ |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Income from theatre performances     | 160,722                            | -                                | 160,722                     | 156,053                     |
| Manchester City Council - Time Stamp | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 3,100                       |
| RYTDS                                | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 13,437                      |
|                                      | <u>160,722</u>                     | <u>-</u>                         | <u>160,722</u>              | <u>172,590</u>              |

**9. INCOME FOR PROVISION OF PARTICIPATORY ACTIVITIES**

|                                 | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>2024<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2024<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2024<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2023<br>£ |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| BBC Reverse Mentoring           | -                                  | 300                              | 300                         | 3,750                       |
| Holiday Activity Fund           | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 4,800                       |
| Other income                    | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 6,638                       |
| Studio School                   | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 600                         |
| The Agency                      | 6,562                              | 71,456                           | 78,018                      | 88,634                      |
| Youth & Play (Young Manchester) | -                                  | 15,000                           | 15,000                      | 10,000                      |
|                                 | <u>6,562</u>                       | <u>86,756</u>                    | <u>93,318</u>               | <u>114,422</u>              |

**10. INCOME FOR HEALTH & SCIENCE ACTIVITIES**

|                                       | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>2024<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2024<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2024<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2023<br>£ |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Curiosity Fund                        | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 7,985                       |
| GMCDP                                 | 567                                | -                                | 567                         | 3,934                       |
| GMCVO - Trauma responsive communities | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 5,000                       |
| More Than Skin Deep - People's Palace | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 1,200                       |
|                                       | <u>567</u>                         | <u>-</u>                         | <u>567</u>                  | <u>18,119</u>               |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**11. RESOURCES EXPENDED**

**Raising donations and legacies**

|                               | 2024           | 2023           |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                               | £              | £              |
| Fundraising support costs     | 93,032         | 86,967         |
| Commercial trading operations | <u>96,565</u>  | <u>117,938</u> |
|                               | <u>189,597</u> | <u>204,905</u> |

**12. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

|   | Operation of<br>building &<br>related<br>artistic<br>programme<br>2024<br>£ | Provision of<br>participatory<br>activities<br>2024<br>£ | Health &<br>Science<br>Activities<br>2024<br>£ | Total<br>2024<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£ |
|---|---|--|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| Salaries                                      | 811,524   | 48,329   | 53   | 859,906            | 920,020            |
| Facilitator fees, project<br>costs & expenses | 11,179  | 23,257   | 6,449  | 40,885             | 207,885            |
| Travel, accommodation &<br>subsistence        | 1,160   | 231  | -  | 1,391              | 20,691             |
| Production & touring costs                    | 35,859  | 53,298   | 3,803  | 92,960             | 8,199              |
| Artists fees and box office<br>splits         | 89,976  | -  | -  | 89,976             | 138,407            |
| Commissioning & artist<br>development         | 3,100   | -  | -  | 3,100              | 27,850             |
| Box office & marketing<br>costs               | 16,274  | -  | 10   | 16,284             | 131,293            |
| Premises & technical costs                    | 240,397   | 3,000  | 400  | 243,797            | 267,010            |
| Finance charges                               | 26,867  | 15   | -  | 26,882             | 19,613             |
| Recruitment & training                        | 5,624   | -  | -  | 5,624              | 13,669             |
| Bad debts & write offs                        | -   | -  | -  | -                  | 9,561              |
| Depreciation                                  | 362,351   | -  | -  | 362,351            | 361,117            |
| Governance costs<br>(note 13)                 | 88,116  | 13,117   | 2,250  | 103,483            | 29,708             |
| Support costs (note 13)                       | <u>86,182</u>   | <u>1,644</u>   | <u>(7)</u>                                     | <u>87,819</u>      | <u>276,765</u>     |
|   | <u>1,778,609</u>  | <u>142,891</u>   | <u>12,958</u>                                  | <u>1,934,458</u>   | <u>2,431,788</u>   |

Of the expenditure amounting to £1,934,458 (2023: £2,431,788), £1,520,547 (2023: £1,809,553) was charged to unrestricted funds and £413,911 (2023: £622,235) was charged to restricted funds.

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**13. ANALYSIS OF GOVERNANCE AND SUPPORT COSTS**

|                                       | General<br>support<br>2024<br>£ | Governance<br>function<br>2024<br>£ | Total<br>2024<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£ | Basis of<br>apportionment |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Catering for board & trustee meetings | -                               | 80                                  | 80                 | 110                | Direct                    |
| Salaries, wages and related costs     | 12,467                          | 15,945                              | 28,412             | 184,613            | Staff time                |
| General office costs                  | 75,352                          | 72,494                              | 147,846            | 99,349             | Direct                    |
| Audit & tax fees                      | -                               | 14,964                              | 14,964             | 22,401             | Direct                    |
|                                       | <u>87,819</u>                   | <u>103,483</u>                      | <u>191,302</u>     | <u>306,473</u>     |                           |

**14. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

Net expenditure is stated after charging:

|                             | 2024<br>£  | 2023<br>£    |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Depreciation - owned assets | 362,351    | 361,117      |
| Operating leases            | -          | 802          |
| Audit fees                  | 14,114     | 19,951       |
| Tax fees                    | <u>850</u> | <u>2,451</u> |

Of the audit fees in 2024, £4,764 was payable to the previous auditor in respect of their 2023 audit.

**15. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

Except those disclosed in note 30, no trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration or any other benefit from the group during the year.

The group paid £130 (2023: £nil) for reimbursed expenses to two trustees during the year, of which £50 was for reimbursement of travelling cost and £80 was for reimbursement of a board dinner. No other trustees have received any reimbursed expenses during the year.

**16. STAFF COSTS**

|                       | 2024<br>£        | 2023<br>£        |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Wages and salaries    | 973,060          | 1,143,524        |
| Social security costs | 48,618           | 101,258          |
| Pension costs         | 15,666           | 21,997           |
| Redundancy costs      | -                | 12,002           |
|                       | <u>1,037,344</u> | <u>1,278,781</u> |

The average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees (including casual and part-time staff) during the year was as follows:

|                                     | 2024<br>No. | 2023<br>No. |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Permanent staff including part-time | <u>29</u>   | <u>34</u>   |

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000 (2023 - £nil).

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**16. STAFF COSTS - continued**

Pension costs are allocated to activities in proportion to the related staffing costs incurred.

The key management personnel of Contact comprise the Trustees, the Artistic Director/Chief Executive, Head of Creative Engagement, Director of Finance, Head of Commercial & Visitor Experience, Head of Marketing & Communications and Head of Operations/Interim Executive Director. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £200,260 (2023: £264,625).

**17. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

|  | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>£ |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Income and endowments from</b>                  |                            |                          |                     |
| Donations and legacies                             | 3,320                      | -                        | 3,320               |
| <b>Charitable Activities</b>                       |                            |                          |                     |
| Operation of building & related artistic programme | 156,053                    | 16,537                   | 172,590             |
| Provision of participatory activities              | 7,237                      | 107,185                  | 114,422             |
| Health & Science Activities                        | -                          | 18,119                   | 18,119              |
| Grants – Core Funding                              | 1,101,377                  | -                        | 1,101,377           |
| Other trading activities                           | 186,612                    | -                        | 186,612             |
| Investment income                                  | 2,417                      | -                        | 2,417               |
| Other income                                       | 64,618                     | -                        | 64,618              |
| <b>Total income</b>                                | <u>1,521,634</u>           | <u>141,841</u>           | <u>1,663,475</u>    |
| <b>Expenditure on</b>                              |                            |                          |                     |
| Resources expended                                 | 204,905                    | -                        | 204,905             |
| <b>Charitable Activities</b>                       |                            |                          |                     |
| Operation of building & related artistic programme | 1,706,002                  | 356,091                  | 2,062,093           |
| Provision of participatory activities              | 104,536                    | 193,913                  | 298,449             |
| Health & Safety Activities                         | (985)                      | 72,231                   | 71,246              |
| Capital Refurbishment Project                      | -                          | -                        | -                   |
| <b>Total expenditure</b>                           | <u>2,014,458</u>           | <u>622,235</u>           | <u>2,535,883</u>    |
| <b>Net expenditure before tax</b>                  | (492,824)                  | (480,394)                | (973,218)           |
| Taxation   | 23,089                     | -                        | 23,089              |
| <b>Net expenditure after tax</b>                   | <u>(469,735)</u>           | <u>(480,394)</u>         | <u>(950,129)</u>    |
| <b>Transfers between funds</b>                     | <u>(53,129)</u>            | <u>53,129</u>            | <u>-</u>            |
| <b>Net movement in funds</b>                       | (522,864)                  | (427,265)                | (950,129)           |
| <b>Reconciliation of funds</b>                     |                            |                          |                     |
| Total funds brought forwards                       | 695,215                    | 7,508,062                | 8,203,277           |
| <b>Total funds carried forward</b>                 | <u>172,351</u>             | <u>7,080,797</u>         | <u>7,253,148</u>    |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**18. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

**Group and company**

|                       | Freehold<br>Property<br>£ | Fixtures<br>and<br>Fittings<br>£ | Motor<br>Vehicles<br>£ | Computer<br>Equipment<br>£ | Totals<br>£       |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>COST</b>           |                           |                                  |                        |                            |                   |
| At 1 April 2023       | 10,465,508                | 259,967                          | 15,469                 | 193,898                    | 10,934,842        |
| Additions             | -                         | -                                | -                      | 818                        | 818               |
| Disposals             | -                         | (32,493)                         | -                      | (20,003)                   | (52,496)          |
| At 31 March 2024      | <u>10,465,508</u>         | <u>227,474</u>                   | <u>15,469</u>          | <u>174,713</u>             | <u>10,883,164</u> |
| <b>DEPRECIATION</b>   |                           |                                  |                        |                            |                   |
| At 1 April 2023       | 3,392,294                 | 130,364                          | 15,469                 | 134,376                    | 3,672,503         |
| Charge for year       | 308,775                   | 13,116                           | -                      | 40,460                     | 362,351           |
| Disposals             | -                         | (32,493)                         | -                      | (20,003)                   | (52,496)          |
| At 31 March 2024      | <u>3,701,069</u>          | <u>110,987</u>                   | <u>15,469</u>          | <u>154,833</u>             | <u>3,982,358</u>  |
| <b>NET BOOK VALUE</b> |                           |                                  |                        |                            |                   |
| At 31 March 2024      | <u>6,764,439</u>          | <u>116,487</u>                   | <u>-</u>               | <u>19,880</u>              | <u>6,900,806</u>  |
| At 31 March 2023      | <u>7,073,214</u>          | <u>129,603</u>                   | <u>-</u>               | <u>59,522</u>              | <u>7,262,339</u>  |

**19. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS**

**Company**

|   | Share in<br>subsidiary<br>undertaking<br>£ |
|---|--|
| As at 1 April 2023 and at 31 March 2024 | <u>1</u>                                   |

Details of the investment in which the company holds more than 20% of the nominal value of any class of share capital are as follows:

| <u>Undertaking</u>           | <u>Company<br/>Number</u> | <u>Registered office</u>                             | <u>Holding</u> | <u>Proportion of shares<br/>and voting rights held</u> |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|--|----------------|--|
| Contact<br>Events<br>Limited | 12543422                  | Devas Street, Oxford<br>Road, Manchester, M15<br>6JA | Ordinary       | 100%   |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**19. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS - continued**

**Contact Events Limited**

|                                  | Year ended<br>31 March 2024 | Year ended<br>31 March 2023 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                  | £                           | £                           |
| Income                           | 144,678                     | 81,240                      |
| Expenditure                      | (104,966)                   | (80,620)                    |
| Trading profit                   | 39,712                      | 620                         |
| Profit gift aided to the charity | (39,712)                    | -                           |
| (Loss)/profit for the year       | <u>-</u>                    | <u>620</u>                  |
|                                  | 31 March<br>2024            | 31 March<br>2023            |
|                                  | £                           | £                           |
| Total Assets                     | 69,219                      | 8,190                       |
| Total Liabilities                | (68,598)                    | (7,569)                     |
| Net Assets/(Liabilities)         | <u>621</u>                  | <u>621</u>                  |

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

|                                | Group         |                | Company       |                |
|--------------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
|                                | 2024          | 2023           | 2024          | 2023           |
|                                | £             | £              | £             | £              |
| Trade debtors                  | 33,165        | 20,067         | 4,017         | 15,086         |
| Amount owned by subsidiary     | -             | -              | 53,598        | -              |
| VAT                            | 1,949         | 18,464         | 681           | 18,464         |
| Prepayments and accrued income | 22,615        | 145,690        | 13,380        | 145,690        |
|                                | <u>57,729</u> | <u>184,221</u> | <u>71,676</u> | <u>179,240</u> |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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

| Company  | Group          |                |                |                |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|  | 2024<br>£      | 2023<br>£      | 2024<br>£      | 2023<br>£      |
| Other loans (see note 24)                        | 21,540         | 20,782         | 21,540         | 20,782         |
| Bank overdraft                                   | 6,896          | -              | 6,896          | -              |
| Trade creditors                                  | 66,584         | 102,801        | 66,584         | 102,801        |
| Social security and other taxes                  | 25,415         | 25,917         | 25,415         | 25,917         |
| Other creditors and custodian funds<br>(note 22) | 13,032         | 25,639         | 13,032         | 25,638         |
| Amounts owed by subsidiary                       |                |                | -              | 3,209          |
| Accruals   | 33,566         | 72,868         | 18,566         | 72,868         |
| Deferred income                                  | 26,006         | 12,407         | 26,006         | 4,219          |
|  | <u>193,039</u> | <u>260,414</u> | <u>178,039</u> | <u>255,434</u> |

Deferred income comprises advance ticket sales for performances of shows and income for projects due to take place after 31 March 2024 and is analysed below:

|                  | 2024<br>£     | 2023<br>£     |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| At 1 April       | 12,407        | 60,841        |
| Released in year | (12,407)      | (60,841)      |
| Deferred in year | 26,006        | 12,407        |
| At 31 March      | <u>26,006</u> | <u>12,407</u> |

**22. CUSTODIAN FUNDS**

Contact acted as a custodian trustee during the year for five independent projects run by ex-participants of Contact's programmes. All funds are held as cash in bank.

| Group and company     | Balance at<br>1 April 2023<br>£ | Funds<br>received<br>£ | Funds paid<br>£ | Balance at<br>31 March 2024<br>£ |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Hate Crime Awareness  | 40                              | -                      | -               | 40                               |
| Uniquely Us           | 626                             | -                      | -               | 626                              |
| Dawn to the Light     | 17,000                          | -                      | (16,825)        | 175                              |
| Rory Aaron: This Town | 2,297                           | -                      | (2,297)         | -                                |
| Kulture Fest          |                                 | 12,180                 | -               | 12,180                           |
|                       | <u>-</u>                        | <u>12,180</u>          | <u>(19,122)</u> | <u>13,021</u>                    |
|                       | <u>19,963</u>                   | <u>12,180</u>          | <u>(19,122)</u> | <u>13,021</u>                    |

**23. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR**

**Group and company**

|                       | 2024<br>£      | 2023<br>£      |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Other loans (note 24) | <u>113,554</u> | <u>135,094</u> |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**24. LOANS**

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

| <b>Group and company</b>                               | 2024          | 2023          |
|--|---------------|---------------|
|  | £             | £             |
| <b>Amounts falling due within one year on demand:</b>  |               |               |
| Other loans  | <u>21,540</u> | <u>20,782</u> |
| <b>Amounts falling between one and two years:</b>      |               |               |
| Other loans - 1-2 years                                | <u>22,327</u> | <u>21,541</u> |
| <b>Amounts falling due between two and five years:</b> |               |               |
| Other loans - 2-5 years                                | <u>71,988</u> | <u>69,453</u> |
| <b>Amounts falling due in more than five years:</b>    |               |               |
| Repayable by instalments:                              |               |               |
| Other loans over more than 5 years by instalments      | <u>19,239</u> | <u>44,100</u> |

Manchester City Council has provided a £200,000 loan at a rate of 2.7% + the EC Reference Rate which is the variable rate. Manchester City Council holds quasi-security over The Manchester Young People's Theatre building, whereby a negative pledge is in place.

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**25. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

For the year ended 31 March 2024

|   | At 1.4.23        | Net<br>movement<br>in funds | Transfers<br>between<br>funds | At<br>31.3.24    |   |
|---|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|---|
|   | £                | £                           | £                             |                  | £ |
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b>                           |                  |                             |                               |                  |   |
| Unrestricted fund                                   | 116,427          | (188,420)                   | (13,058)                      | (85,051)         |   |
| Designated fund (Capital Redevelopment Project)     | 55,924           | -                           | -                             | 55,924           |   |
|   | <u>172,351</u>   | <u>(188,420)</u>            | <u>(13,058)</u>               | <u>(29,127)</u>  |   |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>                             |                  |                             |                               |                  |   |
| The Agency (Reaching Communities) 2021 - 26         | 3,973            | 21,136                      | -                             | 25,109           |   |
| Weston Culture Fund                                 | 2,038            | -                           | -                             | 2,038            |   |
| Curiosity Fund                                      | 500              | -                           | -                             | 500              |   |
| Building fund                                       | 7,032,019        | (332,977)                   | -                             | 6,699,042        |   |
| Diverse Action (Live Art UK)                        | 1,206            | -                           | -                             | 1,206            |   |
| Capsule 2119  | 880              | (291)                       | -                             | 589              |   |
| Youth & Play (Young Manchester)                     | 11,282           | 10,216                      | -                             | 21,498           |   |
| Manchester City Council Health & Care Commissioning | 16,863           | (3,104)                     | -                             | 13,759           |   |
| The Agency Alumni                                   | 2,529            | -                           | -                             | 2,529            |   |
| GMCA Outreach                                       | -                | (355)                       | 355                           | -                |   |
| GMCVO - Trauma responsive                           | 5,460            | (7,635)                     | 2,175                         | -                |   |
| BBC reverse mentoring                               | 1,590            | (1,160)                     | -                             | 430              |   |
| More Than Skin Deep                                 | -                | 7                           | (7)                           | -                |   |
| MCR Active - Holiday Action Fund                    | 2,457            | (12,992)                    | 10,535                        | -                |   |
|   | <u>7,080,797</u> | <u>(327,155)</u>            | <u>13,058</u>                 | <u>6,766,700</u> |   |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>                                  | <u>7,253,148</u> | <u>(515,575)</u>            | <u>-</u>                      | <u>6,737,573</u> |   |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

25. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

For the year ended 31 March 2024

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

|   | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b>                           |                            |                       |                           |
| Unrestricted fund                                   | <u>1,521,724</u>           | <u>(1,710,144)</u>    | <u>(188,420)</u>          |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>                             |                            |                       |                           |
| The Agency (Reaching Communities) 2021-26           | 71,456                     | (50,320)              | 21,136                    |
| Weston Culture Fund                                 | -                          | -                     | -                         |
| Curiosity Fund                                      | -                          | -                     | -                         |
| Building fund                                       | -                          | (332,977)             | (332,977)                 |
| Youth & Play (Young Manchester)                     | 15,000                     | (4,784)               | 10,216                    |
| Capsule 2119  | -                          | (291)                 | (291)                     |
| Diverse Actions (Live Art UK)                       | -                          | -                     | -                         |
| The Agency Alumni                                   | -                          | -                     | -                         |
| GMCA Outreach                                       | -                          | (355)                 | (355)                     |
| GMCVO - Trauma responsive                           | -                          | (7,635)               | (7,635)                   |
| Manchester City Council Health & Care Commissioning | -                          | (3,104)               | (3,104)                   |
| More Than Skin Deep                                 | -                          | 7                     | 7                         |
| BBC reverse mentoring                               | 300                        | (1,460)               | (1,160)                   |
| MCR Active - Holiday Action Fund                    | -                          | (12,992)              | (12,992)                  |
|   | <u>86,756</u>              | <u>(413,911)</u>      | <u>(327,155)</u>          |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>                                  | <u>1,608,480</u>           | <u>(2,124,055)</u>    | <u>(515,575)</u>          |

There were no significant transfers between reserves during the period.

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

25. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

For the year ended 31 March 2023

|   | At 14.22<br>£    | Net<br>movement<br>in funds<br>£ | Transfers<br>between<br>funds<br>£ | At<br>31.3.23<br>£ |
|---|------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b>                           |                  |                                  |                                    |                    |
| Unrestricted fund                                   | 535,215          | (469,735)                        | 50,947                             | 116,427            |
| Designated fund (Capital Redevelopment Project)     | <u>160,000</u>   | <u>-</u>                         | <u>(104,076)</u>                   | <u>55,924</u>      |
|   | 695,215          | (469,735)                        | (53,129)                           | 172,351            |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>                             |                  |                                  |                                    |                    |
| C Change Project                                    | 592              | (592)                            | -                                  | -                  |
| Far Apart UK  | 9,306            | (9,306)                          | -                                  | -                  |
| The Agency (Reaching Communities) 2021-26           | 19,236           | 17,661                           | (32,924)                           | 3,973              |
| Weston Culture Fund                                 | 66,203           | (64,165)                         | -                                  | 2,038              |
| Curiosity Fund                                      | 4,706            | (4,206)                          | -                                  | 500                |
| Building fund                                       | 7,245,113        | (332,692)                        | 119,598                            | 7,032,019          |
| Wellcome Trust (Health & Science Producer)          | 10,973           | (10,973)                         | -                                  | -                  |
| Youth & Play (Young Manchester)                     | 12,844           | (1,562)                          | -                                  | 11,282             |
| Manchester City Council - Time Stamp                | 2,900            | (2,900)                          | -                                  | -                  |
| Regional Theatre Young Director's Scheme            | 3,962            | (3,962)                          | -                                  | -                  |
| Ironmongers   | 2,654            | (2,654)                          | -                                  | -                  |
| Manchester City Council Health & Care Commissioning | 16,863           | -                                | -                                  | 16,863             |
| Steel foundation                                    | 4,202            | (4,202)                          | -                                  | -                  |
| The Agency Alumni                                   | 24,425           | (21,896)                         | -                                  | 2,529              |
| GMCDP   | 5,090            | (5,090)                          | -                                  | -                  |
| GMCVO - Trauma responsive                           | 10,000           | (4,540)                          | -                                  | 5,460              |
| MCC - Covid Impact Fund                             | 14,711           | (14,711)                         | -                                  | -                  |
| First 1000 Days                                     | 14,592           | (14,592)                         | -                                  | -                  |
| More Than Skin Deep                                 | -                | -                                | -                                  | -                  |
| BBC Reverse Mentoring                               | -                | 1,590                            | -                                  | 1,590              |
| Capital Refurbishment Project                       | 33,545           | -                                | (33,545)                           | -                  |
| Diverse Actions (Live Art UK)                       | 1,206            | -                                | -                                  | 1,206              |
| MCR Active - Holiday Action Fund                    | -                | 2,457                            | -                                  | 2,457              |
| Media Drop 2.0 (Youth Music)                        | 4,059            | (4,059)                          | -                                  | -                  |
| Capsule 2119  | 880              | -                                | -                                  | 880                |
|   | <u>7,508,062</u> | <u>(480,394)</u>                 | <u>53,129</u>                      | <u>7,080,797</u>   |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>                                  | <u>8,203,277</u> | <u>(950,129)</u>                 | <u>-</u>                           | <u>7,253,148</u>   |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**25. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

For the year ended 31 March 2023

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

|   | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Movement<br>in funds<br>£ |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b>                           |                            |                            |                           |
| Unrestricted funds                                  | 1,521,634                  | (1,991,369)                | (469,735)                 |
| Designated fund (Capital Redevelopment Project)     | -                          | -                          | -                         |
|   | <u>1,521,634</u>           | <u>(1,991,369)</u>         | <u>(469,735)</u>          |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>                             |                            |                            |                           |
| C Change Project                                    | -                          | (592)                      | (592)                     |
| Far Apart UK  | -                          | (9,306)                    | (9,306)                   |
| The Agency (Reaching Communities) 2021 - 26         | 108,635                    | (90,974)                   | 17,661                    |
| Weston Culture Fund                                 | -                          | (64,165)                   | (64,165)                  |
| Curiosity Fund                                      | 7,985                      | (12,191)                   | (4,206)                   |
| Building fund                                       | -                          | (332,692)                  | (332,692)                 |
| Wellcome Trust (Health & Science Producer)          | -                          | (10,973)                   | (10,973)                  |
| Youth & Play (Young Manchester)                     | 10,000                     | (11,562)                   | (1,562)                   |
| Manchester City Council - Time Stamp                | 3,100                      | (6,000)                    | (2,900)                   |
| Regional Theatre Young Director's Scheme (RTYDS)    | 13,437                     | (17,399)                   | (3,962)                   |
| Ironmongers   | -                          | (2,654)                    | (2,654)                   |
| Manchester City Council Health & Care Commissioning | -                          | -                          | -                         |
| Steel foundation                                    | -                          | (4,202)                    | (4,202)                   |
| The Agency Alumni                                   | (20,000)                   | (1,896)                    | (21,896)                  |
| GMCDP   | 3,934                      | (9,024)                    | (5,090)                   |
| GMCVO - Trauma responsive                           | 5,000                      | (9,540)                    | (4,540)                   |
| MCC - Covid Impact Fund                             | -                          | (14,711)                   | (14,711)                  |
| First 1000 Days                                     | -                          | (14,592)                   | (14,592)                  |
| More Than Skin Deep                                 | 1,200                      | (1,200)                    | -                         |
| BBC reverse mentoring                               | 3,750                      | (2,160)                    | 1,590                     |
| Capital Refurbishment Project                       | -                          | -                          | -                         |
| Diverse Actions (Live Art UK)                       | -                          | -                          | -                         |
| MCR Active - Holiday Action Fund                    | 4,800                      | (2,343)                    | 2,457                     |
| Media Drop 2.0 (Youth Music)                        | -                          | (4,059)                    | (4,059)                   |
| Capsule 2119  | -                          | -                          | -                         |
|   | <u>141,841</u>             | <u>(622,235)</u>           | <u>(480,394)</u>          |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>                                  | <u><u>1,663,475</u></u>    | <u><u>(2,613,604)</u></u>  | <u><u>(950,129)</u></u>   |

Significant transfers in 2023 included the re-designation of £104,076 of the designated capital fund, which was no longer necessary having secured additional capital funding in prior periods. There was also a £86,053 transfer to restricted funds to reflect the nature of infrastructure assets.

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

25. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Funds

| <b>Name of fund</b> | <b>Description, nature and purpose of the fund</b>   |
|---------------------|--|
| Unrestricted fund   | The "unrestricted reserves" after allowing for all designated funds and including unrestricted fixed assets. |
| Designated fund     | Designated fund for Capital Redevelopment Project  |

| <b>Name of restricted fund</b> | <b>Description, nature and purpose of the fund</b> |
|--------------------------------|--|
|--------------------------------|--|

**Active**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| The Agency (Reaching Communities) 2021 - 26         | Reaching Communities is funding the continuation of The Agency Project  |
| Weston Culture Fund                                 | Garfield Weston Foundation funded cultural organisations to restart their work after Covid-19 and to re-engage audiences it supported and outdoor programme of activities and events  |
| Curiosity Fund                                      | A partnership between BBC Children in Need and Wellcome is funding a new arts project for children aged 15 - 16 within an area of high deprivation who may be disabled or experience mental health issues   |
| Building Fund                                       | The Building fund was established to rebuild and extend the existing theatre and was funded by The Arts Council of England. Expenditure represents the annual depreciation charge. Capital Redevelopment costs are transferred to the Building fund |
| Diverse Action (Live Art UK)                        | Contact is a partner in the Live Art UK Diverse Actions project which commissions BAME live art artists to make new work  |
| Capsule 2119  | The PRS Foundation is supporting the creation and performance of 16 new songs that would subsequently become a time capsule for the Year 2119 placed within Contact's refurbished building  |
| Youth & Play (Young Manchester)                     | Young Manchester is funding a grant to co-deliver a 12 month pilot project that will enable young people from working class backgrounds in Manchester to explore art and activism   |
| Manchester City Council Health & Care Commissioning | Manchester City Council is funding a community Arts Intervention with young parents in Wythenshawe  |
| The Agency Alumni                                   | Another project funded as part of The Agency Project  |
| BBC Reverse Mentoring                               | This scheme connected 25 young people from Contact's network to 25 staff members across BBC Children & BBC Education in a 12 month reciprocal mentoring scheme  |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**25. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

**Completed**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| C Change   | Manchester CC funded a production of a show on climate change.   |
| Far Apart UK                                     | People's Palace Projects funded a research project to look beyond lockdown to understand how UK Arts organisations can continue to support young people's wellbeing during Covid-19  |
| Wellcome Trust (Health & Science Producer)       | The Wellcome Trust funded the Health & Science Producer  |
| Manchester City Council - Time Stamp             | Manchester City Council funded a production of a show on young people's experiences of lockdown during Covid-19  |
| Regional Theatre Young Director's Scheme (RTYDS) | This scheme funded a residency for an assistant director at Contact for 18 months  |
| Ironmongers                                      | The Ironmongers Foundation awarded funding to encourage young people to get more involved in The Arts and Theatre.   |
| Steel Foundation                                 | Steel Foundation funded music workshops for young people.  |
| GMCDP  | GMCDP funded a creative development programme for neurodivergent, deaf and disabled young people. The outcome was the performance focused on disability history called DIS: Play   |
| GMCVO – Trauma Responsive                        | These funded The Arts and Trauma network, a monthly meeting exploring best practice for trauma informed work. The network included 16 members from across Greater Manchester   |
| MCC - Covid Impact Fund                          | One Manchester funded a report into the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the mental health of staff and participants at Contact  |
| First 1000 Days                                  | One Manchester funded a creative development project for parents in Harpurhey and Moston. The outcome was a week of activities called Kids Fun Zone at Harpurhey Neighbourhood Project   |
| More Than Skin Deep                              | People's Palace Projects funded a performance of care-experienced young people talking about change they would like to see in the care system.   |
| Capital Refurbishment Project                    | This fund consisted of grants and donations to support the capital redevelopment project   |
| MCR Active - Holiday Action Fund                 | This was secured to deliver Easter, summer and Christmas holiday activity for young people aged 11-16 on free school meals. From music to theatre to cooking, the sessions were devised and delivered by Contact staff and freelance facilitators. |
| GMCA Outreach                                    | A project to make a positive contribution to improving skills and employability of residents in Greater Manchester, including support for the creative education, expression and ambition of young people across Greater Manchester.               |
| Media Drop 2.0 (Youth Music)                     | Youth Music funded the Media Drop 2.0 music project and the continuation and expansion of the music programme.   |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**26. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATIONS**

|   | 2024                   | 2023                    |
|---|------------------------|-------------------------|
|   | £                      | £                       |
| Deficit for the reporting period        | (515,575)              | (973,218)               |
| Adjustments for:                        |                        |                         |
| Depreciation charges                    | 362,351                | 361,117                 |
| Interest payable                        | 26,882                 | 19,613                  |
| Interest receivable                     | 1,321                  | (2,417)                 |
| Decrease/(increase) in debtors          | 126,492                | 133,399                 |
| (Decrease)/increase in creditors        | <u>(75,029)</u>        | <u>10,429</u>           |
| <b>Net cash generated by operations</b> | <u><u>(73,558)</u></u> | <u><u>(451,077)</u></u> |

**27. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

|  | 2024                 | 2023                  |
|--|----------------------|-----------------------|
|  | £                    | £                     |
| Notice deposits (less than 3 months)   | 85,631               | 202,096               |
| Bank overdraft                         | <u>(6,896)</u>       | <u>-</u>              |
| <b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b> | <u><u>78,735</u></u> | <u><u>202,096</u></u> |

**28. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS**

|                 | At 1.4.23             | Cash flow               | At 31.3.24           |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
|                 | £                     | £                       | £                    |
| <b>Net cash</b> |                       |                         |                      |
| Cash at bank    | 202,096               | (116,465)               | 85,631               |
| Bank overdraft  | <u>-</u>              | <u>(6,896)</u>          | <u>(6,896)</u>       |
| <b>Total</b>    | <u><u>202,096</u></u> | <u><u>(123,361)</u></u> | <u><u>78,735</u></u> |

**29. OTHER FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS**

At the reporting date the group and company had capital commitments amounting to £3,147 (2023: £nil).

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

Group and company

|  | 2024            | 2023              |
|--|-----------------|-------------------|
|  | £               | £                 |
| Not later than one year                      | -               | 186               |
| Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years | <u>-</u>        | <u>-</u>          |
|  | <u><u>-</u></u> | <u><u>186</u></u> |

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

### **Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements - continued** **for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

#### **30. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

Contact and the University of Manchester have an agreement which allows for Contact to lease the building from the University, to access some facilities and services, and to collaborate with the University on programming some events for and by students. On this basis Contact feels it is appropriate to disclose transactions with the University as related party transactions.

The University of Manchester awarded grants to Contact of £41,080 (2023: £41,080). The Arts Council of England which provides core funding to Contact has a charge over the land and buildings of Contact.

Contact received consultancy service income, box office income, hire of space and other income of £4,583 (2023: £13,140) from the University of Manchester. There was an outstanding balance due from the University of £600 as at 31 March 2024 (2023: £2,370). Contact purchased goods and services from the University of Manchester amounting to £40 (2023: £6,202). There were no outstanding balances due to the University at either year end.

Certain trustees were engaged on a freelance basis for various projects throughout the year, although not in their role as trustees. Ms A Wilson (resigned 15/11/2023) received £300 (2023: £809), Mr C Cremin (resigned 15/11/2023) received £500 (2023: £375), Mr J Wilkinson (resigned 22/03/2023) £nil (2023: £12,833), Mr J Akinola (resigned 16/08/2023) £nil (2023: £5,540) and Ms F Ope £nil (2023: £550). There were no outstanding balances due to any trustees as at 31 March 2024 (2023: £nil).

At the reporting date the charity was owed £53,598 by (2023: owed £3,209 to) by Contact Events Limited.

Donations from Trustees amounted to £nil (2023: £nil) in the year.

#### **31. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS**

On 30 September 2024 Contact Events Limited, the subsidiary company, ceased to trade and its commercial activities were transferred to the charity.

#### **32. GENERAL INFORMATION**

The charity is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and has no share capital. In the event of Contact being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

The registered office address is Contact Theatre, Devas Street, off Oxford Road, Manchester, M15 6JA. Contact is the leading UK arts organisation to place young people's leadership and decision making at the heart of everything. Our main areas of activity are:

- Providing transformative opportunities for young people
- Producing high quality new work with a focus on pressing social realities and presenting the future mainstream with a diverse and pioneering programme
- Operating a unique, ethical and welcoming building.

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Detailed Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

|  | 2024          | 2023           |
|--|---------------|----------------|
|  | £             | £              |
| <b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>               |               |                |
| <b>Donations and legacies</b>              |               |                |
| Donations                                  | 7,055         | 3,320          |
| <b>Other trading activities</b>            |               |                |
| Commercial Trading Operations              | 175,005       | 186,612        |
| <b>Investment income</b>                   |               |                |
| Investment income                          | (1,321)       | 2,417          |
| <b>Charitable activities</b>               |               |                |
| Grants - Core Funding                      | 1,116,753     | 1,101,377      |
| Operation of building                      | 160,722       | 172,590        |
| Provision of participatory activities      | 93,318        | 114,422        |
| Health and Science                         | <u>567</u>    | <u>18,119</u>  |
|  | 1,371,360     | 1,406,508      |
| <b>Other income</b>                        |               |                |
| Other Income                               | <u>56,381</u> | <u>64,618</u>  |
| <b>Total incoming resources</b>            | 1,608,480     | 1,663,475      |
| <br>                                       |               |                |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>                         |               |                |
| <b>Raising donations and legacies</b>      |               |                |
| Fundraising support costs                  | 93,032        | 86,967         |
| Commercial trading operations              | <u>96,565</u> | <u>117,938</u> |
|  | 189,597       | 204,905        |
| <b>Charitable activities</b>               |               |                |
| Salaries, wages and related costs          | 888,318       | 1,104,633      |
| Travel and accommodation & subsistence     | 1,391         | 20,691         |
| Facilitator fees & project costs           | 40,885        | 207,885        |
| Production and Touring costs               | 92,960        | 8,199          |
| Artists fees & box office split            | 89,976        | 138,407        |
| Commissioning and artist development costs | 3,100         | 27,850         |
| Box office and marketing cost              | 16,284        | 131,293        |
| Premises and technical cost                | 243,797       | 267,010        |
| Finance charges                            | 26,882        | 19,613         |
| Recruitment and training                   | 5,624         | 13,669         |
| Bad debts and write offs                   | -             | 9,561          |
| Depreciation of Building fund              | 308,775       | 307,059        |
| Depreciation of Fixtures and fittings      | 13,116        | 14,614         |
| <br>                                       |               |                |
| Carried forward                            | 1,731,108     | 2,270,484      |

**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (The)**

**Detailed Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2024**

|   | 2024             | 2023             |
|---|------------------|------------------|
|   | £                | £                |
| <b>Charitable activities</b>            |                  |                  |
| Brought forward                         | 1,731,108        | 2,270,484        |
| Depreciation of Computer equipment      | 40,460           | 39,444           |
| Catering for Board and Trustee Meetings | 80               | 110              |
| General office costs                    | 147,846          | 99,349           |
| Audit and tax fee                       | 14,964           | 22,401           |
|   | <u>1,934,458</u> | <u>2,431,788</u> |
| <b>Taxation</b>                         |                  |                  |
| Tax charge for current year             | <u>-</u>         | <u>(23,089)</u>  |
| Total resources expended                | <u>2,124,055</u> | <u>2,613,604</u> |
| <b>Net expenditure</b>                  | <u>(515,575)</u> | <u>(950,129)</u> |

# Contact 2024 final accounts

Final Audit Report

2024-12-11

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Created:        | 2024-12-10                                      |
| By:             | Frankie Bradley (frankiebradley@contactmcr.com) |
| Status:         | Signed  |
| Transaction ID: | CBJCHBCAABAmsGIXntqwuEjYowxgs8LXWwFr3eFcac      |

## "Contact 2024 final accounts" History

-  Document created by Frankie Bradley (frankiebradley@contactmcr.com)  
2024-12-10 - 10:33:48 AM GMT
-  Document emailed to Bella (bella@ikpasaja.co.uk) for signature  
2024-12-10 - 10:34:08 AM GMT
-  Email viewed by Bella (bella@ikpasaja.co.uk)  
2024-12-11 - 7:56:53 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Bella (bella@ikpasaja.co.uk)  
Signature Date: 2024-12-11 - 7:59:46 PM GMT - Time Source: server
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**THE MANCHESTER YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATRE LIMITED**

England & Wales - Charity number 501953

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# Accounts

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Company registration number: 01066757

Charity registration number: 501953

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as

Contact Theatre

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

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# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Reference and Administrative Details

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Chair                                   | Mr J Akinola, (resigned 14 June 2023)<br>Ms A Wilson, (appointed 14 June 2023) (resigned 15 November 2023)<br>Ms B Ikpasaja (appointed 15 November 2023)  |
| Trustees                                | Ms G Flynn<br>Ms F Ope<br>Ms A Wilson (resigned 15 November 2023)<br>Ms R Tennenhaus (resigned 14 June 2023)<br>T Ajayi, (appointed 22 March 2023)<br>Mr J Wilkinson, (resigned 22 March 2023)<br>Mr C Cremin (resigned 15 November 2023)<br>Mr P Olubayo<br>Ms T Olaniran, (appointed 22 March 2023)<br>Ms J Y Cheung, (appointed 22 March 2023)<br>P Fatayo, (appointed 22 March 2023)  |
| Secretary                               | Mr S Moon, (resigned 30 June 2023)  |
| Manchester City Council representatives | replacement pending   |
| GMCA representatives                    | replacement pending   |
| University of Manchester representative | Dr K Dorney, (resigned 22 March 2023)<br>Mr J de Groot, (appointed 22 March 2023)   |
| Key management personnel                | K Thompson, Artistic Director/Chief Executive (resigned 14 December 2023 as Chief Executive)<br>L Whitehurst, Head of Creative Development<br>S Moon, Head of Finance (resigned 30 June 2023)<br>F Bradley, Head of Finance (appointed 31 October 2023)<br>M Barham, Head of Marketing & Communications (resigned 26 June 2023)<br>S Stephens, Head of Commercial & Visitor Experience (resigned 6 March 2023)<br>J Dale-Dowd, Head of Production/Executive Director (appointed 15 December 2023 to Executive Director) |
| Charity Registration Number             | 501953  |
| Company Registration Number             | 01066757  |
|   | The charity is incorporated in England and Wales.   |

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Reference and Administrative Details

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Registered Office | Contact Theatre<br>Devas Street<br>Oxford Road<br>Manchester<br>M15 6JA  |
| Auditor           | Beever and Struthers<br>Chartered Accountants and Statutory Advisors<br>Suite 9b, The Beehive<br>Shadsworth Business Park<br>Lions Drive<br>Blackburn<br>BB1 2QS |
| Solicitors        | Gateley LLP<br>Ship Canal House<br>98 King Street<br>Manchester<br>M3 3AP  |
| Bankers           | Natwest Bank plc<br>1 Spinningfields Square<br>Manchester<br>M3 3AP  |

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Chair's Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Contact's mission to change the face of UK culture has been truly alive in this recent financial year. As ever, young people sat at the heart of decision making at Contact, playing central roles in artistic programming, recruitment and governance. Keisha Thompson lead Contact to continue to deliver for young people, audiences and local communities, using its resources and expertise to empower young people, support the next generation of creativity, and welcome new audiences to enjoy and benefit from the diverse programming offer.

In early March, five new trustees were appointed to the Board of Trustees, strengthening the capability and capacity of Contact's governance oversight and expanding the organisation's network as a charity and arts venue in Manchester. Our model of committing to 50% of Trustees being under the age of 30 continues to attract interest from across the UK and further afield. In October 2022, (then) vice chair Ali Wilson hosted youth board members from Gent theatre Viernulvier on a visit to Contact and continues to consult them on youth governance.

The building has welcomed artists, audiences, participants, visitors and clients across the year, offering a friendly and inviting space for all. A busy calendar of commercial hires has welcomed new visitors to Contact's building, for whom the experience of the building is enriched with the buzz of young people populating its public spaces. The open call for a kitchen and cafe vendor residency instigated a collaborative process with young people to select a new partnership, beginning a new era for Contact's food and drink offer, resulting in Ardwick-based kitchen ARM'R's appointment in December 2022.

Amongst a challenging economic landscape, Contact has worked hard to create resilience and sustainability throughout the organisation's resources. A redesign of staffing structure and devising of new staffing roles took place in March 2023, this was a refocusing, to ensure Contact's activity serves its community as best as is possible as well as capacity building within the Development and Commercial teams. Continued review of the economic landscape has led to a further refining of Contact's staff structure which was carried out in the latter part of 2023. Keisha Thompson resigned as Artistic Director & CEO to allow a shift in focus for an interim period of 12-18 months. Keisha resigned her CEO position in December 2023 with her Artistic role continuing through to March 2024. Other staffing changes, following resignations up to the end of Q3 23/24, allowed Contact to restructure avoiding redundancies. Jack Dale-Dowd was appointed as Interim Executive Director to oversee the next 12-18 months. Implementation of technology and digital support across working practices has been vital in supporting staff and finding new and robust ways to work. The impact of the rise in cost-of-living and inflation has created further challenges to Contact's staff, with whom the organisation continues to reflect with on how we can further improve working experience. Reviewing of the artistic and participation program is ongoing, with efforts to find further opportunity to rebuild reserves and adapt to the economic landscape, whilst maintaining our commitment to our vision, mission and values. A revising of Contact's operating model and focus of resources will see the continuation of Contact's vital Young Person participation and leadership development work with a reduction in the programmed artistic work, allowing additional space for further income generating activities and performances.

Our commitment to anti-racism continues to be channelled both through our internal work, but also in our Anti-Racism training offer, picked up by three artistic organisations in this last year. Growing a commercial offer that remains firmly within our values has been a priority for Contact, ensuring that all work we do contributes directly to our mission: to change the face of UK culture, of which anti-racist practise is crucial.

Contact's artistic offer remains bold, investing programming in local, early-career artists making exciting work. Productions from visiting companies continue to offer Contact's audiences unique cultural experiences, building curiosity and loyalty within the Oxford Road community. Participation projects throughout the year have enriched the lives of young people, who demonstrate their connection to Contact through their use of the building as not only a place to learn and develop, but also to relax and be themselves. The programme continues to be a unique offer in Manchester, co-produced with Contact's young programming team and full of reasons to return.

Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

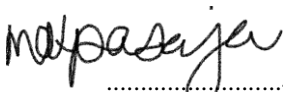
known as Contact Theatre

Chair's Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

We remain steadfast in our commitment to providing transformative experiences for young people, nurturing new artists, caring for each other and the environment, promoting inclusion and understanding between communities and a commitment to anti-racism.

This year has presented Contact with another set of unique challenges, each requiring action rooted in care and nuance. We look forward to a year of building resilience for Contact whilst ensuring that our values and mission are carried out through our work at Contact and with partners.

The chair's report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 6.3.2024 and signed on its behalf by:



.....  
Ms B Ikpasaja (appointed 15 November 2023)  
Chair of the Board

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present their strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2023, in compliance with s414C of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

### Objectives and activities

#### Objectives and Activities

Our vision is a world where young people are empowered by creativity and the arts.

Our mission is to change the face of UK culture.

From our sustainable creative building in Manchester, we do this by:

- Empowering young people from all backgrounds as creative leaders and agents of social change
- Supporting the next generation of artists and creatives
- Inspiring new audiences with stories and experiences that reflect our community

Our values are:

- We take a young-person centred approach to decision-making
- We promote inclusion, access, understanding between communities, and a commitment to anti-racism
- We foster artistic excellence, integrity and creative risk-taking
- We nurture new artists, creative leaders and audiences
- We care for our health, each other and our community
- We care for our planet and environment, working towards a carbon neutral future

We use these values to inform our activity, and as the framework for evaluating our progress. In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities

Our main areas of activity are:

- Providing transformative experiences for young people
- Producing high quality new work with a focus on social realities
- Operating a unique, ethical and welcoming building Contact is an environmentally sustainable building with an energy rating of A

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Trustees' Report

### Main Activities 2022-2023

Our activity is multi-faceted and diverse, ensuring young people have access to creative learning programmes as well as world-class entertainment and artwork. Early career artists are supported through a structured programme of seed fund commissions alongside in-house financial, producer and technical support. The artistic programme maintains a focus on pressing social issues relevant to young people. Contact is a leader in the field of diversity and representation, both of which are at the core of both our produced and presented work. Our on-going target is that 50% of the artists that we support are from a Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic background, markedly higher than local or national averages, and a target we again met in 2022-23.

Our presented programme of theatre, music, spoken word, dance, comedy and cabaret features early career and first-time artists alongside internationally acclaimed companies. Contact audiences get to be the first to experience innovative and pioneering shows that go on to major venues and festivals, and to experience the work of artists who go on to renowned and award-winning careers, as well as those presenting work across the world in mid-large scale productions.

Within this iconic building the atmosphere is open and welcoming, with local young people populating the most front-facing roles. Contact provides a meeting place for young people, communities and artists to work and socialise together. We provide free Wi-Fi, and there is no obligation to buy or consume anything in our public spaces. We also present a high-quality visual art programme of exhibitions and artists' films that complement and often relate to the performance programme. These are curated across public spaces around the building, and are always free to enter. As an organisation championing young people, Contact pays all staff the national living wage, regardless of age. The Trustees are proactive in ensuring that our activities benefit the public and young people, and as a consequence have considered the guidance in all our activities and fee charging.

The Agency is in its second year of a new five-year era, with a cycle ending in April 2023. Fifteen agents from Moston and Harphurhey completed the program with three being selected for funding. Graduate agents of the program have been successful in their application for funding to support their video game project Dawn To The Light. Contact continues to work in collaboration with national partners in London, Belfast, Chester and Southampton, thanks to support from the National Community Lottery Fund.

CYC produced three works across this period: Halo directed by AD/CEO Keisha Thompson, Whilst You Were Waiting Something Changed directed by internationally renowned performance Gob Squad, and Flip the Script, directed by local artist Mark Croasdale in which four new writers, selected by CYC cast, to create new staged work celebrating the number 50.

Music Drop, Level Up and Studio School ran until August '22, bringing young people into our media lounge to develop new multimedia creation skills. Evaluation now ongoing with young people to refine delivery and project designs, as well as secure future funding. Contact continues to work in partnership with external organisations to deliver projects from the media lounge.

Arts & Trauma Network, devised as part of Contact's health & science provision was launched in partnership with Oldham Coliseum, Manchester Art Gallery and University of Manchester, with funding from GMCVO to develop a Greater Manchester community of practice exploring arts and trauma over 2022. This work continues. Balmy Army, co-commissioned in partnership with HOME + MIF + 42nd St + The Horsfall, saw the creation and delivery of an activist movement for youth-led mental health around activism, culminating in a live event at HOME, in collaboration with Manchester International Festival.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Trustees' Report

GMCDP worked with Contact and People's History Museum on a creative project with a group of young disabled artists, exploring artwork in and around archives of disability.

Re:Con recruited three new programmer/producers in Jan '23, who will develop skills over the next eighteen months, culminating in the creation of new work. This continues a long-standing program empowering young programmers/producers with work-place experience and key support to develop core skills. Previous Re:Con members have become both freelance and permanent producers at Contact, as well as Trustees and Chair of the Board.

Queer Contact continued its tradition of celebrating a spectrum of queer lived experience with a festival amplifying voices of queer artists across the UK and beyond, featuring Ginny Lemon and Sister Sister, House of Suarez Vogue Ball and the queerest tardis of all time in The Gallifrey Cabaret, amongst much more. A steering group of young queer people consulted on the program, ensuring their voice and lived experience ran through the heart of the festival.

Future Fires supported the development of five socially engaged community action projects, including work to celebrate trans joy, delivering accessible creative writing workshops for East and Southeast Asians and exploring climate justice through spoken word.

The Lion King musical, in connection with Palace Theatre, delivered workshops at Contact for young people and school groups to connect audiences across GM to the show, sharing practices of commercial theatre practice and building relationships with audiences from Contact's community.

Far Apart saw the fruition of a research collaboration between People's Palace Project and Contact, looking beyond lockdown to understand how UK arts orgs can continue to support young people's wellbeing. Far Apart involved consultation with young people and hiring young researchers as consultants, culminating in an event that took place in 2022.

BBC Reciprocal Mentoring Scheme connected twenty-five young people from Contact's network to twenty-five staff members across BBC Children & BBC Education in a twelve-month reciprocal mentoring scheme, each pair supporting each other in create and professional endeavours. As a result of the program, at least two young people are now in full-time employment at BBC. This saw the beginning of a relationship between BBC and Contact, instigated initially via trustee and BBC employee Bex Tennenhaus.

Commissions continued with local artists benefiting from financial, strategic and artistic support to develop new works. Malandra Jacks, Rory Aaron and Miray Sidhom all received specialist support packages as early-career artists.

Drama and English Teacher Network was established in connection with HOME and Royal Exchange Theatre to increase creative programmes that work for and with the curriculum, developing stronger relations between teachers and the cultural institutions in Greater Manchester.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Trustees' Report

### Marketing

The majority of staff operate within a mix of in-person/at home scheduling, continuing our commitment to more flexible working and hybridity across the organisation since the pandemic. Participation programmes encourage young people to engage in a way that suits them, supporting those who prefer to engage remotely. Board meetings run in a hybrid-fashion, allowing Trustees to contribute to ongoing governance work without travel.

Contact's marketing and communication strategy adapted to post-Covid and significant organisational changes: in April 2022 we announced Keisha Thompson's appointment, which heightened brand awareness and brought in great publicity, supported by our freelance PR Binita Walia. Community-specific audience engagement freelancers were employed to raise the profile of the artistic program, Contact's website redevelopment project began and the 50th birthday campaign was launched.

Booking trends confirmed the established popularity pattern of our Space 2 shows featuring local artists, with Miray Sidholm's *The Bread We Break* and Rory Aaron's *This Town* selling out across their runs. A very busy autumn season required some creative management of the marketing and communications strategy, resulting in a more holistic approach to promoting over 20 performances. This looked like a digital season announcement, PR, a season brochure, flyer distribution, email and paid social ads as well as individual audience development and press campaigns for shows, all running simultaneously with the 50th birthday campaign. Sell-out comedy show with Sofie Hagen came in as a commercial hire but inspired thinking around working with ticketing agents.

Alongside delivering the Autumn season, Contact completed its copywriting project with Reeds Words and continued to work on our website redevelopment. As well as late booking, our trends for majority under 35s audiences continued through the season.

Whilst usually dark in January, Contact had three performances of *Wasteland* programmed, 50 Hours of Focus workshop series, Covid Song Cycle and an early start to *Queer Contact*. The success of *Wasteland*, selling out with the majority of sales in the two weeks ahead of the show opening, As the first venue in the tour, inspired confidence in instances where Contact is the first venue for a production tour. Nerves about not having as much collateral as other spaces to promote the show were eased by a robust marketing, press and audience development campaign paying off.

### Commercial

The commercial team has met ongoing demand for commercial space hires across the building. Throughout this financial year, Contact delivered 66 bookings of commercial hires from a diverse range of clients, including Disney, RFK Human Rights, Manchester City Council and Coram Shakespeare Schools, achieving over 50% of the commercial income target despite an challenging economic landscape. Efforts to attract commercial hires continue.

Contact's Anti-Racism Training package was delivered to local arts venue HOME and completed delivery to London-based Battersea Arts Centre, as well as a taster workshop for The Tetley, contemporary art gallery in Leeds. Interest in this program continues to grow, with increasing interest from organisations outside of Greater Manchester.

Following an open call for a kitchen and bar vendor, local vendor ARMOR were appointed to run Contact's bar and kitchen offer, which commenced in April 2023. Alongside their plant-based food offer, ARMOR bring with them long standing relations with local community members in Ardwick and the wider Manchester City area, some of whom will visit Contact's building for the first time upon ARMOR's appointment.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Trustees' Report

### Financial review

#### Unrestricted Funds - Group

Contact had an operating deficit of £492,824 in 2022-23 (2021-22: deficit of £90,469). The unrestricted reserves stood at £172,351 at 31 March 2023.

The principal sources of income were grants and donations, income from the artistic programme and commercial hires. Arts Council England, GMCA, Manchester City Council, Coutts Foundation and University of Manchester were our principal funders

The building has been fully operational for seventeen months for artistic, participatory and commercial use, with public free wifi permanently available from June 2022. The main building project is now closed and all snags resolved. Some ongoing capital works continue as funds become available. Projectors were replaced in both Spaces 1 and 2, ensuring our technical capabilities are robust. In collaboration with young people, we reviewed our environmental action plan ahead of the next financial year. Whilst the building does not require mask-wearing, visitors are welcome to protect themselves with both masks and use of the hand sanitisers available.

The financial impact of covid-recovery, inflation and cost-of-living crisis continues to challenge Contact's activity. The funding landscape has, in this financial year, been similarly challenging and our applications for both restricted and unrestricted funds face more competition than ever. Navigating this, whilst transitioning into a newly opened building has proved complex, however both the Board of Trustees and senior management team have acted swiftly and proactively, often having to make difficult decisions to ensure the financial stability of the organisation.

In light of these ongoing challenges, the organisation has actively searched for new ways to operate in a lean and cost-efficient manner. We recently introduced Xero, along with a number of automation-driven finance software packages, which has streamlined the finance team. Additionally, the resignation of the Head of Commercial & Visitor Experience role offered the opportunity to reimagine the shape of Contact's senior management team. This re-thinking formed part of an organisational restructure in which a new artistic department was created to replace the Creative Development team. The Cultural Engagement team will encompass a wider spectrum of activity from participation and artistic development to commercial programming and consultancy work. The team will be more informed by data and trends as it strives to give our young people and artists more pragmatic and commercial access points to the arts sector and beyond.

Over the years, Contact has secured non-arts partnerships that have driven our work into a variety of sectors and made the case for culture as a tool for social change and research. Thus, the creation of a new department will give space for us to be more pronounced and cohesive as we continue to move in this direction. The most recent recruitment of the Engagement Manager has been crucial to kick-starting this process. The next year will be used for consultation and foundational work before launching a definitive new artistic season and participatory offer in Autumn 2024.

In October 2022 Contact received news on the NPO application to secure ACE funding for 2023-2026, in which £2,799,891 was granted (£933,297 per annum). Despite strong feedback, amongst the challenging funding landscape, ACE were not able to award an uplift in this NPO round. The 2023-2026 NPO period will focus on delivering an innovative response to ACE's Let's Create strategy in the three key areas: Creative People, Cultural Communities and Creative & Cultural Country. This work builds on roots which are well embedded within Contact: youth voice, supporting artists and creative work to empower people from underserved communities.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Trustees' Report

We were successful in attracting unrestricted funds of £1,521,634, including:

- Arts Council England - £933,297
- Greater Manchester Combined Authority - £97,000
- Manchester City Council - £30,000
- Coutts Foundation - £55,000
- University of Manchester - £41,080
- Studio School - £600
- Donations - £3,320

### Restricted Funds - Group

We brought forward non-capital restricted project funds of £229,404 (2021-22: £494,384). During the year, we were successful in attracting restricted project funds of £141,841 (2021-22: £522,644), including:

- BBC (reverse mentoring) - balance of £3,750 to deliver reciprocal mentoring scheme, partnering twenty-five young people with senior BBC staff.
- The Agency - balance of £108,635 to continue with The Agency project in partnership with Battersea Arts Centre and People's Palace Projects. The project has received funding for a five-year period between 2022-2027.
- Curiosity Fund - a balance of £7,985 to deliver activity in partnership with BBC Children In Need focussing on improving the lives of children and young people experiencing disadvantage, through participation in and out of school science activities.
- GMCDDP - balance of £3,934 to deliver artistic project with local disabled people in partnership with People's History Museum.
- GMCVO (Trauma responsive communities) - balance of £5,000 to develop Arts and Trauma network with local partners.
- RTYDS - balance of £13,437 for Assistant Artistic Director residency in collaboration with Regional Theatre Young Director's Scheme and Ramps on the Moon.
- Youth & Play (Creative Connections) - balance of £10,000 to deliver a week full of free developmental sessions for youth sector and arts sector workers.
- MCR Active (Holiday Action Fund) - balance of £4,800 to deliver holiday club activity.
- More Than Skin Deep (People's Palace) - balance of £1,200 to deliver a collaborative participatory arts project that has developed verbatim theatre techniques to share the voices of care-experienced young people, care leavers, and adults responsible for their care and education.
- Time Stamp - a balance of £3,100 to deliver a video and podcast project in partnership with Manchester City Council capturing the experiences of young people during the pandemic.

We carry forward restricted non-capital project funds of £48,778.

### Investment policy and objectives

The Trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of running Contact, have kept available funds in an interest-bearing deposit account and seek to achieve a rate on deposit which matches or exceeds inflation as measured by the retail prices index.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Trustees' Report

### Policy on reserves

The capital project has now been completed, with all snagging complete. There are some small one-off projects to be addressed, but these will be paid for out of availability of ongoing funds. The commercial and box office targets that were anticipated in the capital project business plan have been challenging to achieve.

Last year, we highlighted the importance across the medium-term of building and maintaining a healthy general reserve, post capital project, however inflationary pressures on the cost side, and commercial and fundraising setbacks have resulted in a greater deficit than anticipated. Our goal is to maintain three months' operating costs, however we end the financial year with free reserves of £26,420, which equates to below one month of operating costs. Post year end reserves continued to be depleted, expenditure reductions were initiated including a recruitment freeze for non critical posts and staffing restructure. Activities have been reduced for the remainder of 2023/24 with a change in leadership and revised smaller staff structure to take Contact forward into 24/25. A reviewed focus on ways of working to enable activities to continue focussing on income generation over the coming financial year is underway in order to build resilience and reflate reserves gradually.

The successful Arts Council England NPO application secures our next funding cycle, along with confirmed ongoing funding from MCC, GMCA, and UoM, however the board are supporting the senior management team to recalibrate the business model, in order to achieve the medium to long-term goal of building reserves back up. Despite the ongoing challenges, the trustees are confident in the strong governance processes, healthy board structure, and the decisive leadership under Jack Dale-Dowd, such that the organisation will continue to adapt to the changing landscape.

Contact remained at 'minor' risk according to Arts Council England's risk assessment, in response to the pragmatic action taken to build resilience, and the recruitment of further expertise and experience to the Board of trustees. This risk rating has now increased to 'moderate' in 23-24 with actions being taken to reduce this rating.

In the effort to create a more commercial programme, this coming year we will see the introduction of events that focus on:

- Fashion
- Music
- Gaming
- Sport
- Comedy
- Teacher Training and Career Development
- Family and school-focused shows for holiday periods including an annual pantomime

Additionally, we will create more consultancy packages following the model of our successful Anti-Racism Package. These will focus on the following areas:

- Youth Governance
- Safeguarding and Social Media
- Climate Confidence

### Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Trustees' Report

### Plans for future periods

#### Aims and key objectives for future periods

A change in leadership for Contact toward the end of 2023 with Keisha Thompson resigning from her post and pivoting to focus on her role as Director of Contact Events Limited. Jack Dale-Dowd has been installed as Interim Executive Director to oversee the coming 12-18 months for the organisation.

Migrating the on-premises server provision to a cloud-based storage system has improved access and security, ensuring working processes are robust in an ever-digital world. Contact's phone system will soon also update to a cloud-based model to improve current provision. Usage of cloud-based technology has positive environmental impact and demonstrates ongoing commitment to reducing carbon footprint and protecting the planet. With funding from Wolfson Contact will complete additional electrical works to replace legacy lighting fixtures with more sustainable LED fittings and sensors, which offer a five-year return on investment.

HR company Peninsula have been onboarded as an outsourced provider, offering extensive HR support for the team. Contact will soon onboard their Health & Safety package, to make further robust H&S provision and provide additional insurance for both the HR & HS package.

Contact's education strategy will launch after twelve months of planning, which will see a return to working closer with schools and building programming strategies that specifically respond to the national curriculum, specifically GCSE drama. After consultation with teachers, Shakespeare returns to Contact in 2024.

This next year will see a music therapist join Contact for two days per week, supporting the delivery and experience of Contact's music based programmes and responding to the mental health challenges faced by young people. A new era of Studio School will begin with delivery in two PRU centres, as well as drama and spoken word also being delivered in PRU provision settings. The development team will continue to pursue funding for health and science activity.

Contact's relationship with University of Manchester will continue to develop through a partnership + further funding for activity in this next year. Discussions with MIF are ongoing regarding a new Young Commissioners Opportunity. Plans for Contact's artistic programme across the next year have reduced and pivoted to allow further focus on income generating activities.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Trustees' Report

### Going concern

The Trustees have carefully considered The Charity's going concern position with regard to its Arts Council England's National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) funding. Contact has recently been awarded funding for the next cycle of NPO funding which covers the three years from April 2023 to March 2026. Manchester City Council and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) have confirmed funding for the year to March 2024 and we are in active discussions with them about future funding, seeking uplift in both cases. Although the NPO funding continues at the same level, we continue to seek new funding partners and have been successful at increasing funds to support our core work.

The Charity via its Trading subsidiary is unlikely to meet its commercial profit targets for 2023-24 though we plan to develop these income streams further in 2024-25. This will have a potential impact on the Charity bottom line.

Contact's reserve policy requirement of free reserves covering three months' operating costs are not met at the end of the period. Contact has budgets in place to build free reserves toward three months operating costs over the current NPO funding period.

Contact has prepared mitigation steps including new financial and commercial strategies over the next two years to build free reserve and continue to focus on its mission by:

- Prioritising value for money programme.
- Continue to drive cost cutting exercises to reduce expenditure.
- New business model to generate voluntary and trading income.
- Robust financial monitoring and assessment using monthly management accounts.
- Financial health check through stringent monthly cash flow forecast and quarterly budget review.
- Maximise the efficiency of its trading subsidiary business model to generate commercial income.

The Trustees recognised the current financial position of Contact and having assessed the new financial and commercial strategies including the cash position and the mitigation steps - including the renewal of the current overdraft facility as a buffer are therefore satisfied that it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

### Structure, governance and management

#### Nature of governing document

Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited, also known as Contact, is a registered charity (No 501953) and a company (No 1066757) limited by guarantee. The governing documents of Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited are its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The company was incorporated on 18 August 1972 and registered as a charity on 31 October 1972. The Trustees of the Charitable Company guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the Charity in the event of winding up.

#### Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Trustees retire after three years by rotation. These Trustees may offer themselves for re-appointment for a second term. All new trustees are recruited via a thorough process led by the Resources Board. Candidates are interviewed by a panel of trustees and a separate panel of young people and if appropriate recommended to the Board for appointment.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Trustees' Report

### Induction and training of trustees

New Board members undertake a series of induction meetings with the Board Chair, Senior Management Team and staff and a comprehensive induction pack is provided. Board wide training is arranged as required. The Board includes one representative from the University of Manchester and one representative from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, though this post is currently vacant.

### Organisational structure

The Trustee Board has the following sub committees: Resources, Artistic Evaluation and Trading Board. These committees each meet at least four times a year with meetings scheduled to allow reporting back to the Board each quarter.

The Trustees ensure the accuracy and timeliness of all financial reporting information through the work of its Resources Board, which reviews all financial information, the development of business systems and procedures and progress on income generation and fundraising strategies. The Resources Board, which meets on a quarterly basis develops and monitors Contact's Financial Regulations and Risk Register. In addition, it reviews operational risks in relation to employment issues as well as keeping abreast of changes in employment law and developing relevant policies. The Resources Board also reviews Health & Safety Policy and procedures as well as Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and procedures. Members of the Resources Board bring expertise on business planning, equality, diversity and inclusion, HR and finance.

In terms of service quality, all individual projects undertaken by the organisation are subject to risk assessment, monitoring and evaluation procedures. Reports are made quarterly to the Trustees. The Trustees also monitor the quality of services through its Artistic Evaluation Board, which also meets quarterly.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Trustees' Report

### Relationships with related parties

None of our Trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work as Trustees with the Charity. Five Trustees, Mr Joshua Wilkinson, Ms Ali Wilson, Mr Junior Akinola, Mr Christie Cremin and Ms Faidat Ope were engaged on a freelance basis for various projects throughout the year.

Any connection between a Trustee or Senior Manager of Contact with a production company, contracted actor, performer, or exhibitor must be disclosed to the full Board of Trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. Contact has a Conflict of Interest Policy and Register of Interests.

Contact and the University of Manchester have an Agreement, which allows for Contact to lease the building from the University, to access some facilities and services, and to collaborate with the University on programming events for and by students.

### Major risks and management of those risks

The Trustees review the objectives, services, management and regular funding of the organisation as part of an ongoing planning and review process, which includes the development of a Four Year Business Plan. The plan assesses Contact's development and sets targets in relation to a number of risk factors, including financial, operational, governance and external factors. There is an addendum to the business plan currently being created to plot out the organisational strategy for the next 12 months in light of the recent leadership changes and financial situation.

In addition, the Resources Board reviews the risk process. These are also the routes for any additional areas of concern highlighted by the review of the plan or arising through changes in external circumstances, new activities or changes in the law. The risk is assessed and any further action is identified and parameters are agreed. The risk register, with any additional supporting information, is then reported to the Board quarterly through the Resources Board Report.

The Senior Management Team assesses day to day risks within the remit agreed by the Board, identifying areas of concern, undertaking risk analysis and agreeing decisions within agreed parameters.

The Trustees have reviewed the major risks that could impact on Contact. These are:-

#### Increasing costs due to energy and cost of living crisis

Steps have been taken to mitigate the impact of increased energy costs. The Contact building is now closed on Mondays with not access to the building negating heating and lighting requirements. The building opening hours are also being more flexible around closing times when no scheduled activity is due to take place. Other increasing costs are being mitigated through a combination of longer term contracts that lock in prices for 2-4 years and reducing spending budgets and efficiency drives.

#### Inability to meet increased income targets

Income targets have been reduced in consultation with budget holders and budgets are being based on a confirmed funding with additional activity only going ahead when funding is secured.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Trustees' Report

Cuts in existing public sector funding

Regular dialogue with our funders, reporting our social impact and reach and business planning around new commercial models of income

Inability to retain existing staff and recruit new staff due to low salaries

Resources Board focus, review of salaries and cost base pending

Cash flow and management of cash flow

A careful management of cash flows is being undertaken by the Director of Finance with a phasing of payments where required along with the planned postponement of other payments. Budgets have been reforecast to the end of the financial year to mitigate this along with an additional process for expenditure requiring sign off from the senior team. An overdraft facility is currently in place which we are seeking to increase to deal with any unforeseen expenditures.

Resources Board focus, implementing cost saving measures and developing additional fundraising capacity.

The Board of Trustees and staff undergo regular training and professional development to ensure they remain abreast of current developments, changes in statutes and best practice.

### Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the parent charitable company and the group and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the parent charitable company will continue in business.

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

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

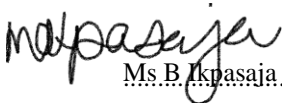
known as Contact Theatre

Trustees' Report

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each trustee has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The trustees confirm that there is no relevant information that they know of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 6.3.2024 and signed on its behalf by:

 .....

Ms. B. Ikpasaja

Chair of Trustees

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd (the 'charitable parent company') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2023, which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, Consolidated Balance Sheet, Balance Sheet, Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and parent charity's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### Basis for opinion

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

### Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the original financial statements were authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### Other information

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

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Chair's Report and Trustees' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Chair's Report and Trustees' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

#### Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities (set out on page 16), the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

#### Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

We obtained an understanding of laws and regulations that affect the charity, focusing on those that has a direct effect on the financial statements or that has a fundamental effect on its operations. Key laws and regulations that were identified included the UK Companies Act and Charity Commission requirements.

We reviewed the Trustee's meeting minutes for evidence of non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations.

We gained an understanding of the controls that the Trustees have in place to prevent and detect fraud. We enquired of the Trustees about any incidences of fraud that had taken place during the accounting period.

The risk of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud was discussed within the audit team and tests were planned and performed to address these risks. We identified the potential for fraud in the following areas: misappropriation of cash and other assets.

We reviewed the financial statements disclosures and tested to supporting documentation to assess the compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above.

We enquired of the Trustees about actual and potential litigation and claims.

We performed analytical procedures to identify and unusual or unexpected relationships that might indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.

In addressing the risk of fraud due to management override of internal controls we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates were indicative of a potential bias.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's web-site at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

Use of our report

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



.....  
S Lomax FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of Beever and Struthers, Statutory Auditor

Suite 9b, The Beehive  
Shadsworth Business Park  
Lions Drive  
Blackburn  
BB1 2QS

Date:6.3.2024

Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023  
(Including Consolidated Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

|                             | Note | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>2022<br>£ |
|-----------------------------|------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Income and Endowments from: |      |                            |                          |                    |                    |
| Donations and legacies      | 3    | 3,320                      | -                        | 3,320              | 2,622              |
| Charitable activities       | 4    | 1,264,667                  | 141,841                  | 1,406,508          | 1,656,875          |
| Other trading activities    | 5    | 186,612                    | -                        | 186,612            | 97,538             |
| Investment income           | 6    | 2,417                      | -                        | 2,417              | 98                 |
| Other income                | 7    | <u>64,618</u>              | <u>-</u>                 | <u>64,618</u>      | <u>225,633</u>     |
| Total income                |      | <u>1,521,634</u>           | <u>141,841</u>           | <u>1,663,475</u>   | <u>1,982,766</u>   |
| Expenditure on:             |      |                            |                          |                    |                    |
| Raising funds               | 8    | (86,967)                   | -                        | (86,967)           | (85,900)           |
| Charitable activities       | 9    | (1,809,553)                | (622,235)                | (2,431,788)        | (2,320,811)        |
| Trading activities          | 10   | <u>(117,938)</u>           | <u>-</u>                 | <u>(117,938)</u>   | <u>(80,960)</u>    |
| Total expenditure           |      | <u>(2,014,458)</u>         | <u>(622,235)</u>         | <u>(2,636,693)</u> | <u>(2,487,671)</u> |
| Net expenditure             |      | (492,824)                  | (480,394)                | (973,218)          | (504,905)          |
| Transfers between funds     |      | (53,129)                   | 53,129                   | -                  | -                  |
| Taxation                    |      |                            |                          |                    |                    |
| Theatre Tax relief          |      | <u>23,089</u>              | <u>-</u>                 | <u>23,089</u>      | <u>-</u>           |
| Net movement in funds       |      | (522,864)                  | (427,265)                | (950,129)          | (504,905)          |
| Reconciliation of funds     |      |                            |                          |                    |                    |
| Total funds brought forward |      | <u>695,215</u>             | <u>7,508,062</u>         | <u>8,203,277</u>   | <u>8,708,182</u>   |
| Total funds carried forward | 25   | <u>172,351</u>             | <u>7,080,797</u>         | <u>7,253,148</u>   | <u>8,203,277</u>   |

All of the group's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2022 is shown in note 25.

The notes on pages 26 to 52 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

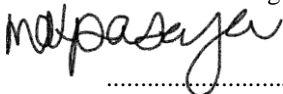
known as Contact Theatre

(Registration number: 01066757)

Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023

|   | Note | 2023<br>£        | 2022<br>£        |
|---|------|------------------|------------------|
| Fixed assets  |      |                  |                  |
| Tangible assets   | 16   | 7,262,339        | 7,577,110        |
| Current assets  |      |                  |                  |
| Debtors   | 18   | 184,221          | 317,620          |
| Cash at bank and in hand                                | 19   | <u>202,096</u>   | <u>712,296</u>   |
|   |      | 386,317          | 1,029,916        |
| Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year          | 20   | <u>(260,414)</u> | <u>(244,173)</u> |
| Net current assets                                      |      | <u>125,903</u>   | <u>785,743</u>   |
| Total assets less current liabilities                   |      | 7,388,242        | 8,362,853        |
| Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year | 21   | <u>(135,094)</u> | <u>(159,576)</u> |
| Net assets  |      | <u>7,253,148</u> | <u>8,203,277</u> |
| Funds of the group:                                     |      |                  |                  |
| Restricted income funds                                 |      |                  |                  |
| Restricted funds  |      | 7,080,797        | 7,508,062        |
| Unrestricted income funds                               |      |                  |                  |
| Unrestricted funds                                      |      | <u>172,351</u>   | <u>695,215</u>   |
| Total funds   | 25   | <u>7,253,148</u> | <u>8,203,277</u> |

The financial statements on pages 22 to 52 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 6.3.2024 and signed on their behalf by:



.....  
Ms B Ikpasaja

Chair of Trustees

The notes on pages 26 to 52 form an integral part of these financial statements.

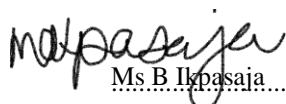
Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

(Registration number: 01066757)  
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023

|   | Note | 2023<br>£        | 2022<br>£        |
|---|------|------------------|------------------|
| Fixed assets  |      |                  |                  |
| Tangible assets   | 16   | 7,262,339        | 7,577,110        |
| Investments   | 17   | <u>1</u>         | <u>-</u>         |
|   |      | <u>7,262,340</u> | <u>7,577,110</u> |
| Current assets  |      |                  |                  |
| Debtors   | 18   | 179,240          | 317,620          |
| Cash at bank and in hand                                | 19   | <u>202,096</u>   | <u>712,296</u>   |
|   |      | 381,336          | 1,029,916        |
| Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year          | 20   | <u>(255,434)</u> | <u>(244,173)</u> |
| Net current assets                                      |      | <u>125,902</u>   | <u>785,743</u>   |
| Total assets less current liabilities                   |      | 7,388,242        | 8,362,853        |
| Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year | 21   | <u>(135,094)</u> | <u>(159,576)</u> |
| Net assets  |      | <u>7,253,148</u> | <u>8,203,277</u> |
| Funds of the charity:                                   |      |                  |                  |
| Restricted income funds                                 |      |                  |                  |
| Restricted funds  |      | 7,080,797        | 7,508,062        |
| Unrestricted income funds                               |      |                  |                  |
| Unrestricted funds                                      |      | <u>172,351</u>   | <u>695,215</u>   |
| Total funds   | 25   | <u>7,253,148</u> | <u>8,203,277</u> |

The financial statements on pages 22 to 52 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 6.3.2024 and signed on their behalf by:

 .....

Ms B Ippasaja

Chair of Trustees

The notes on pages 26 to 52 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

|   | Note | 2023<br>£             | 2022<br>£             |
|---|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Cash flows from operating activities          |      |                       |                       |
| Net cash expenditure                          |      | (950,129)             | (504,905)             |
| Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items |      |                       |                       |
| Depreciation                                  | 16   | 361,117               | 353,587               |
| Investment income                             | 6    | (2,417)               | (98)                  |
| Theatre tax relief                            |      | (23,089)              | -                     |
|   |      | <u>(614,518)</u>      | <u>(151,416)</u>      |
| Working capital adjustments                   |      |                       |                       |
| Decrease in debtors                           | 18   | 133,399               | 516,965               |
| Increase/(decrease) in creditors              | 20   | 58,863                | (156,580)             |
| (Decrease)/increase in deferred income        | 20   | <u>(48,434)</u>       | <u>60,841</u>         |
| Net cash flows from operating activities      |      | <u>(470,690)</u>      | <u>269,810</u>        |
| Cash flows from investing activities          |      |                       |                       |
| Interest receivable and similar income        | 6    | 2,417                 | 98                    |
| Purchase of tangible fixed assets             | 16   | <u>(46,346)</u>       | <u>(404,293)</u>      |
| Net cash flows from investing activities      |      | <u>(43,929)</u>       | <u>(404,195)</u>      |
| Cash flows from financing activities          |      |                       |                       |
| Repayment of loans and borrowings             | 20   | (18,670)              | (25,454)              |
| Theatre tax relief                            | 22   | <u>23,089</u>         | <u>-</u>              |
| Net cash flows from financing activities      |      | <u>4,419</u>          | <u>(25,454)</u>       |
| Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents     |      | (510,200)             | (159,839)             |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April          |      | <u>712,296</u>        | <u>872,135</u>        |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March         |      | <u><u>202,096</u></u> | <u><u>712,296</u></u> |

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 26 to 52 form an integral part of these financial statements.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

### 1 Legal status of the Charity

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and has no share capital. Consequently does not have share capital. In the event of Contact being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of Contact.

The address of its registered office is:

Contact Theatre  
Devas Street  
Oxford Road  
Manchester  
M15 6JA

Contact is the leading UK arts organisation to place young people's leadership and decision making at the heart of everything. Our main areas of activity are:

- Providing transformative opportunities for young people
- Producing high quality new work with a focus on pressing social realities and presenting the future mainstream with a diverse and pioneering programme
- Operating a unique, ethical and welcoming building.

### 2 Accounting policies

#### Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

#### Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

#### Basis of preparation

Contact meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

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

#### Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements consolidate the financial statements of the charity and its subsidiary undertakings drawn up to 31 March 2023.

No statement of financial activities is presented for the charity as permitted by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006. The charity made a loss after tax for the financial year of £950,129 (2022 - loss of £504,905).

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

A subsidiary is an entity controlled by the charity. Control is achieved where the Charity has the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain the benefits from its activities.

During the year Contact Events Limited was incorporated and Contact Theatre subscribed for the share capital of £1.

Inter-company transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between the charity and its subsidiaries, which are related parties, are eliminated in full.

### Going concern

The Trustees have carefully considered The Charity's going concern position with regard to its Arts Council England's National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) funding. Contact has recently been awarded funding for the next cycle of NPO funding which covers the three years from April 2023 to March 2026. Manchester City Council and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) have confirmed funding for the year to March 2024 and we are in active discussions with them about future funding, seeking uplift in both cases. Although the NPO funding continues at the same level, we continue to seek new funding partners and have been successful at increasing funds to support our core work.

The Charity via its Trading subsidiary is unlikely to meet its commercial profit targets for 2023-24 though we plan to develop these income streams further in 2024-25. This will have a potential impact on the Charity bottom line.

Contact's reserve policy requirement of free reserves covering three months' operating costs are not met at the end of the period. Contact has budgets in place to build free reserves toward three months operating costs over the current NPO funding period.

Contact has prepared mitigation steps including new financial and commercial strategies over the next two years to build free reserve and continue to focus on its mission by:

- Prioritising value for money programme.
- Continue to drive cost cutting exercises to reduce expenditure.
- New business model to generate voluntary and trading income.
- Robust financial monitoring and assessment using monthly management accounts.
- Financial health check through stringent monthly cash flow forecast and quarterly budget review.
- Maximise the efficiency of its trading subsidiary business model to generate commercial income.

The Trustees recognised the current financial position of Contact and having assessed the new financial and commercial strategies including the cash position and the mitigation steps - including the renewal of the current overdraft facility as a buffer are therefore satisfied that it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

### Judgements and key accounting estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

### Significant Judgements

The judgements (apart from those involving estimations) that management has made in the process of applying the entity's accounting policies and that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are as follows:

- Determination of whether there are indicators of impairment of Contact's tangible fixed assets. Factors taken into consideration in reaching such a decision include the economic viability and expected future financial performance or charitable use of the asset.
- Determination of whether leases entered into by Contact as lessee are operating or finance leases. These decisions depend on an assessment of whether the risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred from the lessor to the lessee on a lease by lease basis.

### Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Accounting estimates and assumptions are made concerning the future and, by their nature, will rarely equal the related actual outcome. The key assumptions and other sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are as follows:

- Determination of recoverability of trade debtors. A specific provision is made against certain debts where in the opinion of the trustees the debt is not fully recoverable.
- Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the assets and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. In re-assessing asset lives, factors such as technological innovation, product life cycles and maintenance are taken into account. Residual value assessments consider issues such as future market conditions, the remaining life of the asset and projected disposal values.

### Income recognition policies

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- the Charity has entitlement to the funds;
- any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met or are fully within the control of the Charity;
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable; and
- the amount can be measured reliably.

Income received in advance of a theatrical performance or provision of other specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

### Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

### Deferred income

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

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

### Investment income

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

### Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise the costs of trading including commercial hires and their associated support costs and fundraising support costs.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of performances, touring, participatory work and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the Charity and their associated support costs. Expenditure on the capital redevelopment project is also included in this heading
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.
- Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

### Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist Contact's work but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support Contact's artistic programme and participatory activities. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 10.

### Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

### Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

### Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

### Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are initially recorded at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives.

### Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

| Asset class                   | Depreciation method and rate |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Long term leasehold buildings | 2 - 10%                      |
| Fixtures and fittings         | 20 - 50%                     |
| Computer equipment            | 25 - 33%                     |
| Motor vehicles                | 20%                          |

Land is not depreciated.

Building redevelopment construction costs are capitalised in the year they occur and depreciated over the remaining length of the lease. Fixtures and fittings purchased as part of the capital redevelopment project are not depreciated until the date of use. Professional fees relating to the capital redevelopment project have been expensed in the year they occurred.

Donated fixed assets are recognised at fair value which is the amount Contact would have been willing to pay for the items on the open market.

### Debtors

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

### Cash and cash equivalents

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

### Creditors and provisions

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

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

### Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

### Fund accounting

Unrestricted income funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity.

Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the Charity's work or for specific artistic projects being undertaken by the Charity.

### Operating leases

Contact classifies the lease of printing equipment as an operating lease; the title to the equipment remains with the lessor and the equipment is replaced every 5 years whilst the economic life of such equipment is normally 10 years. Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

### Pensions and other post retirement obligations

Contact contributes to a group money purchase defined contribution pension scheme operated by The People's Pension. New and existing employees are automatically enrolled into the money purchase scheme unless they have exercised their right to opt out of scheme membership.

Employees joining the money purchase pension scheme operated by The People's Pension, contract directly with the insurance company. Contact makes a matching contribution of 3% of salary to this pension scheme and acts as agent in collecting and paying over employee pension contributions. The contributions made for the accounting period are treated as an expense and were £21,997 (2022: £16,455). There were no contributions outstanding at the balance sheet date

### Financial instruments

#### Classification

Contact only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The financing charge to expenditure is at a constant rate calculated using the effective interest method.

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### 3 Income from donations and legacies

|   | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>General<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>2022<br>£ |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Donations and legacies;                 |                                       |                    |                    |
| Individual donations and regular giving | 3,320                                 | 3,320              | 2,622              |
|   | 3,320                                 | 3,320              | 2,622              |

Income from donations includes Gift Aid from individual giving. From time to time Contact benefits from the involvement and support of volunteers. In accordance with accounting standards, the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

#### 4 Income from charitable activities

|  | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>General<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>2022<br>£ |
|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Grant income from Core Funders                       | 1,101,377                             | -                        | 1,101,377          | 1,101,377          |
| Operation of building and related artistic programme | 156,053                               | 16,537                   | 172,590            | 136,572            |
| Provision of participatory activities                | 7,237                                 | 107,185                  | 114,422            | 291,927            |
| Health and science                                   | -                                     | 18,119                   | 18,119             | 126,999            |
|  | 1,264,667                             | 141,841                  | 1,406,508          | 1,656,875          |

See detailed breakdown in the following tables.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

## Grant Income from Core Funders

|                          | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>2023<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2022<br>£ |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Arts Council             | 933,297                            | -                                | 933,297                     | 933,297                     |
| GMCA                     | 97,000                             | -                                | 97,000                      | 97,000                      |
| Manchester City Council  | 30,000                             | -                                | 30,000                      | 30,000                      |
| University of Manchester | 41,080                             | -                                | 41,080                      | 41,080                      |
|                          | <u>1,101,377</u>                   | <u>-</u>                         | <u>1,101,377</u>            | <u>1,101,377</u>            |

## Income from artistic programme

|                                      | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>2023<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2022<br>£ |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Income from theatre performances     | 156,053                            | -                                | 156,053                     | 101,362                     |
| Income from touring productions      | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 9,567                       |
| Manchester City Council - Time Stamp | -                                  | 3,100                            | 3,100                       | 2,900                       |
| RYTDS                                | -                                  | 13,437                           | 13,437                      | 22,743                      |
|                                      | <u>156,053</u>                     | <u>16,537</u>                    | <u>172,590</u>              | <u>136,572</u>              |

Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Income for Provision of Participatory Activities

|   | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>2023<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2022<br>£ |
|---|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| BBC reverse mentoring                           | -                                  | 3,750                            | 3,750                       | -                           |
| C Change  | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 6,000                       |
| Creative Protagonist                            | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 3,440                       |
| Far Apart UK                                    | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 18,600                      |
| Ironmongers                                     | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 4,304                       |
| Holiday Activity Fund                           | -                                  | 4,800                            | 4,800                       | -                           |
| Other Income                                    | 6,637                              | -                                | 6,637                       | 2,980                       |
| Steel Foundation                                | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 15,000                      |
| Studio School                                   | 600                                | -                                | 600                         | 800                         |
| The Agency 21-26                                | -                                  | 108,634                          | 108,634                     | 140,848                     |
| Agency Alumni                                   | -                                  | (20,000)                         | (20,000)                    | -                           |
| The Agency Film                                 | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 5,000                       |
| Young Manchester Holiday Club                   | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 10,000                      |
| Youth & Play Creative Connections<br>Manchester | -                                  | 10,000                           | 10,000                      | 44,957                      |
| Youth Music                                     | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 39,998                      |
|   | <u>7,237</u>                       | <u>107,184</u>                   | <u>114,421</u>              | <u>291,927</u>              |

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

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## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

### Income for Health & Science Activities

|                                       | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>2023<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2022<br>£ |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Curiosity Fund                        | -                                  | 7,985                            | 7,985                       | 10,430                      |
| GMCDP                                 | -                                  | 3,934                            | 3,934                       | 6,970                       |
| GMCVO - Trauma responsive communities | -                                  | 5,000                            | 5,000                       | 10,000                      |
| MCC - Covid Impact Fund               | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 24,885                      |
| MCC - First 1000 Days                 | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 50,000                      |
| More Than Skin Deep - People's Palace | -                                  | 1,200                            | 1,200                       | -                           |
| U o M - Devices                       | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 5,000                       |
| Wellcome Trust                        | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 19,714                      |
|                                       | -                                  | 18,119                           | 18,119                      | 126,999                     |

### 5 Income from other trading activities

|                      | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>General<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>2022<br>£ |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Trading income;      |                                       |                    |                    |
| Accountancy services | 37,517                                | 37,517             | 11,083             |
| Bar & Catering       | 19,461                                | 19,461             | 5,425              |
| Hire of spaces       | 115,584                               | 115,584            | 43,382             |
| Office hires         | 7,875                                 | 7,875              | 13,500             |
| Consultancy services | -                                     | -                  | 21,875             |
| Retail               | 6,175                                 | 6,175              | 2,273              |
|                      | 186,612                               | 186,612            | 97,538             |

### 6 Investment income

|                         | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>General<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>2022<br>£ |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Other investment income | 2,417                                 | 2,417              | 98                 |

Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

7 Other income

|  | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>General<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>2022<br>£ |
|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Coutts Foundation revenue grant          | 50,000                                | 50,000             | 50,000             |
| HMRC CJRS                                | -                                     | -                  | 1,119              |
| Insurance claim                          | 9,618                                 | 9,618              | 25,426             |
| Kickstart jobs scheme                    | -                                     | -                  | 6,032              |
| MCC - Discretionary Grants               | -                                     | -                  | 41,671             |
| ACE Culture Recovery Fund                | -                                     | -                  | 96,555             |
| TfGM - cycling infrastructure            | -                                     | -                  | 4,830              |
| Coutts Foundation cost of living payment | 5,000                                 | 5,000              | -                  |
|  | <u>64,618</u>                         | <u>64,618</u>      | <u>225,633</u>     |

8 Expenditure on raising funds

|                           | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>General<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>2022<br>£ |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Fundraising support costs | 86,967                                | 86,967             | 85,900             |
|                           | <u>86,967</u>                         | <u>86,967</u>      | <u>85,900</u>      |

Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

9 Expenditure on charitable activities

|  | Operation<br>of building<br>and related<br>artistic<br>programme<br>£ | Provision of<br>participatory<br>activities<br>£ | Health and<br>science<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>2022<br>£ |
|--|---|--|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Salaries                                   | 766,287   | 130,894  | 22,839                     | 920,020            | 723,194            |
| Facilitator fees, project costs & expenses | -   | 159,537  | 48,348                     | 207,885            | 372,730            |
| Travel, accommodation & subsistence        | 12,614  | 8,018  | 59                         | 20,691             | 19,211             |
| Production & touring costs                 | 8,199   | -  | -                          | 8,199              | 54,316             |
| Artists fees and box office splits         | 138,407   | -  | -                          | 138,407            | 117,674            |
| Commissioning and artist development       | 27,850  | -  | -                          | 27,850             | 12,486             |
| Box office and marketing costs             | 131,293   | -  | -                          | 131,293            | 82,833             |
| Premises and technical costs               | 267,010   | -  | -                          | 267,010            | 283,084            |
| Finance charges                            | 19,613  | -  | -                          | 19,613             | 10,712             |
| Recruitment & training                     | 13,669  | -  | -                          | 13,669             | 53,893             |
| Bad debts and write offs                   | 9,561   | -  | -                          | 9,561              | -                  |
| Depreciation                               | 361,117   | -  | -                          | 361,117            | 353,587            |
| Governance costs                           | 29,708  | -  | -                          | 29,708             | 21,866             |
| Support costs                              | 276,765   | -  | -                          | 276,765            | 215,225            |
|  | <u>2,062,093</u>  | <u>298,449</u>                                   | <u>71,246</u>              | <u>2,431,788</u>   | <u>2,320,811</u>   |

Of the £2,431,788 expenditure in 2022-23 (2022: £2,320,811) £1,809,533 was charged to unrestricted funds (2022: £1,406,029) and £622,235 to restricted funds (2022: £914,782).

10 Expenditure on trading activities

|                                    | Note | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>General<br>£ | Total<br>2023<br>£ | Total<br>2022<br>£ |
|------------------------------------|------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Commercial trading operation costs |      | <u>117,938</u>                        | <u>117,938</u>     | <u>80,960</u>      |
|                                    |      | <u>117,938</u>                        | <u>117,938</u>     | <u>80,960</u>      |

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

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## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

### 11 Analysis of governance and support costs

#### Charitable activities expenditure

|                                       |                     | Governance    | General        | Total          | Total          |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                       | Basis of allocation | Function      | support        | 2023           | 2022           |
|                                       |                     | £             | £              | £              | £              |
| Catering for Board & Trustee Meetings | Direct              | 110           | -              | 110            | 170            |
| Salaries, wages and related costs     | Staff time          | 7,197         | 177,416        | 184,613        | 190,674        |
| General office costs                  | Direct              | -             | 99,349         | 99,349         | 31,802         |
| Audit and tax fees                    | Direct              | 22,401        | -              | 22,401         | 14,445         |
|                                       |                     | <u>29,708</u> | <u>276,765</u> | <u>306,473</u> | <u>237,091</u> |

### 12 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net outgoing resources for the year include:

|  | 2023           | 2022           |
|--|----------------|----------------|
|  | £              | £              |
| Operating leases - plant and machinery | 802            | 1,488          |
| Audit fees                             | 19,951         | 9,960          |
| Tax fees                               | 2,451          | 4,485          |
| Depreciation of fixed assets           | <u>361,117</u> | <u>353,587</u> |

### 13 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the group during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

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## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

### 14 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

|                                   | 2023<br>£        | 2022<br>£        |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Staff costs during the year were: |                  |                  |
| Wages and salaries                | 1,143,524        | 971,985          |
| Social security costs             | 101,258          | 81,551           |
| Pension costs                     | 21,997           | 16,455           |
| Redundancy costs                  | 12,002           | -                |
|                                   | <u>1,278,781</u> | <u>1,069,991</u> |

The average monthly head count was 34 staff (2022: 38 staff) and the average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees (including casual and part-time staff) during the year was as follows:

|  | 2023<br>No | 2022<br>No |
|--|------------|------------|
| Permanent staff including part time staff on permanent basis | <u>34</u>  | <u>38</u>  |

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 (2022: nil) during the year. Pension costs are allocated to activities in proportion to the related staffing costs incurred.

The key management personnel of Contact comprise the Trustees, the Artistic Director/Chief Executive, Head of Creative Development, Head of Finance, Head of Commercial & Visitor Experience, Head of Marketing & Communications and Head of Production. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the group were £264,625 (2022 - £240,300).

### 15 Corporation Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gain are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Where the Charity's trading turnover is higher than the small trading exemption, UK corporation tax is provided at amounts expected to be paid (or recovered) using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date on trading profits.

Its subsidiary Contact Events Limited is subject to corporation tax provided at amounts expected to be paid (or recovered) using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date.

Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

16 Tangible fixed assets

Group and Charity

|                     | Leasehold<br>Land and<br>buildings<br>£ | Furniture and<br>equipment<br>£ | Motor vehicles<br>£ | Computer<br>equipment<br>£ | Total<br>£        |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Cost                |   |                                 |                     |                            |                   |
| At 1 April 2022     | 10,448,349                              | <u>259,967</u>                  | <u>15,469</u>       | <u>164,711</u>             | 10,888,496        |
| Additions           | <u>17,159</u>                           | -                               | -                   | 29,187                     | <u>46,346</u>     |
| At 31 March 2023    | <u>10,465,508</u>                       | <u>259,967</u>                  | <u>15,469</u>       | <u>193,898</u>             | <u>10,934,842</u> |
| Depreciation        |   |                                 |                     |                            |                   |
| At 1 April 2022     | 3,085,235                               | 115,750                         | <u>15,469</u>       | 94,932                     | 3,311,386         |
| Charge for the year | <u>307,059</u>                          | <u>14,614</u>                   | -                   | <u>39,444</u>              | <u>361,117</u>    |
| At 31 March 2023    | <u>3,392,294</u>                        | <u>130,364</u>                  | <u>15,469</u>       | <u>134,376</u>             | <u>3,672,503</u>  |
| Net book value      |   |                                 |                     |                            |                   |
| At 31 March 2023    | <u>7,073,214</u>                        | <u>129,603</u>                  | <u>-</u>            | <u>59,522</u>              | <u>7,262,339</u>  |
| At 31 March 2022    | <u>7,363,114</u>                        | <u>144,217</u>                  | <u>-</u>            | <u>69,779</u>              | <u>7,577,110</u>  |

17 Fixed asset investments

Charity

Shares in group undertakings and participating interests

|                  | Subsidiary<br>undertakings<br>£ | 2023<br>Total<br>£ |
|------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Cost             |                                 |                    |
| Additions        | <u>1</u>                        | <u>1</u>           |
| At 31 March 2023 | <u>1</u>                        | <u>1</u>           |
| Net book value   |                                 |                    |
| At 31 March 2023 | <u><u>1</u></u>                 | <u><u>1</u></u>    |

Subsidiaries, associates and other investments

Details of the investments in which the parent company has an interest of 20% or more as follows:

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

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## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

| Subsidiary undertakings | Class of share | Percentage of shares held |
|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Contact Events Limited  | Ordinary £1    | 100%                      |

The registered office of the subsidiary is Devas Street, Oxford Road, Manchester, M15 6JA.

### 18 Debtors

|                 | Group          |                | Charity        |                |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                 | 2023<br>£      | 2022<br>£      | 2023<br>£      | 2022<br>£      |
| Trade debtors   | 20,067         | 113,740        | 15,086         | 113,740        |
| Prepayments     | 85,171         | 55,572         | 85,171         | 55,572         |
| Accrued income  | 60,519         | 146,917        | 60,519         | 146,917        |
| VAT recoverable | 18,464         | 1,391          | 18,464         | 1,391          |
|                 | <u>184,221</u> | <u>317,620</u> | <u>179,240</u> | <u>317,620</u> |

### 19 Cash and cash equivalents

|              | Group          |                | Charity        |                |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|              | 2023<br>£      | 2022<br>£      | 2023<br>£      | 2022<br>£      |
| Cash at bank | <u>202,096</u> | <u>712,296</u> | <u>202,096</u> | <u>712,296</u> |

### 20 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

|                                    | Group          |                | Charity        |                |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                    | 2023<br>£      | 2022<br>£      | 2023<br>£      | 2022<br>£      |
| Trade creditors                    | 102,801        | 90,878         | 102,801        | 90,878         |
| Manchester City Council Loan       | 20,782         | 14,970         | 20,782         | 14,970         |
| Due to group undertakings          | -              | -              | 3,209          | -              |
| Other taxation and social security | 25,917         | 27,129         | 25,917         | 27,129         |
| Other creditors                    | 25,639         | 12,703         | 25,638         | 12,703         |
| Accruals                           | 72,868         | 37,652         | 72,868         | 37,652         |
| Deferred income                    | 12,407         | 60,841         | 4,219          | 60,841         |
|                                    | <u>260,414</u> | <u>244,173</u> | <u>255,434</u> | <u>244,173</u> |

Manchester City Council has provided a £200,000 loan at a rate of 2.7% + the EC Reference Rate which is the variable rate. Manchester City Council holds Quasi-security over The Manchester Young People's Theatre building, whereby a negative pledge is in place.

### Deferred income

Deferred income comprises advance ticket sales for performances of shows and income for projects due to take place after 31 March 2023 and is analysed as follows:

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

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### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

|  | 2023<br>£     | 2022<br>£     |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Deferred income at 1 April 2022        | 60,841        | 13,256        |
| Resources deferred in the period       | 12,407        | 57,766        |
| Amounts released from previous periods | (60,841)      | (10,181)      |
|  | <u>12,407</u> | <u>60,841</u> |
| Deferred income at year end            | <u>12,407</u> | <u>60,841</u> |

#### 21 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

|             | Group          |                | Charity        |                |
|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|             | 2023<br>£      | 2022<br>£      | 2023<br>£      | 2022<br>£      |
| Other loans | <u>135,094</u> | <u>159,576</u> | <u>135,094</u> | <u>159,576</u> |

See note 19 for details of loan security.

#### Loans repayable by instalments

|                          | 2023<br>£      | 2022<br>£      |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Due within one year      | 20,782         | 14,970         |
| Due in one to two years  | 21,541         | 20,597         |
| Due in two to five years | 69,453         | 66,411         |
| Due in over five years   | 44,100         | 72,569         |
|                          | <u>155,876</u> | <u>174,547</u> |

Manchester City Council has provided a £200,000 loan at a rate of 2.7% + the EC Reference Rate which is the variable rate. Manchester City Council holds Quasi-security over The Manchester Young People's Theatre building, whereby a negative pledge is in place.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

### 22 Obligations under leases and hire purchase contracts

#### Operating lease commitments

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

|                            | Group      |            | Charity    |            |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
|                            | 2023       | 2022       | 2023       | 2022       |
|                            | £          | £          | £          | £          |
| Other                      |            |            |            |            |
| Within one year            | 186        | 802        | 186        | 802        |
| Between one and five years | -          | 186        | -          | 186        |
|                            | <u>186</u> | <u>988</u> | <u>186</u> | <u>988</u> |

### 23 Commitments

There were no future capital commitments in place at 31 March 2023 (2022: £nil).

### 24 Custodian Funds

|                           | Balances<br>Held at 1<br>April 2022 | Funds<br>Received | Funds Paid      | Balances<br>Held at 31<br>March 2023 |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
|                           | £                                   | £                 | £               | £                                    |
| Hate Crime Awareness      | 40                                  | -                 | -               | 40                                   |
| Uniquely Us               | 626                                 | -                 | -               | 626                                  |
| Miray Sidhom commission   | 3,773                               | 2,332             | (6,105)         | -                                    |
| Resourcing Racial Justice | 2,550                               | -                 | (2,550)         | -                                    |
| Dawn to the Light         | -                                   | 20,000            | (3,000)         | 17,000                               |
| Rory Aaron: This Town     | -                                   | 15,052            | (12,755)        | 2,297                                |
|                           | <u>6,989</u>                        | <u>37,384</u>     | <u>(24,410)</u> | <u>19,963</u>                        |

Contact acted as a custodian trustee during the year for 6 independent projects run by participants of various Contact programmes.

All the funds are held as cash and are segregated from the charity's cash holdings.

Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

25 Funds

Group and Company

|   | Balance at<br>1 April<br>2022<br>£ | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Transfers<br>£  | Taxation<br>£ | Balance at<br>31 March<br>2023<br>£ |
|---|------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Unrestricted funds  |                                    |                            |                            |                 |               |                                     |
| General   |                                    |                            |                            |                 |               |                                     |
| General fund  | 535,215                            | 1,521,634                  | (2,014,458)                | 50,947          | 23,089        | 116,427                             |
| Designated  |                                    |                            |                            |                 |               |                                     |
| Capital Redevelopment<br>Project                          | 160,000                            | -                          | -                          | (104,076)       | -             | 55,924                              |
| <b>Total unrestricted funds</b>                           | <b>695,215</b>                     | <b>1,521,634</b>           | <b>(2,014,458)</b>         | <b>(53,129)</b> | <b>23,089</b> | <b>172,351</b>                      |
| Restricted funds  |                                    |                            |                            |                 |               |                                     |
| Building Fund   | 7,245,113                          | -                          | (332,692)                  | 119,598         | -             | 7,032,019                           |
| BBC reverse mentoring                                     | -                                  | 3,750                      | (2,160)                    | -               | -             | 1,590                               |
| The Agency 2021-2026                                      | 19,236                             | 108,635                    | (90,974)                   | (32,924)        | -             | 3,973                               |
| The Agency Alumni   | 24,425                             | (20,000)                   | (1,896)                    | -               | -             | 2,529                               |
| Media Drop 2.0 (Youth<br>Music)                           | 4,059                              | -                          | (4,059)                    | -               | -             | -                                   |
| Capital Refurbishment<br>Project                          | 33,545                             | -                          | -                          | (33,545)        | -             | -                                   |
| Diverse Actions (Live<br>Art UK)                          | 1,206                              | -                          | -                          | -               | -             | 1,206                               |
| Capsule 2119  | 880                                | -                          | -                          | -               | -             | 880                                 |
| Wellcome Trust (Health<br>& Science Producer)             | 10,973                             | -                          | (10,973)                   | -               | -             | -                                   |
| Curiosity Fund  | 4,706                              | 7,985                      | (12,191)                   | -               | -             | 500                                 |
| Steel Foundation  | 4,202                              | -                          | (4,202)                    | -               | -             | -                                   |
| GMCDP   | 5,090                              | 3,934                      | (9,024)                    | -               | -             | -                                   |
| GMCVO - Trauma<br>responsive communities                  | 10,000                             | 5,000                      | (9,540)                    | -               | -             | 5,460                               |
| RTYDS Regional<br>Theatre Young Directors<br>Scheme       | 3,962                              | 13,437                     | (17,399)                   | -               | -             | -                                   |
| Ironmongers   | 2,654                              | -                          | (2,654)                    | -               | -             | -                                   |
| Manchester City Council<br>Health & Care<br>Commissioning | 16,863                             | -                          | -                          | -               | -             | 16,863                              |
| Youth & Play (YM)<br>Creative Connections                 | 12,844                             | 10,000                     | (11,562)                   | -               | -             | 11,282                              |

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

|                                     | Balance at<br>1 April<br>2022<br>£ | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Transfers<br>£ | Taxation<br>£ | Balance at<br>31 March<br>2023<br>£ |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| MCR Active - Holiday<br>Action Fund | -                                  | 4,800                      | (2,343)                    | -              | -             | 2,457                               |
|                                     | -                                  | 1,200                      | (1,200)                    | -              | -             | -                                   |
|                                     | 592                                | -                          | (592)                      | -              | -             | -                                   |
|                                     | 9,306                              | -                          | (9,306)                    | -              | -             | -                                   |
|                                     | 2,900                              | 3,100                      | (6,000)                    | -              | -             | -                                   |
|                                     | 14,711                             | -                          | (14,711)                   | -              | -             | -                                   |
|                                     | 14,592                             | -                          | (14,592)                   | -              | -             | -                                   |
|                                     | 66,203                             | -                          | (64,165)                   | -              | -             | 2,038                               |
|                                     | <u>7,508,062</u>                   | <u>141,841</u>             | <u>(622,235)</u>           | <u>53,129</u>  | <u>-</u>      | <u>7,080,797</u>                    |
|                                     | <u>8,203,277</u>                   | <u>1,663,475</u>           | <u>(2,636,693)</u>         | <u>-</u>       | <u>23,089</u> | <u>7,253,148</u>                    |

There were a number of transfers between funds in the year.

Significant transfers included the de-designation of £104,076 of the designated capital fund, which was no longer necessary having secured additional capital funding in prior periods. There was also a £86,053 transfer to restricted funds to reflect the nature of infrastructure assets.

|                                  | Balance at 1<br>April 2021<br>£ | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Transfers<br>£ | Balance at<br>31 March<br>2022<br>£ |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Unrestricted funds</b>        |                                 |                            |                            |                |                                     |
| <b>General</b>                   |                                 |                            |                            |                |                                     |
| General fund                     | 429,192                         | 1,460,122                  | (1,550,591)                | 196,492        | 535,215                             |
| <b>Designated</b>                |                                 |                            |                            |                |                                     |
| Capital Redevelopment<br>Project | <u>160,000</u>                  | <u>-</u>                   | <u>-</u>                   | <u>-</u>       | <u>160,000</u>                      |
| <b>Total unrestricted funds</b>  | <u>589,192</u>                  | <u>1,460,122</u>           | <u>(1,550,591)</u>         | <u>196,492</u> | <u>695,215</u>                      |
| <b>Restricted funds</b>          |                                 |                            |                            |                |                                     |
| Building Fund                    | 7,240,810                       | -                          | (323,411)                  | 327,714        | 7,245,113                           |
| TFGM active travel               | -                               | 4,830                      | (1,681)                    | (3,149)        | -                                   |
| The Agency Phase 3               | 69,236                          | -                          | (3,608)                    | (65,628)       | -                                   |
| The Agency extension 1           | 5,015                           | -                          | (1,597)                    | (3,418)        | -                                   |
| The Agency extension 2           | 31,934                          | -                          | (31,934)                   | -              | -                                   |
| The Agency 2021-2026             | -                               | 110,518                    | (63,358)                   | (27,924)       | 19,236                              |
| The Agency Alumni                | -                               | 20,000                     | -                          | 4,425          | 24,425                              |
| Media Drop 2.0 (Youth<br>Music)  | 14,576                          | 39,998                     | (50,515)                   | -              | 4,059                               |

Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

|  | Balance at 1<br>April 2021<br>£ | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Transfers<br>£ | Balance at<br>31 March<br>2022<br>£ |
|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Capital Refurbishment<br>Project                             | 383,796                         | -                          | (22,537)                   | (327,714)      | 33,545                              |
| Diverse Actions (Live Art<br>UK)                             | 1,206                           | -                          | -                          | -              | 1,206                               |
| Capsule 2119   | 880                             | -                          | -                          | -              | 880                                 |
| Wellcome Trust (Health &<br>Science Producer)                | 53,005                          | 19,714                     | (61,746)                   | -              | 10,973                              |
| Curiosity Fund   | 3,438                           | 10,430                     | (9,162)                    | -              | 4,706                               |
| Steel Foundation   | -                               | 15,000                     | (10,798)                   | -              | 4,202                               |
| GMCDP  | -                               | 6,970                      | (1,880)                    | -              | 5,090                               |
| GMCVO - Trauma<br>responsive communities                     | -                               | 10,000                     | -                          | -              | 10,000                              |
| RTYDS Regional Theatre<br>Young Directors Scheme             | -                               | 22,743                     | (18,781)                   | -              | 3,962                               |
| Ironmongers  | -                               | 4,304                      | (1,650)                    | -              | 2,654                               |
| NW Youth People's<br>Development Trust                       | 9,324                           | -                          | (9,324)                    | -              | -                                   |
| The House is on Fire (Young<br>Manchester)                   | 8,484                           | -                          | (8,484)                    | -              | -                                   |
| Here & Now (Arts Council<br>England / Future Arts<br>Centre) | 2,000                           | -                          | (2,000)                    | -              | -                                   |
| Manchester City Council<br>Health & Care<br>Commissioning    | 16,863                          | -                          | -                          | -              | 16,863                              |
| Young Manchester Holiday<br>Club                             | -                               | 10,000                     | (10,000)                   | -              | -                                   |
| Youth & Play (YM)<br>Creative Connections                    | 14,040                          | 44,957                     | (46,153)                   | -              | 12,844                              |
| Creative Protagonists<br>(Reclaim)                           | 4,959                           | 3,440                      | (8,399)                    | -              | -                                   |
| MCEP Youth Voice Pilot                                       | 1,750                           | -                          | (1,750)                    | -              | -                                   |
| Future Fires   | 7,186                           | -                          | (7,186)                    | -              | -                                   |
| Studio School  | 4,428                           | 800                        | (5,228)                    | -              | -                                   |
| C Change project   | 2,850                           | 6,000                      | (8,258)                    | -              | 592                                 |
| People's Palace far Apart                                    | 7,464                           | 18,600                     | (16,758)                   | -              | 9,306                               |
| Time Stamp   | -                               | 2,900                      | -                          | -              | 2,900                               |
| Covid Impact Fund  | -                               | 24,885                     | (10,174)                   | -              | 14,711                              |
| First 1000 days  | -                               | 50,000                     | (35,408)                   | -              | 14,592                              |
| ACE Culture Recovery Fund                                    | 57,656                          | 96,555                     | (96,555)                   | (57,656)       | -                                   |
| Weston Culture Fund  | 178,090                         | -                          | (68,745)                   | (43,142)       | 66,203                              |

Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

|                           | Balance at 1<br>April 2021<br>£   | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Transfers<br>£   | Balance at<br>31 March<br>2022<br>£ |
|---------------------------|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Total restricted funds    | <u>8,118,990</u>  | <u>522,644</u>             | <u>(937,080)</u>           | <u>(196,492)</u> | <u>7,508,062</u>                    |
| Total funds               | <u>8,708,182</u>  | <u>1,982,766</u>           | <u>(2,487,671)</u>         | <u>-</u>         | <u>8,203,277</u>                    |
| Name of unrestricted fund | Description, nature and purposes of the fund  |                            |                            |                  |                                     |
| General fund              | The 'unrestricted reserves' after allowing for all designated funds and including unrestricted fixed assets |                            |                            |                  |                                     |
| Designated fund           | Designated fund for Capital Redevelopment Project   |                            |                            |                  |                                     |

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Name of restricted fund Description, nature and purposes of the fund

**Building Fund** - The building fund was established to rebuild and extend the existing theatre and was funded by the Arts Council of England. Expenditure represents the annual depreciation charge. Capital Redevelopment costs are transferred to Building Fund.

**BBC reverse mentoring** - The BBC is funding a reverse mentoring scheme where young people provide mentoring for employees of the BBC.

**The Agency (The National Lottery Community Fund - Reaching Communities)** - Reaching Communities funded the continuation of The Agency Project.

**Media Drop 2.0** - Youth Music funded the Media Drop 2.0 music project and the continuation and expansion of the music programme.

**Capital Redevelopment Project** - This fund consists of grants and donations to support the capital redevelopment project.

**Diverse Actions (Live Art UK)** - Contact is a partner in the Live Art UK Diverse Actions project which commissions BAME live art artists to make new work.

**Capsule 2119 (PRS Foundation)** - The PRS Foundation is supporting the creation and performance of 16 new songs that would subsequently become a time capsule for the year 2119 placed within Contact's refurbished building.

**Wellcome Trust (Health & Science Producer)** - The Wellcome Trust funded the post of Health & Science Producer.

**Curiosity Fund** - Curiosity, a partnership between BBC Children in Need and Wellcome, is funding a new arts project for children aged 15-16 within an area of high deprivation who may be disabled or experience mental health.

**Steel Foundation** - Steel Foundation are funding music workshops for young people.

**GMCDP** - GMCDP funded a creative development programme for neurodivergent, Deaf and disabled young people. The outcome was a performance focussed on disability history called DIS:Play.

**GMCVO - Trauma responsive communities** - GMCVO funded The Arts and Trauma network. A monthly meeting exploring best practice for trauma informed work. The network includes 16 network members from across Greater Manchester.

**RTYDS Regional Theatre Young Directors Scheme** - The Regional Theatre Young Directors Scheme is funding a residency for an assistant director at Contact for 18 months.

**Ironmongers** - The Ironmongers Foundation has awarded funding to encourage young people to get more involved in the arts and theatre.

**Manchester City Council Health & Care Commissioning** - The MCC Health & Care Commissioning body was disbanded before the project could take place. We have received permission from MCC to use the funds to support our existing projects work.

**Young Manchester-Youth & Play Creative Connections** - Young Manchester is funding a programme for youth workers and arts professionals to share best practice and build new partnerships.

**MCR Active - Holiday Action Fund** - MCR Active is funding a programme to provide arts workshops for young people during school term breaks.

**More Than Skin Deep- People's Palace Projects** - People's Palace Projects funded a performance of care-experienced young people talking about change they'd like to see in the care system.

**C Change Project** - Manchester City Council is funding a production of a show on climate change.

**People's Palace Far Apart** - People's Palace Projects is funding a research project to look beyond lockdown to understand how UK Arts organisations can continue to support young people's wellbeing during Covid-19.

**Time stamp** - Manchester City Council is funding a production of a show on young people's experiences of lockdown during the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Covid impact fund** - One Manchester is funding a report into the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the mental health of staff and participants at Contact.

**First 1000 days** - One Manchester is funding a creative development project for parents in Harphurhey and Moston. The outcome was a week long of activities called Kids Fun Zone at Harphurhey Neighbourhood Project

Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Weston Culture Fund - Garfield Weston Foundation funded cultural organisations to restart their work after Covid and to re-engage audiences it supported and outdoor programme of activities and events.

Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

26 Analysis of net assets between funds

Group

|                                    | Unrestricted funds |                 | Restricted       | Total funds at<br>31 March |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------------------|
|                                    | General<br>£       | Designated<br>£ | funds<br>£       | 2023<br>£                  |
| Tangible fixed assets              | 90,007             | -               | 7,172,332        | 7,262,339                  |
| Cash at bank and in hand           | 98,015             | 55,924          | 48,157           | 202,096                    |
| Other current assets/(liabilities) | <u>(71,595)</u>    | <u>-</u>        | <u>(139,692)</u> | <u>(211,287)</u>           |
| Total net assets                   | <u>116,427</u>     | <u>55,924</u>   | <u>7,080,797</u> | <u>7,253,148</u>           |

|                                    | Unrestricted funds |                 | Restricted       | Total funds at<br>31 March |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------------------|
|                                    | General<br>£       | Designated<br>£ | funds<br>£       | 2022<br>£                  |
| Tangible fixed assets              | 78,464             | -               | 7,498,646        | 7,577,110                  |
| Cash at bank and in hand           | 513,289            | 160,000         | 39,007           | 712,296                    |
| Other current assets/(liabilities) | <u>(56,538)</u>    | <u>-</u>        | <u>(29,591)</u>  | <u>(86,129)</u>            |
| Total net assets                   | <u>535,215</u>     | <u>160,000</u>  | <u>7,508,062</u> | <u>8,203,277</u>           |

27 Net debt reconciliation

Group

|                                   | At 1 April<br>2022<br>£ | Financing cash<br>flows<br>£ | At 31 March<br>2023<br>£ |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Cash at bank and in hand          | 712,296                 | (510,200)                    | 202,096                  |
| Loan from Manchester City Council | <u>(174,547)</u>        | <u>18,671</u>                | <u>(155,876)</u>         |
| Net debt                          | <u>537,749</u>          | <u>(491,529)</u>             | <u>46,220</u>            |

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

### 28 Related party transactions

Contact and the University of Manchester have an agreement which allows for Contact to lease the building from the University, to access some facilities and services, and to collaborate with the University on programming some events for and by students. On this basis Contact feels it is appropriate to disclose transactions with the University as related party transactions.

The University of Manchester awarded grants to Contact of £41,080 (2022: £41,080). The Arts Council of England which provides core funding to Contact has a charge over the land and buildings of Contact.

Contact provided Creative Experts services, artistic services and hire of spaces of £13,140 (2022: £6,650) to the University of Manchester. There was an outstanding balance due from the University of £2,370 as at 31 March 2023 (2022: £49,296). Contact purchased goods and services from the University of Manchester of £6,202 (2022: £0). There was an outstanding balance due to the University as at 31 March 2023 of £0 (2022: £0).

Mr Joshua Wilkinson, Ms Ali Wilson, Mr Junior Akinola, Mr Christie Cremin and Ms Faidat Ope, all trustees of Contact, were engaged on a freelance basis for various projects throughout the year, although not in their role as trustees. Mr Wilkinson and his joint enterprises received £12,833 (2022: £20,612), Ms Wilson received £809 (2022: £2,517), Mr Akinola received £5,540 (2022: £2,980), Mr Cremin received £375 (2022: £0), Ms Ope received £550 (2022: £572), and Ms Flynn received £0 (2022: £100). There were no outstanding balances due to any trustees as at 31 March 2023 (2022: £nil).

Donations from trustees amounted to nil in the year (2022: £nil).

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Ltd

known as Contact Theatre

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

### 29 Comparative Statement of Financial Activities

|                             | Note | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ | Total<br>2022<br>£ |
|-----------------------------|------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Income and Endowments from: |      |                            |                          |                    |
| Donations and legacies      | 3    | 2,622                      | -                        | 2,622              |
| Charitable activities       | 4    | 1,235,616                  | 421,259                  | 1,656,875          |
| Other trading activities    | 5    | 97,538                     | -                        | 97,538             |
| Investment income           | 6    | 98                         | -                        | 98                 |
| Other income                | 7    | <u>124,248</u>             | <u>101,385</u>           | <u>225,633</u>     |
| Total income                |      | <u>1,460,122</u>           | <u>522,644</u>           | <u>1,982,766</u>   |
| Expenditure on:             |      |                            |                          |                    |
| Raising funds               | 8    | (85,900)                   | -                        | (85,900)           |
| Charitable activities       | 9    | (1,406,029)                | (914,782)                | (2,320,811)        |
| Trading activities          | 10   | <u>(58,662)</u>            | <u>(22,298)</u>          | <u>(80,960)</u>    |
| Total expenditure           |      | <u>(1,550,591)</u>         | <u>(937,080)</u>         | <u>(2,487,671)</u> |
| Net expenditure             |      | (90,469)                   | (414,436)                | (504,905)          |
| Transfers between funds     |      | <u>196,492</u>             | <u>(196,492)</u>         | -                  |
| Net movement in funds       |      | 106,023                    | (610,928)                | (504,905)          |
| Reconciliation of funds     |      |                            |                          |                    |
| Total funds brought forward |      | <u>589,192</u>             | <u>8,118,990</u>         | <u>8,708,182</u>   |
| Total funds carried forward | 25   | <u>695,215</u>             | <u>7,508,062</u>         | <u>8,203,277</u>   |

**THE MANCHESTER YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATRE LIMITED**

England & Wales - Charity number 501953

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# Accounts

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**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Report and Financial Statements**

**Year ending 31 March 2022**



**Charity number: 501953**

**Company number: 01066757**

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Reference and administrative details

Charity number: 501953  
Company number: 01066757  
Registered Office: Contact Theatre, Devas Street, Oxford Road, Manchester, M15 6JA

### Our advisers

Auditors: Beever & Struthers Suite 9b, The Beehive, Shadworth Business Park, Lions Drive, Blackburn BB1 2QS  
Bankers: Natwest Bank plc 1 Spinningfields Square, Manchester, M3 3AP  
Solicitors: Gateley LLP Ship Canal House, 98 King Street, Manchester, M2 4WU

### Directors and Trustees

The Directors of the Charitable Company (the Charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charity law. The Trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

#### Key management personnel Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited: Trustees and Directors

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| President                                | Mr C Austin-Behan   | Non-Trustee role  |
| Chair                                    | Mr J Akinola  |   |
| Vice Chair                               | Ms A Wilson   |   |
| University of Manchester representative: | Dr K Dorney   |   |
| Manchester City Council representative:  | Cllr A Abdullatif   | Resigned 14 December 2021   |
| Elected trustees:                        | Ms R Tennenhaus<br>Ms G Gibb<br>Ms G Flynn<br>Mr J Wilkinson<br>Ms F Ope<br>Mr C Cremin<br>Mr P Olubayo | Resigned 14 December 2021<br>Appointed 2 March 2022<br>Appointed 2 March 2022 |
| Secretary                                | Mr M Fenton<br>Mr S Moon  | Resigned 2 March 2022<br>Appointed 2 March 2022                               |

#### Key management personnel:

##### Senior managers of Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited:

|   |              |                            |
|---|--------------|----------------------------|
| Artistic Director/Chief Executive       | M Fenton     | Resigned 30 April 2022     |
|   | K Thompson   | Appointed 13 June 2022     |
| Head of Creative Development            | S Henderson  | Resigned 15 January 2022   |
|   | L Whitehurst | Appointed 14 March 2022    |
| Head of Finance                         | V Yates      | Resigned 31 May 2022       |
|   | S Moon       | Appointed 29 November 2022 |
| Head of Marketing & Communications      | M Barham     | Appointed 1 November 2022  |
| Head of Commercial & Visitor Experience | S Stephens   |                            |
| Head of Production                      | J Dale-Dowd  |                            |

# **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

## **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2022**

The Trustees are pleased to present their Annual Trustees' Report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ending 31 March 2022 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' Report and Accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

### **Chair's Report**

This year has delivered many opportunities for Contact to champion young people, explore and develop new practices, take creative risks and deliver artistic excellence to local audiences. A new era of leadership has arrived at Contact with many significant new additions to the staff team within the year, culminating with the appointment of Keisha Thompson as AD/CEO in June 2022. In October 2021 Contact's newly refurbished building re-opened with the production of CYC's Everything All of the Time. The public have returned to Contact's public spaces for events, workshops, social gatherings and more, whilst we recover from the pandemic and simultaneously seek to support those still navigating public space with caution.

Contact's Board continues to develop its youth governance model. With a make-up of 50% of trustees under 30, the Board is unique in its ability to reflect the lives of young people, who remain Contact's key stakeholders. In May 2022 we formalised a Vice-Chair position in order to deputise Chair responsibilities and build sustainability into our youth-led governance work.

We entered the first year of a new five-year plan with The Agency, launching a central Steering group with Agents from across the national network and commissioning evaluation to further understand the extensive impact this project is having on the lives of young people. Our participation projects continue to equip young people with skills in music, live technology, production, drama, workshop delivery and more. Contact's resident young company re-opened the building with the production of CYC's Everything All of the Time, and in 2022 are planning new immersive outdoor work with internationally renowned company Gob Squad and a new show directed by AD/CEO Keisha Thompson. In March 2022, 20 young people entered into a 12-month reverse mentoring scheme with BBC, matching young people involved at Contact with senior BBC staff from MediaCity's Children's and Learning department. Projects designed for and with young people continue to build lasting connections with significant industry partners, opening doors for future opportunities and ensuring those who are often left out of traditional provision have access to exciting and meaningful cultural and career opportunities.

Contact's artistic programme has welcomed thousands of live and digital attendees. The unique design of the air filtration system in Contact's main theatre, Space 1, has offered a particularly safe environment for audiences to re-emerge and once again enjoy unique and diverse programming offers, including As British As a Watermelon by commissioned artist mandla rae. The building hosted an array of live and digital events throughout its spaces, including project launches, building wide take-overs and the hugely successful holiday club. The past year has seen and heard joy return to the

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2022**

building through the experience of young people, artists, audiences and participants who once again are making the space their own.

Contact's corporate hire offer has continued to grow, bringing a range of businesses and organisations into the building for the first time, alongside GRUB and House of Habesha's bar and café service, which attract customers from across Manchester. We delivered Anti-Racism Training to local theatre HOME and London-based arts centre Battersea Arts Centre amongst others.

Throughout the year we successfully applied to key trusts and foundations, and have recently been awarded standstill funding for the 24-26 round of Arts Council NPO. Whilst we weather the impact of the cost-of-living crisis in almost every faction of the organisation, we continue to maintain reserves and seek to support staff in as many ways as possible.

The year has been unique in its on-going challenges, however the impact of Contact's commitment to young people and local audiences can be felt across Greater Manchester. With a dynamic and skilled team, we continue to deliver on our core values; centring young people at the heart of decision making, ensuring artistic excellence, respecting and honouring diversity of cultures and developing new artists, audiences and under-served young people. Contact remains a hub of curiosity, integrity and community. We look forward to this next year.



**Junior Akinola,  
Chair of the Board of Trustees**

# **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

## **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2022**

### **Objectives and Activities**

Our vision is a world where young people are empowered by creativity to become leaders in both the arts and their communities. We provide a wealth of opportunities for the next generation of creative leaders, artists and audiences, redefining theatre in the process. We produce and present a programme of outstanding performances, events and festivals in our building, in surprising places and virtual spaces. In 2020/2021, we were again rated as 'outstanding' by Arts Council England in their Creative Case for Diversity, one of a small number organisations nationally.

Our purpose is to provide tangible benefit to young people aged 13-30, though the public programme we co-create with them is available to everyone. We programme and produce diverse, innovative work that draws young audiences, supports early career artists and enhances local communities. We aim to overcome physical and financial barriers to accessing the arts, so all young people can participate equally. Young people of all backgrounds and abilities engage with our programmes and enjoy our performances.

Our free weekly programme of creative learning activity for young people aged 13+ covers music, theatre, spoken word, producing and programming, marketing, social enterprise and leadership development. From drop-in activity to developing more specialist artistic, leadership or entrepreneurship skills over a longer period, we encourage young people along a journey from first engagement to Board level.

#### **Our core values are:**

- A young people centred approach to decision making
- Artistic excellence, integrity and creative risk taking
- Respect for diversity of cultures, creativity, and understanding within and between communities
- Development of new artists, audiences and practitioners reaching under-served and excluded young people who may not have connected to theatre or the arts.

We use these values to inform our activity, and as the framework for evaluating our progress. In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'. Our main areas of activity are:

- Providing transformative experiences for young people
- Producing high quality new work with a focus on social realities
- Operating a unique, ethical and welcoming building Contact is an environmentally sustainable building with an energy rating of A.

Each year Contact commissions and co-produces new shows for first presentation in Manchester, and for national touring. Contact supports early career artists through a structured programme of

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2022**

seed fund commissions alongside in-house financial, producer and technical support. Productions focus on pressing social issues relevant to young people. Contact is a leader in the field of diversity and representation, both of which are at the core of both our produced and presented work. Our on-going target is that 50% of the artists that we support are from a Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic background, markedly higher than local or national averages, and a target we again met in 2021-22.

Our presented programme of theatre, music, spoken word, comedy and cabaret features early career and first-time artists alongside internationally acclaimed companies. Contact audiences get to be the first to experience innovative and pioneering shows that go on to major venues and festivals, and to experience the work of artists who go on to renowned and award-winning careers.

Within this iconic building the atmosphere is open and welcoming, with local young people populating the most front-facing roles. Contact provides a meeting place for young people, communities and artists to work and socialise together. We provide free Wi-Fi, and there is no obligation to buy or consume anything in our public spaces. We also present a high-quality visual art programme of exhibitions and artists' films that complement and often relate to the performance programme. These are curated across public spaces around the building, and are always free to enter. As an organisation championing young people, Contact pays all staff the national living wage, regardless of age. The Trustees are proactive in ensuring that our activities benefit the public and young people, and as a consequence have considered the guidance in all our activities and fee charging.

#### **Main Areas of Activity:**

##### **The Agency**

We are currently in year one of a new five-year era for The Agency. At the time of writing, this statement has been issued to The Agency board. We've launched a new Steering group made up of Agents from across the National network (12 in total) and had two meetings so far. Ahead of the 10th birthday year for The Agency, we have appointed 21 Artists as evaluators to conduct a Longitudinal Evaluation to examine aspects previously under explored, including the impact on health and wellbeing, employability and involvement in education. We have developed a new comms strategy, launched the new website and operations manual, training and support package for all partner organisations. The teams from Battersea, Manchester and Southampton took part in a three-day methodology training together.

##### **A Home for Grief**

We were proud to programme A Home for Grief - an experience for one person at a time. It begins with a sound-walk through the cityscape surrounding Contact. After, visit an installation in Contact's brand-new Space 0, with a collection of audio-visual pieces, featuring 5 quilted maps that chart the different landscapes of grief we find inside ourselves.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2022**

#### **All the Things They Never Teach Us**

A series of podcasts developed with young people called exploring aspects of science not taught in school. The second year was two documentaries made in collaboration with M13. The focus for the third year was paused as Chloe left the Health & Science Producer role last year. Rose, the new producer, is reviewing how we deliver the last instalment.

#### **Anti-Racism Training**

Developed by Keisha Thompson, this training has been delivered to a number of cultural organisations across the country both in-person and online. Feedback to date has been very positive with growing interest in the package. Upon writing, five new facilitators have been recruited to meet the demand. Following the funding decisions at the end of 2022, the aim is to recruit another commercial administrator to ensure we can continue to deliver the programme whilst managing wider hires conversations.

#### **The Arts & Trauma Network**

Funded by GMVCO, this network includes 15 venues and freelance practitioners from across Greater Manchester. Contact is the lead partner with Oldham Coliseum, Manchester Art Gallery and Dr Simon Parry from University of Manchester as supporting partners.

#### **Commissioned Artists: Miray Sidhom and Mandla Rae**

Miray is an emerging theatre practitioner, combining elements of film, soundscapes, poetry, and movement to create experimental and thought-provoking performances which deconstruct a concept through form. She's been part of Contact Young Company, including as Assistant Artist for Baby Fever. Independently, she created If I Knew it was Harmless I would've Killed it Myself (GM Fringe 2017). Miray has recently graduated with an MA in Advanced Theatre Practice from the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, and is one-sixth of [ClusterFlux Collective](#).

In February 2022, she premiered The Break We Break. Drawing on her Egyptian heritage, Miray Sidhom explores Egypt's suppressed history of political uprising. Weaving together memories of a childhood in Cairo, frank conversations with her mother, and archive footage, she questions bread's cultural symbolism and fermentation as a metaphor for social change.

A decade on from the Arab Spring, Miray traces the origins of uprisings to the first workers strike in the Pharonic era. This piece attempts to piece together fragments from an untold history, to knead the past into the present, to feed the future. Oscillating between personal & political, Miray reconciles and celebrates her Middle Eastern heritage; exposing the way everyday aspects of our lives can be politicised and controlled, and asks what are we driven to do when our fundamental rights are threatened?

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2022**

mandla rae is a queer Zimbabwean writer, performer and curator. mandla is agender and has no pronouns. mandla's work typically explores an intersectional existence enforced on the artist's body as a result of the world we live in. mandla has been commissioned by many organisations across the country including the BFI, Journeys Festival International and Hope Mill Theatre to make written works. mandla is an Associate Artist for Outbox Theatre.

As British As a Watermelon was performed in October 2021, following a filmed version that featured in Queer Contact 2021. Through the exploration of mandla's fragmented asylum and migration memories, as british as a watermelon asks questions about belonging, trauma and forgiveness. Told through an unflinching autofiction narrative weaving poetry and storytelling; set within a chaotically colourful, sensory performance space; you are invited to watch as mandla rises from the dead to reclaim a previously misplaced power.

#### **Contact Young Company – Saturnalia and Everything All of the Time**

Contact provides performance and training opportunities for young performers through its renowned ensemble Contact Young Company (CYC). CYC is made up of young performers, actors, dancers, musicians, poets and MCs, and each year creates brand new professional standard shows in collaboration with major national and international artists. CYC empowers young people of all backgrounds into creative careers, offering an alternative to expensive training. We nurture the next generation of creative talent who go onto shine in the arts across the country, on stage and in leadership roles.

Saturnalia - /,satə'neɪliə/ (noun) an occasion of wild revelry or indulgence. CYC, Level Up and HighRise Theatre took over skate park ProjektsMCR to create a colosseum of celebration, imagination and revolution with an Avengers-like company of multi-talented performers including DJs, MCs, poets, dancers, musicians and storytellers.

Directed by Dominic Garfield (Lil.Miss.Lady, Merryville, The Concrete Jungle Book) with material created by CYC and Level Up, this new-concept rave offers audiences the chance to transport into an underground world of bass, politics and belonging – rising from the ashes of our brand-new world.

Everything All of Time was a physical and visual journey through a new world. As we emerge blinking into a new reality, CYC ask what now, what has changed and what needs to change? Everything All of the Time is a physical and visual journey through a new world, squashed into an hour of hedonism, love, anger, nostalgia and hope.

With influences from Gaika's music videos, Benji Reid's photography and Bo Burnham's Inside, CYC get ready to face the music and dance. The creative team included director Matt Fenton,

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2022**

choreographer Yandass Ndlovu, dramaturg Sam Holley-Horseman and assistant director Allegra Jeffreys. Produced by Lauren Banks.

#### **Every Brain**

Trustee Ali Wilson launched her project, Every Brain: Galaxies of Neurons Firing at Contact.

Every Brain is an evolving project designed to support & platform neurodivergent creativity. Galaxies of Neurons Firing: Every Brain's guide for theatres & cultural organisations on supporting neurodiversity. This guide is one of many pieces of work being created across the cultural sector to share knowledge around neurodiversity. The guidance offered in this guide is not final. This guide will be updated as understandings and experiences evolve, grow and transform.

#### **GMCDP – DIS:Play**

DIS:Play was a Living Museum installation piece across the Contact building with individual pieces of work created by young disabled and neurodivergent creatives. In collaboration with Director Sam Holley-Horseman combining live performance, sensory spaces, and digital installations, this hybrid event had access and activism at its heart.

#### **Level Up**

Four young people from the music programme received their first professional paid commissions. Our advanced music training programme, Level Up, funded by Youth Music, became online tutorials, as well as face-to-face delivery when possible from the new studio.

#### **Manchester City Council: First 1000 Days**

The Glowing Mum's Group co-presented with Moston Miners. This project was led in the first phase by associate artist, Amy Vreeke, exploring creative writing with parents living in the Moston and Harpurhey area. The second phase was led by another associate artist, Chloe Barlow. Chloe supported the group to research and develop a new offer for children and their parents in Moston and Harpurhey. The outcome of this project was a week-long of activities at Harpurhey Neighbourhood Project called 'Kids Fun Zone'.

#### **Manchester International Festival: Looking Forward**

Produced by Manchester International Festival and Contact. Commissioned by Manchester International Festival. Created by the people of Greater Manchester.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2022**

What will our future hold – and how can we make it better? Join activists, artists, campaigners, key workers and your fellow citizens for two days of talk and action.

In 2020, under lockdown, a group of Greater Manchester residents aged 16 to 70 came together for the first time to share their hopes, thoughts and ideas about the future. Hosted by Contact and MIF, the group has continued to meet and discuss the important issues of today: and now, they'd like you to join them and their invited guests – artists, activists, key workers, campaigners and others – for conversation and debate about two topics they think are key to our future: Equality and Environment.

#### **Manchester Literature Festival: FLUX**

Contact supported Manchester Literature Festival's Young Producer's Collective as they worked with Kate Bradnam to develop their ideas for a new show as a part of the festival. They came up with FLUX - an immersive, dynamic space where artist and audience can connect through words.

Manchester Literature Festival's Young Producers Collective bring together a range of multidisciplinary artists to celebrate and explore how we tell stories. Taking words from the page to the stage, FLUX re-engages people with the form, creating an immersive, dynamic space where artist and audience can connect through words.

#### **Queer Contact**

Annual Queer Contact Festival is a celebration of Greater Manchester's LGBTQ+ arts and creativity each February. Collectively, the artists presenting work with or at Contact are highly distinctive in the gender, racial, ethnic, social, disability and sexual diversity they represent. Informed by a young consultation group for programming, the 2022 festival saw the youngest and most ethnically diverse audience to date with significant variance of representation for LGBTQ+ subgroups.

#### **Peaceophobia**

Contact was proud to programme Peaceophobia. Conceived in Bradford and co-directed by young women from Speakers' Corner Collective and award-winning theatre company Common Wealth, co-written by acclaimed playwright Zia Ahmed and Bradford Modified Club, in co-production with Fuel Peaceophobia is an unapologetic response to rising Islamophobia around the world. Part car-meet part-theatre, the show explores how you find peace in a world that tells you who you are. Staged in a carpark with a Supra, a Golf and a classic Nova, Peaceophobia brings together cars and theatre with cinematic lighting and an original electronic sound score.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2022**

#### **RTYDS**

The Regional Theatre Young Director Scheme, Contact and Ramps on the Moon appointed Sam Holley-Horseman as the recipient of the RTYDS 18-Month Residency, provided as part of the partnership between Ramps on the Moon and RTYDS. Sam began her residency at Contact in April 2021.

Matt Fenton, Artistic Director & Chief Executive at Contact commented:

We're delighted Sam is joining Contact for the next 18 months, and she will make a brilliant addition to our team. Her residency comes at a time when we reopen our building, launch our manifesto of care, and open our Wellcome Trust health research studio in the newly expanded Contact.

Sam Holley-Horseman said:

I feel incredibly lucky to have this opportunity for the next 18-Months. I am thrilled to start at Contact, to be part of their team and be mentored by Matt Fenton, especially at this exciting time as they open the doors to their new building.

Michèle Taylor, Director for Change at Ramps on the Moon commented:

We are proud to be able to play a part in supporting Sam's journey as a director. This seems like such a good match, and it will be exciting to see what Sam and Contact learn from each other and to see the work that develops from this relationship.

#### **Studio School and Binural Beats Music Projects**

Studio School is an alternative education using creative arts and digital media for year 7 to 11 students who are not in mainstream education. Each young person who engaged with the project left having completed a Bronze Arts Award.

Pop-up Beats (Binaural beats) used research to collaborate with artists to look at music as a tool to help improve health and wellbeing. A balance of £4,428 was carried over from 2020-2021.

#### **Young Manchester: Holiday Club and Youth & Play Creative Connections**

Young Manchester provided funding for two projects with Contact. The Summer Creative Camp was a free 2-week long project in which young people from the Manchester area came together to learn skills in drama, dance, arts and craft, music making and much more. The Youth & Play project was a programme for youth workers and arts professionals to share best practice and build new partnerships.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2022

### Finance Review

#### Unrestricted Funds

Contact had an operating deficit of £90,469 in 2021-22 (2020-21: surplus of £175,496). The unrestricted general reserves now stand at £535,215. The building is fully operational following the capital project which ended in 2021. A slow recovery was anticipated due to a mixture of on-going COVID-related issues impacting staff and audience confidence. Furthermore, a major upheaval to the senior management team with Victoria Yates (Head of Finance), Suzie Henderson (Head of Creative Development) and Matt Fenton (Artistic Director/CEO) leaving within a 9-month period resulted in the need for the organisation to do a heavy-duty recruitment process with disruption to operational continuity. The NPO application window opened at the end of 2021. On his departure, Matt Fenton submitted the funding bid to secure ACE funding for 2023-2026 and we were awarded standstill funding in November 2022.

The principal sources of income were grants and donations, income from the artistic programme, office hires, anti-racism training and Covid recovery funds. We also made limited use of the government furlough scheme which came to an end in September 2021. The majority of staff are back to working in the building. There is significantly more flexible working and hybridity of meetings. The majority of our participation programmes have returned to being in-person. Although, we are very responsive to participants and young people who have requested to engage with us remotely, i.e.: via Zoom.

Ticket income has been positive. It has been encouraging to see a decent level of early-booking, membership investment and increased diversity of ticket buyers; particularly in response to Queer Contact 2021. Ticket income for the year exceeded budget targets thanks to the success of the panto and Queer Contact.

Arts Council England, GMCA, Manchester City Council and the University of Manchester are our principal funders. We also received a number of restricted grants to enable Contact's work to continue and these are detailed below. We were very pleased to receive £50,000 from Coutts. Income from grants and foundations was in line with budget for the year.

The provision of participatory activities is funded by both core and restricted grants whilst the Health & Science activity is funded by restricted grants only. We also received £41,671 from Manchester City Council Local Restrictions Grants.

Following positive responses to the Anti-Racism Training package, the Commercial team have been met with ongoing demand and opportunities presenting themselves for this work. We have seen a healthy level of office and space hires. And have continued to host KMS Media as a third-party office hire. GRUB started operating from the Contact Kitchen from Nov 2021 initially on a pop-up agreement moving into a year-long contract from Dec 2021.

We also made use of government initiatives – Kickstarter and HMRC CJRS receiving £6,032 and £1,119 respectively.

Due to the pandemic closing the building and some key positions not being filled for parts of the year, our total unrestricted expenditure was below budget for the year. This was further helped by receiving additional covid support from funders.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2022**

#### **Restricted Funds**

We brought forward non-capital restricted project funds of £494,384 (2020-21: £210,932). During the year we were successful in attracting restricted project funds of £522,644 (2021: £604,279) including:

- The Agency – we were awarded £110,518 to continue with The Agency project in partnership with Battersea Arts Centre and People's Palace Projects. The project has received funding for a five-year period between 2022-2027. A balance of £19,236 was carried forward to 2022-2023.
- Youth Music – we received £39,998 to support the Media Drop and Level Up projects as a continuation of the music programme. This included Pop-up Beats (Binaural beats) which used research to collaborate with artists to look at music as a tool to help improve health and wellbeing. A balance of £4,059 was carried forward to 2022-2023.
- Transport for Greater Manchester – a grant of £4,830 to support our and audiences to travel actively to and from Contact.
- Wellcome Trust – a grant of £19,714 to further fund the post of Health & Science Producer.
- Manchester City Timestamp – a grant of £2,900 to commission culturally diverse artists to produce new work.
- Curiosity Fund – a balance of £10,430 was received this year. Awarded in 2019 - total of £29,790 to be broken down over three years - the outcome of the first year was a series of podcasts with young people called 'All the things they never teach us' – exploring aspects of science not taught in school. The second year was two documentaries made in collaboration with M13. The focus for the third year was paused as Chloe left the Health & Science Producer role last year. Rose, the new producer, is reviewing how we use the last instalment.
- Ironmongers – a grant of £4,304 from the Ironmongers Foundation was received as match funding to provide additional support for the Summer Creative Camp project.
- Steel Foundation – a grant of £15,000 to fund Studio School is an alternative education using creative arts and digital media for year 7 to 11 students who are not in mainstream education. Each young person who engaged with the project left having completed a Bronze Arts Award.
- Manchester City Council: Covid Impact Fund – a grant of £24,885 to as a part of the Additional Restrictions Grants scheme for Cultural, Entertainment and Convention Facilities. This is a direct awards scheme designed to provide financial support to cultural, entertainment and convention facilities as part of the city's economic recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Manchester City Council: First 1000 Days - a grant of £50,000 was received for the Glowing Mum's Group and co-presented with Moston Miners. This project was led in the first phase by associate artist, Amy Vreeke, exploring creative writing with parents living in the Moston and Harpurhey area. The second phase was led by another associate artist, Chloe Barlow. Chloe supported the group to research and develop a new offer for children and their parents in Moston and Harpurhey. The outcome of this project was a week-long of activities at Harpurhey Neighbourhood Project called 'Kids Fun Zone'.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2022**

- RTYDS – a grant of £22,743 for the Regional Theatre Young Director Scheme, Contact and Ramps on the Moon 18-Month Residency recipient, Sam Holley-Horseman. The placement began in April 2021.
- Young Manchester Holiday Club – £10,000 was received to cover the Summer Creative Camp – a free 2-week long project in which young people from the Manchester area came together to learn skills in drama, dance, arts and craft, music making and much more.
- GMCDP – a grant of £6,970 was received this year. This fund was held by GMCDP and awarded in 2020 by Young Manchester. The production of DIS:Play was delivered between October 21-April 22. DIS:Play was a Living Museum installation piece across the Contact building with individual pieces of work created by young disabled and neurodivergent creatives.
- GMCVO – a grant of £10,000. This is for the Arts & Trauma network. A network including 15 venues and freelance practitioners from across Greater Manchester. Contact is the lead partner with Oldham Coliseum, Manchester Art Gallery and Dr Simon Parry from University of Manchester as supporting partners. The network will run from September 22-March 23.
- Young Manchester-Youth & Play Creative Connections – a grant of £44,957 to run a programme for youth workers and arts professionals to share best practice and build new partnerships.
- Creative Protagonists (Reclaim) – a grant of £3,440 to co-deliver this project with working class young people exploring art and activism.
- C Change Project – a grant of £6,000 to fund the production of a show on climate change.
- Far Apart – a grant of £18,600 to be part of a research project looking at the impact of COVID on young people. A balance of £9,306 is carried forward to 2022-23.
- Arts Council England- Cultural Recovery Fund – a grant of £96,555 to provide financial support to cultural organisations impacted by Covid.

We carry forward restricted non-capital project funds of £229,404 (2021: £494,384).

#### **Investment powers and policy**

The Trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of running Contact, have kept available funds in an interest-bearing deposit account and seek to achieve a rate on deposit which matches or exceeds inflation as measured by the retail prices index.

#### **Reserves policy and going concern**

Following the end of furlough in September 2021 and the return to normal funding rounds from Arts Council England, amongst other significant indicators, it would appear that we are now in a “post-COVID” phase of recovery. During this financial year, Contact has been able to reopen its building to staff and audience. Unfortunately, we have not been able to deliver a building reopening event. The

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2022**

persistent variation of guidelines around opening to the public and upholding COVID-related restrictions has resulted in a soft opening.

Post capital project, Contact also needs to build and maintain a general reserve in relation to the upkeep and improvement of the building, and to address those areas not covered by the current programme (main house seats, Space 2 Studio). Thus, it has been an expectedly quiet period which has been useful in serving this transitional phrase underpinned by a delayed NPO decision and a few set-backs to commercial areas.

The Board have agreed that three months' operating costs should be held as a reserve. Operating costs are defined as total unrestricted expenditure excluding costs of raising funds. Free reserves stand at £456,751, which is just over our reserves policy of 3 months operating costs based on annual expenditure of £1.5m. On 1 June 2022 the Board de-designated £93,855 of the designated capital fund, which was no longer necessary having secured additional capital funding in previous periods. Reserves are forecast to be slightly under target at the end of 22-23, with an aim to bring them back in line in future periods.

Contact is at the end of a five-year funding cycle (April 2018 – March 2023) with Arts Council England as a Band 2 National Portfolio Organisation (NPO). Standstill funding has been confirmed for the next funding cycle for April 2023 – March 2026. We have Manchester City Council and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) have confirmed funding for the next twelve months.

Although this core funding continues at the same level, we continue to seek new funding partners and have been successful at increasing funds to support our core work. The aim is still to increase our income from commercial trading and operation of the building and to decrease our reliance on statutory funding.

The Christmas period included external hire events and a local pantomime from a Manchester producer, running throughout the festive period and into the new year. Queer Contact Festival February 2022 was the largest and most ambitious for many years. It went on sale in late November 2021. Sales targets were met whilst the audience proved to be the most diverse audience to date.

Interest in our anti-racism training package has continued to be buoyant. The Trustees therefore believe it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

Staff sickness and departures from major posts have been significant. Contact has managed to be relatively responsive during this time. The Arts Council made a slight adjustment to our risk status which was a great indication of how well the team and the board managed the situation.

Due to the anomalies of CRF and changes in leadership and strategy, it has been difficult to have a realistic view of targets. Keisha has spent a bulk of time, since joining the team in June, meeting with departments; getting them to set new targets and work in a more orchestrated way.

Unfortunately, the current economic climate has over-shadowed the benchmarking that took place earlier this year. Keisha has delivered a series of actions to communicate with staff how we plan to respond to the rising cost of living and what our options will be based on the NPO decision in October. Projections have been shared with staff and the board. Despite these conditions, there has been a healthy interest in the autumn season with ticket sales at £3,547 (over 10% of the season).

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2022**

The production team have put Contact in a relatively healthy position with a three-year fixed deal for energy costs. There are a significant number of building needs that means we still have a capital target of approx. £300k.

#### **Plans for future periods**

On the 18<sup>th</sup> August 2022, Contact celebrated its 50th Year Anniversary soon after the appointment of Keisha Thompson as the new Artistic Director/ CEO. Thus, Contact is in pivotal period. In July 2022 an extra board meeting was held for Keisha to share her vision for the organisation. This was met with very positive responses.

The aim is to make Contact more commercially viable, increase resources geared towards participation, programme less, capitalise on consultancy and training opportunities and make some structural changes to various departments i.e: expand Development and reduce Creative Development.

The staff survey and 1-1s with Keisha have shown that in general staff feel positive but there is still work to do in terms of rebuilding trust, alleviating fears and boosting morale.

We are in the process of developing a new website. This is an opportunity to refine the current brand. Website developers Supercool have been appointed and have started consultation for a new site set to launch in Spring 2023.

Various departures to the Creative Development and Marketing & Sales teams (Lauren Banks, Young People's Producer, Wesley Thistlewaite, Box Office and Audience Insights Manager, Ayodeji Hayes, Sales and Information Assistant and Tanica Powell, Digital Marketing Officer) means we are in a position to scrutinise those teams and develop some new roles that will serve our new interests.

GRUB's period of operating the bar and kitchen will come to end in December 2022. During the autumn 2022 period, the kitchen will be occupied by popular caterers, House of Habesha. The tender for a new caterer is live. This will be filled by January 2023. We are excited to secure a new partner that will bring in new and varied audiences to the building. The brief for the new food vendors was influenced by consultation with some of our young people.

An unsuccessful application to the Youth Music Fund has resulted in some participatory activities being paused for Autumn 2022. Alternative opportunities for participants are being provided such as masterclasses with Princes Trust. A new participatory programme is being drafted by Laura, Head of Creative Development and Keisha with input from the Artistic Team. This will be introduced in January 2023.

The Anti-Racism Training has restarted with the recruitment five new facilitators. Depending on the funding outcome, there is an intention to increase the Commercial team to manage the welcome demand for this service. Furthermore, there is an interest in developing similar packages for other topics such LGBTQ+ awareness, Neurodiversity in the Workplace and Environmental Responsibility.

In summer 2022, our tenants KMS Media decided to terminate their contract with the hireable office. The senior management team has also made the decision to revert the second office to its original status as it was being used as a contemplation room during the quiet reopening period. Thus, both office spaces are on the market with the intention to have them filled by Jan 2023.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2022**

Through staff consultation and building analysis we are looking at alternative options for a contemplation space / prayer room for audience members and participants. We are also working to increase visibility around the Media Lounge as a hireable space.

Keisha has committed to the calendar split which allows commercial hires to take priority from April – Sept for Spaces 1 and 2.

A new freelance pool process is underway to ensure we are being more transparent and time-conscious with the appointment of freelance work and the new base rates for freelancers are now in action.

Set up via the Chair, Junior, we are at the beginning of a BBC Reverse Mentoring project. There are 25 pairs of BBC employees and Contact young people. The board and Keisha will continue to look for various opportunities to make partnerships with organisations across the city to build visibility and resilience for Contact.

So far Keisha has continued or initiated conversations with the following parties with intentions to pursue a variety of opportunities from sponsorship to co-producing: University of Manchester, MA / PHD placements with MMU via Simon Parry, MIF, Future Everything, Oxford Corridor, hÅb, Carbon Literacy Awards, Equity, BECTU, ITC, Manchester Independent Artists, MADE, Cultural Leadership Group, Clore Leadership, International Slavery Museum, National Football Museum, Speakers for Schools, Bev Craig, Andy Burnham, Audio Always, Thirty Pound Gentleman, See My World, Blue Dot Festival, Cooperative Bank and Manchester Literature Festival, S!ck Festival.

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

### ***Governing Document***

Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited, also known as Contact, is a registered charity (No 501953) and a company (No 1066757) limited by guarantee. The governing documents of Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited are its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The company was incorporated on 18 August 1972 and registered as a charity on 31 October 1972. The Trustees of the Charitable Company guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the Charity in the event of winding up.

The Articles of Association are currently under review by the Trustees with a view to adopting a revised set of articles later in the year.

### ***Appointment, induction and training of trustees***

Trustees retire after three years by rotation. These Trustees may offer themselves for re-appointment for a second term. All new trustees are recruited via a thorough process led by the Resources Board. Candidates are interviewed by a panel of trustees and a separate panel of young people and if appropriate recommended to the Board for appointment. New Board members undertake a series of induction meetings with the Board Chair, Senior Management Team and staff and a comprehensive induction pack is provided. Board wide training is arranged as required. The

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2022**

Board includes one representative from the University of Manchester and one representative from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

#### ***Organisation***

The Trustee Board has the following sub committees: Resources, Artistic Evaluation and Trading Board. These committees each meet at least four times a year with meetings scheduled to allow reporting back to the Board each quarter.

The Trustees ensure the accuracy and timeliness of all financial reporting information through the work of its Resources Board, which reviews all financial information, the development of business systems and procedures and progress on income generation and fundraising strategies. The Resources Board, which meets on a quarterly basis develops and monitors Contact's Financial Regulations and Risk Register. In addition, it reviews operational risks in relation to employment issues as well as keeping abreast of changes in employment law and developing relevant policies. The Resources Board also reviews Health & Safety Policy and procedures as well as Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and procedures. Members of the Resources Board bring expertise on business planning, equality, diversity and inclusion, HR and finance.

In terms of service quality, all individual projects undertaken by the organisation are subject to risk assessment, monitoring and evaluation procedures. Reports are made quarterly to the Trustees. The Trustees also monitor the quality of services through its Artistic Evaluation Board, which also meets quarterly.

#### ***Related parties and co-operation with other organisations***

None of our Trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work as Trustees with the Charity. Five Trustees, Mr Joshua Wilkinson, Ms Grainne Flynn, Ms Ali Wilson, Mr Junior Akinola, and Ms Faidat Ope were engaged on a freelance basis for various projects throughout the year.

Any connection between a Trustee or Senior Manager of Contact with a production company, contracted actor, performer, or exhibitor must be disclosed to the full Board of Trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. Contact has a Conflict of Interest Policy and Register of Interests.

Contact and the University of Manchester have an Agreement, which allows for Contact to lease the building from the University, to access some facilities and services, and to collaborate with the University on programming events for and by students.

#### ***Pay policy for senior staff***

The Directors, who are Contact's Trustees, consider themselves and the Senior Management Team to be the key management personnel in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating Contact on a day to day basis. All Directors give of their time freely and no Director received remuneration for being a Director/Trustee in the year. Details of related party transactions are disclosed in note 15 to the accounts.

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2022

Salaries are benchmarked against market rates for all staff. The pay of the senior staff is reviewed annually and normally increased in accordance with inflation and at the same rate as all other staff.

#### ***Risk management***

The Trustees review the objectives, services, management and regular funding of the organisation as part of an ongoing planning and review process, which includes the development of a Four-Year Business Plan. The plan assesses Contact's development and sets targets in relation to a number of risk factors, including financial, operational, governance and external factors.

In addition, the Resources Board reviews the risk process. These are also the routes for any additional areas of concern highlighted by the review of the plan or arising through changes in external circumstances, new activities or changes in the law. The risk is assessed and any further action is identified and parameters are agreed. The risk register, with any additional supporting information, is then reported to the Board quarterly through the Resources Board Report.

The Senior Management Team assesses day to day risks within the remit agreed by the Board, identifying areas of concern, undertaking risk analysis and agreeing decisions within agreed parameters.

The Trustees have reviewed the major risks that could impact on Contact. These are:-

| <b><u>Risk</u></b>   | <b><u>Mitigation</u></b>   |
|--|--|
| Increasing costs due to energy and cost of living crisis                     | Resources Board focus, implementing cost saving measures and developing additional fundraising capacity  |
| Inability to meet increased income targets                                   | Resources Board focus, setting up trading subsidiary with relevant external expertise, strengthening staff team and marketing, communications & sales function |
| Cuts in existing public sector funding                                       | Regular dialogue with our funders, reporting our social impact and reach and business planning around new commercial models of income                          |
| Inability to retain existing staff and recruit new staff due to low salaries | Resources Board focus, review of salaries and cost base pending  |

The Board of Trustees and staff undergo regular training and professional development to ensure they remain abreast of current developments, changes in statutes and best practice.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2022**

#### **Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements**

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that Contact will continue in business.

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

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on Contact's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

#### **Statement as to disclosure to our auditors**

In so far as the Trustees are aware at the time of approving our Trustees' Annual Report:

- there is no relevant information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which Contact's auditor is unaware, and
- the Trustees, having made enquiries of fellow directors and Contact's auditor that they ought to have individually taken, have each taken all steps that he/she is obliged to take as a director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

By order of the Board of Trustees



Mr J Akinola (Chair)

7 December 2022

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF THE MANCHESTER YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATRE LIMITED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of The Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (including the Income and Expenditure Statement), the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes on pages 27 to 47. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of the charity's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended.
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

#### **Basis for opinion**

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

#### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF THE MANCHESTER YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATRE LIMITED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

#### **Other information**

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### **Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

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

- the information given in the Trustees' Report (which includes the Directors' Report prepared for the purposes of company law) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors' Report (included within the Trustees' Report) has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

#### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

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

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

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF THE MANCHESTER YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATRE LIMITED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

#### **Responsibilities of Directors**

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 19, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

#### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISA's (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

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

We obtained an understanding of laws and regulations that affect the charity, focusing on those that has a direct effect on the financial statements or that has a fundamental effect on its operations. Key laws and regulations that were identified included the UK Companies Act and Charity Commission requirements.

We reviewed the Trustee's meeting minutes for evidence of non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations.

We gained an understanding of the controls that the Trustees have in place to prevent and detect fraud. We enquired of the Trustees about any incidences of fraud that had taken place during the accounting period.

The risk of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud was discussed within the audit team and tests were planned and performed to address these risks. We identified the potential for fraud in the following areas: misappropriation of cash and other assets.

We reviewed the financial statements disclosures and tested to supporting documentation to assess the compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above.

We enquired of the Trustees about actual and potential litigation and claims.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES OF THE MANCHESTER YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATRE LIMITED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

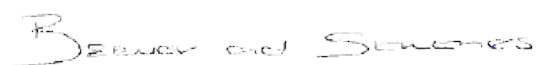
We performed analytical procedures to identify and unusual or unexpected relationships that might indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.

In addressing the risk of fraud due to management override of internal controls we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates were indicative of a potential bias.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's web-site at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

#### **Use of our report**

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



#### **S Lomax FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)**

#### **For and on behalf of Beaver and Struthers**

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
Suite 9b  
The Beehive  
Lions Drive  
Shadsworth Business Park  
Blackburn  
BB1 2QS

Date: 07/12/2022

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Statement of Financial Activities (including the Income and Expenditure Statement) for the year ending 31 March 2022

|  | Note | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2022<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2021<br>£ |
|--|------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Income:</b>   |      |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| <i>Donations &amp; Legacies:</i>                                       |      |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Donations  | 2    | 2,622                      | -                        | 2,622                       | 8,544                       |
| <i>Income from charitable activities:</i>                              |      |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Grants - core funding  | 3    | 1,101,377                  | -                        | 1,101,377                   | 1,101,652                   |
| Operation of building and related artistic programme                   | 4    | 110,929                    | 25,643                   | 136,572                     | 5,648                       |
| Provision of participatory activities                                  | 5    | 18,310                     | 273,617                  | 291,927                     | 391,621                     |
| Health & Science   | 6    | 5,000                      | 121,999                  | 126,999                     | 60,850                      |
| Creative Experts   |      |                            |                          | -                           | 6,261                       |
| Capital Refurbishment Project Grants                                   | 7    | -                          | -                        | -                           | 738,179                     |
| <i>Income from other trading activities:</i>                           |      |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Commercial trading operations  | 8    | 97,538                     | -                        | 97,538                      | 28,170                      |
| Investment income  |      | 98                         | -                        | 98                          | 372                         |
| Insurance claim  |      |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Other Income   | 9    | 124,248                    | 101,385                  | 225,633                     | 375,651                     |
| <b>Total income</b>  |      | <b>1,460,122</b>           | <b>522,644</b>           | <b>1,982,766</b>            | <b>2,716,949</b>            |
| <b>Expenditure:</b>  |      |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| <i>Costs of raising funds:</i>   |      |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Commercial trading operations  |      | 58,662                     | 22,298                   | 80,960                      | 81,778                      |
| Fundraising support costs  |      | 85,900                     | -                        | 85,900                      | 63,147                      |
| <i>Expenditure on charitable activities:</i>                           |      |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Operation of building and related artistic programme                   | 10   | 1,259,655                  | 486,615                  | 1,746,270                   | 1,275,281                   |
| Provision of participatory activities                                  | 10   | 127,344                    | 300,671                  | 428,015                     | 304,133                     |
| Health & Science   | 10   | 14,245                     | 125,815                  | 140,060                     | 40,012                      |
| Creative Experts   |      |                            |                          | -                           | 3,065                       |
| Capital Refurbishment Project  | 10   | 4,785                      | 1,681                    | 6,466                       | 79,697                      |
| <b>Total expenditure</b>   |      | <b>1,550,591</b>           | <b>937,080</b>           | <b>2,487,671</b>            | <b>1,847,113</b>            |
| <b>Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds for the year</b> |      | <b>(90,469)</b>            | <b>(414,436)</b>         | <b>(504,905)</b>            | <b>869,836</b>              |
| Theatre Tax Relief   |      | -                          | -                        | -                           | 16,120                      |
| Transfer of funds  | 21   | 196,492                    | (196,492)                | -                           | -                           |
|  |      | <b>106,023</b>             | <b>(610,928)</b>         | <b>(504,906)</b>            | <b>885,956</b>              |
| <b>Reconciliation of funds</b>   |      |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Total Funds brought forward  |      | 589,192                    | 8,118,990                | 8,708,182                   | 7,822,225                   |
| <b>Total funds carried forward</b>                                     |      | <b>695,215</b>             | <b>7,508,062</b>         | <b>8,203,277</b>            | <b>8,708,181</b>            |

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 27 to 47 form an integral part of the financial statements

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2022

### Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited

#### Balance Sheet

as at 31 March 2022

|                                       | Note | 2022<br>£        | 2021<br>£        |
|---------------------------------------|------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Fixed assets</b>                   |      |                  |                  |
| Tangible assets                       | 17   | 7,577,110        | 7,526,404        |
| <b>Total Fixed Assets</b>             |      | <b>7,577,110</b> | <b>7,526,404</b> |
| <b>Current assets</b>                 |      |                  |                  |
| Debtors                               | 18   | 317,620          | 834,585          |
| Cash at bank and in hand              |      | 712,296          | 872,135          |
| <b>Total Current Assets</b>           |      | <b>1,029,916</b> | <b>1,706,720</b> |
| <b>Liabilities</b>                    |      |                  |                  |
| Creditors falling due within one year | 19   | 244,173          | 349,015          |
| <b>Net Current assets</b>             |      | <b>785,743</b>   | <b>1,357,704</b> |
| Creditors falling due over one year   | 20   | 159,576          | 175,926          |
| <b>Net assets</b>                     |      | <b>8,203,277</b> | <b>8,708,182</b> |
| <b>The funds of the Charity:</b>      | 21   |                  |                  |
| Unrestricted general funds            |      | 535,215          | 429,192          |
| Designated income funds               |      | 160,000          | 160,000          |
| Restricted income funds               |      | 262,949          | 878,180          |
| Restricted building funds             |      | 7,245,113        | 7,240,810        |
| <b>Total charity funds</b>            |      | <b>8,203,277</b> | <b>8,708,182</b> |

Registered Company No: 01066757

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

These financial statements were approved by the members of the Board authorised for issue on the 7 December 2022 and are signed on their behalf by:

Signed



Mr Junior Akinola, Chair of Board on behalf of the Trustees

The notes on pages 27 to 47 form an integral part of the financial statements.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Statement of Cash Flows for the year ending 31 March 2022

### Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited

#### Statement of Cash Flows

for year ending 31 March 2022

|   | Note | 2022<br>£        | 2021<br>£        |
|---|------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Cash used in operating activities</b>                      | 24   | <b>244,383</b>   | <b>916,478</b>   |
| <b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>                   |      |                  |                  |
| Interest income   |      | 98               | 372              |
| Insurance claim   |      | 25,426           | -                |
| Sale of tangible fixed assets                                 |      | 0                | (238)            |
| Purchase of tangible fixed assets                             |      | (404,293)        | (844,268)        |
| <b>Cash used in investing activities</b>                      |      | <b>(378,769)</b> | <b>(844,133)</b> |
| Loan (repayments)/advance from Manchester City Council        |      | (25,453)         | 200,000          |
| <b>Cash used in financing activities</b>                      |      | <b>(25,453)</b>  | <b>200,000</b>   |
| (Decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year  |      | (159,839)        | 272,347          |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year        |      | 872,135          | 599,788          |
| <b>Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b> |      | <b>712,296</b>   | <b>872,135</b>   |

Cash and cash equivalents is made up solely of cash at bank and in hand.

The notes at pages 27 to 47 form an integral part of the financial statements.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022

### 1. Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

#### a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

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

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

#### b) Judgements and key accounting estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

#### Significant judgements

The judgements (apart from those involving estimations) that management has made in the process of applying the entity's accounting policies and that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are as follows:

- Determination of whether there are indicators of impairment of Contact's tangible fixed assets. Factors taken into consideration in reaching such a decision include the economic viability and expected future financial performance or charitable use of the asset.
- Determination of whether leases entered into by Contact as lessee are operating or finance leases. These decisions depend on an assessment of whether the risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred from the lessor to the lessee on a lease by lease basis.

#### Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Accounting estimates and assumptions are made concerning the future and, by their nature, will rarely equal the related actual outcome. The key assumptions and other sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are as follows:

- Determination of recoverability of trade debtors. A specific provision is made against certain debts where in the opinion of the trustees the debt is not fully recoverable.

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022

- Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the assets and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. In re-assessing asset lives, factors such as technological innovation, product life cycles and maintenance are taken into account. Residual value assessments consider issues such as future market conditions, the remaining life of the asset and projected disposal values.

#### c) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The Trustees have carefully considered The Charity's going concern position as it nears the end of the current round of Arts Council England's National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) funding. Contact has recently been awarded funding for the next cycle of NPO funding. The funding cycle covers 3 years from April 2023 to March 2026. Manchester City Council and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) have confirmed funding for the year to March 2023 and we are in active discussions with them about future funding, seeking uplift in both cases. Although the NPO funding continues at the same level, we continue to seek new funding partners and have been successful at increasing funds to support our core work.

The Charity is likely to meet its commercial profit targets for 2022-23 and we plan to develop these income streams further in 2023-24.

The free reserves currently stand at just over the reserves policy's requirement of three months' operating costs. Contact has budgets in place to maintain free reserves at three months operating costs over the next NPO funding period.

The Trustees therefore believe it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis.

#### d) Income recognition policies

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- the Charity has entitlement to the funds;
- any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met or are fully within the control of the Charity;
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable; and
- the amount can be measured reliably.

Income received in advance of a theatrical performance or provision of other specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022

### 1. Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

### 2. Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the Charity. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the Charity's work or for specific artistic projects being undertaken by the Charity.

### 3. Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise the costs of trading including commercial hires and their associated support costs and fundraising support costs.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of performances, touring, participatory work and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the Charity and their associated support costs. Expenditure on the capital redevelopment project is also included in this heading.
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.
- Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

### 4. Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist Contact's work but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support Contact's artistic programme and participatory activities. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 11.

### 5. Operating leases

Contact classifies the lease of printing equipment as an operating lease; the title to the equipment remains with the lessor and the equipment is replaced every 5 years whilst the economic life of such equipment is normally 10 years. Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022

#### 6. Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

| <b>Asset Category</b>         | <b>Annual rate</b> |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Long term leasehold buildings | 2 – 10%            |
| Fixtures and fittings         | 20 – 50%           |
| Computer equipment            | 25 – 33%           |
| Motor vehicles                | 20%                |

Land is not depreciated.

Building redevelopment construction costs are capitalised in the year they occur and depreciated over the remaining length of the lease. Fixtures and fittings purchased as part of the capital redevelopment project are not depreciated until the date of use. Professional fees relating to the capital redevelopment project have been expensed in the year they occurred.

Donated fixed assets are recognised at fair value which is the amount Contact would have been willing to pay for the items on the open market.

#### 7. Debtors

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

#### 8. Cash at bank and in hand

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

#### 9. Creditors and provisions

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

#### 10. Financial instruments

Contact only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022**

subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The financing charge to expenditure is at a constant rate calculated using the effective interest method.

#### **11. Pensions**

Contact contributes to a group money purchase defined contribution pension scheme operated by The People's Pension. New and existing employees are automatically enrolled into the money purchase scheme unless they have exercised their right to opt out of scheme membership.

Employees joining the money purchase pension scheme operated by The People's Pension, contract directly with the insurance company. Contact makes a matching contribution of 3% of salary to this pension scheme and acts as agent in collecting and paying over employee pension contributions. The contributions made for the accounting period are treated as an expense and were £16,455 (2021: £16,868). There were no contributions outstanding as at the balance sheet date.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022

### 1. Legal status of the Charity

Contact is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England & Wales, and has no share capital. In the event of Contact being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of Contact.

The registered office address is Contact Theatre, Devas Street, Oxford Road, Manchester, M15 6JA. Contact is the leading UK arts organisation to place young people's leadership and decision making at the heart of everything. Our main areas of activity are:

- Providing transformative opportunities for young people
- Producing high quality new work with a focus on pressing social realities and presenting the future mainstream with a diverse and pioneering programme
- Operating a unique, ethical and welcoming building.

### 2. Income from donations

|           | <b>Unrestricted<br/>Funds<br/>2022<br/>£</b> | <b>Restricted<br/>Funds<br/>2022<br/>£</b> | <b>Total<br/>Funds<br/>2022<br/>£</b> | <b>Total<br/>Funds<br/>2021<br/>£</b> |
|-----------|--|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Donations | 2,622  | -  | 2,622                                 | 8,544                                 |
|           | <b>2,622</b>                                 | <b>-</b>                                   | <b>2,622</b>                          | <b>8,544</b>                          |

Income from donations includes Gift Aid. From time to time Contact benefits from the involvement and support of volunteers. In accordance with accounting standards, the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

### 3. Unrestricted Grant Income from Core Funders

|  | <b>2022<br/>£</b> | <b>2021<br/>£</b> |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| GMCA (Greater Manchester Culture & Social Impact Fund) | 97,000            | 97,000            |
| The University of Manchester                           | 41,080            | 41,080            |
| Manchester City Council                                | 30,000            | 30,275            |
| Arts Council England – National Portfolio Organisation | 933,297           | 933,297           |
|  | <b>1,101,377</b>  | <b>1,101,652</b>  |

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022

### 4. Income from artistic programme

In the year Contact presented a number of digital, online performances as well as face to face live performances and Queer Contact 2022.

|  | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>2022<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2022<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2022<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2021<br>£ |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Income from theatre performances         | 101,362                            | -                                | 101,362                     | 3,648                       |
| Income from touring productions          | 9,567                              | -                                | 9,567                       | -                           |
| Grime Commission                         | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 2,000                       |
| Manchester City Council – Time Stamp     | -                                  | 2,900                            | 2,900                       | -                           |
| Regional Theatre Young Director's Scheme | -                                  | 22,743                           | 22,743                      | -                           |
| <b>Artistic programme</b>                | <b>110,929</b>                     | <b>25,643</b>                    | <b>136,572</b>              | <b>5,648</b>                |

### 5. Income for Provision of Participatory Activities

|  | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>2022<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2022<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2022<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2021<br>£ |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| C Change                                     | -                                  | 6,000                            | 6,000                       | 2,850                       |
| Co Creating Change                           | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 625                         |
| Creative Protagonists                        | -                                  | 3,440                            | 3,440                       | 10,923                      |
| Esmee Fairbairn Foundation                   | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 29,787                      |
| Far Apart UK                                 | -                                  | 18,600                           | 18,600                      | 8,000                       |
| Future Fires                                 | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 8,716                       |
| Ironmongers                                  | -                                  | 4,304                            | 4,304                       | -                           |
| MCEP Youth Voice Pilot                       | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 3,000                       |
| Other Income                                 | 2,980                              | -                                | 2,980                       | 4,000                       |
| Steel foundation                             | -                                  | 15,000                           | 15,000                      | -                           |
| Studio School                                | -                                  | 800                              | 800                         | 9,883                       |
| The Agency (Reaching Communities)            | 10,330                             | 130,518                          | 140,848                     | 83,768                      |
| The Agency film                              | 5,000                              | -                                | 5,000                       | -                           |
| Weston Culture Fund                          | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 178,090                     |
| Young Manchester/Groundworks                 | -                                  | -                                | -                           | 14,980                      |
| Young Manchester Holiday Club                | -                                  | 10,000                           | 10,000                      | -                           |
| Youth & Play Creative Connections            | -                                  | -                                | -                           | -                           |
| Young Manchester                             | -                                  | 44,957                           | 44,957                      | 7,000                       |
| Youth Music                                  | -                                  | 39,998                           | 39,998                      | 29,999                      |
| <b>Provision of Participatory Activities</b> | <b>18,310</b>                      | <b>273,617</b>                   | <b>291,927</b>              | <b>391,621</b>              |

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022

### 6. Income for Health & Science Activities

|                                       | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>2022<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2022<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2022<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2021<br>£ |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                                       |                                    |                                  | -                           |                                  |
| Curiosity Fund                        | -                                  | 10,430                           | 10,430                      | 500                              |
| GMCDP                                 | -                                  | 6,970                            | 6,970                       | -                                |
| GMCVO - Trauma responsive communities | -                                  | 10,000                           | 10,000                      | -                                |
| MCC - Covid Impact Fund               | -                                  | 24,885                           | 24,885                      | -                                |
| MCC - First 1000 Days                 | -                                  | 50,000                           | 50,000                      | -                                |
| UoM - Devices                         | 5,000                              | -                                | 5,000                       | -                                |
| Wellcome Trust                        | -                                  | 19,714                           | 19,714                      | 60,350                           |
|                                       | <b>5,000</b>                       | <b>121,999</b>                   | <b>126,999</b>              | <b>60,850</b>                    |

### 7. Restricted Grant Income for Capital Redevelopment Project

|  | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2022<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2021<br>£ |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Arts Council England – Large Capital Grant | -                                | 295,489                          |
| Arts Council England – Kickstart           | -                                | 424,799                          |
| Business Growth Hub                        | -                                | 2,891                            |
| Thomas Deane Trust                         | -                                | 15,000                           |
|  | <b>-</b>                         | <b>738,179</b>                   |

### 8. Income earned from trading activities

Trading income consists of income from the provision of accountancy and consultancy services to other arts organisations, hire of spaces and office hire, retail sales of confectionery, and revenue from the lease of the bar area.

|                      | 2022<br>£     | 2021<br>£     |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Accountancy services | 11,083        | 16,475        |
| Bar & Catering       | 5,425         | -             |
| Hire of Spaces       | 43,382        | -             |
| Office hires         | 13,500        | -             |
| Consultancy services | 21,875        | 3,820         |
| Retail               | 2,273         | 7,875         |
|                      | <b>97,538</b> | <b>28,170</b> |

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022

### 9. Other Income

|                                 | <b>Unrestricted<br/>Funds<br/>2022<br/>£</b> | <b>Restricted<br/>Funds<br/>2022<br/>£</b> | <b>Total<br/>Funds<br/>2022<br/>£</b> | <b>Total<br/>Funds<br/>2021<br/>£</b> |
|---------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Coutts Foundation revenue grant | 50,000                                       | -  | 50,000                                | -                                     |
| HMRC CJRS                       | 1,119  | -  | 1,119                                 | 132,074                               |
| Insurance claim                 | 25,426                                       | -  | 25,426                                | -                                     |
| Kickstart jobs scheme           | 6,032  | -  | 6,032                                 | -                                     |
| MCC - Discretionary Grants      | -  | -  | -                                     | 25,000                                |
| MCC - Local Restrictions Grants | 41,671                                       | -  | 41,671                                | 24,857                                |
| ACE Culture Recovery Fund       | -  | 96,555                                     | 96,555                                | 193,720                               |
| TfGM - cycling infrastructure   | -  | 4,830                                      | 4,830                                 | -                                     |
|                                 | <b>124,248</b>                               | <b>101,385</b>                             | <b>225,633</b>                        | <b>375,651</b>                        |

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022

### 10. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

|  | Artistic<br>programme | Provision of<br>participatory<br>activities | Health &<br>Science<br>activities | Capital<br>Project | Total<br><br>2022 | Total<br><br>2021 |
|--|-----------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|  | £                     | £   | £                                 | £                  | £                 | £                 |
| Salaries   | 523,335               | 170,263                                     | 29,596                            | -                  | 723,194           | 659,699           |
| Facilitator fees,<br>project costs &<br>expenses | 17,200                | 245,503                                     | 110,027                           | -                  | 372,730           | 149,607           |
| Travel,<br>accommodation &<br>subsistence        | 6,525                 | 12,249                                      | 437                               | -                  | 19,211            | 8,514             |
| Specialist fees &<br>advice                      | -                     | -   | -                                 | -                  | -                 | 21,322            |
| Production &<br>touring costs                    | 54,316                | -   | -                                 | -                  | 54,316            | 5,569             |
| Artists fees and<br>box office splits            | 117,674               | -   | -                                 | -                  | 117,674           | 30,828            |
| Commissioning &<br>artist<br>development         | 12,486                | -   | -                                 | -                  | 12,486            | 29,652            |
| Box office and<br>marketing costs                | 82,833                | -   | -                                 | -                  | 82,833            | 62,565            |
| Premises &<br>technical costs                    | 276,618               | -   | -                                 | 6,466              | 283,084           | 228,639           |
| Finance charges                                  | 10,712                | -   | -                                 | -                  | 10,712            | 10,193            |
| Recruitment &<br>Training                        | 53,893                | -   | -                                 | -                  | 53,893            | 21,206            |
| Bad debts & write<br>offs                        | -                     | -   | -                                 | -                  | -                 | 44                |
| Depreciation                                     | 353,587               | -   | -                                 | -                  | 353,587           | 294,438           |
| Loss on disposal<br>of fixed asset               | -                     | -   | -                                 | -                  | -                 | (238)             |
| Governance costs<br>(see note 11)                | 21,866                | -   | -                                 | -                  | 21,866            | 17,572            |
| Support costs (see<br>note 11)                   | 215,225               | -   | -                                 | -                  | 215,225           | 162,577           |
| <b>Total</b>                                     | <b>1,746,270</b>      | <b>428,015</b>                              | <b>140,060</b>                    | <b>6,466</b>       | <b>2,320,811</b>  | <b>1,702,187</b>  |

Of the £2,320,811 expenditure in 2021-22 (2021: £1,702,187), £1,406,029 was charged to unrestricted funds (2021: £1,089,850) and £914,782 to restricted funds (2021: £612,333).

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022

### 11. Analysis of governance and support costs

Contact initially identifies the costs of its support functions. It then identifies those costs which relate to the governance function. Having identified its governance costs, the remaining support costs together with the governance costs are apportioned between the key charitable activities undertaken (see note 10) in the year. Refer to the table below for the basis for apportionment and the analysis of support and governance costs.

|  | <b>General support</b> | <b>Governance function</b> | <b>Total 2022</b> | <b>Total 2021</b> | <b>Basis of apportionment</b> |
|--|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
|  | <b>£</b>               | <b>£</b>                   | <b>£</b>          | <b>£</b>          |                               |
| Catering for Board & Trustee Meetings and general expenses | -                      | 170                        | 170               | 1,968             | Direct                        |
| Salaries, wages and related costs                          | 183,423                | 7,251                      | 190,674           | 134,783           | Staff time                    |
| General office costs                                       | 31,802                 | -                          | 31,802            | 34,656            | Direct                        |
| Audit & tax fees   | -                      | 14,445                     | 14,445            | 8,741             | Direct                        |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>215,225</b>         | <b>21,866</b>              | <b>237,091</b>    | <b>180,149</b>    |                               |

### 12. Net income/(expenditure) for the year

|                                       | <b>2022</b>    | <b>2021</b>    |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                       | <b>£</b>       | <b>£</b>       |
| <b>This is stated after charging:</b> |                |                |
| Operating leases – equipment          | 1,488          | 4,106          |
| Depreciation                          | 353,587        | 294,438        |
| Loss on disposal of fixed assets      | -              | 238            |
| Audit fees                            | 9,960          | 6,856          |
| Tax fees                              | 4,485          | 1,885          |
|                                       | <b>369,520</b> | <b>307,523</b> |

### 13. Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

|                       | <b>2022</b>      | <b>2021</b>    |
|-----------------------|------------------|----------------|
|                       | <b>£</b>         | <b>£</b>       |
| Salaries and wages    | 971,985          | 809,601        |
| Social security costs | 81,551           | 72,573         |
| Pension costs         | 16,455           | 16,868         |
|                       | <b>1,069,991</b> | <b>899,042</b> |

No employees had employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2021: nil). Pension costs are allocated to activities in proportion to the related staffing costs incurred.

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022

The key management personnel of Contact comprise the Trustees, the Artistic Director/Chief Executive, Head of Creative Development, Head of Finance, Head of Commercial & Visitor Experience, Head of Marketing & Communications and Head of Production. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £240,300 (2021: £254,323).

Trustees are not paid for carrying out their trustee duties nor do they receive any other benefits from their association with Contact. No trustees were reimbursed expenses during the year (2021: £39).

#### 14. Staff Numbers

The average monthly head count was 37 staff (2021: 29 staff) and the average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees (including casual and part-time staff) during the year was as follows:

|  | <b>2022</b>   | <b>2021</b>   |
|--|---------------|---------------|
|  | <b>Number</b> | <b>Number</b> |
| Permanent staff including part time staff on permanent basis | <b>38</b>     | <b>30</b>     |

#### 15. Related party transactions

Contact and the University of Manchester have an agreement which allows for Contact to lease the building from the University, to access some facilities and services, and to collaborate with the University on programming some events for and by students. On this basis Contact feels it is appropriate to disclose transactions with the University as related party transactions.

The University of Manchester awarded grants to Contact of £41,080 (2021: £41,080).

Contact provided Creative Experts services, artistic services and hire of spaces of £6,650 (2021: £9,538) to the University of Manchester. There was an outstanding balance due from the University of £49,296 as at 31 March 2022 (2021: £420). Contact purchased goods and services from the University of Manchester of £0 (2021: £360). There was an outstanding balance due to the University as at 31 March 2022 of £0 (2021: £360).

The Arts Council of England which provides core funding to Contact has a charge over the land and buildings of Contact.

Mr Joshua Wilkinson, Ms Grainne Flynn, Ms Ali Wilson, Mr Junior Akinola, and Ms Faidat Ope, all trustees of Contact, were engaged on a freelance basis for various projects throughout the year, although not in their role as trustees. Mr Wilkinson and his joint enterprises received £20,612 (2021: £7,134), Ms Flynn received £100 (2021: £nil), Ms Wilson received £2,517 (2021: £nil), Mr Akinola received £2,980 (2021: £100), and Ms Ope received £572 (2021: £nil). There was an outstanding balance due to Mr Wilkinson of £nil as at 31 March 2022 (2021: £160).

Donations from trustees amounted to nil in the year (2021: £nil).

During the year, Councillor Amna Abdullatif (resigned 14 December 2021) was an elected representative of Manchester City Council which is a core funder of Contact.

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022

#### 16. Corporation Taxation

Contact is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

In 2021 Contact incurred qualifying losses in respect of theatre productions and these were surrendered for a cash payment from HMRC under the Theatre Tax Relief scheme. Where the receipt of these tax credits is probable, they are included in the accounts in the year following the year in which the qualifying losses were included.

#### 17. Tangible fixed assets

|                     | Land and buildings | Fixtures and fittings | Motor vehicles | Computer Equipment | Total 2022        |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------------|
|                     | £                  | £                     | £              | £                  | £                 |
| Cost:               |                    |                       |                |                    |                   |
| Brought forward     | 10,250,487         | 157,192               | 15,469         | 98,361             | 10,521,509        |
| Additions           | 209,862            | 103,415               | -              | 91,016             | 404,293           |
| Disposals           | (12,000)           | (640)                 | -              | (24,666)           | (37,306)          |
| Carried forward     | <b>10,448,349</b>  | <b>259,967</b>        | <b>15,469</b>  | <b>164,711</b>     | <b>10,888,496</b> |
| Depreciation:       |                    |                       |                |                    |                   |
| Brought forward     | 2,799,172          | 101,734               | 15,469         | 78,730             | 2,995,105         |
| Disposals           | (12,000)           | (640)                 | -              | (24,666)           | (37,306)          |
| Charge for the year | 298,063            | 14,656                | -              | 40,868             | 353,587           |
| Carried forward     | <b>3,085,235</b>   | <b>115,750</b>        | <b>15,469</b>  | <b>94,932</b>      | <b>3,311,386</b>  |
| Net book value      |                    |                       |                |                    |                   |
| Brought forward     | 7,451,315          | 55,458                | -              | 19,631             | 7,526,404         |
| Carried forward     | <b>7,363,114</b>   | <b>144,217</b>        | <b>-</b>       | <b>69,779</b>      | <b>7,577,110</b>  |

£nil (2021: £588,719) included in the Land & Buildings cost figure is in development and has not been depreciated.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022

### 18. Debtors

|                                | <b>2022</b>    | <b>2021</b>    |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                | <b>£</b>       | <b>£</b>       |
| Trade debtors                  | 113,740        | 82,918         |
| Deferred costs                 | -              | 2,873          |
| Prepayments and accrued income | 55,572         | 48,734         |
| Grants receivable              | 146,917        | 692,190        |
| VAT receivable                 | 1,391          | 7,870          |
|                                | <b>317,620</b> | <b>834,585</b> |

### 19. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

|                                    | <b>2022</b>    | <b>2021</b>    |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                    | <b>£</b>       | <b>£</b>       |
| Trade creditors                    | 90,878         | 123,634        |
| Other creditors                    | 12,703         | 1,106          |
| Accruals and deferred income       | 98,493         | 174,598        |
| Taxation and social security costs | 27,129         | 25,603         |
| Manchester City Council Loan       | 14,970         | 24,074         |
|                                    | <b>244,173</b> | <b>349,015</b> |

Deferred income comprises advance ticket sales for performances of shows due to take place post 31 March 2022, and income for projects due to take place post 31 March 2022.

|                                 | <b>2022</b>   | <b>2021</b>   |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                 | <b>£</b>      | <b>£</b>      |
| Deferred income brought forward | 13,256        | 54,171        |
| Released in the year            | (10,181)      | (52,421)      |
| Income deferred in the year     | 57,766        | 11,506        |
| Deferred income carried forward | <b>60,841</b> | <b>13,256</b> |

### 20. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

|                              | <b>2022</b>    | <b>2021</b>    |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                              | <b>£</b>       | <b>£</b>       |
| Manchester City Council Loan | 159,576        | 175,926        |
|                              | <b>159,576</b> | <b>175,926</b> |

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022

### Loans repayable by instalments:

|                           | 2022<br>£      | 2021<br>£      |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Due in less than one year | 14,970         | 24,074         |
| Due in one to two years   | 20,597         | 20,051         |
| Due in two to five years  | 66,411         | 64,649         |
| Due in over five years    | 72,569         | 91,226         |
|                           | <b>174,547</b> | <b>200,000</b> |

Manchester City Council has provided a £200,000 loan at a rate of 2.7% + the EC Reference Rate which is the variable rate. Manchester City Council holds Quasi-security over The Manchester Young People's Theatre building, whereby a negative pledge is in place.

### 21. Analysis of charitable funds

#### Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

|   | Balance 1<br>April 2021<br>£ | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Transfers<br>£ | Funds 31<br>March<br>2022<br>£ |
|---|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| General fund  | 429,192                      | 1,460,122                  | 1,550,591                  | 196,492        | 535,215                        |
| Designated fund<br>(Capital<br>Redevelopment Project) | 160,000                      |                            |                            |                | 160,000                        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>589,192</b>               | <b>1,460,122</b>           | <b>1,550,591</b>           | <b>196,492</b> | <b>695,215</b>                 |

#### Name of unrestricted fund      Description, nature and purposes of the fund

General fund                                      The 'unrestricted reserves' after allowing for all designated funds and including unrestricted fixed assets

Designated fund                                      Designated fund for Capital Redevelopment Project

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022

### 21 Analysis of charitable funds (continued)

|  | Balance 1<br>April 2021 | Incoming<br>resources | Resources<br>expended | Transfers | Funds 31<br>March 2022 |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------|------------------------|
|  | £                       | £                     | £                     | £         | £                      |
| Building Fund  | 7,240,810               | -                     | 323,411               | 327,714   | 7,245,113              |
| TFGM active travel   | -                       | 4,830                 | 1,681                 | (3,149)   | -                      |
| The Agency Phase 3   | 69,236                  | -                     | 3,608                 | (65,628)  | -                      |
| The Agency extension 1                                     | 5,015                   | -                     | 1,597                 | (3,418)   | -                      |
| The Agency extension 2                                     | 31,934                  | -                     | 31,934                | -         | -                      |
| The Agency 2021-2026                                       | -                       | 110,518               | 63,358                | (27,924)  | 19,236                 |
| The Agency Alumni  | -                       | 20,000                | -                     | 4,425     | 24,425                 |
| Media Drop 2.0 (Youth Music)                               | 14,576                  | 39,998                | 50,515                | -         | 4,059                  |
| Capital Refurbishment Project                              | 383,796                 | -                     | 22,537                | (327,714) | 33,545                 |
| Diverse Actions (Live Art UK)                              | 1,206                   | -                     | -                     | -         | 1,206                  |
| Capsule 2119   | 880                     | -                     | -                     | -         | 880                    |
| Wellcome Trust (Health & Science<br>Producer)              | 53,005                  | 19,714                | 61,746                | -         | 10,973                 |
| Curiosity Fund   | 3,438                   | 10,430                | 9,162                 | -         | 4,706                  |
| Steel foundation   | -                       | 15,000                | 10,798                | -         | 4,202                  |
| GMCDP  | -                       | 6,970                 | 1,880                 | -         | 5,090                  |
| GMCVO - Trauma responsive communities                      | -                       | 10,000                | -                     | -         | 10,000                 |
| RTYDS Regional Theatre Young Directors<br>Scheme           | -                       | 22,743                | 18,781                | -         | 3,962                  |
| Ironmongers  | -                       | 4,304                 | 1,650                 | -         | 2,654                  |
| NW Youth People's Development Trust                        | 9,324                   | -                     | 9,324                 | -         | -                      |
| The House is on Fire (Young Manchester)                    | 8,484                   | -                     | 8,484                 | -         | -                      |
| Here & Now (Arts Council England / Future<br>Arts Centres) | 2,000                   | -                     | 2,000                 | -         | -                      |
| Manchester City Council Health & Care<br>Commissioning     | 16,863                  | -                     | -                     | -         | 16,863                 |
| Young Manchester Holiday Club                              | -                       | 10,000                | 10,000                | -         | -                      |
| Youth & Play (YM) Creative Connections                     | 14,040                  | 44,957                | 46,153                | -         | 12,844                 |
| Creative Protagonists (Reclaim)                            | 4,959                   | 3,440                 | 8,399                 | -         | -                      |
| MCEP Youth Voice Pilot                                     | 1,750                   | -                     | 1,750                 | -         | -                      |
| Future Fires   | 7,186                   | -                     | 7,186                 | -         | -                      |
| Studio School  | 4,428                   | 800                   | 5,228                 | -         | -                      |
| C Change project   | 2,850                   | 6,000                 | 8,258                 | -         | 592                    |
| People's Palace Far Apart                                  | 7,464                   | 18,600                | 16,758                | -         | 9,306                  |
| Time stamp   | -                       | 2,900                 | -                     | -         | 2,900                  |
| Covid impact fund  | -                       | 24,885                | 10,174                | -         | 14,711                 |
| First 1000 days  | -                       | 50,000                | 35,408                | -         | 14,592                 |

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022

|                           |                  |                |                |                  |                  |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| ACE Culture Recovery Fund | 57,656           | 96,555         | 96,555         | (57,656)         | -                |
| Weston Culture Fund       | 178,090          | -              | 68,745         | (43,142)         | 66,203           |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>8,118,990</b> | <b>522,644</b> | <b>937,080</b> | <b>(196,492)</b> | <b>7,508,062</b> |

| <b>Name of restricted fund</b>  | <b>Description, nature and purposes of the fund</b>  |
|---|--|
| Building Fund   | The building fund was established to rebuild and extend the existing theatre and was funded by the Arts Council of England. Expenditure represents the annual depreciation charge. Capital Redevelopment costs are transferred to Building Fund. |
| TFGM active travel  | Transport for Greater Manchester are funding measures to encourage active travel to and from Contact by staff and audiences.   |
| The Agency (The National Lottery Community Fund - Reaching Communities) | Reaching Communities funded the continuation of The Agency Project.  |
| Media Drop 2.0  | Youth Music funded the Media Drop 2.0 music project and the continuation and expansion of the music programme.   |
| Esmée Fairbairn Foundation  | Esmeé Fairbairn Foundation funded the continuation of the Future Fires programme and has also supported Contact Produces to commission new work with a social mission.   |
| Wellcome Trust (Health & Science Producer)                              | The Wellcome Trust funded the post of Health & Science Producer.   |
| Diverse Actions (Live Art UK)   | Contact is a partner in the Live Art UK Diverse Actions project which commissions BAME live art artists to make new work.  |
| Capsule 2119 (PRS Foundation)   | The PRS Foundation is supporting the creation and performance of 16 new songs that would subsequently become a time capsule for the year 2119 placed within Contact's refurbished building.  |
| Curiosity Fund  | Curiosity, a partnership between BBC Children in Need and Wellcome, is funding a new arts project for children aged 15-16 within an area of high deprivation who may be disabled or experience mental health.                                    |
| North West Young People's Development Trust                             | The North West Young People's Development Trust is funding Arts for Mental Health, a six month programme of free participatory arts activities for young people, delivered by young people.  |
| The House is on Fire (Young Manchester)                                 | Young Manchester is funding a youth social change symposium to be delivered in Manchester in 2020.   |
| Here & Now (Arts Council England / Future Arts Centres)                 | Contact is a partner venue on the Future Arts Centres Here & Now project, a national programme of commissions to celebrate the National Lottery's 25th anniversary.  |
| Manchester City Council Health & Care Commissioning                     | Manchester City Council are funding a Community Arts Intervention with young parents in Wythenshawe.   |
| Capital Redevelopment Project   | This fund consists of grants and donations to support the capital redevelopment project  |

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Young Manchester-Youth & Play Creative Connections | Young Manchester is funding a programme for youth workers and arts professionals to share best practice and build new partnerships.   |
| Creative Protagonists                              | Young Manchester is funding a grant to co-deliver a 12 month pilot project that will young people from working class backgrounds in Manchester to exploring art and activism .  |
| MCEP Youth Voice Pilot                             | Grant to deliver workshops for the Creative Influencers two youth boards supporting the work of Manchester Cultural Education Partnership.  |
| Future Fires                                       | Education and Skills Funding Agency is funding a leadership programme supporting young people to run their own socially engaged arts projects.  |
| Studio School                                      | The National Lottery Community Fund is funding a music project for young people in alternative education or at risk of exclusion.   |
| C Change Project Far Apart                         | Manchester City Council is funding a production of a show on climate change. People's Palace Projects is funding a research project to look beyond lockdown to understand how UK Arts organisations can continue to support young people's wellbeing during Covid-19. |
| Cultural Recovery Fund                             | Arts Council England funded financial support to cultural organisations impacted by Covid.  |
| Weston Culture Fund                                | Garfield Weston Foundation funded cultural organisations to restart their work after Covid and to re-engage audiences it supported and outdoor programme of activities and events.  |
| Steel foundation GMCDP                             | Steel Foundation are funding music workshops for young people<br>GMCDP funded a creative development programme for neurodivergent, Deaf and disabled young people. The outcome was a performance focused on disability history called DIS:Play.                       |
| GMCVO - Trauma responsive communities              | GMCVO funded The Arts and Trauma network. A monthly meeting exploring best practice for trauma informed work. The network includes 16 network members from across Greater Manchester.   |
| RTYDS Regional Theatre Young Directors Scheme      | The Regional Theatre Young Directors Scheme is funding a residency for an assistant director at Contact for 18 months.  |
| Ironmongers  | The Ironmongers Foundation has awarded funding to encourage young people to get more involved in the arts and theatre.  |
| Young Manchester Holiday Club                      | Young Manchester is funding a programme to provide arts workshops for young people during school term breaks.   |
| Time stamp   | Manchester City Council is funding a production of a show on young people's experiences of lockdown during the Covid-19 pandemic.   |
| Covid impact fund                                  | One Manchester is funding a report into the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the mental health of staff and participants at Contact.  |
| First 1000 days                                    | One Manchester is funding a creative development project for parents in Harpurhey and Moston. The outcome was a week long of activities called Kids Fun Zone at Harpurhey Neighbourhood Project.  |

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022

#### 22. Analysis of net assets between funds

|                                    | Unrestricted<br>Funds 2022<br>£ | Designated<br>Funds 2022<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds 2022<br>£ | Total<br>2022<br>£ |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Tangible fixed assets              | 78,464                          | -                             | 7,498,646                     | 7,577,110          |
| Cash at bank and in hand           | 513,289                         | 160,000                       | 39,007                        | 712,296            |
| Other current assets/(liabilities) | (56,538)                        | -                             | (29,591)                      | (86,129)           |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>535,215</b>                  | <b>160,000</b>                | <b>7,508,062</b>              | <b>8,203,277</b>   |
|                                    | Unrestricted<br>Funds 2021<br>£ | Designated<br>Funds 2021<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds 2021<br>£ | Total<br>2021<br>£ |
| Tangible fixed assets              | 59,472                          |                               | 7,466,932                     | 7,526,404          |
| Cash at bank and in hand           | 443,047                         | 160,000                       | 269,088                       | 872,135            |
| Other current assets/(liabilities) | (73,326)                        |                               | 382,969                       | 309,643            |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>429,193</b>                  | <b>160,000</b>                | <b>8,118,989</b>              | <b>8,708,182</b>   |

#### 23. Commitments under operating leases

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

|  | 2022<br>£  | 2021<br>£    |
|--|------------|--------------|
| Not later than 1 year                        | 802        | 1,249        |
| Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years | 186        | 988          |
|  | <b>988</b> | <b>2,476</b> |

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022

#### 24. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

|  | 2022<br>£      | 2021<br>£      |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Net movement in funds                        | (504,905)      | 885,956        |
| Add back depreciation charge                 | 353,587        | 294,438        |
| Deduct income from insurance claim           | (25,426)       | -              |
| Deduct interest (investing activities)       | (98)           | (372)          |
| Loss/(profit) on disposal of fixed assets    | -              | 238            |
| Decrease in stock                            | -              | 239            |
| Increase in debtors                          | 516,965        | (86,230)       |
| Increase in creditors                        | (95,740)       | (177,792)      |
| <b>Net cash used in operating activities</b> | <b>244,383</b> | <b>916,478</b> |

#### 25. Net Debt Reconciliation

|                                   | Balance<br>1 April 2021<br>£ | Cash Flows<br>£  | Non<br>Cash Changes<br>£ | Balance<br>31 March 2022<br>£ |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Cash & cash equivalents           | 872,135                      | (159,839)        | -                        | 712,296                       |
| Loan from Manchester City Council | (200,000)                    | 25,453           | -                        | (174,547)                     |
|                                   | <b>672,135</b>               | <b>(134,386)</b> | -                        | <b>537,749</b>                |

#### 26. Custodian Funds

Contact acted as a custodian trustee during the year for 4 independent projects run by participants of various Contact programmes. All funds are held as cash and are segregated from the charity's cash holdings.

|                           | Balances Held<br>at 1 April 2021<br>£ | Funds<br>Received<br>£ | Funds Paid<br>£ | Balances Held at<br>31 March 2022<br>£ |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Hate Crime Awareness      | 40                                    | -                      | -               | 40                                     |
| Uniquely Us               | 626                                   | -                      | -               | 626                                    |
| Miray Sidhom commission   | -                                     | 9,310                  | 5,537           | 3,773                                  |
| Resourcing Racial Justice | -                                     | 2,550                  | -               | 2,550                                  |
|                           | <b>666</b>                            | <b>11,860</b>          | <b>5,537</b>    | <b>6,989</b>                           |

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2022

#### 27. Post Balance Sheet Events

On 1 June 2022 the Board de-designated £93,855 of the designated capital fund, which was no longer necessary having secured additional capital funding in previous periods. On 13 June 2022 the Trustees appointed Keisha Thompson as Artistic Director/Chief Executive.

#### 28. Capital Commitments

The capital refurbishment project was concluded in 2021 and there were no future capital commitments in place at 31 March 2022.

|  | <b>2022</b> | <b>2021</b>    |
|--|-------------|----------------|
|  | <b>£</b>    | <b>£</b>       |
| Capital expenditure that has been contracted but has not been provided for in the financial statements | -           | 57,767         |
| Capital expenditure that has been authorised by the Trustees but has not yet been contracted           | -           | 189,914        |
|  | <hr/>       | <hr/>          |
|  | -           | <b>247,681</b> |

**THE MANCHESTER YOUNG PEOPLE'S THEATRE LIMITED**

England & Wales - Charity number 501953

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# Accounts

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**Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Report and Financial Statements**

**Year ending 31 March 2021**



**Charity number: 501953**

**Company number: 01066757**

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Reference and administrative details

Charity number: 501953  
Company number: 01066757  
Registered Office: Contact Theatre, Devas Street, Oxford Road, Manchester, M15 6JA

## Our advisers

|            |                    |  |
|------------|--------------------|--|
| Auditors   | Beever & Struthers | St George's House, 215-219 Chester Rd, Manchester, M15 4JE |
| Bankers    | Natwest Bank plc   | 1 Spinningfields Square, Manchester, M3 3AP                |
| Solicitors | Gateley LLP        | Ship Canal House, 98 King Street, Manchester, M2 4WU       |

## Directors and Trustees

The Directors of the Charitable Company (the Charity) are its trustees for the purpose of charity law. The Trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

### Key management personnel Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited: Trustees and Directors

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Chair  | Mr S Lindsay  | Resigned 3 March 2021                                    |
| Chair  | Mr J Akinola  | Appointed 3 March 2021                                   |
| President                                    | Mr C Austin-Behan   | (Resigned 3 September 2020-<br>Non Trustee role)         |
| University of Manchester<br>representatives: | Mrs J Beggs<br>Mr P Johnson<br>Dr K Dorney  | Resigned 1 November 2020<br>Resigned 1 December 2020     |
| Manchester City Council<br>representative:   | Cllr Alyas  | Resigned 3 June 2020                                     |
| GMCA representatives:                        | Cllr J Emsley   | Resigned (21 March 2021)<br>replacement pending          |
| Elected trustees:                            | Mr R Williams<br>Cllr A Abdullatif<br>Miss A Islam<br>Ms R Tennenhaus<br>Ms G Gibb<br>Ms G Flynn<br>Mr J Wilkinson<br>Ms F Ope<br>Ms A Wilson | Resigned 1 December 2020<br>Resigned 6 August 2020       |
| Secretary                                    | Miss V Yates<br>Mr M Fenton   | Miss V Yates Resigned 30 May<br>2021<br>From 30 May 2021 |

### Key management personnel:

#### Senior managers of Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited:

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Artistic Director/Chief Executive       | M Fenton    |
| Head of Creative Development            | S Henderson |
| Head of Finance & Operations            | V Yates     |
| Head of Marketing & Communications      | N Hopkins   |
| Head of Commercial & Visitor Experience | S Stephens  |
| Head of Production                      | J Dale-Dowd |

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021**

The Trustees are pleased to present their Annual Trustees' Report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ending 31 March 2021 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' Report and Accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

#### **Chair's Report**

This year Contact further developed its youth governance model. In December 2020, I became Contact's first ever young chair of trustees, and with the additional appointment of Faidat Ope (former Contact Agency participant) and Ali Wilson (former Contact young producer) we achieved our ambition for 50% of trustees under 30 to reflect the lives and experience of our key stakeholders – young people. Contact also deepened its engagement with young people by bringing them into the discussion groups exploring our Manifesto of Care and our anti-racism working groups.

Despite the challenges of Covid-19, in many ways Contact was never busier than in 2020-21. While we had to cancel much of our Spring/Summer and Autumn/Winter programmes of live events, with additional funding from several trusts and foundations we were able to keep most staff un-furloughed to provide consistent delivery of our youth work and deliver an ambitious digital events programme.

We were at the point of taking possession of our refurbished and expanded building in March 2020 when the first lockdown struck, so we moved our youth programmes online, distributing laptops to young people lacking access, through support from Young Manchester. We also made the decision to move public programming online, delivering a programme of shows, festivals, health-related work and youth activity.

Inevitably some delivery targets were negatively affected by Covid-19 restrictions and successive lockdowns, in relation both to live audiences and participation numbers. However, we are proud of what we have delivered, and through digital means reached larger audiences with wider geographic reach than we would have otherwise for some projects. There have also been accessibility benefits to delivering activity online, with audiences and participants able to engage with activity who would have been restricted due to disability, access or finances.

In 2020-21 we had over 4,632 digital event attendances (with a further 30,000+ attendances at live-streamed activity), delivered 1,512 free participations for GM young people, and provided professional leadership training to 174 young people. Previous Contact show 'I Told My Mum I Was Going On An RE Trip' was streamed on BBC i-Player as part of BBC Culture in

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021**

Quarantine, and a former Contact-commissioned show by Bolton theatre-maker and comedian Sophie Willian became the acclaimed BBCTV pilot 'Alma's Not Normal'.

We remodelled budgets throughout the financial year, absorbing lost commercial income from box office, catering and event hires, and were able to deliver consultancy work, finance accounting services and some office hire. We made use of the furlough scheme in marketing, finance and facilities roles, as well as delaying new appointments connected to running the new building, to reduce core costs.

We successfully applied to Arts Council England, key trusts and foundations, and business rate relief funds for Covid extension/recovery funding, and ended the financial year with relatively healthy reserves.

**Junior Akinola,  
Chair of the Board of Trustees**

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021**

#### **Objectives and Activities**

Our vision is a world where young people are empowered by creativity to become leaders in both the arts and their communities.

We provide a wealth of opportunities for the next generation of creative leaders, artists and audiences, redefining theatre in the process. We produce and present a programme of outstanding performances, events and festivals in our building, in surprising places and virtual spaces. In 2020/2021, we were again rated as 'outstanding' by Arts Council England in their Creative Case for Diversity, one of a small number organisations nationally.

Our purpose is to provide tangible benefit to young people aged 13-30, though the public programme we co-create with them is available to everyone. We programme and produce diverse, innovative work that draws young audiences, supports early career artists and enhances local communities.

We aim to overcome physical and financial barriers to accessing the arts, so all young people can participate equally. Young people of all backgrounds and abilities engage with our programmes and enjoy our performances.

#### **Our core values are:**

- A young people centred approach to decision making
- Artistic excellence, integrity and creative risk taking
- Respect for diversity of cultures, creativity, and understanding within and between communities
- Development of new artists, audiences and practitioners reaching under-served and excluded young people who may not have connected to theatre or the arts

We use these values to inform our activity, and as the framework for evaluating our progress. In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity(PB2)'.

#### **Our main areas of activity are:**

- **Providing transformative experiences for young people**

Our free weekly programme of creative learning activity for young people aged 13+ covers music, theatre, spoken word, producing and programming, marketing, social enterprise and leadership development. From drop-in activity to developing more specialist artistic, leadership or entrepreneurship skills over a longer period, we encourage young people along a journey from first engagement to Board level

Our longer-term young leadership projects include The Agency, a youth entrepreneurship project that supports young people from underserved wards in North Manchester (and in

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021**

London with partners Battersea Arts Centre and People's Palace Projects) to develop start-up social enterprises.

Contact provides performance and training opportunities for young performers through its renowned ensemble Contact Young Company (CYC). CYC is made up of young performers, actors, dancers, musicians, poets and MCs, and each year creates brand new professional-standard shows in collaboration with major national and international artists. CYC empowers young people of all backgrounds into creative careers, offering an alternative to expensive training.

We nurture the next generation of creative talent who go on to shine in the arts across the country, on stage and in leadership roles.

- **Producing high quality new work with a focus on social realities**

Each year Contact commissions and co-produces new shows for first presentation in Manchester, and for national touring. Contact supports early career artists through a structured programme of seed fund commissions alongside in-house financial, producer and technical support.

Productions focus on pressing social issues relevant to young people. Contact is a leader in the field of diversity and representation, both of which are at the core of both our produced and presented work. Our on-going target is that 50% of the artists that we support are from a Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic background, markedly higher than local or national averages, and a target we again met in 2020-21. Annual Queer Contact Festival is a celebration of Greater Manchester's LGBTQ+ arts and creativity each February. Collectively, the artists presenting work with or at Contact are highly distinctive in the gender, racial, ethnic, social, disability and sexual diversity they represent.

Our presented programme of theatre, music, spoken word, comedy and cabaret features early career and first-time artists alongside internationally acclaimed companies. Contact audiences get to be the first to experience innovative and pioneering shows that go on to major venues and festivals, and to experience the work of artists who go on to renowned and award-winning careers.

- **Operating a unique, ethical and welcoming building**

Contact is an environmentally sustainable building with an energy rating of A. Within this iconic building the atmosphere is open and welcoming, with local young people populating most front-facing roles. Contact provides a meeting place for young people, communities and artists to work and socialise together. We provide free Wi-Fi, and there is no obligation to buy or consume anything in our public spaces.

We also present a high-quality visual art programme of exhibitions and artists' films that complement and often relate to the performance programme. These are curated across public spaces around the building, and are always free to enter.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021**

As an organisation championing young people, Contact pays all staff the national living wage, regardless of age.

The Trustees are proactive in ensuring that our activities benefit the public and young people, and as a consequence have considered the guidance in all our activities and fee charging.

#### **Achievements and Performance 2020-21**

##### **Areas of activity: Providing transformative experiences for young people**

Following the first lock-down in April 2020, we quickly moved our projects online and to Zoom, and with support from Young Manchester, were able to deliver IT to young people on our programmes not able to access the internet consistently.

Contact continued delivery of its flagship youth leadership programmes throughout 2020-21, again mainly online. This was enabled by Covid extension funding (for The Agency via the National Lottery Fund; Future Fires from Esmee Fairbairn Foundation; health programme from Wellcome Trust) as well as additional core/business continuity funding from Manchester City Council and Arts Council England's Covid Recovery Fund.

Extension funding enabled our GM Future Fires cohort to continue to develop their social action projects covering working class artists, care and justice system experienced young people, the Chagossian community, and young people experiencing addiction and recovery. Our Agency programme continued to support creative enterprise projects in North Manchester (and through delivery partners nationally) as well as an intensive summer programme exploring the impacts of Covid on young people in Moston and Harpurhey. During the Autumn, Agency participants began face to face delivery again, working with their producers to adapt and realise their social action projects. These include Dawn to the Light, a video game that helps young people develop coping strategies to support good mental health; Embracing Me, a project that helps young people to develop a positive body image through creative activities; and We:Integrate, a project that works with ex-offenders.

ReCON, our young producers, commissioned a new show exploring the climate emergency, successfully funded as part of the UK-wide Arts Council/Julies Bicycle Season for Change programme. The campaign developed the show through lockdown and will be presented publicly during COP26 in Autumn 2021.

Contact Young Company continued to meet, rehearse and train online, creating their first online show *The Starter Kit*, exploring social movements. They also learned a wide range of new digital skills such as 360-degree filming and integrating social media platforms into live and mediated performance.

We concluded our 22-week online music programme as we prepared to move our music programmes back to the building in our brand-new recording studio and media lounge. Four young people from the music programme received their first professional paid commissions. Our advanced music training programme, Level Up, funded by Youth Music, became online tutorials, as well as face-to-face delivery when possible from the new studio.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021**

Also in March we filmed the first "Monday Mic Night" performances which will become a series of videos published on Contact's online platforms. It showcases the talents of some of our current Level Up young artists alongside artists that Contact has worked with in the past.

#### **Areas of activity: Producing and presenting high quality new work with a focus on social realities**

Despite lockdown restrictions, Contact has delivered an ambitious, diverse and wide-ranging programme of digital events, performances and festivals in 2020-21. Attendance was mainly strong, and most events were ticketed/paid, though at a much-reduced ticket price, so income was markedly lower than for live events. The programme included:-

**Our City Speaks** – Our major project for the summer was *Our City Speaks*, a celebration of the city's spoken word scene. Streamed live by the GM platform United We Stream, the event featured 12 of the best poets and spoken word artists the city has to offer, including Tony Walsh, Keisha Thompson, Louise Wallwein Shamshad Khan, Mandla Rae and Reece Williams. Taking place shortly after the murder of George Floyd, we reframed the event in support of #BlackLivesMatter, and several poets chose alternative content. It drew an online audience of 17,333, with a further 45,200 views of individual poet's content.

**See My Word Festival** – Contact hosted for live-broadcast a series of public panels and events as part of the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Pan African Congress in Manchester in 1945.

**Black Gold Arts Festival** – a packed 3-day programme of theatre, music, spoken word, plus a national symposium on Decolonising Theatre, co-presented by Contact and BGAF for Black History Month.

**Contact and Young Identity – Blue Peter commission.** We were invited to commission 3 young poets to write and perform new pieces (filmed at Contact) responding to Black History Month for children aged 5+ for the BBC/CBBC website.

**Contact Young Company** – CYC's first fully digital show, *The Starter Kit*, was developed and rehearsed entirely via zoom, and performed to sold out online audiences in November.

**Love Letters Straight From Your Heart** – Contact presented Uninvited guests beautiful tribute to missing loved ones, performed and watched via zoom, featuring letters and musical dedications to loved ones written by the audience in advance.

**Link Up Queer Contact artist talk series** – 4 events with artists Adam Ali, Roma Havers, Mark Croasdale, Mandla Rae and invited guests, academics and artists.

**I Read Me: More Black Authors in Schools** – a public talk and book reading by leading children's authors, curated by 8 year-old Maia in response to the lack of diverse authors on the primary curriculum.

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021

**Contact and Young Identity: One Mic Stand** – our regular quarterly spoken word slam events took place in April, July and December, featuring over 30 poets and special guests. The Autumn edition was in support of Black Minds Matter.

**The Digital Forest of Forgotten Discos** – a live-stream digital reimaging of previous Contact festive family show, created and performed by disabled and non-disabled artists. Schools and family audiences watched from the classroom or at home, with associated videos with craft, dance and den-making activities.

In the second half of the year, Contact and artist Keisha Thompson developed anti-racism training package to be delivered by Keisha and a group of young facilitators for Contact staff, as well as for other organisations.

#### Commissioned Artists

Throughout the year we supported young LGBTQ+ artists (Mark Croasdale, Adam Ali, Roma Havers and Mandla Rae) to develop new shows exploring queerness, sexuality and gender from a range of cultural perspectives. Originally planned as live theatre shows for Queer Contact Festival in February 2021, the new year lockdown meant we postponed the festival to May as a mainly digital event, and commissioned the artists to make alternative short films and digital content. These films were shot from January-March in the Contact building and on location, and will premiere at the festival in May 2021. It also provided the artists with Covid-secure artworks to sell in a future where touring is still risky. We also showcased all the artists' creative process in a series of online public talks in November, Link Up, alongside collaborators and invited guest artists.

Our ReCON Young Producers commission of a piece of theatre to address the climate emergency was awarded to Ergon Theatre. With extension funding from Contact, they worked throughout the year to further research and develop the piece, *The Wicked Problem*, which will premiere during COP26 in Autumn 2021.

Former Contact Young Company member Miray Sidhom was awarded Contact seed funding to develop her first professional solo work, *Bread*, exploring the role of the foodstuff in history, revolution and her Egyptian heritage.

We successfully secured £50,000 of funding from the OMCVS First 1000 Days Fund, for work with young mothers in North Manchester in collaboration with the Moston Miners and artist Amy Vreeke in Spring 2021. The project will form the R&D phase of her new Contact commissioned show, *Glowing, in 2022*.

We also provided funding for two Manchester music artists, CHUNKY and MC Hypes, to develop work exploring mental health.

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021

#### Health and Science Programme

At the onset of UK lockdown, Contact launched its mental health focused response project *A Week's Notice*. For seven weeks, seven young freelance artists were commissioned to suggest daily creative prompts, with a focus on the wellbeing principle to 'Take Notice'. Content was seen online by up to 8,000 people per day. The final prompt was shared nationally in collaboration with 64 Million Artists, and a selection were included in GM Creative Care Kits distributed to 20,000 young people struggling with online access. The Guardian cited it as an example of a quarantine project "aimed at safeguarding the mental health of the isolated – and giving artists work."

Contact played a key role in establishing the GM Artist Hub, an initiative set up by 13 GM cultural organisations offering individual support to freelance artists during lockdown. Contact's producers delivered one-to-one support sessions to artists on financial survival, practical self-care, and wellbeing.

Our Children in Need and Wellcome Trust funded project *All the Things They'd Never Teach Us* was reconfigured for remote delivery and focused on science that young people would like to learn but are not taught in schools. Participants from Year 11/12 each followed their own scientific research - from the neuroscience of sexism to the anthropology of rice - documenting their findings through audio recording/podcast and film photography.

We awarded a seed commission to artist CHUNKY to support initial research of a spoken word piece exploring the impact of social media on psychology and emotion. We also commissioned artists Brian Lobel and Joon Lyn Goh to launch their project *Sex With Cancer*, an ongoing exploration of sex and intimacy while unwell. We continued to support activist and artist Suriya Aisha with *Sickbabe*, a series of podcasts focusing on invisible disability, to be completed in 2021. As part of our ongoing focus on neurodiversity, we began collaborating with young artist and trustee Ali Wilson on the development of a neurodiversity guide for venues, and hosted an online event exploring neurodiverse leadership with artist and academic Kai Syng Tan.

Our Link Up programme included health and wellbeing focused online events led by artists Mandla Rae and Mark Croasdale. Mandla's panel session explored trauma and black womanhood and was supported by trauma-informed therapist Shally Gadhoke. Mark discussed queer wellness, stress and anxiety in conversation with artists Cheddar Gorgeous and Jackie Hagan. On 1 December we virtually hosted a World Aids Day event curated by artist and activist Nathaniel Hall, following the annual Manchester vigil.

Health and Science Producer Chloe Courtney was asked by Arts Council England to be part of a DCMS working group examining ways to tackle youth loneliness, with work continuing into 2021.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021**

#### **Making Contact: Our Building redevelopment**

Just as staff and young people were due to move back to the refurbished Contact building in March 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic necessitated a move to home-working for most staff. Building contractor Parkinsons were able to continue final works under Covid-secure construction guidelines, but at a much-reduced pace due to social distancing. This meant works continued through Spring and Summer, with practical completion and building handover achieved in July 2020.

A snagging and defects process continued throughout Autumn 2020, while Contact attempted to fundraise for furnishing, recording studio fit-out and building-wide loose equipment, in a hugely challenging environment. Thankfully, Contact was awarded Arts Council England Capital Kickstart funding of £424,799 in January 2021, meaning the final works could proceed, value-engineered elements such as internal screens and data projectors came back within scope, and enabling Contact to bring the much-delayed programme to a successful conclusion, on budget if not on time.

Feedback from staff, young people and artists on the completed building has been overwhelmingly positive, with users appreciating much larger and lighter public spaces, stunning new creative studios, improved access and clearer way-finding. The building-wide natural ventilation system, a principle applied to both the 1990s and new parts of the building, has proved invaluable during the health pandemic, as have CO2 monitors in all spaces.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021**

#### **Financial review**

##### **Unrestricted Funds**

Contact had an operating surplus of £175,497 in 2020-21 (2019-20: £31,571). The unrestricted reserves now stand at £369,720 (2020: £203,658). The capital redevelopment project continued throughout 2020-21, although at a slower than predicted pace, so we did not spend the associated additional costs in the year as expected. The separate designated fund of £160,000 has been carried forward into 2021-22 and will be used to complete the capital project.

The principal sources of income were grants and donations, income from the artistic programme, office hires, and Covid recovery funds. We also made limited use of the government furlough scheme. While staff worked remotely, we quickly moved our participation programmes online, delivering activities for young people and artists via zoom. We also started to deliver public shows and events, talks and conference activity online, some live-streamed from the Contact building, events from partner venues, and some pre-recorded content. Audiences were buoyant but ticket income was limited due to the majority of digital activity being free to access.

Arts Council England, GMCA, Manchester City Council and the University of Manchester are our principal funders. We also received a number of restricted grants to enable Contact's work to continue and these are detailed below. The provision of participatory activities is funded by both core and restricted grants whilst the Health & Science activity is funded by restricted grants only. We were also successful in two round of the Arts Council England/DCMS Cultural Recovery Fund (CRF1 & 2) awarded £193,720 and £96,555 respectively.

Income for the capital redevelopment project was £746,416 in the year which included £738,179 from Arts Council England as well as income from donations. The Covid-19 pandemic meant that many potential sources of funding for the remainder of the capital project were closed to us, and individual giving from our audiences, local community and young people economically impacted by the pandemic was also limited. However, we successfully applied to the Arts Council England Covid capital grants scheme, awarded £424,799 in January 2021. This meant we could complete the capital works programme and internal furnishing and fit-out, and bring back into scope some things at risk of being cut from the scheme. We were also successful in an application to the Garfield Weston Foundation's Covid fund, awarded £178,090 in January 2021 to deliver a digital and site-specific programme, as well as building the digital infrastructure, live-streaming and camera kit to enable greater hybrid live/digital programming in future, and to adapt to any future lockdowns resulting from the pandemic.

Building redevelopment costs of £588,719 have been capitalised and will be depreciated over the remaining life of the building lease.

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021

Our cost base in 2020-21 was less than expected due to delaying the expansion of the staff team to run and operate the new building, and a reduced artistic programme as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. We used the government furlough scheme at different levels during the year (up to a maximum of 50% of staff) to enable consistent delivery of our young people's activity and community engagement and digital public programme. From September 2020 we were able to start to populate the building to a limited extent, under strict distancing guidelines, as well as welcoming KMS Media as a third-party office hire. Some young people's activity took place in person both on and off-site, under National Youth Agency guidelines for youth work, although this stopped again in late Autumn for a period of stricter lockdown in Greater Manchester, until January 2021.

Cash reserves improved in the year as a result of less-than expected expenditure on the building, delayed staff recruitment due to the pandemic, and additional recovery/business continuity funding.

#### Restricted Funds

We brought forward restricted project funds of £210,932 (2020-21: £194,051) consisting of:

- **The Agency** – balance of £100,293 to continue with The Agency project in partnership with Battersea Arts Centre and People's Palace Projects. A further £76,268 (2020: £18,430) was received in the year to continue the project.
- **Youth Music** – balance of £26,302 to support the Media Drop 2.0 project. £29,999 was received in the year to continue and widen the music programme.
- **Esmée Fairbairn Foundation** – balance of £13,591 towards continuation of the Future Fires programme and support for Contact Produces to commission new work with a social mission.
- **Transport for Greater Manchester** – balance of £1,000 which represents the net book value of the Sustainable Travel Grant to support the purchase of an electric van and onsite charging point. Resources expended over the future years are the depreciation cost of the vehicle.
- **Wellcome Trust** – balance of £21,796 to fund the post of Health & Science Producer. A further £60,350 was received in the year.
- **Diverse Actions** – a balance of £1,206 to commission culturally diverse artists to produce new work. A balance of £1,206 is carried forward to 2021-2022.
- **PRS Foundation** – a balance of £925 to support the second phase of the Capsule 2119 project. A balance of £880 is carried forward into 2021-22.
- **Curiosity Fund** – a balance of £7,456 from Curiosity, a partnership between BBC Children in Need and Wellcome, to fund a new arts projects for children aged 15-16 within an area of high deprivation who may be disabled or experience mental health. A balance of £3,438 is carried forward to 2021-22.
- **CASE programme** – a balance of £233 to fund a place for an employee on the CASE training programme.

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021

- **North West Young People's Development Trust** – a balance of £9,325 to fund an Arts for Mental Health programme for young people. A balance of £9,325 is carried forward to 2021-22.
- **The House is on Fire** – a balance of £8,942 from Young Manchester to fund a youth social change symposium to be delivered in Manchester in 2020. A balance of £8,484 is carried forward to 2021-22.
- **Here and Now** – a balance of £3,000 to fund a commission to celebrate the National Lottery's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A balance of £2,000 is carried forward to 2021-22.
- **Manchester City Council** – a balance of £16,863 to fund a Community Arts Intervention with young parents in Wythenshawe. This grant is carried through in full to 2021-22.

In addition we brought forward:

- Restricted Capital Redevelopment Project funds of £288,863 and a Building Fund of £6.924m. Funds totalling £746,416 (2020: £1,463,563) were received in the year, including Large Capital Grant funding from Arts Council England and Kickstart from Arts Council England. An amount of £588,719 (2020: £2,747,067) was spent on building costs and was capitalised to form part of the Building Fund which now stands at £7.240m (2020: £6.924m). £79,697 (2020: £133,382) was spent on fees & salaries, fundraising and costs associated with premises. A balance of £383,796 on the Capital Redevelopment Project fund is carried forward into 2021-22.

In the current year we were successful in attracting restricted project funds of £604,279 (2020: £287,901) including:

- **Young Manchester-Youth & Play Creative Connections** – a grant of £14,980 to x run a programme for youth workers and arts professionals to share best practice and build new partnerships. A balance of £14,040 is carried forward to 2021-22.
- **Creative Protagonists (Reclaim)** – a grant of £10,923 to co-deliver this project with working class young people exploring art and activism . A balance of £4,959 is carried forward to 2021-22.
- **MCEP Youth Voice Pilot** – a grant of £3,000 to deliver workshops for the Creative Influencers two youth boards supporting the work of Manchester Cultural Education Partnership. A balance of £1,750 is carried forward to 2021-22.
- **Future Fires** – a grant of £8,716 to run our leadership programme supporting young people to run their own socially engaged arts projects. A balance of £7,186 is carried forward to 2021-22.
- **Studio School** – a grant of £9,883 to run a music project for young people in alternative education or at risk of exclusion. A balance of £4,428 is carried forward to 2021-22.
- **C Change Project** – a grant of £2,850 to fund a production of a show on climate change. This grant is carried in full to 2021-22.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021**

- **Far Apart** – a grant of £8,000 to be part of a research project looking at the impact of COVID on young people. A balance of £7,464 is carried forward to 2021-22.
- **Arts Council England- Cultural Recovery Fund** – a grant of £193,720 to provide financial support to cultural organisations impacted by Covid. A balance of £57,656 is carried forward to 2021-22.
- **Weston Culture Fund**– a grant of £178,090 to support cultural organisations to restart their work after Covid and to re-engage audiences it supported and outdoor programme of activities and events. This grant is carried in full to 2021-22.

#### **Investment powers and policy**

The Trustees, having regard to the liquidity requirements of running Contact, have kept available funds in an interest-bearing deposit account and seek to achieve a rate on deposit which matches or exceeds inflation as measured by the retail prices index.

#### **Reserves policy and going concern**

The global pandemic has underlined the need for cultural organisations to maintain reserves at a level to be able to survive major disruption to trading resulting from restrictions and lockdowns. Post capital project, Contact also needs to build and maintain a general reserve in relation to the upkeep and improvement of the building, and to address those areas not covered by the current programme (main house seats, Space 2 Studio). The Board have agreed that three month's operating costs should be held as a reserve. Operating costs are defined as total unrestricted expenditure excluding costs of raising funds. The general fund at year end stands at £369,720 (2020: £203,658), representing just over 3 months operating costs. There is also £160,000 designated reserves for capital expenditure.

Contact is in the fourth year of a five-year funding cycle (April 2018 – March 2023) with Arts Council England as a Band 2 National Portfolio Organisation (NPO). The funding cycle, originally four years, was extended by a year to March 2023 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Manchester City Council and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) have confirmed funding for the next twelve months. Although this core funding continues at the same level, we continue to seek new funding partners and have been successful at increasing funds to support our core work. Post capital redevelopment, plans are in place to increase our income from commercial trading and operation of the building to decrease our reliance on statutory funding.

At the time of writing Contact has reopened the building to the public, relaunched its programme of in-person performances, events, and festivals (though at a reduced level than planned pre-Pandemic, and maintaining regular socially distanced shows). Young people's participation and leadership development activity is taking place across the building, and we have reopened the public café/bar offer. The Christmas period includes external hire events and a local pantomime from a Manchester producer, running throughout the festive period and into the new year. Queer Contact Festival February 2022 is the largest and most ambitious for many years, and goes on sale in late November 2021. Commercial hire enquiries and

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021**

interest in our anti-racism training package are also buoyant.

The Trustees therefore believe it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis.

#### **Plans for future periods**

The ongoing pandemic meant that Contact cancelled plans for a large-scale public building reopening, planning instead a Spring and Summer programme of outdoor and festival-based activity across Manchester, while bringing young people safely back to the building in larger numbers as restrictions allowed. This programme includes a digital Queer Contact Festival in May 2021 (with artists live-streaming events from Contact for an at-home audience), a new site-specific Contact Young Company show, a takeover of Home arts centre's Homeground outdoor stages, and presenting CommonWealth's brilliant exploration of Islamophobia, *Peaceophobia*, in a multi-storey carpark.

Spring and Summer will see the internal furnishing, signage, planting, digital screens and loose equipment installed across the building, as well as the replacement of the main approach frontage with accessible electric opening doors.

Contact will reopen to the public in the mixture of capacity and socially distanced shows from September 2021, appropriately launching with a new Contact Young Company show directed by Contact's Artistic Director. The Autumn season focuses on NW artists, artists emerging from Contact's creative ecology, and community events, with strong Black-led and LGBTQ+ programme strands. Autumn will also see the wider reopening of our commercial offer of event hires, catering and café/bar. Contact will also deliver its anti-racism training, for all Contact staff and for other organisations.

The other main focus will be providing pastoral care and support for young people and our staff as a result of the huge financial, educational and health challenges of 2020-21. Our community coffee mornings, conducted online throughout lockdown, will be brought into the building alongside regular tours for stakeholders, funders and partner organisations. Local youth, health and community groups will receive space and support

In summer 2021 Contact will refresh its Vision, Mission and Values in consultation with young people, staff and trustees, to further embed Contact's youth governance model and incorporate young people's aspirations around anti-racism, health and the climate emergency.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021**

#### **Structure, Governance and Management**

##### ***Governing Document***

Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited, also known as Contact, is a registered charity (No 501953) and a company (No 1066757) limited by guarantee. The governing documents of Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited are its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The company was incorporated on 18 August 1972 and registered as a charity on 31 October 1972. The Trustees of the Charitable Company guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the Charity in the event of winding up.

The Articles of Association are currently under review by the Trustees with a view to adopting a revised set of articles later in the year.

##### ***Appointment, induction and training of trustees***

Trustees retire after three years by rotation. These Trustees may offer themselves for re-appointment for a second term. All new trustees are recruited via a thorough process led by the Resources Board. Candidates are interviewed by a panel of trustees and a separate panel of young people and if appropriate recommended to the Board for appointment. New Board members undertake a series of induction meetings with the Board Chair, Senior Management Team and staff and a comprehensive induction pack is provided. Board wide training is arranged as required. The Board includes one representative from the University of Manchester and one representative from the Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

##### ***Organisation***

The Trustee Board has the following sub committees: Resources, Artistic Evaluation and Development Board. These committees each meet at least four times a year with meetings scheduled to allow reporting back to the Board each quarter.

The Trustees ensure the accuracy and timeliness of all financial reporting information through the work of its Resources Board, which reviews all financial information, the development of business systems and procedures and progress on income generation and fundraising strategies. The Resources Board, which meets on a quarterly basis develops and monitors Contact's Financial Regulations and Risk Register. In addition, it reviews operational risks in relation to employment issues as well as keeping abreast of changes in employment law and developing relevant policies. The Resources Board also reviews Health & Safety Policy and procedures as well as Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and procedures. Members of the Resources Board bring expertise on business planning, equality, diversity and inclusion, HR and finance.

In terms of service quality, all individual projects undertaken by the organisation are subject to risk assessment, monitoring and evaluation procedures. Reports are made quarterly to the Trustees. The Trustees also monitor the quality of services through its Artistic Evaluation

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021**

Board, which also meets quarterly.

The Development Board was formed to underpin the company's commitment to explore innovative and varied ways of achieving our aspiration of a more flexible, wider resource mix. The focus was not just on identifying potential new funders, but also to engage in more sustained long-term relationships with organisations, public as well as corporate, that can support our ethos and vision in a variety of ways. The current focus for this group is the capital redevelopment project and preparing the organisation to return to the newly refurbished building with increased income targets.

#### ***Related parties and co-operation with other organisations***

None of our Trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work as Trustees with the Charity. Four Trustees, Mr Reece Williams, Mr Josh Wilkinson, Miss Afreena Islam and Ms Grainne Flynn were engaged on a freelance basis for various projects throughout the year.

Any connection between a Trustee or Senior Manager of Contact with a production company, contracted actor, performer or exhibitor must be disclosed to the full Board of Trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. Contact has a Conflict of Interest Policy and Register of Interests.

Contact and the University of Manchester have an Agreement, which allows for Contact to lease the building from the University, to access some facilities and services, and to collaborate with the University on programming events for and by students.

#### ***Pay policy for senior staff***

The Directors, who are Contact's Trustees, consider themselves and the Senior Management Team to be the key management personnel in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating Contact on a day to day basis. All Directors give of their time freely and no Director received remuneration for being a Director/Trustee in the year. Details of related party transactions are disclosed in note 16 to the accounts.

Salaries are benchmarked against market rates for all staff. The pay of the senior staff is reviewed annually and normally increased in accordance with inflation and at the same rate as all other staff.

#### ***Risk management***

The Trustees review the objectives, services, management and regular funding of the organisation as part of an ongoing planning and review process, which includes the development of a Four-Year Business Plan. The plan assesses Contact's development and sets targets in relation to a number of risk factors, including financial, operational, governance and external factors.

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021

In addition, the Resources Board reviews the risk process. These are also the routes for any additional areas of concern highlighted by the review of the plan or arising through changes in external circumstances, new activities or changes in the law. The risk is assessed and any further action is identified and parameters are agreed. The risk register, with any additional supporting information, is then reported to the Board quarterly through the Resources Board Report.

Risks relating to the capital redevelopment project are reviewed by the Development Board using a separate risk register.

The Senior Management Team assesses day to day risks within the remit agreed by the Board, identifying areas of concern, undertaking risk analysis and agreeing decisions within agreed parameters.

The Trustees have reviewed the major risks that could impact on Contact. These are:-

| <u>Risk</u>   | <u>Mitigation</u>  |
|---|--|
| Covid-19 pandemic – inability to operate theatre building to normal capacity and risk of lost income. | Investment in covid-secure digital streaming equipment, conservative income targets for 2021-22, detailed Risk Register reviewed by SMT and trustees             |
| Inability to meet increased income targets post capital redevelopment                                 | Development Board focus, setting up trading subsidiary with relevant external expertise, strengthening staff team and marketing, communications & sales function |
| Cuts in existing public sector funding  | Regular dialogue with our funders, reporting our social impact and reach and business planning around new commercial models of income                            |
| Inability to retain existing staff and recruit new staff due to low salaries                          | Resources Board focus, review of salaries and cost base pending  |

The Board of Trustees and staff undergo regular training and professional development to ensure they remain abreast of current developments, changes in statutes and best practice.

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021**

#### **Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements**

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that Contact will continue in business.

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

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on Contact's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

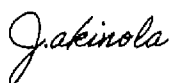
#### **Statement as to disclosure to our auditor**

In so far as the Trustees are aware at the time of approving our Trustees' Annual Report:

- there is no relevant information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which Contact's auditor is unaware, and
- the Trustees, having made enquiries of fellow directors and Contact's auditor that they ought to have individually taken, have each taken all steps that he/she is obliged to take as a director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

By order of the Board of Trustees

Mr J Akinola (Chair)



14 December 2021

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021**

#### **Independent Auditor's report to the members of Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited**

##### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited "the charitable company" for the year ended 31 March 2021, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities including the Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes [note 1]. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

##### **Basis for opinion**

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

##### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of a least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

##### **Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the other information. Our

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021**

opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### **Opinions on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

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

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year which includes the Directors' Report prepared for the purposes of company law for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors' Report included within the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

#### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

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

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

#### **Responsibilities of directors**

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 19, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going

## **Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021**

concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The specific procedures for this engagement and the extent to which these are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

#### **The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud**

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the computer component manufacturing and supply sector.
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, taxation legislation, data protection, anti-bribery, employment, environmental and health and safety legislation.
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence.
- Identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

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

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud.

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021

- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

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

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

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

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

#### Use of our report

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

*Beever and Struthers*

**Sue Hutchinson FCCA**

**Senior Statutory Auditor**

**For and on behalf of Beever and Struthers, Statutory Auditor**

**St George's House**

**215-219 Chester Road**

**Manchester**

**M15 4JE**

**Date: 21 December 2021**

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021

### Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited Statement of Financial Activities (including the Income and Expenditure Account)

|  | Note | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Total Funds<br>2021<br>£ | Total Funds<br>2020<br>£ |
|--|------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Income:</b>   |      |                            |                          |                          |                          |
| <i>Donations &amp; Legacies</i>  |      |                            |                          |                          |                          |
| Donations  | 3    | 307                        | 8,237                    | 8,544                    | 14,519                   |
| <i>Income from charitable activities:</i>                              |      |                            |                          |                          |                          |
| Grants - core funding  | 4    | 1,101,652                  | -                        | 1,101,652                | 1,084,515                |
| Operation of building and related artistic programme                   | 5    | 5,648                      | -                        | 5,648                    | 89,538                   |
| Provision of participatory activities                                  | 6    | 41,912                     | 349,709                  | 391,621                  | 197,734                  |
| Health & Science   | 7    | -                          | 60,850                   | 60,850                   | 79,893                   |
| Creative Experts   |      | 6,261                      | -                        | 6,261                    | 20,533                   |
| Capital Refurbishment Project Grants                                   | 8    | -                          | 738,179                  | 738,179                  | 1,449,145                |
| <i>Income from other trading activities:</i>                           |      |                            |                          |                          |                          |
| Commercial trading operations  | 9    | 28,170                     | -                        | 28,170                   | 10,742                   |
| Investment income  |      | 372                        | -                        | 372                      | 3,285                    |
| Insurance claim  |      | -                          | -                        | -                        | 17,312                   |
| Other Income   | 10   | 181,931                    | 193,720                  | 375,651                  |                          |
| <b>Total income</b>  |      | <b>1,366,254</b>           | <b>1,350,695</b>         | <b>2,716,949</b>         | <b>2,967,216</b>         |
| <b>Expenditure</b>   |      |                            |                          |                          |                          |
| <i>Costs of raising funds:</i>   |      |                            |                          |                          |                          |
| Commercial trading operations  |      | 38,116                     | 43,662                   | 81,778                   | 56,831                   |
| Fundraising support costs  |      | 62,967                     | 180                      | 63,147                   | 62,670                   |
| <i>Expenditure on charitable activities:</i>                           |      |                            |                          |                          |                          |
| Operation of building and related artistic programme                   | 11   | 946,302                    | 328,979                  | 1,275,281                | 934,062                  |
| Provision of participatory activities                                  | 11   | 112,324                    | 191,809                  | 304,133                  | 330,952                  |
| Health & Science   | 11   | 10,870                     | 29,141                   | 40,012                   | 45,891                   |
| Creative Experts   |      | 3,065                      | -                        | 3,065                    | 21,374                   |
| Capital Refurbishment Project  | 11   | 17,113                     | 62,584                   | 79,697                   | 132,988                  |
| <b>Total expenditure</b>   |      | <b>1,190,758</b>           | <b>656,355</b>           | <b>1,847,113</b>         | <b>1,584,768</b>         |
| <b>Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds for the year</b> |      | <b>175,496</b>             | <b>694,340</b>           | <b>869,836</b>           | <b>1,382,448</b>         |
| Theatre Tax Relief   |      | 16,120                     | -                        | 16,120                   | 35,323                   |
|  |      | <b>191,616</b>             | <b>694,340</b>           | <b>885,956</b>           | <b>1,417,771</b>         |
| <b>Reconciliation of funds</b>   |      |                            |                          |                          |                          |
| Total Funds brought forward  |      | 397,575                    | 7,424,650                | 7,822,225                | 6,404,454                |
| <b>Total funds carried forward</b>                                     |      | <b>589,191</b>             | <b>8,118,990</b>         | <b>8,708,181</b>         | <b>7,822,225</b>         |

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 27 to 49 form an integral part of the financial statements

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021

Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited  
Balance Sheet  
as at 31 March 2021

|                                       | Note | 2021<br>£        | 2020<br>£        |
|---------------------------------------|------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Fixed assets</b>                   |      |                  |                  |
| Tangible assets                       | 18   | 7,526,404        | 6,976,577        |
| <b>Total Fixed Assets</b>             |      | <b>7,526,404</b> | <b>6,967,577</b> |
| <b>Current assets</b>                 |      |                  |                  |
| Stock                                 | 19   | -                | 239              |
| Debtors                               | 20   | 834,585          | 748,355          |
| Cash at bank and in hand              |      | 872,135          | 599,788          |
| <b>Total Current Assets</b>           |      | <b>1,706,720</b> | <b>1,348,382</b> |
| <b>Liabilities</b>                    |      |                  |                  |
| Creditors falling due within one year | 21   | 349,015          | 502,734          |
| <b>Net Current assets</b>             |      | <b>1,377,049</b> | <b>845,648</b>   |
| Creditors falling due over one year   | 22   | 175,926          | -                |
| <b>Net assets</b>                     |      | <b>8,708,182</b> | <b>7,822,225</b> |
| <b>The funds of the Charity:</b>      | 23   |                  |                  |
| Unrestricted general funds            |      | 429,192          | 237,575          |
| Designated income funds               |      | 160,000          | 160,000          |
| Restricted income funds               |      | 878,180          | 499,795          |
| Restricted building funds             |      | 7,240,810        | 6,924,855        |
| <b>Total charity funds</b>            |      | <b>8,708,182</b> | <b>7,822,225</b> |

Registered Company No: 01066757

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

These financial statements were approved by the members of the Board authorised for issue on the 14 December 2021 and are signed on their behalf by:

Signed



Mr Junior Akinola, Chair of Board on behalf of the Trustees

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Report of the Trustees for the year ending 31 March 2021

Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited  
Statement of Cash Flows  
for year ending 31 March 2021

|   | Note | 2021<br>£        | 2020<br>£          |
|---|------|------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Cash used in operating activities</b>                      | 26   | <b>916,478</b>   | <b>1,443,322</b>   |
| <b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>                   |      |                  |                    |
| Interest income   |      | 372              | 3,285              |
| Insurance claim   |      |                  | 17,312             |
| Sale of tangible fixed assets                                 |      | (238)            |                    |
| Purchase of tangible fixed assets                             |      | (844,268)        | (2,758,447)        |
| <b>Cash used in investing activities</b>                      |      | <b>(844,133)</b> | <b>(2,737,850)</b> |
| Loan from Manchester City Council                             |      | 200,000          | -                  |
| <b>Cash used in financing activities</b>                      |      | <b>200,000</b>   | <b>-</b>           |
| (Decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year  |      | 272,347          | (1,294,528)        |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year        |      | 599,788          | 1,894,316          |
| <b>Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b> |      | <b>872,135</b>   | <b>599,788</b>     |

The notes at pages 27 to 49 form an integral part of the financial statements.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

### 1. Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

#### a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

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

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

#### b) Reconciliation with previous Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

In preparing the accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of comparative items was required.

#### c) Judgements and key accounting estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

#### Significant judgements

The judgements (apart from those involving estimations) that management has made in the process of applying the entity's accounting policies and that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are as follows:

- Determination of whether there are indicators of impairment of Contact's tangible fixed assets. Factors taken into consideration in reaching such a decision include the economic viability and expected future financial performance or charitable use of the asset.
- Determination of whether leases entered into by Contact as lessee are operating or finance leases. These decisions depend on an assessment of whether the risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred from the lessor to the lessee on a lease by lease basis.

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

### 1. Accounting Policies (continued)

- Determination of recoverability of trade debtors. A specific provision is made against certain debts where in the opinion of the trustees the debt is not fully recoverable.

### Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Accounting estimates and assumptions are made concerning the future and, by their nature, will rarely equal the related actual outcome. The key assumptions and other sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are as follows:

- Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the assets and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. In re-assessing asset lives, factors such as technological innovation, product life cycles and maintenance are taken into account. Residual value assessments consider issues such as future market conditions, the remaining life of the asset and projected disposal values.

### d) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

Contact is in the fourth year of a five-year funding cycle (April 2018 – March 2023) with Arts Council England as a Band 2 National Portfolio Organisation (NPO). The funding cycle, originally four years, was extended by a year to March 2023 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Manchester City Council and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) have confirmed funding for the next twelve months. Although this core funding continues at the same level, we continue to seek new funding partners and have been successful at increasing funds to support our core work. Post capital redevelopment, plans are in place to increase our income from commercial trading and operation of the building to decrease our reliance on statutory funding.

Funding was granted in the year from the Arts Council Cultural Capital Kickstart Fund and this will be used to complete the internal capital refurbishment programme by the end of 2021.

The Covid-19 pandemic has impacted negatively on Contact's day to day operations and future plans. The theatre building remained closed to the general public throughout 2020-21 and we are planning to reopen and commence artistic and commercial trading operations from September 2021.

The general reserves currently stand at just over three months' operating costs and there is a designated fund of £160,000 for the capital redevelopment project. Contact has budgets in place to increase general reserves to three months operating costs following the first full year of operating in the building.

The Trustees therefore believe it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis.

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

#### e) Income recognition policies

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- the Charity has entitlement to the funds;
- any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met or are fully within the control of the Charity;
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable; and
- the amount can be measured reliably.

Income received in advance of a theatrical performance or provision of other specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

#### 1. Donated services and facilities

Donated services or facilities are recognised as income when the Charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the Charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. On receipt, donated services and facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the Charity which is the amount the Charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

#### 2. Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

#### 3. Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the Charity. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the Charity's work or for specific artistic projects being undertaken by the Charity.

#### 4. Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise the costs of trading including commercial hires and their associated support costs and fundraising support costs.

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of performances, touring, participatory work and other activities undertaken to further the purposes of the Charity and their associated support costs. Expenditure on the capital redevelopment project is also included in this heading.
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.
- Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

#### 5. Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist Contact's work but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support Contact's artistic programme and participatory activities. The bases on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 11.

#### 6. Operating leases

Contact classifies the lease of printing equipment as an operating lease; the title to the equipment remains with the lessor and the equipment is replaced every 5 years whilst the economic life of such equipment is normally 10 years. Rental charges are charged on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

#### 7. Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

| <b>Asset Category</b>         | <b>Annual rate</b> |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Long term leasehold buildings | 2 – 10%            |
| Fixtures and fittings         | 20 – 50%           |
| Computer equipment            | 25 – 33%           |
| Motor vehicles                | 20%                |

Land is not depreciated.

Building redevelopment construction costs are capitalised in the year they occur and depreciated over the remaining length of the lease. Fixtures and fittings purchased as part of the capital redevelopment project are not depreciated until the date of use. Professional fees relating to the capital redevelopment project have been expensed in the year they occurred.

Donated fixed assets are recognised at fair value which is the amount Contact would have been willing to pay for the items on the open market.

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

#### 8. Stock

Stock is included at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is based on selling price less any future costs expected to be incurred to completion and disposal.

#### 9. Debtors

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

#### 10. Cash at bank and in hand

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

#### 11. Creditors and provisions

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

#### 12. Financial instruments

Contact only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The financing charge to expenditure is at a constant rate calculated using the effective interest method.

#### 13. Pensions

Contact contributes to a group money purchase defined contribution pension scheme operated by The People's Pension. New and existing employees are automatically enrolled into the money purchase scheme unless they have exercised their right to opt out of scheme membership.

Employees joining the money purchase pension scheme operated by The People's Pension, contract directly with the insurance company. Contact makes a matching contribution of 3% of salary to this pension scheme and acts as agent in collecting and paying over employee pension contributions. The contributions made for the accounting period are treated as an expense and were £16,868 (2020: £15,023). There were no contributions outstanding as at the balance sheet date.

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

#### 1. Legal status of the Charity

Contact is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England & Wales, and has no share capital. In the event of Contact being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of Contact.

The registered office address is Contact Theatre, Devas Street, Oxford Road, Manchester, M15 6JA. Contact is the leading UK arts organisation to place young people's leadership and decision making at the heart of everything. Our main areas of activity are:

- Providing transformative opportunities for young people
- Producing high quality new work with a focus on pressing social realities and presenting the future mainstream with a diverse and pioneering programme
- Operating a unique, ethical and welcoming building.

#### 3 Income from donations

|           | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>2021<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2021<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2021<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2020<br>£ |
|-----------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Donations | 307                                | 8,237                            | 8,544                       | 14,519                      |
|           | <b>307</b>                         | <b>8,237</b>                     | <b>8,544</b>                | <b>14,519</b>               |

Income from donations includes Gift Aid. From time to time Contact benefits from the involvement and support of volunteers. In accordance with accounting standards, the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

#### 4 Unrestricted Grant Income from Core Funders

|  | 2021<br>£        | 2020<br>£        |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| GMCA (Greater Manchester Culture & Social Impact Fund) | 97,000           | 97,000           |
| The University of Manchester                           | 41,080           | 41,080           |
| Manchester City Council                                | 30,275           | 30,000           |
| Arts Council England – National Portfolio Organisation | 933,297          | 916,435          |
|  | <b>1,101,652</b> | <b>1,084,515</b> |

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

#### 5 Income from artistic programme

In the year Contact presented a number of digital, online performances.

|  | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>2021<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2021<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2021<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2020<br>£ |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Income from theatre performances         | 3,648                              |                                  | 3,648                       | 54,702                      |
| Income from touring productions          |                                    |                                  |                             | 300                         |
| Income from co-presentations             |                                    |                                  |                             | 14,525                      |
| Income from bar & merchandise sales      |                                    |                                  |                             | 310                         |
| Grime Commission                         | 2,000                              |                                  | 2,000                       |                             |
| Curious Minds                            |                                    |                                  |                             | 701                         |
| Live Art UK – Diverse Actions            |                                    |                                  |                             | 12,000                      |
| Arts Council England – Here and Now      |                                    |                                  |                             | 5,000                       |
| Ecclesiastical – Movement for Good Award |                                    |                                  |                             | 1,000                       |
| Tesco Bags of Help                       |                                    |                                  |                             | 1,000                       |
| <b>Artistic programme</b>                | <b>5,648</b>                       |                                  | <b>5,648</b>                | <b>89,538</b>               |

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

#### 6 Income for Provision of Participatory Activities

|  | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>2021<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2021<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2021<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2020<br>£ |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| C Change   |                                    | 2,850                            | 2,850                       |                             |
| Co Creating Change                                 | 625                                |                                  | 625                         |                             |
| Creative Protagonists                              |                                    | 10,923                           | 10,923                      |                             |
| Esmee Fairbairn Foundation                         | 29,787                             |                                  | 29,787                      |                             |
| Far Apart UK                                       |                                    | 8,000                            | 8,000                       |                             |
| Future Fires                                       |                                    | 8,716                            | 8,716                       | 2,100                       |
| MCEP Youth Voice Pilot                             |                                    | 3,000                            | 3,000                       |                             |
| Other Income                                       | 4,000                              |                                  | 4,000                       |                             |
| Pop Up Beats                                       |                                    |                                  |                             | 417                         |
| Project Lockdown                                   |                                    |                                  |                             | 5,398                       |
| PRS  |                                    |                                  |                             | 4,750                       |
| Radical Reads                                      |                                    |                                  |                             | 1,320                       |
| Relative Values                                    |                                    |                                  |                             | 2,290                       |
| SAPASS   |                                    |                                  |                             | 1,240                       |
| Studio School                                      |                                    | 9,883                            | 9,883                       |                             |
| The Agency (Reaching Communities)                  | 7,500                              | 76,268                           | 83,768                      | 118,430                     |
| Weston Culture Fund                                |                                    | 178,090                          | 178,090                     |                             |
| Young Manchester Youth Action                      |                                    |                                  |                             | 10,000                      |
| Young Manchester/Groundworks                       |                                    | 14,980                           | 14,980                      | 13,200                      |
| Young Producers programme (Rochdale)               |                                    |                                  |                             | 5,590                       |
| Youth & Play Creative Connections Young Manchester |                                    | 7,000                            | 7,000                       |                             |
| Youth Music  |                                    | 29,999                           | 29,999                      | 32,999                      |
| <b>Provision of Participatory Activities</b>       | <b>41,912</b>                      | <b>349,709</b>                   | <b>391,621</b>              | <b>197,734</b>              |

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

#### 7 Income for Health & Science Activities

|   | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2021<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2020<br>£ |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Wellcome Trust                              | 60,350                           | 34,500                           |
| Radiotherapy & Me – UoM Public Programmes   |                                  | 3,850                            |
| PHE/BHA I Am Because You Are                |                                  | 4,800                            |
| Manchester City Council                     |                                  | 16,863                           |
| Curiosity Fund                              | 500                              | 9,880                            |
| North West Young People's Development Trust |                                  | 10,000                           |
|   | <b>60,850</b>                    | <b>79,893</b>                    |

#### 8 Restricted Grant Income for Capital Redevelopment Project

|  | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2021<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2020<br>£ |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Arts Council England – Large Capital Grant | 295,489                          | 1,373,645                        |
| Arts Council England – Kickstart           | 424,799                          |                                  |
| Wellcome Trust                             |                                  | 65,500                           |
| Beaverbrooks Charitable Trust              |                                  | 10,000                           |
| Business Growth Hub                        | 2,891                            |                                  |
| Thomas Deane Trust                         | 15,000                           |                                  |
|  | <b>738,179</b>                   | <b>1,449,145</b>                 |

#### 9 Income earned from trading activities

Trading income consists of income from the provision of accountancy services to three other arts organisations and hire of spaces and office hire.

|                         | 2021<br>£     | 2020<br>£     |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Accountancy services    | 16,475        | 8,292         |
| Speaker & workshop fees |               | 2,450         |
| Hire of Spaces          | 3,820         |               |
| Office Hires            | 7,875         |               |
|                         | <b>28,170</b> | <b>10,742</b> |

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

#### 10 Other Income

|                                 | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>2021<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>2021<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2021<br>£ | Total<br>Funds<br>2020<br>£ |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| HMRC CJRS                       | 132,074                            |                                  | 132,074                     |                             |
| MCC - Discretionary Grants      | 25,000                             |                                  | 25,000                      |                             |
| MCC - Local Restrictions Grants | 24,857                             |                                  | 24,857                      |                             |
| ACE Culture Recovery Fund       |                                    | 193,720                          | 193,720                     |                             |
|                                 | <b>181,931</b>                     | <b>193,720</b>                   | <b>375,651</b>              | <b>-</b>                    |

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

### 11 Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

|  | Artistic<br>programme | Provision of<br>participatory<br>activities | Health &<br>Science<br>activities | Creative<br>Experts | Capital<br>Re-<br>develop<br>ment<br>Project | Total<br><br>2021 | Total<br><br>2020 |
|--|-----------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|
|  | £                     | £   | £                                 | £                   | £  | £                 | £                 |
| Stock for resale & associated costs        |                       |   |                                   |                     |  |                   | 36                |
| Salaries                                   | 474,195               | 156,364                                     | 29,141                            |                     |  | 659,699           | 582,996           |
| Facilitator fees, project costs & expenses |                       | 141,431                                     | 5,111                             | 3,065               |  | 149,607           | 168,512           |
| Travel, accommodation & subsistence        | 1,986                 | 6,338                                       | 191                               |                     |  | 8,514             | 32,856            |
| Specialist fees & advice                   |                       |   |                                   |                     | 21,322                                       | 21,322            | 44,868            |
| Production & touring costs                 |                       |   | 5,569                             |                     |  | 5,569             | 13,163            |
| Artists fees and box office splits         | 30,828                |   |                                   |                     |  | 30,828            | 104,621           |
| Commissioning & artist development         | 29,652                |   |                                   |                     |  | 29,652            | 25,121            |
| Box office and marketing costs             | 62,565                |   |                                   |                     |  | 62,565            | 40,397            |
| Premises & technical costs                 | 170,263               |   |                                   |                     | 58,375                                       | 228,639           | 148,082           |
| Finance charges                            | 10,193                |   |                                   |                     |  | 10,193            | 2,623             |
| Recruitment & Training                     | 21,206                |   |                                   |                     |  | 21,206            | 17,810            |
| Bad debts & write offs                     | 44                    |   |                                   |                     |  | 44                | (504)             |
| Depreciation                               | 294,438               |   |                                   |                     |  | 294,438           | 124,144           |
| Loss on disposal of fixed asset            | (238)                 |   |                                   |                     |  | (238)             |                   |
| Governance costs (see note 11)             | 17,572                |   |                                   |                     |  | 17,572            | 25,777            |
| Support costs (see note 11)                | 162,577               |   |                                   |                     |  | 162,577           | 134,763           |
| <b>Total</b>                               | <b>1,275,281</b>      | <b>304,133</b>                              | <b>40,012</b>                     | <b>3,065</b>        | <b>79,697</b>                                | <b>1,702,187</b>  | <b>1,465,265</b>  |

Of the £1,702,187 expenditure in 2020-21 (2020: £1,465,265), £1,089,850 was charged to unrestricted funds (2020: £1,065,074) and £612,333 to restricted funds (2020: £400,191).

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

#### 12 Analysis of governance and support costs

Contact initially identifies the costs of its support functions. It then identifies those costs which relate to the governance function. Having identified its governance costs, the remaining support costs together with the governance costs are apportioned between the key charitable activities undertaken (see note 11) in the year. Refer to the table below for the basis for apportionment and the analysis of support and governance costs.

#### Analysis of support and governance costs

|  | General support<br>£ | Governance function<br>£ | Total 2021<br>£ | Total 2020<br>£ | Basis of apportionment |
|--|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Catering for Board & Trustee Meetings and general expenses |                      | 1,968                    | 1,968           |                 | Direct                 |
| Chair recruitment costs                                    |                      |                          |                 | 305             |                        |
| Salaries, wages and related costs                          | 127,921              | 6,862                    | 134,783         | 117,469         | Direct<br>Staff time   |
| General office costs                                       | 34,656               |                          | 34,656          | 30,609          | Direct                 |
| Audit & tax fees   |                      | 8,741                    | 8,741           | 11,742          | Direct                 |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>162,577</b>       | <b>17,572</b>            | <b>180,149</b>  | <b>160,540</b>  |                        |

#### 13 Net income/(expenditure) for the year

|                                       | 2021<br>£      | 2020<br>£      |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>This is stated after charging:</b> |                |                |
| Operating leases – equipment          | 4,106          | 9,870          |
| Depreciation                          | 294,438        | 124,144        |
| Loss on disposal of fixed assets      | 238            |                |
| Audit fees                            | 6,856          | 9,072          |
| Tax fees                              | 1,885          | 2,670          |
|                                       | <b>307,523</b> | <b>145,756</b> |

#### 14 Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

|                       | 2021<br>£      | 2020<br>£      |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Salaries and wages    | 809,601        | 760,621        |
| Social security costs | 72,573         | 65,983         |
| Pension costs         | 16,868         | 15,017         |
|                       | <b>899,042</b> | <b>841,621</b> |

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

No employees had employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2020: nil). Pension costs are allocated to activities in proportion to the related staffing costs incurred.

The key management personnel of Contact comprise the Trustees, the Artistic Director/Chief Executive, Head of Creative Development, Head of Finance, Head of Commercial & Visitor Experience, Head of Marketing & Communications and Head of Production. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £254,323 (2020: £224,321).

Trustees are not paid for carrying out their trustee duties nor do they receive any other benefits from their association with Contact. One trustee Joshua Wilkinson received £39 reimbursed expenses during the year (2020: £nil).

#### 15 Staff Numbers

The average monthly head count was 30 staff (2020: 29 staff) and the average monthly number of full-time equivalent employees (including casual and part-time staff) during the year was as follows:

|  | 2021<br>Number | 2020<br>Number |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Permanent staff including part time staff on permanent basis | <u>30</u>      | <u>29</u>      |

#### 16 Related party transactions

Contact and the University of Manchester have an agreement which allows for Contact to lease the building from the University, to access some facilities and services, and to collaborate with the University on programming some events for and by students. On this basis Contact feels it is appropriate to disclose transactions with the University as related party transactions.

Mr Reece Williams, Mr Joshua Wilkinson, Ms Grainne Flynn and Miss Afreena Islam, all trustees of Contact, were engaged on a freelance basis for various projects throughout the year, although not in their role as trustees. Mr Williams received £2,950 (2020: £10,064), Mr Wilkinson received £7,314 (2020: £8,457), Ms Flynn received £nil (2020: £40) and Miss Islam, received £200 (2020: £673). There were £nil outstanding balances as at 31 March 2021 (2020: £160).

The University of Manchester awarded grants to Contact of £41,080 (2020: £46,905).

The Arts Council of England which provides capital funding to Contact has a charge over the land and buildings of Contact.

Contact provided Creative Experts services, artistic services and speakers of £9,538 (2020: £8,104) to the University of Manchester. There was an outstanding balance due from the University of £420 as at 31 March 2021 (2020: £3,727). Contact purchased goods and services from the University of Manchester of £360 (2020: £299). There was an outstanding balance due to the University as at 31 March 2021 of £360 (2020: £nil).

There were no donations from trustees in the year (2020: £260).

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

During the year, Councillors Ali Ilyas (resigned 3 June 2020) and Janet Elmsley (resigned 21 March 2021) were elected representatives of local authorities (Manchester City Council and Greater Manchester Combined Authority respectively) which are core funder of Contact.

#### 17 Corporation Taxation

Contact is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

Contact has incurred qualifying losses in respect of theatre productions and these have been surrendered for a cash payment from HMRC under the Theatre Tax Relief scheme. Where the receipt of these tax credits is probable, they are included in the accounts in the year following the year in which the qualifying losses were included.

#### 18 Tangible fixed assets

|                     | Land and<br>buildings | Fixtures<br>and<br>fittings | Motor<br>vehicles | Compute<br>r<br>Equipme<br>nt | Total<br>2021     | Total<br>2020    |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
|                     | £                     | £                           | £                 | £                             | £                 | £                |
| Cost:               |                       |                             |                   |                               |                   |                  |
| Brought forward     | 9,470,746             | 187,393                     | 15,469            | 81,797                        | 9,755,405         | 7,075,520        |
| Additions           | 779,741               | 37,210                      |                   | 27,312                        | 844,264           | 2,758,447        |
| Disposals           |                       | (67,411)                    |                   | (10,748)                      | (78,160)          | (78,562)         |
| Carried forward     | <b>10,250,487</b>     | <b>157,192</b>              | <b>15,469</b>     | <b>98,361</b>                 | <b>10,521,509</b> | <b>9,755,405</b> |
| Depreciation:       |                       |                             |                   |                               |                   |                  |
| Brought forward     | 2,535,769             | 163,575                     | 12,376            | 67,108                        | 2,778,828         | 2,733,246        |
| Disposals           |                       | (67,411)                    |                   | (10,748)                      | (78,160)          | (78,562)         |
| Charge for the year | 263,403               | 5,570                       | 3,093             | 22,370                        | 294,437           | 124,144          |
| Carried forward     | <b>2,799,172</b>      | <b>101,734</b>              | <b>15,469</b>     | <b>78,730</b>                 | <b>2,995,105</b>  | <b>2,778,828</b> |
| Net book value      |                       |                             |                   |                               |                   |                  |
| Brought forward     | 6,934,977             | 23,818                      | 3,093             | 14,689                        | 6,976,577         | 4,342,274        |
| Carried forward     | <b>7,451,314</b>      | <b>55,458</b>               | <b>0</b>          | <b>19,631</b>                 | <b>7,526,404</b>  | <b>6,976,577</b> |

£588,719 (2020: £3.853m) included in the Land & Buildings cost figure is in development and has not been depreciated.

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

#### 19 Stock

|             | 2021     | 2020       |
|-------------|----------|------------|
|             | £        | £          |
| Merchandise |          | 239        |
|             | <u>-</u> | <u>239</u> |

#### 20 Debtors

|                                | 2021           | 2020           |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                | £              | £              |
| Trade debtors                  | 82,918         | 113,373        |
| Deferred costs                 | 2,873          | 3,295          |
| Prepayments and accrued income | 48,734         | 53,030         |
| Grants receivable              | 692,190        | 384,107        |
| VAT receivable                 | 7,870          | 194,550        |
|                                | <u>834,585</u> | <u>748,355</u> |

#### 21 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

|                                    | 2021           | 2020           |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                    | £              | £              |
| Trade creditors                    | 123,634        | 414,277        |
| Other creditors                    | 1,106          | 1,124          |
| Accruals and deferred income       | 174,598        | 68,676         |
| Taxation and social security costs | 25,603         | 18,657         |
| Manchester City Council Loan       | 24,074         |                |
|                                    | <u>349,015</u> | <u>502,734</u> |

Deferred income comprises advance ticket sales for performances of shows due to take place post 31 March 2021, and income for projects due to take place post 31 March 2021.

#### 22 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

|                              | 2021           | 2020     |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------|
|                              | £              | £        |
| Manchester City Council Loan | 175,927        |          |
|                              | <u>175,927</u> | <u>-</u> |

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

#### Loans repayable by instalments:

|                           | 2021<br>£      | 2020<br>£ |
|---------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Due in less than one year | 24,074         |           |
| Due in one to two years   | 20,051         |           |
| Due in two to five years  | 64,649         |           |
| Due in over five years    | 91,226         |           |
|                           | <b>200,000</b> | -         |

Manchester City Council has provided a £200,000 loan at a rate of 2.7% + the EC Reference Rate which is the variable rate.

#### 23 Analysis of charitable funds

##### Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

|  | Balance 1<br>April 2020<br>£ | Incoming<br>resources<br>£ | Resources<br>expended<br>£ | Funds 31<br>March<br>2021<br>£ |
|--|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| General fund                                       | 237,575                      | 1,382,375                  | 1,190,758                  | 429,192                        |
| Designated fund (Capital<br>Redevelopment Project) | 160,000                      |                            |                            | 160,000                        |
| <b>Total</b>                                       | <b>397,575</b>               | <b>1,382,375</b>           | <b>1,190,758</b>           | <b>589,192</b>                 |

| Name of unrestricted fund | Description, nature and purposes of the fund  |
|---------------------------|---|
| General fund              | The 'unrestricted reserves' after allowing for all designated funds and including unrestricted fixed assets |
| Designated fund           | Designated fund for Capital Redevelopment Project   |

# Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

## Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

### 23 Analysis of charitable funds (continued)

#### Analysis of movements in restricted funds

|   | Balance 1<br>April 2020 | Incoming<br>resources | Resources<br>expended | Transfers | Funds 31<br>March<br>2021 |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------|---------------------------|
|   | £                       | £                     | £                     | £         | £                         |
| Building Fund   | 6,924,855               |                       | 272,764               | 588,719   | 7,240,810                 |
| The Agency Phase 3                                      | 100,293                 |                       | 31,057                |           | 69,236                    |
| The Agency extension 1                                  |                         | 30,585                | 25,570                |           | 5,015                     |
| The Agency extension 2                                  |                         | 45,683                | 13,749                |           | 31,934                    |
| Esmée Fairbairn Foundation                              | 13,591                  |                       | 13,591                |           |                           |
| Transport for Greater Manchester                        | 1,000                   |                       | 1,000                 |           |                           |
| Media Drop 2.0 (Youth Music)                            | 26,302                  | 29,999                | 41,725                |           | 14,576                    |
| Wellcome Trust (Health & Science<br>Producer)           | 21,796                  | 60,350                | 29,141                |           | 53,005                    |
| Diverse Actions (Live Art UK)                           | 1,206                   |                       |                       |           | 1,206                     |
| Capsule 2119  | 925                     |                       | 45                    |           | 880                       |
| Youth & Play (Young Manchester)<br>Creative Connections |                         | 14,980                | 940                   |           | 14,040                    |
| Creative Protagonists (Reclaim)                         |                         | 10,923                | 5,965                 |           | 4,959                     |
| MCEP Youth Voice Pilot                                  |                         | 3,000                 | 1,250                 |           | 1,750                     |
| Future Fires  |                         | 8,716                 | 1,530                 |           | 7,186                     |
| Studio School   |                         | 9,883                 | 5,455                 |           | 4,428                     |
| C Change project  |                         | 2,850                 |                       |           | 2,850                     |
| Far Apart   |                         | 8,000                 | 536                   |           | 7,464                     |
| ACE Culture Recovery Fund                               |                         | 193,720               | 136,064               |           | 57,656                    |
| Weston Culture Fund                                     |                         | 178,090               |                       |           | 178,090                   |

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

|   |                  |                  |                |           |                  |
|---|------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------|------------------|
| Curiosity Fund  | 7,456            | 500              | 4,518          |           | 3,438            |
| CASE Programme  | 233              |                  | 233            |           |                  |
| North West Young People's Development Trust             | 9,325            |                  |                |           | 9,325            |
| The House is on Fire (Young Manchester)                 | 8,942            |                  | 458            |           | 8,484            |
| Here & Now (Arts Council England / Future Arts Centres) | 3,000            | 7,000            | 8,000          |           | 2,000            |
| Manchester City Council Health & Care Commissioning     | 16,863           |                  |                |           | 16,863           |
| Capital Redevelopment Project                           | 288,863          | 746,416          | 62,764         | (588,719) | 383,796          |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>7,424,650</b> | <b>1,350,695</b> | <b>656,355</b> | <b>0</b>  | <b>8,118,990</b> |

| <b>Name of restricted fund</b>  | <b>Description, nature and purposes of the fund</b>  |
|---|--|
| Building Fund   | The building fund was established to rebuild and extend the existing theatre and was funded by the Arts Council of England. Expenditure represents the annual depreciation charge. Capital Redevelopment costs are transferred to Building Fund. |
| The Agency (The National Lottery Community Fund - Reaching Communities) | Reaching Communities funded the continuation of The Agency Project.  |
| Esmée Fairbairn Foundation  | Esmeé Fairbairn Foundation funded the continuation of the Future Fires programme and has also supported Contact Produces to commission new work with a social mission.   |
| Media Drop 2.0  | Youth Music funded the Media Drop 2.0 music project and the continuation and expansion of the music programme.   |
| Wellcome Trust (Health & Science Producer)                              | The Wellcome Trust funded the post of Health & Science Producer.   |
| Diverse Actions (Live Art UK)   | Contact is a partner in the Live Art UK Diverse Actions project which commissions BAME live art artists to make new work.  |
| Capsule 2119 (PRS Foundation)   | The PRS Foundation is supporting the creation and performance of 16 new songs that would subsequently become a time capsule for the year 2119 placed within Contact's refurbished building.  |

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Curiosity Fund  | Curiosity, a partnership between BBC Children in Need and Wellcome, is funding a new arts project for children aged 15-16 within an area of high deprivation who may be disabled or experience mental health. |
| CASE programme (Curious Minds)                          | Curious Minds are funding a place for an employee on the CASE training programme (Creative Arts School Experts).  |
| North West Young People's Development Trust             | The North West Young People's Development Trust is funding Arts for Mental Health, a six month programme of free participatory arts activities for young people, delivered by young people.                   |
| The House is on Fire (Young Manchester)                 | Young Manchester is funding a youth social change symposium to be delivered in Manchester in 2020.  |
| Here & Now (Arts Council England / Future Arts Centres) | Contact is a partner venue on the Future Arts Centres Here & Now project, a national programme of commissions to celebrate the National Lottery's 25 <sup>th</sup> anniversary.                               |
| Manchester City Council Health & Care Commissioning     | Manchester City Council are funding a Community Arts Intervention with young parents in Wythenshawe.  |
| Capital Redevelopment Project                           | This fund consists of grants and donations to support the capital redevelopment project   |
| Young Manchester-Youth & Play Creative Connections      | Young Manchester is funding a programme for youth workers and arts professionals to share best practice and build new partnerships.   |
| Creative Protagonists                                   | Young Manchester is funding a grant to co-deliver a 12 month pilot project that will young people from working class backgrounds in Manchester to exploring art and activism .                                |
| MCEP Youth Voice Pilot                                  | Grant to deliver workshops for the Creative Influencers two youth boards supporting the work of Manchester Cultural Education Partnership.  |
| Future Fires  | Education and Skills Funding Agency is funding a leadership programme supporting young people to run their own socially engaged arts projects.  |
| Studio School   | The National Lottery Community Fund is funding a music project for young people in alternative education or at risk of exclusion.   |

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| C Change Project       | Manchester City Council is funding a production of a show on climate change.   |
| Far Apart              | People's Palace Projects is funding a research project to look beyond lockdown to understand how UK Arts organisations can continue to support young people's wellbeing during Covid-19. |
| Cultural Recovery Fund | Arts Council England funded financial support to cultural organisations impacted by Covid.   |
| Weston Culture Fund    | Garfield Weston Foundation funded cultural organisations to restart their work after Covid and to re-engage audiences it supported and outdoor programme of activities and events.       |

#### 24 Analysis of net assets between funds

|   | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Designated<br>Funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Total<br>2021<br>£ | Total<br>2020<br>£ |
|---|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Tangible fixed assets                     | 59,472                     |                          | 7,466,932                | 7,526,404          | 6,976,577          |
| Cash at bank and in hand                  | 443,047                    | 160,00                   | 269,088                  | 872,135            | 599,788            |
| Other net current<br>assets/(liabilities) | (73,326)                   |                          | 382,969                  | 309,643            | 245,860            |
| <b>Total</b>                              | <b>429,193</b>             | <b>160,000</b>           | <b>8,118,989</b>         | <b>8,708,182</b>   | <b>7,822,225</b>   |

#### 25 Commitments under operating leases

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

|  | 2021<br>£    | 2020<br>£    |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Not later than 1 year                        | 1,249        | 3,641        |
| Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years | 988          | 1,068        |
|  | <b>2,476</b> | <b>4,709</b> |

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

#### 26 Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

|  | 2021<br>£      | 2020<br>£        |
|--|----------------|------------------|
| Net movement in funds                                    | 885,956        | 1,417,773        |
| Add back depreciation charge                             | 294,438        | 124,144          |
| Deduct interest & insurance claim (investing activities) | (372)          | (20,597)         |
| Loss/(profit) on disposal of fixed assets                | 238            |                  |
| Decrease in stock  | 239            | 244              |
| Increase in debtors                                      | (86,230)       | (335,748)        |
| Increase in creditors                                    | (177,792)      | 257,506          |
| <b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>             | <b>916,478</b> | <b>1,443,322</b> |

#### 27 Net Debt Reconciliation

|                                      | Balance<br>1 April 2020<br>£ | Cash Flows<br>£ | Non<br>Cash Changes<br>£ | Balance<br>31 March 2021<br>£ |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Cash & cash equivalents              | 599,788                      | 272,347         |                          | 872,135                       |
| Loan from Manchester<br>City Council |                              | (200,000)       |                          | (200,000)                     |
|                                      | <b>599,788</b>               | <b>72,347</b>   |                          | <b>672,135</b>                |

#### 28 Custodian Funds

Contact acted as a custodian trustee during the year for 3 independent projects run by participants from The Agency and Future Fires. All funds are held as cash and are segregated from the charity's cash holdings.

|                      | Balances<br>Held at 1<br>April<br>2020<br>£ | Funds<br>Received<br>£ | Funds<br>Paid<br>£ | Balances<br>Held at<br>31 March<br>2021<br>£ |
|----------------------|---|------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Console.Code         | 667   |                        | 667                |  |
| Hate Crime Awareness | 40  |                        |                    | 40   |
| Uniquely Us          | 618   | 8                      |                    | 626  |
|                      | <b>1,325</b>                                | <b>8</b>               | <b>667</b>         | <b>666</b>                                   |

## Manchester Young People's Theatre Limited (Contact Theatre)

### Notes to the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021

#### 29 Post Balance Sheet Events

Chief Executive Matthew Fenton entered into a 6 month notice period in September 2021. He is due to complete his notice period in March 2022 following 8 years with Contact.

#### 30 Capital Commitments

Contact has future commitments for the capital redevelopment project and expects these commitments to be contracted within the next year and financed by cash reserves and grants. Part of the commitment is funded by the Arts Council and this is subject to their standard terms and conditions of grant funding.

|  | 2021           | 2020           |
|--|----------------|----------------|
|  | £              | £              |
| Capital expenditure that has been contracted but has not been provided for in the financial statements | 57,767         | 607,756        |
| Capital expenditure that has been authorised by the Trustees but has not yet been contracted           | 189,914        | 65,669         |
|  | <u>247,681</u> | <u>673,425</u> |

