

NATIONAL YOUTH CHOIRS OF GREAT BRITAIN

England & Wales · Charity number 515660

Details

Other names NATIONAL YOUTH CHOIR (GREAT BRITAIN) LTD

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [01850803](#)

Registered 1984-10-23

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Ushaw Historic House
Woodland Road
Ushaw Moor
Durham
DH7 7DW

Phone 01919160076

Email mark.anyan@nationalyouthchoir.org.uk

Website www.nationalyouthchoir.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE PERFORMING ARTS AND IN PARTICULAR CHORAL MUSIC.

Activities: To give the opportunity to groups of young people to perform together in choirs by running residential through the year culminating in the performance of major concerts.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** GREAT BRITAIN
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-09-30	£1,591,316	£1,807,731	£373,055	13
2023-09-30	£1,527,354	£1,688,825	£537,904	12
2022-09-30	£1,390,286	£1,447,922	£682,434	10
2021-09-30	£1,097,134	£1,013,095	£752,626	6
2020-09-30	£707,614	£752,992	£633,475	11

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
DAVID ROPER		2021-05-01
Georgina Alison Robb		2020-01-28
Gillian Frances Hillier OBE		2020-01-28
Gregor Stanley Watson		2020-01-28
JAMES OLLEY		2018-01-23
Margaret O'Shea		2020-01-28
Michael John Strutt		2019-04-25
Siu-Wai Ng		2021-06-30
Tamsin Verity Anderson		2025-02-13
Thomas James Shahani-Tuckwell		2025-02-13

NATIONAL YOUTH CHOIRS OF GREAT BRITAIN

England & Wales - Charity number 515660

Accounts

Registered number: 01850803

Registered number: 01850803
Charity number: 515660

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual report

30 September 2024

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Contents

	Page
Reference and administrative details	1
Trustees' report	2 - 14
Trustees' responsibilities statement	15
Independent auditor's report	16 - 19
Statement of financial activities	20
Balance sheet	21
Statement of cash flows	22
Notes to the financial statements	23 - 40

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Reference and administrative details Year ended 30 September 2024

Trustees

David Andrew Roper
Rebecca Helen Driver
James Simon Olley
Michael John Strutt
Georgina Alison Robb
Gregor Stanley Watson
Margaret O'Shea
Gillian Frances Hillier
Siu-Wai Ng
Thomas Hughes-Hallett (resigned 16 July 2024)

Company registered number

01850803

Charity registered number

515660

Registered office

Ushaw Historic House, Chapel and Gardens
Woodland Road
Durham
DH7 9RH

Key management team

Anne Besford, Chief Executive
Lucy Hollins, Creative Director
Mark Anyan, General Manager

Independent auditor

UNW LLP
Chartered Accountants
Citygate
St James' Boulevard
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4JE

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
Holmfirth
Huddersfield
HD9 2DW

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report Year ended 30 September 2024

The trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the company for the year 1 October 2023 to 30 September 2024. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the company qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Objectives and Activities

Objectives

More than just a choir: we are a community with a shared passion for singing and the life-changing opportunities it can offer.

Our vision: Through excellence in singing, creating music, training and support, we help young people develop the confidence and skills to realise their greatest potential.

The National Youth Choir is the place to come to for all aspiring singers who want to be inspired, stretched, challenged and nurtured. We want to be a household name, which young people nationwide who love singing together aspire to join, from the widest range of backgrounds.

Our mission: Nurturing talent, reaching new audiences and inspiring new ambitions.

Our mission is to build a nurturing nationwide community where young people can explore a diverse range of music, enjoy singing together and share their creativity. We champion the power of singing, opening up opportunities so that more young people from all walks of life can find and use their voice.

To achieve our mission we are:

1. **Striving for excellence in everything we do**, delivering inspiring, ambitious and relevant creative and learning programmes with young people at their heart.
2. **Expanding our reach**, opening up opportunities for young singers and emerging professionals from all backgrounds across the UK to develop their talent and potential.
3. **Raising the public profile of National Youth Choir**, our purpose, values, and the impact of singing, increasing awareness and engagement.
4. **Developing organisational resilience**, ensuring we have resources, capacity and structures to achieve ambitions and show our impact.

Activities for achieving objectives

Founded in the North of England in 1983, National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (trading as National Youth Choir) has evolved from a single choir of 100 outstanding young singers to become a nationwide community and champion for youth singing, standing for artistic excellence, creative diversity, and openness and relevance to all.

We are driven by the passionate belief that all children and young people, regardless of individual circumstance, should be able to make music with others. Each one of them should have the opportunity and support to discover and explore their musical potential, achieving excellence at the highest levels.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2024

Over the last ten years, the National Youth Choir has been on a transformational journey, putting young people right at the heart of our community. We have expanded our profile, national reach, educational and creative programmes, and created new pathways in music progression for young people and aspiring professionals. We have taken direct action to be more representative and inclusive, delivering against ambitious aims to open up access and achieve life-changing musical and personal impact for more young people from a wider range of backgrounds.

Our creative and learning programme now comprises four interconnected strands:

I. Education: National Choirs

Offering over 900 of the country's most talented singers aged 9 to 25 musical, personal and educational development through intensive residential and online rehearsals and specialist training with professional conductors, musicianship and vocal coaches and guest artists as part of our pathway of national choirs. These choirs are National Youth Choir: 18-25 years (incorporating our elite chamber choir National Youth Voices); National Youth Choir: 15-18 years and two ensembles under our National Youth Choir: 9-15 years umbrella, split by gender and voice part.

II. Performance

A unique programme of opportunities for participants to create and share music with audiences through a range of creative outputs: live concerts; broadcasts; festivals; special events; digital recordings and music videos. This includes co-creating and performing new works from a range of leading and emerging composers. We continue to grow exciting partnerships and collaborations, bringing our music to wider audiences – over 90,000 people through live performance and over two million people through streams and broadcasts.

III. Learning and Engagement

Open access opportunities for young people to be inspired by singing together, discovering and progressing their vocal talent through joined up regional and national pathways, with a particular focus on engaging young people in areas of higher deprivation and with access to fewer creative opportunities. Engaging over 3,500 participants each year, this programme comprises strategic partnerships including our growing SING! initiative. We aim to reach more young people from a wider range of backgrounds and to create more sustainable singing opportunities in targeted priority areas.

IV. Emerging Professionals

Training programmes supporting exceptionally talented young choral musicians, leaders and composers – particularly those under-represented in the sector – to develop sustainable music careers. Between 8 and 12 emerging professional musicians are supported each year through our Fellowship, Young Composers and new Young Conductors schemes, developing skills and creative practice, creating new work and growing their professional profile and networks.

Supporting young people and equipping them with the tools and experiences to fulfil their potential musically, educationally and socially is at the heart of all our work. We aim to lead the way in choral music, developing accessible creative and learning approaches and ambitious, diverse and representative programming, which will inspire, challenge and engage many more young people from all backgrounds and at all stages of their development. Programmes are young people-centred and inclusive, relevant to and informed by young people themselves, who we value and empower as co-creators.

National Youth Choir has an agreed strategic plan for the period 2022 to 2027 setting out our organisational vision, values and strategy. Our agreed aims and objectives are delivered by a dedicated core staffing team, together with a pool of over 130 freelance creative, pastoral and project management specialists.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2024

National Youth Choir is a National Portfolio Organisation and National Youth Music Organisation supported by Arts Council England and the Department for Education, with current three-year funding for the period April 2023 to March 2026 totalling £108,017 per year.

Activities undertaken for public benefit

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

Achievements and performance

Review of activities

Throughout the year, National Youth Choir has been working to deliver against our ambitions to grow our national community, becoming even more effective, relevant and impactful for young people from the widest range of backgrounds. We are building on strong creative and operational foundations as we implement our five year strategic plan 2022-2027.

Auditions

We recruit widely for our national choirs, auditioning young people from across the UK to identify musical potential and passion for singing. Through our open, online auditions programme we saw 623 candidates across 32 days, maintaining the 10% increase we saw in the previous year. With the aim of removing barriers and making our auditions process more accessible particularly for young people in state education, we developed new targeted workshop auditions, seeing a further 37 candidates. Through our work to address access and awareness, we continue to see progress addressing issues of under-representation. For example 32.4% of candidates were from Black, Asian or other ethnically diverse backgrounds, up from 16% in 2020. Across all auditions, 75% of candidates were awarded places in one of our national choirs.

Residentials and Training

We delivered another busy programme of rehearsal, training and progression opportunities, including an annual programme of four projects for the flagship National Youth Choir (18-25 years), 9 residential courses for our 9-18 choirs, and concerts in venues nationwide. In total we recorded 1,087 participants in membership activities across the year, broadly consistent with the previous year.

Highlights included delivering our first parallel course for members of the National Youth Choir (9-15 Years), bringing together singers from both of our 9-15 ensembles in Tonbridge. This enabled us to provide opportunities for participants to collaborate with each other musically and socially, and the residential culminated in two exciting joint performances. Members of National Youth Choir (15-18 Years) explored diverse music – from Eric Whitacre to ABBA – across their three residentials. This included recording Greg Beardsell and Harry Baker's beautiful arrangement of a Jamie Cullum song How Do You Fly, which became our Christmas release for 2024. National Youth Choir (18-25 Years) collaborated with the Young Artists of Sinfonia Smith Square on a performance of Faure's Requiem. As well as the usual intensive programmes of music and learning, this year all the choirs had the opportunity to take part in audio recording projects, creating new tracks to be released in the coming year on National Youth Choir's digital platforms.

Across the year 191 activity sessions were delivered across 69 days by over 130 creative, pastoral and management specialists.

National Youth Choir has remained committed to ensuring a diverse balance of musical programming and has continued to champion music composed or arranged by artists who have historically been under-represented in the choral music sector. Through member forums and discussions, we encourage our young people to explore the wider context of choral music and deepen their understanding beyond the notes on the page. We now publish our repertoire annually so that other organisations can explore and take inspiration from it.

Performances, Commissions and Recordings

During 2023-24 we continued to deliver live and digital performances, showcasing the breadth and brilliance of the national choirs and their work to national and international audiences.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2024

The National Youth Choirs performed in 42 live concerts in 2023-24, to a total audience of 91,097. This included concerts and showcases at the end of residencies (Saffron Walden, Coventry, York, Ely, Tonbridge, Oxford, Wakefield), as well as collaborations with partners. Singers were invited to perform at the Royal Variety Performance in December alongside Samantha Barks and Mel C, for Their Royal Highnesses The Prince and Princess of Wales. The National Youth Choir (18-25 Years) also returned to the BBC Proms in the summer for a spectacular performance of Beethoven's 9th Symphony by heart, with Aurora Orchestra and the BBC Singers.

Digital content across our YouTube, Spotify and Apple Music platforms continues to reach wider international audience each year. In 2023-24 this included 23 audio and 7 video tracks, with new music from the last twelve months receiving over 131,000 streams/views. Across our full catalogue, streams and views reached 2.5 million people from 153 countries – sustaining the huge increase we saw in the previous year. National Youth Choir performances were broadcast across Classic FM, BBC Radio 3, BBC Four and ITV, including a performance on This Morning!

National Youth Choir continues to commission and create innovative new choral music by, for and with young people, challenging perceptions of what choral music can be. Our commissions in 2024 were:

'Word' by Joanna Marsh – a joyful, energetic setting of hip-hop inspired verse by Patience Agbabi, premiered at Ely Cathedral by National Youth Choir (18-25 Years).

'Snowdrop' and 'Willow' by Kristina Arakelyan – two pieces specifically composed for the changing and unchanged voices of the National Youth Choir (9-15 years) and premiered at Tonbridge Chapel.

'Journey of a Butterfly' by 2023 graduate Young Composer Millicent B James – premiered in Oxford and Wakefield by the National Youth Choir (15-18 years)

8 new pieces by our Young Composers 2024, to be released in January 2025.

We continue to receive industry recognition for the quality and innovation of our new music programme. Former Young Composer Ben Nobuto won a prestigious Ivor Novello award for his piece Sol, performed by the Fellowship.

Learning and Engagement

Through our national work with schools and communities we aim to inspire more young people from a wider range of backgrounds to discover and develop their voice, challenging the current inequality of opportunities for high-quality singing in state education. We work with partners including schools, Music Hubs and music organisations to understand barriers and challenges for young people and to create inclusive singing programmes and progression pathways that meet local needs. All opportunities are free at the point of access for young participants.

Following its launch in 2023, over the last year we have worked to expand and embed SING! – a positive, affirming pathway for young people aged 9-14 who enjoy singing, encouraging them to develop skills and pursue their passion. Through a series of fun, accessible and welcoming workshop days over three terms, participants explore a variety of new styles of music and approaches to singing with a team of expert vocal leaders from National Youth Choir. 239 young people took part in SING! activities, and we launched two new programmes in Mansfield and Bolton. Participants reported increased confidence, a sense of achievement and new musical skills and interests.

Wider Learning and Engagement activities have included new types of activity working with partner schools and Merton Music Foundation, as well as CPD opportunities. Across the whole programme we engaged and inspired 3,550 young people, family groups, teachers and music leaders. In addition, over 1,000 audience members attended showcase events to celebrate participants' achievements. We reached communities including Greater Manchester, Nottinghamshire, Yorkshire, Norfolk, London Boroughs and our home region, the North East. We were also delighted to continue to offer opportunities for 20 young people, including national choir members, to develop peer leadership skills through volunteering to support regional learning activities.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2024

Professional support and development

National Youth Choir takes a leading role in shaping the future of the sector by supporting the professional development of emerging young choral musicians. We nurture talent from the widest diversity of backgrounds so that choral music is vibrant, innovative and relevant.

In 2023-24 we delivered our Emerging Professional Artists programme, launching the ninth Fellowship training programme, the sixth Young Composers scheme and a new Young Conductors programme. We support ten early career professionals from diverse cultural, geographical and musical backgrounds each year, through hybrid programmes of online and in-person training and mentorship by leading representatives from the choral and wider music sector. This included industry workshops by Steinberg (Dorico software), publishers Stainer and Bell, industry body AOTOS and creative retreats supported by Britten Pears Arts.

The trainee cohort participated in live, recorded and broadcast performances and paid opportunities to work on National Youth Choir activities. They continued to play a central role in supporting our commitment to new music, undertaking creative collaborations to create and perform eight new pieces by the Young Composers released on an album by NMC Recordings.

Access and financial assistance

National Youth Choir believes that all young people should have the opportunity to sing, and that access to membership of the national choirs should be on the basis of musical potential and passion. No young person should be prevented from taking part in our programmes because of their financial circumstances. All fees to take part in National Youth Choir activities are subsidised by around a third and we actively and visibly promote the availability of generous financial assistance for young people from lower-income families to support the cost of audition and residential course fees, travel expenses, tickets and other costs.

We continue to see a growth in demand for financial assistance awards. In 2013-14 we assisted 115 young people with 126 awards; in 2023-24 this has increased to 281 awards made to 147 recipients. The total direct value of these awards was £142,986 – a 5% increase on the level of awards made in the previous year. This represented essential support for around one in five of our membership and was equivalent to 14.2% of our overall income from fees.

With the ongoing effects of high inflation and cost of living pressures, we continue to plan for the need to remove financial barriers for more young singers. In 2022-23 we reviewed our financial assistance programme to simplify applications and this year provided an increased level of support, particularly for families with the lowest incomes.

Inclusion and Representation

National Youth Choir is committed to building an inclusive, representative and welcoming community and to ensuring that young people from all backgrounds are able to participate in ensemble singing and musical experiences of the highest quality. We have an important, sector-leading role to play as a champion of inclusive practice, influencing wider change in choral music and addressing social injustice. We recognise that we must commit over the long term to see the change we want within the sector.

The current priorities in our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion action plan for the period 2023-2025 are to continue work to:

- become more inclusive and representative;
- create and promote a culture of belonging within the organisation and the wider music sector;
- be more relevant to young people; and
- champion best practice so that anyone who wants to be part of the choral music sector is encouraged and supported to maximise their true potential.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2024

To deliver against these priorities this year, we have:

- Committing to regular team discussions about EDI issues and approaches;
- Introduced a clearer structure and new naming across our choirs to support inclusive practice;
- Piloted a new approach to delivery of National Youth Choir (9-15 years) and engaged members in development of a new approach to evaluation;
- Expanded targeted auditions with new workshop auditions for young people in state education;
- Expanded our SING! programmes into two new areas where there are fewer singing opportunities;
- Increased financial assistance to offer more support to those who need it most;
- Developed inclusive recruitment practices for National Youth Choir work and training opportunities, successfully bringing more diverse perspectives and experiences into our teams;
- Piloted new diversity and inclusion training;
- Engaged volunteers from a range of backgrounds on our Campaign Committee, Alumni Champions Committee and as parent volunteers;
- Delivered an open recruitment campaign for new trustees to ensure representation in our governance;
- Participated in national partnerships, conversations and networks to share inclusive practices and identify opportunities for joint-working.

Impact – Changing Lives

Young people are supported to realise their highest ambitions in singing with the National Youth Choir. No matter what their background or future ambitions, every singer is empowered to make a unique contribution to our community and walk away with a life-changing experience.

We firmly believe that the benefits of singing extend far beyond the development of musical expertise. As young people continue to face incredibly challenging times, singing with us supports the growth of skills and attributes including confidence, aspiration, teamwork, communication and leadership skills, as well as improving health and wellbeing. We enable young people to go out into the world as confident, bright, engaged and empowered individuals who are valuable additions to any organisation or career path, whether or not connected to music.

The feedback we receive from our beneficiaries, partners, stakeholders and alumni provides overwhelming evidence of these many benefits. Members in 2024 reported an average score of 8.9/10 for enjoyment of our programmes and 8.9/10 for feeling a sense of belonging to the National Youth Choir community. 71% said that taking part had significantly improved their musical skills and abilities, and 91% said that it had positively impacted on their happiness and wellbeing. Qualitative feedback gathered from our young people adds depth to these metrics and is reviewed regularly by staff and trustees and shared with key stakeholders.

Principal sources of funding

National Youth Choir fundraises from public and private sources by making funding applications to trusts, foundations and public bodies, running public campaigns and regular giving schemes, and soliciting corporate, individual, and legacy donations. National Youth Choir's fundraising is carried out by a specialist in-house development team employed directly by the organisation, with support from other staff members and a small number of volunteers.

National Youth Choir is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and all fundraising activities comply with the Code of Fundraising Practice. We are open and transparent in our fundraising communications and treat donors and supporters fairly and ethically, following best practice in cultivating new supporter relationships. We process personal data in accordance with GDPR and clearly set out how we use personal data in our Privacy Policy, which is reviewed annually. During 2023-24 National Youth Choir did not receive any complaints relating to our fundraising activities.

The trustees are very grateful to all our funders who have supported the National Youth Choir this year and record their particular thanks to major supporters: Arts Council England and the Department for Education; ACE National Lottery Project Fund; The Leverhulme Trust; Peter Sowerby Foundation; The Ofenheim Trust; Gillian Dickinson Trust; PRS for Music Foundation; John S Cohen Foundation; John James Bristol Foundation; and CHK Foundation. We are also pleased to recognise successful ongoing corporate partnerships with the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM), Stainer & Bell and Steinberg Media Technologies (Dorico).

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2024

National Youth Choir was successful in securing a range of grants from further regional and national trusts and foundations and the trustees wish to pay thanks to:

The Alice Ellen Cooper Dean Charitable Trust, Andor Charitable Trust, Baron Davenport's Charity, The Paul Bassham Charitable Trust, The Bagheera Trust, Beerling Foundation, The Belstead Ganzoni Charitable Settlement, The Blyth Watson Charitable Trust, The Catherine Cookson Charitable Trust, CHK Foundation, The Earl Fitzwilliam Charitable Trust, Earl of Chester's Fund, The Elmley Foundation, Fenton Arts Trust, Doris Field Charitable Trust, The Florence Turner Trust, Fowler Smith & Jones Trust, The Frazer Trust, Hadrian Trust, The HR Taylor Charitable Trust, The John Thaw Foundation, The J & S Asquith Charitable Trust, Lord and Lady Lurgan Trust, Mercers' Company, Michael Cornish Charitable Trust, The Millichope Foundation, The Misses Barrie Charitable Trust, The Mulberry Trust, The Roger and Sarah Bancroft Clark Charitable Trust, The Rowlands Trust, Scarfe Charitable Trust, The Sylvia and Colin Shepherd Charitable Trust, Vaughan Williams Foundation, Veronica Awdry Charitable Trust, W. E. Dunn Charitable Trust.

Valuable in-kind support was provided during the year by a number of our partners, including Britten Pears Arts (Young Composers' residential retreats); NMC Recordings (production of Young Composers album); Royal Albert Hall and ABRSM (free use of their spaces); Stainer & Bell (mentoring and publishing support) and Steinberg Media Technologies (free Dorico software and training).

In December 2023 and March 2024, National Youth Choir took part in two Big Give Challenges raising funds to support 50 financial assistance recipients and our Sing! programme. Over 200 people generously donated just over £40,000, and we would like to thank them and our two match funders The Big Give Trust and The Emily Fund who matched donations £ for £.

The trustees would like to extend their gratitude to all the following people who most generously donated their time or money to National Youth Choir in 2023-24. We would also like to thank all our kind supporters who have chosen to remain anonymous.

- **Impresario Supporters:** Prof. Christopher Higgins; Ben Parry; David Roper; Mr and Mrs D von Preyss, The Bagheera Trust, The Emily Fund
- **Fortissimo Friends:** The Munden Family
- **Forte Friends:** The Baker Family; Kieran Cooper; The Felicité Choir; The Hillier Family; Mr and Mrs Holt; Estate of Mrs Elizabeth A Main; Paul and Susan McCreesh; Adrian Melrose; Polly Penter; Garth & Lucy Pollard; Bob and Camilla Reid; Michael & Tina Strutt; Mr & Mrs R Tett; The Wingfield Family; The Whitehead Family
- **Mezzo Forte Friends:** Bryony Coapes; Kate Davies; The Delap Family; Katherine Douglas; Andrew Evans; Andy Farris; Julian Forbes; Mr and Mrs Foulkes; The Grafton/Litherland Family; Catherine Green; Scott and Simone Green; Christian Grobel; Dominic and Sophie Jones; The Kilpatrick Family; Samara Kirapaty; Felix Leach; The Marklew Family; Geoff & Jean Mountfield; Janet Reid; Dr. Alan Renwick; Michael Seeney; Malcolm Smith; Carole Varney; Katey Wood; Mike Wright; Fiona Yeomans
- **Alumni Champions Committee:** Tom Appleton; Hannah Berridge; Liz Bingham (née Hurrin); Charlotte Brosnan; Jessica Coapes; Charlotte Dougan (née Mobbs); Andy Farris; Anna George (née Tonkin); Lizzie Hogarth – Chair; Derri Lewis; Kate Smith; Georgia Stryder; Amy Thompson; Anna von Preyss
- **Campaign Committee:** Angela Au; Sir Thomas Hughes-Hallett; Helen Kihmm von-Preyss; David Roper; Greg Watson; Anne Besford; Tim Croall; Rob Colbert; Blythe Day; Isobel Froston; Lucy Hollins; Michael Bass; Nic Chalmers; Elizabeth Hogarth; Martin Kaufman (Consultant).

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2024

Financial review

Financial position

The statement of financial activities for 2023-24 shows an overall annual deficit of £164,849. This includes a £51,566 increase in the value of invested funds during the year. A deficit was planned and expected due to investment in access and inclusion initiatives and organisational capacity.

National Youth Choir has continued to grow principal income-generating activities – residential and performances – during 2023-24. Consequently, we saw an increase in earned income from fees and charges and a corresponding increase in the associated expenditure relating to these activities including venue hires and staffing costs. However, overall residential activity bookings decreased slightly compared to the previous year and were below the budgeted target. An increasing proportion of choir members are taking part in one residential rather than two each year and we know from feedback this is largely due to cost of living pressures. We have adjusted targets accordingly in 2024-25, but still anticipate significant growth over the period of the current strategic plan.

Fundraised income streams from grants and individual giving grew again during the year, with the launch of our 'Give All Young People A Voice!' campaign having a positive impact. We remain hugely grateful for the help and financial support of donors, funders, participants, partners and government, as well as the volunteers on our Campaign Committee.

A proportion of the reported annual deficit is consistent with plans to invest designated reserves in key areas of organisational growth and staffing capacity over the last three years. In particular, this has included an expanded Creative Director role and additional fundraising capacity.

National Youth Choir has also continued to respond to ongoing high-levels of inflation through the year and the associated cost of living pressures facing many of our beneficiaries. In the previous year trustees committed to supporting access and inclusion and reducing the impact of inflation by limiting increases in fees and charges to a rate well below inflation, and this has continued into 2023-24 with increases remaining 5% below inflation over 2 years. trustees also committed to offering an increased level of financial assistance support, with the pot increasing by 5%.

Looking ahead, trustees continue to recognise the importance of balancing the carefully planned investment of funds to achieve charitable objectives and organisational resilience, with sustaining a suitable level of cash reserves to provide future security and address any unforeseen challenges.

Reserves policy

Total reserves at 30 September 2024 were £373,055. Future planning is fundamental to the National Youth Choir's operation, combining the seasonal nature of annual activities with the necessity of planning programmes more than one year ahead, to link with the advance schedules of partner organisations and guest artists. The reserves policy reflects the need to provide a degree of security to support advance planning over longer timescales, and to provide confidence to stakeholders that plans are soundly based and funded.

Trustees have previously agreed the need to hold sufficient reserves to cover a suitable period of salary and other operational costs as a budget and cash flow contingency in the event of a significant loss of income. A target balance of £410,000 was designated to this purpose, reflecting the equivalent of 12 months' core staffing costs. Currently this designated cashflow and contingency fund stands at £266,306. This is considered to be a suitable sum to enable National Youth Choir to manage the organisation through exceptional events and cashflow needs, however our long-term aim is to build this fund to the target balance.

A Founder's Fund of £106,749 is restricted to providing financial assistance supporting National Youth Choir members to take part in exceptional activities such as international touring, in accordance with donor wishes.

All reserves are tied up in designated funds, restricted funds and fixed assets. The National Youth choir's total free reserves are £nil.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2024

A substantial proportion of reserves are required as working capital, which is the cash held to enable the organisation to meet its commitments throughout the year.

The experience gained during the period since March 2020, reinforces the need for sufficient reserves to ensure the future of the organisation is sustainable and trustees will continue to review the reserves position on an annual basis.

Investments

During 2018-19 the trustees agreed to invest a proportion of reserves to provide a longer-term income stream for two key purposes:

1. To support the increasing need for access initiatives as National Youth Choir widens its reach and raises its profile.
2. To invest in the development of exceptional creative projects and programmes, particularly where sources of income are not otherwise available.

Since October 2019 £350,000 in total has been used to invest in the CCLA COIF Charities Investment fund, which comprised the Founders Fund and a proportion of the National Youth Choir's designated budget and cash flow contingency. At 30 September 2024 National Youth Choir holds 1,770 units valued at £457,593, an increase of £51,566 over the year. Our policy is to invest for long-term growth, however we are able to sell units to support cashflow needs as required.

Going concern

Trustees have given careful consideration to the matter of financial sustainability and the National Youth Choir's viability. Trustees have reviewed a number of different budget assumptions, scenarios and cashflow projections in setting a budget for 2024-25, which continues to balance investment in organisational growth and long-term sustainability. Trustees have also undertaken a detailed assessment of financial and organisational risks. This means we are confident in our financial projections and equipped to mitigate risks if they materialise.

Trustees agree that the National Youth Choir currently retains a suitable level of reserves to help mitigate immediate financial pressures and manage anticipated cashflow needs in the coming year.

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2024

Financial risk management objectives and policies

Our management team and Finance Committee robustly monitor financial risks including regular review of a comprehensive budget risk assessment. This ensures appropriate risk mitigation strategies can be implemented and contingency plans made. Management of risks is underpinned by a strong reserves policy. This approach ensures that National Youth Choir (as a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee) meets its legal and charitable financial compliance and probity requirements. The control environment and framework are appropriate for the current and planned future scale of the organisation and assure a strong platform of financial governance and control to National Youth Choir funders and stakeholders.

To support prudent financial management and mitigation of financial risk, trustees have carefully considered and agreed an investment strategy, described above.

Plans for future periods

By 2030 we want the National Youth Choir to be the go-to organisation for any young singer in the country who wants to be inspired, challenged and nurtured. We aim to provide unparalleled opportunities for young people from the widest diversity of backgrounds through performance, education and regional, national and international engagement opportunities. We want the National Youth Choir to be a household name that all passionate young singers, from the widest possible range of backgrounds, and from every part of the UK, aspire to join.

Strategic Plan 2022-27

National Youth Choir trustees approved a new strategic plan for the period October 2022 to September 2027 in autumn 2022. The plan sets out a clear and compelling vision and ambition for how we plan to build our community and develop our reach and impact. The plan is based on consultation with audience and stakeholder groups to ensure our plans and priorities are relevant, inspiring, inclusive and sustainable. Core strategic aims are to strive for excellence; expand our reach; raise our public profile and develop our resilience. In 2025 we will undertake a mid-term review of the plan and we remain flexible in responding to external factors and their impact on our programme and beneficiaries.

In 2024-25 the programme of activities will contribute towards the delivery of the stated organisational and charitable aims and objectives.

Courses, Training and Professional Development

Eight residential courses are currently planned for 2024-25 for National Youth Choir (9-15 Years) and National Youth Choir (15-18 Years). Alongside this we will deliver the annual programme of activity for National Youth Choir (18-25 Years). We aim to engage at least 1,130 participants across the choir programmes.

We are committed to continuing to refine and develop our creative and learning programmes, ensuring that our training remains at the forefront of excellent choral practice and is inspiring, relevant and inclusive. We will be embedding the new approach to delivery of the 9-15 choirs with joint courses and shared performances, under the direction of a new Principal Conductor. We will be further developing our approach to evaluation of national choir activities and our quality framework, building on this year's pilot. National Youth Choir (18-25 Years) will undertake their first international tour since 2016, travelling to South Africa in spring.

Our sector leading development programmes will continue with delivery of the 2025 Emerging Professional Artists, engaging 10 participants in total with a particular focus on developing our support for disabled and neurodiverse musicians.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2024

Performances, Commissions and Recordings

Seeking to continue to offer members unbeatable creative opportunities, we aim to deliver a programme of 20 concerts/performances, regular digital recording releases and 2 broadcasts across our ensembles in 2024-25. The programme will continue established partnerships with the London Handel Festival and the Royal Albert Hall and a new relationship with the BBC Singers. It will also include the release of the sixth Young Composers album by NMC Recordings. 3 new commissions/collaborations are planned: one of the UK's finest musicians, Roderick Williams OBE will collaborate with National Youth Choir (18-25 years); Canadian composer Sarah Quartel will write for our 9-15 choirs and we will commission one of our graduate Young Composers from 2024 to create a new work for our 15-18 choir.

Learning and Engagement

In 2024-25 we will continue to grow our national work in schools and communities, with a continued focus on expanding the SING! programme to support young singers and create strong progression pathways across five areas, including current partnerships in the North East, Greater Manchester and Mansfield, and new partnerships in the West Midlands and with Ark Schools. We will also expand our targeted auditions. This programme is critical to achieving our aim to expand our reach and open up opportunities for young people from all backgrounds to develop their singing and reap the associated benefits. In 2025 we plan to develop plans for new strategic engagement activities to support singing pathways more widely. In total we aim to engage 3,500-4,000 participants.

Access, Inclusion and Representation

National Youth Choir is committed to being an inclusive and representative organisation, championing high-quality singing opportunities for all young people. We passionately believe that all children and young people with the widest range of backgrounds and regardless of individual circumstance should be able to make music with others and have the opportunity to discover and explore their musical talent, achieving at the highest levels.

We will prioritise ongoing Equality, Diversity and Inclusion work, taking action to identify and remove barriers for potential participants, audiences, staff and trustees, so that the National Youth Choir is a welcoming and inclusive community for all. Key activities include a focus on access planning, new auditions approaches, growing our financial assistance programme, developing our work around young people's voice, and taking proactive steps to develop a more representative workforce. We will also be developing partnerships with specialist organisations to inform this work and act as critical friends.

Budget

For 2024-25 trustees have made the strategic decision to set a deficit budget, with a planned deficit of £75k for the year. This will continue to support our strategic aims to widen our reach and impact and to develop an inclusive community where all young people feel they belong, through investment in financial assistance and capacity for growth. Trustees are planning for National Youth Choir to return to a breakeven position in the following year and to grow reserves thereafter.

In 2024-25 we will continue to deliver our four-year fundraising campaign, with the aim of raising £2.75 million by 2027. This will support investment in our learning and engagement and access initiatives, development of creative initiatives and projects, and support organisational sustainability.

Arts Council England and Department for Education

The National Youth Choir will receive funding for the period April 2023 – March 2026 as part of Arts Council England's National Portfolio investment programme and the Department for Education's National Youth Music Organisations network. We are committed to embedding Arts Council's Investment Principles across the organisation and these principles are aligned with our strategic objectives.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2024

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (trading as National Youth Choir) was established in 1983 and registered as a charity and incorporated as a company limited by guarantee in 1984. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company, and is governed under its Articles of Association, renewed and revised in 2010.

Effective governance

The trustees are committed to ensuring the effective governance of the National Youth Choir and in 2023 completed a biennial review to ensure voluntary compliance with the Charity Governance Code. Following the review process the trustees were satisfied that the National Youth Choir met the key requirements of the code and identified actions to further enhance the National Youth Choir's approach to governance. The charity is a member of the Cultural Governance Alliance, a national network championing governance best practice.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and, under the company's Articles, are known as members of the Board of trustees. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Board of trustees are elected to serve for a period of three years, after which they must be re-elected at the next meeting of trustees. Trustees are elected for a maximum of three cycles.

The Board of trustees seeks to ensure that its members possess the range of skills, expertise and perspectives required to benefit the diverse range of work the company undertakes. In the event of particular skills, expertise or perspectives being lost due to retirement, a recruitment process is undertaken comprising open advertisement alongside targeted approaches to identify appropriate individuals for election to the Board of trustees. Trustee recruitment is led by a Nominations Committee, which is a sub-committee of the board.

Policies adopted for the induction and training of trustees

On appointment trustees participate in an established induction process and meet with the senior management team to understand the workings of the charity and their roles. All trustees are required to undertake safeguarding training and further training is provided on an ad hoc basis as and when required.

Pay policy for senior staff

The trustees are responsible for setting the remuneration level for the senior team, which is done taking account of the financial position of the charity and prevailing market rates for similar roles.

Organisational structure and decision-making

The National Youth Choir has a Board of trustees which meets quarterly and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. All trustees give their time voluntarily. Any expenses claimed by the trustees from the charity are set out in note 8 to the financial statements.

The trustees employ a Chief Executive and a Creative Director as an Executive team, with overall responsibility for a team of creative and operational staff (including the General Manager, Executive Producer, Director of Development, and Head of Communications) to develop and implement the vision of the charity and its activities.

The Board, with detailed work carried out by its Finance Committee, approves the draft annual budget. The Chief Executive and Creative Director are afforded full creative and operational control subject to the budgeting limits set by the Board.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2024

Risk management

The Board of trustees and the management committee regularly undertake a review of the major risks to which the charity is or may be exposed. Where appropriate, systems and procedures have been established to mitigate the risks that the charity is facing or may face.

Appropriate policies and procedures are in place to ensure compliance with legislative requirements, which include employment laws, equality duties, child protection policies, data protection policies and health and safety of members, staff, and volunteers.

It is National Youth Choir policy that 'all persons be accorded full and equal consideration on the basis of merit or other relevant, meaningful criteria, regardless of any potential source of discrimination.' We aim to achieve this by nurturing a culture of mutual respect and trust, fairness and dignity, and positive, inclusive behaviour.

Following a comprehensive review of our safeguarding practices by NSPCC in 2013, we have prioritised 'youth voice', ensuring that any young person participating in our programmes has the means and opportunity to express themselves and be heard. To support this the National Youth Choir employs a permanent Head of Safeguarding who is responsible for delivering a safeguarding training programme to all staff members and volunteers and working with staff to ensure appropriate future plans are put in place for young people, especially those with protected characteristics where and when required.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the persons who are trustees at the time when this Trustees' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware, and
- that trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

Auditor

Pursuant to section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006, the auditor will be deemed to be reappointed and UNW LLP will therefore continue in office.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 13 February 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



David Andrew Roper
(Chair of Trustees)

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of trustees' responsibilities Year ended 30 September 2024

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company 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).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial . 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 company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees and signed on its behalf by:



David Andrew Roper
(Chair of Trustees)

Date: 13 February 2025



Independent auditor's report to the members of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 30 September 2024 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 30 September 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ('ISAs (UK)') and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements' section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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 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.



Independent auditor's report to the members of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (continued)

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 are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. 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. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether 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.

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 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- 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 our 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 Trustees' report.

We have nothing to report 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; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a Strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, 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.



Independent auditor's report to the members of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (continued)

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

We identified areas of law and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general and sector experience and through discussions with the directors and other management (as required by Auditing Standards) and from inspection of the company's legal correspondence and we discussed with the directors and other management the policies and procedures in place regarding compliance with laws and regulations. We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.

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

Secondly, the company is subject to many other laws and regulations where the consequences of non-compliance could have a material effect on amounts or disclosures in the financial statements, for instance through the imposition of fines or litigation. We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an effect; health and safety, employment law, data protection, environmental law, safeguarding and child protection and certain aspects of company legislation, recognising the nature of the charitable company's activities. Auditing Standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Through these procedures we did not become aware of any actual or suspected non-compliance material to the financial statements.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditor's report.



Independent auditor's report to the members of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (continued)

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable 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 charitable company'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 company and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Anne Hallowell

**Anne Hallowell BSc FCA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of UNW LLP, Statutory Auditor**

Chartered Accountants
Newcastle upon Tyne

13 February 2025

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account) Year ended 30 September 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	140,410	460,790	601,200	563,546
Charitable activities	4	985,612	-	985,612	958,470
Investments		4,504	-	4,504	5,338
Total income		1,130,526	460,790	1,591,316	1,527,354
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	86,648	-	86,648	115,108
Charitable activities		1,260,293	460,790	1,721,083	1,573,717
Total expenditure		1,346,941	460,790	1,807,731	1,688,825
Net expenditure before net gains on investments		(216,415)	-	(216,415)	(161,471)
Net gains on investments		51,566	-	51,566	16,941
Net movement in funds		(164,849)	-	(164,849)	(144,530)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		431,155	106,749	537,904	682,434
Net movement in funds		(164,849)	-	(164,849)	(144,530)
Total funds carried forward		266,306	106,749	373,055	537,904

The notes on pages 23 to 40 form part of these financial statements.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Balance sheet At 30 September 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	9	-	-
Tangible assets	10	-	-
Investments	11	457,593	406,027
		<u>457,593</u>	<u>406,027</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	12	76,561	65,812
Cash at bank and in hand		18,871	274,975
		<u>95,432</u>	<u>340,787</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(179,970)	(208,910)
Net current liabilities / assets		<u>(84,538)</u>	<u>131,877</u>
Total net assets		<u><u>373,055</u></u>	<u><u>537,904</u></u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	14	106,749	106,749
Unrestricted funds	14	266,306	431,155
Total funds		<u><u>373,055</u></u>	<u><u>537,904</u></u>

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

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the trustees on 13 February 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



David Andrew Roper
(Chair of Trustees)

Company registration number 01850803

The notes on pages 23 to 40 form part of these financial statements.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of cash flows

Year ended 30 September 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	16	(260,608)	(109,443)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends, interests and rents from investments		4,504	5,338
Net cash provided by investing activities		4,504	5,338
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(256,104)	(104,105)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		274,975	379,080
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	17	18,871	274,975

The notes on pages 23 to 40 form part of these financial statements

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2024

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

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

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain 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.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity and are rounded to the nearest £1.

1.2 Company status

The company is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in England. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 1. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the company.

1.3 Going concern

As set out in more detail in the trustees report, the trustees have reviewed a number of different budget assumptions, scenarios and cashflow projections in setting a budget for 2024-25, which continues to balance investment in organisational growth and long-term sustainability.

Consequently the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

1.4 Income

All income, including course fees and grant income, is recognised once the company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donated goods or services are included in income at a valuation which is an estimate of the financial cost borne by the donor, where such a cost is quantifiable and measurable. No income is recognised where there is no financial cost borne by the third party.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2024

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the company. They include governance costs, which are those incurred in connection with the administration of the company and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Costs of generating funds are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the company to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.6 Intangible assets and amortisation

Intangible assets are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably. Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost net of amortisation and any provision for impairment.

Amortisation is provided at the following rates:

Software	-	5 year straight line basis
Website	-	3 year straight line basis

1.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £5,000 are capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases

Office equipment	-	5 year straight line basis
------------------	---	----------------------------

1.8 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the statement of financial activities.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2024

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.9 Debtors

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

1.10 Cash at bank and in hand

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.

1.11 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

1.12 Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the company to the fund in respect of the year.

1.13 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2024

2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

In preparing these financial statements the directors do not consider there were any significant areas of judgment that were required in applying the company's accounting policies as set out above.

Estimates included within these financial statements include depreciation and asset impairments. None of the estimates made are considered to carry significant estimation uncertainty, nor to bear significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Donations	97,949	21,682	119,631
Grants	16,875	439,108	455,983
Membership fees	25,586	-	25,586
	<u>140,410</u>	<u>460,790</u>	<u>601,200</u>

Donations comprise donations from individuals of £83,272 and from corporate partners of £21,682.

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Donations	120,836	27,964	148,800
Grants	118,000	276,648	394,648
Membership fees	20,098	-	20,098
	<u>258,934</u>	<u>304,612</u>	<u>563,546</u>

Donations comprise donations from individuals of £101,667 and from corporate partners of £31,351.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2024

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Course fees	866,155	866,155
Audition fees	10,204	10,204
Sales of merchandise	2,718	2,718
Concert and performing fees	15,373	15,373
Ticket sales and contributions - concerts	62,865	62,865
Other income	28,297	28,297
	<u>985,612</u>	<u>985,612</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Course fees	851,070	851,070
Audition fees	9,846	9,846
Sales of merchandise	1,853	1,853
Concert and performing fees	34,726	34,726
Ticket sales and contributions - concerts	46,415	46,415
Other income	14,560	14,560
	<u>958,470</u>	<u>958,470</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2024

5. Expenditure on raising funds

Costs of raising voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Fundraising - other costs	9,641	9,641
Wages and salaries	67,393	67,393
National Insurance	7,919	7,919
Pension costs	1,695	1,695
	<u>86,648</u>	<u>86,648</u>
	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Fundraising - other costs	25,091	25,091
Wages and salaries	78,707	78,707
National insurance	9,260	9,260
Pension costs	2,050	2,050
	<u>115,108</u>	<u>115,108</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2024

6. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Direct costs 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Charitable activities	1,553,515	167,568	1,721,083

	Direct costs 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Charitable activities	1,423,362	150,355	1,573,717

Analysis of direct costs

	Charitable activities 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Staff costs	420,616	420,616
Courses accomodation, music	957,165	957,165
Insurance	6,553	6,553
Travelling expenses	46,917	46,917
Advertising, website, promotion and printing	35,123	35,123
Consulting and training	9,128	9,128
Office costs	62,285	62,285
Bank charges	15,728	15,728
	<u>1,553,515</u>	<u>1,553,515</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2024

6. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs (continued)

	Charitable activities 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs	361,701	361,701
Courses accomodation, music	888,022	888,022
Insurance	6,094	6,094
Travelling expenses	42,554	42,554
Advertising, website, promotion and printing	35,432	35,432
Legal and professional	3,000	3,000
Consulting and training	17,660	17,660
Office costs	55,206	55,206
Bank charges	13,693	13,693
	<u>1,423,362</u>	<u>1,423,362</u>

Analysis of support costs

	Charitable activities 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Staff costs	131,330	131,330
Legal and professional fees	13,676	13,676
Rent and rates	17,349	17,349
Governance costs	5,213	5,213
	<u>167,568</u>	<u>167,568</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2024

6. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs (continued)

	Charitable activities 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs	97,719	97,719
Legal and professional fees	13,791	13,791
Rent and rates	21,791	21,791
Governance costs	335	335
Amortisation & depreciation	16,719	16,719
	<u>150,355</u>	<u>150,355</u>

7. Auditor's remuneration

	2024 £	2023 £
Fees payable to the company's auditor for the audit of the company's annual accounts	9,500	9,220
Fees payable to the company's auditor in respect of: Other services	1,200	1,000
	<u>1,200</u>	<u>1,000</u>

8. Staff costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	563,698	491,307
Social security costs	51,277	46,232
Other pension costs	13,978	11,898
	<u>628,953</u>	<u>549,437</u>

The average number of persons employed by the company during the year was as follows:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Average no. of employees	17	16

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2024

8. Staff costs (continued)

The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Staff	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	-	1
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	1	-

Key management personnel

Key management personnel are deemed to be those having authority and responsibility, delegated to them by the trustees for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the charity. During 2023/24 they were:

Creative Director - Lucy Hollins
Director of Development - Robert Colbert
Chief Executive - Anne Besford
General Manager - Mark Anyan

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £280,139 (2023: £243,489).

Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No trustees received any remuneration during the current or prior year.

During the year, one trustee (2023: one trustee) received reimbursed expenses of £1,434 (2023: £4,051) in respect of travel and subsistence costs, covering a number of previous years, which was subsequently donated to the charity.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2024

9. Intangible assets

	Software £
Cost	
At 1 October 2023	92,496
At 30 September 2024	<u>92,496</u>
Amortisation	
At 1 October 2023	92,496
At 30 September 2024	<u>92,496</u>
Net book value	
At 30 September 2024	<u><u>-</u></u>
At 30 September 2023	<u><u>-</u></u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2024

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Office equipment £
Cost	
At 1 October 2023	15,119
At 30 September 2024	<u>15,119</u>
Depreciation	
At 1 October 2023	15,119
At 30 September 2024	<u>15,119</u>
Net book value	
At 30 September 2024	<u>-</u>
At 30 September 2023	<u>-</u>

11. Fixed asset investments

	Unlisted investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 October 2023	406,027
Revaluations	51,566
At 30 September 2024	<u>457,593</u>
Net book value	
At 30 September 2024	<u>457,593</u>
At 30 September 2023	<u>406,027</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2024

12. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	8,996	15,477
Other debtors	1,920	1,920
Prepayments and accrued income	65,645	48,415
	<u>76,561</u>	<u>65,812</u>

13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	20,651	63,216
Other creditors	32,985	30,694
Accruals and deferred income	126,334	115,000
	<u>179,970</u>	<u>208,910</u>

	2024 £	2023 £
Deferred income at 1 October 2023	98,383	86,746
Resources deferred during the year	109,521	98,383
Amounts released from previous periods	(96,383)	(86,746)
	<u>111,521</u>	<u>98,383</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2024

14. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 October 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 30 September 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
General contingency & budget	410,000	-	-	(143,694)	-	266,306
Access and inclusion initiative	7,000	-	(7,000)	-	-	-
Organisational development initiative	14,155	-	(14,155)	-	-	-
	<u>431,155</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(21,155)</u>	<u>(143,694)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>266,306</u>
General funds						
General funds	-	1,130,526	(1,325,786)	143,694	51,566	-
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>431,155</u>	<u>1,130,526</u>	<u>(1,346,941)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51,566</u>	<u>266,306</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2024

14. Statement of funds (continued)

Restricted funds						
Founder's Scholarship Fund	106,749	-	-	-	-	106,749
Arts Council England	-	149,997	(149,997)	-	-	-
Peter Sowerby Foundation	-	51,243	(51,243)	-	-	-
The Leverhulme Trust	-	41,980	(41,980)	-	-	-
CHK Foundation	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-	-
The Offenheim Charitable Trust	-	7,000	(7,000)	-	-	-
Other small grants and donations	-	200,570	(200,570)	-	-	-
	<u>106,749</u>	<u>460,790</u>	<u>(460,790)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>106,749</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>537,904</u></u>	<u><u>1,591,316</u></u>	<u><u>(1,807,731)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>51,566</u></u>	<u><u>373,055</u></u>

As part of work to develop the current strategic plan, trustees identified areas where future investment would be needed. Designated funds aligned with the mission and priorities were allocated as follows:

- Access and Inclusion fund which provides dedicated resources to underpin the delivery of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion plan and enable to support costs of specific access needs;
- Organisational development initiative which support the costs of new staff posts, which will support the growth of more sustainable income streams.

Both funds were spend down in 2023//24 as expected.

NYCGB will continue to seek specific funding new initiatives as the need arises.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2024

14. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 October 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 30 September 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
General contingency & budget	410,000	-	-	-	410,000
CRM / API project	15,836	-	(15,836)	-	-
Access and inclusion initiative	30,000	-	(23,000)	-	7,000
40th Anniversary initiative	40,000	-	(40,000)	-	-
Organisational development initiative	42,857	-	(28,702)	-	14,155
Brand review initiative	4,400	-	(4,400)	-	-
	<u>543,093</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(111,938)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>431,155</u>
General funds					
General Funds	<u>32,592</u>	<u>1,222,742</u>	<u>(1,272,275)</u>	<u>16,941</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>575,685</u>	<u>1,222,742</u>	<u>(1,384,213)</u>	<u>16,941</u>	<u>431,155</u>
Restricted funds					
Founder's Scholarship Fund	106,749	-	-	-	106,749
Arts Council England	-	108,020	(108,020)	-	-
Peter Sowerby Foundation	-	9,375	(9,375)	-	-
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	-	63,800	(63,800)	-	-
The Leverhulme Trust	-	3,500	(3,500)	-	-
CHK Foundation	-	13,000	(13,000)	-	-
The Offenheim Charitable Trust	-	106,917	(106,917)	-	-
	<u>106,749</u>	<u>304,612</u>	<u>(304,612)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>106,749</u>
Total of funds	<u>682,434</u>	<u>1,527,354</u>	<u>(1,688,825)</u>	<u>16,941</u>	<u>537,904</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2024

15. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Fixed asset investments	350,844	106,749	457,593
Current assets	32,299	63,133	95,432
Creditors due within one year	(116,837)	(63,133)	(179,970)
Total	266,306	106,749	373,055

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Fixed asset investments	299,278	106,749	406,027
Current assets	271,355	69,432	340,787
Creditors due within one year	(139,478)	(69,432)	(208,910)
Total	431,155	106,749	537,904

16. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Net expenditure for the period (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(164,849)	(144,530)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	-	883
Amortisation charges	-	15,836
Gains on investments	(51,566)	(16,941)
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	(4,504)	(5,338)
Increase in debtors	(10,749)	(16,874)
(Decrease) / increase in creditors	(28,940)	57,521
Net cash used in operating activities	(260,608)	(109,443)

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2024

17. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash in hand	<u>18,871</u>	<u>274,975</u>

18. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 October 2023 £	Cash flows £	At 30 September 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>274,975</u>	<u>(256,104)</u>	<u>18,871</u>

19. Pension commitments

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the company to the fund and amounted to £13,978 (2023: £11,898). Contributions totalling £1,330 (2023: £1,395) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

20. Related party transactions

A director at Atom Holdco Limited is a trustee of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain. Atom Holdco Limited charged National Youth Choirs rental income for use of their office building until they changed premises in April 2024. Rent payable recognised in the year is £14,568 (2023: £24,871) and the balance owed to Atom Holdco Limited at year end is £nil (2023: £5,935).

During the year donations totalling £21,414 (2023: £32,379) were received from the trustees or organisations that trustees had declared an interested in.

Trustees expenses have been disclosed separately within note 8.

NATIONAL YOUTH CHOIRS OF GREAT BRITAIN

England & Wales - Charity number 515660

Accounts

Registered number: 01850803
Charity number: 515660

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual report

30 September 2023

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Contents

	Page
Reference and administrative details	1
Trustees' report	2 - 14
Trustees' responsibilities statement	15
Independent auditor's report	16 - 19
Statement of financial activities	20
Balance sheet	21
Statement of cash flows	22
Notes to the financial statements	23 - 41

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Reference and administrative details Year ended 30 September 2023

Trustees

David Andrew Roper, Chair
Rebecca Helen Driver
James Simon Olley
Michael John Strutt
Georgina Alison Robb
Gregor Stanley Watson
Margaret O'Shea
Gillian Frances Hillier
Siu-Wai Ng
Thomas Hughes-Hallett (appointed 3 May 2023)

Company registered number

01850803

Charity registered number

515660

Registered office

The Rivergreen Centre
Aykley Heads
Durham
DH1 5TS

Key management team

Ben Parry, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor (resigned 31 December 2022)
Lucy Hollins, Creative Director (appointed 3 April 2023)
Robert Colbert, Director of Development
Anne Besford, Chief Executive
Mark Anyan, General Manager

Independent auditor

UNW LLP
Chartered Accountants
Citygate
St James' Boulevard
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4JE

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
Holmfirth
Huddersfield
HD9 2DW

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report Year ended 30 September 2023

The trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the company for the 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the company qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Objectives and Activities

Objectives

More than just a choir: we are a community with a shared passion for singing and the life-changing opportunities it can offer.

Our vision: Through excellence in singing, creating music, training and support, we help young people develop the confidence and skills to realise their greatest potential.

The National Youth Choir is the place to come to for all aspiring singers who want to be inspired, stretched, challenged and nurtured. We want to be a household name, which young people nationwide who love singing together aspire to join, from the widest range of backgrounds.

Our mission: Nurturing talent, reaching new audiences and inspiring new ambitions.

Our mission is to build a nurturing nationwide community where young people can explore a diverse range of music, enjoy singing together and share their creativity. We champion the power of singing, opening up opportunities so that more young people from all walks of life can find and use their voice.

To achieve our mission we are:

1. **Striving for excellence in everything we do**, delivering inspiring, ambitious and relevant creative and learning programmes with young people at their heart.
2. **Expanding our reach**, opening up opportunities for young singers and emerging professionals from all backgrounds across the UK to develop their talent and potential.
3. **Raising the public profile of National Youth Choir**, our purpose, values, and the impact of singing, increasing awareness and engagement.
4. **Developing organisational resilience**, ensuring we have resources, capacity and structures to achieve ambitions and show our impact.

Activities for achieving objectives

Founded in the North of England in 1983, National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (trading as National Youth Choir) has evolved from a single choir of 100 outstanding young singers to become a nationwide community and champion for youth singing, standing for artistic excellence, creative diversity, and openness and relevance to all.

We are driven by the passionate belief that all children and young people, regardless of individual circumstance, should be able to make music with others. Each one of them should have the opportunity and support to discover and explore their musical potential, achieving excellence at the highest levels.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2023

Over the last ten years, the National Youth Choir has been on a transformational journey, putting young people right at the heart of our community. We have expanded our profile, national reach, educational and creative programmes, and created new pathways in music progression for young people and aspiring professionals. We have taken direct action to be more representative and inclusive, delivering against ambitious aims to open up access and achieve life-changing musical and personal impact for more young people from a wider range of backgrounds.

Our creative and learning programme now comprises four interconnected strands:

I. Education: National Choirs

Offering over 900 of the country's most talented singers aged 9 to 25 musical, personal and educational development through intensive residential and online training and workshops with professional conductors, musicianship and vocal coaches and guest artists as part of our four national choirs. From autumn 2023 these choirs are National Youth Choir: 18-25 years; National Youth Choir: 15-18 years (previously Training Choir); and two ensembles under our National Youth Choir: 9-15 years umbrella (previously Girls' and Boys' Choirs).

II. Performance

A unique programme of opportunities for participants to create and share music with audiences through a range of creative outputs: live concerts; broadcasts; festivals; special events; digital recordings and music videos. This also includes co-creating and performing new works from leading and emerging composers. We continue to grow exciting partnerships and collaborations, bringing our music to wider audiences – over 70,000 people through live performance and over two million people through streams and broadcasts.

III. Learning and Engagement

Open access opportunities for young people to be inspired by singing together, discovering and progressing their vocal talent through joined up regional and national pathways, with a particular focus on engaging young people in areas of higher deprivation and with access to fewer creative opportunities. Engaging over 3,500 young people each year, this programme comprises long-term strategic partnerships to reach more young people and create more sustainable singing opportunities in targeted priority areas, and a national on-demand programme of inspirational singing workshops and events.

IV. Emerging Professionals

Training programmes supporting exceptionally talented young choral musicians, leaders and composers – particularly those under-represented in the sector – to develop sustainable music careers. Between 8 and 12 emerging professional musicians are supported each year through our Fellowship and Young Composers schemes, developing skills and creative practice, creating new work and growing their professional profile and networks.

Supporting young people and equipping them with the tools and experiences to fulfil their potential musically, educationally and socially is at the heart of all our work. We aim to lead the way in choral music, developing accessible creative and learning approaches and ambitious, diverse and representative programming, which will inspire, challenge and engage many more young people from all backgrounds and at all stages of their development. Programmes are young people-centred and inclusive, relevant to and informed by young people themselves, who we value and empower as co-creators.

National Youth Choir has an agreed strategic plan for the period 2022 to 2027 setting out our organisational vision, values and strategy. Our agreed aims and objectives are delivered by a dedicated core staffing team, together with a pool of over 120 freelance creative, pastoral and project management specialists.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2023

National Youth Choir is a National Portfolio Organisation and National Youth Music Organisation supported by Arts Council England and the Department for Education, with renewed three-year funding for the period April 2023 to March 2026. In October 2022 we were pleased to be awarded renewed NPO funding for the three-year period April 2023 to March 2026.

Activities undertaken for public benefit

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

Achievements and performance

Review of activities

As the National Youth Choir entered its 40th year in 2023, we reached a point of inflection, with ambitions to build on the strong strategic, operational and creative foundations laid over the last decade, and to grow our national community becoming even more effective, relevant and impactful for young people from the widest range of backgrounds.

Following a period of consultation with our participants, audiences and stakeholders, in 2022-23 we agreed and implemented a new five-year strategic plan, which has set out a roadmap to achieve our ambitions.

Auditions

We recruit widely for our national choirs, by auditioning young people from across the breadth of the UK. 625 auditions took place as part of our open online auditions programme, a 10% increase on the previous year. As part of our work to remove barriers and engage with more young people in state education we piloted targeted auditions, seeing a further 57 candidates. Changes to our auditions process and promotion since 2020 continue to have a visible impact on addressing under-representation – 26.5% of all candidates were from Black, Asian or other ethnically diverse backgrounds compared with just 16% three years ago. 75% of candidates were successful in being awarded places to join the choirs or to progress into the next choir. Overall, our membership pool after auditions remained consistent with the previous year.

Courses and Training

Across the four national choirs, we delivered a full programme of training and progression opportunities, including an annual programme of four projects for the flagship National Youth Choir, and 7 residential courses for our 9-18 choirs in venues from Suffolk to York. In total we recorded 1,118 participants in membership activities across the year, a 3.2% increase.

In celebration of the National Youth Choir's 40th anniversary, in spring 2023 we ran four residentials concurrently, leading into a very special joint concert at the Royal Albert Hall on 11th April. As well as rehearsing and performing a huge range of repertoire from across the 40 years, the choirs premiered a specially commissioned 40-part piece *One Long Song* by outgoing Principal Conductor and Artistic Director, Ben Parry. They performed this alongside choir alumni, Fellows, learning and engagement participants, staff members and even the 3000-strong audience!

Celebrations continued through the summer with a series of nationwide residentials and concerts. Highlights included the National Youth Choir's collaboration at Snape Maltings with the Swingles, London Youth Choirs and Friday Afternoons who were all celebrating milestone anniversaries this year; and the National Youth Training Choir's collaboration with Britten Sinfonia at Ely Cathedral. As well as their usual packed programmes of music and learning, the National Youth Girls' and Boys' Choirs also took part in audio and video recording projects creating tracks for release on National Youth Choirs digital platforms. Across the year, the choir programmes included 169 training sessions across 61 activity days.

National Youth Choir has remained committed to ensuring a diverse balance of musical programming and has continued to champion music composed or arranged by artists who have historically been under-represented in the choral music sector. Through member forums and discussions, we encourage our young people to explore the wider context of choral music and deepen their understanding beyond the notes on the page.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2023

Performances, Commissions and Recordings

During 2022-23 we continued to deliver live and digital performance outcomes, showcasing the breadth and brilliance of the national choirs and their work to a wider audience, and challenging perceptions of what choral can be.

The National choirs gave a total of 29 live performances in 2022-23 to a total audience of 77,386, including end of course showcases and concerts nationwide (Ely Cathedral, Snape Maltings, York University etc), chamber choir performances and collaborations with partners. This included 'Celebrate!' our spectacular 40th Anniversary showcase of four decades of music-making with nearly 1,000 performers at the Royal Albert Hall in April.

Digital creative outputs reach a much wider public audience each year and included 25 audio tracks and 10 videos released on our digital platforms YouTube, Spotify and Apple Music, receiving 106,000 streams and views. We continued to secure broadcasts on radio across ClassicFM, BBC Radio 3 and Scala Radio and the Chamber Choir performed on Sunday with Laura Kuenssberg on BBC1. Streams and views across our full digital catalogue reached over 2.66 million people worldwide, representing a 43% annual increase.

National Youth Choir continues to commission and create innovative new choral music by, for and with young people, with commissions including:

- One Long Song by Ben Parry with lyrics by Anoushka Lucas – a 40-part commission for our 40th anniversary celebrations, premiered by all the national choirs.
- Kong Guan by 2022 graduate Young Composer Sun Keting, premiered by the National Youth Training Choir at Ely Cathedral.
- 8 new pieces by our Young Composers 2023, to be released in January 2024.

We continue to receive industry recognition for the quality and innovation of our new music programme. Young Composer Ben Nobuto won a prestigious Ivor Novello award for his piece Sol, performed by the Fellowship.

Learning and Engagement

Through our national work with schools and communities we aim to inspire more young people in state education and from a wider range of backgrounds to discover and progress their passion for singing, through inclusive and high quality regional and national opportunities. Using our unique musical and educational expertise, we seek to understand barriers and challenges for young people and work with partners including schools, Music Education Hubs and music organisations to create bespoke singing programmes that meet local needs and help remove regional inequalities in singing provision and develop sustainable progression pathways. All opportunities are free at the point of access for young participants.

Our major development in 2022-23 was the launch of the SING! programme, which provides targeted pathways and support for young people to develop their singing and build their confidence, progressing to audition for the national choirs if they choose. Our flagship SING! programme was delivered in the North East where we worked with the regional Music Hubs and engaged 75 young people aged 9-15 from state schools across the region over two terms of activity.

Across all of our Learning and Engagement activities we engaged and inspired nearly 3,000 young people, family groups, teachers and music leaders. In addition, 1,300 audience members attended showcase events to support the achievements of participants. We worked with local partners across Trafford, Wigan, North Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire and London boroughs (through Ark Schools) as well as in the North East, where we continued to deliver the Gillian Dickinson Young Singers programme. We continued to blend live participatory activities with online CPD sessions and digital resources to maximise the reach and impact of our work. We were also delighted to continue to offer opportunities for National Youth Choir members to develop peer leadership skills through volunteering to support regional learning activities.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2023

Professional support and development

As part of the National Youth Choir's sector leadership role, we support the professional development of emerging, young choral artists, nurturing talent from the widest diversity of backgrounds and shaping the future of choral music to be vibrant, innovative and relevant.

In 2022-23 we delivered our Emerging Professional Artists programme, including launching the eighth Fellowship training programme and the fifth Young Composers scheme. We support eight young professionals from diverse cultural, geographical and musical backgrounds each year, through hybrid programmes of online and in-person training and mentorship by leading representatives from the choral and wider music sector. This included industry workshops by Steinberg about music technology and Dorico software, music publishing by Stainer and Bell, and creative retreats supported by Britten Pears Arts.

Fellows participated in live, recorded and broadcast performances and paid opportunities to work on National Youth Choir activities. The Young Composers continued to play a central role in supporting our commitment to new music, undertaking creative collaborations with the Fellows and our choirs and creating eight new pieces released on an album by NMC Recordings.

Access and financial assistance

National Youth Choir believes that all young people should have the opportunity to sing, and that access to membership of the national choirs should be on the basis of talent and potential alone. No young person should be prevented from taking part in our programmes because of their financial circumstances. All fees to take part in National Youth Choir activities are subsidised by around a third and we actively and visibly promote the availability of generous financial assistance for young people from lower-income families to support the cost of audition and residential course fees, travel expenses, tickets and other costs.

We continue to see a growth in demand for financial assistance awards. In 2013-14 we assisted 115 young people with 126 awards; in 2022-23 this has increased to 275 awards made to 167 recipients. The total direct value of these awards was £136,194 – a 26% increase on the level of awards made in the previous year. This represented essential support for around one in five of our membership and was equivalent to 12.6% of our overall income from fees.

With the ongoing effects of high inflation and cost of living pressures, we continue to plan for the need to remove financial barriers for more young singers. In 2022-23 we reviewed our financial assistance programme to simplify applications and to provide an increased level of support, particularly for families with the lowest incomes.

Inclusion and Representation

National Youth Choir is committed to building an inclusive, representative and welcoming community and to ensuring that young people from all backgrounds are able to participate in ensemble singing and musical experiences of the highest quality. We have an important, sector-leading role to play as a champion of inclusive practice, influencing wider change in choral music and addressing social injustice. We recognise that we must commit over the long term to see the change we want within the sector.

In spring 2023, we reviewed and updated our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion action plan, refreshing our priorities across all areas of our work for the next two years to continue work to:

- become more inclusive and representative;
- create and promote a culture of belonging within the organisation and the wider music sector;
- be more relevant to young people; and
- champion best practice so that anyone who wants to be part of the choral music sector is encouraged and supported to maximise their true potential.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2023

Key actions we have taken to deliver against these priorities this year have included:

- Committing to regular team discussions about EDI issues and approaches, aiming to create an open, supportive culture of belonging within National Youth Choir;
- Reviewing the future structure and naming of the 9-18 choirs to support inclusive practice;
- Expanding youth voice opportunities within the choirs including through regular forums with choir members aged 15-18;
- Piloting targeted auditions approaches and committing to expanding these in 2023-24;
- Revised our financial assistance scheme to offer more support to those who need it most and to simplify the awards process;
- Implementing our branding review, including ongoing work to ensure that communications are accessible, inclusive and welcoming;
- Development of key EDI;
- Participation in national partnerships, conversations and networks to share inclusive practice and identify opportunities for joint-working; and
- Updating demographic information for workforce and governance to inform targeted recruitment in 2024.

Impact – Changing Lives

Young people are supported to realise their highest ambitions in singing with the National Youth Choir. No matter what their background or future ambitions, every singer makes a unique contribution to our community and walks away with a life-changing experience.

We firmly believe that the benefits of singing extend far beyond the development of musical expertise. As young people continue to face incredibly challenging times, singing with us supports the growth of skills and attributes including confidence, aspiration, teamwork, communication and leadership skills, as well as improving health and wellbeing. We enable young people to go out into the world as confident, bright, engaged and empowered individuals who are valuable additions to any organisation or career path, whether or not connected to music.

The feedback we receive from our beneficiaries, partners, stakeholders and alumni provides overwhelming evidence of these many benefits. Members in 2023 reported an average score of 8.8/10 for enjoyment of our programmes and 9/10 for feeling a sense of belonging to the National Youth Choir community. 60% said that taking part had significantly improved their musical skills and abilities, and 91% said that it had positively impacted on their happiness and wellbeing. Qualitative feedback gathered from our young people adds depth to these metrics.

Principal sources of funding

National Youth Choir fundraises from public and private sources by making funding applications to trusts, foundations and public bodies, running public campaigns and regular giving schemes, and soliciting corporate, individual, and legacy donations. National Youth Choir's fundraising is carried out by a specialist in-house development team employed directly by the organisation, with support from other staff members and a small number of volunteers.

National Youth Choir is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and all fundraising activities comply with the Code of Fundraising Practice. We are open and transparent in our fundraising communications and treat donors and supporters fairly and ethically, following best practice in cultivating new supporter relationships. We process personal data in accordance with GDPR and clearly set out how we use personal data in our Privacy Policy, which is reviewed annually. During 2022-23 National Youth Choir did not receive any complaints relating to our fundraising activities.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2023

The trustees are very grateful to all our funders who have supported the National Youth Choir this year and record their particular thanks to major supporters: Arts Council England and the Department for Education; Esmée Fairbairn Foundation; The Leverhulme Trust; Garfield Weston Foundation; Peter Sowerby Foundation; The Ofenheim Trust; Gillian Dickinson Trust; PRS for Music Foundation; John S Cohen Foundation; John James Bristol Foundation; and The Radcliffe Trust. We are also pleased to recognise successful ongoing corporate partnerships with the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM), Stainer & Bell and Steinberg Media Technologies (Dorico).

National Youth Choir was successful in securing a range of grants from further regional and national trusts and foundations and the Trustees wish to pay thanks to:

Alice Ellen Cooper Dean Charitable Foundation; Andor Charitable Trust; Baron Davenport's Charity; The Beerling Foundation; CHK Foundation; Doris Field Charitable Trust; D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust; The Earl of Chester's Fund; The Elmley Foundation; The Emily Fund; Gerald Finzi Trust; The Gwendoline & Margaret Davies Charity; Hadrian Trust; Holbeck Charitable Trust; The H.R. Taylor Charitable Trust; Joseph Strong Frazer Trust; Sir James Knott Trust; The Lord Belstead Charitable Settlement; The Lord and Lady Lurgan Trust; Mercers' Company; Michael Cornish Charitable Trust; Millichope Foundation; The Overstone Fund; The Paul Bassham Charitable Trust; Payne Gallwey Charitable Trust; The Reed Foundation; Scarfe Charitable Trust; Stainer & Bell, Steinberg Media Technologies (Dorico); Sylvia and Colin Shepherd Charitable Trust; The Florence Turner Trust; Vaughan Williams Foundation; Veronica Awdry Charitable Trust.

Valuable in-kind support was provided during the year by a number of our partners, including: Britten Pears Arts (Young Composers' residential retreats); NMC Recordings (production of Young Composers album); Royal Albert Hall and ABRSM (free use of their spaces); Stainer & Bell (mentoring and publishing support) and Steinberg Media Technologies (free Dorico software and training).

In December 2022, National Youth Choir took part in the Big Give Christmas Challenge raising funds to support 50 financial assistance recipients. 170 people generously donated just over £30,000, and we would like to thank them and our two match funders The Reed Foundation and The Emily Fund who matched donations £ for £.

This year the National Youth Choir would like to acknowledge and thank all the sponsors of our 40th Anniversary Concert and music commission:

- **Ruby Sponsors:** The Emily Fund.
- **Gold Sponsors:** Atom Bank; John S Cohen Foundation; David Roper; Georgina Robb; Greg Watson & Elfreda Tealby-Watson.
- **Silver Sponsors:** Steinberg Media Technologies, Dorico; Alireza Zaimi.
- **Bronze Sponsors:** J&S Asquith Charitable Trust; Natalie Campbell-Chandra; Kieran Cooper; The Delap Family; Anne Gallacher; Professor C.F. Higgins; The Munden Family.

The trustees would like to extend their gratitude to all the following people who most generously donated their time or money to National Youth Choir in 2022-23. We would also like to thank all our kind supporters who have chosen to remain anonymous.

- **Impresario Supporters:** Prof. Christopher Higgins; Ben Parry; David Roper; Greg Watson & Elfreda Tealby Watson.
- **Fortissimo Friends:** Garth & Lucy Pollard.
- **Forte Friends:** The J&S Asquith Charitable Trust; Kieran Cooper; The Hillier Family; Estate of Mrs Elizabeth A Main; Adrian Melrose; The Munden Family; Polly Penter; Michael & Tina Strutt; Mr & Mrs R Tett; Mr & Mrs D von Preyss.
- **Mezzo Forte Friends:** Bryony Coapes; Kate Davies; Andrew Evans; Andy Farris; Julian Forbes; Mr and Mrs Foulkes; Catherine Green; Scott and Simone Green; Christian Grobe; The Kilpatrick Family; Samara Kirapaty; Geoff Mountfield; Stephen & Lydia Pierce; Janet Reid; Alan Renwick; Gareth Saunders; Michael Seeney; Malcolm Smith; Carole Varney; Tracy & Robert Watson; Mike Wright; Fiona Yeomans.
- **Alumni Champions Committee:** Andy Farris; Anna George; Bryony Coapes; Charlotte Brosnan; Charlotte Dougan; Liz Hurren.
- **Campaign Committee:** Angela Au; Chris Chaney; Andy Farris; Sir Thomas Hughes-Hallett; Helen Kihmm von-Preyss; David Roper; Greg Watson; Anne Besford Tim Croall Rob Colbert Blythe Day; Lucy Hollins; Martin Kaufman (consultant).

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2023

Financial review

Financial position

The statement of financial activities for 2022-23 shows an overall annual deficit of £144,530, against a planned budgeted deficit of £186,565. This includes a £16,941 increase in the value of invested funds during the year.

National Youth Choir has continued to grow levels of activity post-pandemic in 2022-23, in particular principal income-generating activities – residential courses and performances. Consequently, we saw an increase in earned income from fees and charges and a corresponding increase in the associated expenditure relating to these activities including venue hires and staffing costs. Fundraised income streams from grants and individual giving also grew during the year, with the highest level of income achieved since 2017. We remain hugely grateful for the help and financial support of donors, funders, participants, partners and government, which has directly contributed to the National Youth Choir's ongoing financial stability.

The reported annual deficit is in line with budgeted plans to invest from designated reserves in key areas of business development and staffing capacity over a three-year period, in order to support longer-term resilience and growth. In particular, this included investment in an expanded Creative Director role, additional fundraising and project management capacity and a new learning and engagement post to support expanded work in schools and communities. Reserves were also invested in the delivery of an outstanding creative and learning programme during our 40th anniversary year, including the costs of commissioning and delivering a flagship celebration event for all our choirs and participants at the Royal Albert Hall in April.

The National Youth Choir has responded to ongoing high levels of inflation and cost of living pressures facing many of our beneficiaries. In 2022-23, Trustees committed to supporting access and inclusion ambitions and reducing the impact of inflation by limiting increases in fees and charges for all participants to 5%, well below the rate of inflation. Trustees also endorsed making greater provision for financial assistance support, particularly for those most in need, increasing the available pot by 34% on the previous year.

Looking ahead, with ongoing inflationary pressures impacting into 2023-24, Trustees continue to recognise the importance of balancing the carefully planned investment of funds to achieve charitable objectives and organisational resilience, with sustaining a suitable level of cash reserves to provide future security and address any unforeseen challenges.

Reserves policy

Total reserves at 30 September 2023 were £537,904. Future planning is fundamental to the National Youth Choir's operation, combining the seasonal nature of annual activities with the necessity of planning programmes more than one year ahead, to link with the advance schedules of partner organisations and guest artists. The reserves policy reflects the need to provide a degree of security to support advance planning over longer timescales, and to provide confidence to stakeholders that plans are soundly based and funded.

Trustees have previously agreed the need to hold sufficient reserves to cover a suitable period of salary and other operational costs as a budget and cash flow contingency in the event of a significant loss of income. The suitable amount was reviewed in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic and, in 2021-22, a balance of £410,000 was designated to this purpose, reflecting the equivalent of 12 months' core staffing costs. This continues to be considered a suitable sum to enable the National Youth Choir to manage the organisation through potential future changes in the economic climate or other exceptional events and commit to longer-term planning.

A Founder's Fund of £106,749 is restricted to providing financial assistance supporting National Youth Choir members to take part in exceptional activities such as international touring, in accordance with donor wishes.

In 2018-19, the trustees designated a fixed asset fund reflecting the expected amortisation costs of the CRM system over the following five years. The amortisation for the current year amounts to £15,836, and the asset is now fully amortised, reducing the balance of the fund to £nil.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2023

Trustees recognise their responsibility to ensure that funds are allocated appropriately towards the achievement of the National Youth Choir's charitable objectives. As part of work to develop the current strategic plan for the period 2022-2027, trustees identified areas where future investment would be needed. Designated funds aligned with our mission and priorities are allocated as follows:

- £14,155 to support the costs of new staff posts, which will support the growth of more sustainable income streams.
- £7,000 as an Access and Inclusion fund, which provides dedicated resources to underpin the delivery of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion plan and enable us to support costs of specific access needs.

Excluding balances tied up in designated funds which included a contingency fund as set out above, restricted funds, and fixed assets, the National Youth Choir's total free reserves are £nil .

A substantial proportion of reserves are required as working capital, which is the cash held to enable the organisation to meet its commitments throughout the year.

The experience gained during the period since March 2020, reinforces the need for sufficient reserves to ensure the future of the organisation is sustainable and trustees will continue to review the reserves position on an annual basis.

Investments

During 2018-19 the trustees agreed to invest a proportion of reserves to provide a longer-term income stream for two key purposes:

1. To support the increasing need for access initiatives as National Youth Choir widens its reach and raises its profile.
2. To invest in the development of exceptional creative projects and programmes, particularly where sources of income are not otherwise available.

In October 2019 an initial investment of £200,000 was used to purchase units in the CCLA COIF Charities Investment fund, which comprised the Founders Fund and a proportion of the National Youth Choir's designated budget and cash flow contingency. In 2022 trustees approved the incremental investment of a further £150,000 in the fund. At 30 September 2023 National Youth Choir holds 1,770 units valued at £406,027, an increase of £16,941 over the year. Our policy is to invest for long-term growth and this gain remains unrealised and invested in the COIF fund.

Going concern

Trustees have given careful consideration to the matter of financial sustainability and the National Youth Choir's viability. Trustees have reviewed a number of different budget assumptions, scenarios and cashflow projections in setting a budget for 2023-24, which continues to balance investment in organisational growth and long-term sustainability. Trustees have also undertaken a detailed assessment of financial and organisational risks. This means we are confident in our financial projections and equipped to mitigate risks if they materialise.

Trustees agree that the National Youth Choir currently retains a suitable level of reserves to help mitigate immediate financial pressures and manage anticipated cashflow needs in the coming year.

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2023

Financial risk management objectives and policies

Our management team and Finance Committee robustly monitor financial risks including regular review of a comprehensive budget risk assessment. This ensures appropriate risk mitigation strategies can be implemented and contingency plans made. Management of risks is underpinned by a strong reserves policy. This approach ensures that National Youth Choir (as a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee) meets its legal and charitable financial compliance and probity requirements. The control environment and framework are appropriate for the current and planned future scale of the organisation and assure a strong platform of financial governance and control to National Youth Choir funders and stakeholders.

To support prudent financial management and mitigation of financial risk, trustees have carefully considered and agreed an investment strategy, described above.

Plans for future periods

By 2030 we want the National Youth Choir to be the go-to organisation for any young singer in the country who wants to be inspired, challenged and nurtured. We aim to provide unparalleled opportunities for young people from the widest diversity of backgrounds through performance, education and regional, national and international engagement opportunities. We want the National Youth Choir to be a household name that all talented young singers, from the widest possible range of backgrounds, and from every part of the UK, aspire to join.

Strategic Plan 2022-27

National Youth Choir Trustees approved a new strategic plan for the period October 2022 to September 2027 in autumn 2022. The plan is a live document, updated annually, and it sets out a clear and compelling vision and ambition for how we plan to build our community and develop our reach and impact. The plan is based on consultation with audience and stakeholder groups to ensure our plans and priorities are relevant, inspiring, inclusive and sustainable. Core strategic aims are to strive for excellence; expand our reach; raise our public profile and develop our resilience.

In 2023-24 the programme of activities will contribute towards the delivery of the stated organisational and charitable aims and objectives. Plans will be reviewed and refreshed regularly by management and trustees and we remain flexible in responding to external factors and their impact on our programme and beneficiaries.

Courses, Training and Professional Development

Nine residential courses are currently planned for 2023-24 for National Youth Choir: 9-15 years and National Youth Choir: 15-18 years. Alongside this we will deliver the annual programme of activity for National Youth Choir 18-25 years. We aim to engage at least 1,200 participants across the choir programmes.

We are committed to continuing to refine and develop our creative and learning programmes, ensuring that our training remains at the forefront of excellent choral practice and is inspiring, relevant and inclusive. We will be piloting a new approach to delivery of the 9-15 choirs, with parallel courses and shared performance outcomes for female, male and non-binary singers. As part of this we will be developing and testing a new evaluation framework for the choir programmes.

Our highly respected development programmes will continue with delivery of the 2024 Emerging Professional Artists, which will grow to include a new strand for Young Conductors and engage 10 participants in total.

Performances, Commissions and Recordings

Seeking to continue to offer members unbeatable creative opportunities, we aim to deliver a programme of 20 concerts/performances, at least 12 digital recording releases and 2 broadcasts across our ensembles in 2023-24. The programme will build on partnerships with the London Handel Festival, the Royal Albert Hall and the BBC, and will include the release of the fifth Young Composers album by NMC Recordings. 3 new commissions/collaborations are planned: internationally renowned composer Jo Marsh will collaborate with National Youth Choir: 18-25 years; Kristina Arakelyan will write for our 9-15 choirs and we will commission one of our graduate Young Composers from 2023 to create a new work for our 15-18 choir.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2023

Learning and Engagement

In 2023-24 we will continue to grow our national Learning and Engagement work, with a particular focus on developing the SING! Programme to support young singers and create strong progression pathways across four regions, including the North East, Greater Manchester and Mansfield, and expanding our targeted auditions. We will also continue to develop new partnership programmes and projects, and offer our wider national programme of workshops, discovery events and CPD, aiming to engage over 4,000 participants in total. We also plan to develop and pilot a strand of digital learning and engagement resources and activities. This programme is critical to achieving our aim to expand our reach and open up opportunities for young people from all backgrounds to develop their singing and reap the associated benefits.

Access, Inclusion and Representation

National Youth Choir is committed to being an inclusive and representative organisation, championing high-quality singing opportunities for all young people. We passionately believe that all children and young people with the widest range of backgrounds and regardless of individual circumstance should be able to make music with others and have the opportunity to discover and explore their musical talent, achieving at the highest levels.

We will prioritise ongoing Equality, Diversity and Inclusion work, taking action to identify and remove barriers for potential participants, audiences, staff and trustees, so that the National Youth Choir is a welcoming and inclusive community. Key activities include a focus on access planning, new auditions approaches, growing our financial assistance programme, developing our work around young people's voice, and taking proactive steps to develop a more inclusive and representative workforce. We will also be developing partnerships with specialist organisations to inform this work and act as critical friends.

Budget

For 2023-24 trustees have made the strategic decision to set a deficit budget, with a planned deficit of £112k for the year. In addition to progressing activities supported by the current designated funds described in the financial review above, this will support our strategic aims to widen our reach and impact and to develop an inclusive community where all young people feel they belong, through investment in financial assistance and capacity for growth. Trustees are planning for National Youth Choir to return to a breakeven position in the following year and to grow reserves thereafter.

In 2023-24 the National Youth Choir will also launch a four-year fundraising campaign, with the aim of nearly doubling this income stream by 2027. This will support investment in our learning and engagement and access initiatives, development of creative initiatives and projects, and support organisational sustainability.

Arts Council England and Department for Education

The National Youth Choir will continue to receive funding for the period April 2023 – March 2026 as part of Arts Council England's National Portfolio investment programme and the Department for Education's National Youth Music Organisations network. We are committed to embedding Arts Council's Investment Principles across the organisation and these principles are aligned with our strategic objectives

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (trading as National Youth Choir) was established in 1983 and registered as a charity and incorporated as a company limited by guarantee in 1984. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company, and is governed under its Articles of Association, renewed and revised in 2010.

Effective governance

The trustees are committed to ensuring the effective governance of the National Youth Choir and in 2023 completed a biennial review to ensure voluntary compliance with the Charity Governance Code. Following the review process the trustees were satisfied that the National Youth Choir met the key requirements of the code and identified actions to further enhance the National Youth Choir's approach to governance. The charity is a member of the Cultural Governance Alliance, a national network championing governance best practice.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2023

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and, under the company's Articles, are known as members of the Board of trustees. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Board of trustees are elected to serve for a period of three years, after which they must be re-elected at the next meeting of trustees. Trustees are elected for a maximum of three cycles.

The Board of trustees seeks to ensure that its members possess the range of skills, expertise and perspectives required to benefit the diverse range of work the company undertakes. In the event of particular skills, expertise or perspectives being lost due to retirement, a recruitment process is undertaken comprising open advertisement alongside targeted approaches to identify appropriate individuals for election to the Board of trustees. Trustee recruitment is led by a Nominations Committee, which is a sub-committee of the board.

Policies adopted for the induction and training of trustees

On appointment trustees participate in an established induction process and meet with the senior management team to understand the workings of the charity and their roles. All trustees are required to undertake safeguarding training and further training is provided on an ad hoc basis as and when required.

Pay policy for senior staff

The trustees are responsible for setting the remuneration level for the senior team, which is done taking account of the financial position of the charity and prevailing market rates for similar roles.

Organisational structure and decision-making

The National Youth Choir has a Board of trustees which meets quarterly and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. All trustees give their time voluntarily. Any expenses claimed by the trustees from the charity are set out in note 8 to the financial statements.

The trustees employ a Chief Executive and a Creative Director as an Executive team, with overall responsibility for a team of creative and operational staff (including the General Manager, Executive Producer, Director of Development, and Head of Communications) to develop and implement the vision of the charity and its activities.

The Board, with detailed work carried out by its Finance Committee, approves the draft annual budget. The Chief Executive and Creative Director are afforded full creative and operational control subject to the budgeting limits set by the Board.

Risk management

The Board of trustees and the management committee regularly undertake a review of the major risks to which the charity is or may be exposed. Where appropriate, systems and procedures have been established to mitigate the risks that the charity is facing or may face.

Appropriate policies and procedures are in place to ensure compliance with legislative requirements, which include employment laws, equality duties, child protection policies, data protection policies and health and safety of members, staff, and volunteers.

It is National Youth Choir policy that 'all persons be accorded full and equal consideration on the basis of merit or other relevant, meaningful criteria, regardless of any potential source of discrimination.' We aim to achieve this by nurturing a culture of mutual respect and trust, fairness and dignity, and positive, inclusive behaviour.

Following a comprehensive review of our safeguarding practices by NSPCC in 2013, we have prioritised 'youth voice', ensuring that any young person participating in our programmes has the means and opportunity to express themselves and be heard. To support this the National Youth Choir employs a permanent Head of Safeguarding who is responsible for delivering a safeguarding training programme to all staff members and volunteers and working with staff to ensure appropriate future plans are put in place for young people, especially those with protected characteristics where and when required.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2023

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the persons who are trustees at the time when this Trustees' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware, and
- that trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

Auditor

Pursuant to section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006, the auditor will be deemed to be reappointed and UNW LLP will therefore continue in office.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 1 February 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



David Roper
Chair

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

Year ended 30 September 2023

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company 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).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial . 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 company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees and signed on its behalf by:



David Roper

Chair

Date: 1 February 2024



Independent auditor's report to the members of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 30 September 2023 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 30 September 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'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 United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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 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.



Independent auditor's report to the members of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (continued)

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 are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. 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. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether 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.

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 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- 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 our 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 Trustees' report.

We have nothing to report 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; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a Strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, 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.



Independent auditor's report to the members of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (continued)

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

We identified areas of law and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general and sector experience and through discussions with the directors and other management (as required by Auditing Standards) and from inspection of the company's legal correspondence and we discussed with the directors and other management the policies and procedures in place regarding compliance with laws and regulations. We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.

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

Secondly, the company is subject to many other laws and regulations where the consequences of non-compliance could have a material effect on amounts or disclosures in the financial statements, for instance through the imposition of fines or litigation. We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an effect; health and safety, employment law, data protection, environmental law, safeguarding and child protection and certain aspects of company legislation, recognising the nature of the academy's activities. Auditing Standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Through these procedures we did not become aware of any actual or suspected non-compliance material to the financial statements.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditor's report.



Independent auditor's report to the members of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (continued)

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable 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 charitable company'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 company and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Anne Hallowell

**Anne Hallowell BSc FCA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of UNW LLP, Statutory Auditor**
Chartered Accountants
Newcastle upon Tyne

1 February 2024

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account) Year ended 30 September 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	258,934	304,612	563,546	518,550
Charitable activities	4	958,470	-	958,470	871,418
Investments		5,338	-	5,338	318
Total income		1,222,742	304,612	1,527,354	1,390,286
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	115,108	-	115,108	94,727
Charitable activities	6	1,269,105	304,612	1,573,717	1,353,195
Total expenditure		1,384,213	304,612	1,688,825	1,447,922
Net expenditure before net gains/(losses) on investments		(161,471)	-	(161,471)	(57,636)
Net gains/(losses) on investments	11	16,941	-	16,941	(12,556)
Net movement in funds		(144,530)	-	(144,530)	(70,192)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		575,685	106,749	682,434	752,626
Net movement in funds		(144,530)	-	(144,530)	(70,192)
Total funds carried forward		431,155	106,749	537,904	682,434

The notes on pages 23 to 41 form part of these financial statements.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Balance sheet At 30 September 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	9	-	15,836
Tangible assets	10	-	883
Investments	11	406,027	389,086
		<u>406,027</u>	<u>405,805</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	12	65,812	48,938
Cash at bank and in hand		274,975	379,080
		<u>340,787</u>	<u>428,018</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(208,910)	(151,389)
Net current assets		<u>131,877</u>	<u>276,629</u>
Total net assets		<u><u>537,904</u></u>	<u><u>682,434</u></u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	14	106,749	106,749
Unrestricted funds	14	431,155	575,685
Total funds		<u><u>537,904</u></u>	<u><u>682,434</u></u>

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

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the trustees on 01 February 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



David Roper
Chair

Company registration number 01850803

The notes on pages 23 to 41 form part of these financial statements.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of cash flows
Year ended 30 September 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	16	(109,443)	(98,691)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of investments		-	(150,000)
Dividends, interests and rents from investments		5,338	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		5,338	(150,000)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(104,105)	(248,691)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		379,080	627,771
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	17	274,975	379,080

The notes on pages 23 to 41 form part of these financial statements

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2023

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

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

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain 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.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity and are rounded to the nearest £1.

1.2 Company status

The company is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in England. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 1. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the company.

1.3 Going concern

As set out in more detail in the trustees report, the trustees have reviewed a number of different budget assumptions, scenarios and cashflow projections in setting a budget for 2023-24, which continues to balance investment in organisational growth and long-term sustainability.

Consequently the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

1.4 Income

All income, including course fees and grant income, is recognised once the company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donated goods or services are included in income at a valuation which is an estimate of the financial cost borne by the donor, where such a cost is quantifiable and measurable. No income is recognised where there is no financial cost borne by the third party.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2023

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the company. They include governance costs, which are those incurred in connection with the administration of the company and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Costs of generating funds are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the company to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.6 Intangible assets and amortisation

Intangible assets are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably. Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost net of amortisation and any provision for impairment.

Amortisation is provided at the following rates:

Software	-	5 year straight line basis
Website	-	3 year straight line basis

1.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £5,000 are capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases

Office equipment	-	5 year straight line basis
------------------	---	----------------------------

1.8 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the statement of financial activities.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2023

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.9 Debtors

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

1.10 Cash at bank and in hand

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.

1.11 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

1.12 Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the company to the fund in respect of the year.

1.13 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2023

2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

In preparing these financial statements the directors do not consider there were any significant areas of judgment that were required in applying the company's accounting policies as set out above.

Estimates included within these financial statements include depreciation and asset impairments. None of the estimates made are considered to carry significant estimation uncertainty, nor to bear significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Donations	120,836	27,964	148,800
Grants	118,000	276,648	394,648
Membership fees	20,098	-	20,098
	<u>258,934</u>	<u>304,612</u>	<u>563,546</u>

Donations comprise donations from individuals of £101,667 and from corporate partners of £31,351.

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Donations	101,667	31,351	133,018
Grants	97,125	265,165	362,290
Membership fees	23,242	-	23,242
	<u>222,034</u>	<u>296,516</u>	<u>518,550</u>

Donations comprise donations from individuals of £58,447 and from corporate partners of £28,000.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2023

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Course fees	851,070	851,070
Audition fees	9,846	9,846
Sales of merchandise	1,853	1,853
Concert and performing fees	34,726	34,726
Ticket sales and contributions - concerts	46,415	46,415
Other income	14,560	14,560
Total 2023	958,470	958,470

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Course fees	776,724	776,724
Audition fees	10,980	10,980
Sales of merchandise	5,471	5,471
Concert and performing fees	42,619	42,619
Ticket sales and contributions - concerts	17,146	17,146
Other income	18,478	18,478
Total 2022	871,418	871,418

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2023

5. Expenditure on raising funds

Costs of raising voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Fundraising - other costs	25,091	25,091
Wages and salaries	78,707	78,707
National Insurance	9,260	9,260
Pension costs	2,050	2,050
	<u>115,108</u>	<u>115,108</u>
	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Fundraising - other costs	10,081	10,081
Wages and salaries	73,650	73,650
National insurance	8,946	8,946
Pension costs	2,050	2,050
	<u>94,727</u>	<u>94,727</u>

6. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Direct costs 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Charitable activities	<u>1,423,362</u>	<u>150,355</u>	<u>1,573,717</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2023

6. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

	Direct costs 2022 £	Support costs 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Charitable activities	1,204,269	148,926	1,353,195

Analysis of direct costs

	Charitable activities 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs	361,701	361,701
Courses accomodation, music	888,022	888,022
Insurance	6,094	6,094
Travelling expenses	42,554	42,554
Advertising, website, promotion and printing	35,432	35,432
Legal and professional	3,000	3,000
Consulting and training	17,660	17,660
Office costs	55,206	55,206
Bank charges	13,693	13,693
	<u>1,423,362</u>	<u>1,423,362</u>

	Charitable activities 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Staff costs	267,377	267,377
Courses accomodation, music	781,068	781,068
Insurance	8,982	8,982
Travelling expenses	28,142	28,142
Advertising, website, promotion and printing	26,519	26,519
Consulting and training	16,847	16,847
Office costs	62,902	62,902
Bank charges	12,432	12,432
	<u>1,204,269</u>	<u>1,204,269</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2023

6. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Charitable activities 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs	97,719	97,719
Legal and professional fees	13,791	13,791
Rent and rates	21,791	21,791
Governance costs	335	335
Amortisation & depreciation	16,719	16,719
	<u>150,355</u>	<u>150,355</u>

	Charitable activities 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Staff costs	94,203	94,203
Legal and professional fees	11,402	11,402
Rent and rates	23,712	23,712
Amortisation & depreciation	19,609	19,609
	<u>148,926</u>	<u>148,926</u>

7. Auditor's remuneration

	2023 £	2022 £
Fees payable to the company's auditor for the audit of the company's annual accounts	9,220	7,750
Fees payable to the company's auditor in respect of: Other services	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2023

8. Staff costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	491,307	403,348
Social security costs	46,232	26,966
Other pension costs	11,898	15,912
	<u>549,437</u>	<u>446,226</u>

The average number of persons employed by the company during the year was as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Average no. of employees	<u>16</u>	<u>13</u>

The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Staff	<u>12</u>	<u>10</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2023

8. Staff costs (continued)

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	1	1

Key management personnel

Key management personnel are deemed to be those having authority and responsibility, delegated to them by the trustees for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the charity. During 2022/23 they were:

- Director - Ben Parry (Resigned in December 2022)
- Creative Director - Lucy Hollins (Appointed in April 2023)
- Director of Development - Robert Colbert
- Chief Executive - Anne Besford
- General Manager - Mark Anyan

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £243,489 (2022: £236,031).

Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No trustees received any remuneration during the current or prior year.

During the year, one trustee (2022: no trustees) received reimbursed expenses of £4,051 (2022: nil) in respect of travel and subsistence costs, covering a number of previous years, which was subsequently donated to the charity.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2023

9. Intangible assets

	Software £
Cost	
At 1 October 2022	92,496
At 30 September 2023	<u>92,496</u>
Amortisation	
At 1 October 2022	76,660
Charge for the year	15,836
At 30 September 2023	<u>92,496</u>
Net book value	
At 30 September 2023	<u>-</u>
At 30 September 2022	<u>15,836</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2023

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Office equipment £
Cost	
At 1 October 2022	15,119
At 30 September 2023	<u>15,119</u>
Depreciation	
At 1 October 2022	14,236
Charge for the year	883
At 30 September 2023	<u>15,119</u>
Net book value	
At 30 September 2023	<u>-</u>
At 30 September 2022	<u>883</u>

11. Fixed asset investments

	Unlisted investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 October 2022	389,086
Revaluations	16,941
At 30 September 2023	<u>406,027</u>
Net book value	
At 30 September 2023	<u>406,027</u>
At 30 September 2022	<u>389,086</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2023

12. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	15,477	7,842
Other debtors	1,920	1,920
Prepayments and accrued income	48,415	39,176
	<u>65,812</u>	<u>48,938</u>

13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	63,216	9,741
Other creditors	30,694	22,418
Accruals and deferred income	115,000	119,230
	<u>208,910</u>	<u>151,389</u>

	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income at 1 October 2022	86,746	125,459
Resources deferred during the year	98,383	44,371
Amounts released from previous periods	(86,746)	(83,084)
	<u>98,383</u>	<u>86,746</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2023

14. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 October 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 30 September 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
General contingency & budget	410,000	-	-	-	410,000
CRM / API project	15,836	-	(15,836)	-	-
Access and inclusion initiative	30,000	-	(23,000)	-	7,000
40th Anniversary initiative	40,000	-	(40,000)	-	-
Organisational development initiative	42,857	-	(28,702)	-	14,155
Brand review initiative	4,400	-	(4,400)	-	-
	<u>543,093</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(111,938)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>431,155</u>
General funds					
General Funds	32,592	1,222,742	(1,272,275)	16,941	-
	<u>575,685</u>	<u>1,222,742</u>	<u>(1,384,213)</u>	<u>16,941</u>	<u>431,155</u>
Total Unrestricted funds					

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2023

14. Statement of funds (continued)

Restricted funds

Founder's Scholarship Fund	106,749	-	-	-	106,749
Arts Council England	-	108,020	(108,020)	-	-
Gillian Dickinson Trust	-	9,375	(9,375)	-	-
The Leverhulme Foundation	-	63,800	(63,800)	-	-
Emeley Foundation	-	3,500	(3,500)	-	-
Offenheim	-	13,000	(13,000)	-	-
Other small grants and donations	-	106,917	(106,917)	-	-
	<u>106,749</u>	<u>304,612</u>	<u>(304,612)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>106,749</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>682,434</u></u>	<u><u>1,527,354</u></u>	<u><u>(1,688,825)</u></u>	<u><u>16,941</u></u>	<u><u>537,904</u></u>

The CRM / API fund has been designated by the trustees to represent the amount tied up in intangible assets, and consequently transfers are made from general funds representing any additions in the year. Amortisation is charged against the fund.

In celebration of the National Youth Choir's 40th anniversary, the fund has been allocated for the special joint concert and celebration events during the year.

As part of work to develop the current strategic plan, trustees identified areas where future investment would be needed. Designated funds aligned with the mission and priorities are allocated as follows:

Access and Inclusion fund which provides dedicated resources to underpin the delivery of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion plan and enable to support costs of specific access needs.

Organisational development initiative which support the costs of new staff posts, which will support the growth of more sustainable income streams.

NYCGB will continue to seek specific funding for designated funds, however this designation ensures that each initiative is underwritten.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2023

14. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 October 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 30 September 2022 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
General contingency & budget	410,000	-	-	-	-	410,000
CRM / API project	34,329	-	(18,493)	-	-	15,836
Access and inclusion initiative	30,000	-	-	-	-	30,000
40th Anniversary initiative	40,000	-	-	-	-	40,000
Organisational development initiative	70,000	-	-	(27,143)	-	42,857
Brand review initiative	20,000	-	-	(15,600)	-	4,400
	<u>604,329</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(18,493)</u>	<u>(42,743)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>543,093</u>
General funds						
General funds	41,548	1,093,769	(1,132,912)	42,743	(12,556)	32,592
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>645,877</u>	<u>1,093,769</u>	<u>(1,151,405)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(12,556)</u>	<u>575,685</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2023

14. Statement of funds (continued)

Restricted funds

Founder's Scholarship Fund	106,749	-	-	-	-	106,749
Arts Council England	-	122,158	(122,158)	-	-	-
Gillian Dickinson Trust	-	1,964	(1,964)	-	-	-
The Leverhulme Foundation	-	36,040	(36,040)	-	-	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	25,000	(25,000)	-	-	-
PRS Foundation	-	14,000	(14,000)	-	-	-
Other small grants and donations	-	97,354	(97,354)	-	-	-
	<u>106,749</u>	<u>296,516</u>	<u>(296,516)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>106,749</u>
Total of funds	<u>752,626</u>	<u>1,390,285</u>	<u>(1,447,921)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(12,556)</u>	<u>682,434</u>

15. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Fixed asset investments	299,278	106,749	406,027
Current assets	410,219	(69,432)	340,787
Creditors due within one year	(278,342)	69,432	(208,910)
Total	<u>431,155</u>	<u>106,749</u>	<u>537,904</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2023

15. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	883	-	883
Intangible fixed assets	15,836	-	15,836
Fixed asset investments	282,337	106,749	389,086
Current assets	380,518	47,500	428,018
Creditors due within one year	(103,889)	(47,500)	(151,389)
Total	<u>575,685</u>	<u>106,749</u>	<u>682,434</u>

16. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	<u>(144,530)</u>	<u>(70,192)</u>
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	883	1,116
Amortisation charges	15,836	18,493
Gains/(losses) on investments	(16,941)	12,556
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	(5,338)	-
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(16,874)	30,588
(Decrease) / increase in creditors	57,521	(91,252)
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(109,443)</u>	<u>(98,691)</u>

17. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash in hand	<u>274,975</u>	<u>379,080</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2023

18. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 October 2022	Cash flows	At 30 September 2023
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	379,080	(104,105)	274,975

19. Pension commitments

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the company to the fund and amounted to £11,898 (2022: £13,862). Contributions totalling £1,395 (2022: £1,295) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

20. Related party transactions

A director at Atom Holdco Limited is a trustee of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain. Atom Holdco Limited charges National Youth Choirs rental income for use of their office building. Rent payable recognised in the year is £24,871 (2022: £23,641) and the balance owed to Atom Hold co Limited at year end is £5,935.

During the year donations totalling £32,379 were received by the trustees or organisations that trustees had declared an interested in.

Trustees expenses have been disclosed separately within note 8.

NATIONAL YOUTH CHOIRS OF GREAT BRITAIN

England & Wales - Charity number 515660

Accounts

Registered number: 01850803
Charity number: 515660

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual report

Year ended 30 September 2022

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Contents

	Page
Reference and administrative details	1
Trustees' report	2 - 20
Trustees' responsibilities statement	21
Independent auditor's report	22 - 25
Statement of financial activities	26
Balance sheet	27
Statement of cash flows	28
Notes to the financial statements	29 - 46

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Reference and administrative details Year ended 30 September 2022

Trustees

David Andrew Roper, Chair
Siu-Wai Ng
Patricia Marion Keir
Andrew Garth Pollard (resigned 2 February 2022)
Rebecca Helen Driver
James Simon Olley
Michael John Strutt
Georgina Alison Robb
Gregor Stanley Watson
Margaret O'Shea
Gillian Frances Hillier

Company registered number

01850803

Charity registered number

515660

Registered office

The Rivergreen Centre
Aykley Heads
Durham
DH1 5TS

Key management team

Ben Parry, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor
Anne Besford, Chief Executive
Mark Anyan, General Manager

Independent auditor

UNW LLP
Chartered Accountants
Citygate
St James' Boulevard
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4JE

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
Holmfirth
Huddersfield
HD9 2DW

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report Year ended 30 September 2022

The Trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements for the year 1 October 2021 to 30 September 2022. The Trustees confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Objectives and Activities

Objectives

More than just a choir: we are a community with a shared passion for singing and the life-changing opportunities it can offer.

Our vision: Through excellence in singing, creating music, training and support, we help young people develop the confidence and skills to realise their greatest potential.

NYCGB is the place to come to for all aspiring singers who want to be inspired, stretched, challenged and nurtured. We want to be a household name, which young people nationwide who love singing together aspire to join, from the widest range of backgrounds.

Our mission: Nurturing talent, reaching new audiences and inspiring new ambitions.

Our mission is to build a nurturing nationwide community where young people can explore a diverse range of music, enjoy singing together and share their creativity. We champion the power of singing, opening up opportunities so that more young people from all walks of life can find and use their voice.

To achieve our mission we are:

1. **Striving for excellence in everything we do**, delivering inspiring, ambitious and relevant creative and learning programmes with young people at their heart.
2. **Expanding our reach**, opening up opportunities for young singers and emerging professionals from all backgrounds across the UK to develop their talent and potential.
3. **Raising the public profile of NYCGB**, our purpose, values, and the impact of singing, increasing awareness and engagement.
4. **Developing organisational resilience**, ensuring we have resources, capacity and structures to achieve ambitions and show our impact.

"Undoubtedly, being a member of this organisation has changed the course of my life." – National Youth Choir Alumnus

"It has enabled me to be able to do the thing that I love most, which is to sing and to sing with other people, at this incredibly high standard. It has given me so much more confidence in music and myself and it gives me so much to look forward to." – NYCGB Choir Member

Activities for achieving objectives

Founded in the North of England in 1983, NYCGB has evolved from a single choir of 100 outstanding young singers to become a nationwide community and champion for youth singing, standing for artistic excellence, creative diversity, and openness and relevance to all.

We are the most exciting, innovative and accessible organisation for young choral singers across the UK, providing our young people with unbeatable opportunities to develop skills in music and performance, leadership and teamwork, and to grow in confidence and aspiration. Excellence and inclusivity are core values guiding our work and are embodied in the design, delivery and ethos of all our programmes. Everything we do, we do with

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2022

passion and a belief that all young people should have equal access to high-quality singing programmes and progression opportunities. Each one of them should have the opportunity and support to discover and explore their musical talent, achieving excellence at the highest levels.

Over the last ten years, NYCGB has been on a transformational journey, putting young people right at the heart of our community. We have expanded our profile, national reach, educational and creative programmes, and created new pathways in music progression for young people and aspiring professionals. We have taken direct action to be more representative and inclusive, delivering against ambitious aims to open up access and achieve life-changing musical and personal impact for more young people from a wider range of backgrounds.

At the start of a new five-year strategic planning period, our ambitious and inclusive creative and learning programme now comprises four interconnected strands:

I. Education: National Choirs

Offering over 900 of the country's most talented singers aged 9 to 25 musical, personal and educational development through intensive residential and online training and workshops with professional conductors, musicianship and vocal coaches, and guest artists. Our four choirs are the flagship National Youth Choir (incorporating the National Youth Chamber Choir) for mixed voices age 18-25; National Youth Training Choir for mixed voices age 15-18; National Youth Girls' Choir for upper voices age 9-15 and the National Youth Boys' Choir for trebles and changing voices age 9-15. This unrivalled progression pathway offers the highest quality vocal training and pastoral support, tailored to the needs of individual young singers.

II. Performance

A unique programme of opportunities for participants to create and share music with audiences through a range of creative outputs including live concerts, broadcasts, festivals, special events, digital recordings and music videos. Including co-creating and performing new works from leading and emerging composers. We continue to grow exciting partnerships and collaborations, bringing our music to wider audiences – over 50,000 people through live performance and over a million people through streams and broadcasts.

III. Learning and Engagement

Open access opportunities for young people to be inspired by singing together, discovering and progressing their vocal talent through joined up regional and national pathways, with a particular focus on engaging young people in areas of higher deprivation and with access to fewer creative opportunities. Engaging over 3,500 young people each year, this programme comprises long-term strategic partnerships to reach more young people and create more sustainable singing opportunities in targeted priority areas, and a national on-demand programme of inspirational singing workshops and events.

IV. Emerging Professionals

Training programmes supporting exceptionally talented young choral musicians, leaders and composers – particularly those under-represented in the sector – to develop sustainable music careers. Between 8 and 12 emerging professional musicians are supported each year through our Fellowship and Young Composers schemes, developing skills and creative practice, creating new work and growing their professional profile and networks.

Supporting young people and equipping them with the tools and experiences to excel musically, educationally and socially is at the heart of all our work. We aim to lead the way in choral music, developing new and accessible artistic and educational approaches to inspire and engage young people at all stages of their development.

NYCGB's programme is structured, therefore, to create essential, accessible pathways to support our participants from the point when they discover their voice to the development of their talent at the highest level. These pathways enable many more young people to reap the musical, personal and social benefits of singing, and fulfil their potential in whatever career path they choose to pursue, inside or outside music.

We uphold NYCGB's trademark creative brilliance through ambitious, diverse and representative programming, which will challenge and excite young singers from all backgrounds. Programmes are young people-centred and

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2022

inclusive, relevant to and informed by young people themselves who we value and empower as co-creators.

A dedicated core creative and operational staffing team, together with a pool of over 120 freelance specialists, provide support to deliver against NYCGB's aims and objectives. This includes specialist development support to help raise funds to deliver the strategic plan. Creative programmes are led by outstanding professional conductors, music leaders and guest artists – experts in their fields – and supported by a dedicated pastoral care team.

NYCGB is a National Portfolio Organisation supported by Arts Council England and the Department for Education. NYCGB has an agreed strategic plan for the period 2022 to 2027 setting out our exciting organisational vision, values and strategy. In October 2022 we were pleased to be awarded renewed NPO funding for the three-year period April 2023 to March 2026.

Activities undertaken for public benefit

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

Access and financial assistance

NYCGB believes that all young people should have the opportunity to sing, and that access to membership of the national choirs should be on the basis of talent and potential alone.

No young person should be prevented from taking part in our programmes and missing out on the associated benefits because of their financial circumstances. All fees to take part in NYCGB are subsidised by around a third and a key message in the promotion of NYCGB auditions and opportunities is the availability of additional generous financial assistance for young people from low-income families to support costs of auditions, membership, uniform costs, course fees, associated travel and attendance at events and concerts for members and their families.

The development of our national Learning and Engagement programme has continued to enable us to reach a greater number of talented young singers from an increasingly wide range of backgrounds and we continue to see an ongoing growth in demand for financial assistance awards. In 2013-14 we assisted 115 young people with 126 awards; in 2021-22 this has increased to 244 bursaries awarded to 167 recipients. The total direct value of these awards was £107,361, which was our highest ever level of awards – reflecting more than 50% increase on the level of awards made in 2019, pre-pandemic. This represented essential support for 21% of our membership and was equivalent to 13% of our overall income from fees.

We continue to project a growing need to remove financial barriers to participation for more young singers, which has been exacerbated by both the pandemic and cost of living crisis. We will continue to support financial assistance through securing funding from regional and national Trusts and Foundations, growing our base of individual donors, and investing in additional awards through funds generated by our investments. Alongside this, in 2022-23 we will restructure our financial assistance programme to provide more support overall, and particularly for families with the lowest incomes.

"Receiving financial assistance from kind and generous funders has opened doors for me that I could never have accessed, and didn't even know existed. NYCGB is an organisation that takes such care to give personal attention and help, whilst also maintaining an extraordinarily high standard of singing and musicianship." – Choir member 2022

"I am hugely grateful for being able to develop my musical journey/experience further with NYCGB at the Spring Course this year. Especially as I do not have any choir opportunities at my current school or local area. It was an incredible chance to push myself out of my comfort zone, forming new friendships with likeminded people and meeting some wonderfully talented and enthusiastic coaches." – Choir member 2022

"NYCGB is the most accepting community I've ever been a part of in terms of my gender identity, staff and members, and I appreciate that so much... I come from a single parent family with the income being minimum, so we have always struggled financially and relied on bursaries. I truly believe that NYCGB has improved my life

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2022

tremendously and I would love to continue to be in that community.” – Choir member 2022

Achievements and performance

Building Our Community

Having radically and flexibly adapted our planned programmes to successfully navigate the unique challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic over the previous two years, in 2021-22 NYCGB has focussed on securing a sustainable increase in levels of programme and engagement, a return to live activities and performances and undertaking strategic planning for the next phase of our development.

Re-establishing our core creative and learning programmes has been a central priority, providing opportunities for young people to come together and be supported in their musical and personal development, re-building a sense of community and ensemble and reconnecting with audiences. We have continued to build on the successes and learning of the previous year, leading the way in returning to residential programmes and expanding our learning and engagement partnerships, while piloting hybrid live and digital delivery models to deliver exceptional learning opportunities and diverse, relevant and high-quality creative and performance outcomes.

Alongside this we have been developing a new strategic plan, listening to our participants, audiences and stakeholders, progressing actions to be more representative and inclusive and building essential capacity in our team. As a result, we have built a firm strategic and operational foundation from which to pursue our future ambitions to grow a national NYCGB community that has greater impact for more young people from the widest range of backgrounds.

Review of activities

Auditions

NYCGB continues to recruit widely for our national choirs by auditioning young people from across the breadth of the UK. In the previous year, Covid-19 required us to move our entire auditions programme online and ongoing uncertainty in 2021-22 meant that we continued to deliver auditions and related Open Events in a fully digital format. 564 auditions took place for our 2022 programmes which is a small drop on the previous year. It is likely that the two years of Covid disruption to both our programme and the wider opportunities for young people to progress their singing in school and youth choirs had a cumulative impact. However, 80.3% applicants were successful in being awarded places to join the choirs as a new member, or to progress through the choirs. Together with a strong continuation rate for existing members, this meant our membership pool for 2021-22 grew by 7%.

During the year, as part of our commitment to being a more inclusive and representative organisation, we completed further work to review the long-term approach to auditions, aiming to improve access, remove barriers and engage with under-represented groups and communities. Changes to date have had a visible impact, with 22% of new auditionees from Black, Asian or other ethnically diverse backgrounds, compared with 16% two years ago. In order to have greater impact and engage with more young singers from state-educated backgrounds and under-represented areas of the country, we are piloting targeted workshop auditions alongside our online national auditions for our 2023 programmes.

Courses and Training

Following the major disruptions over the previous two years, NYCGB's programme of innovative training and progression opportunities for our national choirs in 2021-22 returned to in-person delivery, including a full programme of residential courses. In total we recorded 1,086 participants in membership activities across the year.

The flagship National Youth Choir was able to take part in a complete Annual Programme for the first time since 2018-19, which continues to offer unbeatable musical experiences and development opportunities for members aged 18 and over. The programme empowers them to develop advanced vocal skills and perform more challenging works, supports creative collaborations with a diversity of artists across a range of musical genres and offers leadership and personal development opportunities through roles as Section Leaders, Member

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2022

Representatives and volunteers.

Following a successful autumn Discovery Weekend, the choir were overjoyed to return to the Royal Albert Hall at Christmas for a series of 15 concerts in the Carols at the Hall programme. The spring residential project in April was the culmination of an 18-month collaboration with performance group The Swingles, co-creating a major new work *Until It's Gone: music for our planet*, and a 15-day summer project saw the choir as artists in residence at the prestigious Ryedale Festival in Yorkshire with three performances by the National Youth Choir and National Youth Chamber Choir.

"Being able to attend an in-person course felt incredible; it was my first one since 2019. I forgot how much I loved the atmosphere and the community of NYCGB because it just isn't the same online, although they did an amazing job trying to organise things. NYCGB always helps me to grow and develop socially; it feels like a safe place to let my authentic self come out. Everyone is so friendly, and I have made lifelong friends through the organisation." – National Youth Choir member 2022

NYCGB ran eight residential courses for members of the National Youth Girls', Boys' and Training Choirs in venues from Bristol to Harrogate. All courses offer members a rich and inspirational learning experience, including full and sectional rehearsals, musicianship training, individual and group vocal coaching, masterclasses, career sessions and Alexander Technique classes. The National Youth Girls' and Training Choirs took part in music recording sessions, creating audio and video tracks for our NYCGB online platforms. The National Youth Boys' Choir worked with guest composer Oliver Tarney and lyricist Hazel Gould to create and perform a new commission. In total the choir programmes included 131 training sessions across 49 activity days.

"I really enjoyed being in a singing community and seeing what we were all able to achieve. It was great to interact with other people who all sing at a similar level. It gave me the confidence to push my voice further. I especially enjoyed the wide variety of music and being involved with the pianist. The help we are given at NYCGB makes singing a totally different experience to my school choir and because we all have passion and the people supporting us give all the help we need. It is a totally different experience that I would not be aware of without NYCGB. I enjoyed everything about the course." – National Youth Girls' Choir member 2022

Building from the experience of delivering a range of digital programmes and opportunities during the pandemic, we retained and developed additional supporting online elements for the national choirs programme. This included online workshops, introductory sessions for members in advance of their residential courses, and exciting new digital musicianship resources for 9-15 year olds to introduce them to key musical building blocks and musicianship approaches.

We celebrated and explored the highly relevant theme of Environment across NYCGB's programme in 2021-22. The theme was inspired by conversations with our young people over three years ago. Through it, we have empowered them to talk about things important to them including global issues such as the climate crisis and mass extinction and more personal issues about how young people relate to their own environment and derive a sense of identity and place from it. Repertoire ranged from new commissions using our members' own words and voices, to a setting of a text by Greta Thunberg by Tim Cain and a new arrangement of *Cough Cough* by the band Everything Everything.

NYCGB has remained committed to ensuring a diverse balance of musical programming and has continued to champion music composed or arranged by artists who have historically been under-represented in the choral music sector. Through member forums and discussions, we encourage our young people to explore the wider context of choral music and deepen their understanding beyond the notes on the page.

We continue to include a range of voices and perspectives in our planning processes, including friends and peers, and our Member Representatives. Elected each year by their National Youth Choir peers, the reps contribute to evaluation, strategic planning, Board meetings and are now vital organisational voices ensuring that our programmes remain relevant and inspiring to the young people at the heart of NYCGB. In 2022 we have developed member forums across the National Youth Training Choir to provide more opportunities for members to shape their experience.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2022

Performances, Commissions and Recordings

NYCGB remains committed to working creatively and collaboratively to showcase the breadth and brilliance of the NYCGB choirs and their work to a wider audience, and to challenging perceptions of what choral music can and should be. During 2021-22 we continued to deliver a range of performance outcomes across both live and digital platforms, and by summer we were particularly pleased to move back to an increased level of live performance, with all choirs taking part in public concerts for the first time since 2019.

NYCGB choirs gave a total of 36 live performances in 2021-22 to an audience of over 53,500. These included end-of-course showcases and concerts including a collaboration with the Swingles at new venue Woolwich Works in April, as well as high profile performances as part of partnerships with the BBC Proms, Royal Albert Hall, Ryedale Festival and London Handel Festival. We were particularly delighted to be invited to perform the national anthem at a Rugby International match at Twickenham, Brahms' *Requiem* with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra conducted by Ilan Volkov and to be invited back to the PRSF Biennial festival to reprise Jessica Curry's 2019 commission *She Who*.

"*The National Youth Choir was rivetingly focussed and intense in sound*" – Telegraph

"*...vividly assured contributions from the National Youth Choir of Great Britain, belying their youthfulness*" – The Guardian

Alongside the resumption of our live performance programme, we continued to reach audiences through our digital creative outputs. This included 4 livestreamed performances to nearly 6,000 people through continued partnerships with Voces8's Live from London series and the London Handel Festival. Throughout 2021-22 growing our digital content across platforms has been an ongoing essential strand of audience development. This has included 21 digital audio and video recordings released across YouTube, Spotify, Apple Music, Google Play and Amazon receiving 140,000 streams, and a further 10 additional broadcasts reaching an estimated 229,000 listeners. Streams and views across NYCGB's full catalogue on YouTube and Spotify reached over 2.35 million people with tracks regularly featuring on Spotify playlists.

NYCGB continues to lead the way in commissioning and creating innovative new choral music. The choirs' programme included four new commissions:

- The National Youth Choir co-created and premiered the epic new work for choir and amplified vocal group *Until It's Gone: music for our planet* by performance group the Swingles.
- Oliver Tarney composed a new work *I am. We are.* for the National Youth Boys' Choir with lyrics workshopped with choir members in spring and written by Hazel Gould. The piece was premiered and filmed at the Boys' Choir residential in Giggleswick in the summer.
- Derri Joseph Lewis, a graduate of the 2021 Young Composers scheme was commissioned to write a new work *Locus Iste* for the National Youth Training Choir, with premiere performances in Harrogate and Bristol in the summer. The piece explores both the calm, gentle music of mindfulness and the bright buzzing energy of an environment brought to life by music.
- The National Youth Girls' Choir premiered *Into the Sea* by Lisa Robertson, 2019 Young Composer graduate.

Our new music commissions are increasingly receiving recognition for their quality and innovation, with several 2021 commissions being nominated for awards. Nathan James Dearden won a Making Music award for *i breathe*, and Jo Marsh and Derri Joseph Lewis were nominated for prestigious Ivor Novello Composer awards for *A short story of falling* and *Something Exciting* respectively. Derri has recently been named as a BBC Music Rising Star for 2022.

We seek to ensure that new choral music is exciting and relevant for our young people, by involving them as collaborators and co-creators in the creative process in their own right. The National Youth Choir's 18-month long collaboration with the Swingles exemplifies this approach.

Learning and Engagement

NYCGB strives to increase the accessibility of high-quality singing opportunities across the UK and to empower more young people through the transformative and powerful experience of singing together. Despite the growing body of evidence of the personal and social benefits of music-making, opportunities for young people to

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2022

participate and develop their skills vary widely. Sadly, the pandemic and inflationary pressures on school budgets and cost of living have only exacerbated these issues.

Through our national Learning and Engagement programme we aim to inspire more young people in state education and from a wider range of backgrounds to discover and progress their passion for singing, through inclusive and high quality regional and national opportunities. Using our unique musical and educational expertise, we seek to understand barriers and challenges for young people and work with partners including schools, Music Education Hubs and music organisations to create bespoke singing programmes that meet local needs and help remove regional inequalities in singing provision and develop sustainable progression pathways. All opportunities are free at the point of access for young participants.

We are delighted to report that over the past year we have gradually resumed our targeted Learning and Engagement partnership programmes in schools and communities, as schools returned to a more normal schedule, especially in the recent summer term. This included working with over 2,700 young people, with a focus on working in schools and areas where there is greater socio-economic disadvantage and lower levels of cultural participation. We have continued to blend live participatory activities with digital CPD sessions, Open Events and learning resources to maximise the reach and impact of our work.

Current priority areas have included the North East where we continue to deliver the Gillian Dickinson Young Singers programme over three years and has included continuing to support the new Sunderland City youth choir; North Yorkshire where we have developed a collaborative model for work in secondary schools with the Royal Northern College of Music; as well as developing partnerships in Greater Manchester, Birmingham, Warwickshire, Southampton and Nottinghamshire. We have continued to be responsive to local needs and challenges, with activities ranging from workshop programmes and intensive progression projects, to choir development support and training young leaders.

"I love singing after today"

"I will definitely continue singing, and I'm now learning to play some of the songs we learned at home"

"I feel a lot more confident about singing now" – Learning and Engagement participant feedback

"I am in awe at how the leaders engage the children so quickly and effectively. The singing was wonderful and the children have just been randomly burst into song in class with the songs they were working on. It was a truly wonderful morning, it was inspirational for our children." – Primary teacher, Trafford, July 2022

"[Our young singers] absolutely loved it! Lots of students have come to find me to say how much they enjoyed it and were asking if it was going to become a regular thing... I had two particular students who suffer from social anxiety and initially weren't going to attend the workshops (their parents had informed me in the morning). The students also came to find me to tell me that they weren't going to take part - they are very difficult to engage in extra-curricular activities and in lessons sometimes. But when the session started they had found the courage to come along and join in. They came to find me Monday morning to tell me that it was one of the best things that they had ever done and they left feeling so much better about themselves. They are now meeting with me on Friday to discuss how we can set up some Singing for Wellbeing sessions because in their words "they realised how good it made them feel" and "their anxiety just vanished." – Secondary teacher, Richmond, June 2022

Across the Learning and Engagement programme, we reached and inspired 2,710 young people and family groups, with 94% of participants reporting a positive and enjoyable learning experience. 1,216 young people were supported to take part in progression activities and encouraged to take their singing further. In addition, over 580 people attended showcase performance events as audience members, to support the achievements of participants. 136 teachers and music leaders took part in CPD sessions. We were also delighted to continue to offer opportunities for National Youth Choir members to develop peer leadership skills through volunteering to support regional learning activities.

"It was so brilliant to see the young singers grow in confidence, musically and socially, across even just such a short space of time." - Charlotte, National Youth Choir member from Sunderland, and Young Singers Intensive vocal leader.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2022

Professional support and development

As part of NYCGB's sector leadership role we support the professional development of the next generation of professional artists, nurturing talent from the widest diversity of backgrounds and shaping the future of choral music so that it is vibrant, innovative and relevant.

In 2021-22 we recruited our seventh cohort of talented emerging professionals aged 20 to 28 to take part in the annual NYCGB Fellowship training programme, which aims to develop participants as effective choral leaders and educators as well as performers. The Fellowship cohort comprises four artists who work in close collaboration with the NYCGB Young Composers. The 2022 Fellows benefitted from an extensive hybrid programme of online and in-person training and mentorship by leading representatives from the choral and wider music sector (e.g. Charlotte Brosnan, Nicki Kennedy, Esther Jones, Voces8, and Ken Burton) live, recorded and broadcast performances and paid opportunities to work on NYCGB residencies and supporting learning and engagement activities.

"What has been noticeably clear in the Fellowship so far is that we have access to many people who have an overwhelming amount of knowledge to share and who really want to help us succeed... One of the most unique parts of being an NYCGB Fellow is that we are being prepared for a career in the industry, in addition to working on our musical skills." – Olivia Shotton, 2022 Fellow

"It has been a whirlwind participating on the Fellowship Programme, and I've had the opportunity to grow as a musician in the most nurturing environments. When entering the programme, I was really keen to learn how to lead and nurture young voices most effectively. Throughout the year, the Fellowship has offered amazing opportunities to develop this, and a particular highlight was in Sunderland on the Young Singers Intensive Weekend in the spring, where I had so much fun leading rounds, taking sectionals, and I even conducted a choral arrangement of a song by Lewis Capaldi in the concert- definitely an unexpected experience!" – Florence Price, 2022 Fellow

In February 2022 we successfully completed the third year of the NYCGB Young Composers scheme, which aims to support four emerging composers each year from a diverse range of cultural, geographical and musical backgrounds and to develop their skills composing for ensemble voice. Together with our new commissions programme, the NYCGB Young Composers scheme is an exciting and central part of NYCGB's commitment to the support of innovative new choral music and to embedding diversity and representation at the heart of our music policy.

We recruited the fourth cohort of Young Composers who commenced their year-long programme in February with a weekend of introductory workshops together with the new Fellows. An extensive programme of training has been delivered including masterclasses with professional freelance composers (e.g. Alexander L'Estrange, Joanna Forbes-L'Estrange and Rachel Portman) participation in NYCGB residential courses, music industry and technology workshops with partners Stainer & Bell and Dorico, creative retreats at Snape with Britten Pears Arts, and joint creative music-making workshops with the Fellows. The 2022 Young Composers' album will be launched at the NYCGB Showcase in February 2023.

"I was impressed by how extensive and multi-faceted the scheme was, not just a single commission but a whole series of workshops, masterclasses, mentorships and meetings with industry professionals. I think it's rare that an organisation invests this much into supporting all aspects of an artist's career in this way, taking a really holistic approach." – Ben Nobuto, 2022 Young Composer

"I feel that NYCGB really cares about the composers on the scheme (shown by the unparalleled opportunities it gives to us) and is committed to supporting intensively during and (crucially) after the scheme has ended. The investment put into our work is very touching and I'm thrilled to be a part of such an inclusive and progressive foundation." – Tom Metcalf, 2022 Young Composer

A hybrid model of delivery for these programmes, developed during the pandemic, has continued to work very well allowing for a combination of online training and mentoring combined with unique opportunities to work with the members and conductors of our choirs during live activities.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2022

“These courses and meetings gave me not only the most practical knowledge of choral music but also the most sparkling inspirations. I am incredibly grateful to every staff member in NYCGB for their warmth and generous help.” – Rocky Sun Keting, 2022 Young Composer

Inclusion and Representation

NYCGB is committed to being an inclusive and representative organisation – we passionately embrace our responsibility as a national organisation to ensure that the widest range of young people from all backgrounds are able to participate in ensemble singing and musical experiences of the highest quality. We want all talented young singers to experience what NYCGB has to offer, and to be supported to thrive and contribute equally to our community. As a sector leader we also have an important role to play to ensure that choral music is relevant and representative and to champion inclusive practice, influence wider change and address social injustice.

In April 2021, following our participation in the pilot I'm IN programme and an audit of our current strengths and weaknesses in relation to equality, diversity and inclusion, we implemented a new EDI (Equality, Diversity and Inclusion) action plan and set out priorities across all areas of our work to:

- become more inclusive and representative
- create and promote a culture of belonging within the organisation and the wider music sector
- be more relevant to young people
- champion best practice so that anyone who wants to be part of the choral music sector is encouraged and supported to maximise their true potential.

Key actions we have taken to deliver against the plan this year have included:

- Continuing to create space for regular and open discussion about EDI issues and approaches, committing to creating a culture of belonging across the NYCGB community
- Developing new opportunities for young people's voices to be heard in the organisation, including supporting the voices of members in Training Choir through regular forums
- Updating analysis of NYCGB demographic data to identify gaps and priorities
- Implementing new more inclusive and accessible recruitment processes for participants, staff and trustees, including targeted work to increase representation in our workforce and to develop placement opportunities
- Completing work to review our auditions model and developing plans to pilot targeted auditions
- Developing our networks and connections, including our ongoing work as a partner of Black Lives in Music
- Completing a significant piece of work to understand internal and external perceptions of NYCGB and revisit our core purpose, mission and values
- Continuing to evolve our branding and communications so that our messaging is inclusive and welcoming

This work will remain a core priority in future years, and we recognise that sustained investment and action will be required over a longer period in order to see the changes and impact we need, both within NYCGB and the wider sector.

Impact – Changing Lives

Young people are supported to realise their highest ambitions in singing with NYCGB through a diverse array of choral repertoire – from Monteverdi to beatbox. No matter what their background or future ambitions, every singer makes a unique contribution to our community and walks away with a life-changing experience. We work tirelessly to open young people's eyes to the breadth and beauty of music, and to break down barriers preventing children and young people from engaging with music.

We firmly believe that the benefits of singing extend far beyond the development of musical expertise. Singing with us supports the growth of skills and attributes including confidence, aspiration, teamwork, communication and leadership skills. We enable young people to go out into the world as confident, bright, engaged and empowered individuals who are valuable additions to any organisation or career path, whether or not connected to music.

The feedback we receive from our beneficiaries, partners, stakeholders and alumni provides overwhelming evidence of these many benefits. NYCGB has directly enabled young people to develop musical, personal and social skills and supported their health and wellbeing during a period that has been incredibly challenging for

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2022

them. Members in 2022 reported an average score of 9.1/10 for enjoyment of our programmes, 8.2/10 for developing their skills and abilities, and 8.3/10 for the positive impact on their health and wellbeing. 88% reported a sense of belonging to the NYCGB community. Some of the qualitative feedback from our young people adds depth to these metrics:

"After two years of virtual courses, it helped to remind me how singing in a choir and learning rep in real time felt again, and how much singing in a choir boosts my wellbeing. Working with the Young Composers reminded me of my passion for new choral music and composing."

"NYCGB is an organisation that takes such care to give personal attention and help, whilst also maintaining an extraordinarily high standard of singing and musicianship. While in previous years NYCGB has given me intense classical technique and training, this past year opened up the world of accapella, jazz, and even how technology can be employed in order to create new genres of music."

"The opportunity to be part of NYCGB this year will be something I treasure for the rest of my life. The organisation has created a unique space for exploration of and exposure to experience, repertoire, discussion and leadership opportunities alongside a community of like-minded people. I hope to continue to get to know this community better as I work with them both in and outside of choir."

"Not only is the music utterly fantastic and varied, the staff genuinely love what they are doing which is so inspiring to see. You meet friends that will never leave your life, and the course does so much for your wellbeing, it's insane."

"The residential has completely changed my voice and I now sing with more soul. It has also improved my sight reading and I now write songs and lyrics at home. I have started to find out what I am capable of, not just in singing, but by pushing myself out of my comfort zone and if it goes wrong, nobody cares! In a short space of time we go from knowing nothing to achieving an amazing sound. That makes me feel good about myself, being part of a team that creates such music. It makes me so happy."

"The environment was always 100% positive. I never experience any form of exclusion due to such a friendly atmosphere. There was also a healthy balance between social time and working time."

"You don't get to sing in a choir like this anywhere else in the country. The songs that we learn to perform and the friends I've made are second to none."

"The confidence I have gained from being part of this choir both musically and mentally has been outstanding. I left with amazing friends, experiences and knowledge around both choral singing and the music industry. The overall positive effect on my mental health is something I cannot thank the staff and organisation for enough."

"It was amazing to be around other young people who loved singing as much as I did! Being away from home with new people was exciting and I learnt so many music skills throughout the course."

"I loved the feeling of being part of the community and making new friends."

"I made some fantastic friends, had so much fun and learned so much! Singing in a big choir was unbelievable and I'm so grateful!"

"I enjoyed the course because it has made me feel a lot more independent and I made lots of new friends and met amazing people. It was incredible to be part of the recording session and concert. The music was really beautiful and diverse, and there were lots of activities that related to it."

Choir Members' feedback 2022

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2022

Principal sources of funding

The trustees are incredibly grateful to all our funders who have supported NYCGB during the year. They are particularly pleased to report NYCGB's successful ongoing partnerships with the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM), Stainer & Bell and Steinberg Media Technologies. ABRSM have supported our Learning and Engagement programme and our Fellowship Programme since its launch in 2015. Steinberg Media Technologies sponsored NYCGB's Emerging Professional Artists programmes and New Music Programme in 2022, which resulted in three new music commissions. Whereas Stainer & Bell continued to support NYCGB's Young Composers Scheme.

The trustees wish to record their thanks to major supporters Arts Council England and the Department for Education, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, The Leverhulme Trust, Garfield Weston Foundation, Peter Sowerby Foundation, The Ofenheim Trust, Gillian Dickinson Trust, PRS for Music Foundation, John S Cohen Foundation, John James Bristol Foundation and The Radcliffe Trust for their kind and ongoing support.

In December 2021, NYCGB took part in the Big Give Challenge, aiming to raise £54,000 to support 50 members through our Financial Assistance Scheme. In total 171 kind people donated just over £27,000, which was matched £ for £ by the Julia and Hans Rausing Trust and The Emily Fund. The trustees would like to thank everyone who kindly supported NYCGB's most successful appeal to date and especially our two match funders, who generously supported the campaign and The Big Give.

The trustees would also like to record their gratitude to all our partners who provide incredibly valuable and impactful in-kind support. This includes Britten Pears Arts who provide residential retreats for our young composers, NMC Recordings Ltd who produce and release an album featuring new works written by our Young Composers and performed by our Fellows, Royal Albert Hall who provide free use of their spaces and meeting rooms, Stainer & Bell who provide in kind support, mentoring and publish new works written by our Young Composers and Steinberg Media Technologies who provide free Dorico software, training and advice for our Young Composers. Alongside these partners there are also many schools, Music Hubs and other venues who provide in-kind support through free spaces for our Learning and Engagement work in target regions, which the trustees are most grateful for.

As in previous years, NYCGB was successful in securing a diverse range of grants from regional and national trusts and foundations and the trustees wish to pay thanks to:

ABRSM; Andor Charitable Trust; Baron Davenport's Charity; The Beerling Foundation; Chapman Charitable Trust; John S Cohen Foundation; The Derrill Allatt Foundation; The Earl of Chester's Fund; The Elmley Foundation; The Emily Fund, Ernst von Siemens Music Foundation; Esmée Fairbairn Foundation; The Finzi Trust; Garfield Weston Foundation; The Gillian Dickinson Trust; Goldsmith's Company Charity; The Gwendoline & Margaret Davies Charity; Hadrian Trust; The H.R. Taylor Charitable Trust; John James Bristol Foundation; The Joseph Strong Frazer Trust; Julia and Hans Rausing Trust; Sir James Knott Trust; The Leverhulme Trust; The Lord Belstead Charitable Settlement; The Lord and Lady Lurgan Trust; The Michael Tippett Musical Foundation; Mulberry Trust; The Norman Family Charitable Trust; The Ofenheim Trust; The Paul Bassham Charitable Trust; Payne Gallwey Charitable Trust, PRS for Music Foundation; The Radcliffe Trust; RVW Trust; Scarfe Charitable Trust; Schroder Charity Trust; Stainer & Bell, Steinberg Media Technologies (Dorico); Sylvia and Colin Shepherd Charitable Trust; Veronica Awdry Charitable Trust; The W E Dunn Charitable Trust.

The trustees would like to extend their gratitude to all the following people who most generously donated their time or money to NYCGB in 2021-22. We would also like to thank all our kind supporters who have chosen to remain anonymous and the Alumni Champions Committee members and Campaign Planning Group members who continue to have a huge impact on our reach, engagement, and fundraising capacity.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2022

Vocal Supporters

Anthony Townsend
The Baker Family
Lady Margaret Elliot
Christine Evans
Andy Farris
Prof. Christopher Higgins
Sir Thomas Hughes-Hallett
The Morgan Family
The Munden Family
Ben Parry
Garth & Lucy Pollard
Michael & Tina Strutt
Elfreda Tealby-Watson & Greg Watson
Mr & Mrs R Tett
Mr and Mrs D von Preyss
Fiona Yeomans

Gold Friends

Chris and Elizabeth Byng
Bryony Coapes
Kieran Cooper
Kate Davies
Andrew Evans
Julian Forbes
Christian Grobel
The Hillier Family
Adrian Melrose
Geoff Mountfield
Polly Penter
Stephen and Lydia Pierce
Janet Reid
Alan Renwick
Gareth Saunders
Malcolm Smith
Mike Wright

Silver Friends

The Cox Family
Scott and Simone Green
Samara Kirapaty
James Prescott-Martin
Michael Seeney
Carole Varney
Tracy & Robert Watson

Alumni Champions Committee

Andy Farris (1980s)
Anna George (nee Tonkin; 1980s/1990s)
Bryony Coapes (nee Lonsdale; 1990s)
Charlotte Dougan (nee Mobbs; 1990s)
Charlotte Brosnan (2000s) – Resigned in 2022
Gareth Saunders (1980s/1990s) – Resigned in 2022
Liz Hurren (1980s/1990s)

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2022

Campaign Planning Group

Angela Au
Andy Farris
David Roper
Greg Watson
Kate Minch
Louise Marshall
Sir Thomas Hughes-Hallett
Helen Kihmm von-Preyss
Anne Besford
Tim Croall
Rob Colbert
Blythe Day
Ben Parry
Martin Kaufman (consultant)

NYCGB fundraises from public and private sources by making funding applications to trusts, foundations and public bodies, running public campaigns and regular giving schemes, and soliciting corporate, individual and legacy donations. NYCGB's fundraising is carried out by a specialist in-house development team employed directly by the organisation, with support from other staff members and a small number of volunteers. NYCGB is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and all fundraising activities comply with the Code of Fundraising Practice. We are open and transparent in our fundraising communications and treat donors and supporters fairly and ethically, following best practice in cultivating new supporter relationships. We process personal data in accordance with GDPR and clearly set out how we use personal data in our Privacy Policy, which is reviewed annually. During 2021-22 NYCGB did not receive any complaints relating to our fundraising activities.

Financial review

Financial position

The statement of financial activities for 2021-22 shows an annual operating deficit of £57,636 against a budgeted operating deficit of £75,609. After revaluation of investments, which decreased in value by £12,556 due to volatility in the market around year end at 30 September, NYCGB has recorded an overall annual deficit of £70,192 against a budgeted deficit of £64,809.

Although the Omicron variant of Covid-19 continued to impact plans in the early part of the financial year, NYCGB has largely been able to increase levels of activity back towards more normal pre-pandemic levels, in particular our principal income generating activities – residential courses and performances. As a result, NYCGB saw an increase in earned income from fees and charges and a corresponding increase in the associated expenditure relating to these activities including venue hires and staffing costs. Normal fundraised income streams from grants and individual giving were also rebuilt during the year.

The reported annual deficit is in line with budgeted plans to invest from designated reserves in key areas of business development and staffing capacity, in order to support longer-term resilience and growth. In particular, we successfully recruited into new communications, development and digital posts during the year. Reserves were also invested in further planned strategic work to review NYCGB's high-level brand as part of the development of a new five-year strategy with a renewed core purpose and vision for the organisation as we go into our 40th anniversary year in 2023.

Overall, NYCGB has, to date, successfully navigated a challenging period, both in financial and operational terms, and with careful financial management has achieved a small net contribution to reserves across the last three financial years. We remain hugely grateful for the help and financial support of donors, funders, participants, partners and government, which has directly contributed to NYCGB's ongoing financial stability.

Looking ahead, with continued economic challenges around inflation and cost of living affecting both NYCGB programmes and our beneficiaries going into 2022-23, trustees continue to recognise the importance of sustaining a suitable level of cash reserves to provide future security and to support the carefully planned

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2022

investment of funds into activities which will support future organisational priorities and business resilience.

Reserves policy

NYCGB's total reserves at 30 September 2022 were £682,434. Future planning is fundamental to NYCGB's operation, combining the seasonal nature of annual activities with the necessity of planning programmes and projects more than one year ahead, to link with the expected advance schedules of partner organisations and guest artists. The reserves policy reflects the need to provide a degree of security to support advance planning over longer timescales, and to provide confidence to stakeholders that artistic plans are soundly based and funded.

Trustees have previously agreed the need to hold sufficient reserves to cover a suitable period of salary and other operational costs as a budget and cash flow contingency in the event of a significant loss of income. The suitable amount was reviewed in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic and, in 2021-22 a balance of £410,000 was designated to this purpose, reflecting the equivalent of 12 months' core staffing costs. This continues to be considered a suitable sum to enable NYCGB to manage the organisation through potential future changes in the economic climate or other exceptional events and commit to longer-term planning.

A Founder's Fund of £106,749 is restricted to providing financial assistance supporting National Youth Choir members to take part in exceptional and additional activities such as international touring, in accordance with the wishes of the donor.

In 2018-19, the trustees designated a fixed asset fund reflecting the expected amortisation costs of the CRM system over the next five years. The amortisation for the current year amounts to £18,493. This leaves an overall balance of £15,836 in the fund. Grant funding for the project was received and reflected in the accounts in a previous financial year, and currently forms part of NYCGB's reserves.

Trustees recognise their responsibility to ensure that funds are allocated appropriately towards the achievement of NYCGB's charitable objectives. During 2021-22 the organisation has undertaken significant work to review vision, mission and strategic aims and outcomes, developing a new five-year strategic plan for the period 2022-2027. As part of this work, trustees have identified areas where future investment will be needed to support delivery of the plan and have agreed that designated funds aligned with our mission and priorities should be allocated from reserves as follows:

- £4,400 to complete and implement the review of NYCGB's high-level brand identity and core purpose.
- £42,857 to support the creation of new staff posts to increase Development and Communications capacity, which will support the growth of more sustainable income streams.
- £30,000 as an Access and Inclusion fund, which provides dedicated resources to underpin the delivery of NYCGB's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion plan and enable us to support costs of specific access needs.
- £40,000 to support the costs of developing and delivering an outstanding creative and learning programme in NYCGB's 40th anniversary year 2023.

Excluding balances tied up in designated funds, restricted funds, and fixed assets, NYCGB's total free reserves are £31,709. A substantial proportion of reserves are required as working capital, which is the cash held to enable the organisation to meet its commitments throughout the year.

The experience gained during the period since March 2020, reinforces the need for sufficient reserves to ensure the future of the organisation is sustainable and trustees will continue to review the reserves position on an annual basis.

Investments

During 2018-19 the trustees agreed to invest a proportion of reserves to provide a longer-term income stream for two key purposes:

1. To support the increasing need for access initiatives as NYCGB widens its reach and raises its profile.
2. To invest in the development of exceptional creative projects and programmes, particularly where sources of income are not otherwise available.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2022

In October 2019 an initial investment of £200,000 was used to purchase units in the CCLA COIF Charities Investment fund, which comprised the Founders Fund and a proportion of NYCGB's designated budget and cash flow contingency. The intention was to use any annual interest generation to contribute to the provision of financial assistance to members. In 2022 trustees approved the incremental investment of a further £150,000 in the fund over a period of 6 months from April. At 30 September 2022 NYCGB holds 1770 units valued at £389,086. Due to volatility in the market at our year-end this represents a decrease in value of investments across the year of £12,556.

Going concern

Given the uncertainty around the economic picture and the effects of inflation in the coming year, the trustees have given careful consideration to the matter of financial sustainability and NYCGB's viability. Trustees have reviewed a number of different budget assumptions, scenarios and cashflow projections in setting a budget for 2022-23 and undertaken a detailed assessment of financial and organisational risks. This means we are confident in our financial projections and equipped to mitigate risks if they materialise.

Trustees agree that NYCGB currently retains a suitable level of reserves to help mitigate immediate financial pressures and manage anticipated cashflow needs in the coming year.

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Financial risk management objectives and policies

Our management team and Finance Sub-committee robustly monitor financial risks and, in 2022-23, this again includes regular review of a comprehensive budget risk assessment. This ensures appropriate risk mitigation strategies can be implemented and contingency plans can be made. This management of risks is underpinned by a strong reserves policy. This approach ensures that NYCGB (as a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee) meets its legal and charitable financial compliance and probity requirements. The control environment and framework are appropriate for the current and planned future scale of the organisation and assures a strong platform of financial governance and control to NYCGB funders and stakeholders.

To support prudent financial management and mitigation of financial risk, trustees have carefully considered and agreed an investment strategy, described in the Reserves Policy above.

Plans for future periods

While NYCGB is already a national leader, engaging many talented young singers nationwide, by 2030 we want it to be the go-to organisation for any talented young singer in the country who wants to be inspired, challenged and nurtured. We aim to provide unparalleled opportunities for young people from the widest diversity of backgrounds through performance, education and regional, national and international engagement. We want NYCGB to be a household name that all talented young singers, from the widest possible range of social, ethnic and cultural backgrounds, and from every part of the UK, aspire to join.

Strategic Plan 2022-27

NYCGB trustees approved a new strategic plan for the period October 2022 to September 2027 in autumn 2022. The plan is a live document that will be updated annually and it sets out a clear and compelling new vision and ambition for how we plan to build our community and develop our reach and impact in the next phase – starting with NYCGB's 40th anniversary in 2023. The plan has been based on consultation with audience and stakeholder groups to ensure our plans and priorities are relevant, inspiring, inclusive and sustainable. Core strategic aims are to: strive for excellence; expand our reach; raise our public profile and develop our resilience.

In 2022-23 NYCGB's programme of activities will contribute towards the delivery of the stated organisational and charitable aims and objectives. Plans will be reviewed and refreshed regularly by management and trustees and we remain flexible in responding to external factors and their impact on our programme and beneficiaries, such as inflationary pressures and cost of living.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2022

Courses, Training and Professional Development

Seven residential courses are currently planned during 2022-23: National Youth Girls', Boys' and Training Choir in spring and summer, and alongside this NYGCB will deliver the National Youth Choir Annual Programme comprising four projects. All programmes will explore the theme of Celebration, reflecting the wonderful occasion of NYGCB's 40th anniversary. We aim to engage at least 1,100 participants across the choir programmes.

We are committed to continuing to offer unique and high-quality learning and performance opportunities, including the chance for members to work with guest artists and practitioners from the widest diversity of cultures, backgrounds and musical genres. We strive to ensure that our training remains at the forefront of choral practice and is inspiring and relevant to our young people. During the year we aim to create and pilot a framework for evaluating our creative and learning programme, which sets out indicators for what excellence looks like across all facets of the programme and empowers input from young people, staff and peers. We will also be reviewing the structure of the under-18's choirs to ensure we continue to offer excellent and inclusive programmes for this age group.

Our highly respected development programmes for emerging professional artists will continue with delivery of the 2023 Fellowship and NYGCB Young Composers schemes, supporting and mentoring 8 emerging artists.

Performances, Commissions and Recordings

NYGCB will aim to deliver a programme of over 30 concerts across our ensembles in 2022-23, seeking to continue to offer members unbeatable performance opportunities. These concerts will continue to include a mix of live and broadcasted performances, building on the partnerships and opportunities including with London Handel Festival and the Royal Albert Hall. As part of this programme we are thrilled to be planning to mark our 40th anniversary with a milestone concert for all the national choirs at the Royal Albert Hall in April and other highlights will include a performance collaboration between the massed forces of the National Youth Training Choir and an orchestral ensemble at Ely in the summer.

Two new choral commissions are planned, connected to our theme of Celebration. This includes a major new work from our own Ben Parry, with lyrics by rising star Anoushka Lucas. This is by far NYGCB's most ambitious commission to date and to celebrate our 40 years it will feature 40 parts – each one being sung by a different mix of singers and voice parts and including all our choir members, Fellows, Young Composers, participants from schools and communities, Alumni and even the audience. Our second commission for Training Choir in the summer will be a piece by one of our graduate Young Composers from 2022. The National Youth Boys' Choir will also record our 2021 commission *I am. We are.* by Oliver Tarney.

NYGCB will continue to build virtual audiences for choral music by creating and releasing a regular programme of audio and video recordings across streaming platforms. This will include releases of audio and video recordings created by our choirs during courses and projects in 2022, new recordings made in 2023 and release of the fourth Young Composers album by NMC Recordings.

Learning and Engagement

In 2022-23 we will continue to grow our national Learning and Engagement programme and particularly our strategic partnerships in the North East, Yorkshire, the West Midlands and the North West, as well as developing our partnership with Ark Schools multi-academy trust. We will also continue to offer our wider national programme of workshops, open events and CPD. We will aim to engage around 3,800 young people through our learning and engagement activities.

This programme is critical to achieving our aim to expand our reach and open up opportunities for young people from all backgrounds to develop their talent and potential. Gaps in opportunities and aspiration to access high-quality singing and music education, and to progress regionally and nationally have widened as a result of the pandemic. The current cost of living crisis further affects many young people, creating additional barriers to participation.

During the next year we will be developing new approaches to addressing barriers for more young people, including introducing NYGCB:Sing a year-long programme to provide targeted support for young singers from under-represented groups and communities and create strong progression pathways. We will also pilot targeted

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2022

workshop auditions alongside our open auditions, with a view to rolling these out more widely in 2023-24.

Access, Inclusion and Representation

NYCGB is committed to being an inclusive and representative organisation, championing high-quality singing opportunities for all young people. We passionately believe that all children and young people with the widest range of backgrounds and regardless of individual circumstance should be able to make music with others, and have the opportunity to discover and explore their musical talent and achieve at the highest levels. As a national organisation, we want all talented young singers to be able to experience what NYCGB has to offer, and to be supported to thrive and contribute equally to our community.

We will prioritise ongoing Equality, Diversity and Inclusion work, taking action to identify and remove barriers for potential participants, audiences, staff and Trustees, so that NYCGB is a welcoming and inclusive community. Key activities include new auditions approaches, implementing a revised financial assistance programme, developing our work around young people's voices, and taking proactive steps to develop a more inclusive and representative workforce. We will also be developing partnerships with specialist organisations to inform this work and act as critical friends.

Creative Director

After ten years at the helm, our Artistic Director and Principal Conductor, Ben Parry, will be stepping back from the Artistic Director role at the end of December 2022. He will remain as Principal Conductor of the National Youth Choir and mentor for the Young Composers until September 2023. Following a review of the role in the light of our strategic ambitions for the next five years, we will be appointing a new, expanded executive role of Creative Director, who will come into post in spring 2023.

Budget

For 2022-23 Trustees have made the strategic decision to set a deficit budget, with a planned deficit of £169k for the year. In addition to progressing activities supported by the current designated funds described in the financial review, above, this will support NYCGB's strategic aims to widen our reach and impact and to develop an inclusive community where all young people feel they belong. Trustees have committed to reducing the impact of inflation by limiting increases in fees and charges for all participants to 5% for the year and making greater provision for financial assistance support, increasing the available pot by 34% on the previous year and restructuring the programme to provide more support to those who are most affected by cost of living pressures

Arts Council England Support

We were pleased in October 2022 to receive confirmation that Arts Council England and the Department for Education have pledged to continue funding NYCGB as part of the National Portfolio investment programme for the period April 2023-March 2026. We are committed to embedding Arts Council's Investment Principles across the organisation and these principles are aligned with our strategic objectives.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

NYCGB was established in 1983 and registered as a charity and incorporated as a company limited by guarantee in 1984. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company, and is governed under its Articles of Association, renewed and revised in 2010.

Effective governance

The trustees are committed to ensuring the effective governance of NYCGB and in 2019-20 reviewed current policies and procedures to ensure voluntary compliance with the Charity Governance Code as updated in December 2020. Following the review process the trustees were satisfied that NYCGB met the key requirements of the code and developed an action plan to further enhance NYCGB's approach to governance. A further review will take place in 2022-23. NYCGB is a member of the Cultural Governance Alliance, a national network committed to championing best practice in the governance of culture.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2022

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and, under the company's Articles, are known as members of the Board of Trustees. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Board of Trustees are elected to serve for a period of three years, after which they must be re-elected at the next meeting of trustees. Trustees are elected for a maximum of three cycles.

The Board of Trustees seeks to ensure that its members possess the range of skills, expertise and perspectives required to benefit the diverse range of work the company undertakes. In the event of particular skills, expertise or perspectives being lost due to retirement, a recruitment process is undertaken comprising open advertisement alongside targeted approaches to identify appropriate individuals for election to the Board of Trustees. Trustee recruitment is led by a Nominations Committee, which is a sub-committee of the board.

Policies adopted for the induction and training of trustees

On appointment trustees participate in an established induction process and meet with the senior management team to understand the workings of the charity and their roles. All trustees are required to undertake safeguarding training and further training is provided on an ad hoc basis as and when required.

Pay policy for senior staff

The trustees are responsible for setting the remuneration level for the senior team, which is done taking account of the financial position of the charity and prevailing market rates for similar roles.

Organisational structure and decision-making

NYCGB has a Board of Trustees which meets quarterly and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. All trustees give their time voluntarily. Any expenses claimed by the trustees from the charity are set out in note 8 to the financial statements.

The trustees employ a Chief Executive and an Artistic Director & Principal Conductor as an Executive team, with overall responsibility for a team of creative and operational staff (including the Head of Artistic Planning and Participation, General Manager, Director of Development, and Head of Communications) to develop and implement the vision of the charity and its activities.

The Board, with detailed work carried out by its Finance Sub-committee, approves the draft annual budget. The Chief Executive and Artistic Director are afforded full artistic and operational control subject to the budgeting limits set by the Board.

Risk management

The Board of Trustees and the management committee regularly undertake a review of the major risks to which the charity is or may be exposed. Where appropriate, systems and procedures have been established to mitigate the risks that the charity is facing or may face.

Appropriate policies and procedures are in place to ensure compliance with legislative requirements, which include employment laws, equality duties, child protection policies, data protection policies and health and safety of members, staff, and volunteers.

It is NYCGB policy that 'all persons be accorded full and equal consideration on the basis of merit or other relevant, meaningful criteria, regardless of any potential source of discrimination.' We aim to achieve this by nurturing a culture of mutual respect and trust, fairness and dignity, and positive, inclusive behaviour.

Following a comprehensive review of our safeguarding practices by NSPCC in 2013, we have prioritised 'youth voice', ensuring that any young person participating in our programmes has the means and opportunity to express themselves and be heard. To support this NYCGB appointed a permanent Head of Safeguarding who is responsible for delivering a safeguarding training programme to all staff members and volunteers and working with staff to ensure appropriate future plans are put in place for young people, especially those with protected characteristics where and when required.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2022

Disclosure of information to auditor


Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this trustees' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditor is aware of that information.

Auditor

Pursuant to section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006, the auditor will be deemed to be reappointed and UNW LLP will therefore continue in office.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 3 February 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

501E4B3A53184B8...

David Roper
Chair

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of trustees' responsibilities Year ended 30 September 2022

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company 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).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial . 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 company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees and signed on its behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

501E4B3A53184B8...

David Roper
Chair

Date: 3 February 2023



Independent auditor's report to the members of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 30 September 2022 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 30 September 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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 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.



Independent auditor's report to the members of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (continued)

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 are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. 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. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether 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.

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 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- 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 our 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 Trustees' report.

We have nothing to report 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; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a Strategic report.



Independent auditor's report to the members of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (continued)

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, 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 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 extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We identified areas of law and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general and sector experience and through discussions with the directors and other management (as required by Auditing Standards) and from inspection of the company's legal correspondence and we discussed with the directors and other management the policies and procedures in place regarding compliance with laws and regulations. We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.

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

Secondly, the company is subject to many other laws and regulations where the consequences of non-compliance could have a material effect on amounts or disclosures in the financial statements, for instance through the imposition of fines or litigation. We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an effect; health and safety, employment law, data protection, environmental law, safeguarding and child protection and certain aspects of company legislation, recognising the nature of the academy's activities. Auditing Standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Through these procedures we did not become aware of any actual or suspected non-compliance material to the financial statements.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves



Independent auditor's report to the members of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (continued)

intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditor's report.

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 its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

DocuSigned by:
Anne Hallowell
59C7DD6C467F49E...

**Anne Hallowell BSc FCA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of UNW LLP, Statutory Auditor**
Chartered Accountants
Newcastle upon Tyne

3 February 2023

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account) Year ended 30 September 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	222,034	296,516	518,550	613,132
Charitable activities	4	871,418	-	871,418	483,902
Investments		318	-	318	100
Total income		1,093,770	296,516	1,390,286	1,097,134
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	94,727	-	94,727	97,530
Charitable activities	6	1,056,679	296,516	1,353,195	915,565
Total expenditure		1,151,406	296,516	1,447,922	1,013,095
Net (expenditure)/income before net (losses)/gains on investments					
		(57,636)	-	(57,636)	84,039
Net (losses)/gains on investments	11	(12,556)	-	(12,556)	35,112
Net movement in funds		(70,192)	-	(70,192)	119,151
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		645,877	106,749	752,626	633,475
Net movement in funds		(70,192)	-	(70,192)	119,151
Total funds carried forward	14	575,685	106,749	682,434	752,626

The notes on pages 29 to 46 form part of these financial statements.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Balance sheet At 30 September 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	9	15,836	34,329
Tangible assets	10	883	1,999
Investments	11	389,086	251,642
		<u>405,805</u>	<u>287,970</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	12	48,938	79,526
Cash at bank and in hand		379,080	627,771
		<u>428,018</u>	<u>707,297</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(151,389)	(242,641)
Net current assets		<u>276,629</u>	464,656
Total net assets		<u><u>682,434</u></u>	<u><u>752,626</u></u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	14	106,749	106,749
Unrestricted funds	14	575,685	645,877
Total funds		<u><u>682,434</u></u>	<u><u>752,626</u></u>

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

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the trustees on 03 February 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

 501E4B3A53184B8...

David Roper
Chair

Company registration number 01850803

The notes on pages 29 to 46 form part of these financial statements.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of cash flows Year ended 30 September 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	16	(98,691)	176,251
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of investments		(150,000)	-
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		(150,000)	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(248,691)	176,251
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		627,771	451,520
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	17	379,080	627,771

The notes on pages 29 to 46 form part of these financial statements

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2022

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

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

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain 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.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity and are rounded to the nearest £1.

1.2 Company status

The company is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in England. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 1. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the company.

1.3 Going concern

As set out in more detail in the trustees report, the charity's activities were severely impacted by the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic in March 2020. However, thanks to the generous support of a number of funders and supporters, and the work undertaken to ensure that delivery of programmes and activities were able to run at least in part virtually, the financial impact on the organisation was kept to a minimum and the charity remains in a relatively strong cash position. Following the removal of all Covid-19 restrictions, the charities activities have largely returned to normal.

Consequently the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

1.4 Income

All income, including course fees and grant income, is recognised once the company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donated goods or services are included in income at a valuation which is an estimate of the financial cost borne by the donor, where such a cost is quantifiable and measurable. No income is recognised where there is no financial cost borne by the third party.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the company. They include governance costs, which are those incurred in connection with the administration of the company and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Costs of generating funds are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the company to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.6 Intangible assets and amortisation

Intangible assets are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably. Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost net of amortisation and any provision for impairment.

Amortisation is provided at the following rates:

Software	-	5 year straight line basis
Website	-	3 year straight line basis

1.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £5,000 are capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases

Office equipment	-	5 year straight line basis
------------------	---	----------------------------

1.8 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the statement of financial activities.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.9 Debtors

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

1.10 Cash at bank and in hand

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.

1.11 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

1.12 Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the company to the fund in respect of the year.

1.13 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2022

2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

In preparing these financial statements the directors do not consider there were any significant areas of judgment that were required in applying the company's accounting policies as set out above.

Estimates included within these financial statements include depreciation and asset impairments. None of the estimates made are considered to carry significant estimation uncertainty, nor to bear significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Donations	101,667	31,351	133,018
Government Grants	-	-	-
Grants	97,125	265,165	362,290
Membership fees	23,242	-	23,242
Legacies	-	-	-
	<u>222,034</u>	<u>296,516</u>	<u>518,550</u>

Donations comprise donations from individuals of £101,667 and from corporate partners of £31,351.

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Donations	58,447	28,000	86,447
Government Grants	4,078	-	4,078
Grants	94,000	401,516	495,516
Membership fees	24,281	-	24,281
Legacies	2,810	-	2,810
	<u>183,616</u>	<u>429,516</u>	<u>613,132</u>

Donations comprise donations from individuals of £58,447 and from corporate partners of £28,000.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2022

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Course fees	776,724	776,724
Audition fees	10,980	10,980
Sales of merchandise	5,471	5,471
Concert and performing fees	42,619	42,619
Ticket sales and contributions - concerts	17,146	17,146
Other income	18,478	18,478
Total 2022	871,418	871,418
	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Course fees	448,191	448,191
Audition fees	11,260	11,260
Sales of merchandise	2,370	2,370
Concert and performing fees	12,320	12,320
Other income	9,761	9,761
Total 2021	483,902	483,902

5. Expenditure on raising funds

Costs of raising voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Fundraising - other costs	10,081	10,081
Wages and salaries	73,650	73,650
National Insurance	10,996	10,996
	94,727	94,727

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2022

5. Expenditure on raising funds (continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Fundraising - other costs	17,685	17,685
Wages and salaries	71,585	71,585
National insurance	8,260	8,260
	<u>97,530</u>	<u>97,530</u>

6. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Direct costs 2022 £	Support costs 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Charitable activities	<u>1,204,269</u>	<u>148,926</u>	<u>1,353,195</u>

	Direct costs 2021 £	Support costs 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Charitable activities	<u>773,422</u>	<u>142,143</u>	<u>915,565</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2022

6. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs

	Charitable activities 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Staff costs	267,377	267,377
Courses accomodation, music	781,068	781,068
Insurance	8,982	8,982
Travelling expenses	28,142	28,142
Advertising, website, promotion and printing	26,519	26,519
Consulting and training	16,847	16,847
Office costs	62,902	62,902
Bank charges	12,432	12,432
	<u>1,204,269</u>	<u>1,204,269</u>
	Charitable activities 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Staff costs	237,126	237,126
Courses accomodation, music	438,734	438,734
Insurance	8,872	8,872
Travelling expenses	15,223	15,223
Advertising, website, promotion and printing	22,719	22,719
Consulting and training	9,444	9,444
Office costs	34,288	34,288
Bank charges	7,016	7,016
	<u>773,422</u>	<u>773,422</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2022

6. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Charitable activities 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Staff costs	94,203	94,203
Legal and professional fees	11,402	11,402
Rent and rates	23,712	23,712
Amortisation & depreciation	19,609	19,609
	<u>148,926</u>	<u>148,926</u>

	Charitable activities 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Staff costs	95,393	95,393
Legal and professional fees	7,940	7,940
Rent and rates	18,851	18,851
Office costs	180	180
Trustee costs	164	164
Amortisation & depreciation	19,615	19,615
	<u>142,143</u>	<u>142,143</u>

7. Auditor's remuneration

	2022 £	2021 £
Fees payable to the company's auditor for the audit of the company's annual accounts	7,750	5,650
Fees payable to the company's auditor in respect of: Other services	1,000	1,000
	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2022

8. Staff costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	403,348	368,705
Social security costs	29,016	33,924
Other pension costs	13,862	9,735
	<u>446,226</u>	<u>412,364</u>

The average number of persons employed by the company during the year was as follows:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Average no. of employees	<u>13</u>	<u>10</u>

The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Staff	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	1	1

Key management personnel

Key management personnel are deemed to be those having authority and responsibility, delegated to them by the trustees for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the charity. During 2021/22 they were:

Director - Ben Parry
 Director of Development - Robert Colbert
 Chief Executive - Anne Besford
 General Manager - Mark Anyan

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £236,031 (2021: £241,116).

Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No trustees received any remuneration during the current or prior year.

During the year, no trustees (2021: one trustee) received reimbursed expenses (2021: £164).

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2022

9. Intangible assets

	Software £
Cost	
At 1 October 2021	92,496
At 30 September 2022	<u>92,496</u>
Amortisation	
At 1 October 2021	58,167
Charge for the year	18,493
At 30 September 2022	<u>76,660</u>
Net book value	
At 30 September 2022	<u><u>15,836</u></u>
At 30 September 2021	<u><u>34,329</u></u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2022

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Office equipment £
Cost	
At 1 October 2021	15,119
At 30 September 2022	<u>15,119</u>
Depreciation	
At 1 October 2021	13,120
Charge for the year	1,116
At 30 September 2022	<u>14,236</u>
Net book value	
At 30 September 2022	<u><u>883</u></u>
At 30 September 2021	<u><u>1,999</u></u>

11. Fixed asset investments

	Unlisted investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 October 2021	251,642
Additions	150,000
Revaluations	(12,556)
At 30 September 2022	<u>389,086</u>
Net book value	
At 30 September 2022	<u><u>389,086</u></u>
At 30 September 2021	<u><u>251,642</u></u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2022

12. Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	7,842	9,699
Other debtors	1,920	-
Prepayments and accrued income	39,176	69,827
	<u>48,938</u>	<u>79,526</u>

13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	9,741	38,891
Other creditors	22,418	27,578
Accruals and deferred income	119,230	176,172
	<u>151,389</u>	<u>242,641</u>

	2022 £	2021 £
Deferred income at 1 October 2021	125,459	137,311
Resources deferred during the year	44,371	125,459
Amounts released from previous periods	(83,084)	(137,311)
	<u>86,746</u>	<u>125,459</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2022

14. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 October 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 30 September 2022 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
General contingency & budget	410,000	-	-	-	-	410,000
CRM / API project	34,329	-	(18,493)	-	-	15,836
Access and inclusion initiative	30,000	-	-	-	-	30,000
40th Anniversary initiative	40,000	-	-	-	-	40,000
Organisational development initiative	70,000	-	-	(27,143)	-	42,857
Brand review initiative	20,000	-	-	(15,600)	-	4,400
	604,329	-	(18,493)	(42,743)	-	543,093
General funds						
General funds	41,548	1,093,769	(1,132,912)	42,743	(12,556)	32,592
Total Unrestricted funds	645,877	1,093,769	(1,151,405)	-	(12,556)	575,685

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2022

14. Statement of funds (continued)

Restricted funds

Founder's Scholarship Fund	106,749	-	-	-	-	106,749
Arts Council England	-	122,158	(122,158)	-	-	-
Gillian Dickinson Trust	-	1,964	(1,964)	-	-	-
The Leverhulme Foundation	-	36,040	(36,040)	-	-	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	25,000	(25,000)	-	-	-
PRS Foundation	-	14,000	(14,000)	-	-	-
Other small grants and donations	-	97,354	(97,354)	-	-	-
	<u>106,749</u>	<u>296,516</u>	<u>(296,516)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>106,749</u>
Total of funds	<u>752,626</u>	<u>1,390,285</u>	<u>(1,447,921)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(12,556)</u>	<u>682,434</u>

The CRM / API fund has been designated by the trustees to represent the amount tied up in intangible assets, and consequently transfers are made from general funds representing any additions in the year. Amortisation is charged against the fund.

In the prior year the trustees have designated funds for four important initiatives amounting to £160,000. NYCGB will continue to seek specific funding for these, however this designation ensures that each initiative is underwritten.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2022

14. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 October 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 30 September 2021 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
General contingency & budget	400,000	-	-	10,000	-	410,000
CRM / API project	52,828	-	(18,499)	-	-	34,329
Access and inclusion initiative	-	-	-	30,000	-	30,000
40th Anniversary initiative	-	-	-	40,000	-	40,000
Organisational development initiative	-	-	-	70,000	-	70,000
Brand review initiative	-	-	-	20,000	-	20,000
	<u>452,828</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(18,499)</u>	<u>170,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>604,329</u>
General funds						
General funds	73,898	667,618	(565,080)	(170,000)	35,112	41,548
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>526,726</u>	<u>667,618</u>	<u>(583,579)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,112</u>	<u>645,877</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2022

14. Statement of funds (continued)

Restricted funds

Founder's Scholarship Fund	106,749	-	-	-	-	106,749
Arts Council England	-	287,609	(287,609)	-	-	-
Gillian Dickinson Trust	-	5,411	(5,411)	-	-	-
The Leverhulme Foundation	-	36,040	(36,040)	-	-	-
Other small grants and donations	-	100,456	(100,456)	-	-	-
	<u>106,749</u>	<u>429,516</u>	<u>(429,516)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>106,749</u>
Total of funds	<u>633,475</u>	<u>1,097,134</u>	<u>(1,013,095)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,112</u>	<u>752,626</u>

15. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	883	-	883
Intangible fixed assets	15,836	-	15,836
Fixed asset investments	282,337	106,749	389,086
Current assets	380,518	47,500	428,018
Creditors due within one year	(103,889)	(47,500)	(151,389)
Total	<u>575,685</u>	<u>106,749</u>	<u>682,434</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2022

15. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,999	-	1,999
Intangible fixed assets	34,329	-	34,329
Fixed asset investments	144,893	106,749	251,642
Current assets	613,183	94,114	707,297
Creditors due within one year	(148,527)	(94,114)	(242,641)
Total	<u>645,877</u>	<u>106,749</u>	<u>752,626</u>

16. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(70,192)	119,151
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	1,116	1,116
Amortisation charges	18,493	18,499
Gains/(losses) on investments	12,556	(35,112)
Decrease in debtors	30,588	24,898
(Decrease) / increase in creditors	(91,252)	47,699
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	<u>(98,691)</u>	<u>176,251</u>

17. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash in hand	<u>379,080</u>	<u>627,771</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2022

18. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 October 2021	Cash flows £	At 30 September 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	627,771	(248,691)	379,080

19. Pension commitments

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the company to the fund and amounted to £11,702 (2021: £9,735). Contributions totalling £1,295 (2021: £264) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

20. Related party transactions

A director at Atom Holdco Limited is a trustee of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain. Atom Holdco Limited charges National Youth Choirs rental income for use of their office building. Total rental income recognised in the year is £23,641 (2021: £18,851)

There were no related party transactions in the prior year. Trustees expenses have been disclosed separately within note 8.

NATIONAL YOUTH CHOIRS OF GREAT BRITAIN

England & Wales - Charity number 515660

Accounts

Registered number: 01850803
Charity number: 515660

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual report

Year ended 30 September 2021

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Contents

	Page
Reference and administrative details	1
Trustees' report	2 - 20
Trustees' responsibilities statement	21
Independent auditor's report	22 - 25
Statement of financial activities	26
Balance sheet	27
Statement of cash flows	28
Notes to the financial statements	29 - 47

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Reference and administrative details

Year ended 30 September 2021

Trustees

Siu-Wai Ng (appointed 30 June 2021)

David Roper (appointed 1 May 2021)

Patricia Marion Keir

Andrew Garth Pollard

Rebecca Helen Driver

James Simon Olley

Michael John Strutt

Georgina Alison Robb

Gregor Stanley Watson

Margaret O'Shea

Gillian Frances Hillier

Company registered number

01850803

Charity registered number

515660

Registered office

The Rivergreen Centre

Aykley Heads

Durham

DH1 5TS

Key management team

Ben Parry, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor

Anne Besford, Chief Executive

Mark Anyan, General Manager

Independent auditor

UNW LLP

Chartered Accountants

Citygate

St James' Boulevard

Newcastle upon Tyne

NE1 4JE

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc

Holmfirth

Huddersfield

HD9 2DW

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report Year ended 30 September 2021

The Trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements for the year 1 October 2020 to 30 September 2021. The Trustees confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Objectives and Activities

Objectives

The mission of the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (NYCGB) is to inspire and empower young people throughout the UK through the life changing experience of singing together. We are a national champion for youth choral music, standing for artistic excellence, creative diversity, and openness and relevance to all.

We achieve our mission by:

- delivering excellent and innovative training and progression opportunities nurturing talented young singers at a national level;
- providing exceptional performance opportunities, extending the reach and showcasing the diversity of youth choral music;
- engaging and inspiring more young people through participation in strategic and targeted singing programmes with partners;
- establishing NYCGB's role as a national champion and sector leader for youth choral music and music education;
- developing organisational resilience, ensuring NYCGB is fit for purpose and able to clearly demonstrate the impact of its work.

"Undoubtedly, being a member of this organisation has changed the course of my life."

National Youth Choir Member

"It has enabled me to be able to do the thing that I love most, which is to sing and to sing with other people, at this incredibly high standard. It has given me so much more confidence in music and myself and it gives me so much to look forward to."

NYCGB Junior Choir Member

Activities for achieving objectives

"We are more than just a choir: we are a community with a shared passion for singing and the life-changing opportunities it can offer."

Ben Parry, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor, NYCGB

We are the most exciting, innovative and accessible organisation for young choral singers across the UK, providing our young people with unbeatable opportunities to develop skills in music and performance, leadership and teamwork, and to grow in confidence and aspiration. Excellence and inclusivity are core values guiding our work and are embodied in the design, delivery and ethos of all our programmes. Everything we do, we do with passion and a belief that all young people should have equal access to high-quality singing programmes and progression opportunities.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued)

Year ended 30 September 2021

NYCGB is in the middle of an exciting and ambitious five-year plan to develop our role as a national champion for youth choral music, focusing on four principal areas of activity:

i. Educational Courses – offering over 900 of the country's most talented young singers aged 9-25 the highest-standard of choral training and participation opportunities annually, including engaging with professional conductors, composers, musicianship and vocal coaches, and guest artists. We are divided into four choirs – our flagship National Youth Choir (age 18-25) incorporating the National Youth Chamber Choir, mixed-voice National Youth Training Choir (age 14-18), National Youth Girls' Choir (age 9-15), and National Youth Boys' Choir (age 9-15) – forming an unrivalled pathway for young singers to progress.

ii. Performances – unique opportunities for choir members to take part in concert performances and events, including the BBC Proms and major arts festivals, national commemorations, international touring, digital recordings, music videos and broadcasts, including performing new works from leading composers.

iii. Learning and Engagement – open access learning and engagement opportunities for young people nationally to explore and be inspired by singing together, discovering and progressing their vocal talent through joined-up regional and national pathways. More than 3,500 young people and multiple local partners are engaged each year in areas of high social deprivation and low levels of accessible cultural activities, improving access and inclusion, and supporting delivery of the National Plan for Music Education.

iv. Emerging Professional Artists – supporting exceptionally talented young choral artists through tailored initiatives such as the NYCGB Fellowship programme (for future choral leaders skilled at delivering learning and engagement programmes as well as performance) and the NYCGB Young Composers scheme (supporting a new generation of talented composers from diverse backgrounds and regions).

Supporting young people and equipping them with the tools and experiences to excel musically, educationally and socially is at the heart of all our work. We aim to lead the way in choral music, developing new and accessible artistic and educational approaches to inspire and engage young people at all stages of their development.

NYCGB's programme is structured, therefore, to create essential, accessible pathways to support our participants from the point when they discover their voice to the development of their talent at the highest level. These pathways enable many more young people to reap the musical, personal and social benefits of singing, and fulfil their potential in whatever career path they choose to pursue, inside or outside music.

We uphold NYCGB's trademark artistic brilliance through ambitious, diverse and representative programming, which will challenge and excite young singers from all backgrounds. Programmes are young people-centred and inclusive, relevant to and informed by young people themselves who we value and empower as co-creators.

Over the last ten years, NYCGB has worked to transform and develop the organisation, putting in place the necessary staffing, systems, fundraising, planning, policies and programmes to support sustainable growth and strategic expansion. A dedicated core artistic and operational staffing team, together with a pool of over 100 freelance specialists, provide support to deliver against NYCGB's aims and objectives. This includes specialist development support to help raise funds to deliver the strategic plan. Artistic programmes are led by outstanding professional conductors, music leaders and guest artists – experts in their fields – and supported by a dedicated pastoral care team.

NYCGB is a National Portfolio Organisation supported by Arts Council England and the Department for Education. NYCGB has an agreed business plan for the period 2018 to 2022 setting out our exciting organisational vision, values and strategy. In December 2021 we were awarded NPO extension funding for the period April 2022 to March 2023.

Activities undertaken for public benefit

The activities undertaken by the Charity for the public benefit are described throughout this report. The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives in planning future activities.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2021

Access and financial assistance

NYCGB believes that all young people should have the opportunity to sing, and that access to membership of the national choirs should be on the basis of talent and potential alone.

No young person should be prevented from taking part in our programmes and missing out on the associated benefits because of their financial circumstances. The costs of taking part in NYCGB programmes are subsidised for all participants and a key message in the promotion of NYCGB auditions and opportunities is the availability of additional generous financial assistance for young people from low-income families to support costs of auditions, membership, uniform costs, course fees, associated travel and attendance at events and concerts for members and their families.

The development of our national Learning and Engagement programme has continued to enable us to reach a greater number of talented young singers from an increasingly wide range of backgrounds and we continue to see an ongoing growth in demand for financial assistance awards. In 2013-14 we assisted 115 young people with 126 awards; in 2020-21 this has increased to 263 bursaries awarded to 169 recipients. The total direct value of these awards was £69,990, which, despite the continued impact of Covid-19 on our programmes, represented a small increase on the level of awards made in 2019, pre-pandemic. This represented essential support for one in five of our membership and totalled 12% of our overall income from fees.

We continue to project a growing need to remove financial barriers to participation for more young singers, which is likely to be further increased by the impact of the pandemic. We will continue to support financial assistance through securing funding from regional and national Trusts and Foundations, growing our base of individual donors, and investing in additional awards through funds generated by our investments.

"I have never seen Alfie so enthused and engaged as he was to tell us about his week with NYCGB. I saw the boy who fell in love with singing all those years ago, get his sparkle back! He is looking at other ways to ensure that he can sing more regularly, and he just has his passion back! Thank you all so much. He really would not be able to do this without the bursary and we are truly grateful."

Parent of Boys' Choir member 2021

"I am grateful for the assistance which enabled me to take part this year. Attending the Training Choir residential course in person was the highlight of my summer. Singing together in a choir at the beautiful Rossall School setting after being online for so long truly felt incredible. It gave me an opportunity to explore the possibilities, discover my strength, and increased confidence. Also, I met wonderful people and can't wait to see them and make music together again next year."

National Youth Training Choir Member 2021

Having a bursary for the year was invaluable - after graduating in June 2020, I spent a long time unemployed and claiming Universal Credit, so money was tight. I have to say a huge thank you to everybody who supports NYCGB financially, because the organisation has had a hugely positive impact on my life."

National Youth Choir Member 2021

Achievements and performance

Creativity in adversity

In 2020-21, NYCGB has had to be flexible and creative in our planning in order to navigate the unique and ongoing challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic and ensure that the organisation is in a solid position to pursue the growth that is needed to achieve our future ambitions in 2022 and beyond.

Nevertheless, we remained determined throughout to deliver a high-quality programme which would meet our organisational and charitable aims and objectives – bringing young people together, supporting their musical and personal development through exceptional learning opportunities, developing emerging choral professionals, delivering diverse and excellent creative and performance outcomes and, alongside this, continuing to support both our team of permanent and freelance staff and the wider choral and music education infrastructure. Support from the Government's Culture Recovery Fund and our regular funders and donors

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2021

meant we were able to do so.

Building on the successes and learning of the previous year, we have adapted as the landscape of Covid-19 guidance and restrictions continued to evolve. This has included continuing to develop digital and hybrid approaches to support and enhance delivery of our programmes, as well as leading the way in returning to in-person residential and other activities and live performance when it has been possible and safe to do so. As a result, we have continued to engage and inspire our members and participants, emerging artists, audiences and wider communities.

Review of activities

Auditions

NYCGB continues to recruit widely for our national choirs by auditioning young people from across the breadth of the UK. In 2020, we moved our entire auditions programme online for membership activities in 2020-21. Across 33 audition days (our highest number ever), 588 auditions took place, which we were pleased to note was consistent with equivalent audition numbers in the previous year. Existing National Youth Choir members were given a 'free pass' into the 2021 programme due to Covid disruption. 450 (76.5%) applicants were successful in being awarded places to join the choirs as a new member or to progress through the choirs.

We are continuing to take action to be a more inclusive and representative organisation and, in October 2020, we implemented new approaches to our National Youth Girls', Boys' and Training Choir auditions with the aim of making them more accessible and growing the pool and the diversity of candidates. Changes were made to the format, scoring criteria and communications to prioritise vocal talent and potential. 20% of auditionees were from Black, Asian or other ethnically diverse backgrounds, compared with 16% in the previous year, which provides an early indication that these changes have had an impact in this area.

Covid-19 required us to move to a fully digital format, which has continued in 2021, however further work to review the long-term approach to auditions and to engage further with under-represented groups and communities is underway, with further changes expected to be implemented in 2022.

Courses and Training

NYCGB's programme of innovative training and progression opportunities for our national choirs in 2020-21 continued to be severely impacted by Covid-19. Three-quarters of the years' programme was delivered under significant national restrictions on group gatherings, live performances, educational activities and singing. From July, in the final quarter of the year, we were able to make a welcome return to in-person, residential activities, which were carefully and extensively planned to be Covid-secure. Despite the challenges, we recorded 1,062 participants in membership programmes across the year.

The flagship National Youth Choir commenced the third year of the new Annual Programme, which aims to offer unbeatable musical experiences and development opportunities for members. The programme empowers them to develop advanced vocal skills and perform more challenging works, supports creative collaborations with a diversity of artists across a range of musical genres and offers leadership and personal development opportunities through roles as Section Leaders, Member Representatives and volunteers.

The Choir's autumn Discovery Weekend took place online, as did a December gathering replacing the planned performances as part of the Royal Albert Hall Christmas programme, which were sadly cancelled. In spring, green shoots emerged as, alongside an online Spring project, a small group of National Youth Choir members were excited to be able to meet for the first time and record two choruses from Handel's Messiah, livestreamed as part of the London Handel Festival's Messiah:Reimagined. July saw a joyous return to live rehearsal and performance for the whole National Youth Choir for the first time since December 2019, with an extended 16-day residential including performances at the Royal Albert Hall's 150th anniversary concert and the Three Choirs Festival.

The National Youth Girls', Boys' and Training Choirs also continued to meet online for their spring programmes in 2021. In addition to daily vocal and musicianship activities, as a core element, the choirs collaborated with internationally renowned beatboxer and music producer SK Shlomo. They explored extended vocal techniques

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2021

and sampling, creating an interactive video for Girls' and Boys' Choirs and a new music track, 'Open Your Mind', with the Training Choir. August saw the Girls', Boys' and Training Choirs meeting in-person for the first time in two years, with delivery of five national residential courses across four weeks. Despite the necessity of carefully managed bubbles, all the residential had a focus on 'recreating ensemble' – developing musicianship, rebuilding voices (particularly in the case of members with changed voices) and working together with other young singers to explore and enjoy a range of music.

"Being around people who share the same love for music gave me a huge sense of belonging. Lockdown was very hard for me and music really helped me through hard times and being surrounded by others who share that sense of passion for music was really incredible. Everyone is so talented and when pieces come together, the feeling of achievement we feel as a group is immense"

National Youth Training Choir Member, 2021

Whether online or in-person, NYCGB has continued to be ambitious in offering our choir members rich and inspirational learning experiences. Building on the experiences of 2020, creative teams embraced the unique opportunities afforded by Zoom to engage our members, give them fresh perspectives on the vast potential of choral singing and new confidence to explore their own voice, creativity and expression. While true choral singing was impossible, online more intensive musicianship, 'Sing the Score' sessions, deep dives into different choral genres, live composition and creative collaborations were all valuable activities. We also continued to embrace the exciting opportunity to connect participants with an unforgettable, diverse roster of guest artists and speakers covering the breadth of choral and musical practice. Highlights included Andre de Quodros, Victoria Liedbergius, Ken Burton, Gareth Malone, Phillippa Healey and Ralf Schmitt for Girls' Boys and Training Choirs; and The Swingles, Shiva Feshareki and Hollywood composer Thomas Newman for the National Youth Choir.

"Obviously, it was fantastic to sing in person again, but NYCGB has really made use of Zoom allowing us to meet incredible musicians from across the world, rather than trying to emulate live rehearsals."

National Youth Choir Member 2021

We continued to celebrate the artistic theme of 'Cultural Identity' across NYCGB's programme in 2020-21. Originally inspired by the theme of the planned World Symposium on Choral Music 2020, the inherent notions of family, identity, place, community, culture, colonialism, partnership and freedom felt more relevant than ever to explore with our young people through music.

NYCGB has remained committed to ensuring a diverse balance of musical programming and has continued to champion music composed or arranged by artists who have historically been under-represented in the choral music sector. Through member forums and discussions, we encourage our young people to explore the wider context of choral music and deepen their understanding beyond the notes on the page. We continue to include a range of voices and perspectives in our planning processes, including our Creative Forum members, and our Member Representatives. Elected each year by their peers, the reps contribute to evaluation, strategic planning, Board meetings and are now vital organisational voices ensuring that our programmes remain relevant and inspiring to the young people at the heart of NYCGB.

Performances, Commissions and Recordings

The opportunity to showcase the breadth and brilliance of the NYCGB choirs and their work to a wider audience has remained an important facet of our programme. We have worked creatively and collaboratively during the year to deliver a range of performance outcomes across both live performance and digital platforms.

NYCGB choirs gave a total of 8 live performances in 2020-21 to an audience of 8,256. These included end-of-course showcases for members' families in summer, as well as prestigious public performances as part of the Royal Albert Hall's 150th anniversary and the Three Choirs Festival. We were also delighted that the National Youth Chamber Choir was invited back to the BBC Proms in August, to perform Mozart's 'Requiem' with Britten Sinfonia. This was, of course, substantially fewer live performances than pre-pandemic, but a significant achievement in the circumstances.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2021

However, the choirs also participated in a further 8 livestreamed events and concerts, with an incredible audience reach of 216,843. These outcomes are thanks in large part to new digital performance partnerships with the London Handel Festival as part of Messiah:Reimagined and Voces8 for the Live from London concert series.

Alongside our concert performance programme, NYCGB continues to create and release a wide range of digital content across platforms including YouTube, Spotify, Apple Music, Google Play and Amazon Digital, and participates in additional broadcast opportunities as part of our Digital Plan. Throughout 2020-21 this has continued to be an essential strand of our work to widen public engagement with NYCGB's programme and with the richness and diversity of choral music. 17 digital recordings and eight music videos were released during the year, receiving over 140,000 streams and views. Eight radio broadcasts reached a further estimated audience of 780,000. Streams and views across NYCGB's full catalogue on YouTube and Spotify reached over 2.8 million.

NYCGB continues to lead the way in commissioning and creating innovative new choral music. The Choirs' programme included three new commissions:

- The National Youth Choir premiered 'Otherworld', a new work for choir and turntable by British-Iranian composer and turntablist Shiva Feshareki, which explores harmonic overtones as the central space between humans and the cosmos.
- Jo Marsh composed a new work 'A short story of falling', for the National Youth Girls' Choir rehearsed and premiered to family and friends at the Girls' Choir residential in the summer. The piece will be recorded and given a public premiere in 2022.
- Nathan James Dearden, a graduate of the 2020 NYCGB Young Composers scheme, was commissioned to write a new work 'i breathe' for the National Youth Training Choir, who livestreamed the premiere performance from their residential in Suffolk. A setting of three Welsh haiku to music, Nathan explored his own connection to the landscape of his home country.

In addition, the National Youth Choir performed as part of the world premiere of David Arnold's 'A Circle of Sound' – a ten movement piece created to celebrate the 150-year history of the Royal Albert Hall.

2021 also saw NYCGB partner with Choir & Organ Magazine as part of their New Music Series partnership. Four graduates from the NYCGB Young Composers scheme were commissioned across the year to write and publish new works.

We seek to ensure that new choral music is exciting and relevant for our young people, by involving them as collaborators and co-creators in the creative process in their own right. The National Youth Training Choir's work with SK Shlomo in spring is an excellent example of this approach. Choir members provided themes and content in the form of samples and then worked closely with Shlomo to shape the creation and editing of what become the track 'Open Your Mind'. In 2021, the National Youth Choir also began work with The Swingles to collaborate in the development of their spring 2022 performance.

Learning and Engagement

NYCGB strives to increase the accessibility of high-quality singing opportunities across the UK and to empower more young people through the transformative and powerful experience of singing together. Despite the growing body of evidence of the personal and social benefits of music-making, opportunities for young people to participate and develop their skills vary widely. Sadly, the pandemic has only exacerbated these issues.

Through our national Learning and Engagement programme we aim to inspire more young people in state education and from a wider range of backgrounds to discover and progress their passion for singing, through inclusive and high quality regional and national opportunities. Using our unique musical and educational expertise, we seek to understand barriers and challenges for young people and work with partners including schools, Music Education Hubs and music organisations to create bespoke singing programmes that meet local needs and help remove regional inequalities in singing provision and participation. All opportunities are free at the point of access for young participants

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2021

This strand of our programme has continued to be impacted by Covid-19 and the associated disruption to education and youth activities. We had hoped that circumstances would allow us to reboot in-person activities in schools and communities by early 2021, but the second lockdown meant it wasn't possible to resume any live engagement activities until the summer term and we have delivered with a hybrid of online and live activity.

During the first part of the year, therefore, we continued to find alternative ways of developing and delivering our national programme to support young people to develop their singing, achieve a greater reach and engagement of young people and build new networks to raise awareness of NYCGB and our opportunities. This has included digital activities such as digital workshops and livestreamed performance events, online CPD with music teachers and leaders and interactive Open Events for young people and family groups to explore NYCGB's offer and activities. In addition, we have begun to develop a pilot suite of digital learning resources to support young people to develop their musicianship through singing.

With careful planning, from the summer term we were able to restart in-person delivery within our existing strategic partnerships, which are targeted in areas where young people are less likely to be able to take part in cultural activities and more likely to face financial, cultural, geographical or aspirational barriers. Current target regions are the North East, where we are delivering the Gillian Dickinson Young Singers programme over three years, Yorkshire (particularly North Yorkshire and South Yorkshire) where we are developing a new partnership with RNCM and the West Midlands. We have continued to need to be responsive to challenging circumstances on the ground, revising and rescheduling activity as needed. However, work has included introductory workshops and Ready Steady Sings, CPD activity, and targeted progression initiatives to support young singers with vocal potential and help develop progression routes.

*I feel more confident about singing
I learned you don't have to be embarrassed when you sing
I like to sing and I am looking into joining a choir.
It made me feel extremely happy!
Amazing...Hilarious... Exciting!
I am better at singing than I thought
It made me feel more confident
It made me feel happy and proud of myself.*
Learning and Engagement Participant Feedback

"I won't underestimate what the children CAN do. I loved how easily the children picked up the songs and sing in harmony."

"Thank you so much for yesterday. Myself and the children absolutely loved the workshop. Ben was absolutely fab and very inspirational. He was so passionate about what he was delivering and the children responded so well to him. We all loved learning the songs and even repeated them today on the field, as we were doing our daily mile! We even had some duets."
Teacher and Music Leader Feedback

We were particularly delighted in September to launch a focused Young Vocal Leaders programme in Sunderland in partnership with Sunderland Music Education Hub, which has aimed to provide an opportunity for young people in the area to develop their musical and leadership skills and to support the development of a new youth choir for Sunderland. The programme will continue into 2021-22.

"When it was first mentioned, it was all about giving musical careers and help to young children who don't access it much because we don't have much in the North East. I thought I would be happy if I could help someone else have an opportunity, whilst also having one for myself and being able to help other children and young people."
Sunderland Young Vocal Leader

Across the Learning and Engagement programme, we reached and inspired 1,390 young people and a further 109 family groups. 207 young people were supported to take part in progression activities and encouraged to

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2021

take their singing further. In addition, over 750 people attended showcase performance events as audience members, to support the achievements of participants. 574 teachers and music leaders took part in our online CPD sessions – more than ten times as many as in the previous year. We were also delighted to continue to offer opportunities for National Youth Choir members to develop peer leadership skills through volunteering to support regional learning activities.

Professional support and development

As part of NYCGB's sector leadership role we support the professional development of the next generation of professional artists, nurturing talent from the widest diversity of backgrounds and shaping the future of choral music so that it is vibrant, innovative and relevant.

In 2020-21 we recruited our sixth cohort of talented aspiring professionals aged 18 to 25 to take part in the annual NYCGB Fellowship training programme, which aims to develop participants as effective choral leaders and educators as well as performers. Following a review in 2020, the Fellowship was restructured to comprise a cohort of four artists with an increased focus on the choral leadership and education aspects of the programme as well as greater collaboration with the NYCGB Young Composers. The four Fellows benefitted from an extensive hybrid programme of online and in-person training and mentorship by leading representatives from the choral and wider music sector (e.g. Jonathan Dove, Nicki Kennedy, Esther Jones, Voces8, Suzzie Vango and Berty Rice) live, recorded and broadcast performances and paid opportunities to work on NYCGB residencies and supporting learning and engagement activities.

"Suzie's morning session was so useful especially for me as a teacher - all of the material and teaching methods will really help me in the classroom. The conducting session was just super fun and supportive, and as ever, NYCGB creating a safe space for development and conversation."

Shivani Rattan, Fellow 2021

"Everything about it was enjoyable - getting to finally meet everyone in person, sing with people, hold meaningful conversations without internet problems, and getting a chance to work with incredible musicians. I particularly enjoyed the session with Jonathan Dove, as I've been a huge fan of his music since my first year at university."

Ben Goodall, Fellow 2021

In January 2021 we successfully completed the second year of the NYCGB Young Composers scheme, which aims to support four emerging composers from a diverse range of cultural, geographical and musical backgrounds and to develop their skills composing for ensemble voice. Together with our new commissions programme the NYCGB Young Composers scheme is an exciting and central part of NYCGB's commitment to the support of innovative new choral music and to embedding diversity and representation at the heart of our music policy. The 2020 programme culminated with the launch of an album of their works, released by programme partners NMC Recordings.

We recruited the third cohort of Young Composers who commenced their year-long programme in February with a weekend of introductory workshops together with the new Fellows. An extensive programme of training has been delivered, including masterclasses with professional freelance artists (e.g. Alexandra Harwood, Bob Chilcott, Shiva Feshareki), participation in online and in-person NYCGB residential courses, music industry and technology workshops with partners Stainer & Bell and Dorico, creative retreats at Snape with Britten Pears Arts, and joint creative music-making workshops with the Fellows. The 2021 Young Composers' album will be launched at the NYCGB Showcase event in February 2022.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2021

"The last two months (May and June 2021) were packed with exciting activities. The first event in May presented us the opportunity to meet with Bob Chilcott and hear about his path as a composer. It is always fascinating to learn about composers' journeys and be able to ask questions about the creative process. In addition, I was absolutely thrilled to be able to sing with the Fellows, expertly led by Suzzie Vango, especially after such a long period of silence which we have experienced as musicians!"

Kristina Arakelyan, Young Composer 2021

"In the afternoon we were joined by composer Jonathan Dove — what an experience! Jonathan shared his many insights about writing for voices of all types, from vast works for orchestra and choruses to intimate works for four solo singers. It was very inspiring to hear about his process, and to be given the chance to ask questions in such an open forum."

Derri Lewis, Young Composer 2021

While Covid-19 has impacted on our emerging professional artists programmes, requiring us to be flexible with our training and development plans, the two schemes have lent themselves particularly well to a hybrid model of delivery with very successful online training sessions and opportunities to observe and participate in NYCGB's digital courses. The small size of the cohorts mean it has been easier to plan and deliver within Covid restrictions in-person masterclasses, recording sessions and other activities such as the Young Composers' retreats.

The Young Composers and Fellowship schemes are about nurturing the creative voices that will help to shape our future – never has there been a more important time to invest in the next generation of leaders, collaborators and music-makers."

Lincoln Abbots, ABRSM

Inclusion and Representation

NYCGB is committed to being an inclusive and representative organisation – we passionately embrace our responsibility as a national organisation to ensure that the widest range of young people from all backgrounds are able to participate in ensemble singing and musical experiences of the highest quality. We want all talented young singers to experience what NYCGB has to offer, and to be supported to thrive and contribute equally to our community. As a sector leader we also have an important role to play to ensure that choral music is relevant and representative and to champion inclusive practice, influence wider change and address social injustice.

In winter 2020-21, NYCGB participated in the pilot I'M IN programme developed by Music Masters and audited our current strengths and weaknesses in relation to equality, diversity and inclusion. To effect meaningful change, we recognised the need to focus on action. Following the audit process we developed a new Equality Diversity and Inclusion action plan, which sets out the priority actions we are taking over the next two years across all areas of our work to:

- become more inclusive and representative;
- create and promote a culture of belonging within the organisation and the wider music sector;
- be more relevant to young people;
- champion best practice so that anyone who wants to be part of the choral music sector is encouraged and supported to maximise their true potential.

Key actions we have taken to deliver against the plan in the year have included:

- Creating space at all levels of the organisation for regular and open discussion about EDI issues and approaches;
 - Embedding proactive consideration of diversity and representation principles in planning programme;
 - Reviewing organisational recruitment processes for participants, staff and trustees to make them more accessible and inclusive, and to ensure all our communities are representative;
 - Proactively making connections and working with a more diverse pool of choral musicians and practitioners;
 - Developing stronger, more inclusive and welcoming content and messaging and clear information about our EDI actions;
-

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2021

- Developing plans to expand young people's voice throughout the organisation;
- Using our platforms to speak more openly about issues of representation and inclusion and encouraging sharing of practice and dialogue more widely across the sector;
- Commissioning work to better understand both internal and external perceptions of NYCGB;
- Partnering with specialist organisations so that we can develop our understanding of lived experiences and have dialogue with critical friends.

Continuing to develop our work in this area will remain a core priority in future years, and we recognise that sustained investment and action will be required over a longer period in order to see the changes and impact we need, both within NYCGB and the wider sector.

Impact – Changing Lives

Young people are supported to realise their highest ambitions in singing with NYCGB through a diverse array of choral repertoire – from Monteverdi to beatbox. No matter what their background or future ambitions, every singer makes a unique contribution to our community and walks away with a life-changing experience. We work tirelessly to open young people's eyes to the breadth and beauty of music, and to break down barriers preventing children and young people from engaging with music.

We firmly believe that the benefits of singing extend far beyond the development of musical expertise. Singing with us supports the growth of skills and attributes including confidence, aspiration, teamwork, communication and leadership skills. We enable young people to go out into the world as confident, bright, engaged and empowered individuals who are valuable additions to any organisation or career path, whether or not connected to music.

The feedback we receive from our beneficiaries, partners, stakeholders and alumni provides overwhelming evidence of these many benefits. In 2019-20 we saw the vital importance and impact of NYCGB activities for our community of young people as they navigated challenges of the pandemic. In 2020-21 our ongoing drive to adapt and continue to offer our programmes online and to subsequently return to in-person delivery in the summer has further reinforced this impact.

NYCGB has directly enabled young people to develop musical, personal and social skills and supported their health and wellbeing during an incredibly difficult and disrupted time in their lives. Members in 2021 reported an average score of 8.8/10 for enjoyment of our programmes, 8.2/10 for developing their skills and abilities, 8.8/10 for their sense of belonging to the NYCGB community and 8.2/10 for the positive impact on their health and wellbeing. Some of the qualitative feedback from our young people adds depth to these metrics:

"It made me feel a part of something again. Singing in a choir is a lovely feeling and a feeling I haven't been able to feel for a long time now due to lockdown."

"It brought back that sense of community you feel when everyone sings together that we haven't felt for so long."

"NYC just generally makes me feel like I'm coming home after a really long time away. The environment is accepting and safe and then on top of that you're constantly learning amazing skills."

"It was a lot of fun and everyone was really encouraging and friendly. I learned so much and developed skills and confidence. I also loved being part of the team."

"Not only do you get to learn so much more about singing and practice your skills among other incredible musicians, you also meet some of the best people who will be life-long friends."

"Really enjoyed singing with a big group of good singers, it was a very encouraging experience and I loved the music. It greatly improved my happiness and wellbeing after a long time on virtual lessons."

"I think by chatting to people I didn't know helped me with my social skills and gave the opportunity to make new friends. I definitely gained a lot of confidence from performing and singing with people I don't know as well."

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued)

Year ended 30 September 2021

"Taking part in the activity involves so much more than just singing. I enjoyed the huge variety of genres of music that were introduced by the wonderful guests. I also gained fascinating insights into the worlds of producing and composing music."

"It was amazing to work with and hear from some highly-successful people from the music industry, and to get to know the rest of the choir. Though we're online, I am starting to feel like I really know the choir and cannot wait to see everyone in person!"

"There was an amazing atmosphere as everyone was so welcoming and there was so much support from the staff. There was a great variety of pieces in the repertoire from all around the globe which made it a lot more interesting and inclusive."

Choir Members' feedback 2021

Principal sources of funding

The Trustees are incredibly grateful to all our funders who have supported NYCGB during the year. They are particularly pleased to report NYCGB's successful ongoing partnerships with the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM), Stainer & Bell and Steinberg Media Technologies. ABRSM have supported our Widening Access and Engagement programme and our Fellowship Programme since its launch in 2015. Steinberg Media Technologies sponsored NYCGB's Emerging Professional Artists programmes and New Music Programme in 2021, which resulted in three new music commissions. Whereas Stainer & Bell continued to support NYCGB's Young Composers Scheme.

The Trustees wish to record their thanks to major supporters Arts Council England and the Department for Education, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, The Leverhulme Trust, Garfield Weston Foundation, Peter Sowerby Foundation, The Ofenheim Trust, Gillian Dickinson Trust, John S Cohen Foundation, John James Bristol Foundation, Holbeck Charitable Trust and The Radcliffe Trust for their kind and ongoing support.

In particular, the Trustees wish to thank and acknowledge the UK Government and Arts Council England for the award of a much-needed Culture Recovery Fund grant of £170,000 in October 2021. This was vital in enabling us to keep the organisation operating during a period where Covid restrictions continued to severely impact on normal operations and on our ability to generate income from our usual sources. As a result, during this challenging period we were able to plan and deliver a hybrid of online and in-person learning to our choral community and to put in place the necessary preparations for a return to in-person delivery in the final quarter of the year.

As in previous years, NYCGB was successful in securing a diverse range of grants from regional and national trusts and foundations and the trustees wish to pay thanks to:

ABRSM; The Alice Cooper Dean Charitable Trust; Andor Charitable Trust; Baron Davenport's Charity; The Beerling Foundation; Chapman Charitable Trust; John S Cohen Foundation; The Derrill Allatt Foundation; The Earl of Chester's Fund; The Elmley Foundation; Ernst von Siemens Music Foundation; Esmée Fairbairn Foundation; The Fidelity UK Foundation; The Finzi Trust; The Florence Turner Trust; Garfield Weston Foundation; The Gillian Dickinson Trust; Goldsmith's Company Charity; The Gwendoline & Margaret Davies Charity; Hadrian Trust; Holbeck Trust; The H.R. Taylor Charitable Trust; Idlewild Trust; The JP Jacobs Charitable Trust; John James Bristol Foundation; The Joseph Strong Frazer Trust; Sir James Knott Trust; The Lawson Trust; The Leverhulme Trust; Lochlands Trust; The Lord Belstead Charitable Settlement; The Lord and Lady Lurgan Trust; Mercers' Company; The Michael Tippett Musical Foundation; Mulberry Trust; The Norman Family Charitable Trust; The Ofenheim Trust; The Paul Bassham Charitable Trust; The Radcliffe Trust; RVW Trust; Scarfe Charitable Trust; Schroder Charity Trust; Sir James Knott Trust; Stainer & Bell, Steinberg Media Technologies (Dorico); Sylvia and Colin Shepherd Charitable Trust; Veronica Awdry Charitable Trust; The W E Dunn Charitable Trust.

The Trustees would like to extend their gratitude to all the following people who most generously donated their time or money to NYCGB in 2020/21. We would also like to thank all our kind supporters who have chosen to

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2021

remain anonymous and the Alumni Champions Committee members who continue to have a huge impact on our reach, engagement, and fundraising capacity.

Vocal Supporters

Ben Parry
The Baker Family
Elfreda Tealby-Watson & Greg Watson
Lady Margaret Elliot
Christine Evans
Andy Farris
Prof. Christopher Higgins
Sir Thomas Hughes-Hallett
Adrian Melrose
The Munden Family
Garth & Lucy Pollard
Mr & Mrs R Tett
Alex McColl and Charles Wynn-Evans
Fiona Yeomans
Henrik Wager

Gold Friends

Chris and Elizabeth Byng
Bryony Coapes
David Aspinall
Kieran Cooper
Kate Davies
Andrew Evans
Christian Grobel
The Hillier Family
Geoff Mountfield
Polly Penter
Stephen and Lydia Pierce
Janet Read
Gareth Saunders
Mr & Mrs P Touch
Mike Wright
Fiona Yeomans

Silver Friends

The Cox Family
Scott & Simone Green
Simara Kirapaty
James Prescott-Martin
Michael Seeney
Patrick and Caroline Strafford Carole Varney
Tracy & Robert Watson

Alumni Champions Committee

Andy Farris (1980s/1990s)
Anna George (née Tonkin: 1980s/1990s)
Bryony Coapes (née Lonsdale: 1990s)
Charlotte Brosnan (2000s)
Charlotte Dougan (née Mobbs: 1990s)
Gareth Saunders (1980s/1990s)
Liz Hurrán (1980s/1990s)
Lizzie Spear (née Rowe: 1980s)

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2021

Simon Wright (1980s)

Financial review

Financial position

The statement of financial activities for 2020-21 shows an annual operating surplus of £84,039 (2019-20 deficit of £45,378). After revaluation of investments, which increased in value by £35,112 (2019-20 gain of £16,530), NYCGB has recorded a net positive movement in funds of £119,151 (2019-20 loss of £28,848).

The Covid-19 pandemic has continued to significantly impact NYCGB financially and operationally, with a further lockdown and closure of schools to mitigate the spread of the pandemic in January 2021 meaning that online provision of our activities had to continue through the spring and into the summer. As a result, NYCGB saw a reduction in income generated through residential courses and performance fees in the first half of our financial year – our principal income earning activity during that time period in pre-pandemic years. Throughout the year we have operated prudently and offset some of the loss of normal income through related reductions in direct programme expenditure and savings in staffing and other operational costs.

We were very grateful and relieved to be awarded a government Cultural Recovery Fund grant of £170,000 in October, which supported NYCGB's core costs and cashflow during the first half of the financial year, mitigating a substantial trading deficit when normal income streams were significantly lower than usual.

Having successfully navigated a challenging first half to the year, we were fortunately able to plan and prepare to return to Covid-secure, in-person delivery of residential courses, performances and learning and engagement activities by the summer. As a result, we were able to rebuild both earned and fundraised income streams in the second half of the year. Together with the savings achieved in year, this resulted in achieving the reported surplus.

Although our position was affected by the impact of Covid-19 on our programmes, both income and expenditure showed an increase compared with the previous year, when both our spring and summer course and performance programmes had to be cancelled and replaced by online activity. In 2020-21 we were able to draw on our experience of the previous year, and the additional flexibility built into our plans, combined with the ability to return to in-person delivery in the summer contributed to this improvement.

The outturn offsets the deficit of £28,848 reported in the previous financial year and results in a modest surplus position achieved across the two financial years affected by Covid-19 of around 7% of our normal turnover. We are hugely grateful for the help and financial support of donors, suppliers, members and government for their support during this period, which has directly contributed to NYCGB's ongoing financial stability.

In the face of continued uncertainty around the impact of Covid-19 into 2021-22, Trustees recognise the critical importance of sustaining cash reserves to ensure they are sufficient to provide future security and also recognise the need to support planned investment of surplus funds into activities which will support recovery from the pandemic and ensure organisational resilience and future growth.

Reserves policy

NYCGB's total reserves at 30 September 2021 were £752,626 (30 September 2020, £633,475). Future planning is fundamental to NYCGB's operation, combining the seasonal nature of annual activities with the necessity of planning programmes and projects more than one year ahead, to link with the expected advance schedules of partner venues and guest artists. The reserves policy reflects the need to provide a degree of security to support advance planning over longer timescales, and to provide confidence to stakeholders that artistic plans are soundly based and funded.

Trustees have previously agreed the need to hold sufficient reserves to cover a suitable period of salary and other operational costs as a budget and cash flow contingency in the event of a significant loss of income. Having reviewed this amount in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic, in 2020-21 a balance of £400,000 was designated to this purpose. This was determined as the suitable level of budget and cashflow contingency needs to cover the equivalent of 12 months' staffing costs which will enable NYCGB to manage the organisation

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2021

through potential future changes in the economic climate or exceptional events and to commit to longer-term planning. Following further review of these costs for 2021-22, £410,000 is now designated as a budget and cash flow contingency.

A Founder's Fund of £106,749 is restricted to providing financial assistance supporting National Youth Choir members to take part in exceptional and additional activities such as international touring, in accordance with the wishes of the donor.

In 2018-19, the Trustees designated a fixed asset fund reflecting the expected amortisation costs of the CRM system over the next five years. The amortisation for the current year amounts to £18,499. This leaves an overall balance of £34,329 in the fund. Grant funding for the project was received and reflected in the accounts in a previous financial year, and currently forms part of NYCGB's reserves.

Trustees recognise their responsibility to ensure that funds are allocated appropriately towards the achievement of NYCGB's charitable objectives. The organisation is currently undertaking significant work to review vision, mission and strategic aims and developing a new strategic plan for the period 2022-2027. In order to support this work and ensure that NYCGB has the critical future capacity to deliver against our objectives, Trustees have agreed in 2020-21 to re-invest the surplus accrued over the past two years in designated funds aligned with our mission and priorities.

These funds will be allocated as follows:

- Access and inclusion initiatives - £30,000 allocated to provide additional dedicated resources to underpin delivery of NYCGB's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion priorities, including supporting additional financial assistance awards where demand exceeds available funding and supporting the costs of specific access needs and adjustments.
- NYCGB 40th Anniversary - £40,000 to support additional planning, programming and promotional costs or NYCGB's 40th anniversary in 2023.
- Organisational development - £70,000 allocated to invest in additional staffing capacity in key areas over the next two years, in particular supporting fundraising and communications capacity to support the growth of more sustainable income streams.
- Brand review - £20,000 to support the process of reviewing NYCGB's high-level brand, identifying clearly the core purpose, vision and values which will underpin the five-year plan and implementing necessary changes.

Excluding balances tied up in designated funds, restricted funds, and fixed assets, NYCGB's total free reserves are £41,548. The experience gained during the period since March 2020, reinforces the need for sufficient reserves to ensure the future of the organisation is sustainable and Trustees will continue to review the reserves position on an annual basis.

Investment Policy

A substantial proportion of funds are required as working capital, which is the cash held to enable the organisation to meet its commitments throughout the year.

The Trustees have agreed to invest a proportion of funds for two key purposes. Firstly, to provide an initial income stream to support the increasing need for access initiatives as NYCGB broadens its reach and, secondly, to invest in the development of exceptional creative projects and programmes (particularly where sources of income are not otherwise available).

In October 2019 an initial investment of £200,000 was used to purchase 1,107 units in the CCLA COIF Charities Investment fund, which comprises the Founder's Fund and a proportion of NYCGB's designated budget and cash flow contingency. The intention is to add to this fund as the opportunity arises, and to use the annual interest generated to contribute to the stated access and creative priorities. With the revaluation gain in 2020-21 of £35,112 the fund was valued at £251,642 at 30 September 2021.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2021

Going concern

Given the potential for the ongoing impact of Covid-19 into 2021-22, the Trustees have given careful consideration to the matter of financial sustainability and NYCGB's viability in the coming months. Trustees have reviewed a number of different budget assumptions, scenarios and cashflow projections. NYCGB now has successfully navigated two financial years that have been affected by Covid-19, and has significant experience of responding and adapting programme and continuing to deliver against our charitable objectives. This means we are confident in our financial projections and that we have thoroughly assessed the potential financial risks and mitigations required.

Trustees believe that NYCGB currently retains a level of reserves sufficient to mitigate immediate financial pressures and to manage anticipated cashflow requirements for the coming year.

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Financial risk management objectives and policies

Our management team and our Finance Sub committee robustly monitor financial risks, and in 2021-22 this again includes regular review of a comprehensive budget risk assessment. This ensures appropriate risk mitigation strategies can be implemented and contingency plans can be made. This management of risks is underpinned by a strong reserves policy. This approach ensures that NYCGB (as a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee) meets its legal and charitable financial compliance and probity requirements. The control environment and framework are appropriate for the current and planned future scale of the organisation and assures a strong platform of financial governance and control to NYCGB funders and stakeholders.

To support prudent financial management and mitigation of financial risk, Trustees have carefully considered and agreed an investment strategy, described in the Reserves Policy.

Plans for future periods

While NYCGB is already a national leader, engaging many talented young singers nationwide, by 2030 we want it to be the go-to organisation for any talented young singer in the country who wants to be inspired, challenged and nurtured. We aim to provide unparalleled opportunities for young people from the widest diversity of backgrounds through performance, education and regional, national and international engagement. We want NYCGB to be a household name that all talented young singers, from the widest possible range of social, ethnic and cultural backgrounds, and from every part of the UK, aspire to join.

NYCGB Trustees approved a new business plan for the period 2018 to 2022 in autumn 2018, and this plan has been updated annually. The plan sets out NYCGB's ambitious organisational mission and strategic aims across artistic, engagement and learning, national leadership and organisational development strands.

In 2021-22 NYCGB's programme of activities will continue to contribute towards the delivery of the stated organisational and charitable aims and objectives. Our plans for the period prioritise reestablishing core creative programmes, rebuilding levels of engagement and impact, supporting young people, and restoring key income streams. However, with Covid-19 continuing to impact through into 2022, our planning remains flexible and creative in order to navigate the ongoing challenges in the short-term and ensure that NYCGB is in a solid position to pursue the growth that we need for the future. Plans will be reviewed and refreshed regularly by management and trustees.

Courses, Training and Professional Development

Eight courses are currently planned during 2021-22: National Youth Girls', Boys' and Training Choir in spring and summer, and alongside this NYCGB will deliver the National Youth Choir Annual Programme. We aim to engage at least 1,000 participants. We plan to deliver our courses residentially, however if the public health environment changes we will be ready to explore alternative programmes blending digital and in-person delivery should contingencies be required. We will be celebrating the creative theme of Environment.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2021

Across all our programmes, regardless of the way we deliver them, we will continue to offer unique and high-quality learning and performance opportunities, including the chance for members to work with guest artists and practitioners from the widest diversity of cultures and musical genres. We strive to ensure that our training remains at the forefront of choral practice and is inspiring and relevant to our young people.

Our development programmes for emerging professional artists will continue with delivery of the 2022 Fellowship and NYCGB Young Composers schemes, supporting and mentoring 8 emerging artists.

Performances, Commissions and Recordings

NYCGB will aim to deliver a programme of around 20 concerts across our ensembles in 2021-22, seeking to continue to offer members unbeatable performance opportunities. These concerts will continue to include a mix of live and broadcasted performances, building on the partnerships and opportunities we have developed in the past year. Exciting plans include the National Youth Choir collaborating with The Swingles in the creation and performance of a new choral work 'Until It's Gone: Songs for Our Planet', exploring not only the natural world and climate crisis but also the choir members' home environments and the challenges, concerns and hopes they have for our planet. Further performances are planned as part of the Live from London digital broadcasts, the Rydale Festival and the BBC Proms.

Two new choral commissions are planned, connected to our theme of Environment. This includes the collaboration with The Swingles and an exciting new work for the National Youth Boys' Choir from composer Oliver Tarney. We will also perform the public premiere of our 2021 commission by Jo Marsh.

NYCGB will continue to develop new virtual audiences for choral music by creating and releasing a regular programme of audio and video recordings across streaming platforms. This will include releases of audio and video recordings created by our choirs during courses and projects in 2021, new recordings made in 2022 and release of the third Young Composers album by NMC Recordings.

Learning and Engagement

In 2021-22 we will continue to expand our national Learning and Engagement programme. We will prioritise building levels of delivery and engagement with young people across our strategic and targeted partnership programmes, in particular in the North East, Yorkshire, the West Midlands and the North West. Alongside this we plan to reboot our wider national programme of outreach workshops, open events, and CPD. We will aim to engage around 3,500 young people through our learning and engagement activities – returning to pre-pandemic levels. We plan to continue with a hybrid model of both online and in-person delivery, building on our experience and learning from the previous year.

This strand remains critical to our work to be more inclusive and representative, and we aim to inspire more young people from a diverse range of backgrounds through high-quality singing, particularly in areas of low cultural engagement, supporting them to develop musical skills, encouraging aspiration to progress, and bringing wider social benefits. This is particularly important now, when gaps in opportunities and aspiration to access high-quality singing and music education and to progress regionally and nationally have been exacerbated by the pandemic and young people's wellbeing has been severely impacted.

New developments will include creating a pilot suite of digital resources to support young singers to develop their musicianship through song, and researching and developing plans for a new initiative to pro-actively support young people facing barriers and in under-represented communities with strong progression pathways regionally and nationally.

Access, Inclusion and Representation

NYCGB is committed to being an inclusive and representative organisation, championing high-quality singing opportunities for all young people. We passionately believe that all children and young people with the widest range of backgrounds and regardless of individual circumstance should be able to make music with others, and have the opportunity to discover and explore their musical talent and achieve at the highest levels. As a national organisation, we want all talented young singers to experience what NYCGB has to offer, and to be supported to thrive and contribute equally to our community.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2021

We have made significant progress with our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion work, however there is still much more to do. We will continue to drive urgent action to remove barriers for under-represented communities and ensure that NYCGB is an organisation that is welcoming and inclusive for all young people, creatives, staff, trustees and audiences. Priorities include reviewing a number of key processes/approaches within the organisation including auditions, financial assistance, and staff and trustee recruitment, and implementing new approaches to address barriers and improve representation.

Strategic Plan 2022-27

As we near the end of our current business planning period, we will be developing a new NYCGB strategic plan for the next five years, which sets out a clear and compelling vision and ambition for how we plan to develop and grow our impact in the next phase, which will start with NYCGB's 40th anniversary in 2023. We will be drawing on external expertise and consulting widely with audience and stakeholder groups to ensure our plans are relevant, inspiring, inclusive and sustainable.

Key pieces of work that will contribute to the planning process include undertaking a high-level brand review for NYCGB and creation of new audience development, communications and digital strategies, and developing a new fundraising strategy and campaign. This will be supported by investing in new communications and fundraising roles.

In 2022, NYCGB will also be making an application to renew our Arts Council England core funding and within our strategic planning process we will be developing and implementing plans to embed Arts Council's Investment Principles across the organisation.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2021

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

NYCGB was established in 1983 and registered as a charity and incorporated as a company limited by guarantee in 1984. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company, and is governed under its Articles of Association, renewed and revised in 2010.

Effective governance

The Trustees are committed to ensuring the effective governance of NYCGB and in 2019-20 reviewed current policies and procedures to ensure voluntary compliance with the Charity Governance Code as updated in December 2020. Following the review process the trustees were satisfied that NYCGB met the key requirements of the code and developed an action plan to further enhance NYCGB's approach to governance. A further review of progress will take place in 2022.

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

The directors of the company are also charity Trustees for the purpose of charity law and, under the company's Articles, are known as members of the Board of Trustees. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Board of Trustees are elected to serve for a period of three years, after which they must be re elected at the next Annual General Meeting. Trustees are elected for a maximum of three cycles.

The Board of Trustees seeks to ensure that its members possess the range of skills, expertise and perspectives required to benefit the diverse range of work the company undertakes. In the event of particular skills, expertise or perspectives being lost due to retirement, a recruitment process is undertaken comprising open advertisement alongside targeted approaches to identify appropriate individuals for election to the Board of Trustees.

Policies adopted for the induction and training of trustees

On appointment Trustees participate in an established induction process and meet with the senior management team to understand the workings of the charity and their roles. Further training is provided on an ad hoc basis as and when required.

Pay policy for senior staff

The Trustees are responsible for setting the remuneration level for the senior team, which is done taking account of the financial position of the charity and prevailing market rates for similar roles.

Organisational structure and decision-making

NYCGB has a Board of Trustees which meets quarterly and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. All Trustees give their time voluntarily. Any expenses claimed by the Trustees from the charity are set out in note 9 to the financial statements.

The Trustees employ a Chief Executive and an Artistic Director & Principal Conductor as an Executive team, with overall responsibility for a team of creative and operational staff (including the Head of Artistic Planning and Participation, General Manager, Director of Development, and Head of Communications) to develop and implement the vision of the charity and its activities.

The Board, with detailed work carried out by its Finance Sub committee, approves the draft annual budget. The Chief Executive and Artistic Director are afforded full artistic and operational control subject to the budgeting limits set by the Board.

Risk management

The Board of Trustees and the management committee regularly undertake a review of the major risks to which the charity is or may be exposed. Where appropriate, systems and procedures have been established to mitigate the risks that the charity is facing or may face.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2021

Appropriate policies and procedures are in place to ensure compliance with legislative requirements, which include employment laws, equality duties, child protection policies, data protection policies and health and safety of members, staff, and volunteers.

It is NYCGB policy that 'all persons be accorded full and equal consideration on the basis of merit or other relevant, meaningful criteria, regardless of any potential source of discrimination.' We aim to achieve this by nurturing a culture of mutual respect and trust, fairness and dignity, and positive, inclusive behaviour.

Following a comprehensive review of our safeguarding practices by NSPCC in 2013, we have prioritised 'youth voice', ensuring that any young person participating in our programmes has the means and opportunity to express themselves and be heard. To support this NYCGB appointed a permanent Head of Safeguarding who is responsible for delivering a safeguarding training programme to all staff members and working with staff to ensure appropriate future plans are put in place for young people, especially those with protected characteristics where and when required.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this trustees' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditor is aware of that information.

Auditor

Pursuant to section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006, the auditor will be deemed to be reappointed and UNW LLP will therefore continue in office.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 2 February 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

501E4B3A53184B8...
David Roper
Chair

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of trustees' responsibilities Year ended 30 September 2021

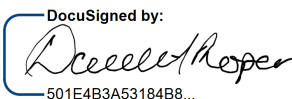
The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees and signed on its behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

501E4B3A53184B8...

David Roper
Chair

Date: 2 February 2022



Independent auditor's report to the members of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 30 September 2021 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 30 September 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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 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.



Independent auditor's report to the members of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (continued)

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 are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. 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. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether 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.

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 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- 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 our 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 Trustees' report.

We have nothing to report 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; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a Strategic report.



Independent auditor's report to the members of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (continued)

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, 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 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 extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We identified areas of law and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general and sector experience and through discussions with the Trustees and other management (as required by Auditing Standards) and from inspection of the company's legal correspondence and we discussed with the Trustees and other management the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations. We have communicated identified laws and regulations within our team and remained alert to any indications of non compliance throughout the audit.

Firstly, the company is subject to laws and regulations that directly affect the financial statements including financial reporting legislation (including related companies legislation), distributable profits legislation and taxation legislation and we have assessed the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement items.

Secondly, the company is subject to many other laws and regulations where the consequences of non-compliance could have a material effect on amounts or disclosures in the financial statements, for instance through the imposition of fines and litigation. We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an effect; health and safety, employment law, safeguarding, data protection and certain aspects of company legislation, recognising the nature of the company's activities. Auditing Standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Through these procedures we have not become aware of any actual or suspected non-compliance.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves




Independent auditor's report to the members of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (continued)

intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditor's report.

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 its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

DocuSigned by:

59C7DD6C467F49E...

Anne Hallowell BSc FCA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of UNW LLP, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
Newcastle upon Tyne

2 February 2022

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account) Year ended 30 September 2021

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	183,616	429,516	613,132	574,684
Charitable activities	4	483,902	-	483,902	130,512
Other trading activities	5	-	-	-	780
Investments		100	-	100	1,638
Total income		667,618	429,516	1,097,134	707,614
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	97,530	-	97,530	89,009
Charitable activities		486,049	429,516	915,565	663,983
Total expenditure		583,579	429,516	1,013,095	752,992
Net income/(expenditure) before net gains on investments					
		84,039	-	84,039	(45,378)
Net gains on investments		35,112	-	35,112	16,530
Net movement in funds		119,151	-	119,151	(28,848)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		526,726	106,749	633,475	662,323
Net movement in funds		119,151	-	119,151	(28,848)
Total funds carried forward		645,877	106,749	752,626	633,475

The notes on pages 29 to 47 form part of these financial statements.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Balance sheet At 30 September 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	10	34,329	52,828
Tangible assets	11	1,999	3,115
Investments	12	251,642	216,530
		<u>287,970</u>	<u>272,473</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	13	79,526	104,424
Cash at bank and in hand		627,771	451,520
		<u>707,297</u>	<u>555,944</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(242,641)	(194,942)
Net current assets		<u>464,656</u>	<u>361,002</u>
Net assets		<u>752,626</u>	<u>633,475</u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	15	106,749	106,749
Unrestricted funds	15	645,877	526,726
Total funds		<u>752,626</u>	<u>633,475</u>

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

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

 501E4B3A53184B8...

David Andrew Roper
 Chair
 Date: 2 February 2022

The notes on pages 29 to 47 form part of these financial statements.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of cash flows Year ended 30 September 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net cash used in operating activities	176,251	(33,567)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of intangible assets	-	(810)
Purchase of investments	-	(200,000)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	-	(200,810)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	176,251	(234,377)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	451,520	685,897
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	627,771	451,520

The notes on pages 29 to 47 form part of these financial statements

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2021

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

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

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain 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.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity and are rounded to the nearest £1.

1.2 Company status

The company is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in England. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 1. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the company.

1.3 Going concern

As set out in more detail in the trustees report, the charity's activities were severely impacted by the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic in March 2020. However, thanks to the generous support of a number of funders and supporters, and the work undertaken to ensure that delivery of programmes and activities were able to run at least in part virtually, the financial impact on the organisation was kept to a minimum and the charity remains in a relatively strong cash position. Whilst much uncertainty remains, the award in October 2020 of an additional £170k from the Culture Recovery Fund has added to the organisation's ability to meet future challenges with confidence and to ensure that it is able to further adapt to the restrictions on the normal operations that remain in place.

Consequently the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

1.4 Income

All income, including course fees and grant income, is recognised once the company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donated goods or services are included in income at a valuation which is an estimate of the financial cost borne by the donor, where such a cost is quantifiable and measurable. No income is recognised where there is no financial cost borne by the third party.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2021

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the company. They include governance costs, which are those incurred in connection with the administration of the company and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Costs of generating funds are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the company to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.6 Intangible assets and amortisation

Intangible assets are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably. Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost net of amortisation and any provision for impairment.

Amortisation is provided at the following rates:

Software	-	5 year straight line basis
Website	-	3 year straight line basis

1.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £5,000 are capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases

Office equipment	-	5 year straight line basis
------------------	---	----------------------------

1.8 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the statement of financial activities.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2021

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.9 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks.

Stock comprises branded merchandise held for resale.

1.10 Debtors

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

1.11 Cash at bank and in hand

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.

1.12 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

1.13 Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the company to the fund in respect of the year.

1.14 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2021

2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

In preparing these financial statements the directors do not consider there were any significant areas of judgment that were required in applying the company's accounting policies as set out above.

Estimates included within these financial statements include depreciation and asset impairments. None of the estimates made are considered to carry significant estimation uncertainty, nor to bear significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Donations	58,447	28,000	86,447
Government grants	4,078	-	4,078
Grants	94,000	401,516	495,516
Membership fees	24,281	-	24,281
Legacies	2,810	-	2,810
	<u>183,616</u>	<u>429,516</u>	<u>613,132</u>

Donations comprise donations from individuals of £58,447 and from corporate partners of £28,000.

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Donations	82,923	28,876	111,799
Government Grants	31,781	-	31,781
Grants	118,841	258,404	377,245
Membership fees	21,859	-	21,859
Legacies	32,000	-	32,000
	<u>287,404</u>	<u>287,280</u>	<u>574,684</u>

Donations comprise donations from individuals of £82,923 and from corporate partners of £28,876.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2021

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Course fees	448,191	448,191
Audition fees	11,260	11,260
Sales of merchandise	2,370	2,370
Concert and performing fees	12,320	12,320
Ticket sales and contributions - concerts	-	-
Other income	9,761	9,761
Total 2021	483,902	483,902
	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Course fees	66,424	66,424
Audition fees	20,832	20,832
Sales of merchandise	374	374
Concert and performing fees	30,128	30,128
Ticket sales and contributions - concerts	4,468	4,468
Other income	8,286	8,286
Total 2020	130,512	130,512

5. Income from other trading activities

Income from fundraising events

	Total funds 2021 £
Fundraising events	-

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2021

5. Income from other trading activities (continued)

Income from fundraising events (continued)

	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Fundraising events	780	780
	<u>780</u>	<u>780</u>

6. Expenditure on raising funds

Costs of raising voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Fundraising - other costs	17,685	17,685
Wages and salaries	71,585	71,585
National Insurance	8,260	8,260
	<u>97,530</u>	<u>97,530</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Fundraising - other costs	10,361	10,361
Wages and salaries	70,516	70,516
National insurance	8,132	8,132
	<u>89,009</u>	<u>89,009</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2021

7. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Direct costs 2021 £	Support costs 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Charitable activities	773,422	142,143	915,565

	Direct costs 2020 £	Support costs 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Charitable activities	520,112	143,871	663,983

Analysis of direct costs

	Charitable activities 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Staff costs	237,126	237,126
Courses accomodation, music	438,734	438,734
Insurance	8,872	8,872
Travelling expenses	15,223	15,223
Advertising, website, promotion and printing	22,719	22,719
Consulting and training	9,444	9,444
Office costs	34,288	34,288
Bank charges	7,016	7,016
	<u>773,422</u>	<u>773,422</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2021

7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs (continued)

	Charitable activities 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Staff costs	227,941	227,941
Courses accomodation, music	201,436	201,436
Insurance	12,019	12,019
Travelling expenses	12,803	12,803
Advertising, website, promotion and printing	19,945	19,945
Legal and professional	3,543	3,543
Consulting and training	2,869	2,869
Office costs	37,533	37,533
Bank charges	2,023	2,023
	520,112	520,112
	520,112	520,112

Analysis of support costs

	Charitable activities 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Staff costs	95,393	95,393
Legal and professional fees	7,940	7,940
Rent and rates	18,851	18,851
Office costs	180	180
Trustee costs	164	164
Depreciation	19,615	19,615
	142,143	142,143
	142,143	142,143

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2021

7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs (continued)

	Charitable activities 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Staff costs	96,844	96,844
Legal and professional fees	10,547	10,547
Rent and rates	14,828	14,828
Office costs	2,318	2,318
Trustee costs	318	318
Depreciation	19,016	19,016
	<u>143,871</u>	<u>143,871</u>

8. Auditor's remuneration

	2021 £	2020 £
Fees payable to the company's auditor for the audit of the company's annual accounts	5,650	5,350
Fees payable to the company's auditor in respect of: Other services	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>

9. Staff costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	368,705	360,428
Social security costs	33,924	32,788
Other pension costs	9,735	10,217
	<u>412,364</u>	<u>403,433</u>

The average number of persons employed by the company during the year was as follows:

	2021 No.	2020 No.
Average no. of employees	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2021

9. Staff costs (continued)

The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was:

	2021	2020
	No.	No.
Staff	6	8

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2021	2020
	No.	No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	1	1

Key management personnel

Key management personnel are deemed to be those having authority and responsibility, delegated to them by the trustees for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the charity. During 2020/21 they were:

Director - Ben Parry
 Director of Development - Robert Colbert
 Chief Executive - Anne Besford
 General Manager - Mark Anyan

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £241,116 (2020: £225,684).

Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No trustees received any remuneration during the current or prior year.

During the year, one trustee (2020: two trustees) received reimbursed expenses of £164 (2020: £318) in respect of travel and subsistence costs.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2021

10. Intangible assets

	Software £
Cost	
At 1 October 2020	92,496
At 30 September 2021	<u>92,496</u>
Amortisation	
At 1 October 2020	39,668
Charge for the year	18,499
At 30 September 2021	<u>58,167</u>
Net book value	
At 30 September 2021	<u><u>34,329</u></u>
At 30 September 2020	<u><u>52,828</u></u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2021

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Office equipment £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 October 2020	15,119
At 30 September 2021	<u>15,119</u>
Depreciation	
At 1 October 2020	12,004
Charge for the year	1,116
At 30 September 2021	<u>13,120</u>
Net book value	
At 30 September 2021	<u><u>1,999</u></u>
At 30 September 2020	<u><u>3,115</u></u>

12. Fixed asset investments

	Unlisted investments £
Cost or valuation	
Additions	216,530
Revaluations	35,112
At 30 September 2021	<u>251,642</u>
Net book value	
At 30 September 2021	<u><u>251,642</u></u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2021

13. Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	9,699	12,419
Prepayments and accrued income	69,827	92,005
	<u>79,526</u>	<u>104,424</u>

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	38,891	4,317
Other creditors	27,578	21,792
Accruals and deferred income	176,172	168,833
	<u>242,641</u>	<u>194,942</u>

	2021 £	2020 £
Deferred income at 1 October 2020	137,311	91,690
Resources deferred during the year	125,459	137,311
Amounts released from previous periods	(137,311)	(91,690)
	<u>125,459</u>	<u>137,311</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2021

15. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 October 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 30 September 2021 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
General contingency & budget	400,000	-	-	10,000	-	410,000
CRM / API project	52,828	-	(18,499)	-	-	34,329
Access and inclusion initiative	-	-	-	30,000	-	30,000
40th Anniversary initiative	-	-	-	40,000	-	40,000
Organisational development initiative	-	-	-	70,000	-	70,000
Brand review initiative	-	-	-	20,000	-	20,000
	452,828	-	(18,499)	170,000	-	604,329
General funds						
General funds	73,898	667,618	(565,080)	(170,000)	35,112	41,548
Total Unrestricted funds	526,726	667,618	(583,579)	-	35,112	645,877
Restricted funds						
Founder's Scholarship Fund	106,749	-	-	-	-	106,749
Arts Council England	-	287,609	(287,609)	-	-	-

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2021

15. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - current year (continued)

	Balance at 1 October 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 30 September 2021 £
Gillian Dickinson Trust	-	5,411	(5,411)	-	-	-
The Leverhulme Foundation	-	36,040	(36,040)	-	-	-
Other small grants and donations	-	100,456	(100,456)	-	-	-
	<u>106,749</u>	<u>429,516</u>	<u>(429,516)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>106,749</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>633,475</u></u>	<u><u>1,097,134</u></u>	<u><u>(1,013,095)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>35,112</u></u>	<u><u>752,626</u></u>

The CRM / API fund has been designated by the trustees to represent the amount tied up in intangible assets, and consequently transfers are made from general funds representing any additions in the year. Amortisation is charged against the fund.

This year the trustees have designated funds for four important initiatives amounting to £160,000, as set out in the Trustees report. NYCGB will continue to seek specific funding for these, however this designation ensures that each initiative is underwritten.

In 2018 the trustees designated £30,000 to provide a contingency reserve to support the potential additional costs of introducing a new Annual Programme for the National Youth Choir. By 2020, this new programme had been successfully embedded and the trustees agreed that this designated fund could be released.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2021

15. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 October 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 30 September 2020 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
General contingency & budget	374,950	-	-	25,050	-	400,000
CRM / API project	70,476	-	(18,458)	810	-	52,828
Access and inclusion initiative	30,000	-	-	(30,000)	-	-
	<u>475,426</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(18,458)</u>	<u>(4,140)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>452,828</u>
General funds						
General funds	80,148	419,554	(446,474)	4,140	16,530	73,898
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>555,574</u>	<u>419,554</u>	<u>(464,932)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,530</u>	<u>526,726</u>
Restricted funds						
Founder's Scholarship Fund	106,749	-	-	-	-	106,749
Arts Council England	-	108,016	(108,016)	-	-	-
Gillian Dickinson Trust	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-	-
The Leverhulme Foundation	-	35,040	(35,040)	-	-	-
Peter Sowerby Foundation	-	16,333	(16,333)	-	-	-

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2021

15. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year (continued)

	Balance at 1 October 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 30 September 2020 £
PRS						
Foundation	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-	-
Other small grants and donations	-	108,671	(108,671)	-	-	-
	<u>106,749</u>	<u>288,060</u>	<u>(288,060)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>106,749</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>662,323</u></u>	<u><u>707,614</u></u>	<u><u>(752,992)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>16,530</u></u>	<u><u>633,475</u></u>

16. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,999	-	1,999
Intangible fixed assets	34,329	-	34,329
Fixed asset investments	144,893	106,749	251,642
Current assets	613,183	94,114	707,297
Creditors due within one year	(148,527)	(94,114)	(242,641)
Total	<u><u>645,877</u></u>	<u><u>106,749</u></u>	<u><u>752,626</u></u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2021

16. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	3,115	-	3,115
Intangible fixed assets	52,828	-	52,828
Fixed asset investments	109,781	106,749	216,530
Current assets	460,467	95,477	555,944
Creditors due within one year	(99,465)	(95,477)	(194,942)
Total	<u>526,726</u>	<u>106,749</u>	<u>633,475</u>

17. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Net income/expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	<u>119,151</u>	<u>(28,848)</u>
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	1,116	558
Amortisation charges	18,499	18,458
Gains on investments	(35,112)	(16,530)
Decrease in stocks	-	986
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	24,898	(20,294)
Increase in creditors	47,699	12,103
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	<u>176,251</u>	<u>(33,567)</u>

18. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash in hand	<u>627,771</u>	<u>451,520</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>627,771</u>	<u>451,520</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2021

19. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 October 2020	Cash flows	At 30 September 2021
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	451,520	176,251	627,771
	<u>451,520</u>	<u>176,251</u>	<u>627,771</u>

20. Pension commitments

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the company to the fund and amounted to £9,735 (2020: £10,217). Contributions totalling £264 (2020: £540) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

21. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the current or prior year.

22. Post balance sheet events

There are no post balance sheet events in the current year.

Post balance sheet in the prior year, the charity heard that it had been successfully awarded a grant of £170,000 from the Culture Recovery Fund to support its financial position following the Covid-19 pandemic in the period October 2020 to March 2021. An amount of £153,000 was received in November 2020, with the balance of £17,000 received in April 2021.

NATIONAL YOUTH CHOIRS OF GREAT BRITAIN

England & Wales - Charity number 515660

Accounts

Registered number: 01850803
Charity number: 515660

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual report

Year ended 30 September 2020

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Contents

	Page
Reference and administrative details	1 - 2
Trustees' report	3 - 18
Trustees' responsibilities statement	19
Independent auditor's report	20 - 22
Statement of financial activities	23
Balance sheet	24
Statement of cash flows	25
Notes to the financial statements	26 - 45

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Reference and administrative details Year ended 30 September 2020

Trustees

Professor Christopher Francis Higgins, Chair
David Benjamin Harold Aspinall (resigned 1 January 2020)
Nicholas Stephen Sears
Patricia Marion Keir
Andrew Garth Pollard
Rebecca Helen Driver
Lynne Dawson
James Simon Olley
Michael John Strutt
Georgina Alison Robb (appointed 28 January 2020)
Gregor Stanley Watson (appointed 28 January 2020)
Margaret O'Shea (appointed 28 January 2020)
Gillian Frances Hillier (appointed 28 January 2020)

Company registered number

01850803

Charity registered number

515660

Registered office

The Rivergreen Centre
Aykley Heads
Durham
DH1 5TS

Key management team

Ben Parry, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor
Anne Besford, Chief Executive
Mark Anyan, General Manager

Independent auditor

UNW LLP
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor
Citygate
St James' Boulevard
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4JE

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Reference and administrative details (continued)

Year ended 30 September 2020

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
Holmfirth
Huddersfield
HD9 2DW

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report Year ended 30 September 2020

The trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements for the year 1 October 2019 to 30 September 2020. The trustees confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), 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

The mission of the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (NYCGB) is to inspire and empower young people throughout the UK through the life changing experience of singing together. We are a national champion for youth choral music, standing for artistic excellence, creative diversity, and openness and relevance to all.

We achieve our mission by:

- delivering excellent and innovative training and progression opportunities nurturing talented young singers at a national level;
- providing exceptional performance opportunities, extending the reach and showcasing the diversity of youth choral music;
- engaging and inspiring more young people through participation in strategic and targeted singing programmes with partners;
- establishing NYCGB's role as a national champion and sector leader for youth choral music and music education;
- developing organisational resilience, ensuring NYCGB is fit for purpose and able to clearly demonstrate the impact of its work.

I am an ordinary kid from an ordinary background. NYCGB taught me how to be extraordinary.
National Youth Training Choir Member

Undoubtedly, being a member of this organisation has changed the course of my life.
National Youth Choir Member

Activities for achieving objectives

We are more than just a choir: we are a community with a shared passion for singing and the life-changing opportunities it can offer.

Ben Parry, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor, NYCGB

We are the most exciting, innovative and accessible organisation for young choral singers across the UK, providing our young people with unbeatable opportunities to develop skills in music and performance, leadership and teamwork, and to grow in confidence and aspiration. NYCGB is in the middle of an exciting and ambitious five-year plan to develop our role as a national champion for youth choral music, focusing on four principal areas of activity:

- i. **Educational Courses** – offering over 850 of the country's most talented young singers exceptional choral training and participation opportunities annually, including engaging with professional conductors, composers, musicianship and vocal coaches, and guest artists. We are divided into four choirs – our flagship National Youth Choir (age 18-25) incorporating the National Youth Chamber Choir, mixed-voice National Youth Training Choir (age 14-18), National Youth Girls' Choir (age 9-15), and National Youth Boys' Choir (age 9-15) – forming an unrivalled progression environment for young singers aged 9 to 25.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2020

- ii. **Performances** – unique opportunities for choir members to take part in concert performances, in some of the country's leading venues, the BBC Proms and major arts festivals, national commemorations, international touring, digital recordings, music videos and broadcasts, including performing new works from leading composers.
- iii. **Learning and Engagement** – open access learning and engagement opportunities for young people outside of our membership to explore and be inspired by singing together. More than 3,500 young people and multiple local partners are engaged each year in areas of high social deprivation and low levels of accessible cultural activities, improving access and inclusion, and supporting delivery of the National Plan for Music Education.
- iv. **Emerging Professional Artists** – supporting exceptionally talented young choral artists through tailored initiatives such as our Fellowship programme - for future choral leaders skilled at delivering learning and engagement programmes as well as performance; and the Young Composers Scheme - supporting a new generation of talented composers from diverse backgrounds and regions.

NYCGB's programme is structured in such a way that passion for singing and excellence can be nurtured and flourish. We create essential, accessible pathways to support our participants from the point when they discover their voice to the development of their talent at the highest level. Those differing pathways ensure that many more young people are able reap the musical, personal and social benefits of singing, and fulfil their potential in whatever career path they choose to pursue, inside or outside music. At the same time, we uphold NYCGB's trademark artistic brilliance, through ambitious and diverse programming.

NYCGB is a National Portfolio Organisation supported by Arts Council England and the Department for Education. NYCGB has an agreed business plan for the period 2018 to 2022 setting out our exciting organisational vision, values and strategy.

Since 2013, NYCGB has worked to transform and develop the organisation, putting in place the necessary staffing, systems, fundraising, planning, policies and programmes to support sustainable growth and strategic expansion. A dedicated operational staffing team, together with a pool of over 90 freelance specialists, provide support to deliver against NYCGB's aims and objectives. This includes specialist development support to help raise funds to deliver the strategic plan. Artistic programmes are led by outstanding professional conductors, music leaders and guest artists and supported by a dedicated pastoral care team.

Activities undertaken for public benefit

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

Access and financial assistance

NYCGB believes that all young people should have the opportunity to sing, and that access to membership of the choirs should be on the basis of talent and potential alone.

No young person should be precluded from taking part because of financial hardship. All NYCGB participation fees are subsidised and a key message in the promotion of NYCGB auditions and opportunities is the availability of additional generous financial assistance for young people from low-income families to support costs of auditions, membership, uniform costs, course fees and associated travel for members and their families.

The development of our national Learning and Engagement programme has continued to enable us to reach a greater number of talented young singers from an increasingly wide range of backgrounds. This is reflected in an ongoing growth in demand for financial assistance awards. In 2013-14 we assisted 115 young people with 126 awards; in 2019-20 this has increased to 270 bursaries awarded to 172 recipients. Although the total value of these awards was reduced this year to £62,832 due to the impact of Covid-19 on our programmes, we continue to project a growing need to remove financial barriers to participation for more young singers, and will continue to

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2020

support financial assistance through securing funding from regional and national Trusts and Foundations and growing our base of individual donors.

"I was fortunate enough to receive a bursary for the 2019-20 annual National Youth Choir programme. It was always my intention that this would be my final year with NYCGB, having been part of the organisation since I auditioned for the Boys' Choir 8 years ago, aged 12."

"It simply would not have been possible for me to finance my time with NYCGB without a bursary. The once-in-a-lifetime experiences such as performing in concert with the Tallis Scholars and the National Youth Chamber Choir or even being scheduled to perform at the World Symposium on choral music are one of the many reasons I loved NYCGB, and the bursary scheme has made this all possible. It is not only the experience, but also the skills (both musical and interpersonal) that I have taken away from NYC. The musical training, I received is world-class, and I hope to further these skills in any choirs that I join post-lockdown."

National Youth Choir Member 2019-20

Achievements and performance

Building on the successes of the previous year, NYCGB planned an ambitious and inspirational programme for 2019-20. The arrival of the Covid-19 pandemic, six months into the financial year and just two weeks before the start of our busiest period of delivery, has inevitably had a significant impact on our ability to deliver against this planned programme and associated strategic objectives this year.

Following restrictions implemented by the UK Government, NYCGB took the decision to cancel all planned spring and summer residential courses, concerts and open events in 2020. This was an unprecedented situation in our 37-year history but an essential step in ensuring we played our part in protecting our members, staff and the wider public.

However, NYCGB's ethos is to bring young people together. We have been determined to come through this and ensure we not only keep the nation singing in the future, but also support our young singers and our team of permanent and freelance staff during this crisis. While nothing can replace the visceral thrill of live ensemble singing, in the period April to September 2020 we have explored alternative ways to continue to engage our members, emerging artists and wider community in exceptional musical learning opportunities skills development and performance, and have found innovative ways to deliver key aspects of our programme digitally.

Review of activities

Auditions

NYCGB continues to recruit young singers for our choirs by auditioning widely across the UK. In 2019, 680 young singers auditioned to join NYCGB for our 2019-20 programme. 28 audition days were held across 24 locations, with a further two online audition days aiming to provide an increased level of support to young singers in more remote areas and those facing barriers to attending an 'in-person' audition. This brought the total audition days to 30 – our highest ever. 413 (61%) applicants were successful in being awarded places to join the choirs as a new member or to progress through the choirs.

We are committed to being an inclusive, representative organisation. In March 2020 we commenced a review of our member recruitment processes, with the aim of making auditions more accessible, and growing the pool and the diversity of candidates. Covid-19 has accelerated changes to NYCGB's auditions programme. In May we successfully moved all auditions for the National Youth Choir Annual Programme 2020-21 online, and in August we overhauled the format, scoring criteria and communications for National Youth Training Choir, Girls' Choir and Boys' Choir auditions due to take place online in October and November. We plan to complete our review of auditions with further changes to be implemented in 2021.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2020

Courses and Training

Due to its largely seasonal nature, NYCGB's programme of innovative training and progression opportunities for our choirs in 2019-20 has been severely impacted by Covid-19.

The flagship National Youth Choir commenced the second year of the new Annual Programme, which aims to offer unbeatable musical experiences for our young people, empowering them to develop advanced vocal skills and perform more challenging works, and supporting creative collaborations with a diversity of artists across a range of musical styles. Members attended the Discovery Weekend in autumn 2019 and performed as part of the Royal Albert Hall Christmas programme in December. Sadly, their planned spring residential, and the summer international tour to New Zealand and Australia were cancelled. In addition, the seven planned residential courses for members of the National Youth Girls', Boys' and Training Choirs in April and August 2020, with 900 participants booked to attend, were also cancelled.

The NYCGB team worked hard to plan and develop an alternative online course programme across our choirs. In spring, despite cancellation taking place just two weeks before courses were due to start, we delivered free digital activities and resources via Zoom and YouTube for our Girls' and Boys' Choir members, and piloted online courses for Training Choir and the National Youth Choir. In summer, with a longer lead-in, we were able to plan and deliver a comprehensive online course programme for each of our choirs.

All NYCGB courses and programmes aim to offer members a rich and inspirational learning experience, and we were just as ambitious for our work online. The programme was designed to deliver as much of the experience of an NYCGB residential course as possible, including musicianship webinars, masterclasses with professional artists, workshops, individual singing lessons, Alexander Technique classes, social activities, full and sectional virtual choir rehearsals, and virtual recordings. Our online programmes engaged 730 members in total, with 95% of participants reporting a positive and enjoyable experience.

I enjoyed so much about the online programme - it felt just like a real course and I loved it! I really struggle with anxiety and being able to reach out to the pastoral team and staff members no matter what time, made a big difference so that I could comfortably engage in the course in my own way.

Training Choir Member 2020

Moving online afforded unique opportunities to connect our members with a diverse range of inspirational international artists. Guest artists working with the choirs this summer included Anthony Trecek-King in the US, Sofi Jeannin from France and Anders Edenroth in Sweden. It would have been impossible to bring together this prestigious roster in person and we are excited about the potential of future international collaborations.

The artistic theme celebrated across NYCGB's programme for the year was 'Cultural Identity'. Inspired by the World Symposium on Choral Music we explored through choral music the relationship humans have with the land that supports them: the sense of identity they derive from it and the tensions that arise out of it. The theme called to mind such notions as family, identity, place, community, culture, celebration, colonialism, dispossession, alienation, partnership, freedom, environmentalism... to name but a few!

NYCGB has remained committed to ensuring a diverse balance of musical programming and has continued to champion music composed or arranged by artists who have historically been under-represented in the choral music sector. Through member forums and discussions, we encourage our young people to explore the wider context of choral music and deepen their understanding beyond the notes on the page. We continue to include a range of voices and perspectives in our planning processes, including our Creative Forum members, and our Member Representatives. Elected each year by their peers, the reps contribute to evaluation, strategic planning, Board meetings and are now vital organisational voices ensuring that our programmes remain relevant and inspiring to the young people at the heart of NYCGB.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2020

Performances, Commissions and Recordings

NYCGB choirs gave a total of 14 live performances in 2019-20. Many scheduled performances post-March had to be cancelled, including our end of course concerts, pop-up performances and appearances at the BBC Proms, Three Choirs and Spitalfields festivals, so concerts fell short of the 44 delivered in the previous year. However, NYCGB choirs reached total live audiences of 58,437 – a 36% increase on our audience reach in 2018-19. This is in large part thanks to our performance partnerships, notably with the Royal Albert Hall and a new relationship with the Tallis Scholars launched in February.

We were keen to ensure our choirs continued to have the opportunity to showcase the breadth and brilliance of their work to a wider audience, and in lieu of the usual end of course concert performances, we supported each choir to take part in virtual recording projects. Each participant recorded and submitted their individual part and these tracks were digitally edited into choral ensemble performances. The programme included three new works commissioned by NYCGB.

- The National Youth Choir would have premiered world-celebrated composer Thea Musgrave's moving and poignant new NYCGB commission 'By the River' to an international audience at the World Symposium on Choral Music in New Zealand. Instead, members of the National Youth Choir with Ben Parry, NYCGB Artistic Director & Principal Conductor, recorded the track from their homes and it was released as both an audio and video track in July.
- Shruthi Rajasekar, a graduate of our 2019 Young Composers Scheme was commissioned to write a 5-minute work for the National Youth Training Choir. 'The Change We Need' was inspired by the choir's discussions about the theme of Cultural Identity and their reflections on current social justice issues, it was recorded in August and was released in autumn 2020.
- Ben Parry composed a new work for the Girls' and Boys' Choirs, 'Just Being Me' with lyrics and accompanying video supplied by members of the choirs reflecting on what cultural identity means to them. The piece was recorded in July for release in November 2020.

NYCGB continues to create and release regular digital content and broadcasts as part of our Digital Plan, via Apple Music, Spotify, Google Play and Amazon Digital, and in 2020 this has become a vital way of continuing to widen public engagement with NYCGB's programme and with the richness and diversity of choral music more generally. In total 25 digital recordings and three music videos were released in 2019-20, receiving over 416,000 streams and views. Streams and views across NYCGB's full catalogue exceeded 1 million for the second year in a row.

Learning and Engagement

NYCGB strives to increase the accessibility of high-quality singing opportunities across the UK and to empower more young people through the transformative and powerful experience of singing together. Despite the growing body of evidence of the personal and social benefits of music-making, opportunities for young people to participate and develop their skills vary widely. Through our national Learning and Engagement programme we aim to inspire more young people in state education and from a wider range of backgrounds to discover and progress their passion for singing, through inclusive and high quality regional opportunities. Using our unique musical and educational expertise, we seek to understand barriers and challenges for young people and work with partners including schools, music education hubs and music organisations to create bespoke singing programmes that meet local needs and help remove regional inequalities in singing provision and participation.

In the first two terms of 2019-20 NYCGB continued to develop and deliver strategic partnership work in target regions to address singing 'cold-spots'. We particularly focussed on established partnerships in Nottinghamshire, the North East, Yorkshire (particularly North Yorkshire and Hull), and aimed to develop new partnerships in the West Midlands, targeting activity in areas where young people are less likely to take part in cultural activities, and more likely to face financial, cultural, geographical or aspirational barriers. In addition, we have continued our complementary national programme of shorter-term learning and engagement activities, which ensures that we achieve a greater reach and engagement of young people and build new networks to raise awareness of

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2020

NYCGB and our opportunities.

All programmes were all free to access at the point of delivery for young participants and included work developing secondary school choirs, showcase events, inspirational workshops as part of our primary Ready Steady Sing programme, Taster events to support talented young singers to progress and continuing professional development (CPD) events for teachers and music leaders.

"I learnt singing is fun and practise makes perfect!"

"You can do anything with your voice!"

"I learned 4 new songs and how to sing more confidently in different parts."

"The musicianship workshop about sight reading and scales was really helpful."

"I feel a lot more confident about singing now."

"Performing songs from lots of different cultures was incredibly interesting and fun."

"I enjoyed it so much that it has encouraged me to look out for other opportunities to take part in. I am also keen to gain more experience and work on the skills I need to take part in the NYCGB choir auditions."

Learning and Engagement Participant Feedback

"Fantastic! Really enjoyed it and I didn't want it to finish. If I can even give the children at our school a little of what I got from this workshop I will be happy. It really proves that you just have to go for things with children and you will get surprising results."

"I came away with a renewed intention to start a new singing group at my primary school."

Teacher and Music Leader feedback

From March, we had to postpone our busy planned programme in schools and communities. However, we have delivered new online open events to support young singers to audition for NYCGB and have worked to apply the learning from our spring and summer course programmes to progress the core elements of our Learning and Engagement programme through a blended model of digital and workshop activities from autumn 2020.

Across the Learning and Engagement programme, we reached and inspired 1,559 young people, 329 of whom were supported to take part in progression activities and encouraged to take their singing further. In addition, over 1,000 people attended showcase performance events as audience members, to support the achievements of participants. 48 teachers and music leaders took part in CPD sessions. We were also delighted to continue to offer opportunities for National Youth Choir members to develop peer leadership skills through volunteering to support regional learning activities.

Professional support and development

As part of NYCGB's sector leadership role we support the professional development of the next generation of professional artists, nurturing talent from the widest diversity of backgrounds and shaping the future of choral music so that it is vibrant, innovative and relevant.

In 2019-20 we recruited our fifth cohort of eight talented aspiring professionals aged 18 to 25 to take part in the annual NYCGB Fellowship training programme, which aims to develop participants as effective choral leaders and educators as well as performers. This was the second year that the Fellows were Section Leaders of the National Youth Choir, adding a further dimension to their training as peer leaders and mentors for the choir in rehearsal and performance, and forming the core of the National Youth Chamber Choir.

We also successfully completed the first year of our new Young Composers Scheme, launched in January 2019 to support four emerging composers from a diverse range of cultural, geographical and musical backgrounds and to develop their compositional skills for ensemble voice. Recordings of seven new works by the composers, performed by the Fellows, were released as an album by programme partners NMC Recordings in January 2020

Following the success of our inaugural year, in autumn 2019 we recruited our second cohort of Young Composers and launched the scheme in January with an induction weekend, a Showcase Event at the Royal Albert Hall with the 2019 cohort, a workshop with our new Digital Partner Steinberg Media Technologies who

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued)

Year ended 30 September 2020

provided free licenses and training on their Dorico Pro-notation software and a weekend of masterclasses with professional composers.

"Talking to the Young Composers was as educational for me as it might have been for them. In so many ways, the profession of composing has changed enormously since I started out nearly 30 years ago. However, this lot were all incredibly bright, sparky and engaging and completely able to implement the suggestions I made re: communication with audiences and performers, during every part of the composition process. It was also very gratifying to see how interested they were in music from other countries and cultures and I hope it'll provide plenty of inspiration for them, in years to come."

Roxanna Panufnik, Composer – Masterclass Weekend

While Covid-19 prevented our cohorts of emerging professional artists from meeting in person after March, participants in both programmes embraced a move online and training sessions, virtual recordings – ranging from Elgar to Rhianna, masterclasses, mentoring, and participation in NYCGB digital courses all took place over the summer. Thanks to the support of Britten Pears Arts our Young Composers were also able to take part in week-long creative composition residencies at the home of Benjamin Britten as lockdown eased in the summer. Their final compositions will be recorded in the autumn and released in early 2021.

"The virtual session was hugely enjoyable in so many ways. It was wonderful to have time to work with the Fellows, to hear their comments on the draft pieces and to continue building a feeling of community with the group. The sessions with guest speakers were all incredibly helpful and interesting. I particularly gained from learning about tax from Amanda Dean and the session with Roxanna Panufnik. It was also really great to meet the team from Stainer and Bell and to learn about the publishing process."

Lisa Robertson, Young Composer 2020

Together with our new commissions programme the Young Composers Scheme has quickly become an exciting and central part of NYCGB's commitment to the support of innovative new choral music and to embedding diversity and representation at the heart of our music policy.

Impact – Changing Lives

Young people are supported to realise their highest ambitions in singing with NYCGB through a diverse array of choral repertoire – from Monteverdi to beatbox. No matter what their background or future ambitions, every singer makes a unique contribution to our community and walks away with a life-changing experience. We work tirelessly to open young people's eyes to the breadth and beauty of music, and to break down barriers preventing children and young people from engaging with music.

We firmly believe that the benefits of singing extend far beyond the development of musical expertise. Singing with us supports the growth of skills and attributes including confidence, aspiration, teamwork, communication and leadership skills. We enable young people to go out into the world as confident, bright, engaged and empowered individuals who are valuable additions to any organisation or career path, whether or not connected to music.

While the feedback we receive from participants, partners, stakeholders and alumni regularly bears testimony to these many benefits, in 2019-20, the importance and impact of NYCGB activities for our community of young singers has never been more clear. Our drive to ensure that our choirs could continue to engage through online programmes despite Covid-19 has not only successfully ensured that members could continue to develop their musical, personal and social skills, but also supported their health and wellbeing through an incredibly challenging time in their lives.

"I really enjoyed the musicianship session with Greg. With A-Level exams being cancelled, it was refreshing to feel like I was really learning something worthwhile, after missing out on learning lots over the last few weeks."

"Just a massive thank you for making this online week so memorable and fun! I was really struggling before this week and having mental health support and something to motivate me to get up in the mornings for the first time in a month really has made a massive difference! I had such a great time and have made so many new friends"

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2020

and can't thank you all enough!"

"In my career I would love to be a part of a professional ensemble and meeting the Swingles and finding out about their journeys made my future goals seem more achievable. It was great to know that some of them started in NYCGB, so I am taking the right steps to get there."

"I liked how we did almost everything we would normally do on an off-line NYC course that we could to keep the overall atmosphere, especially the dancercise. I think it made everyone feel a little bit more cheery at this weird time and I'm very glad the course still went ahead :)"

"It was so good to be able to sing again, even at a distance."

"I felt the course really helped me develop my vocal technique, including mouth shape and tongue position. I felt my posture for singing has also improved and I have gained many other useful tips and tricks for music overall. After having had several months of lockdown it was really nice to see my friends and have some structure in my day, it was such a fun week and I really enjoyed the whole experience."

"The sessions with the guest speakers were an absolute delight and I loved every minute of their jam-packed presentations. For example seeing Anthony's journey of American Choral Music from the time of slavery right up to the modern day and how it's influenced everything we listen to today was one of my standout moments."

"The female musicians we had on the course were absolutely amazing and it made me feel like I could do anything! More, please!"

"It helped me with musical skills, like sight singing the new music, and it greatly improved my wellbeing as I was so excited every day for the virtual course and it has given me a project to do to record the songs really well."
Choir Member feedback 2020

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2020

Principal sources of funding

The trustees are most grateful to all our funders who have supported NYCGB during the year. They are particularly pleased to report NYCGB's successful ongoing partnerships with the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) and two new partnerships with Stainer & Bell and Steinberg Media Technologies. ABRSM have supported our Widening Access and Engagement programme and our Fellowship Programme since its launch in 2015 and our two new partners have both come on board to sponsor our Young Composers Scheme. Steinberg Media Technologies also sponsored NYCGB's New Music Programme in 2020, which resulted in two new music commissions by Ben Parry and Shruthi Rajasekar.

The trustees wish to record their thanks to major supporters Arts Council England and the Department for Education, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, The Leverhulme Trust, Garfield Weston Foundation, Peter Sowerby Foundation, The Ofenheim Trust, Gillian Dickinson Trust, PRS for Music Foundation, John S Cohen Foundation, John James Bristol Foundation, Holbeck Trust, Schroder Charity Trust and The Radcliffe Trust for their kind and ongoing support.

In 2019-20, many of our funders gave permission to change the use of their grant to help the organisation during these difficult times for which the trustees would like to express heartfelt gratitude for their kind understanding and flexibility. The Esmée Fairbairn Foundation also awarded an additional unrestricted grant to NYCGB, which was crucial in helping us through 2020. We are incredibly grateful to the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation for this unsolicited support and to Durham County Council for their additional support during 2020.

NYCGB was successful in securing a diverse range of grants from regional and national trusts and foundations and the trustees wish to pay thanks to:

ABRSM; Andor Charitable Trust; The Roger and Sarah Bancroft Clark Charitable Trust; Baron Davenport's Charity; The Beerling Foundation; Catherine Cookson Trust; The Chapman Charitable Trust; John S Cohen Foundation; The Derrill Allatt Foundation; Durham City Council; The Elmley Foundation; Ernst von Siemens Music Foundation; Esmée Fairbairn Foundation; The Fidelity UK Foundation; Garfield Weston Foundation; The Garrick Charitable Trust; Goldsmith's Company Charity; The Golsoncott Foundation; Hadrian Trust; Holbeck Trust; The H.R. Taylor Charitable Trust; John James Bristol Foundation; The Joseph Strong Frazer Trust; Sir James Knott Trust; The Leverhulme Trust; Lochlands Trust; the Lord Belstead Charitable Settlement; The Lord and Lady Lurgan Trust; Mercers' Company; The Michael Tippett Musical Foundation; Mulberry Trust; The Ofenheim Trust; The Paul Bassham Charitable Trust; Peter Sowerby Foundation; PRS for Music Foundation; The Radcliffe Trust; the Royal Albert Hall; RVW Trust; The Samuel Gardner Memorial Trust; Scarfe Charitable Trust; Schroder Charity Trust; Stainer & Bell, Steinberg Media Technologies (Dorico); Sylvia and Colin Shepherd Charitable Trust; Veronica Awdry Charitable Trust; The W E Dunn Charitable Trust.

In 2020, NYCGB launched a fundraising appeal entitled 'Keep the Nation Singing' with the aim of raising funds to support the organisation and our members during the Covid-19 pandemic. In total, we received over 1,200 donations, which included over 500 parents donating all or a portion of the cancelled course fees back to NYCGB. The trustees wish to convey a huge thank you to all the donors for this amazing and heart-warming support, which ensured NYCGB was able to keep our members singing and smiling during 2020.

The trustees would like to extend their gratitude to all the people who most generously donated their time or money to NYCGB in 2019-20. We would also like to thank all our kind supporters who have chosen to remain anonymous and the Alumni Champions Committee members who continue to have a huge impact on our fundraising capacity.

Vocal Supporters

Alex McColl
Anthony Townsend
Ben Parry
The Baker Family
Elfreda Tealby-Watson
John Daszak

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2020

Lady Margaret Elliot
Estate of Mrs Elizabeth A Main
Andy Farris
Prof. Christopher Higgins
Adrian Melrose
The Munden Family
Garth & Lucy Pollard
Nicholas Sears
Mr & Mrs R Tett
Alex McColl and Charles Wynn-Evans
Fiona Yeomans

Gold Friends

Sooty Asquith
Andrew Brixey-Williams
Chris and Elizabeth Byng
Bryony Coapes
David Aspinall
Kieran Cooper
Kate Davies
Andrew Evans
Christian Grobel
The Hillier Family
Felix Leach
Geoff Mountfield
Polly Penter
Stephen and Lydia Pierce
Janet Read
Gareth Saunders
Mr & Mrs P Tuch
Fiona Yeomans

Silver Friends

The Cox Family
Scott & Simone Green
Simara Kirapaty
James Prescott-Martin
Michael Seeney
Patrick and Caroline Strafford
Carole Varney
Tracy & Robert Watson

Alumni Champions Committee

Andy Farris (1980s)
Anna George (nee Tonkin; 1980s/1990s)
Bryony Coapes (nee Lonsdale; 1990s)
Charlotte Dougan (nee Mobbs; 1990s)
Charlotte Brosnan (2000s)
Gareth Saunders (1980s/1990s)
Josh Xerri (2010s)
Liz Hurrant (1980s/1990s)
Lizzie Spear (nee Rowe; 1980s/1990s)
Nick Jefferson (1980s)
Simon Wright (1980s)

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2020

Financial review

Financial position

As will be the case for so many organisations, the Covid-19 pandemic has impacted NYCGB financially as well as operationally.

The statement of financial activities for 2019-20 shows an annual deficit of £28,848. The principal factor contributing to the loss was the immediate cessation of activities required to support the nationwide measures applied to restrict the spread of the pandemic. The lockdown was required just as the NYCGB's season of residential courses – our principal income earning activity – was about to start. Switching from residential to online provision enabled some activity, but this had a significant impact on the financial model. We were able to offset some of this loss of income through related reductions in direct programme expenditure.

The detrimental effect of the virus on the final year-end position would have seen a much greater loss had NYCGB not benefitted from the help and financial support of donors, suppliers, members and both national and local government, all of which mitigated that loss. Thankfully, previous trustees have prudently built a suitable level of reserves, which has meant that the organisation had sufficient cash to meet its ongoing commitments during the course of this financial year. In the face of the ongoing impact of Covid-19 in 2020-21 Trustees recognise the critical importance of sustaining those reserves to ensure they are sufficient to provide future security.

Reserves policy

NYCGB's total reserves at 30 September 2020 were £633,475. Future planning is fundamental to NYCGB's operation, combining the seasonal nature of annual activities with the necessity of planning programmes and projects more than one year ahead, to link with the expected advance schedules of partner venues and guest artists. The reserves policy reflects the need to provide a degree of security to support advance planning over longer timescales, and to provide confidence to stakeholders that artistic plans are soundly based and funded.

Trustees have previously agreed the need to hold sufficient reserves to cover a suitable period of salary and other operational costs as a budget and cash flow contingency in the event of a significant loss of income. In 2019-20 a balance of £375,000 was designated to this purpose. In the light of the Covid-19 pandemic, the trustees have reviewed these funds to ensure they are sufficient. They have determined that the suitable level of budget and cashflow contingency needs to cover the equivalent of 12 months' staffing costs which will enable NYCGB to manage the organisation through potential future changes in the economic climate or exceptional events and to commit to longer-term planning. £400,000 is now designated as a budget and cash flow contingency.

A Founder's Fund of £106,749 is restricted to providing financial assistance supporting National Youth Choir members to take part in exceptional and additional activities such as international touring, in accordance with the wishes of the donor.

In 2018-19, the trustees designated £70,476 as a fixed asset fund reflecting the expected amortisation costs of the CRM system over the next five years. A further £810 of CRM costs were capitalised in the current year. The amortisation for the current year amounts to £18,458. This leaves an overall balance of £52,828 in the fund. Grant funding for the project was received and reflected in the accounts in a previous financial year, and currently forms part of NYCGB's reserves.

During 2018-19 the trustees agreed to invest a proportion of reserves for two key purposes. Firstly, to provide an initial income stream to support the increasing need for access initiatives as NYCGB broadens its reach and, secondly, to invest in the development of exceptional artistic projects and programmes (particularly where sources of income are not otherwise available). In October 2019 an initial investment of £200,000 was placed in a CCLA COIF fund, which comprises the Founder's Fund and a proportion of NYCGB's designated budget and cash flow contingency. The intention is to add to this fund as the opportunity arises, and to use the annual interest generated to contribute to the provision of financial assistance to members. Together with interest

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2020

received in 2019-20 the fund was valued at £216,530 at 30 September 2020.

Excluding balances tied up in designated funds, restricted funds, and fixed assets, NYCGB's total free reserves are £70,783. A substantial proportion of reserves are required as working capital, which is the cash held to enable the organisation to meet its commitments throughout the year.

The experience gained during the period since March 2020, reinforces the need for sufficient reserves to ensure the future of the organisation is sustainable and trustees will continue to review the reserves position on an annual basis.

Going concern

Given the likely ongoing impact of Covid-19 into 2020-21, the trustees have given careful consideration to the matter of financial sustainability and NYCGB's viability in the coming months. Trustees have reviewed a number of different budget assumptions, scenarios and cashflow projections. We are fortunate to have direct experience in 2019-20 of the potential impact of Covid-19 on NYCGB's usual activity programme, and know we have the ability to respond and adapt programme. This experience has been invaluable in developing these financial projections.

Trustees agree that NYCGB currently retains a suitable level of reserves to help mitigate immediate financial pressures and manage anticipated cashflow needs in the coming year.

Furthermore, trustees are grateful that NYCGB's financial position in 2020-21 is further supported by the award of a generous grant of £170,000 from the Government's Culture Recovery Fund, administered by Arts Council England. This grant will support NYCGB's core organisational costs during the period October 2020 to March 2021, while Covid-19 restrictions are ongoing and enable NYCGB to plan Covid-secure programmes for the following period.

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Financial risk management objectives and policies

Our management team and our Finance Sub committee robustly monitor financial risks, and in 2020-21 this includes regular review of a comprehensive budget risk assessment. This ensures appropriate risk mitigation strategies can be implemented and contingency plans can be made. This management of risks is underpinned by a strong reserves policy. This approach ensures that NYCGB (as a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee) meets its legal and charitable financial compliance and probity requirements. The control environment and framework are appropriate for the current and planned future scale of the organisation and assures a strong platform of financial governance and control to NYCGB funders and stakeholders.

To support prudent financial management and mitigation of financial risk, trustees have carefully considered and agreed an investment strategy, described in the reserves policy above.

Plans for future periods

While NYCGB is already a national leader, engaging many talented young singers nationwide, by 2030 we want it to be the go to organisation for any talented young singer in the country who wants to be inspired, challenged and nurtured. We aim to provide unparalleled opportunities for young people from the widest diversity of backgrounds through performance, education and regional, national and international engagement. We want NYCGB to be a household name that all talented young singers, from the widest possible range of social, ethnic and cultural backgrounds, and from every part of the UK, aspire to join.

NYCGB trustees approved a new business plan for the period 2018 to 2022 in autumn 2018, and this plan has been updated annually. The plan sets out NYCGB's ambitious organisational mission and strategic aims across

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2020

artistic, engagement and learning, national leadership and organisational development strands.

In 2020-21 NYCGB's programme of activities will continue to contribute towards the delivery of the stated organisational and charitable aims and objectives, however with Covid-19 expected to continue to impact into 2021 we are planning to be flexible and creative in order to navigate the ongoing challenges in the short-term, and ensure that NYCGB is in a solid position to pursue the growth that we need for the future. Plans will be reviewed and refreshed regularly by management and trustees.

Courses, Training and Professional Development

Eight courses are currently planned during 2020-21: National Youth Girls', Boys' and Training Choir in spring and summer, and alongside this NYGCB will deliver the National Youth Choir Annual Programme. We aim to engage over 900 members. We will deliver our courses residually if we are able to do so safely and within government guidelines, however we are also planning alternative programmes blending digital and in-person delivery should contingencies be required. We will be carrying forward our artistic theme of 'Cultural Identity' from 2020.

Across all our programmes, regardless of the way we deliver them, we will continue to offer unique and high-quality learning and performance opportunities, including the chance for members to work with guest artists and practitioners from the widest diversity of cultures and musical genres. We strive to ensure that our training remains at the forefront of choral practice and is inspiring and relevant to our young people.

Our development programmes for emerging professional artists will continue for the sixth cohort of the Fellowship Programme, and the third year of our Young Composers Scheme in partnership with NMC Recordings. We have reviewed the structure and content of the Fellowship programme to align this more closely with the Young Composers Scheme and to expand the focus on choral leadership and skills in educational delivery.

Performances, Commissions and Recordings

NYCGB will aim to deliver a programme of around 25 concerts across our ensembles in 2020-21, seeking to continue to offer members unbeatable performance opportunities. These concerts will include a mix of live and broadcasted performances, responding to changes in Covid-19 restrictions as required. Exciting plans include the National Youth Choir performing as part of the 'Live from London' digital broadcast series with the Tallis Scholars, a live-streamed Annual Showcase in February, participation in the Royal Albert Hall's 150th anniversary celebrations and performances at the Spitalfields and Three Choirs festivals in summer 2021.

Two new choral commissions are planned, connected to our theme of Cultural Identity. This includes an exciting new work from award-winning British-Iranian composer and turntable artist, Shiva Feshareki, for the National Youth Choir. A further new piece will be commissioned for the National Youth Girls' Choir.

NYCGB will continue to develop new virtual audiences for choral music by creating and releasing a regular programme of audio and video recordings across streaming platforms. This will include releases of virtual recordings created by our choirs during lockdown in 2020 and release of the second Young Composers album by NMC Recordings.

Learning and Engagement

From the autumn term 2020 we will restart delivery of our Learning and Engagement programme. Due to ongoing restrictions, young people face more barriers than ever before in accessing high-quality singing programme. Therefore, it continues to be important for NYCGB to find ways to support young singers even in challenging times. We plan to create a hybrid model of both online and in-person delivery, drawing on the unique experience and learning we have developed through creating online programmes in 2020.

We will continue to focus on developing our strategic partnership programmes in Yorkshire, the North East and the West Midlands and continue 'legacy' partnership work in Nottinghamshire. Alongside this we plan to reboot our wider national programme of outreach workshops, open events, and CPD. We will aim to engage around 3,500 young people through our learning and engagement activities.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2020

Access, Inclusion and Representation

NYCGB is committed to being an inclusive and representative organisation, championing high-quality singing opportunities for all young people. We passionately believe that all children and young people with the widest range of backgrounds and regardless of individual circumstance should be able to make music with others, and have the opportunity to discover and explore their musical talent and achieve at the highest levels. As a national organisation, we want all talented young singers to experience what NYCGB has to offer, and to be supported to thrive and contribute equally to our community.

We have made significant progress in reaching and inspiring more young people and in supporting artists from a greater diversity of backgrounds. However, we believe there is much more we could do, in particular around engaging communities that do not have easy access to opportunities for ensemble singing, and in addressing barriers to Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic singers joining and progressing within NYCGB. The Black Lives Matter movement has highlighted the ongoing issues and discrimination many communities still face, and in 2020-21 we will be working with greater urgency to deliver actions against NYCGB's equality, diversity and inclusion priorities.

This work will include taking part in 'I'm IN' – a pilot initiative for music organisations to assess and improve diversity and inclusion; implementing new approaches to our auditions processes – removing barriers to recruiting young singers from the widest range of backgrounds; continuing to champion diverse voices in our programmes and supporting our members voices to be heard; and recruiting and training members, staff and trustees from a wider diversity of ethnic, socio-economic, and geographical backgrounds.

Digital Developments

We have learned a huge amount from the rapid development of online programmes in 2020, and digital platforms offer a significant opportunity for NYCGB to deliver flexibly through further periods of Covid-19 restrictions and, longer-term, to reach more widely than ever before. In 2020-21, we will be evaluating how we can integrate these new ways of working alongside our regular programmes. For example, we are exploring the potential to create a regular online programme to help young people improve their musicianship skills. This new approach would aim to level the playing field for young people without the financial means or access to private singing tuition or regular learning opportunities in their community.

In addition to this, we are considering how we can create more regular contact with members, alumni and our audiences by using digital technology. This could include online masterclasses with professionals, annual virtual choir recordings with alumni and schools, online open days for aspiring members and even social sessions so members can get to know each other and develop as a community before and between courses.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2020

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

NYCGB was established in 1983 and registered as a charity and incorporated as a company limited by guarantee in 1984. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company, and is governed under its Articles of Association, renewed and revised in 2010.

Effective governance

The trustees are committed to ensuring the effective governance of NYCGB and in 2019-20 have reviewed current policies and procedures to ensure voluntary compliance with the Charity Governance Code as updated in July 2017. The review process has resulted in an action plan which will further enhance NYCGB's approach to governance.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and, under the company's Articles, are known as members of the Board of trustees. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Board of trustees are elected to serve for a period of three years, after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting. Trustees are elected for a maximum of three cycles.

The board of trustees seeks to ensure that its members possess the range of skills and expertise required to benefit the diverse range of work the company undertakes. In the event of particular skills or expertise being lost due to retirement, appropriate individuals are identified and approached to offer themselves for election to the Board of trustees.

Policies adopted for the induction and training of trustees

On appointment trustees participate in an established induction process and meet with the senior management team to understand the workings of the charity and their roles. Further training is provided on an ad hoc basis as and when required.

Pay policy for senior staff

The trustees are responsible for setting the remuneration level for the senior team, which is done taking account of the financial position of the charity and prevailing market rates for similar roles.

Organisational structure and decision making

NYCGB has a Board of trustees which meets quarterly and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. All trustees give their time voluntarily. Any expenses claimed by the trustees from the charity are set out in note 10 to the financial statements.

The trustees employ a Chief Executive and an Artistic Director & Principal Conductor as an Executive team, with overall responsibility for a team of creative and operational staff (including the Head of Artistic Planning and Participation, General Manager, Director of Development, and Head of Communications and Audience Development) to develop and implement the vision of the charity and its activities.

The Board, with detailed work carried out by its Finance Sub committee, approves the draft annual budget. The Chief Executive and Artistic Director are afforded full artistic and operational control subject to the budgeting limits set by the Board.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' report (continued) Year ended 30 September 2020

Risk management

The Board of trustees and the management committee regularly undertake a review of the major risks to which the charity is or may be exposed. Where appropriate, systems and procedures have been established to mitigate the risks that the charity is facing or may face.

Appropriate policies and procedures are in place to ensure compliance with legislative requirements, which include employment laws, equality duties, child protection policies, data protection policies and health and safety of members, staff, and volunteers.

It is NYCGB policy that 'all persons be accorded full and equal consideration on the basis of merit or other relevant, meaningful criteria, regardless of any potential source of discrimination.' We aim to achieve this by nurturing a culture of mutual respect and trust, fairness and dignity, and positive, inclusive behaviour.

Following a comprehensive review of our safeguarding practices by NSPCC in 2013, we have prioritised 'member voice', ensuring that any member has the means and opportunity to express themselves and be heard. To support this NYCGB appointed a permanent Head of Safeguarding who is responsible for delivering a safeguarding training programme to all staff members, and working with staff to ensure appropriate future plans are put in place for young people and especially those with protected characteristics where and when required.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the persons who are trustees at the time when this trustees' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that trustees are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware, and
- that trustees have taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditor is aware of that information.

Auditor

Pursuant to section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006, the auditor will be deemed to be reappointed and UNW LLP will therefore continue in office.

This report was approved by the trustees, on 29 January 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

501E4B3A53184B8...

Professor Christopher Francis Higgins (FRSE FMedSci FRSA), Chair

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of trustees' responsibilities Year ended 30 September 2020

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company 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).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial . 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 company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

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



Independent auditor's report to the Members of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 30 September 2020 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 30 September 2020 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charitable company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.



Independent auditor's report to the Members of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (continued)

Other information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- 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 our 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 Trustees' report.

We have nothing to report 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; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a Strategic report.



Independent auditor's report to the Members of National Youth Choirs of Great Britain (continued)

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, 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 ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditor's report.

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 its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

DocuSigned by:

59C7DD6C467F49E...

Anne Hallowell BSc FCA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of UNW LLP, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
Newcastle upon Tyne

29 January 2021

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account) Year ended 30 September 2020

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	287,404	287,280	574,684	535,390
Charitable activities	4	130,512	-	130,512	747,108
Other trading activities	5	-	780	780	19,580
Investments		1,638	-	1,638	3,286
Total income		419,554	288,060	707,614	1,305,364
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	89,009	-	89,009	78,348
Charitable activities	7	375,923	288,060	663,983	1,162,704
Total expenditure		464,932	288,060	752,992	1,241,052
Net gains on investments		16,530	-	16,530	-
Net movement in funds		(28,848)	-	(28,848)	64,312
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		555,574	106,749	662,323	598,011
Net movement in funds		(28,848)	-	(28,848)	64,312
Total funds carried forward		526,726	106,749	633,475	662,323

The notes on pages 26 to 45 form part of these financial statements.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Balance sheet At 30 September 2020

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	11	52,828	70,476
Tangible assets	12	3,115	3,673
Investments	13	216,530	-
		<u>272,473</u>	<u>74,149</u>
Current assets			
Stocks		-	986
Debtors	14	104,424	84,130
Cash at bank and in hand		451,520	685,897
		<u>555,944</u>	<u>771,013</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(194,942)	(182,839)
Net current assets		<u>361,002</u>	<u>588,174</u>
Net assets		<u>633,475</u>	<u>662,323</u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	16	106,749	106,749
Unrestricted funds	16	526,726	555,574
Total funds		<u>633,475</u>	<u>662,323</u>

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

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the trustees on 29 January 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

 501E4B3A53184B8...

Professor Christopher Francis Higgins, Chair

Company registered number: 01850803

The notes on pages 26 to 45 form part of these financial statements.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of cash flows Year ended 30 September 2020

	2020 £	2019 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net cash used in operating activities	(33,567)	87,928
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of intangible assets	(810)	(29,615)
Purchase of investments	(200,000)	-
Net cash used in investing activities	(200,810)	(29,615)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(234,377)	58,313
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	685,897	627,584
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	451,520	685,897

The notes on pages 26 to 45 form part of these financial statements

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2020

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

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

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain 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.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity and are rounded to the nearest £1.

1.2 Company status

The company is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in England. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 1. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the company.

1.3 Going concern

As set out in more detail in the trustees report, the charity's activities were severely impacted by the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic in March 2020. However, thanks to the generous support of a number of funders and supporters, and the work undertaken to ensure that delivery of programmes and activities were able to run at least in part virtually, the financial impact on the organisation was kept to a minimum and the charity remains in a relatively strong cash position. Whilst much uncertainty remains, the award in October 2020 of an additional £170k from the Culture Recovery Fund has added to the organisations ability to meet future challenges with confidence and to ensure that it is able to further adapt to the restrictions on the normal operations that remain in place.

Consequently the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

1.4 Income

All income, including course fees and grant income, is recognised once the company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donated goods or services are included in income at a valuation which is an estimate of the financial cost borne by the donor, where such a cost is quantifiable and measurable. No income is recognised where there is no financial cost borne by the third party.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2020

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the company. They include governance costs, which are those incurred in connection with the administration of the company and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Costs of generating funds are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.6 Intangible assets and amortisation

Intangible assets are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably. Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost net of amortisation and any provision for impairment.

Amortisation is provided at the following rates:

Software	-	5 year straight line basis
Website	-	3 year straight line basis

1.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £5,000 are capitalised.

Tangible fixed assets are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases

Office equipment	-	5 year straight line basis
------------------	---	----------------------------

1.8 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the statement of financial activities.

1.9 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks.

Stock comprises branded merchandise held for resale.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2020

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.10 Debtors

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

1.11 Cash at bank and in hand

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.

1.12 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

1.13 Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the company to the fund in respect of the year.

1.14 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2020

2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

In preparing these financial statements the directors do not consider there were any significant areas of judgment that were required in applying the company's accounting policies as set out above.

Estimates included within these financial statements include depreciation and asset impairments. None of the estimates made are considered to carry significant estimation uncertainty, nor to bear significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Donations	82,923	28,876	111,799
Government grants	31,781	-	31,781
Grants	118,841	258,404	377,245
Membership fees	21,859	-	21,859
Legacies	32,000	-	32,000
	287,404	287,280	574,684
	287,404	287,280	574,684

Donations comprise donations from individuals of £82,923 and from corporate partners of £28,876.

	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Restricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Donations	46,328	25,000	71,328
Grants	-	394,847	394,847
Membership fees	21,215	-	21,215
Legacies	48,000	-	48,000
	115,543	419,847	535,390
	115,543	419,847	535,390

Donations comprise donations from individuals of £46,328 and from corporate partners of £25,000.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2020

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Course fees	66,424	66,424
Audition fees	20,832	20,832
Sales of merchandise	374	374
Concert and performing fees	30,128	30,128
Ticket sales and contributions - concerts	4,468	4,468
Other income	8,286	8,286
Total 2020	<u>130,512</u>	<u>130,512</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Course fees	605,309	605,309
Audition fees	19,860	19,860
Sales of merchandise	1,892	1,892
Concert and performing fees	55,416	55,416
Ticket sales and contributions - concerts	24,099	24,099
Other income	40,532	40,532
Total 2019	<u>747,108</u>	<u>747,108</u>

5. Income from other trading activities

Income from fundraising events

	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Fundraising events	780	780
	<u>780</u>	<u>780</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2020

5. Income from other trading activities (continued)

Income from fundraising events (continued)

	Restricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Fundraising events	19,580	19,580
	<u>19,580</u>	<u>19,580</u>

6. Expenditure on raising funds

Costs of raising voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Fundraising - other costs	10,361	10,361
Wages and salaries	70,516	70,516
National Insurance	8,132	8,132
	<u>89,009</u>	<u>89,009</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Fundraising - other costs	1,290	1,290
Wages and salaries	69,073	69,073
National insurance	7,985	7,985
	<u>78,348</u>	<u>78,348</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2020

7. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Charitable activities	375,923	288,060	663,983

	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Restricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Charitable activities	723,277	439,427	1,162,704

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Direct costs 2020 £	Support costs 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Charitable activities	520,112	143,871	663,983

	Direct costs 2019 £	Support costs 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Charitable activities	1,011,039	151,665	1,162,704

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2020

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs

	Charitable activities 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Staff costs	227,941	227,941
Courses accomodation, music	201,436	201,436
Insurance	12,019	12,019
Travelling expenses	12,803	12,803
Advertising, website, promotion and printing	19,945	19,945
Legal and professional	3,543	3,543
Consulting and training	2,869	2,869
Office costs	37,533	37,533
Bank charges	2,023	2,023
	<u>520,112</u>	<u>520,112</u>
	Charitable activities 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Staff costs	244,279	244,279
Courses accomodation, music	627,804	627,804
Insurance	8,840	8,840
Travelling expenses	37,650	37,650
Advertising, website, promotion and printing	22,321	22,321
Legal and professional	9,329	9,329
Consulting and training	9,485	9,485
Office costs	41,068	41,068
Bank charges	10,263	10,263
	<u>1,011,039</u>	<u>1,011,039</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2020

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Charitable activities 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Staff costs	96,844	96,844
Legal and professional fees	10,547	10,547
Rent and rates	14,828	14,828
Office costs	2,318	2,318
Trustee costs	318	318
Depreciation	19,016	19,016
	<u>143,871</u>	<u>143,871</u>
	Charitable activities 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Staff costs	99,584	99,584
Legal and professional fees	9,623	9,623
Rent and rates	22,847	22,847
Office costs	2,079	2,079
Trustee costs	219	219
Depreciation	17,313	17,313
	<u>151,665</u>	<u>151,665</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2020

9. Auditor's remuneration

	2020 £	2019 £
Fees payable to the company's auditor for the audit of the company's annual accounts	5,350	5,300
Fees payable to the company's auditor in respect of: Other services	1,000	1,000
	<u>6,350</u>	<u>6,300</u>

10. Staff costs

	2020 £	2019 £
Wages and salaries	360,428	378,192
Social security costs	32,788	33,696
Other pension costs	10,217	9,033
	<u>403,433</u>	<u>420,921</u>

The average number of persons employed by the company during the year was as follows:

	2020 No.	2019 No.
Average no. of employees	11	13
	<u>11</u>	<u>13</u>

The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was:

	2020 No.	2019 No.
Staff	8	8
	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2020

10. Staff costs (continued)

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2020	2019
	No.	No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	1	1

Key management personnel

Key management personnel are deemed to be those having authority and responsibility, delegated to them by the trustees for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the charity. During 2019/20 they were:

Director - Ben Parry
 Director - Robert Colbert
 Chief Executive - Anne Besford
 General Manager - Mark Anyan

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £225,684 (2019: £176,642).

Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No trustees received any remuneration during the current or prior year.

During the year, two trustees (2019: one trustee) received reimbursed expenses of £318 (2019: £219) in respect of travel and subsistence costs.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2020

11. Intangible assets

	Software £	Website £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 October 2019	91,686	18,720	110,406
Additions	810	-	810
Disposals	-	(18,720)	(18,720)
At 30 September 2020	<u>92,496</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>92,496</u>
Amortisation			
At 1 October 2019	21,210	18,720	39,930
Charge for the year	18,458	-	18,458
On disposals	-	(18,720)	(18,720)
At 30 September 2020	<u>39,668</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,668</u>
Net book value			
At 30 September 2020	<u>52,828</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52,828</u>
At 30 September 2019	<u>70,476</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>70,476</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2020

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Office equipment £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 October 2019	15,119
At 30 September 2020	<u>15,119</u>
Depreciation	
At 1 October 2019	11,446
Charge for the year	558
At 30 September 2020	<u>12,004</u>
Net book value	
At 30 September 2020	<u><u>3,115</u></u>
At 30 September 2019	<u><u>3,673</u></u>

13. Fixed asset investments

	Unlisted investments £
Cost or valuation	
Additions	200,000
Revaluations	16,530
At 30 September 2020	<u><u>216,530</u></u>
Net book value	
At 30 September 2020	<u><u>216,530</u></u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2020

14. Debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
Trade debtors	12,419	11,357
Prepayments and accrued income	92,005	72,773
	<u>104,424</u>	<u>84,130</u>

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Trade creditors	4,317	52,679
Other creditors	21,792	27,273
Accruals and deferred income	168,833	102,887
	<u>194,942</u>	<u>182,839</u>

	2020 £	2019 £
Deferred income at 1 October 2019	91,690	69,341
Resources deferred during the year	137,311	91,690
Amounts released from previous periods	(91,690)	(69,341)
	<u>137,311</u>	<u>91,690</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2020

16. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 October 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 30 September 2020 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
General contingency & budget	374,950	-	-	25,050	-	400,000
CRM / API project	70,476	-	(18,458)	810	-	52,828
Contingency - new programme	30,000	-	-	(30,000)	-	-
	<u>475,426</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(18,458)</u>	<u>(4,140)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>452,828</u>
General funds						
General funds	80,148	419,554	(446,474)	4,140	16,530	73,898
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>555,574</u>	<u>419,554</u>	<u>(464,932)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,530</u>	<u>526,726</u>
Restricted funds						
Founder's Scholarship Fund	106,749	-	-	-	-	106,749
Arts Council England	-	108,016	(108,016)	-	-	-
Gillian Dickinson Trust	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-	-
The Leverhulme Foundation	-	35,040	(35,040)	-	-	-
Peter Sowerby Foundation	-	16,333	(16,333)	-	-	-
PRS Foundation	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-	-
Other small grants and donations	-	108,671	(108,671)	-	-	-

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2020

16. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - current year (continued)

	Balance at 1 October 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 30 September 2020 £
	<u>106,749</u>	<u>288,060</u>	<u>(288,060)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>106,749</u>
Total of funds	<u>662,323</u>	<u>707,614</u>	<u>(752,992)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,530</u>	<u>633,475</u>

The CRM / API fund has been designated by the trustees to represent the amount tied up in intangible assets, and consequently a transfer has been made from general funds representing additions in the year. Amortisation has been charged against the fund.

In 2018 the trustees designated £30,000 to provide a contingency reserve to support the potential additional costs of introducing a new Annual Programme for the National Youth Choir. This new programme has now been successfully embedded and the trustees agree that this designated fund may be released.

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2020

16. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 October 2018 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 30 September 2019 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
General contingency & budget	374,950	-	-	-	374,950
CRM / API project	21,390	-	(38,145)	87,231	70,476
Contingency - new programme	30,000	-	-	-	30,000
	<u>426,340</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(38,145)</u>	<u>87,231</u>	<u>475,426</u>
General funds					
General funds	64,922	865,937	(763,480)	(87,231)	80,148
	<u>491,262</u>	<u>865,937</u>	<u>(801,625)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>555,574</u>
Restricted funds					
Founder's Scholarship Fund	106,749	-	-	-	106,749
Arts Council England	-	107,000	(107,000)	-	-
Gillian Dickinson Trust	-	65,000	(65,000)	-	-
The Leverhulme Foundation	-	34,720	(34,720)	-	-
Royal Albert Hall	-	35,000	(35,000)	-	-
Peter Sowerby Foundation	-	16,333	(16,333)	-	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	30,000	(30,000)	-	-
PRS Foundation	-	27,750	(27,750)	-	-
Other small grants and donations	-	123,624	(123,624)	-	-
	<u>106,749</u>	<u>439,427</u>	<u>(439,427)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>106,749</u>
Total of funds	<u>598,011</u>	<u>1,305,364</u>	<u>(1,241,052)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>662,323</u>

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2020

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	3,115	-	3,115
Intangible fixed assets	52,828	-	52,828
Fixed asset investments	109,781	106,749	216,530
Current assets	555,944	-	555,944
Creditors due within one year	(194,942)	-	(194,942)
Total	526,726	106,749	633,475

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Restricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Tangible fixed assets	3,673	-	3,673
Intangible fixed assets	70,476	-	70,476
Current assets	664,264	106,749	771,013
Creditors due within one year	(182,839)	-	(182,839)
Total	555,574	106,749	662,323

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements Year ended 30 September 2020

18. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Net income/expenditure for the period (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(28,848)	64,312
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	558	558
Amortisation charges	18,458	16,755
(Gains)/losses on investments	(16,530)	-
Decrease in stocks	986	960
Increase in debtors	(20,294)	(18,840)
Increase in creditors	12,103	24,183
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	(33,567)	87,928

19. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2020 £	2019 £
Cash in hand	451,520	685,897
Total cash and cash equivalents	451,520	685,897

20. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 October 2019 £	Cash flows £	At 30 September 2020 £
Cash at bank and in hand	685,897	(234,377)	451,520
	685,897	(234,377)	451,520

National Youth Choirs of Great Britain

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 30 September 2020

21. Pension commitments

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the company to the fund and amounted to £540 (2019: £849) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

22. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the current or prior year.

23. Post balance sheet events

In October, the charity heard that it had been successfully awarded a grant of £170,000 from the Culture Recovery Fund to support its financial position following the Covid-19 pandemic in the period October 2020 to March 2021. An amount of £153,000 was received in November 2020, with the balance of £17,000 receivable in April 2021.