

Esc Films

Northern Ireland · Charity number 102123

Details

Known as	ESC
Status	Received
Registered	2015-05-07
Register	View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register

Contact

Address	Blick Studios 46 Hill Street Belfast Bt1 2lb BT1 2LB
Phone	07504826236
Email	info@esc-film.com
Website	www.esc-film.com

Activities

Purposes: The Charity's objects ("Objects") are specifically restricted to the following:- (1) To advance education for the public benefit by: (a) organising and delivering arts-based workshops, projects and training programmes to institutions, universities, prisons, schools, and community and youth groups; (b) producing and using films and other media to document lives, foster change and facilitate personal development; (c) delivering literacy/numeracy and other employability-related skills training. (2) To promote arts and culture by: (a) providing instruction and tuition in various art forms, including film and digital media, drama, performance, music, and literature; (b) organising, promoting and presenting screenings, performances, readings, exhibitions and other events and encouraging and facilitating participation in arts activities.

What the charity does: The advancement of education, The advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science

How the charity works: Arts, Education/training

Who the charity helps: Addictions (drug/solvent/alcohol abuse), Adult training, Community safety/crime prevention, Ex-offenders and prisoners, Homelessness, Learning disabilities, Men, Mental health, Older people, Sexual orientation, Specific areas of deprivation, Unemployed/low income, Victim support, Voluntary and community sector, Women, Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£75,209	£73,465	£0	2

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Chris Carlin		
Don Leeson		
Heather Moorhead		
Mrs Roisin Scott		
Ms Sarah Mcerlain		
Ms Valerie Hayes		
Professor Charlotte Scott		

Accounts

Registration number NI036267

ESC FILMS LTD
Company limited by guarantee

Annual report and financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2025

ESC FILMS LTD
Company limited by guarantee

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ESC FILMS LTD
Company limited by guarantee

Trustee Report
for the year ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and to "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 published in October 2019".

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: ESC FILMS LTD
Charity Registration number: NIC102123
Company Registration number: NI036267
Registered Office: Blick Studios, 46 Hill Street, Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT1 2LB
Business Address: Blick Studios, 46 Hill Street, Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT1 2LB

Trustees (that served during the year under review)

Don Leeson (Chair)
Paul McAleer (Resigned 30 May 2024)
Heather Moorhead
Moyra Richardson
Neil Gilmore (Resigned 30 May 2024)
Sarah McErlain (Appointed 6 September 2024)
Roisin Scott (Appointed 20 September 2024)
Gillian McNaul (Appointed 20 September 2024)
Charlotte Scott (Appointed 20 September 2024)
Christopher Carlin (Appointed 31 October 2024)

Secretary

Moyra Richardson

Independent Examiner

McCreery Turkington Stockman LTD, 1 Lanyon Quay, Belfast, BT1 3LG

Bankers

The Co-Operative Bank Plc, P.O. Box 250, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT

ESC FILMS LTD
Company limited by guarantee

Trustee Report
for the year ended 31 March 2025

Legal structure of the charity

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee, registered under the Companies Acts. The governing documents of the charity are its Memorandum and Articles of Association establishing the company under company legislation and its constitution.

There are no restrictions in the governing documents on the operation of the Charity or on its investment powers other than those imposed by Charity Law.

By operation of law all trustees are directors under the Companies Act 2006 and all directors are trustees under Charities legislation and have responsibilities, as such, under both company and charity legislation.

The trustees are all individuals.

Structure, governance and management of the charity

Governance and management of esc films is undertaken by a Board of Trustees comprising a Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, and other Trustees. The Board normally meets between four - six times a year and is responsible for the overall strategic direction and control of esc films' activities. The day to day management of esc films is led by the Chief Executive with authority delegated by the Board of Trustees. The Chief Executive and Artistic Trustee, have clearly defined areas of responsibility and accountability. They are supported by a cohort of freelance associates who are contracted for specialist expertise when the need arises.

The methods used to recruit and appoint new charity trustees.

The charity recruits and appoints trustees with a range of skills, experience and knowledge in keeping with the pursuance of its objects.

The charity's financial control procedures

In relation to esc films' overall financial control procedures, the charity has in place a comprehensive Strategic Plan supplemented by an annual budget approved by the Board of Trustees. Actual results are reported against budget on a monthly basis and projections to year end are reviewed by the Board at every meeting. The charity's day to day financial processes, which are governed by financial regulations, are approved by the Board.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Objectives, Activities, Achievements and Performance

Main Aim

The charity's objects are set out in its constitution and are to advance education for the public benefit and to promote arts and culture. A more detailed explanation of the charity's objects is contained below in the section entitled "The main activities undertaken during the year to further the charity's purpose for the public benefit".

ESC FILMS LTD
Company limited by guarantee

Trustee Report
for the year ended 31 March 2025

The main activities undertaken in relation to those purposes during the year 2024-25

SUMMARY: Over the course of the year we worked with 40 individuals, impacting directly on 40 participants in our therapeutic work, on a further 320 family members and an additional 15 staff members and volunteers. The charity awarded 40 ASDAN Awards of which 32 were Expressive Arts and 8 were ASDAN Peer Mentoring Awards.

The main achievements and performance of the charity in 2024-25.

esc films worked continuously to deliver on the goals outlined in our Strategic Plan and Business Plan 2023-25.

esc films focused on fulfilling the following aims for the year 2024-25:

We delivered a series of co-designed and co-produced short films based on the lived experience of the participants:

Cancer Focus - final year.

esc films are continued to work with Cancer Focus staff and clients on shaping a film to fulfil their needs.

esc films have been working within the NI Prison Service, delivering accredited expressive writing programmes to pre-release prisoners.

In 2024 -25 we ran 4 of our flagship programme "Snakes & Ladders" in Maghaberry and Magilligan prisons with recalled prisoners focusing on mental health, ACEs, PTSD and addiction. We piloted a new programme called "Unboxing Women" in Hydebank Wood College, working with female prisoners with mental health needs, addiction issues and complex trauma through the medium of expressive writing.

We continued to promote our feature film Mickey B internationally including a screening with Q & A for the University of Murcia, Spain.

Financial Review

The charity's financial position at the end of the year ended 31 March 2025 is set out in the financial statements.

Reserves Policy

The trustees have set a reserves target of at least £25,000 of unrestricted reserves representing approx. 3 months running costs.

The trustees regularly review the level of reserves held and consider opportunities to apply them in line with, and in furtherance of its charitable objectives.

Going Concern

The Board of Trustees is satisfied that the charity's assets in each fund are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations in respect of each fund.

ESC FILMS LTD
Company limited by guarantee

Trustee Report
for the year ended 31 March 2025

Statement of the Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

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

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

This report was approved by the Board on 1 December 2025.

Don Leeson
Chair  [Don Leeson \(Dec 1, 2025 21:49:01 GMT\)](#)

Independent examiner 's report to the Trustees of ESC FILMS LTD

I report on the accounts of the for the for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of and examiner

As the charity trustees (and also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

MTS

[MTS \(Nov 5, 2025 21:39:15 GMT\)](#)

Richard McClay FCA
For and on behalf of McCreery Turkington Stockman LTD

1 Lanyon Quay
Belfast
BT1 3LG

1 December 2025

ESC FILMS LTD
Company limited by guarantee

Statement of Financial Activities (Including Summary Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31 March 2025

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Year Total	Year Total
		2025	2025	2025	2024
Income from:	Notes	£	£	£	£
Donation income:	4	20,138	-	20,138	2,918
Charitable activities	11	2,079	52,992	55,071	87,838
Total incoming resources		<u>22,217</u>	<u>52,992</u>	<u>75,209</u>	<u>90,756</u>
Expenditure on:					
Costs of charitable activities	5	(18,845)	(54,620)	(73,465)	(91,384)
Total resources expended		<u>(18,845)</u>	<u>(54,620)</u>	<u>(73,465)</u>	<u>(91,384)</u>
Net income before transfers		<u>3,372</u>	<u>(1,628)</u>	<u>1,744</u>	<u>(628)</u>
Transfer between funds		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net incoming resources		<u>3,372</u>	<u>(1,628)</u>	<u>1,744</u>	<u>(628)</u>
 Fund balances brought forward		<u>18,811</u>	<u>6,511</u>	<u>25,322</u>	<u>25,950</u>
Fund balances carried forward		<u>22,183</u>	<u>4,883</u>	<u>27,066</u>	<u>25,322</u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. All gains and losses recognised in the year are included above.

The notes on pages 10 to 17 form an integral part of these financial statements.

ESC FILMS LTD
Company limited by guarantee

Balance sheet
as at 31 March 2025

		2025		2024
	Notes	£	£	£
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	9		6,324	8,432
Current assets				
Debtors	10	1,361		17,030
Cash at bank and in hand		47,574		24,671
		<u>48,935</u>		<u>41,701</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>(28,193)</u>		<u>(24,811)</u>
Net current assets			<u>20,742</u>	<u>16,890</u>
Net assets			<u><u>27,066</u></u>	<u><u>25,322</u></u>
Capital and reserves				
Unrestricted funds	11	22,183		18,811
Restricted funds	11	4,883		6,511
General funds			<u><u>27,066</u></u>	<u><u>25,322</u></u>

The notes on pages 10 to 17 form an integral part of these financial statements.

ESC FILMS LTD
Company limited by guarantee

Balance sheet (continued)

for the year ended 31 March 2025

For the year ending 31 March 2025 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 1 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by

Don Leeson
Director


Don Leeson Dec 1, 2025 21:49:01 GMT)

Registration number NI036267

ESC FILMS LTD
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2025

..... continued

1. Accounting policies

Company information

ESC FILMS LTD is a Company limited by guarantee, registered in Northern Ireland. The address of the registered office is Blick Studios, 46 Hill Street, Belfast, Antrim, Northern Ireland, BT1 2LB.

1.1. Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published in October 2019".

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

1.2. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

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

Fixtures and fittings - 25% reducing balance

1.3. Cash at bank and in hand

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

ESC FILMS LTD
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Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2025

1.4. Financial Instruments

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

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

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

Basic financial assets

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

Classification of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the Society after deducting all of its liabilities.

Basic financial liabilities

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

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

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

1.5. Equity instruments

Income recognition

Equity instruments issued by the Company are recorded at the proceeds received, net of direct issue costs. Dividends payable on equity instruments are recognised as liabilities once they are no longer at the discretion of the Company.

ESC FILMS LTD
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2025

..... continued

1.6. Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Company has a legal or constructive present obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that the Company will be required to settle that obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting end date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation.

Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the amount expected to be required to settle the obligation is recognised at present value. When a provision is measured at present value the unwinding of the discount is recognised as a finance cost in profit and loss in the period it arises.

1.7. Government grants

Government grants are recognised at the fair value of the asset received or receivable when there is reasonable assurance that the grant conditions will be met and the grants will be received.

A grant that specifies performance conditions is recognised in income when the performance conditions are met. Where a grant does not specify performance conditions it is recognised in income when the proceeds are received or receivable. A grant received before the recognition criteria are satisfied is recognised as a liability.

1.8. Employee benefits

The costs of short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense, unless those costs are required to be recognised as part of the cost of stock or fixed assets.

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

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

2. Net incoming resources for the year	2025	2024
	£	£
Net incoming resources is stated after charging:		
Depreciation and other amounts written off tangible assets	2,108	2,810

ESC FILMS LTD
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2025

..... continued

3. Employees

	Year ended 2025 Number	Year ended 2024 Number
Number of employees		
The average monthly numbers of employees during the year were:		
Management and administrative staff	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
Employment costs	Year ended 2025 £	Year ended 2024 £
Salary costs	<u>50,032</u>	<u>49,709</u>

There were no employees earning over £60,000 in the year ended 31 March 2025.

4. Income from:	Unrestricted 2025 £	Restricted 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Donation income				
Donation income	<u>20,138</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,138</u>	<u>2,918</u>
	<u>20,138</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,138</u>	<u>2,918</u>

ESC FILMS LTD
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2025

..... continued

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
5. Expenditure on:		
Costs directly allocated to charitable activities		
Salaries	50,032	49,709
Direct project costs	210	869
Insurance	1,004	549
Rent, light and heat	4,200	3,600
Office costs	2,972	4,070
Computer expenses	1,350	508
Equipment	125	1,416
Travel	1,501	8
Freelance costs	5,315	24,646
Independent examination	1,200	1,200
Bank fees	24	25
General expenses	3,424	1,974
	<u>71,357</u>	<u>88,574</u>
Depreciation		
Depreciation on intangibles, fixtures and computers	<u>2,108</u>	<u>2,810</u>
	<u>73,465</u>	<u>91,384</u>
Analysis by fund		
Restricted funds	54,620	
Unrestricted funds	18,845	
	<u>73,465</u>	
For the year ended 31 March 2024	<u><u>73,465</u></u>	
Restricted funds		8,021
Unrestricted funds		83,363
		<u>91,384</u>

6. Taxation

No liability to UK corporation tax arises on ordinary activities for the year. The Company is a registered charity .

ESC FILMS LTD
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2025

..... continued

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2025	2024
	£	£
Other creditors	644	1,240
Trade creditors	4,386	8,216
Deferred income (See note 8)	21,963	14,155
Accruals	1,200	1,200
	<u>28,193</u>	<u>24,811</u>

8. Deferred income (Included in note 7)

	Balance 1 April 2024	Released in year	Deferral in year	Balance 31 March 2025
Cancer Focus	5,122	(5,122)	6,962	6,962
LFT Charitable Trust	5,034	(5,034)	5,001	5,001
Housing Rights	3,999	(3,999)	-	-
Eileen Ryan Donation	-	-	5,000	5,000
Thomas Wall Trust	-	-	5,000	5,000
	<u>14,155</u>	<u>(14,155)</u>	<u>21,963</u>	<u>21,963</u>

9. Tangible fixed assets	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2024	28,329	28,329
At 31 March 2025	<u>28,329</u>	<u>28,329</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2024	19,897	19,897
Charge for the year	2,108	2,108
At 31 March 2025	<u>22,005</u>	<u>22,005</u>
Net book values		
At 31 March 2025	<u>6,324</u>	<u>6,324</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>8,432</u>	<u>8,432</u>

ESC FILMS LTD
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2025

..... continued

10. Debtors	2025	2024
	£	£
Other debtors	<u>1,361</u>	<u>17,030</u>

11. Statement of funds

	Balance 1 April 2024	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Balance 31 March 2025
Unrestricted Funds					
General fund	18,811	22,217	18,845	-	22,183
	<u>18,811</u>	<u>22,217</u>	<u>(18,845)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,183</u>
Restricted funds					
Restricted fixed asset fund	6,511	-	(1,628)	-	4,883
LFT Charitable Trust	-	24,052	(24,052)	-	-
DOJ ARCS	-	9,850	(9,850)	-	-
NIPS	-	19,090	(19,090)	-	-
	<u>6,511</u>	<u>52,992</u>	<u>(54,620)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,883</u>
	<u>25,322</u>	<u>75,209</u>	<u>(73,465)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,066</u>

The unrestricted reserve represents the free funds of the charity which are not designated for particular purposes.

The restricted funds represent grants received by the charity for specific purposes as laid out in the terms of the grant, and the application of those funds for those purposes.

ESC FILMS LTD
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2025

..... continued

12. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Tangible fixed Assets	Net current Assets/ (Liabilities)	Total
Unrestricted Funds			
General fund	1,441	20,742	22,183
	<u>1,441</u>	<u>20,742</u>	<u>22,183</u>
Restricted funds			
Restricted fixed asset fund	4,883	-	4,883
	<u>4,883</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,883</u>
	<u>6,324</u>	<u>20,742</u>	<u>27,066</u>

13. Company limited by guarantee

ESC FILMS LTD is a company limited by guarantee and the liability of the members is limited to a maximum of £1 for each member.

Accounts

Registration number NI036267

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee
Annual report and financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024

ESC Films Limited
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ESC Films Limited
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for the year ended 31 March 2024

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Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: ESC Films Limited
Charity Registration number: NIC102123
Company Registration number: NI036267
Registered Office: Blick Studios, 46 Hill Street, Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT1 2LB
Business Address: Blick Studios, 46 Hill Street, Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT1 2LB

Trustees

Don Leeson (Chair)
Paul McAleer
Heather Moorhead
Moyra Richardson
Neil Gilmore

Secretary

Moyra Richardson

Independent Examiner

McCreery Turkington Stockman LTD, 1 Lanyon Quay, Belfast, BT1 3LG

Bankers

The Co-Operative Bank Plc, P.O. Box 250, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Trustee Report
for the year ended 31 March 2024

Legal structure of the charity

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There are no restrictions in the governing documents on the operation of the Charity or on its investment powers other than those imposed by Charity Law.

By operation of law all trustees are directors under the Companies Act 2006 and all directors are trustees under Charities legislation and have responsibilities, as such, under both company and charity legislation.

The trustees are all individuals.

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The methods used to recruit and appoint new charity trustees.

Governance and management of ESC films is undertaken by a Board of Directors comprising a Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, and other Directors. The Board normally meets six times a year and is responsible for the overall strategic direction and control of esc film's activities. The day to day management of esc films is led by the Chief Executive with authority delegated by the Board of Directors. The Chief Executive and Artistic Director, have clearly defined areas of responsibility and accountability. They are supported by a cohort of freelance associates who are contracted for specialist expertise when the need arises.

The charity recruits and appoints trustees with a range of skills, experience and knowledge in keeping with the pursuance of its objects.

The charity's financial control procedures

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Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Objectives, Activities, Achievements and Performance

Main Aim

The charity's objects are set out in its constitution and are to advance education for the public benefit and to promote arts and culture. A more detailed explanation of the charity's objects is contained below in the section entitled "The main activities undertaken during the year to further the charity's purpose for the public benefit".

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Trustee Report
for the year ended 31 March 2024

The main activities undertaken in relation to those purposes during the year 2023-24

SUMMARY: Over the course of the year we worked with 144 individuals, impacting directly on 47 participants in our therapeutic work, on a further 94 family members and an additional 31 staff members and volunteers. The charity awarded 5 ASDAN Peer Mentoring Awards and made 27 short films.

The main achievements and performance of the charity in 2023-24.

Esc films worked continuously to deliver on the goals outlined in the new Strategic Plan and Business Plan 2023-25.

Esc films focused on fulfilling the following aims for the year 2023-24:

We delivered a series of co-designed and co-produced short films based on the lived experience of the participants:

MindWise - Snakes and Ladders

The Snakes and Ladders peer learning film-making project was facilitated by esc films in partnership with MindWise and Action Mental Health. It was kindly supported by the LFT Charitable Foundation. esc films worked with a group of people with lived experience of substance abuse and mental health issues to create a series of short films telling the true stories of the ladders that former addicts used to climb out of their pits of addiction. The project launched at the MAC in Belfast on June 2023 and aims to help others with similar problems rebuild their lives.

Watch the films here - <https://esc-film.com/snakes-and-ladders/>

Belfast Trust - Perinatal Mental Health

Esc films was commissioned to create a film called My Safe Space, co-designed with a group of mothers who had all experience of perinatal mental health issues and had availed of BHSC's perinatal mental health services. The film encourages other mothers facing similar problems to seek help. The programme was accredited and 5 women received ASDAN peer mentoring awards. The programme launched at the MAC in Belfast in September 2023.

Watch the film here:

<https://esc-film.com/portfolio-item/belfast-trust-our-safe-space/>

and a powerful co-produced behind the scenes documentary here:

<https://esc-film.com/portfolio-item/our-safe-space-evaluation-film/>

We were also commissioned to deliver a series of films for other third sector organisations:

MindWise - A Day in the Life

A behind the scenes documentary film created for MindWise mental health charity, focusing on day in the life of MindWise clients & staff.

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Trustee Report
for the year ended 31 March 2024

Cancer Focus - A Day in the Life

Completing the 4-year tender with Cancer Focus, esc films are continuing to work on the final film which is set to showcase A Day in the Life of Cancer Focus staff and clients, with an emphasis on living well with cancer. During the year esc films also created an evaluation film for Cancer Focus' family support team.

Boardroom Apprentice - films

- esc films were successful again in tendering for the filming at the Boardroom Apprentice Panel Day 2023 and created a series of 19 short films which were shared widely as part of the ongoing Boardroom Apprentice marketing drive. <https://boardroomapprentice.com/>

Housing Rights & Women's Aid

esc films were commissioned to create an immersive Virtual Reality experience for a Housing Rights training programme for housing advisors. Esc films worked with a group of women who had experienced domestic abuse and had presented as homeless in Northern Ireland. Parallel to this we worked with a group of housing advisors so that the issue was addressed from multiple perspectives. The 3D film is now incorporated into Housing Rights training and is being rolled out across NI.

SEHSCT - Challenging Conversations

We were commissioned to workshop and create short films for the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust on the theme of Challenging Conversations to be used in their in house training.

We continued our development work in VR with former participants in our therapeutic mental health programmes:

Future Screens - research

We completed the research elements of our Future Screens NI Virtual Reality research project during the year, exploring how our previous participants responded to VR technology. We received follow up mentoring from Digital Catapult which was used to work on larger scale VR funding bids.

Financial Review

The charity's financial position at the end of the year ended 31 March 2024 is set out in the financial statements.

Reserves Policy

The directors have set a reserves target of at least £25,000 of unrestricted reserves representing approx. 3 months running costs.

The directors regularly review the level of reserves held and consider opportunities to apply them in line with, and in furtherance of its charitable objectives.

Going Concern

The board of Trustees is satisfied that the charity's assets in each fund are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations in respect of each fund.

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Trustee Report
for the year ended 31 March 2024

Statement of the Directors' and Trustees' Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

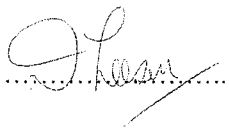
Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for the year. In preparing those financial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

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

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

This report was approved by the Board on 19th August 2024.

Don Leeson
Director



**Independent examiner 's report to the Trustees of
ESC Films Limited**

I report on the accounts of the for the for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 7-17.

Respective responsibilities of and examiner

As the charity trustees (and also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Richard McClay FCA
For and on behalf of McCreery Turkington Stockman LTD

1 Lanyon Quay
Belfast
BT1 3LG

19 August 2024

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Statement of Financial Activities (Including Summary Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31 March 2024

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Year Total	Year Total
		2024	2024	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£
Income from:	Notes				
Donation income:	4	2,918	-	2,918	14,443
Charitable activities	11	81,987	5,851	87,838	81,534
Total incoming resources		<u>84,905</u>	<u>5,851</u>	<u>90,756</u>	<u>95,977</u>
Expenditure on:					
Costs of charitable activities	5	(83,363)	(8,021)	(91,384)	(114,719)
Total resources expended		<u>(83,363)</u>	<u>(8,021)</u>	<u>(91,384)</u>	<u>(114,719)</u>
Net income before transfers		<u>1,542</u>	<u>(2,170)</u>	<u>(628)</u>	<u>(18,742)</u>
Transfer between funds		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net incoming resources		<u>1,542</u>	<u>(2,170)</u>	<u>(628)</u>	<u>(18,742)</u>
 Fund balances brought forward		<u>17,269</u>	<u>8,681</u>	<u>25,950</u>	<u>44,692</u>
Fund balances carried forward		<u>18,811</u>	<u>6,511</u>	<u>25,322</u>	<u>25,950</u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. All gains and losses recognised in the year are included above.

The notes on pages 10 to 17 form an integral part of these financial statements.

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Balance sheet
as at 31 March 2024

		2024		2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		8,432		11,242
Current assets					
Debtors	10	17,030		4,474	
Cash at bank and in hand		24,671		21,164	
		<u>41,701</u>		<u>25,638</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>(24,811)</u>		<u>(10,930)</u>	
Net current assets			16,890		14,708
Net assets			<u>25,322</u>		<u>25,950</u>
Capital and reserves					
Unrestricted funds	11		18,811		17,269
Restricted funds	11		6,511		8,681
General funds			<u>25,322</u>		<u>25,950</u>

The notes on pages 10 to 17 form an integral part of these financial statements.

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Balance sheet (continued)

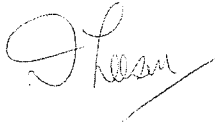
for the year ended 31 March 2024

For the year ending 31 March 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 19 August 2024 and signed on its behalf by

Don Leeson
Director 

Registration number NI036267

The notes on pages 10 to 17 form an integral part of these financial statements.

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024

1. Accounting policies

Company information

ESC FILMS LTD is a Company limited by guarantee, registered in Northern Ireland. The address of the registered office is Blick Studios, 46 Hill Street, Belfast, Antrim, Northern Ireland, BT1 2LB.

1.1. Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published in October 2019".

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

1.2. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

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

Fixtures and fittings - 25% reducing balance

1.3. Cash at bank and in hand

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

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024

..... continued

1.4. Financial Instruments

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

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

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

Basic financial assets

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

Classification of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the Society after deducting all of its liabilities.

Basic financial liabilities

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

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

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

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024

..... continued

1.5. Equity instruments

Income recognition

Equity instruments issued by the Company are recorded at the proceeds received, net of direct issue costs. Dividends payable on equity instruments are recognised as liabilities once they are no longer at the discretion of the Company.

1.6. Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Company has a legal or constructive present obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that the Company will be required to settle that obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting end date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation.

Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the amount expected to be required to settle the obligation is recognised at present value. When a provision is measured at present value the unwinding of the discount is recognised as a finance cost in profit and loss in the period it arises.

1.7. Government grants

Government grants are recognised at the fair value of the asset received or receivable when there is reasonable assurance that the grant conditions will be met and the grants will be received.

A grant that specifies performance conditions is recognised in income when the performance conditions are met. Where a grant does not specify performance conditions it is recognised in income when the proceeds are received or receivable. A grant received before the recognition criteria are satisfied is recognised as a liability.

1.8. Employee benefits

The costs of short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense, unless those costs are required to be recognised as part of the cost of stock or fixed assets.

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

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

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024

..... continued

2. Net incoming resources for the year	2024	2023
	£	£
Net incoming resources is stated after charging:		
Depreciation and other amounts written off tangible assets	2,810	3,748
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

3. Employees

	Year ended	Year ended
	2024	2023
Number of employees	Number	Number
The average monthly numbers of employees during the year were:		
Management and administrative staff	2	2
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

	Year ended	Year ended
	2024	2023
Employment costs	£	£
Salary costs	49,709	72,143
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

There were no employees earning over £60,000 in the year ended 31 March 2024.

4. Income from:	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Donation income				
Donation income	2,918	-	2,918	14,443
	<u>2,918</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,918</u>	<u>14,443</u>
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024

..... continued

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
5. Expenditure on:		
Costs directly allocated to charitable activities		
Salaries	49,709	72,143
Direct project costs	869	1,923
Insurance	549	821
Rent, light and heat	3,600	3,950
Office costs	4,070	4,390
Computer expenses	508	633
Equipment	1,416	(1,986)
Travel	8	16
Freelance costs	24,646	22,295
Independent examination	1,200	1,200
Bank fees	25	24
Website design	-	4,740
General expenses	1,974	822
	<u>88,574</u>	<u>110,971</u>
Depreciation		
Depreciation on intangibles, fixtures and computers	2,810	3,748
	<u><u>91,384</u></u>	<u><u>114,719</u></u>
Analysis by fund		
Restricted funds	8,021	
Unrestricted funds	83,363	
	<u>91,384</u>	
For the year ended 31 March 2023		
Restricted funds		67,286
Unrestricted funds		47,433
		<u>114,719</u>

6. Taxation

No liability to UK corporation tax arises on ordinary activities for the year. The Company is a registered charity .

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024

..... continued

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2024 £	2023 £
Other creditors	1,240	47
Trade creditors	8,216	738
Deferred income (See note 8)	14,155	8,945
Accruals	1,200	1,200
	<u>24,811</u>	<u>10,930</u>

8. Deferred income (Included in note 7)

	Balance 1 April 2023	Released in year	Deferral in year	Balance 31 March 2024
Cancer Focus	3,202	(3,202)	5,122	5,122
LFT Charitable Trust	910	(910)	5,034	5,034
Housing Rights	-	-	3,999	3,999
Belfast Trust- Perinatal Mental Health	3,754	(3,754)	-	-
Future Screens	1,079	(1,079)	-	-
	<u>8,945</u>	<u>(8,945)</u>	<u>14,155</u>	<u>14,155</u>

9. Tangible fixed assets	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2023	28,329	28,329
At 31 March 2024	<u>28,329</u>	<u>28,329</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2023	17,087	17,087
Charge for the year	2,810	2,810
At 31 March 2024	<u>19,897</u>	<u>19,897</u>
Net book values		
At 31 March 2024	<u>8,432</u>	<u>8,432</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>11,242</u>	<u>11,242</u>

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024

..... continued

10. Debtors	2024 £	2023 £
Other debtors	<u>17,030</u>	<u>4,474</u>

11. Statement of funds

	Balance 1 April 2023	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Balance 31 March 2024
Unrestricted Funds					
General fund	17,269	80,488	(81,864)	-	15,893
St Anne's Cathedral Sitout	-	1,499	(1,499)	-	-
	<u>17,269</u>	<u>81,987</u>	<u>(83,363)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,893</u>
Restricted funds					
Restricted fixed asset fund	8,681	-	(2,170)	-	6,511
Future Screens	-	1,085	(1,085)	-	-
LFT Charitable Trust	-	4,766	(4,766)	-	-
	<u>8,681</u>	<u>5,851</u>	<u>(8,021)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,511</u>
	<u>25,950</u>	<u>87,838</u>	<u>(91,384)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,404</u>

The unrestricted reserve represents the free funds of the charity which are not designated for particular purposes.

The restricted funds represent grants received by the charity for specific purposes as laid out in the terms of the grant, and the application of those funds for those purposes.

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024

..... continued

12. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Tangible fixed Assets	Net current Assets/ (Liabilities)	Total
Unrestricted Funds			
General fund	1,921	16,890	18,811
	<u>1,921</u>	<u>16,890</u>	<u>18,811</u>
Restricted funds			
Restricted fixed asset fund	6,511	-	6,511
	<u>6,511</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,511</u>
	<u>8,432</u>	<u>16,890</u>	<u>25,322</u>

13. Company limited by guarantee

ESC FILMS LTD is a company limited by guarantee and the liability of the members is limited to a maximum of £1 for each member.

Esc Films

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102123

Annual report

ESC Films Limited (Company limited by guarantee)

Trustee Report for the year ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 of the accounts and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published in October 2019".

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: ESC Films Limited
Charity Registration number: NIC102123
Company Registration number: NI036267
Registered Office: Blick Studios, 46 Hill Street, Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT1 2LB

Business Address: Blick Studios, 46 Hill Street, Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT 2LB

Trustees:

Don Leeson (Chair)
Paul McAleer
Heather Moorhead
Moyra Richardson
Neil Gilmore
Secretary
Moyra Richardson

Independent Examiner:
McCreery Turkington Stockman LTD, 1 Lanyon Quay, Belfast, BT1 3LG

Bankers
The Co-Operative Bank Pic, P.O. Box 250, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT

Legal structure of the charity:

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee, registered under the Companies Acts. The governing documents of the charity are its Memorandum and Articles of Association establishing the company under company legislation and its constitution.

There are no restrictions in the governing documents on the operation of the Charity or on its investment powers other than those imposed by Charity Law.

By operation under law all Trustees are Directors under the Companies Act 2006 and have responsibilities as such under both company and charity legislation.

The trustees are all individuals:

Structure, governance and management of the charity:

The methods used to recruit and appoint new charity trustees.

Governance and management of ESC films is undertaken by a Board of Directors comprising a Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, and other Directors. The Board normally meets six times a year and is responsible for the overall strategic direction and control of esc film's activities. The day to day management of esc films is led by the Chief Executive with authority delegated by the Board of Directors. The Chief Executive and Artistic Director, have clearly defined areas of responsibility and accountability. They are supported by a cohort of freelance associates who are contracted for specialist expertise when the need arises.

The charity recruits and appoints trustees with a range of skills, experience and knowledge in keeping with the pursuance of its objects.

The charity's financial control procedures:

in relation to ESC film's overall financial control procedures, the charity has in place a comprehensive Strategic Plan supplemented by an annual budget approved by the Board of Trustees. Actual results are reported against budget on a monthly basis and projections to year end are reviewed by the Board at every meeting. The charity's day to day financial processes, which are governed by financial regulations, are approved by the Board.

Risk management:

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Objectives, Activities, Achievements and Performance:

Main Aim:

The charity's objects are set out in its constitution and are to advance education for the public benefit and to promote arts and culture. A more detailed explanation of the charity's objects is contained below in the section entitled "The main activities undertaken during the year to further the charity's purpose for the public benefit".

The main activities undertaken in relation to those purposes during the year 2023-24

SUMMARY: Over the course of the year we worked with 144 individuals, impacting directly on 47 participants in our therapeutic work, on a further 94 family members and an additional 31 staff members and volunteers. The charity awarded 5 ASDAN Peer Mentoring Awards and made 27 short films.

The main achievements and performance of the charity in 2023-24.

esc films worked continuously to deliver on the goals outlined in the new Strategic Plan and Business Plan 2023-25.

esc films focused on fulfilling the following aims for the year 2023-24:

We delivered a series of co-designed and co-produced short films based on the lived experience of the participants:

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The Snakes and Ladders peer learning film-making project was facilitated by esc films in partnership with MindWise and Action Mental Health. It was kindly supported by the LFT Charitable Foundation. esc films worked with a group of people with lived experience of substance abuse and mental health issues to create a series of short films telling the true stories of the ladders that former addicts used to climb out of their pits of addiction. The project launched at the MAC in Belfast on June 2023 and aims to help others with similar problems rebuild their lives.

Watch the films here - <https://esc-film.com/snakes-and-ladders/>

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- esc films were successful again in tendering for the filming at the Boardroom Apprentice Panel Day 2023 and created a series of 19 short films which were shared widely as part of the ongoing Boardroom Apprentice marketing drive. <https://boardroomapprentice.com/>

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We completed the research elements of our Future Screens NI Virtual Reality research project during the year, exploring how our previous participants responded to VR technology. We received follow up mentoring from Digital Catapult which was used to work on larger scale VR funding bids.

Financial Review

The charity's financial position at the end of the year ended 31 March 2023 is set out in the financial statements.

Reserves Policy

The directors have set a reserves target of at least £25,000 of unrestricted reserves representing approx. 3 months running costs.

The directors regularly review the level of reserves held and consider opportunities to apply them in line with, and in furtherance of its charitable objectives.

Going Concern:

The board of Trustees is satisfied that the charity's assets in each fund are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations in respect of each fund.

Statement of the Directors' and Trustees' Responsibilities:

The directors are responsible for preparing the annual report on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law on the United Kingdom accounting standards (United Kingdom generally accepted accounting practice). Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources including the income and expenditure of the charitable company for the year.

In preparing those financial statements the directors are required to:

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

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

This report was approved by the Board on 19th August 2024.

Esc Films

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102123

Annual return

**Independent examiner 's report to the Trustees of
ESC Films Limited**

I report on the accounts of the for the for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 7-17.

Respective responsibilities of and examiner

As the charity trustees (and also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Richard McClay FCA
For and on behalf of McCreery Turkington Stockman LTD

1 Lanyon Quay
Belfast
BT1 3LG

19 August 2024

Accounts

Registration number NI036267

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee
Annual report and financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

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ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Trustee Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.
The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and to "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 published in October 2019".

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: ESC Films Limited
Charity Registration number: NIC102123
Company Registration number: NI036267
Registered Office: Blick Studios, 46 Hill Street, Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT1 2LB
Business Address: Blick Studios, 46 Hill Street, Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT1 2LB

Trustees

Don Leeson (Chair)
Paul McAleer
Heather Moorhead
Moyra Richardson
Neil Gilmore

Secretary

Moyra Richardson

Independent Examiner

McCreery Turkington Stockman LTD, 1 Lanyon Quay, Belfast, BT1 3LG

Bankers

The Co-Operative Bank Plc, P.O. Box 250, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Trustee Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Legal structure of the charity

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee, registered under the Companies Acts. The governing documents of the charity are its Memorandum and Articles of Association establishing the company under company legislation and its constitution.

There are no restrictions in the governing documents on the operation of the Charity or on its investment powers other than those imposed by Charity Law.

By operation of law all trustees are directors under the Companies Act 2006 and all directors are trustees under Charities legislation and have responsibilities, as such, under both company and charity legislation.

The trustees are all individuals

Structure, governance and management of the charity

The methods used to recruit and appoint new charity trustees

Governance and management of ESC films is undertaken by a Board of Directors comprising a Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, and four other Directors. The Board normally meets six times a year and is responsible for the overall strategic direction and control of esc film's activities. The day to day management of esc films is led by the Chief Executive with authority delegated by the Board of Directors. The Chief Executive and Artistic Director, have clearly defined areas of responsibility and accountability. They are supported by a cohort of freelance associates who are contracted for specialist expertise when the need arises.

The charity recruits and appoints trustees with a range of skills, experience and knowledge in keeping with the pursuance of its objects.

The charity's financial control procedures

In relation to ESC film's overall financial control procedures, the charity has in place a comprehensive Strategic Plan supplemented by an annual budget approved by the Board of Trustees. Actual results are reported against budget on a monthly basis and projections to year end are reviewed by the Board at every meeting. The charity's day to day financial processes, which are governed by financial regulations, are approved by the Board.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Objectives, Activities, Achievements and Performance

Main Aim

The charity's objects are set out in its constitution and are to advance education for the public benefit and to promote arts and culture. A more detailed explanation of the charity's objects is contained below in the section entitled "The main activities undertaken during the year to further the charity's purpose for the public benefit".

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Trustee Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

The main activities undertaken in relation to those purposes during the year 2022-23

SUMMARY: Over the course of the year we worked with 384 individuals, impacting directly on 20 participants in our therapeutic work, on a further 60 family members and an additional 54 staff members and volunteers. The charity awarded 9 ASDAN Peer Mentoring Awards and made 89 short films.

The main achievements and performance of the charity in 2022-23.

ESC films worked continuously to deliver on the goals outlined in the new Strategic Plan and Business Plan 2023-25.

ESC films focused on fulfilling the following aims for the year 2022-23:

We delivered a series of co-designed and co-produced short films based on the lived experience of the participants:

STEPPING OUT STAYING OUT (Shannon Clinic, Medium Secure Unit) launched May 2022

This research-needs-driven training project was co-funded by The Halifax Foundation and the Belfast Health & Social Care Trust. The film project ran for over 14 weeks, one session per week and launched in May 2022. The aim was to equip the Community and Forensic Mental Health team to educate those still in Shannon, using the lived experiences of those who have been through the system and are now settled in the community. esc films produced a 20-minute long training film, devised, and co-produced with the Community & Forensic Mental Health Teams at the BHSCT. It is based on the most pressing issues raised by those leaving Shannon Clinic and transitioning back into the community. As part of the film-making project, 4 clients earned 2 credits as part of an ASDAN Peer Mentoring Award.

CANCER FOCUS NI: the 2022-23 year spanned the second and third years of our four year contract with Cancer Focus - creating film resources to help support the work of their Family Support Service.

In the first half of 2022, we adapted our methods, using both live face to face sessions and online zoom sessions to create content. We worked with young people, their families and teachers to create a series of 3 short films called The Learnings - a resource to help schools understand the needs of young people who have a parent with a cancer diagnosis. Filming was more straightforward this year since the majority of Covid restrictions had been lifted. The project launched at Stormont Hotel, Belfast in August 2022. See <https://cancerfocusni.org/patient-support/family-support/the-learnings-video-series/>

We also prepared the groundwork to deliver a film telling the story of Cancer Focus NI's services, working with staff, clients, families and young people to capture the holistic nature of their services and signpost people towards relevant and timely help. Completed June 2023 and due to launch publicly shortly after.

INCLUSIVE FAITH: we completed our original "A QUESTION OF BELONGING" LGBTQIA+ project benefitting from a partnership with the Northern Ireland Rare Disease Partnership (NIRDP) which provided us with a film-maker for the year to work on this project. We are grateful to the Rank Foundation's Time2Shine programme for supporting this work. In Feb 2023 we successfully launched the Inclusive Faith website, www.inclusivefaith.lgbt signposting for LGBTQIA+ people of faith and resources for people who are looking for resources to go on a journey towards LGBTQIA+ inclusion.

The project received a lot of media attention including radio interviews on Radio Ulster and articles in the Belfast Telegraph and various online sources.

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Trustee Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Inclusivefaith.lgbt is now a home for the following:

- One six week course
- 6 filmed talks and interviews on LGBT issues
- 15 individual stories on film
- 6 films of leader's journeys
- 6 short filmed introductions to affirming faith spaces

Lists of

- 30 inclusive groups
- 16 community organisations
- 16 pride events across the island of Ireland
- 10 signposts to counselling and helplines
- 28 books
- 35 terms in one glossary

RARE DISEASE PARTNERSHIP - as part of the Time2Shine project, esc films supported its film-maker to create a series of short films capturing the stories of people living with Rare Diseases in NI called Voices of the 1 in 17: These were launched at Stormont on Rare Disease Day in Feb 2023 and subsequently used widely on social media. <https://nirdp.org.uk/campaigns/>

FUTURE SCREENS - We were able to complete the research elements of our Future Screens NI Virtual Reality research project during the year, exploring how our previous participants responded to VR technology.

BOARDROOM APPRENTICE - esc films were successful again in tendering for the filming at the Boardroom Apprentice Panel Day 2023 and created a series of 19 short films which were broadly shared as part of the ongoing Boardroom Apprentice marketing drive. <https://boardroomapprentice.com/>

DEIRDRE'S STORY - We worked in the Republic of Ireland for the first time, creating a dramatised film which aims to support training in Trauma-informed practice. We developed the film with the Donegal Domestic Violence working group which includes representatives from: Donegal Domestic Violence Services, An Garda Síochána, Health Service Executive, Donegal Women's Centre and Donegal Children & Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC). The film launched in Letterkenny, Co. Donegal in Sept 2022 and is being rolled out in trauma-informed training across the South of Ireland.

MINDWISE - WISEMOVES - we worked for a full year with MindWise mental health charity to tell the stories of individuals in their services and how they had journeyed through Covid. We also showcased a wide range of MindWise services through short films which launched in Nov 2022 at MindWise' AGM. We created 8 individual stories and 10 films about services. See <https://www.mindwisenv.org/what-we-do/wisemoves-film-series/>

MINDWISE - SNAKES AND LADDERS - also in partnership with MindWise and this time supported by the LFT Charitable Foundation, we began work on a mental health and addictions project, working with a group of men and women from MindWise and Action Mental Health who had lived experience of both serious addictions and mental health issues. The project launched June 2023 and aims to help others with similar problems rebuild their lives.

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Trustee Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

BELFAST TRUST - PERINATAL MENTAL HEALTH - we were commissioned to create a film called My Safe Space, co-designed with a group of mothers who had all experienced perinatal mental health issues and had availed of the BHSCT's perinatal services. The film aims to encourage other mothers facing similar problems to seek help. This programme was accredited and 5 women received ASDAN peer mentoring awards. The project was completed in June 2023 and will be launched shortly afterwards.

MICKEY B - we continued to showcase our feature film adaptation of Shakespeare's Macbeth, Mickey B, holding a screening in March 2023 as part of the Belfast Learning City festival, and giving online workshops to universities, such as the University of Murcia, Spain.

Financial Review

The charity's financial position at the end of the year ended 31 March 2023 is set out in the financial statements.

Reserves Policy

The directors have set a reserves target of at least £25,000 of unrestricted reserves representing 3 months running costs.

The directors regularly review the level of reserves held and consider opportunities to apply them in line with, and in furtherance of its charitable objectives.

Going Concern

The board of trustees is satisfied that the charity's assets in each fund are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations in respect of each fund.

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Trustee Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Statement of the Directors' and Trustees' Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

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

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

This report was approved by the Board on 11th September 2023.

Don Leeson

Director

**Independent examiner 's report to the Trustees of
ESC Films Limited**

I report on the accounts of the for the for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 8-18.

Respective responsibilities of and examiner

As the charity trustees (and also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Richard McClay FCA
For and on behalf of McCreery Turkington Stockman LTD

1 Lanyon Quay
Belfast
BT1 3LG

11 September 2023

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Statement of Financial Activities (Including Summary Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31 March 2023

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Year Total	Year Total
		2023	2023	2023	2022
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donation income:	4	14,443	-	14,443	163
Charitable activities	11	18,338	63,196	81,534	89,185
Other income		-	-	-	16,446
Total incoming resources		<u>32,781</u>	<u>63,196</u>	<u>95,977</u>	<u>105,794</u>
Expenditure on:					
Costs of charitable activities	5	(47,433)	(67,286)	(114,719)	(103,512)
Total resources expended		<u>(47,433)</u>	<u>(67,286)</u>	<u>(114,719)</u>	<u>(103,512)</u>
Net income before transfers		<u>(14,652)</u>	<u>(4,090)</u>	<u>(18,742)</u>	<u>2,282</u>
Transfer between funds		<u>(1,195)</u>	<u>1,195</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net incoming resources		<u>(15,847)</u>	<u>(2,895)</u>	<u>(18,742)</u>	<u>2,282</u>
Fund balances brought forward		<u>33,116</u>	<u>11,576</u>	<u>44,692</u>	<u>42,410</u>
Fund balances carried forward		<u>17,269</u>	<u>8,681</u>	<u>25,950</u>	<u>44,692</u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. All gains and losses recognised in the year are included above.

The notes on pages 11 to 18 form an integral part of these financial statements.

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Balance sheet
as at 31 March 2023

		2023		2022	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		11,242		14,990
Current assets					
Debtors	10	4,474		41	
Cash at bank and in hand		21,164		65,119	
		<u>25,638</u>		<u>65,160</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>(10,930)</u>		<u>(35,458)</u>	
Net current assets			14,708		29,702
Net assets			<u>25,950</u>		<u>44,692</u>
Capital and reserves					
Unrestricted funds	11		17,269		33,116
Restricted funds	11		8,681		11,576
General funds			<u>25,950</u>		<u>44,692</u>

The notes on pages 11 to 18 form an integral part of these financial statements.

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Balance sheet (continued)
for the year ended 31 March 2023

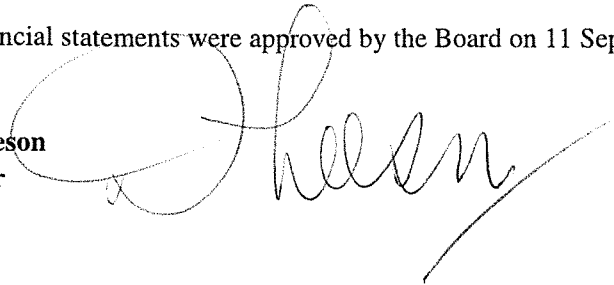
For the year ending 31 March 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 11 September 2023 and signed on its behalf by

Don Leeson
Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Don Leeson', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Registration number NI036267

The notes on pages 11 to 18 form an integral part of these financial statements.

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023

1. Accounting policies

Company information

ESC FILMS LTD is a Company limited by guarantee, registered in Northern Ireland. The address of the registered office is Blick Studios, 46 Hill Street, Belfast, Antrim, Northern Ireland, BT1 2LB.

1.1. Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published in October 2019".

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

1.2. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

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

Fixtures and fittings - 25% reducing balance

1.3. Cash at bank and in hand

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

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023

..... continued

1.4. Financial Instruments

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

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

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

Basic financial assets

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

Classification of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the Society after deducting all of its liabilities.

Basic financial liabilities

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

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

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

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023

..... continued

1.5. Equity instruments

Income recognition

Equity instruments issued by the Company are recorded at the proceeds received, net of direct issue costs. Dividends payable on equity instruments are recognised as liabilities once they are no longer at the discretion of the Company.

1.6. Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Company has a legal or constructive present obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that the Company will be required to settle that obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting end date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation.

Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the amount expected to be required to settle the obligation is recognised at present value. When a provision is measured at present value the unwinding of the discount is recognised as a finance cost in profit and loss in the period it arises.

1.7. Government grants

Government grants are recognised at the fair value of the asset received or receivable when there is reasonable assurance that the grant conditions will be met and the grants will be received.

A grant that specifies performance conditions is recognised in income when the performance conditions are met. Where a grant does not specify performance conditions it is recognised in income when the proceeds are received or receivable. A grant received before the recognition criteria are satisfied is recognised as a liability.

1.8. Employee benefits

The costs of short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense, unless those costs are required to be recognised as part of the cost of stock or fixed assets.

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

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

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023

..... continued

2. Net incoming resources for the year	2023	2022
	£	£
Net incoming resources is stated after charging:		
Depreciation and other amounts written off tangible assets	<u>3,748</u>	<u>4,996</u>

3. Employees

Number of employees	Year ended 2023	Year ended 2022
The average monthly numbers of employees during the year were:	Number	Number
Management and administrative staff	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
Employment costs	Year ended 2023	Year ended 2022
	£	£
Salary costs	<u>72,143</u>	<u>64,799</u>

There were no employees earning over £60,000 in the year ended 31 March 2023.

4. Income from:	Unrestricted 2023	Restricted 2023	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Donation income				
Donation income	<u>14,443</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,443</u>	<u>163</u>
	<u>14,443</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,443</u>	<u>163</u>

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023

..... continued

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
5. Expenditure on:		
Costs directly allocated to charitable activities		
Salaries	72,143	64,799
Direct project costs	1,923	418
Insurance	821	650
Rent, light and heat	3,950	3,500
Office costs	4,390	4,529
Computer expenses	633	1,024
Equipment	(1,986)	6,721
Travel	16	131
Freelance costs	22,295	15,150
Independent examination	1,200	683
Bank fees	24	24
Website design	4,740	-
General expenses	822	887
	<u>110,971</u>	<u>98,516</u>
Depreciation		
Depreciation on intangibles, fixtures and computers	<u>3,748</u>	<u>4,996</u>
	<u>114,719</u>	<u>103,512</u>
Analysis by fund		
Restricted funds	67,286	
Unrestricted funds	47,433	
	<u>114,719</u>	
For the year ended 31 March 2022		
Restricted funds		32,607
Unrestricted funds		70,905
		<u>103,512</u>

6. Taxation

No liability to UK corporation tax arises on ordinary activities for the year. The Company is a registered charity .

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023

..... continued

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2023 £	2022 £
Other creditors	47	6,778
Trade creditors	738	2,740
Deferred income (See note 8)	8,945	19,262
Accruals	1,200	6,678
	<u>10,930</u>	<u>35,458</u>

8. Deferred income (Included in note 7)

	Balance 1 April 2022	Released in year	Deferral in year	Balance 31 March 2023
Restricted funds				
Cancer Focus	467	(467)	3,202	3,202
Mindwise	12,703	(12,703)	-	-
Future Screens	6,092	(6,092)	1,079	1,079
LFT Charitable Trust	-	-	910	910
Belfast Trust- Perinatal Mental Health	-	-	3,754	3,754
	<u>19,262</u>	<u>(19,262)</u>	<u>8,945</u>	<u>8,945</u>

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2022	28,329	28,329
At 31 March 2023	<u>28,329</u>	<u>28,329</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2022	13,339	13,339
Charge for the year	3,748	3,748
At 31 March 2023	<u>17,087</u>	<u>17,087</u>
Net book values		
At 31 March 2023	<u>11,242</u>	<u>11,242</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>14,990</u>	<u>14,990</u>

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023

..... continued

10. Debtors	2023	2022
	£	£
Other debtors	4,474	41

11. Statement of funds

	Balance 1 April 2022	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Balance 31 March 2023
Unrestricted Funds					
General fund	33,116	31,781	(46,433)	(1,195)	17,269
St Anne's Cathedral Sitout	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
	<u>33,116</u>	<u>32,781</u>	<u>(47,433)</u>	<u>(1,195)</u>	<u>17,269</u>
Restricted funds					
Restricted fixed asset fund	11,576	-	(2,895)	-	8,681
Belfast Trust- Perinatal Mental Health	-	2,496	(2,496)	-	-
Cancer Focus	-	11,095	(11,095)	-	-
Mindwise	-	35,442	(36,637)	1,195	-
Future Screens	-	11,109	(11,109)	-	-
LFT Charitable Trust	-	3,054	(3,054)	-	-
	<u>11,576</u>	<u>63,196</u>	<u>67,286</u>	<u>1,195</u>	<u>8,681</u>
	<u>44,692</u>	<u>95,977</u>	<u>(114,719)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,950</u>

The unrestricted reserve represents the free funds of the charity which are not designated for particular purposes.

The restricted funds represent grants received by the charity for specific purposes as laid out in the terms of the grant, and the application of those funds for those purposes.

ESC Films Limited
Company limited by guarantee

Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023

..... continued

12. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Tangible fixed Assets	Net current Assets/ (Liabilities)	Total
Unrestricted Funds			
General fund	2,561	14,708	17,269
	<u>2,561</u>	<u>14,708</u>	<u>17,269</u>
Restricted funds			
Restricted fixed asset fund	8,681	-	8,681
	<u>8,681</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,681</u>
	<u>11,242</u>	<u>14,708</u>	<u>25,950</u>

13. Company limited by guarantee

ESC FILMS LTD is a company limited by guarantee and the liability of the members is limited to a maximum of £1 for each member.

Esc Films

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102123

Annual report

ESC Films Limited (Company limited by guarantee)

Trustee Report for the year ended 13 March 2023

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 of the accounts and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published in October 2019".

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: ESC Films Limited
Charity Registration number: NIC102123
Company Registration number: NI036267
Registered Office: Blick Studios, 46 Hill Street, Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT1 2LB

Business Address: Blick Studios, 46 Hill Street, Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT 2LB

Trustees:

Don Leeson (Chair)
Paul McAleer
Heather Moorhead
Moyra Richardson
Neil Gilmore
Secretary
Moyra Richardson

Independent Examiner:
McCreery Turkington Stockman LTD, 1 Lanyon Quay, Belfast, BT1 3LG

Bankers
The Co-Operative Bank Pic, P.O. Box 250, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT

Legal structure of the charity:

The charity is constituted as a company limited by guarantee, registered under the Companies Acts. The governing documents of the charity are its Memorandum and Articles of Association establishing the company under company legislation and its constitution.

There are no restrictions in the governing documents on the operation of the Charity or on its investment powers other than those imposed by Charity Law.

By operation under law all Trustees are Directors under the Companies Act 2006 and have responsibilities as such under both company and charity legislation.

The trustees are all individuals:

Structure, governance and management of the charity:

The methods used to recruit and appoint new charity trustees.

Governance and management of ESC films is undertaken by a Board of Directors comprising a Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, and other Directors. The Board normally meets six times a year and is responsible for the overall strategic direction and control of esc film's activities. The day to day management of esc films is led by the Chief Executive with authority delegated by the Board of Directors. The Chief Executive and Artistic Director, have clearly defined areas of responsibility and accountability. They are supported by a cohort of freelance associates who are contracted for specialist expertise when the need arises.

The charity recruits and appoints trustees with a range of skills, experience and knowledge in keeping with the pursuance of its objects.

The charity's financial control procedures:

in relation to ESC film's overall financial control procedures, the charity has in place a comprehensive Strategic Plan supplemented by an annual budget approved by the Board of Trustees. Actual results are reported against budget on a monthly basis and projections to year end are reviewed by the Board at every meeting. The charity's day to day financial processes, which are governed by financial regulations, are approved by the Board.

Risk management:

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Objectives, Activities, Achievements and Performance:

Main Aim:

The charity's objects are set out in its constitution and are to advance education for the public benefit and to promote arts and culture. A more detailed explanation of the charity's objects is contained below in the section entitled "The main activities undertaken during the year to further the charity's purpose for the public benefit".

The main activities undertaken in relation to those purposes during the year 2022-23

SUMMARY: Over the course of the year we worked with 384 individuals, impacting directly on 20 participants in our therapeutic work, on a further 60 family members and an additional 54 staff members and volunteers. The charity awarded 9 ASDAN Peer Mentoring Awards and made 89 short films.

The main achievements and performance of the charity in 2022-23.

ESC films worked continuously to deliver on the goals outlined in the new Strategic Plan and Business Plan 2023-25.

ESC films focused on fulfilling the following aims for the year 2022-23:

We delivered a series of co-designed and co-produced short films based on the lived experience of the participants:

STEPPING OUT STAYING OUT (Shannon Clinic, Medium Secure Unit) launched May 2022 - This research-needs-driven training project was co-funded by The Halifax Foundation and the Belfast Health & Social Care Trust. The film project ran for over 41 weeks, one session per week and launched in May 2022.

The aim was to equip the Community and Forensic Mental Health team to educate those still in Shannon, using the lived experiences of those who have been through the system and are now settled in the community.

esc films produced a 20-minute long training film, devised, and co-produced with the Community & Forensic Mental Health Teams at the BHSCT. It is based on the most pressing issues raised by those leaving Shannon Clinic and transitioning back into the community. As part of the film-making project, 4 clients earned 2 credits as part of an ASDAN Peer Mentoring Award.

CANCER FOCUS NI:

The 2022-23 year spanned the second and third years of our four year contract with Cancer Focus - creating film resources to help support the work of their Family Support Service. In the first half of 2022, we adapted our methods, using both live face to face sessions and online zoom sessions to create content. We worked with young people, their families and teachers to create a series of 3 short films called The Learnings - a resource to help schools understand the needs of young people who have a parent with a cancer diagnosis. Filming was more straightforward this year since the majority of Covid restrictions had been lifted. The project launched at Stormont Hotel, Belfast in August 2022. See

<https://cancerfocusni.org/patient-support/family-support/the-learnings-video-series/>

We also prepared the groundwork to deliver a film telling the story of Cancer Focus NI's services, working with staff, clients, families and young people to capture the holistic nature of their services and signpost people towards relevant and timely help.

Completed June 2023 and due to launch publicly shortly after.

INCLUSIVE FAITH: we completed our original "A QUESTION OF BELONGING" LGBTQIA+ project benefitting from a partnership with the Northern Ireland Rare Disease Partnership (NIRDP) which provided us with a film-maker for the year to work on this project. We are grateful to the Rank Foundation's Time2Shine programme for supporting this work. In Feb 2023 we successfully launched the Inclusive Faith website, www.inclusivefaith.lgbt signposting for LGBTQIA+ people of faith and resources for people who are looking for resources to go on a journey towards LGBTQIA+ inclusion. The project received a lot of media attention including radio interviews on Radio Ulster and articles in the Belfast Telegraph and various online sources.

www.Inclusivefaith.lgbt is now a home for the following:

- One six week course
- 6 filmed talks and interviews on LGBT issues
- 15 individual stories on film
- 6 films of leader's journeys
- 6 short filmed introductions to affirming faith spaces

Lists of

- 30 inclusive groups
- 16 community organisations
- 16 pride events across the island of Ireland
- 10 signposts to counselling and helplines
- 28 books
- 35 terms in one glossary

RARE DISEASE PARTNERSHIP

- as part of the Time2 Shine project, esc films supported its film-maker to create a series of short films capturing the stories of people living with Rare Diseases in NI called Voices of the 1 in 17: These were launched at Stormont on Rare Disease Day in Feb 2023 and subsequently used widely on social media. <https://nirdp.org.uk/campaigns/>

FUTURE SCREENS

- We were able to complete the research elements of our Future Screens NI Virtual Reality research project during the year, exploring how our previous participants responded to VR technology.

BOARDROOM APPRENTICE

- esc films were successful again in tendering for the filming at the Boardroom Apprentice Panel Day 2023 and created a series of 19 short films which were broadly shared as part of the ongoing Boardroom Apprentice marketing drive. <https://boardroomapprentice.com/>

DEIRDRE'S STORY

- We worked in the Republic of Ireland for the first time, creating a dramatised film which aims to support training in Trauma-informed practice. We developed the film with the Donegal Domestic Violence Services and an Garda Síochána, Health Service Executive, Donegal Women's Centre and the Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC). The film launched in Letterkenny, Co. Donegal in Sept 2022 and is being rolled out in trauma-informed training across the South of Ireland.

MINDWISE - WISEMOVES

- we worked for a full year with MindWise mental health charity to tell the stories of individuals in their services and how they had journeyed through Covid. We also showcased a wide range of MindWise services through short films which launched in

Nov 2022 at MindWise' AGM. We created 8 individual stories and 10 films about services. See

<https://www.mindwisenv.org/what-we-do/wisemoves-film-series/>

MINDWISE -SNAKES AND LADDERS

- also in partnership with Mind Wise and this time supported by the LFT Charitable Foundation, we began work on a mental health and addictions project, working with a group of men and women from MindWise and Action Mental Health who had lived experience of both serious addictions and mental health issues. The project launched June 2023 and aims to help others with similar problems rebuild their lives.

BELFAST TRUST - PERINATAL MENTAL HEALTH

- we were commissioned to create a film called My Safe Space, co-designed with a group of mothers who had all experience perinatal mental health issues and had availed of BHSC's perinatal mental health services. The film aims to encourage other mothers facing similar problems to seek help. The programme was accredited and 5 women received ASDAN peer mentoring awards. The programme was completed in 2023 and will be launched shortly afterwards.

MICKEY B

- we continued to showcase our feature film adaptation of Shakespeare's Macbeth, Mickey B, holding a screening in March 2023 as part of the Belfast Learning City festival, and giving online workshops to universities, such as the University of Murcia, Spain.

Financial Review

The charity's financial position at the end of the year ended 31 March 2023 is set out in the financial statements.

Reserves Policy

The directors have set a reserves target of at least £25,000 of unrestricted reserves representing approx. 3 months running costs.

The directors regularly review the level of reserves held and consider opportunities to apply them in line with, and in furtherance of its charitable objectives.

Going Concern:

The board of Trustees is satisfied that the charity's assets in each fund are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations in respect of each fund.

Statement of the Directors' and Trustees' Responsibilities:

The directors are responsible for preparing the annual report on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law on the United Kingdom accounting standards (United Kingdom generally accepted accounting practice). Company law

requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources including the income and expenditure of the charitable company for the year.

In preparing those financial statements the directors are required to:

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

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

This report was approved by the Board on 11th September 2023.

Esc Films

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102123

Annual return

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of ESC Films Limited

I report on the accounts of the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 8-18.

Respective responsibilities of and examiner:

As the charity trustees (and also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement:

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission of NI I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Richard McClay FCA

For and on behalf of McCreery Turkington Stockman LTD