

# Belfast Platform for the Arts

Northern Ireland · Charity number 103457

## Details

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**Known as** Platform Arts

**Status** Received

**Registered** 2015-07-02

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register](#)

## Contact

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**Email** [platformbelfast@gmail.com](mailto:platformbelfast@gmail.com)

**Website** <http://platformartsbelfast.com/>

## Activities

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**Purposes:** The object of Belfast Platform for the Arts is to advance the education of the public in the promotion and appreciation of the arts in Belfast by: (i) Assisting emerging artists in necessitous circumstances to become self-supporting by the provision of studio space and facilities, advice and training; (ii) Managing an arena for public art exhibitions, demonstrations and lectures and use it as a centre for other arts related activities; (iii) Encouraging appreciation for and participation in community-based arts activities designed to enable members of the general public to explore their creativity.

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

**How the charity works:** Arts

**Who the charity helps:** General public

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£47,630	£46,469	£0	0
2024-03-31	£48,768	£43,889	£0	0

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Miss Emily Laverty		
Miss Áine Crawford		

**Belfast Platform for the Arts**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103457

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# Accounts

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**Belfast Platform for the Arts**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103457

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# Accounts

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Company registration number: NI072553

Charity registration number: 103457

# Belfast Platform for the Arts

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Hopper & Co  
Chartered Accountant & Registered Auditor  
6 Doagh Road  
Ballyclare  
Co Antrim  
BT39 9BG

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

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## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Reference and Administrative Details

<b>Trustees :</b>	Lenka Davidikova (appointed 20 April 2023 and Resigned 17 September 2023) Ekaterina Solomatina (Resigned 14 April 2024) Ekaterina Buryakova (Resigned 16 May 2023) Amy Gibney Devlin (Resigned 1 January 2025) Hannah Rose Gilbert-McMurray (appointed 9 August 2023 and Resigned 22 July 2024) Emily Mary Louise Laverty (appointed 22 April 2024) Rachel Kavanagh (appointed 22 April 2024) Katie McFadden (appointed 22 April 2024 and Resigned 22 July 2024) Erin Lligh Bennett (appointed 21 November 2024) Tarth Lauren McGonigle (appointed 22 April 2024 and Resigned 21 November 2024) Ryan Benjamin Allen (appointed 22 April 2024)
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	103457
<b>Company Registration Number</b>	NI072553
<b>Registered Office</b>	The charity is incorporated in Northern Ireland. 6 Doagh Road Ballyclare Co Antrim BT39 9BG
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Hopper & Co Chartered Accountant & Registered Auditor 6 Doagh Road Ballyclare Co Antrim BT39 9BG
<b>Bankers</b>	HSBC Royal Avenue 25-29 Royal Avenue Belfast Co Antrim BT1 1FB

## **Belfast Platform for the Arts**

### **Trustees' Report**

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Legal and administrative information is contained on the company information page preceding this report.

#### **Objectives and activities**

##### *Objects and aims*

Belfast Platform for the Arts ( known as Platform ) is a voluntary organisation established as a registered charity in May 2009 by a group of concerned individuals who desired to advance the education of the public in the promotion and appreciation of the Arts in Belfast.

We seek to achieve this by holding regular exhibitions and run a programme of events designed to meet these objectives. We intend to create a safe space for the local community.

We are an artist led studio group and contemporary art gallery currently based in East Belfast. Our role is to actively promote creative expression, presentation and access to contemporary art practice through our Exhibition, Outreach and Studio Programmes. We are managed by a Board of Directors drawn from a wide range of organisations connected with the Arts, all of whom have practical working knowledge of the Arts, and who are well qualified and experienced in their fields of expertise. The majority are practicing artists with a commitment to develop their skills within a variety of fields. We intend to work more closely with our fellow organisations and the community within East Belfast.

##### *Public benefit*

We assist emerging artists in necessitous circumstances to become self-supporting by the provision of studio space and facilities, advice and training, allowing them to develop their talents. We also manage an arena for public art exhibitions, demonstrations and lectures and as a centre for other art related activities which encourages appreciation for and participation in community based arts activities designed to enable members of the general public to explore their creativity. These activities serve to educate and inform the general public in the appreciation of the arts.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2008 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

#### **Achievements and performance**

Platform Arts has continued to participate in and manage a multitude of exhibitions, workshops and events. Last year we were able to showcase over 10 exhibitions and supported over 40 artists. We hosted many workshops and launched a monthly event called Late Night Art East in September. This event had 7 different organisations showcase a new exhibition or workshop and saw an estimated 150/200 people attend. There was free food and beverages, a DJ, and an optional guided tour hosted by Platform Arts which brought around 50 people alone. We now have the majority of the organisations in East Belfast involved in an event which takes place on the second Thursday of the month. We hosted an open call for illustrators to produce a brochure and create the overall look of the event. The chosen illustrator was awarded a fee. This then led to a group show exhibiting all the illustrators who applied. The event was sponsored by Belfast 2024.

Platform had some renovations which included our walls being newly plastered and painted. This allowed the space to have a more professional and neutral aesthetic for exhibiting artists. The team of directors took time to paint, clean and tidy the gallery which has benefited everyone from studio holders to the public.

We had the pleasure to launch a new website with an updated and more maneuverable archive, which includes the 15 year history of Platform. Our website is now updated with our upcoming exhibitions, workshops, events, open calls, newsletter and more.

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Trustees' Report

#### Financial review

##### *Principal funding sources*

The main incoming resources are donations from members for the use of studio accommodation together with grants and public donations as and when received. In addition the Platform benefits from the use of the Belfast premises on a rent free basis, the notional rent value of £35,000 p.a. is shown as both an incoming and outgoing resource.

#### Structure, governance and management

##### *Nature of governing document*

Belfast Platform for the Arts is a company limited by guarantee which is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

##### *Recruitment and appointment of trustees*

Trustees, who are also Executive Committee members, are nominated and elected annually by full members at the AGM and also by the Executive Committee during the year to fill casual vacancies should the need arise.

Existing Committee members are eligible for re-election. Office Bearers are elected by the Committee from among their number at the first full Committee meeting after the AGM.

##### *Arrangements for setting key management personnel remuneration*

Management of the charity is undertaken by the Trustees. No remuneration for services is paid to any Trustee.

#### Financial instruments

##### *Objectives and policies*

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

##### *Cash flow risk*

The charity's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of changes in donation and event based income. The use of studio accommodation is closely monitored and regular events are held to maintain income. Interest bearing assets and liabilities are held at fixed rate to ensure certainty of cash flows.

##### *Credit risk*

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments. The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows.

The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Trustees' Report

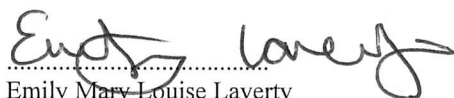
#### *Liquidity risk*

In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the charity maintains an adequate level of cash reserves.

#### **Small companies provision statement**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 26 March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



.....  
Emily Mary Louise Laverty  
Director and Trustee



.....  
Ryan Benjamin Allen  
Director and Trustee

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Belfast Platform for the Arts for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". The report and accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

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

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

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 26 March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Emily Mary Louise Laverty  
Director and Trustee



Ryan Benjamin Allen  
Director and Trustee

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Belfast Platform for the Arts ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of Belfast Platform for the Arts (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the 2008 Act) and that an independent examination is required.

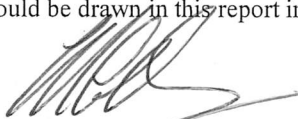
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of Belfast Platform for the Arts are not required to be audited and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 65(3) of the 2008 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

#### Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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



.....  
Michael Hopper FCA  
Chartered Accountant & Registered Auditor  
Chartered Accountants Ireland

6 Doagh Road  
Ballyclare  
Co Antrim  
BT39 9BG

27 March 2025

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2024 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	3	<u>48,768</u>	<u>48,768</u>
Total income		<u>48,768</u>	<u>48,768</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	4	<u>(43,889)</u>	<u>(43,889)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(43,889)</u>	<u>(43,889)</u>
Net income		<u>4,879</u>	<u>4,879</u>
Net movement in funds		4,879	4,879
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward		<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>
Total funds carried forward	11	<u>5,879</u>	<u>5,879</u>
		Unrestricted funds £	Total 2023 £
	Note		
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	3	<u>42,545</u>	<u>42,545</u>
Total income		<u>42,545</u>	<u>42,545</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	4	<u>(41,801)</u>	<u>(41,801)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(41,801)</u>	<u>(41,801)</u>
Net income		<u>744</u>	<u>744</u>
Net movement in funds		744	744
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward		<u>256</u>	<u>256</u>
Total funds carried forward	11	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods. The funds breakdown for 2023 and 2024 is shown in note 11.

The notes on pages 9 to 15 form an integral part of these financial statements.

**Belfast Platform for the Arts**  
**(Registration number: NI072553)**  
**Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	8	1,125	1,125
Cash at bank and in hand	9	6,975	2,096
		8,100	3,221
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	10	(2,221)	(2,221)
<b>Net assets</b>		5,879	1,000
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		5,879	1,000
<b>Total funds</b>	11	5,879	1,000

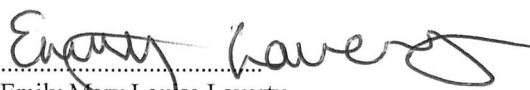
For the financial year ending 31 March 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.


Directors' responsibilities:

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

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements on pages 7 to 15 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 26 March 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

  
 .....  
 Emily Mary Louise Laverty  
 Director and Trustee

  
 .....  
 Ryan Benjamin Allen  
 Director and Trustee

The notes on pages 9 to 15 form an integral part of these financial statements.

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

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

#### 1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in Northern Ireland, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

6 Doagh Road  
Ballyclare  
Co Antrim  
BT39 9BG

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the trustees on 26 March 2025.

#### 2 Accounting policies

##### Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

##### Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

##### Basis of preparation

Belfast Platform for the Arts meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

##### Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

##### Income and endowments

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

## **Belfast Platform for the Arts**

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

#### *Donations and legacies*

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

#### *Grants receivable*

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

#### *Donated services and facilities*

Where services or facilities are provided to the charity as a donation that would normally be purchased from our suppliers, this benefit is included in the financial statements at its fair value unless its fair value cannot be reliably measured, then at the cost to the donor or the resale value of goods that are to be sold.

#### *Gift aid*

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the Statement of Financial Activities at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

#### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

#### *Raising funds*

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

#### **Support costs**

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

#### **Taxation**

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

#### **Tangible fixed assets**

Individual fixed assets costing £1.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

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

#### Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture and equipment	33% straight line

#### Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

#### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

#### Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

#### Financial instruments

##### *Classification*

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

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 charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

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

#### *Recognition and measurement*

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

#### **3 Income from donations and legacies**

	<b>Unrestricted funds General £</b>	<b>Total funds £</b>
Donations and legacies;		
Donations from individuals	6,368	6,368
Grants, including capital grants;		
Grants from other charities	7,400	7,400
Donated services and facilities	35,000	35,000
<b>Total for 2024</b>	<u>48,768</u>	<u>48,768</u>
<b>Total for 2023</b>	<u>42,545</u>	<u>42,545</u>

#### **4 Expenditure on raising funds**

##### **a) Costs of generating donations and legacies**

Belfast Platform for the Arts

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Donated services and gifts in kind		35,000	35,000
Allocated support costs		<u>8,889</u>	<u>8,889</u>
<b>Total for 2024</b>		<u><u>43,889</u></u>	<u><u>43,889</u></u>
<b>Total for 2023</b>		<u><u>41,801</u></u>	<u><u>41,801</u></u>

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

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

**Total  
costs  
£**

#### 5 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming resources for the year include:

**2024  
£**

#### 6 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

#### 7 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

#### 8 Debtors

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Trade debtors	1,125	1,125

#### 9 Cash and cash equivalents

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Cash on hand	146	146
Cash at bank	6,829	1,950
	6,975	2,096

#### 10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	£	£
Other creditors	1,141	1,141
Accruals	1,080	1,080
	2,221	2,221

#### 11 Funds

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

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

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General	1,000	48,768	(43,889)	5,879

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General	256	42,545	(41,801)	1,000

#### 12 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds at 31 March 2024 £
Current assets	8,100	8,100
Current liabilities	(2,221)	(2,221)
Total net assets	5,879	5,879
	<b>Unrestricted funds General £</b>	<b>Total funds at 31 March 2023 £</b>
Current assets	3,221	3,221
Current liabilities	(2,221)	(2,221)
Total net assets	1,000	1,000

#### 13 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	2,096	4,879	6,975
Net debt	2,096	4,879	6,975
	<b>At 1 April 2022 £</b>	<b>Financing cash flows £</b>	<b>At 31 March 2023 £</b>
Cash at bank and in hand	1,391	705	2,096
Net debt	1,391	705	2,096

#### 14 Related party transactions

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Statement of Financial Activities by fund for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

#### Unrestricted Funds

	<b>Total Unrestricted Funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total Unrestricted Funds 2023 £</b>
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>		
Donations and legacies	<u>48,768</u>	<u>42,545</u>
Total income	<u>48,768</u>	<u>42,545</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>		
Raising funds	<u>(43,889)</u>	<u>(41,801)</u>
Total expenditure	<u>(43,889)</u>	<u>(41,801)</u>
Net income	<u>4,879</u>	<u>744</u>
Net movement in funds	4,879	744
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>		
Total funds brought forward	<u>1,000</u>	<u>256</u>
Total funds carried forward	<u><u>5,879</u></u>	<u><u>1,000</u></u>

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

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

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>		
Donations and legacies (analysed below)	48,768	42,545
Total income	<u>48,768</u>	<u>42,545</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>		
Raising funds (analysed below)	(43,889)	(41,801)
Total expenditure	<u>(43,889)</u>	<u>(41,801)</u>
Net income	<u>4,879</u>	<u>744</u>
Net movement in funds	4,879	744
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>		
Total funds brought forward	<u>1,000</u>	<u>256</u>
Total funds carried forward	<u><u>5,879</u></u>	<u><u>1,000</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements.

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

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

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<i>Donations and legacies</i>		
Grants - other agencies	7,400	3,535
Donated use of facilities	35,000	35,000
Rental income	6,368	3,860
Other income	-	150
	48,768	42,545
<i>Raising funds</i>		
Programme costs	(1,001)	(1,553)
Rent and rates	(35,000)	(35,000)
Light, heat and power	(2,561)	(2,860)
Repairs and maintenance	(3,087)	(596)
Telephone and fax	(1,194)	(1,238)
Sundry expenses	(506)	-
Cleaning	-	(14)
Independent examiner's fee	(540)	(540)
	(43,889)	(41,801)

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements.

**Belfast Platform for the Arts**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103457

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# Accounts

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Company registration number: NI072553

Charity registration number: 103457

# Belfast Platform for the Arts

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Hopper & Co  
Chartered Accountant & Registered Auditor  
6 Doagh Road  
Ballyclare  
Co Antrim  
BT39 9BG

## **Belfast Platform for the Arts**

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## **Belfast Platform for the Arts**

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

<b>Trustees :</b>	Meadhbh McIlgorm (Resigned 21 April 2022) Aine McGuinness (Resigned 21 April 2022) Jessica Gunn (Resigned 21 April 2022) Latisha Reihill (Resigned 21 April 2022) Malachy McCrudden (Resigned 21 April 2022) Holly Foskett (Resigned 19 October 2022) Laura Harvey-Graham (Resigned 21 April 2022) Xavier Mercade Costa (Resigned 25 March 2023) Lenka Davidikova (appointed 20 April 2023 and Resigned 17 September 2023) Ekaterina Solomatina (appointed 1 May 2022) Ekaterina Buryakova (appointed 1 October 2022 and Resigned 16 May 2023) Amy Gibney Devlin (appointed 1 March 2023) Chloe Austin (appointed 20 May 2022 and Resigned 1 October 2022) Hannah Rose Gilbert-McMurray (appointed 9 August 2023)
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	103457
<b>Company Registration Number</b>	NI072553
<b>Registered Office</b>	The charity is incorporated in Northern Ireland. Units 37-38 Connswater Shopping Centre Bloomfield Avenue Belfast BT5 5LP
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Hopper & Co Chartered Accountant & Registered Auditor 6 Doagh Road Ballyclare Co Antrim BT39 9BG
<b>Bankers</b>	HSBC Royal Avenue 25-29 Royal Avenue Belfast Co Antrim BT1 1FB

# **Belfast Platform for the Arts**

## **Trustees' Report**

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

Legal and administrative information is contained on the company information page preceeding this report.

### **Objectives and activities**

#### ***Objects and aims***

Belfast Platform for the Arts ( known as Platform ) is a voluntary organisation established in May 2009 by a group of concerned individuals to assist persons with artistic talents to promote themselves to the general public and to advance the education and understanding of the public in the promotion and appreciation of the Arts in Belfast and beyond.

We seek to acheive this by holding regular exhibitions and run a programme of events designed to meet these objectives.

We are an artist led studio group and contemporary art gallery now based in East Belfast. Our role is to actively promote creative expression, presentation and access to contemporary art practice through our Exhibition, Outreach and Studio Programmes. We are managed by a Board of Directors drawn from a wide range of organisations connected with the Arts, all of whom have practical working knowledge of the Arts, and who are well quailfied and experienced in their fields of expertise.

#### ***Public benefit***

We assist emerging artists in necessitous circumstances to become self-supporting by the provision of studio space and facilities, advice and training, allowing them to develop their talents. We also manage an arena for public art exhibitions, demonstrations and lectures and as a centre for other art related activities which encourages appreciation for and participation in community based arts activities designed to enable members of the general public to explore their creativity. These activities serve to educate and inform the general public in the appreciation of the arts.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2008 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

## **Belfast Platform for the Arts**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### **Achievements and performance**

On the 1st November 2019 we were made aware by our landlord that we had to vacate our premises at 1 Queen Street, Belfast by 1st March 2020. We met this deadline and moved to new premises at Connswater Shopping Centre where we have made a strong connection and established ourselves as part of the community and ecosystem there.

East Belfast has seen a creative gentrification initiative which Platform Arts has also played a part in. With "in" person exhibitions finally resuming to post Covid normality in March 2021, we decided to go back from virtual exhibitions to opening the gallery once again fully to the public and continue with shows similar to prior Covid 19.

With being placed in new premises this was the time to establish our mark in East Belfast with support from the Centre management and other local galleries around. In November 2021 we hosted Platform's first Salonathon Exhibition which was an open invitation for local artists to submit work to be exhibited. This open call has seen 70 artworks from both professional as well as novice artists. The exhibition gauged a huge amount of interaction and interest as well as donations to the gallery. It was filmed and documented by local TV channel NVTV which put our stamp on our new home in East Belfast. With a newly established residence and the ability to have in person shows again the space has also welcomed three new artists in residence which has helped support the gallery with admin/maintenance costs. In 2021-22 the gallery has seen exhibition applications from both local and international artists which is now helping to build Platform's status as an established Belfast artist run, artist led gallery.

In 2022-23 Platform Arts has focused on building a stronger community spirit and collective mindset among members of the arts organisation. We brought up the numbers of studio holders filling all 6 residences. We had a number of collaborative meetings about the overall direction the venue is going to develop which included co-directors and studio holders. We held the first community Christmas event inviting over 200 people to come through our doors daily. We had a Spring call out for young artists aged 3 - 12 years old. Our regular graduate exhibition took place in June. We introduced new artist voices to the general public, exhibiting Beth Fox, David Younglove, Hattie Godfrey and many others. We brought more established artists like Patrick Hickey to keep up the fine art standards. This year we focused more on engaging with locals and held a number of artists talks and some workshops.

In the future Platform Arts is planning to expand its Board of Directors and find ways to attract more Arts Council support.

#### **Financial review**

##### ***Principal funding sources***

The main incoming resources are donations from members for the use of studio accommodation. In addition the Platform benefits from the use of the Belfast premises on a rent free basis, the notional rent value of £35,000 p.a. is shown as both an incoming and outgoing resource.

#### **Structure, governance and management**

##### ***Nature of governing document***

Belfast Platform for the Arts is a company limited by guarantee which is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

## **Belfast Platform for the Arts**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### ***Recruitment and appointment of trustees***

Trustees, who are also Executive Committee members, are nominated and elected annually by full members at the AGM and also by the Executive Committee during the year to fill casual vacancies should the need arise.

Existing Committee members are eligible for re-election. Office Bearers are elected by the Committee from among their number at the first full Committee meeting after the AGM.

#### ***Arrangements for setting key management personnel remuneration***

Management of the charity is undertaken by the Trustees. No remuneration for services is paid to any Trustee.

#### **Financial instruments**

#### ***Objectives and policies***

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

#### ***Cash flow risk***

The charity's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of changes in donation and event based income. The use of studio accommodation is closely monitored and regular events are held to maintain income. Interest bearing assets and liabilities are held at fixed rate to ensure certainty of cash flows.

#### ***Credit risk***

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments. The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows.

The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

#### ***Liquidity risk***

In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the charity maintains an adequate level of cash reserves.

#### **Small companies provision statement**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Trustees' Report

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 26 March 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



.....  
Ekaterina Solomatina  
Director and Trustee



.....  
Amy Gibney Devlin  
Director and Trustee

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Belfast Platform for the Arts for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". The report and accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

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

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

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 26 March 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Ekaterina Solomatina  
Director and Trustee



Amy Gibney Devlin  
Director and Trustee

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Belfast Platform for the Arts ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of Belfast Platform for the Arts (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the 2008 Act) and that an independent examination is required.

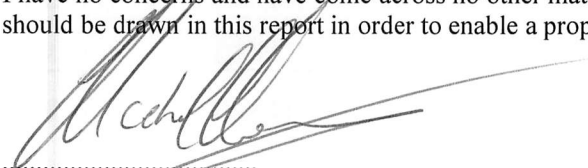
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of Belfast Platform for the Arts are not required to be audited and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 65(3) of the 2008 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

#### Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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



.....  
Michael Hopper FCA  
Chartered Accountant & Registered Auditor  
Chartered Accountants Ireland

6 Doagh Road  
Ballyclare  
Co Antrim  
BT39 9BG

27 March 2024

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2023 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	3	42,545	42,545
Total income		42,545	42,545
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	5	(41,801)	(41,801)
Total expenditure		(41,801)	(41,801)
Net income		744	744
Net movement in funds		744	744
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward		256	256
Total funds carried forward	12	1,000	1,000
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2022 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	3	41,125	41,125
Total income		41,125	41,125
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	5	(44,007)	(44,007)
Total expenditure		(44,007)	(44,007)
Net expenditure		(2,882)	(2,882)
Net movement in funds		(2,882)	(2,882)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward		3,137	3,137
Total funds carried forward	12	255	255

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.  
The funds breakdown for 2022 and 2023 is shown in note 12.

The notes on pages 10 to 16 form an integral part of these financial statements.

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

(Registration number: NI072553)  
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	9	1,125	1,125
Cash at bank and in hand	10	<u>2,096</u>	<u>1,391</u>
		3,221	2,516
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	11	<u>(2,221)</u>	<u>(2,261)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>1,000</u>	<u>255</u>
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		<u>1,000</u>	<u>255</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	12	<u>1,000</u>	<u>255</u>

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

Directors' responsibilities:

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

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements on pages 8 to 16 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 26 March 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Ekaterina Solomatina  
Director and Trustee



Amy Gibney Devlin  
Director and Trustee

The notes on pages 10 to 16 form an integral part of these financial statements.

## **Belfast Platform for the Arts**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

#### **1 Charity status**

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in Northern Ireland, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

Units 37-38  
Connswater Shopping Centre  
Bloomfield Avenue  
Belfast  
BT5 5LP

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the trustees on 26 March 2024.

#### **2 Accounting policies**

##### **Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates**

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

##### **Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

##### **Basis of preparation**

Belfast Platform for the Arts meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

##### **Going concern**

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

##### **Income and endowments**

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

## **Belfast Platform for the Arts**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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

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

#### ***Grants receivable***

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

#### ***Donated services and facilities***

Where services or facilities are provided to the charity as a donation that would normally be purchased from our suppliers, this benefit is included in the financial statements at its fair value unless its fair value cannot be reliably measured, then at the cost to the donor or the resale value of goods that are to be sold.

#### ***Gift aid***

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the Statement of Financial Activities at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

#### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

#### ***Raising funds***

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

#### **Support costs**

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

#### **Taxation**

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

#### **Tangible fixed assets**

Individual fixed assets costing £1.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture and equipment	33% straight line

#### Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

#### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

#### Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

#### Financial instruments

##### *Classification*

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

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 charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### *Recognition and measurement*

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

#### 3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Donations and legacies;		
Donations from individuals	3,860	3,860
Grants, including capital grants;		
Grants from other charities	3,535	3,535
Donated services and facilities	35,000	35,000
Other income from donations and legacies	150	150
<b>Total for 2023</b>	<u>42,545</u>	<u>42,545</u>
<b>Total for 2022</b>	<u>41,125</u>	<u>41,125</u>

#### 4 Investment income

	Total funds £
<b>Total for 2023</b>	<u>-</u>

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### 5 Expenditure on raising funds

##### a) Costs of generating donations and legacies

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Donated services and gifts in kind		35,000	35,000
Allocated support costs		6,801	6,801
<b>Total for 2023</b>		<u>41,801</u>	<u>41,801</u>
<b>Total for 2022</b>		<u>44,007</u>	<u>44,007</u>

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Total  
costs  
£

#### 6 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year include:

2023  
£

#### 7 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

#### 8 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

#### 9 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	<u>1,125</u>	<u>1,125</u>

#### 10 Cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash on hand	146	-
Cash at bank	<u>1,950</u>	<u>1,391</u>
	<u>2,096</u>	<u>1,391</u>

#### 11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Other creditors	1,141	1,241
Accruals	<u>1,080</u>	<u>1,020</u>
	<u>2,221</u>	<u>2,261</u>

#### 12 Funds

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General	256	42,545	(41,801)	1,000
	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General	3,137	41,125	(44,007)	255

#### 13 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds at 31 March 2023 £
Current assets	3,221	3,221
Current liabilities	(2,221)	(2,221)
Total net assets	1,000	1,000
	£	£
	£	£
Current assets	2,516	2,516
Current liabilities	(2,261)	(2,261)
Total net assets	255	255

#### 14 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2022 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 March 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	1,391	705	2,096
Net debt	1,391	705	2,096
	£	£	£
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	4,947	(3,556)	1,391
Net debt	4,947	(3,556)	1,391

#### 15 Related party transactions

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Statement of Financial Activities by fund for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### Unrestricted Funds

	Total Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Total Unrestricted Funds 2022 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>		
Donations and legacies	<u>42,545</u>	<u>41,125</u>
Total income	<u>42,545</u>	<u>41,125</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>		
Raising funds	<u>(41,801)</u>	<u>(44,007)</u>
Total expenditure	<u>(41,801)</u>	<u>(44,007)</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u>744</u>	<u>(2,882)</u>
Net movement in funds	744	(2,882)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>		
Total funds brought forward	<u>256</u>	<u>3,137</u>
Total funds carried forward	<u><u>1,000</u></u>	<u><u>255</u></u>

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>		
Donations and legacies (analysed below)	<u>42,545</u>	<u>41,125</u>
Total income	<u>42,545</u>	<u>41,125</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>		
Raising funds (analysed below)	<u>(41,801)</u>	<u>(44,007)</u>
Total expenditure	<u>(41,801)</u>	<u>(44,007)</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u>744</u>	<u>(2,882)</u>
Net movement in funds	744	(2,882)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>		
Total funds brought forward	<u>256</u>	<u>3,137</u>
Total funds carried forward	<u><u>1,000</u></u>	<u><u>255</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements.

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<i><b>Donations and legacies</b></i>		
Grants - other agencies	3,535	1,857
Donated use of facilities	35,000	35,000
Rental income	3,860	4,040
Other income	150	228
	<u>42,545</u>	<u>41,125</u>
<i><b>Raising funds</b></i>		
Programme costs	(1,553)	(2,110)
Rent and rates	(35,000)	(35,000)
Light, heat and power	(2,860)	(1,921)
Insurance	-	(1,696)
Repairs and maintenance	(596)	(1,977)
Telephone and fax	(1,238)	(365)
Sundry expenses	-	(267)
Cleaning	(14)	(131)
Independent examiner's fee	(540)	(540)
	<u>(41,801)</u>	<u>(44,007)</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements.

**Belfast Platform for the Arts**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103457

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# Annual report

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# Belfast Platform for the Arts

## Reference and Administrative Details

**Trustees**  
2023)  
2022)  
(appointed August 2023)

Amy Gibney Devlin (appointed February  
Ekaterina Solomatina (appointed April  
Hannah Rose Gilbert McMurray

**Charity Registration Number** 103457

**Company Registration Number** NI072553

**Ireland  
Registered Office**

The Charity is incorporated in Northern  
Units 37-38  
Connswater Shopping Centre  
Bloomfield Avenue  
Belfast  
BT5 5LP

**Independent Examiner  
Auditor**

Hopper & Co  
Chartered Accountant & Registered  
6 Doagh Road  
Ballyclare  
Co Antrim  
BT39 9BG

**Bankers**

HSBC  
Royal Avenue  
25-29 Royal Avenue  
Belfast  
Co Antrim  
BT1 1FB

## **Trustees' Report**

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of company law, present their report and the financial statements for the financial year 2022/ 2023

Legal and administrative information is contained on the company information page at the front of this report.

## **Structure, Governance & Management**

Belfast Platform for the Arts is a company limited by guarantee which is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Executive Committee members are nominated and elected annually by full members at the AGM.

Existing Committee members are eligible for re election. Office Bearers are elected by the Committee from among their number at the first full Committee meeting after the AGM.

## **Objectives and Activities**

Belfast Platform for the Arts was established as a Registered Charity, in May 2009, by a group of concerned individuals who desired to advance the education of the public in the promotion and appreciation of the arts in Belfast.

We are managed by an Executive Committee, including a Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer, all of whom have practical working knowledge of the arts.

Our Board Members come from a wide range of organisations connected with the arts, and are well qualified and experienced in their fields.

## **Mission Statement**

Belfast Platform for the Arts is a voluntary organisation established to assist persons with artistic talents to promote themselves to the general public and to broaden in general the education and understanding of the public with regard to the arts.

We seek to achieve this by holding regular exhibitions and run a programme of events designed to meet these objectives.

## **Achievements and performance**

On the 1st of November 2019 we were made aware by the Landlord that we had to vacate our premises of 1 Queen Street, Belfast by 1st March 2020. We met this deadline and have moved premises to the Connswater shopping centre where we have made a strong connection and established ourselves as part of the community and ecosystem there.

East Belfast has seen a creative gentrification initiative which Platform Arts has also played a part in. With “in” person exhibitions finally resuming to post Covid ‘normality’ in March 2021, we decided to go back from virtual exhibitions to opening the gallery once again fully to the public and continue with shows similar to prior of Covid 19.

With being placed in a new premises this was the time to establish our mark in East Belfast with the support from centre management and other local galleries around. In November 2021 we hosted Platforms first Salonathon Exhibition which was an open invitation for local artists to submit work to be exhibited. This open call has seen 70 artworks, from both professional artists as well as novice artists. The exhibition gauged a huge amount of interaction and interest as well as donations to the gallery. The Exhibition was filmed and documented by local TV channel NVTV which put our stamp on our new home in East Belfast. With a newly established residence and the ability to have in person shows again the space has also welcomed three new artists in residence which has helped support the gallery with admin/ maintenance costs. In 2021-2022 the gallery has seen exhibition applications from both local and international artists which is now helping build

Platforms status as an established Belfast Artist run, artist led gallery.

In 2022-2023 Platform Arts has focused on building a stronger community spirit and collective mindset among members of the arts organisation. We brought up the numbers of studio holders filling all 6 residencies. We had a number of collaborative meetings about the overall direction the venue is going to develop which included co-directors and studio holders. We held the first community Christmas event inviting over 200 people to come through our doors daily. We had a spring call out for young artists aged 3-12 years old. Our regular graduate exhibition took place in June. We introduced new artist voices to the general public, exhibiting Beth Fox, David Younglove, Hattie Godfrey and many others. We brought more established artists like Patrick Hickey, to keep up the fine art standards. This year we focused more on engaging with locals and held a number of artists talks and some workshops.

In the future Platform Arts is planning to grow its co-directors board and find ways to attract more arts council support.

### **Small company provisions**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The Annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 7th of February 2024 and signed on its behalf by

.....  
Amy Gibney Devlin  
(Director and Trustee)

.....  
Ekaterina Solomatina  
(Director and Trustee)

.....  
Hannah Rose Gilbert McMurray  
(Director and Trustee)

**Belfast Platform for the Arts**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103457

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# Annual return

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## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Belfast Platform for the Arts ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of Belfast Platform for the Arts (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the 2008 Act) and that an independent examination is required.

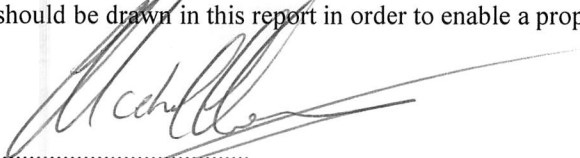
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of Belfast Platform for the Arts are not required to be audited and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 65(3) of the 2008 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

#### Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

  
.....  
Michael Hopper FCA  
Chartered Accountant & Registered Auditor  
Chartered Accountants Ireland

6 Doagh Road  
Ballyclare  
Co Antrim  
BT39 9BG

27 March 2024

**Belfast Platform for the Arts**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103457

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# Accounts

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Company registration number: NI072553

Charity registration number: 103457

# Belfast Platform for the Arts

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Hopper & Co  
Chartered Accountant & Registered Auditor  
6 Doagh Road  
Ballyclare  
Co Antrim  
BT39 9BG

## **Belfast Platform for the Arts**

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Independent Examiner's Report	7
Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance Sheet	9
Notes to the Financial Statements	10 to 16

## **Belfast Platform for the Arts**

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

Trustees :

Meadhbh McIlgorm (Resigned 21 April 2022)  
Eilish McLaughlin (Resigned 20 May 2021)  
Sarah Rehill (Resigned 5 May 2021)  
Declan Proctor (Resigned 5 May 2021)  
Aine McGuinness (Resigned 21 April 2022)  
Sharon McKeown (Resigned 5 May 2021)  
Jessica Gunn (Resigned 21 April 2022)  
Latisha Reihill (appointed 5 May 2021 and Resigned 21 April 2022)  
Malachy McCrudden (appointed 5 May 2021 and Resigned 21 April 2022)  
Holly Foskett (appointed 6 May 2021 and Resigned 19 October 2022)  
Laura Harvey-Graham (appointed 20 May 2021 and Resigned 21 April 2022)  
Xavier Mercade Costa (appointed 5 May 2021 and Resigned 25 March 2023)  
Sinead Cameron (Resigned 3 February 2022)  
Lenka Davidikova (appointed 20 April 2023)  
Ekaterina Solomatina (appointed 1 May 2022)  
Ekaterina Buryakova (appointed 1 October 2022 and Resigned 16 May 2023)  
Amy Gibney Devlin (appointed 1 March 2023)  
Chloe Austin (appointed 20 May 2022 and Resigned 1 October 2022)

**Charity Registration Number** 103457

**Company Registration Number** NI072553

The charity is incorporated in Northern Ireland.

## **Belfast Platform for the Arts**

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

**Registered Office**

Units 37-38  
Connswater Shopping Centre  
Bloomfield Avenue  
Belfast  
BT5 5LP

**Independent Examiner**

Hopper & Co  
Chartered Accountant & Registered Auditor  
6 Doagh Road  
Ballyclare  
Co Antrim  
BT39 9BG

**Bankers**

HSBC  
Royal Avenue  
25-29 Royal Avenue  
Belfast  
Co Antrim  
BT1 1FB

## **Belfast Platform for the Arts**

### **Trustees' Report**

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Legal and administrative information is contained on the company information page preceeding this report.

#### **Objectives and activities**

##### ***Objects and aims***

Belfast Platform for the Arts ( known as Platform ) is a voluntary organisation established in May 2009 by a group of concerned individuals to assist persons with artistic talents to promote themselves to the general public and to advance the education and understanding of the public in the promotion and appreciation of the Arts in Belfast and beyond.

We seek to acheive this by holding regular exhibitions and run a programme of events designed to meet these objectives.

We are an artist led studio group and comtemporary art gallery now based in East Belfast. Our role is to actively promote creative expression, presentation and access to contemporary art practice through our Exhibition, Outreach and Studio Programmes. We are managed by a Board of Directors drawn from a wide range of organisations connected with the Arts, all of whom have practical working knowledge of the Arts, and who are well qualifed and experienced in their fields of expertise.

##### ***Public benefit***

We assist emerging artists in necessitous circumstances to become self-supporting by the provision of studio space and facilities, advice and training, allowing them to develop their talents. We also manage an arena for public art exhibitions, demonstrations and lectures and as a centre for other art related activities which encourages appreciation for and participation in community based arts activities designed to enable members of the general public to explore their creativity. These activities serve to educate and inform the general public in the appreciation of the arts.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2008 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

## **Belfast Platform for the Arts**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### **Achievements and performance**

Since opening during 2021 in the Connswater Shopping complex, we have made a strong connection and established ourselves as part of the community and ecosystem there.

East Belfast has seen a creative gentrification initiative which Platform has played a part in. With 'in person' exhibitions returning to post Covid normality in March 2021 we decided to move back from virtual exhibitions to fully re-opening the gallery once again to the public and continue with events similar to those prior to the Covid 19 pandemic.

With our new improved premises this was the time to establish our mark in East Belfast with support from Centre management and other local galleries around. In November 2021 we hosted Platform's first Salonathon Exhibition which was an open invitation for local artists to submit work to be exhibited, resulting in 70 artworks from both professional and novice artists. The exhibition generated a huge amount of interaction and interest as well as donations to the gallery. It was filmed and documented by local TV channel NVTV which put our stamp on our new home in East Belfast. With a newly established residence and the ability to have 'in person' events again the space has also welcomed three new artists in residence which has helped support the gallery with admin and maintenance costs. In 2021-2022 the gallery has received exhibition applications from both local and international artists which is how helping to build Platform's status as an established Belfast artist run, artist led, gallery.

The future goals of this arts organisation are centered around building a stronger community spirit and collective mindset among the members of Platform.

#### **Financial review**

##### ***Principal funding sources***

The main incoming resources are donations from members for the use of studio accomodation. In addition the Platform benefits from the use of the Belfast premises on a rent free basis, the notional rent value of £35,000 p.a. is shown as both an incoming and outgoing resource.

#### **Structure, governance and management**

##### ***Nature of governing document***

Belfast Platform for the Arts is a company limited by guarantee which is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

##### ***Recruitment and appointment of trustees***

Trustees, who are also Executive Committee members, are nominated and elected annually by full members at the AGM and also by the Executive Committee during the year to fill casual vacancies should the need arise.

Existing Committee members are eligible for re-election. Office Bearers are elected by the Committee from among their number at the first full Committee meeting after the AGM.

##### ***Arrangements for setting key management personnel remuneration***

Management of the charity is undertaken by the Trustees. No remuneration for services is paid to any Trustee.

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Trustees' Report

#### Financial instruments

##### *Objectives and policies*

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

##### *Cash flow risk*

The charity's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of changes in donation and event based income. The use of studio accomodation is closely monitored and regular events are held to maintain income. Interest bearing assets and liabilities are held at fixed rate to ensure certainty of cash flows.

##### *Credit risk*

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments. The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows.

The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

##### *Liquidity risk*

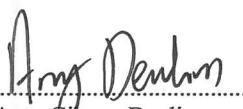
In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the charity maintains an adequate level of cash reserves.

#### Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 15 June 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Ekaterina Solomatina  
Director and Trustee

  
.....  
Amy Gibney Devlin  
Director and Trustee

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Belfast Platform for the Arts for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". The report and accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

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

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

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 15 June 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Ekaterina Solomatina  
Director and Trustee



Amy Gibney Devlin  
Director and Trustee

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Belfast Platform for the Arts ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of Belfast Platform for the Arts (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the 2008 Act) and that an independent examination is required.

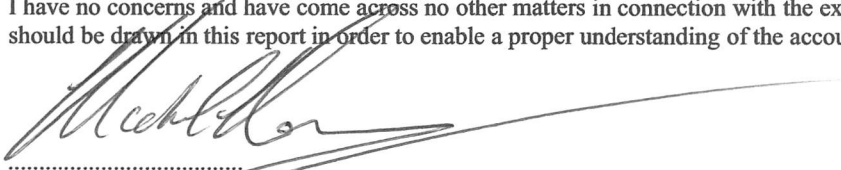
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of Belfast Platform for the Arts are not required to be audited and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 65(3) of the 2008 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

#### Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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



.....  
Michael Hopper FCA  
Chartered Accountant & Registered Auditor  
Chartered Accountants Ireland

6 Doagh Road  
Ballyclare  
Co Antrim  
BT39 9BG

16 June 2023

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2022 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2022 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	3	41,125	41,125
Total income		<u>41,125</u>	<u>41,125</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	5	(44,007)	(44,007)
Total expenditure		<u>(44,007)</u>	<u>(44,007)</u>
Net expenditure		<u>(2,882)</u>	<u>(2,882)</u>
Net movement in funds		(2,882)	(2,882)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward		<u>3,137</u>	<u>3,137</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u>255</u>	<u>255</u>
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2021 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	3	42,082	42,082
Investment income	4	1	1
Total income		<u>42,083</u>	<u>42,083</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	5	(42,840)	(42,840)
Total expenditure		<u>(42,840)</u>	<u>(42,840)</u>
Net expenditure		<u>(757)</u>	<u>(757)</u>
Net movement in funds		(757)	(757)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward		<u>3,895</u>	<u>3,895</u>
Total funds carried forward	12	<u>3,138</u>	<u>3,138</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.  
The funds breakdown for 2021 and 2022 is shown in note 12.

The notes on pages 10 to 16 form an integral part of these financial statements.

**Belfast Platform for the Arts**  
**(Registration number: NI072553)**  
**Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2022**

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	9	1,125	350
Cash at bank and in hand	10	<u>1,391</u>	<u>4,947</u>
		2,516	5,297
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	11	<u>(2,261)</u>	<u>(2,159)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>255</u>	<u>3,138</u>
<b>Funds of the charity:</b>			
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds		<u>255</u>	<u>3,138</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	12	<u>255</u>	<u>3,138</u>

For the financial year ending 31 March 2022 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

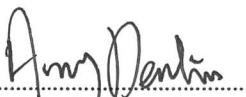
Directors' responsibilities:

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

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements on pages 8 to 16 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 15 June 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

.....  
  
Ekaterina Solomatina  
Director and Trustee

.....  
  
Amy Gibney Devlin  
Director and Trustee

The notes on pages 10 to 16 form an integral part of these financial statements.

## **Belfast Platform for the Arts**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**

#### **1 Charity status**

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in Northern Ireland, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

Units 37-38

Connswater Shopping Centre

Bloomfield Avenue

Belfast

BT5 5LP

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the trustees on 15 June 2023.

#### **2 Accounting policies**

##### **Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates**

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

##### **Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

##### **Basis of preparation**

Belfast Platform for the Arts meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

##### **Going concern**

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

##### **Income and endowments**

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

## **Belfast Platform for the Arts**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022**

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

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

#### ***Grants receivable***

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

#### ***Donated services and facilities***

Where services or facilities are provided to the charity as a donation that would normally be purchased from our suppliers, this benefit is included in the financial statements at its fair value unless its fair value cannot be reliably measured, then at the cost to the donor or the resale value of goods that are to be sold.

#### ***Gift aid***

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the Statement of Financial Activities at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

#### **Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

#### ***Raising funds***

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

#### **Support costs**

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

#### **Taxation**

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

#### **Tangible fixed assets**

Individual fixed assets costing £1.00 or more are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture and equipment	33% straight line

#### Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

#### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

#### Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

#### Financial instruments

##### *Classification*

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

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 charity after deducting all of its liabilities.

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### *Recognition and measurement*

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the statement of financial position when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the charity intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

#### **3 Income from donations and legacies**

	<b>Unrestricted funds General £</b>	<b>Total funds £</b>
Donations and legacies;		
Donations from individuals	4,040	4,040
Grants, including capital grants;		
Grants from other charities	1,857	1,857
Donated services and facilities	35,000	35,000
Other income from donations and legacies	228	228
<b>Total for 2022</b>	<u>41,125</u>	<u>41,125</u>
<b>Total for 2021</b>	<u>42,082</u>	<u>42,082</u>

#### **4 Investment income**

	<b>Unrestricted funds General £</b>	<b>Total funds £</b>
<b>Total for 2022</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total for 2021</b>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### 5 Expenditure on raising funds

##### a) Costs of generating donations and legacies

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Donated services and gifts in kind		35,000	35,000
Allocated support costs		9,007	9,007
<b>Total for 2022</b>		<b>44,007</b>	<b>44,007</b>
<b>Total for 2021</b>		<b>42,840</b>	<b>42,840</b>

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	<b>Total costs £</b>			
<b>6 Net incoming/outgoing resources</b>				
Net outgoing resources for the year include:		<b>2022 £</b>		
<b>7 Trustees remuneration and expenses</b>				
No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.				
<b>8 Taxation</b>				
The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.				
<b>9 Debtors</b>				
	<b>2022 £</b>	<b>2021 £</b>		
Trade debtors	<u>1,125</u>	<u>350</u>		
<b>10 Cash and cash equivalents</b>				
	<b>2022 £</b>	<b>2021 £</b>		
Cash at bank	<u>1,391</u>	<u>4,947</u>		
<b>11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>				
	<b>2022 £</b>	<b>2021 £</b>		
Trade creditors	-	500		
Other creditors	1,241	1,179		
Accruals	<u>1,020</u>	<u>480</u>		
	<u>2,261</u>	<u>2,159</u>		
<b>12 Funds</b>				
	<b>Balance at 1 April 2021 £</b>	<b>Incoming resources £</b>	<b>Resources expended £</b>	<b>Balance at 31 March 2022 £</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General	<u>3,137</u>	<u>41,125</u>	<u>(44,007)</u>	<u>255</u>

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2021 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General	3,895	42,083	(42,840)	3,138

#### 13 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds at 31 March 2022 £
Current assets	2,516	2,516
Current liabilities	(2,261)	(2,261)
Total net assets	255	255
	<b>Unrestricted funds General £</b>	<b>Total funds at 31 March 2021 £</b>
Current assets	5,297	5,297
Current liabilities	(2,159)	(2,159)
Total net assets	3,138	3,138

#### 14 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2021 £	At 31 March 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	4,947	4,947
Net debt	4,947	4,947
	<b>At 1 April 2020 £</b>	<b>At 31 March 2021 £</b>
Cash at bank and in hand	5,360	5,360
Net debt	5,360	5,360

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Statement of Financial Activities by fund for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

#### Unrestricted Funds

	<b>Total Unrestricted Funds 2022 £</b>	<b>Total Unrestricted Funds 2021 £</b>
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>		
Donations and legacies	41,125	42,082
Investment income	-	1
Total income	<u>41,125</u>	<u>42,083</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>		
Raising funds	<u>(44,007)</u>	<u>(42,840)</u>
Total expenditure	<u>(44,007)</u>	<u>(42,840)</u>
Net expenditure	<u>(2,882)</u>	<u>(757)</u>
Net movement in funds	(2,882)	(757)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>		
Total funds brought forward	<u>3,137</u>	<u>3,895</u>
Total funds carried forward	<u>255</u>	<u>3,138</u>

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>		
Donations and legacies (analysed below)	41,125	42,082
Investment income (analysed below)	-	1
Total income	<u>41,125</u>	<u>42,083</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>		
Raising funds (analysed below)	<u>(44,007)</u>	<u>(42,840)</u>
Total expenditure	<u>(44,007)</u>	<u>(42,840)</u>
Net expenditure	<u>(2,882)</u>	<u>(757)</u>
Net movement in funds	(2,882)	(757)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>		
Total funds brought forward	<u>3,137</u>	<u>3,895</u>
Total funds carried forward	<u><u>255</u></u>	<u><u>3,138</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements.

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<i><b>Donations and legacies</b></i>		
Grants - other agencies	1,857	5,797
Donated use of facilities	35,000	35,000
Rental income	4,040	1,285
Other income	228	-
	<u>41,125</u>	<u>42,082</u>
<i><b>Investment income</b></i>		
Other income	-	1
	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
<i><b>Raising funds</b></i>		
Programme costs	(2,110)	(601)
Rent and rates	(35,000)	(35,000)
Water rates	-	71
Light, heat and power	(1,921)	(685)
Insurance	(1,696)	(1,962)
Repairs and maintenance	(1,977)	(2,772)
Telephone and fax	(365)	(1,327)
Sundry expenses	(267)	(53)
Cleaning	(131)	(31)
Independent examiner's fee	(540)	(480)
	<u>(44,007)</u>	<u>(42,840)</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements.

**Belfast Platform for the Arts**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103457

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# Annual report

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## **Belfast Platform for the Arts**

### **Trustees' Report**

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Legal and administrative information is contained on the company information page preceeding this report.

#### **Objectives and activities**

##### ***Objects and aims***

Belfast Platform for the Arts ( known as Platform ) is a voluntary organisation established in May 2009 by a group of concerned individuals to assist persons with artistic talents to promote themselves to the general public and to advance the education and understanding of the public in the promotion and appreciation of the Arts in Belfast and beyond.

We seek to acheive this by holding regular exhibitions and run a programme of events designed to meet these objectives.

We are an artist led studio group and comtemporary art gallery now based in East Belfast. Our role is to actively promote creative expression, presentation and access to contemporary art practice through our Exhibition, Outreach and Studio Programmes. We are managed by a Board of Directors drawn from a wide range of organisations connected with the Arts, all of whom have practical working knowledge of the Arts, and who are well qualifed and experienced in their fields of expertise.

##### ***Public benefit***

We assist emerging artists in necessitous circumstances to become self-supporting by the provision of studio space and facilities, advice and training, allowing them to develop their talents. We also manage an arena for public art exhibitions, demonstrations and lectures and as a centre for other art related activities which encourages appreciation for and participation in community based arts activities designed to enable members of the general public to explore their creativity. These activities serve to educate and inform the general public in the appreciation of the arts.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act 2008 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

## **Belfast Platform for the Arts**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### **Achievements and performance**

Since opening during 2021 in the Connswater Shopping complex, we have made a strong connection and established ourselves as part of the community and ecosystem there.

East Belfast has seen a creative gentrification initiative which Platform has played a part in. With 'in person' exhibitions returning to post Covid normality in March 2021 we decided to move back from virtual exhibitions to fully re-opening the gallery once again to the public and continue with events similar to those prior to the Covid 19 pandemic.

With our new improved premises this was the time to establish our mark in East Belfast with support from Centre management and other local galleries around. In November 2021 we hosted Platform's first Salonathon Exhibition which was an open invitation for local artists to submit work to be exhibited, resulting in 70 artworks from both professional and novice artists. The exhibition generated a huge amount of interaction and interest as well as donations to the gallery. It was filmed and documented by local TV channel NVTV which put our stamp on our new home in East Belfast. With a newly established residence and the ability to have 'in person' events again the space has also welcomed three new artists in residence which has helped support the gallery with admin and maintenance costs. In 2021-2022 the gallery has received exhibition applications from both local and international artists which is how helping to build Platform's status as an established Belfast artist run, artist led, gallery.

The future goals of this arts organisation are centered around building a stronger community spirit and collective mindset among the members of Platform.

#### **Financial review**

##### ***Principal funding sources***

The main incoming resources are donations from members for the use of studio accomodation. In addition the Platform benefits from the use of the Belfast premises on a rent free basis, the notional rent value of £35,000 p.a. is shown as both an incoming and outgoing resource.

#### **Structure, governance and management**

##### ***Nature of governing document***

Belfast Platform for the Arts is a company limited by guarantee which is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

##### ***Recruitment and appointment of trustees***

Trustees, who are also Executive Committee members, are nominated and elected annually by full members at the AGM and also by the Executive Committee during the year to fill casual vacancies should the need arise.

Existing Committee members are eligible for re-election. Office Bearers are elected by the Committee from among their number at the first full Committee meeting after the AGM.

##### ***Arrangements for setting key management personnel remuneration***

Management of the charity is undertaken by the Trustees. No remuneration for services is paid to any Trustee.

## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Trustees' Report

#### Financial instruments

##### *Objectives and policies*

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

##### *Cash flow risk*

The charity's activities expose it primarily to the financial risks of changes in donation and event based income. The use of studio accomodation is closely monitored and regular events are held to maintain income. Interest bearing assets and liabilities are held at fixed rate to ensure certainty of cash flows.

##### *Credit risk*

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments. The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows.

The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.


##### *Liquidity risk*

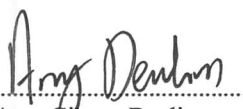
In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the charity maintains an adequate level of cash reserves.

#### Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 15 June 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Ekaterina Solomatina  
Director and Trustee

  
.....  
Amy Gibney Devlin  
Director and Trustee

**Belfast Platform for the Arts**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103457

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# Annual return

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## Belfast Platform for the Arts

### Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Belfast Platform for the Arts ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2022.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of Belfast Platform for the Arts (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the 2008 Act) and that an independent examination is required.

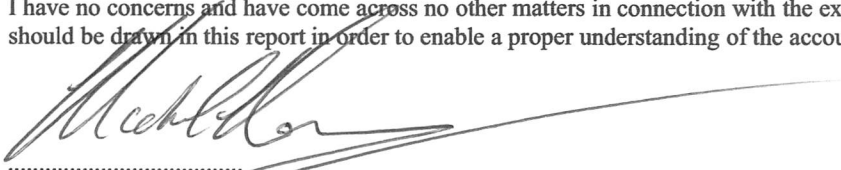
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of Belfast Platform for the Arts are not required to be audited and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 65(3) of the 2008 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

#### Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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



.....  
Michael Hopper FCA  
Chartered Accountant & Registered Auditor  
Chartered Accountants Ireland

6 Doagh Road  
Ballyclare  
Co Antrim  
BT39 9BG

16 June 2023