

**NORTH WEST CULTURAL PARTNERSHIP**  
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)  
**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT**  
**FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

The trustees present their Trustees' Annual Report, combining the Directors' Report and Trustees' Report, and the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Trustees' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Trustees' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines. The trustees of the charity are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the charity's constitution are known as members of the board of trustees.

In this report the trustees of North West Cultural Partnership present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 March 2025.

The charity is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and, although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102, the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

**PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY**

The principal activity of the company is to promote community participation in arts and cultural activities in the Fountain Estate and surrounding areas for public benefit, advancing public education and promoting citizenship and social inclusion.

**MISSION, OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGY**

**OBJECTIVES**

(1) Promote for the public benefit community participation in arts and cultural activities in the Fountain estate and surrounding areas (the "area of benefit") by:

(i) providing and managing facilities for the education and training of people of all ages in music, drama, performing and creative arts;

(ii) stimulating artistic creativity through the provision of facilities and support for artistic expression; and

(iii) providing access to a range of art forms and performance opportunities.

(2) Advance public education by encouraging and fostering enhanced understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of arts and culture through the production, development and promotion of concerts, performances, festivals and cultural events.

3) Promote citizenship and social inclusion through involvement in community arts in communities that face deprivation or other disadvantage and in particular:

(i) provide support and organise activities which develop the skills, capacities and capabilities of young people to enable them to participate in society as mature and responsible individuals;

(ii) engage with a range of age groups within the area of benefit in a manner which seeks to bring change within communities and also within the lives of individuals;

(ii) encourage socially excluded individuals and communities to explore social issues through drama and other art forms.

(4) Advance community development by providing facilities and practical support to community and voluntary groups and organisations that are or intend to be involved in community arts activities so as

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to increase their efficiency and effectiveness and to encourage such groups and organisations to co-operate to achieve their aims.

#### **STRATEGY**

Our vision is to build a future of confident, creative, and connected people.

We will achieve our vision by engaging and developing individuals and communities through innovative arts, creative programmes, and civic leadership.

Our priorities are to help people create, help people grow, and help amplify voices.

To do this we will ensure the partnership is stronger and more sustainable.

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

##### **STRUCTURE**

The charity is a company limited by guarantee, which was incorporated on 5th September 2016. The company is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association, which were signed on 12th August 2016 on behalf of the first members of the charity. The charity is managed by the trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law. They meet throughout the year in order to manage the activities of the charity. They are elected by members at the Annual General Meeting.

##### **REVIEW OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

Last year the North West Cultural Partnership adopted a 5-year strategic plan which included a 2-year operational plan. We are pleased with the progress made to date; with many of the targets already met and, in some cases, exceeded. The trustees would like to commend the Executive team and all the staff for their efforts in meeting these targets and their commitment to achieving our collective vision.

New Gate Arts & Culture Centre has become the vibrant arts and cultural hub we had planned. This year alone we have had over 170 events and activities; attracting an audience of over 24,000. Our classes, workshops, talks, tours, performances and events taken place throughout the year; encouraging participation in the arts, stimulating artistic creativity, fostering enhanced understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of arts and culture, promoting citizenship and social inclusion, advancing community development and ultimately improving the lives of individuals and communities.

The current funding environment is difficult; however, we have been successful in number of applications and have been able to continue the growth of the partnership and its activities. We are delighted with the level of activities and services we have been able to offer; with audience and participant numbers increasing and reflected in event income.

In addition, we have made good progress on a number of social economy projects; these aim to diversify our income and ensure a more sustainable partnership.

Our community and outreach projects continue to help bring about change within communities; the Peace Impact Programme, Community in Partnership Programme and a number of recently awarded PEACEPLUS Programmes have ensured we remain able to react to community needs and resolve any issue preventing individuals and communities from reaching their full potential. Furthermore, our Older Peoples programme has provided older people with opportunities to attend social events and learn new skills; reducing isolation and improving their physical and mental wellbeing.

The board are pleased with the performance of all our staff, many of whom go over and above what is expected of them. They are a very talented team of individuals, who are committed to achieving our collective vision. We look forward to another exciting year, which will see further activities developed, even more performances and events; as we continue to develop the North West Cultural Partnership together.

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**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The results for the financial year are set out on page 12 and additional notes are provided showing income and expenditure in greater detail.

**FINANCIAL RESULTS**

At the end of the financial year the charity has assets of £3,348,145 (2024 - £3,546,297) and liabilities of £416,515 (2024 - £533,780). The net assets of the charity have decreased by £(80,887).

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to 6 month's expenditure. The charity considers that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised.

**TRUSTEES**

The trustees who served throughout the financial year, except as noted, were as follows:

Hazel Deeney  
Robert Andrew Lyttle  
Margaret McLaughlin  
Andrew Leslie Hetherington  
Chris Duncan Rankin  
Kenneth William Donaghey (Resigned 4 June 2024)

In accordance with the Constitution, the trustees retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

**COMPLIANCE WITH SECTOR-WIDE LEGISLATION AND STANDARDS**

The charity engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. North West Cultural Partnership subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2006
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

**THE AUDITORS**

Claremount FM Limited, (Chartered Accountants), were appointed auditors by the trustees to fill the casual vacancy and they have expressed their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

**Approved by the board of Trustees on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:**



**Andrew Leslie Hetherington**  
Director



**Robert Andrew Lyttle**  
Director

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### **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

The trustees, who are also directors of North West Cultural Partnership for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees as the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law) including FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". 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 charity and of the net income or expenditure of the charity 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 accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information (information needed by the charity's auditor in connection with preparing the auditor's report) of which the charity's auditor is unaware, and
- the trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

**Approved by the board of Trustees on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:**



**Andrew Leslie Hetherington**  
Director



**Robert Andrew Lytle**  
Director