

The Alma Project

Scottish Charity No. SC046127

Annual Report and Financial
Statements
for the year ended
31 March 2024

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name

The Alma Project

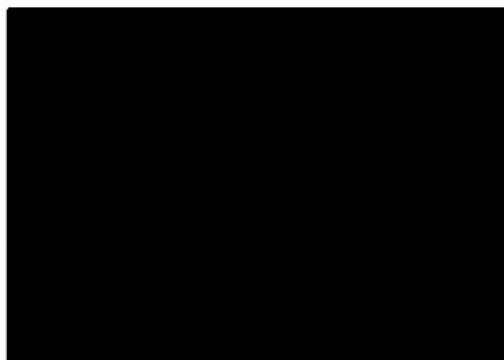
Charity No.

SC046127

Address

Craigentinny Community Centre
9 Loaning Road
Edinburgh
EH7 6JE

Trustees April 2023 - end March 2024



Structure, Governance and Management

Type of Governing Document / Constitution

The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). It was registered in its current legal form on 12th November 2015. The charity was previously an unincorporated association but changed its legal form to a SCIO. It has a two tier structure and as such members vote for the trustees from within the membership at the Annual General Meeting.

Appointment of trustees

Charity trustees are appointed from within the membership, by the members, at an AGM. The trustees are also able to appoint any member, at any time, to be a trustee.

Objectives and Activities

Charitable purposes

To advance education and provide relief to those in need by:

- Promoting the mental health and well-being of the inhabitants of Edinburgh and Lothians.
- Promoting the use of the arts as a therapeutic benefit for good mental health.
- Providing educational classes to those in need.
- Supporting people to manage their illness so that crises are prevented and their lives become easier.
- Helping to reduce the personal costs of ill health in the lives of service-users, and to reduce the costs to wider society through effective crisis prevention and supporting re-integration into society.

Activities

We provide a weekly programme of therapeutic, arts-related groups to adults with mental health problems and are involved in public exhibitions, performances and workshops to present a positive image of those with mental health problems and to raise awareness of mental health issues.

Achievements and Performance

General Programme

This financial year, April 2023-2024, we supported a total of 54 adults with mental health problems. Most of our participants have severe and enduring mental health issues and many also have physical illnesses or disabilities. We provided a service of 3-4 groups per week for 48 weeks of the year.

The groups and projects this year were: Creating through the Senses; Outdoor Art; From Scrap to Sculpture; Art and Music; Art for You (all in-person). We also ran Art and Writing, an online video group. Alma Theatre in partnership with Active Inquiry offered in-person and online sessions. We also supported online, Peer Chat sessions. This year we introduced Access to Alma online dramatherapy sessions (in one-to-one and group formats) to help people to overcome any

anxieties about joining in-person groups. We also held an AGM and social gathering, a Christmas Party and a Winter Arts workshop.

Public events and Publications

Alma Theatre, in partnership with Active Inquiry, Shakti and Bethany, performed their plays at various venues throughout Scotland.

During Mental Health Awareness week we held two public workshops that were part of ThriveFest and as part of the Scottish Mental Health Arts Festival we held three public workshops.

We also created a calendar for 2024 that depicted Alma artworks and events from 2023.

Partnerships and collectives

- Drama partnership with Active Inquiry, Shakti, Bethany
- Thrive Arts
- Edinburgh University – PhD research study
- NE Neighbourhood Network
- Voices of Experience
- Out of Sight, Out of Mind collective – some participants took part in the exhibition
- Jupiter Artland – tour and workshop
- National Galleries of Scotland – tour of Grayson Perry exhibition

This year we were commissioned to create a large Nutcracker Soldier as a Christmas decoration for Craiginny Community Centre.

Volunteers

A huge thank you is due to our volunteers who supported the groups of the general programme throughout the year and who helped with admin. Your work is greatly appreciated



Financial Review

This financial year, due to difficulty with finding funding, our expenditure is greater than our income. We have however managed to keep our reserves intact.

Cost One account centre is made up of awards towards the general running of the project and for small projects. Funds for this account centre were gratefully received this year from NHS Lothian's Thrive Arts Grant (£1350) and for Edinburgh Pact's Coorie in for Winter project (£500).

We received £2890 from Edinburgh Council for 22 creative wellbeing sessions. We also received £9931 award from The National Lottery Community Fund, made possible by National Lottery players. This was for our Access to Alma project and 30 creative wellbeing sessions.

The Scottish Government mental health and wellbeing fund year 3 (£10,497.61) is for creative wellbeing groups, online and in-person, to be undertaken from April 2024 onwards. We are most grateful to the William Syson Foundation that gave us an unrestricted grant (£3661) to be used from Feb – Dec 2024.

Alma is grateful to all its funders and donators for their support.

Reserves Policy

The policy of the board is to hold a minimum 4 months average running costs in unrestricted reserves to provide cash flow in situations of late funding receipt, to meet any emergency needs or to hold enough to complete a dissolution process.



THE
WILLIAM SYSON
FOUNDATION

• EDINBURGH •
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL



Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total y/e 31/03/2024	Total y/e 31/03/2023
Receipts				
Donations	1,585	-	1,585	1,538
Grants	-	28,830	28,830	38,527
Total Receipts	1,585	28,830	30,415	40,065
Payments				
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	-	37,625	37,625	36,038
Governance costs:				
Independent examination	-	0	0	150
Preparation of Accounts	-	198	198	180
Other	-	50	50	-
Purchase of fixed assets		100	100	314
Total Payments	-	37,973	37,973	36,682
Net receipts/(payments)	1,585	(9,143)	(7,558)	3,383
Transfers to/(from) funds	(1500)	1500	-	-
Surplus/(deficit) for period	85	(7,643)	(7,558)	3,383

Statement of Balances at 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total y/e 31/03/2024	Total y/e 31/03/2023
Cash & bank balances at start of year	14,015	29,926	43,941	40,558
Surplus/ (deficit) shown on receipts and payments account	1,585	(9,143)	(7,558)	3,383
Transfers to/(from)funds	(1500)	1500	-	-
Cash & bank balances at end of year	14,100	22,283	36,383	43,941
Other assets:	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost, £ (where available)	Current value, £	Last year's value, £
Tabletop Kiln	Awards for All	1,200	517	574
Chromebook	unrestricted	179	92	102
2 laptop computers (dell)	unrestricted	498	327	363
Dell latitude laptop	Unrestricted	155	126	140
Moto smartphone	Unrestricted	159	129	143
Honor X6 smartphone	Unrestricted	100	90	-
Total other assets		2,291	1,281	1,322

Notes to the Accounts

1. Analysis of Receipts and Payments of Restricted Funds for the year to 31 March 2024

	Cost One, 10 villages & Wm Syson	ppt	Nat. Lottery Community Fund	Scot Gov Mh2	Edinburgh Council	Scot Gov Mh3	Total Restricted funds	Total Restricted funds last period
Receipts								
Grants	5,511	-	9,931	-	2,890	10,498	28,830	40,203
Total Receipts	5,511	-	9,931	-	2,890	10,498	28,830	40,203
Payments								
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	7,096	9,722	7,708	10,193	2,906	-	37,625	36,038
Governance costs								
Independent exam prep of accounts	- 198						- 198	150 180
Other	50						50	-
Sub total	7,344	9,722	7,708	10,193	2,906	-	37,873	36,368
Purchase of fixed assets	-	100	-	-	-	-	100	314
Total Payments	7,344	9,822	7,708	10,193	2,906	-	37,973	36,682
Net receipts / (payments)	(1,833)	(9,822)	2,223	(10,193)	(16)	10,498	(9,143)	3,521
Transfers to / (from) funds	1,327	157	-	-	16	-	1,500	1,500
Surplus / (deficit) for year	(506)	(9,665)	2,223	(10,193)	-	10,498	(7,643)	5,021

Notes to the Accounts

1. Analysis of Receipts and Payments of Unrestricted Funds for the year to 31 March 2024

	General Fund		Total Unrestricted funds	Total unrestricted funds last period
Receipts				
Donations	1,585		1,585	1,538
Total Receipts	1,585		1,585	1,538
Payments				
Payments relating directly to charitable activities				
Governance costs				
Independent exam				
prep of accounts				
Other	-		-	-
Sub total			-	-
Purchase of fixed assets	-			
Total Payments	-		-	-
Net receipts / (payments)	1,585		1,585	1,538
Transfers to / (from) funds	(1,500)		(1,500)	(1,500)
Surplus / (deficit) for year	85		85	38

2. Nature and Purpose Funds:

Unrestricted funds: there is only one unrestricted fund, the purpose of which is to hold cash reserves available to apply to any need in line with the charitable objects and particularly to ensure continuation of services in the event of cashflow difficulties from other funding sources.

There was no claim on the fund this year, apart from a net total of £1,500 of transfers to other funds.

Restricted funds:

Cost One: account code for funds towards the general running of services and for small projects. This year that included: art sessions, online art/writing sessions, public workshops. Funds for this account centre were gratefully received this year from NHS Lothian's Thrive Arts Grant (£1350) and for Edinburgh Pact's Coorie in for Winter project (£500).

The Scottish Government mental health and wellbeing fund yr 3 (£10,497.61) is for creative wellbeing groups, online and in-person, to be undertaken from April 2024 onwards.

Our organisation received £2890 from Edinburgh Council for therapeutic art sessions.

William Syson generously donated £3661 to our core funds.

We also received an award (£9931) from The National Lottery Community Fund, made possible by National Lottery players. This was for our Access to Alma project and 30 creative wellbeing sessions.

3. No remuneration was paid to any charity trustee or connected person.

4. Cost of Charitable Activities - analysis of payments:

	Payments to 31 Mar 2024	Payments to 31 Mar 2023
Group Facilitation	20,933	16,931
Project development, supervision & management	8,966	10,902
Administration	4,807	4,219
Premises	1,860	1,700
Materials & Equipment	125	343
Events	254	302
Phone & IT	317	1,001
Insurance	247	508
Other (mainly client support)	116	132
Total direct charitable activities	37,625	36,038

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Alma Project

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 1 to 9.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities

Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

