

CREATIVE STIRLING

(a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 30 June 2025

Company Registration Number CS005634

Scottish Charity Number SC046431

CREATIVE STIRLING SCIO
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

CONTENTS

PAGE

Trustees' Report

3

Independent Examiner's Report

13

Statement of Financial Activities

14

Balance Sheet

15

Notes forming part of the financial statements

16

**CREATIVE STIRLING SCIO
TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year to 30 June 2025, which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended), the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

STRUCTURE

The Creative Stirling organisation comprises Creative Stirling SCIO (CS) and Made in Stirling CIC (MIS). CS is a registered charity and owns 100% of the share capital of MIS, which is a Community Interest Company that pays all its profits to CS. MIS operates the gallery and creative space at 44 King Street in Stirling and is the trading arm of CS.

MISSION, OBJECTIVES, PURPOSE AND STRATEGY

Our mission is to inspire and amplify creative activity in Stirling.

CS believes that culture and creativity brings local communities together and is a positive force for good. Since 2012, the Charity has been working to contribute significantly to the social, economic, and environmental regeneration of the area.

CS's objectives are to make creative opportunities more accessible to the entire community and explore sustainable ways to support grass roots arts and culture.

Our purpose is to give our local community and creative talent indigenous to the Stirling area, access to opportunities to develop their talent, practice and skills as well as their enjoyment of arts and culture that is vital to promoting wellbeing and to strengthen our communities.

Our strategy derives from the following principles, which give focus to everything we do:

- **PEOPLE** – we produce creative projects and activities for the enjoyment and enrichment of the people and communities of Stirling, promoting wellbeing and inclusivity.
- **PARTNERSHIP** – we stimulate and nurture creative opportunities through our collaboration with others by working to develop new partnerships within our community, with Education, Heritage and other Cultural Providers in Stirling.
- **PLACE** – we drive and energise creative industry through our projects and events, and through our gallery and creative spaces in our premises at 44 King Street in Stirling.

A key aspect of our strategy is to develop the business of MIS in order to provide a sustainable source of income for CS to continue and expand its charitable activities.

Our activities span a diverse range of projects, workshops, and events that aim to nurture local talent and provide new, creative opportunities for the entire community to engage with and enjoy. We have also been providing work experience and volunteering opportunities to young people to help them develop skills, confidence, and career prospects.

- Our strategic initiatives continue to be centred around fostering employability and creating clear creative pathways for individuals in the community, mainly focused on young people. We are collaborating with local authority and third sector organisations, educational institutions, local artists/ creative professionals, and national organisations to offer skill-building opportunities,

ensuring that participants are equipped with the tools needed to develop their careers, mainly within the creative industries. These partnerships are designed to bridge the gap between education, skills development, and career opportunities, empowering individuals and guiding them towards positive destinations.

- Our creative hub at 44 King Street, Stirling, continues to serve as a central space for the community, offering affordable studios, workshops, exhibitions, and cultural events. The venue provides a platform for local talent to showcase their work while also supporting professional development through accessible training and creative opportunities.
- We are proud to work with a range of local and national partners to ensure that our initiatives support a holistic approach to personal and professional development. Collaborations with organisations like LGBT Youth Scotland, Stirling Community Radio, and the National Film and TV School Scotland help us offer tailored support to individuals from diverse backgrounds, including those with additional support needs. Through these partnerships, we create inclusive, creative spaces that also focus on mental health and wellbeing, ensuring that participants have the necessary resources to thrive both personally and professionally.

These partnerships are vital in our efforts to build a supportive network for individuals seeking to explore creative career pathways, gain employability skills, and enhance their overall wellbeing. Through collaborative efforts, we continue to create meaningful opportunities and promote the growth of the creative community in Stirling and beyond.

Partners	Description
LGBT Youth Scotland	Our partnership with LGBT Youth Scotland focuses on providing tailored support and opportunities for young people within the LGBTQIA+ community. Through creative workshops, mentorship, and safe spaces, we empower LGBTQIA+ youth to express themselves, develop new skills, and build confidence. This collaboration ensures that participants can engage in meaningful activities that promote personal growth and career development, while fostering inclusivity and well-being.
UNIVERSITY OF STIRLING	Creative Stirling is active in developing collaborative opportunity with our local University that supports our work as well as the augmenting the knowledge community of Stirling through active projects, events and exhibitions as well as contributing to research projects that meet with our place based purpose and mission. This year Creative Stirling is one of a cohort of external partners working on the development and delivery of two UoS led projects.
National Film & TV School Scotland	Our collaboration with the National Film & TV School Scotland enhances our creative pathways by offering opportunities to meet and learn from experts working in the film and TV industry. This year, we delivered an event featuring talks and workshops led by professionals working in various jobs within the industry. We are focusing on developing our partnership with NFTS as it will provide participants with direct access to industry-standard education and mentoring and aligns with our future plans around developing employability and skills routes for young people, in view of future plans for Stirling's new film studios.
Stirling Speakeasy Cultural Evenings	Monthly Cultural Events – led by Stirling Makar (poet) Kevin P Gilday. Community members attend free of charge. All performers' fees according to Scottish Artists Union Rates. Outcome – to develop local audiences for new affordable cultural evenings celebrating local/Scottish spoken word, comedy/performer/independent music/emerging talent.
Stirling Community Media SCIO	In partnership with Stirling Community Media SCIO, we run the <i>Community & Media Matters</i> project, a three-year funded initiative that supports young people in learning vital digital skills. Through this project, participants gain hands-on experience in podcasting, presentation, and content creation. This programme primarily targets young people facing socio-economic challenges, have protected characteristics, experiencing challenges with work and education, providing them with a creative outlet and valuable tools for their future employability.

Through our various projects, we have worked in partnership with many other organisations and creatives. Find out more here- <https://www.creativestirling.org/partnerships>.

COMMUNITY AND STRATEGIC ACTIVITY - JULY 2024 to JUNE 2025

ACTIVITY	REACH	DESCRIPTION
Community & Media Matters (Camm) (Connect/Courses) <i>Ongoing (May 2023 – April 2026) Young Start National Lottery Funded Camm Project</i>	53 young people received their certificates for graduating Camm during this time period.	The Connect part is the delivery of the Community and Media Matters Course. Which is an Employability course wrapped up in the vehicle of a media course. Young people come to 44 King Street to do content creation in the radio studios, producing either a podcast or a radio show. They learn a variety of skills, technical and performative during the 5 P's (Planning, Presenting, Production, Podcasting and Promotion) as well as self-management, social intelligence and innovation meta skills. We have connected with a variety of young people, from unaccompanied asylum seekers, school non-attenders, those dealing with trauma and individuals considered vulnerable or marginalised.
Camm (Inspire Sessions) <i>Ongoing (May 2023 – April 2026) Young Start National Lottery Funded Camm Project</i>	Participants: 2,400+	Inspire: We inspire whenever we go out to promote our services and the Community and the Media Matters Course. Over the period of July 2024 to June 2025 we have Inspired over 2,400 young people at events including but not limited to; school and college careers fairs and local community groups. We have had several meetings with partners like Stirling council groups, Developing the Young Workforce and education partners.
Grow & Support: Camm project employability and volunteering outputs <i>This strand provides hands-on learning, opportunities to meet and learn from industry professionals, workplace experience, and personal development opportunities within the creative industries.</i>	Young participants Support 26 Grow 85	<p>Paid Trainee Opportunity Learning & Employability funding enabled us to hire a young person as a paid trainee from October 2024. Jamie, who is neurodiverse and previously left school without a clear route forward, has gained significant confidence and skills. He produces a weekly radio show, writes blogs, supports event delivery and is developing a short Camm documentary.</p> <p>Stirling University Camera Training Our community team and trainee received professional instruction from a University of Stirling technician on our new film cameras. The session offered an introduction to industry-standard equipment and filming techniques.</p> <p>Visit to Photographers Studio Young people visited Greg McNeill's studio, where they learned interview techniques and practiced filming with our newly donated cameras. The visit also included an introduction to Victorian photographic processes and a guided studio tour.</p> <p>Football & Media Experience with Hugh MacDonald Renowned football journalist Hugh MacDonald mentored one of our young people on their football radio show and delivered a Creative Youth Assembly session on sports journalism. Through his role at PLZ Soccer, he also arranged a studio visit for a passionate participant, described by them as "the highlight of my life."</p> <p>Stirling University Trip Young people visited the University of Stirling to challenge perceptions that higher education is "not for them." To demystify</p>

		<p>the idea of university they toured the media department, met lecturers and practiced travelling to campus, helping them visualise future educational pathways.</p> <p>Volunteering A group of committed young volunteers continues to produce radio shows and support Studio Hub activity as part of their creative development.</p> <p>Work Experience CAMM provides both short- and long-term placements for young people interested in media and the creative industries. These placements offer insight into professional workflows, collaboration and practical skill-building.</p>
<p>Making a Scene – NFTS Scotland November 2024 Partner: National Film & Television School Scotland</p>	<p>Participants: 53 Young people</p>	<p>October 2024 In partnership with the National Film and Television School (NFTS) Scotland, we delivered a full-day immersive careers event introducing participants aged 16+ to the diverse roles within the film and TV industry. The day blended talks, demonstrations, and hands-on learning opportunities, offering participants rare access to working professionals and real industry insight.</p> <p>To help participants understand the breadth of screen careers, sessions were grouped into four key categories: Logistics (directing, producing, locations), Creativity (design, costume, screenwriting), Technical (camera, sound, lighting) and Post-Production (editing, SFX, music). Each professional delivered multiple workshops throughout the day.</p> <p>Workshop leaders included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judith Milne: Assistant Directing (NFTS) and the various roles within film • Chris Maxwell: Camera; shot composition, equipment and industry workflow • Jackie McCraith Smith: Locations; scouting, permissions and working with communities • Elle Wilson: Costume design, wardrobe management and character-driven choices • Aris Anastassopolous: Sound; recording essentials, boom operating and on-set practice • Jamie Lapsley: Art Department; set design, props, visual storytelling • Colin McLaren: Screenwriting; narrative structure, character, and writing for screen <p>Participants gained first-hand experience, heard about job realities, received tailored career guidance, and built valuable industry contacts. Feedback highlighted increased confidence, motivation, and clarity around next steps into film and television. Participants also asked for more hands-on opportunities in future.</p>
<p>Stirling Champs Ongoing partnership with Stirling Champs</p>	<p>Participants 30+</p>	<p>Our partnership with Stirling Champs continues to grow, offering creative opportunities and practical support for care-experienced young people. Activities have included creative workshops, media sessions, summer</p>

		<p>outings/events, joining them at their space for dinner and games, team-building experiences (such as traitors and task master), and helping to plan, decorate and attend their annual Christmas Prom. We are also passionate in supporting them to advocate for the rights of care-experienced individuals and to be supported by corporate parents.</p>
<p>Lavender Lives Part 3 January 2025</p> <p><i>One year project funded by the Youth Arts Fund (Youthlink Scotland)</i></p>	Participants 18	<p>This new phase of Lavender Lives expands the project through a mix of creative tasters, longer skills-development courses, and volunteering opportunities. Continuing to work with LGBTQIA+ young people aged 13-25, sessions delivered/to be delivered include sculpting, phone-case decorating, gender-affirming hair styling, story-gathering, fashion, SFX, animation/procreate, and ceramics.</p> <p>In addition to creative learning, the project offers live-project volunteering opportunities, one-to-one guidance and individualised support, team building and peer-leadership activities. Youth volunteers are currently producing a hate-crime awareness campaign and developing an original LGBTQIA+ board game (detailed below). This phase of Lavender Lives continues to focus on creative skills, wellbeing, working with professional artists, self-expression, accessible pathways into the arts, and building resilience towards brighter futures.</p>
<p>Triangle, FK1 & The Lavender Room Work & Partnerships <i>Ongoing Partner: LGBT Youth Scotland, The Lavender Room</i></p>	Regional impact	<p>We continue our long-term collaboration with LGBT Youth Scotland's youth groups, Triangle (Stirling) and FK1 (Falkirk), alongside the adult LGBTQIA+ group The Lavender Room. Through our Lavender Lives and Jasmine Journeys programmes, we co-deliver creative and skills based courses/workshops/tasters, trips/visits, seasonal events, games, and social activities.</p> <p>This ongoing partnership provides consistent community support, reduces isolation, and strengthens local LGBTQIA+ networks across the region.</p>
<p>Comin' Oot Board Game <i>Developed in partnership with LGBT Youth Scotland & Unseen Unheard</i></p>	Volunteers: 11	<p><i>Comin' Oot</i> is an original LGBTQIA+ board game created by volunteers from both Lavender Lives and Jasmine Journeys projects. We have worked with between 9-11 young volunteers who showed dedication to the project, meeting twice each week to design each element of the game. The group developed everything from overall gameplay mechanics and rules to detailed artwork, story elements and card content. Supported by artist David Galletly, the group has been learning to use Procreate, developing skills in digital illustration, layout design, and visual storytelling.</p> <p>Together, they are designing the playing cards, game board, box design, rulebook, gameplay structure and visual identity of the entire game. The long-term aim is to finalise the prototype, run full play-testing sessions with local LGBTQIA+ and external groups, and then seek investment to produce and sell the game. Proceeds are intended to support future youth-led creative projects, ensuring the work continues to benefit the community.</p>
<p>Hate Crime Awareness Campaign <i>In partnership with Police Scotland</i></p>	15-22 young participants/volunteers	<p>Volunteers from Lavender Lives and Jasmine Journeys are co-developing a community-focused Hate Crime Awareness Campaign in collaboration with local Police Inclusion Officer, Rebecca Northover, and local artist, David Galletly. The</p>

		<p>campaign aims to increase public understanding of what constitutes a hate crime, how prejudice and discrimination can manifest, and why reporting incidents is essential for community safety and support.</p> <p>Through creative workshops, visual design sessions and discussions with police, volunteers are shaping a campaign that is informative, accessible and grounded in lived experience. The final campaign will provide clear messaging on recognising hate crime, where it stems from, how to report it, and what support pathways are available, so that communities to stay informed and protected, and together take steps to end hate.</p>
Creative Community Projects, outreach and exhibitions.	n/a across community projects and exhibitions with public audience access.	<p>British Science Week Project <i>March 2025 Funded by British Science Week</i></p> <p>We secured funding to support one of our youth volunteers in their first paid freelance role. This young person received mentoring to write a funding application, create a project plan, produce risk assessments, and design youth-led "science escape-room" sessions.</p> <p>Loch Lomond Residential <i>2025 Partner: LGBT Youth Scotland & Loch Lomond & the Trossach National Park Trust</i></p> <p>Two-night residential at Loch Achray, delivered in collaboration with LGBT Youth Scotland and the Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Trust. The trip provided a valuable opportunity to spend dedicated time with several of our youth volunteers, focusing on team building, confidence, and well-being.</p> <p>Young Carers Action Day <i>March 2025 Partner: Stirling Young Carers</i></p> <p>As part of Young Carers Day 2025, themed "Give Me a Break," we delivered a creative event offering ceramics (with Jade Diamond Art), illustration (David Galletly), animation (Indie Flynn), storyboarding and podcasting workshops. Modelled on the success of our 2024 event but with a greater wellbeing focus, the day provided young carers with space to explore creativity, rest and build new skills.</p> <p>Set Design, Construction & Scenic Painting Course <i>June 2025 Funded by Stirling & Forth Valley Arts Society</i></p> <p>A two-day practical course, led by one of our former youth participants, Matthew MacMillan, alongside his fellow student Matt Whittle, who currently study at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Their leadership offered a powerful example of peer-inspired progression, showing participants real pathways into professional creative training.</p> <p>Moon Tell Me Truth <i>June - July 2025 In partnership with The Hands Up Project</i></p> <p>We hosted a month-long exhibition showcasing poetry, artwork and a film-screening installation created and inspired by children</p>

		<p>in Gaza through The Hands Up Project. Many of the poetry works were produced by children who have been displaced or are no longer with us, offering a deeply moving, intimate glimpse into young lives shaped by conflict yet filled with resilience, imagination and hope.</p> <p>Volunteering celebrations 2024 - ongoing Various projects</p> <p>To celebrate our youth volunteers across our various projects, we held a festive end-of-year celebration in December 2024. Young people from different programmes came together to play video games, enjoy food, make bubble tea (by popular request), and spend time building connections across groups.</p> <p>In June, as part of National Volunteer Week, we took part in SVE's "Goose Chase" challenge, completing activities such as community litter picking, creating a team mascot, and even dancing in public.</p> <p>We also hosted our first-ever CYA podcast, featuring a youth volunteer from CAMM and a volunteer from our LGBTQIA+ programmes. They discussed their experiences, the impact of their involvement, and what participation has meant for them. This is a format we plan to develop into a regular opportunity, helping to highlight our work and strengthen our evaluation and evidence base.</p>
Creative Stirling <i>Strategic/partnership Creative Industries/Development activity</i>		
FORTH20	33 workshop participants – creative methodologies in collaboration.	<p>FORTH20 is a Stirling University led (Natural Sciences) major research project (LPIP) and Creative Stirling is one of 90+ partner organisations for this UKHRI funded study into our relationship with water. The project joins Environmental Science, Economy, Culture and Health & Wellbeing.</p> <p>CS is part of the core working group for Culture & Natural Heritage (WP6) Outcomes this (first) year of the 3 year study include delivery of events for community engagement and seminars for partners to explore creative methodologies and approaches to collaboration.</p>
HEALTHY TENEMENTS HEALTHY LIVES	Project partners University of Stirling FELScotland Stirling City Heritage Trust	<p>HTHL is a Stirling University led (Arts & Humanities) project in development with local partners Stirling City Heritage Trust, Forth Environment Link Scotland and Creative Stirling. We are supporting R&D of a project to promote thermal comfort in traditional buildings focus on Mercat Cross Community/Top of the Town (SMDI). The partners are working on funding and partnership investment to impact local residents and address underlying issues with landlords/funding. CS are supporting community engagement (includes our local community membership) and artists opportunities in plans for delivery over three years.</p>
FORTH VALLEY CREATIVE NETWORK	Network membership attending events 86 FVCN Mailing list 71	<p>Monthly meetings for Creatives and mapping of Creative community across Forth Valley (Stirling Clacks and Falkirk)</p> <p>Nov 2024 - Engine Shed Forth Valley Creative Economy seminar – a strategic stakeholder event in November. This stakeholder workshop will build on the plans to work more closely with economic development teams in Stirling, Falkirk</p>

		<p>and Clackmannanshire Councils on the regional economic strategy ambitions on Journey to Net Zero, Productive Places & People and Inclusive Growth & wellbeing.</p> <p>Opportunity to share knowledge and learning from FVCN development activity to date, to discuss proposed creative enterprise business opportunities with invited key stakeholders from across Forth Valley local government, public and third sector organisations, enterprise, academia, creative industries, culture, heritage and climate science sectors</p>
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FINANCIAL REVIEW

Results for the year

CS operates as a social enterprise, generating income through its trading subsidiary, MIS, from our core community tenants who operate from our creative venue space at 44 King Street. Now our charity and our communities are living with the effects of the COLC, we continue to identify new ways to generate income. MIS has room for growth and we are confident that our trading arm will continue to provide financial resilience through the current challenging times, while across arts and culture and community, grants to support our charitable activities become harder to find.

The results for the year are set out in the Statement of Financial Activities and show a deficit of £13,510. Total expenditure for the year amounted to £241,374 (2024: £184,240). At the year-end total charitable funds were £38,211 of which £38,702 were restricted, resulting in a small deficit in unrestricted funds of £481.

Investment Powers and Policy

The Trustees have kept available funds in current accounts owing to operational liquidity requirements.

Reserves Policy and Going Concern

The organisation's aim is to maintain reserves of over £80,000. At the year-end £33,182 was retained, being all restricted funds. The trading subsidiary continues to perform above target and there is confidence in growth of funding from that source.

The Trustees have approved a budget for 2025/26 that seeks to further recover the financial reserves of the Charity. The Trustees have reviewed the circumstances of the Charity and consider that adequate resources continue to be available to fund the activities of the Charity for the foreseeable future.

Plans for Future Periods

On 30 January 2025 the Charity received notice of a successful bid to Creative Scotland for multi-year funding. The award amounts to £376,000 over the next 3 fiscal years. The award provides additional financial stability to allow the Charity to further develop and fulfil its charitable objectives.

**CREATIVE STIRLING SCIO
TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

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

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which 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 the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing the financial statements the trustees are required to:

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

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence 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 on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

As set out in the Articles of Association, the Trustees are appointed by resolution of the other board members and their experience, knowledge and skills are taken into consideration. New Trustees undergo an orientation day to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the Scottish Charity Regulator's guidance on Trustee duties, and inform them of the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the committee and decision-making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. During the induction day they meet key employees and other trustees. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees, which can have up to 11 members, administers the charity and normally meets quarterly. An Executive Director is appointed by the Trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the charity and is also a full member of the board. To facilitate effective operations, the Executive Director has delegated authority, within terms of delegation approved by the Trustees, for operational matters including finance, employment and creative activity.

**CREATIVE STIRLING SCIO
TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

Trustees

The following served during the year to signing:

Chair Alyn Smith

Jamie Grant (resigned 24 July 2024)

J Hamilton

D Carson

H Kepelian

M McGregor

W Garcia

Executive Director

Professor Joe Hall

Principal Office

44 King Street

Stirling

FK8 1AY

Company Registration No: CS005634

Charity No: SC046431

Independent Examiner

Neil Mackinnon

Arm in Arm Accounting

Alloa Business centre

Alloa Business Park

The Whins Alloa

FK10 3SA

Bankers

HSBC

2 Buchanan Street

Glasgow

G1 3LB

**CREATIVE STIRLING SCIO
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year to 30 June 2025 which are set out on pages 14 to 24.

Respective responsibilities of the 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's trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) of the 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 Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). 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 seeking 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, Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations (as amended), and of the Companies Act 2006 ; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations (as amended) 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.



Neil Mackinnon
Arm in Arm Accounting
Alloa Business centre
Alloa Business Park
The Whins
Alloa FK10 3SA

Date: 30/03/2026

CREATIVE STIRLING SCIO
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Note	2025 Unrestricted Funds £	2025 Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	2	3,014	-	3,014	1,544
Charitable activities	3	86,185	138,665	224,850	214,472
Investments- bank interest		-	-	-	-
		<u>89,199</u>	<u>138,665</u>	<u>227,864</u>	<u>216,016</u>
Total income and endowments					
Expenditure					
Charitable activities	4	90,159	151,215	241,374	184,240
		<u>90,159</u>	<u>151,215</u>	<u>241,374</u>	<u>184,240</u>
Total expenditure					
		<u>90,159</u>	<u>151,215</u>	<u>241,374</u>	<u>184,240</u>
Net income					
		(960)	(12,550)	(13,510)	31,766
Net income and movement in funds					
		(960)	(12,550)	(13,510)	31,766
Total funds brought forward					
	13	479	51,252	51,731	19,955
Total funds carried forward					
	13	<u>(481)</u>	<u>38,702</u>	<u>38,211</u>	<u>51,731</u>

The Charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above.
All activities of the Charity are classed as continuing in the current year.

The notes on pages 16 to 24 are an integral part of these accounts.

**CREATIVE STIRLING SCIO
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 JUNE 2025**

	Note	2025 Unrestricted Funds £	2025 Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8	-	47,086	47,086	53,654
Investments	9	1	-	1	1
Total fixed assets		<u>1</u>	<u>47,086</u>	<u>47,087</u>	<u>53,655</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	10	1,024	-	1,024	7,107
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>36,993</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,993</u>	<u>21,915</u>
Total current assets		38,017	-	38,017	29,022
Liabilities					
Creditors falling due within one year	11	9,462	1,008	10,470	6,759
Net current assets		<u>28,555</u>	<u>1,008</u>	<u>27,547</u>	<u>22,263</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>28,556</u>	<u>46,078</u>	<u>74,634</u>	<u>75,918</u>
Creditors falling due after one year	12	29,037	7,376	36,413	24,187
Net assets		<u>(481)</u>	<u>38,702</u>	<u>38,221</u>	<u>51,731</u>
Funds of the charity					
Unrestricted funds		(481)	-	(481)	479
Restricted funds		-	38,702	38,702	51,252
Total charity funds	13	<u>(481)</u>	<u>38,702</u>	<u>38,221</u>	<u>51,731</u>

The notes on pages 16 to 24 form an integral part of these accounts.

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 26/03/26 and signed on their behalf by:

Trustee

CREATIVE STIRLING SCIO
NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AS AT 30 JUNE 5

1. Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies, which have been applied consistently in the year in dealing with items which are considered material to the accounts, are set out below.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

These financial statements contain information about Creative Stirling as an individual charity and do not contain consolidated financial information as the parent of a group.

Creative Stirling meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recorded at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

Fund accounting

Funds are classified as either restricted funds or unrestricted funds, defined as follows:

Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted funds are grants and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds. The Trustees may designate from time to time some of these reserves for specific purposes and activities. All unrestricted reserves are currently undesignated and held in general funds.

Restricted funds

Any restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund.

Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Donations are included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable. Donated assets are included in the statement of financial activities where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable and measurable. The value of the donated assets is the estimated price the charity would expect to pay in the open market for the equivalent assets.
- Income from charitable activities are accounted for when earned in accordance with the date of the event.
- Income from grants where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled. Income related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.
- Income from the sale of merchandise is recognised upon receipt of income.
- Investment income is included when receivable.

- Where performance conditions are attached to income 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.

CREATIVE STIRLING SCIO
NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AS AT 30 JUNE 2025

Accounting Policies (cont.)

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is shown inclusive of irrecoverable input VAT and is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise the costs of fundraising.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs incurred by the charity in delivery of its activities and services to its beneficiaries and their associated support costs.

Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Fixed Assets

All tangible fixed assets costing in excess of £500 and having a value to the charity greater than one year, other than those acquired for specific purposes, are capitalised.

Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis to write off the cost or initial value, less residual value, of tangible fixed assets over their estimated useful lives:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| • Leasehold | |
| • Improvements | 10% on cost |
| • Fixtures & Fittings | 12.5% on cost |
| • Computer Equipment | 25% on cost |
| • Plant & Equipment | 25% on cost |

Investment

The investment in the subsidiary company, Made in Stirling CIC, is recognised at cost.

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Pensions

The Charity operates a contribution scheme for members of staff's private pensions.

Taxation

Creative Stirling is recognised as a charity for the purposes of applicable taxation legislation and is therefore not subject to taxation on its charitable activities.

CREATIVE STIRLING SCIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

2. Donations and legacies

	2025 Unrestricted Funds £	2025 Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
Donations	<u>3,014</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,014</u>	<u>1,544</u>
	<u>3,014</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,014</u>	<u>1,544</u>

Income from donations and legacies was £3,014 (2024:£1,544) all of which was unrestricted income.

3. Charitable activities

	2025 Unrestricted Funds £	2025 Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
Commission from shop sales	-	-	-	-
Rent received	8,994	-	8,994	1,021
Rent received – Made in Stirling CIC	68,860	-	68,860	66,000
Events	-	-	-	2,162
Other income	1,399	-	1,399	9,740
Contribution from Made in Stirling CIC	3,212	-	3,212	11,850
Grants – performance related	<u>3,720</u>	<u>138,665</u>	<u>142,385</u>	<u>123,699</u>
	<u>86,185</u>	<u>138,665</u>	<u>224,850</u>	<u>214,472</u>

Income from charitable activities was £224,850 (2024: £214,472) of which £86,185 (2024: £83,133) was unrestricted income and £138,665 (2024: £131,339) was restricted income.

CREATIVE STIRLING SCIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

4. Analysis of expenditure

	2025 Unrestricted Funds £	2025 Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
Charitable expenditure				
Rent and water rates	6,331	19,097	25,428	(4,311)
Artists' costs	6,781	784	7,565	5,399
Event costs	1,220	1,590	2,810	4,269
Wages	53,147	70,484	123,631	114,857
Employer NI	3,049	4,043	7,092	4,498
Employer Pensions	1,083	1,436	2,519	2,365
Insurance	2,524	12,618	15,142	8,414
Light and heat	3,267	16,334	19,601	20,928
Telephone	84	420	504	485
King Street fit out	2,713	-	2,713	-
Community development	-	7,994	7,994	7,074
Training and consultancy	-	3,627	3,627	-
Computer software and IT	204	1,050	1,254	1,106
Advertising	46	232	278	583
Licences	-	135	135	-
Donations paid	-	-	-	1,260
Depreciation charges	6,567	-	6,567	8,335
Bank charges	10	50	60	50
Accountancy fees	(70)	(347)	(417)	3,644
Independent examiners fee	125	625	750	750
Legal fees	2,016	10,078	12,094	4,141
Other expenses	<u>1,062</u>	<u>965</u>	<u>2,027</u>	<u>393</u>
	<u>90,159</u>	<u>151,215</u>	<u>241,374</u>	<u>184,240</u>

Support costs have not been separately identified as the Trustees consider that there is only one charitable activity.

Expenditure on charitable activities was £241,374 (2024:£184,240) of which £90,159 (2024:£80,155) was unrestricted and £151,215 (2024: £104,085) was restricted.

5. Net result

This is stated after charging:

	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Independent examiners' fees	750	750
Depreciation charges	<u>6,567</u>	<u>8,336</u>

CREATIVE STIRLING SCIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

6. Analysis of staff costs

	2025	2024
	Total	Total
	£	£
Salaries and wages	123,631	114,857
Social security costs	7,092	4,498
Pension costs	<u>2,519</u>	<u>2,365</u>
	<u>133,242</u>	<u>121,711</u>

The average number of employees on a headcount basis during the period was 6 (2024: 6). No employee had employee benefits in excess of £60,000 in 2025 or 2024.

During the year the Charity operated personal pension plans for all employees. The Charity's contribution is 3% (2024: 3%) of salary. The charge for the year was £2,519 (2024: £2,365) of which £444 (2024: £375) was outstanding at the balance sheet date.

7. Trustees' remuneration and related party transactions

No trustee received remuneration during the current or prior year for their services as a Trustee. During the year no Trustee was reimbursed (2024: none) in relation to general expenses purchased on behalf of the Charity.

A donation of £3,212 (2024: £11,850) was received from the subsidiary company Made in Stirling CIC. Rental income of £68,860 (2024: £66,000) was recognised from Made in Stirling. At the year end nil (2024: £nil) remains due from Made in Stirling to Creative Stirling. At the year end £859 (2024: £556) remains due from Creative Stirling to Made in Stirling for reimbursement of expenses.

8. Fixed assets

	Leasehold Equipment	Computer Equipment	Plant & Total Machinery	
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
As at 1 July 2024	65,603	2,294	7,021	74,918
Additions	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
As at 30 June 2025	<u>65,603</u>	<u>2,294</u>	<u>7,021</u>	<u>74,918</u>
Depreciation				
As at 1 July 2024	(11,956)	(2,287)	(7,021)	(21,264)
Charge for the year	<u>(6,560)</u>	<u>(7)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(6,567)</u>
As at 30 June 2025	<u>(18,516)</u>	<u>(2,294)</u>	<u>(7,021)</u>	<u>(27,831)</u>
Net book value as at 30 June 2025	<u>47,087</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>47,087</u>
Net book value as at 30 June 2024	<u>53,647</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>53,654</u>

CREATIVE STIRLING SCIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

9. Investments

	2025 £	2024 £
Investment in subsidiary company		
As at 1 July 2024	1	1
Additions	-	-
As at 30 June 2025	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

The Charity owns the full issued share capital of Made in Stirling CIC (Company number: SC697948). Extracts from the unaudited financial statements of Made in Stirling CIC are provided in note 15.

10. Debtors

	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Other debtors	1,024	5,340
VAT debtor	-	1,723
Amounts due from subsidiary	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	-	44
	<u>1,024</u>	<u>7,107</u>

11. Creditors falling due within one year

	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Trade creditors	433	1,946
Loan	-	-
Social security and other taxes	7,008	2,715
VAT	518	-
Pension liability	444	375
Amounts due to subsidiary	859	556
Other creditors	458	-
Accrued expenses	750	1,167
	<u>10,470</u>	<u>6,759</u>

12. Creditors falling due after one year

	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Loan – due 1 to 2 years	-	-
Loan – due 2 to 5 years	36,413	24,187
	<u>36,413</u>	<u>24,187</u>

CREATIVE STIRLING SCIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

13. Movement in funds

	As at 1.7.24 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	As at 30.6.25
Unrestricted fund					
General fund	(48,546)	89,199	90,159	-	(49,506)
Capital Fund	49,025	-	-	-	49,025
	479	89,199	90,159	-	(481)
Restricted Fund					
Trustee Donation	9,740	-	9,740	-	-
The Robertson Trust	5,676	-	5,676	-	-
Creative Scotland	13,978	32,989	22,428	-	24,539
National Lottery					
Young Start	21,858	34,730	42,425	-	14,163
Stirling Council	-	32,266	32,266	-	-
Creative Dundee	-	5,888	5,888	-	-
SVE	-	15,000	15,000	-	-
Youthlink	-	15,000	15,000	-	-
Go Forth Stirling	-	2,792	2,792	-	-
	51,252	138,665	151,215	-	38,702
	51,731	227,864	241,374	-	38,221

Fund purposes:

Unrestricted funds:

General fund
Capital fund

Represents the general giving and expenditure of the charity.
Represents the improvements made to the shop property.

Restricted funds:

Digital Skills
Youthlink
National Lottery Fund - Young Start
The Robertson Trust
Employability Fund
Ross and Liddel
Zero Waste Scotland
Creative Scotland

Digital skills project
LGBT youth arts programme
Community and Media Matters (Camm) project delivery
Matched funding for Camm and youth project
Matched funding for Camm and youth project
Donation
Development of Stirling sustainable futures project
Development of Forth Valley creative economy network

CREATIVE STIRLING SCIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

13. Movement in funds (cont.) comparatives

	As at 1.7.23	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	As at 30.06.24
Unrestricted fund					
General fund	(53,068)	84,677	80,155	-	(48,546)
Capital fund	49,025				49,025
	<u>(4,043)</u>	<u>84,677</u>	<u>80,155</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>479</u>
Restricted fund					
Trustee donation	-	9,740	-	-	9,740
Digital skills	23,998	-	23,998	-	-
Youthlink	-	15,000	15,000	-	-
The Robertson Trust	-	26,000	20,434	-	5,676
Ross and Liddel	-	500	500	-	-
Employability fund	-	19,632	19,962	-	-
Zero waste Scotland	-	3,625	3,625	-	-
Creative Scotland	-	24,057	10,079	-	13,978
National Lottery Young Start	-	32,785	10,927	-	21,858
	<u>23,998</u>	<u>131,339</u>	<u>104,085</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51,252</u>
	<u>19,955</u>	<u>216,016</u>	<u>184,240</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51,731</u>

14. Operating leases

At the end of the financial year the charity had commitments under a non-cancellable operating lease for rent as follows:

	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Within one year	-	-
Between two and five years	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

CREATIVE STIRLING SCIO
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

15. Made in Stirling CIC

The 100% owned subsidiary of the SCIO, Made in Stirling CIC is a Company limited by shares and incorporated in the UK (Company number SC697948). An extract of its trading results from its unaudited financial statements are provided below:

Trading results:

	Year to 30 June 2025	Year to to 30 June 2024
	£	£
Turnover	228,261	218,847
Cost of sales	(31,823)	(18,665)
Gross profit	<u>196,438</u>	<u>200,182</u>
Administration costs:		
Service charges	(68,860)	(68,833)
Charitable donation to Creative Stirling	(3,212)	(10,000)
Other administration costs	(124,366)	(121,349)
Profit/ (loss) for the period	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Assets and liabilities:		
Current assets	73,367	38,638
Current liabilities	(73,366)	(38,637)
Net current asset	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Liabilities due after more than one year	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net assets	<u><u>1</u></u>	<u><u>1</u></u>