

OUTWITH FESTIVAL
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED
28 FEBUARY 2025

Registered charity number: SC052566

OUTWITH FESTIVAL

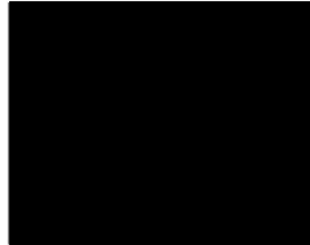
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 28 FEBUARY 2025

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OUTWITH FESTIVAL

CHARITY INFORMATION

TRUSTEES



REGISTERED OFFICE

Firestation Creative
Carnegie Drive
Dunfermline
KY12 7AN

REGISTERED NUMBER

SC052566

OUTWITH FESTIVAL

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements for the period ended 28 February 2025.

The charity run an annual arts and music festival in the City of Dunfermline in 2024 hosting over 80 events with over 200 performers. The charity strives to meet the following Outcomes related to its Aims and Purposes

The advancement of the arts, particularly but not exclusive to music:

- Fostering the growth and recognition of local artists and musicians.
- Enhancing cultural diversity and artistic expression within the community.
- Providing platforms and opportunities for emerging talent to showcase their work.
- Enriching the cultural landscape of the region through artistic exploration and innovation.

The organisation of recreational activities, namely the playing, enjoyment of, and participation in music and the arts, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the activities are primarily intended, by being available to members of the public at large:

- Increasing access to music and arts-based recreational activities for individuals of all backgrounds and demographics.
- Promoting social cohesion and well-being through shared artistic experiences.
- Enhancing the overall quality of life by providing opportunities for artistic expression and enjoyment.
- Creating inclusive and welcoming spaces for community engagement through music and the arts.

The advancement of citizenship or community development by working with third-sector organisations and working to encourage and support public involvement in the planning and development process of festival activities:

- Strengthening community bonds and fostering a sense of belonging among festival participants.
- Collaborating with local organisations to address community needs and concerns.
- Empowering community members to actively contribute to the planning and development of festival activities.
- Promoting civic engagement and active participation in shaping the cultural landscape of the region.

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (a SCIO). It was registered in its current legal form on 24 May 2023. The charity was previously an unincorporated association but changed its legal form to a SCIO. The assets of the unincorporated association were transferred to the SCIO on the 24 May 2023. It has a single tier structure and as such the trustees are the members of the charity.

The board of people, which normally meet the first Monday of every second month (starting in March) are the charity trustees. This board control the activities of the charity and are responsible for monitoring and controlling the financial position.

Appointment of Trustees

The board also appoints charity trustees to fill vacancies, and the people serving on the board have the power to make changes to the constitution itself. The people serving on the board are referred to in the constitution as Charity Trustees – and they are also the Members of the organisation for the purposes of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. Trustees are elected at the annual general meeting which is held in November. There must be a minimum of five and a maximum of twelve trustees, and during the period of the accounts there were 7 appointed Trustees.

OUTWITH FESTIVAL

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (Continued)

Charitable purpose aims and objectives

The main aim and objectives as stated in the charities purpose is:

- The advancement of the arts, particularly but not exclusive to music.
- The organisation of recreational activities, namely the playing, enjoyment of and participation in music and the arts, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the activities are primarily intended, by being available to members of the public at large or to male or female members of the public at large.
- The advancement of citizenship or community development by working with third sector organisations and working to encourage and support public involvement in the planning and development process of festival activities.

Principal Activities and Achievements

Established and run by a volunteer collective of artists, writers, academics, filmmakers and musicians, Outwith Festival continues in 2024 to champion Dunfermline's cultural life. We believe a city with Dunfermline's history and creative heritage must offer accessible outlets for artistic expression — both popular and experimental — so that residents can participate in, and contribute to, an ongoing cultural conversation.

The Outwith Festival 2024 event was held from September 3rd to September 8th 2024, and was a celebration of arts, culture, and creativity. It held over 85 events, had more than 4,500 attendees and received lots of positive feedback from attendees and community partners.

Our work responds to local need: as public arts provision in schools and elsewhere is reduced, affordable local access to workshops, gigs, talks, theatre and film becomes ever more essential if Dunfermline is to sustain and expand its creative economy. Outwith provides that access: a place of exchange where artists present new work and the community can engage with it close to home.

Aims and approach (2024)

- Bring diverse artists and events into Dunfermline so local people experience work that is out of the ordinary.
- Create pathways for local talent to develop and professionalise through performance, exhibition and collaboration.
- Keep events affordable and locally based to remove barriers to participation and strengthen the city's cultural infrastructure.

2024 activity and outcomes

- Programming highlights: hundreds of musicians, writers, theatre-makers and visual artists participated in Outwith events in 2024, including contributions from two Scots Makar poets, touring productions from Edinburgh companies, and audience conversations with acclaimed actress and singer/songwriter Barbara Dickson.
- Talent development: we continued to ignite creative careers — supporting young musicians who have since toured and recorded, and artists who secured funding for their own projects following festival exposure.

- Community-led initiatives: Outwith helped catalyse regular cultural activity across Dunfermline — from businesses that began hosting music evenings to a community yoga class started during the festival that has met weekly for three years.
- Artist relationships: many participants return annually, reflecting the festival's role in building a resilient creative community and sustained networks between practitioners and audiences.
- Year-round impact: the festival's influence extends beyond its event dates, generating opportunities, inspiration and activity across the city throughout 2024.

In 2024 Outwith Festival reaffirmed its role as an affordable, volunteer-led engine of cultural vitality in Dunfermline. By presenting adventurous work, nurturing local talent and lowering barriers to participation, Outwith helps ensure the city remains a vital centre for artistic life and creative exchange.

Financial Review

Funding sources & reserves policy

Results for the period ended 28 February 2025 are given in the Statement of Receipts and Payments below. The assets and reserves position are detailed on the Statement of Balances on page 7. The Statement of Receipts and Payments shows a net deficit of £4,854 (2024: surplus £4,025) of unrestricted funds. Unrestricted funds now total £17,872, as the opening cash balance on 28th February 2024 was £22,726 .

The main sources of funding were from the sale of tickets to the various events held during the Outwith Festival 2024 event, grant funding as detailed in notes to the accounts below, and sponsorship from corporate companies.

The pricing is £30 per ticket for the music event and varies between £20 and £nil for other events, as some events were hosted for free, to encourage community engagement.

Almost all sources of funding were applied to the Outwith festival 2024.

At each of the Board meetings, the financial position of the Charity is reviewed, and business plans are being developed in relation to future activities.

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TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT (Continued)

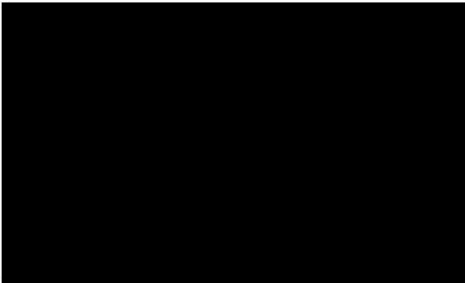
Plans for future period

The charity intends to continue to **develop and deliver the Outwith Festival in 2025 and beyond**, building on the strong foundations established in previous years. The existing artistic genres—**music, literature, comedy, and interviews**—will remain central to the festival's identity, while plans are underway to further expand **performances, art installations, and community-focused events** across the city.

A key priority for the coming years is to **increase the number of workshop and community events**, particularly those designed to engage individuals who have had **limited access or exposure to the arts**. These initiatives aim to make the festival more inclusive and reflective of Dunfermline's diverse community.

The charity also seeks to **enhance community participation** within the festival—encouraging involvement both on stage and in the audience, as well as through **volunteering opportunities**. By nurturing the next generation of volunteers, creators, and organisers, Outwith aims to secure a vibrant and sustainable future for the festival and the wider arts community.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



OUTWITH FESTIVAL

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF OUTWITH FESTIVAL

I report on the accounts of the charity for the period ended 28 February 2025 which are set out on pages 6 to 10.

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.

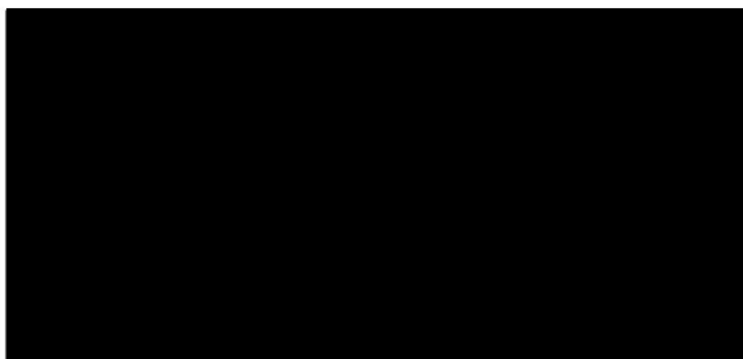
Independent examiner's statement

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.



OUTWITH FESTIVAL

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2025

	Unrestricted Restricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Period ended 28 February 2025	Period ended 28 February 2024
Receipts	£	£	£	£
Grants	25,903	-	25,903	34,990
Gross receipts from charitable activities	25,209	-	25,209	30,640
Total Receipts	51,112	-	51,112	65,630
Payments				
Operation of charitable activities	(55,966)	-	(55,966)	(61,330)
Purchase of equipment		-		(275)
Total Payments	(55,966)	-	(55,966)	(61,605)
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(4,854)	-	(4,854)	4,025
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(4,854)	-	(4,854)	4,025

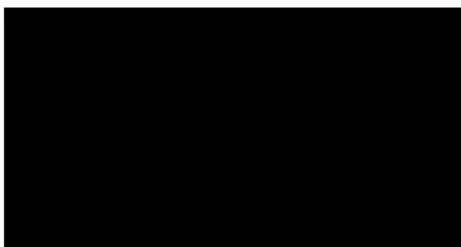
OUTWITH FESTIVAL

STATEMENT OF BALANCES AT 28 FEBRUARY 2025

	Unrestricted Restricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Year ended 28 February 2025	Year ended 28 February 2024
	£	£	£	£
Opening cash at bank and in hand	22,726	-	22,726	18,701
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(4,854)	-	(4,854)	4,025
Closing cash at bank and in hand	17,872	-	17,872	22,726
Bank and Cash Balances				
Cash held by Trustee	205	-	205	1,345
Bank deposit account	17,667	-	17,667	21,381
Closing cash at bank and in hand	17,872	-	17,872	22,726

Equipment held by Trustees					
				£	£
Card readers				242	242
Gimble				135	135
				377	377

The financial statements of Outwith Festival were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on its behalf by:



OUTWITH FESTIVAL

MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR TO 28 FEBRUARY 2025

The material accounting policies adopted 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.

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

OUTWITH FESTIVAL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR TO 28 FEBRUARY 2025

1. Grants

Carnegie Dunfermline Trust Grant

This grant funding was a community fund granted during the period for up to £15000 and was only re-imbursed to the charity on production of relevant invoices for expenditure incurred on the Outwith Festival event. The amount claimed was £12804 with the remaining amount £2196, in agreement with the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust, will be carried over and claimed in the 25/26 accounts.

Fife Council – Dunfermline Area Committee

A grant was awarded of £12,500 from the local community planning fund. This was fully expended in the period and report was given to the area committee detailing all relevant expenditure.

Film Hub Scotland

A grant was awarded of £1,000 to the Outwith Festival for the film events within the Festival.

2. Cost of charitable activities

	2025	2024
Artists	30,816	25,844
Production costs	16,406	18,034
Promotion and marketing	5,599	10,022
Website costs	2,855	5,360
Insurance	290	
Volunteer expenses		138
Equipment		275
Ukrainian Donation		1,932
	£55,966	£61,605

3. Trustee Remuneration and Expenses

None of the trustees (or any person connected with them) received any remuneration during the year. Expenses incurred on behalf of the charity of £2,621 was reimbursed for expenses to four committee members:

£1,937 (Insurance, banners, social media advertising)
£500 (Artist performance)
£216 (Artist hospitality)
£90 (Social Media advertising)
£94 (Artist Hospitality)

OUTWITH FESTIVAL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

3. Trustee Remuneration and Expenses (continued)

██████████ is a Trustee of the Carnegie Development Trust. The board decision to support Outwith Festival with up to £15000 grant funding was made independently, and ██████████ was not party to this board decision which was made by other Trustees of Carnegie Development Trust.

██████████ is also an employee of Fife Council. The award of the Fife Council grant was not connected to ██████████ role as an employee.

4. Governance cost

The accounts have been subject to an Independent Examination but no fee has been charged by the Independent examiner who offered service son a pro-bono basis.