Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
From	11	12	2024	To	10	12	2025

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	OPEN MUSIC
Other names charity is known by	
Registered charity number (if any)	1159108
Charity's principal address	91A Church Rd
	Hove
	East Sussex
	Postcode **BN3 2BA**

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Melanie Absolon	Treasurer		
2	Duncan Harrison	Chair		
3	Marie-Isabelle Brooks			
4	Maureen Bourne			
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Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Foundation
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by a resolution passed at trustees meeting

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

This annual report retrospectively covers the period between 12/24 - 12/25.

The trustees are pleased to announce the Colour Out of Space festival was successfully relaunched for a ninth edition in April 2026. A full report on the event will be submitted as part of our next TAR early in 2027.

For this period of preparation, we are grateful for the vital support of the Chalk Cliff Trust who became the main match funding partner in our arts council bid, and whose grant would support workshops and local artists during the festival itself.

As in previous editions, a core team of Dylan Nyoukis, Karen Constance and Michael Sippings programmed and managed the event, aided by freelancers and volunteers from Brighton's new music and arts scene, and throughout the local community.

In this period, Open Music welcomed two new trustees - Marie-Isabelle Brooks and Maureen Bourne. Both are innovative and respected sound artists who live and work in Brighton, and have a strong engagement and insight into its experimental music and arts culture.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document	To promote the public appreciation of, and to educate the public in the art of experimental music and related art forms, particularly by the organisation of an annual festival of contemporary music and art held in the South East of England.
Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)	Open Music is a not for profit arts group that formed in 2006 to curate and coordinate 'Colour Out of Space' - a festival promoting new experimental approaches to music and its cross over into other disciplines such as artist cinema. The event began as a showcase for Brighton's burgeoning new music scene and has expanding yearly to present both national and international artists. It has become one of the UK's leading festivals of sound art and has gained a strong international reputation for its programming and ethos. We confirm the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit; Through the festival and related projects, Open Music aims to promote a wider understanding of experimental music, exploring its practice and history through activities that include performance, screenings, live cinema, workshops, residency, presentations and debate. The festival is international in its outlook and aims to create links between artists, bringing together different strands and genres of music, exploring how they can relate and, in doing so, how they can create something new and innovative. Through the festival, Open Music provides a unique and inspiring opportunity to experience innovative musical developments from the UK and from around the world, in an exciting environment, with high standards of audio/visual presentation. It introduces new work and new approaches that encompass a wide spectrum of artist practice – not solely in music but in wider fields that include artist moving image, theatrical performance and visual art.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Volunteers from all sections of the community play a vital role in the running of the event itself through roles which include front of house, stewards and theatre assistants. Volunteers gain valuable experience that can be added to CV's and job references.

SECTION D: Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The group has used this period to focus on new ideas, directions and funding for the ninth edition of the festival in April 2026.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves	With no permanent employees or property the charity's overheads are low. All funds that are raised go directly to the running and promotion of the festival, its artists and artistic programme.
Details of any funds materially in deficit	There are none

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about: • the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising); • how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity; • investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.	Open Music's source of funding is through grant making bodies, fundraising events and festival ticket sales.

Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	M Absolon	
Full name(s)	Melanie Absolon	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Treasurer	

Date	02 / 10 / 2026

CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Receipts and Payments Accounts

Charity name: Open Music

Charity number (if any): 1159108

For the period from (start date): 11 / 12 / 2024 to (end date): 10 / 12 / 25

Section A Receipts and payments

A1 Receipts	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
					370
Chalk Cliff Trust		2000			
Sub total					
A2 Asset and investment sales, etc					
Total receipts		2370		2370	
A3 Payments					
Library Exhibition Deposit		55.20			
One Church Venue Deposit		100.00			
Artist Fee x 2 - Performance		300.00			
Meeting Expenses x 2		25.22			
Sub total		480.42			
A4 Asset and investment purchases, etc					
Total payments					
Net of receipts/(payments)					
A5 Transfers between funds					
A6 Cash funds last year end					
Cash funds this year end		1889.58		1889.58	

Section B — Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

B1 Cash funds

Details	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £
Funds as of 10/12/25		1889.58	
Total cash funds (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))		1889.58	

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £
N/A			

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
N/A			

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
N/A			

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
N/A			

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print name	Date of approval
M Absolon	Melanie Absolon	25/09/26