CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From: 1/1/25 (Period start date) To: 31/12/25 (Period end date)

Charity name: Seed Studios CIO

Charity registration number: 1172658

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The purpose of Seed Studios CIO is to promote social inclusion for the public benefit by preventing people from becoming socially excluded, relieving the needs of those people who are socially excluded and assisting them to integrate into society by providing a community music and arts service.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	We have improved local health, creativity and connections through two main activities. • Provision of weekly volunteer-led Community Music Wellbeing Workshops which are free, open to all adults and suitable for all abilities • Provision of 1-to-1 music sessions by sessional workers for adults referred to Seed Studios through local health and community partners
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	In planning and decision-making, the Trustees kept in mind the Charity Commissions guidance on public benefit.

Additional information (optional)
You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	N/A
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
	Para 1.38	Volunteers remained at the heart of Seed Studios in 2025, playing an essential role in

Contribution made by volunteers		delivering a vibrant programme of musical activities across Trafford, contributing over 1,000 hours of volunteer-led sessions, highlighting the incredible commitment and talent within our community.
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	**Headlines:** • Secured a TNL 3 year Reaching Communities grant, which will help to cover staff costs until Dec 2027 • Attracted six additional grants totalling nearly £30,000 • Increased footfall by nearly 600 to just short of 2,600 attendances in total with more than 250 in June, our busiest month so far. • Ten different workshop sessions per week with over 20 hours of provision from Beginners Guitar to the Ukelele Singalong. • Our volunteers delivered over 1,000 hours of free workshops in the year. • 90 participant musicians had the chance to perform in front of an audience, many for the 1st time. • We launched a new songwriting workshop called The Orchard which has already established a vibrant and growing community of core members. • We were able to secure funding to continue our social prescribing work for the next year with the aim to be delivering 7 hours a week by the end of 2026. • Developed 6 new partnerships: Reform Radio, Old Trafford Limelight, Dementia Disco, Trafford Choices, Altrincham Priory and the Contact Hostel. • Maintained our existing partnerships with: String of Hearts CIC, Bluesci Support, Manchester International Roots Orchestra, Trafford Community Collective and others. • We delivered open mic events at Limelight Old Trafford in March; Broomwood in June • Manchester International Roots Orchestra (MIRO) delivering a series of Roma music workshops at our Old Trafford and Broomwood studios. • In November, members of our community were invited to perform and close Trafford Council's Arts, Health, Action Day.

		• Delivered the Celebrate Seed Studios event in December at Band on the Wall, that saw over 40 musicians perform in seven different groups on the iconic stage, many performing for the first time and over 100 audience members (not including musicians) attended. We predominantly worked with people aged between 35 and 75 plus. This is a more diverse range from previous years but still highlights that an area for development is to increase engagement amongst 18 to 35-year-olds. With this in mind, we are in the process of setting up a new partnership with nearby Gorse Hill Studios, who have spare capacity, and generally work with younger people In common with many smaller charities, we are very focused on 'doing it' but sometimes less good at 'recording it' and showing what we've achieved. We do have an ongoing informal debate with our volunteers and participants, but recognise that this will be an area of improvement for 2026.

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The charity had bank balances totalling £41,418 at the end of the year. The charity had receipts totalling £37,263 for the year. The charity had payments totalling £59,273 for the year.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The reserves policy for this financial year was to maintain sufficient reserves to meet statutory obligations regarding staff redundancy and notice periods, as well basic operational costs for up to a year of insurance, bank charges and basic accountancy.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£6,043
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Seed Studios CIO
Other name the charity uses	Seed Studios
Registered charity number	1172658
Charity's principal address	54-56, Seymour Grove, Old Trafford, Manchester M16 0LN

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	Andrew Hodson	Chair		
2	Lucy Kohoutek Power			
3	Philip Handscomb	Treasurer		
4	Ann-Marie Crowley			

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	Andrew Hodson	
Full name(s)	Andrew Christopher Hodson	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	20/8/26	

Seed Studios Management accounts 1/1/25 to 30/04/26

Seed Studios Management accounts Jan 1st 2025-Dec 31st 2025

Income	
Opening Balance	£41,418
Grants	£34,610
Donations	£2,504
Interest	£59
Sundries	£90
Total	**£78,681**

Expenditure	
Staff Costs	£39,788
Community Connector Costs	£5,078
Wellbeing Support	£4,372
Facilitator Costs	£3,357
Volunteer Expences	£1,462
Subs & Fees	£1,217
Events & Promotion	£2,814
Equipment	£1,185
Total	**£59,273**
Balance	**£19,408**
BB 31/12/25	£19,408

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees SEED STUDIOS CIO

On accounts for the year ended 31/12/2025 **Charity no (if any)** 1172658

Set out on pages (remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: [signature] **Date:** 4.08.26

Name: Alan Watson

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): BA. M.Phil CQSW

Address: 22 Ellerman Rd
Chorlton
Manchester M21 0SR