BLOC Productions

Trustees Annual Report

Year ended 31st March 2026

Charity Number 1195809

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The trustees present their annual report and the financial statements of BLOC Productions for the year ended 31 March 2026.

BLOC Productions is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales under charity number 1195809.

This was the charity's third production undertaken since BLOC Productions adopted its current CIO structure.

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity name: BLOC Productions

Charity registration number: 1195809

Legal structure: Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Registered office:
2 Bramble Lane
Sneyd Park
Bristol
BS9 1RD

Trustees serving during the year

The trustees who served during the period from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026 were:

- Philip Hallworth – Chair and Secretary
- Alexander Turasiewicz – Vice Chair
- Graham Lewis – Treasurer
- Josephine Phillips
- Caroline Northam
- Lucy Pope
- Peter Jones
- Samuel Davies
- Mary Hilditch
- Emma Griffiths

Structure, Governance and Management

BLOC Productions is governed by its CIO constitution.

The charity was previously operated as an unincorporated charity and subsequently became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. As a CIO, BLOC Productions is a separate legal entity and is able to enter into contracts and own property in its own right.

The trustees are responsible for the overall governance, strategic direction and financial management of the charity.

Trustees are elected in accordance with the charity's governing document. The charity's Annual General Meeting is held annually, at which the trustees' report and financial statements for the preceding financial year are presented to the membership.

The trustee body includes the officers of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, together with other elected trustees.

The trustees are collectively responsible for the governance of the charity, oversight of its finances and the organisation and delivery of its annual production and other charitable activities.

Charitable Objects and Public Benefit

The principal object of BLOC Productions is:

To educate the public in the arts, and in particular in the arts of music and drama, through the presentation of dramatic and musical productions.

The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when exercising their powers and carrying out the charity's activities.

BLOC Productions advances its charitable purposes principally through the presentation of large-scale musical theatre productions and through opportunities for participation, education, volunteering and practical experience in theatrical and performing arts.

The charity seeks to provide opportunities for performers, production teams, volunteers, students and members of the wider community to participate in and benefit from musical theatre.

The charity's principal annual production is staged at the Bristol Hippodrome, one of the United Kingdom's major theatre venues. This enables BLOC Productions to present large-scale productions to substantial public audiences and to attract non-professional theatrical talent from Bristol, the South West and beyond.

In addition to its principal theatrical production, the charity seeks to engage with the wider Bristol and South West community and to promote access to, participation in and education through the performing arts.

Achievements and Performance

Principal Production

The principal activity during the year was BLOC Productions' production of Let the People Sing's – Les Misérables.

This production was particularly significant as BLOC Productions was invited by Musical Theatre International (the international Licence holders of Les Misérables) to take the leading role in a collaborative project involving other theatrical societies from the region. The production formed part of the 40th anniversary celebrations of *Les Misérables*, with BLOC Productions being one of eleven different productions across the country participating in the project.

Our production was performed at the Bristol Hippodrome and attracted nearly 14,000 audience members, including three sold-out performances.

Participation in this project provided a significant opportunity for BLOC Productions to further its charitable objects by providing opportunities for participation and collaboration for individuals within the non-professional theatre community and bringing high-quality musical theatre to a large public audience at ticket prices significantly lower than one would pay for a professional touring company bringing the same title to the Hippodrome.

An agreement was reached with the regional collaborating theatrical societies regarding the sharing of performance fees. Each collaborating club received a sum of more than £4,000, providing additional financial resources to support their continued activities within their local communities.

Community and Educational Activities

In addition to the principal annual production, BLOC Productions continued to support and engage with the Bristol and South West community.

Activities during the year included:

- Community engagement activity connected with a Bristol City Council music event.
- Participation in arts activities at St George's, Bristol, another charitable organisation.
- The creation and integration of an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion statement into the charity's structure and ethos, with the intention of fostering greater inclusivity and accessibility within musical theatre.

- Collaboration with the City of Bristol College to provide practical, hands-on opportunities for Hair, Make-up and Wigs students.
- Opportunities for students to gain experience in the planning, design and implementation of wigs, hair and make-up for a major theatrical production.
- Opportunities for students to observe rehearsals and participate in practical delivery during the production period, helping them to develop professional portfolios and gain experience of a live theatre environment.
- Volunteering opportunities for members of the Costume Team in costume design and production.
- Backstage and stage management shadowing opportunities at the Bristol Hippodrome during the design, build and performance periods.
- Entertainment provided at the Bristol John James Foundation Christmas lunch provided by the JJ Foundation to members of the Bristol community.
- A workshop for the wider Bristol amateur theatre company was organised by BLOC at the beginning of the year to assist performers in the audition process. This workshop was run by two Musical Theatre industry professionals.

The trustees believe that these activities support the charity's objects by providing educational and practical opportunities within the performing arts and by encouraging participation in musical theatre.

Financial Review

The financial statements show that the charity generated a surplus for the year ended 31 March 2026.

The principal production generated income of approximately £598,629 and incurred production costs of approximately £544,229, resulting in a surplus on the production of approximately £54,400.

After taking account of other income and expenditure, the charity recorded an overall surplus for the year of approximately £41,067.

This compares with a deficit of approximately £70,943 in the previous financial year.

The trustees recognise that the financial outcome of the charity is significantly influenced by the financial performance of its major theatrical productions.

At 31 March 2026, the charity's closing reserves were approximately £136,004.64, compared with approximately £93,978 at the start of the financial year.

During the year, the charity continued to benefit from income arising from its activities and other sources.

The charity has previously made successful claims under the Government's Theatre Tax Relief arrangements. A further claim relating to the 2025 production of *Let the People Sing – Les Misérables* was made following the approval of these accounts. At the date of this report, the repayment had been received and will be reflected in the financial statements for the year ending 31 March 2027.

The trustees also intend to address the charity's Gift Aid position during the current financial year and expect to make appropriate claims in respect of eligible donations for previous and current periods.

Reserves Policy

The trustees recognise the importance of maintaining sufficient reserves to enable BLOC Productions to meet its financial commitments and continue its charitable activities.

The charity's activities involve significant financial commitments associated with the planning and staging of major theatrical productions. The trustees therefore consider it important to maintain an appropriate level of reserves to provide financial resilience and to enable the charity to manage the financial risks associated with future productions.

Based on increasing production costs but the desire of the Trustees to maintain ticket prices at current levels, greater reserves are necessary than in previous years to cover any deficit on expenditure over income. The trustees have considered the level of reserves required to enable the charity to manage the financial risks associated with staging major theatrical productions.

The charity faces significant financial commitments in advance of each production, including theatre costs, royalties, production costs, marketing and other contractual commitments. In addition, the trustees seek to maintain ticket prices at levels which remain accessible to the public, which may increase the financial risk associated with individual productions.

The trustees have therefore determined that a target level of unrestricted reserves of approximately £150,000 going forward is appropriate. This level is intended to provide sufficient financial resilience to meet unexpected shortfalls and enable the charity to commit to future productions.

At 31 March 2026, unrestricted reserves were £136,004.64. The trustees expect that the charity's financial position will continue to strengthen during the following financial year.

The trustees will review the reserves policy periodically to ensure that it remains appropriate to the scale and nature of the charity's activities.

Risk Management

The trustees have considered the principal risks to which the charity is exposed and have established systems and procedures designed to manage and mitigate those risks.

The principal risks faced by the charity include those associated with:

- the financial performance of major theatrical productions;
- significant contractual and production commitments;
- the management of cash flow and reserves;
- the health and safety of participants, volunteers and audiences;
- reliance upon volunteers and the availability of appropriately skilled personnel; and
- the effective management and delivery of major public performances.

The trustees monitor the charity's activities and financial position and seek to take appropriate action to manage significant risks.

Risk management procedures are reviewed periodically to ensure that they remain appropriate to the charity's activities and circumstances.

Plans for the Future

The trustees intend to continue pursuing the charity's objects through the presentation of musical theatre productions and through associated educational, volunteering and community activities.

The charity will continue to seek opportunities to:

- present high-quality musical theatre to the public;
- provide opportunities for participation by performers and volunteers;
- support educational and practical experience within the performing arts;
- develop relationships with educational establishments and other organisations within the local community;
- promote inclusivity and accessibility within musical theatre; and

- maintain the financial stability of the charity.

The trustees will also continue to review the charity's governance, financial arrangements, risk management procedures and reserves policy to ensure that they remain appropriate to the charity's activities.

Fundraising

The charity's principal income arises from its theatrical activities, including production income, subscriptions and other related income.

The trustees monitor the charity's income-generating activities and seek to ensure that these are undertaken in a manner consistent with the charity's purposes and values.

Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and Statements of Recommended Practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

Approval

This report was approved by the trustees on September 29th and signed on their behalf by:



Graham Lewis
Trustee and Treasurer

Date: 29/09/2026

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company set out on pages 8 to 18 for the year ended July 2026.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance With the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination. I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination, I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
3. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance With the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).
4. 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 Nathan Penny ACCA

Creative Tax Reliefs Limited
http://www.creativetaxreliefs.com

Signed npenny

Date 30/09/2026

BLOC PRODUCTIONS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Total funds 2025 £
Income and endowments from:		
Donations and legacies		
Subscriptions and patrons	22,244	9,372
Theatre Tax Credit	34,431	64,684
Other income and receipts	1,911	18,008
Income from charitable activities:		
Theatrical productions	598,629	121,611
Investment income	638	1,143
Total income	**657,853**	**214,818**
Expenditure on:		
Charitable activities:		
Theatrical productions	(544,229)	(177,969)
Other charitable and operating expenditure	(72,557)	(40,769)
Total expenditure	**(616,726)**	**(218,738)**
Net income/(expenditure) before other recognised gains and losses	**41,067**	**(3,921)**
Other recognised gains/(losses)	–	(67,023)
Net Profit	**41,067**	**(70,943)**

BLOC Productions

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2026

	2026 £	2025 £
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand	136,004.64	93,977.85
Total current assets	136,004.64	93,977.85
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(960)	–
Net assets	135,044.64	93,977.85
Funds		
Unrestricted funds	136,004.64	93,977.85
Total charity funds	136,004.64	93,977.85

Notes to the Financial Statements

Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) – 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), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and the charity's governing document.

BLOC Productions meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Going concern

The trustees have considered the charity's financial position and have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue its activities for the foreseeable future. The trustees therefore continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing these financial statements.

Income recognition

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure recognition

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount can be measured reliably.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

The charity has no restricted funds. All funds held at the yearend are unrestricted and available for use in furtherance of the charity's charitable objects.

Trustees' Remuneration and Expenses

During the year, Alex Turasiewicz, who was a trustee of the charity, received remuneration of £5,000 for services provided to the charity in the capacity of Co-Director in connection with the production of *Let the People Sing – Les Misérables*. These fees were in line with the other members of the creatives team.

The remuneration was paid for services provided other than in the individual's capacity as a trustee and was authorised in accordance with the charity's governing document and applicable charity law. The trustee did not participate in any decision relating to their remuneration.

No Trustee received expenses, only reimbursement of costs they incurred directly associated with the running of the CIO.

Independent Examiner's Remuneration

A fee of £800 + VAT has been paid to the Independent Examiner for reviewing these statements.

Employees

The charity had no employees during the year.