THE WESTMORLAND ORCHESTRA

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the trustees see fit, including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals.

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER	1201505
PRINCIPAL ADDRESS	9 Murley Moss Kendal LA9 7RW
TRUSTEES	J Donally - Chair J Crossley – Hon Secretary B Starling – Hon Treasurer – resigned 22 Oct 25 A Robb – Hon Treasurer – elected 22 Oct 25 J Gascoigne H Milligan E Williams – resigned 20 May 26 L Hunter A Lockley Ed Pendrous – co-opted 13 April 26
MUSIC DIRECTOR	M Tay
LEADER	P Redman
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	G Clifford-Perkins FCA

THE OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY

The Articles state that the Objects of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) shall be:

> to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the trustees see fit, including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

In making decisions on the work of The Westmorland Orchestra, the Committee has had regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

The Orchestra serves the public in general, but in practice those who live in or near Kendal. It provides opportunities for people to participate in making music to a high standard by playing with the orchestra and to enjoy it by attending concerts in the area.

CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Report of the Chair on behalf of the Committee

The Westmorland Orchestra's 2025/26 season was busy and highly productive. As well as four summer playing sessions and a September open playing, the orchestra presented four concerts to audiences in Kendal. The summer sessions in July 2025 covered large scale classics, including Brahms and Bruckner symphonies as well as a relative rarity with Bridge's 'The Sea'. The September playing day in Grange tackled Bartok's Concerto for Orchestra, a useful study day prior to its public performance in a concert during the season. These playing/study days fulfil a useful function in opening up the orchestra to potential new members as well as educating our members in performing a wider repertoire under expert guidance from a range of guest conductors.

Our public concerts, all under the baton of Melvin Tay, continued to present ambitious programmes to our audiences in Kendal. As well as the Bartok, the orchestra introduced lesser known works by Bacewicz and Fredrik Holm alongside classics such as Rimsky Korsakov's Scheherazade and the Elgar Cello Concerto, given a stellar performance by the orchestra's own principal cello, Ed Pendrous. Despite a freezing Kendal Leisure Centre, the orchestra also delivered a popular (especially well-attended by a younger audience) 'Round the World in 80 minutes' concert in January 2026.

Melvin Tay leaves the orchestra this year and we are grateful for his professionalism and enthusiasm in expanding the orchestra's repertoire and giving us the confidence to continue to develop as an orchestra. The Westmorland is indisputably seen as the major (and largest-membership) ensemble based in Westmorland capable of delivering full scale orchestral concerts to an enthusiastic audience. We are confident that the orchestra will continue to develop and deliver exciting and innovative programmes to the community under our new Music Director, Dr Helen Thomas, in 2026/27.

CONSTITUTION

Governing documents

The Westmorland Orchestra is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, governed by its constitution which follows the "Association model" of the Charity Commission.

The Westmorland Orchestra CIO was registered on 5 January 2023 in order to take over the assets and operations of The Westmorland Orchestra (registered number 502339), the predecessor charity. The new constitution reflects as closely as possible the Constitution of the predecessor, unincorporated association.

The members of the Orchestra pay a membership subscription and are eligible to vote at General Meetings of the Orchestra. Almost all members also play in the Orchestra.

Trustees

The Westmorland Orchestra is governed by a committee elected by the Orchestra Membership from amongst their number. The Constitution requires that there be at least three Trustees.

The committee meets several times in each term, at the discretion of the members, in order to manage the Orchestra.

In accordance with the constitution a Chair is appointed who will chair meetings of the Committee and of the Membership. In accordance with the established practice of the Westmorland Orchestra, the Chair also co-ordinates the running of the Orchestra.

In accordance with the established practice of The Westmorland Orchestra (and the constitution of the predecessor charity), an Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer are also appointed.

Organisation structure

In addition to the work of the Committee, some significant tasks are undertaken by other members which helps with the management of the Westmorland Orchestra

- Grant applications
- "Fixing"
- Programme and poster design
- Public relations
- Ticketing
- Staging
- Patrons
- Programme notes
- Poster/banner printing and hanging
- Rehearsal (and concert) refreshments

Wider Network

The Westmorland Orchestra is a member of Making Music, an organisation which "helps leisure-time music to flourish". The committee greatly appreciates guidance from Making Music on constitutional and administrative matters.

The Orchestra rehearses at Castle Street Community Centre in Kendal. The Centre Manager is always supportive and accommodates last-minute changes of plan and extra requirements whenever possible.

Concerts have traditionally been held at Kendal Leisure Centre and more occasionally at Kendal Parish Church. However, the church is hoping to start a major restoration/renovation project in 26/27 which will may limit our choices over the next 2 seasons.

Contacts are maintained with other musical groups in the area, including Lakeland Sinfonia, Cumbria Festival Chorus, Haffner Orchestra, Lake District Music and others.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The Committee has considered the major risks to which the charity is exposed and sought to address them. This is done by keeping policies up to date (led by the Honorary Secretary) and maintaining insurance cover.

The growth in membership has strengthened the financial position of the charity and Reserves are healthy giving the orchestra the resources to try additional concerts, repertoire needing more players and more contemporary music.

Changes to classical music provision across Cumbria are being monitored.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Reserves Policy

The Committee intends to retain funds equivalent to one year of expenditure. Having reviewed the accounts for the year ended 30 June 2026, the Trustees agreed to raise the target level of reserves to £35,000. At the balance sheet date the actual free reserves amounted to £56,061. The Committee has been able to fix members' subscriptions and ticket prices as well as trying out a different pattern of concerts with ambitious programming continuing in the coming season. The Committee will use excess funds to develop the charitable activities of the orchestra with increased spending expected in the next few seasons.

Financial Review

Audience numbers over the season were not as high as we had hoped however, the concert in January 2026 saw in excess of 70 children in the audience which was wonderful. Losses on the concerts could be covered by increasing the audience by 50 and this is something for the Committee to work on in the coming season.

Membership continues to grow steadily with 76 members in total.

Income from Grants will be sought for any larger projects in the pipeline. The regular £500 from Westmorland & Furness Council (formerly South Lakeland District Council) is still in place but may not continue after 26/27.

Orchestral tax relief continues and helps the orchestra to present varied and at times challenging repertoire.

The committee has agreed to keep the level of subscription for members and ticket prices the same for the coming season.

STATEMENT OF COMMITTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Committee and signed on 30th September 2026

J Donally
Chair

J Crossley
Hon Secretary

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE WESTMORLAND ORCHESTRA
(Charity Number 1201505)

On accounts for the year ended 30 June 2026

Set out on pages 6 to 8

Responsibilities and basis of the report

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the CIO") for the year ended 30 June 2026.

The Committee of the CIO is 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 CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the 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 order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed G. Clifford-Perkins.

Date 30 SEPTEMBER 2026.

Name G Clifford-Perkins FCA

THE WESTMORLAND ORCHESTRA CIO

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

For the year ended 30 June 2026

	Year ended 30 June 2026			Year ended 30 June 2025		
	Restricted Funds	General Funds	TOTAL	Restricted Funds	General Funds	TOTAL
RECEIPTS	£	£	£	£	£	£
Grants and donations						
Transfer from Westmorland Orchestra	-	-	-	-	41,516	41,516
Grants	-	-	-	-	1,200	1,200
Donations	-	1,375	1,375	150	3,399	3,549
Playdays and summer sessions	-	2,549	2,549	-	1,942	1,942
Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	1,951	1,951
Orchestra Tax Relief	-	5,662	5,662	-	5,150	5,150
Total receipts from grants and donations	-	9,586	9,586	150	55,158	55,308
Charitable Activities						
Members' Subscriptions	-	9,550	9,550	-	8,945	8,945
Concert tickets	-	8,746	8,746	-	9,480	9,480
Patrons' & Subscribers' tickets	-	975	975	-	1,539	1,539
Advertising	-	60	60	-	100	100
Total receipts from charitable activities	-	19,331	19,331	-	20,064	20,064
Interest	-	991.00	991	-	519	519
TOTAL RECEIPTS IN THE PERIOD	-	29,908	29,908	150	75,741	75,891

THE WESTMORLAND ORCHESTRA CIO | RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS | For the year ended 30 June 2026

		Year ended 30 June 2026			Year ended 30 June 2025		
		Restricted Funds	General Funds	TOTAL	Restricted Funds	General Funds	TOTAL
PAYMENTS							
Concerts	Conductor and Leader	-	890	890	-	650	650
	Soloists & Extra players	-	3,969	3,969	-	2,732	2,732
	Music	-	3,706	3,706	-	649	649
	Venue	-	3,372	3,372	-	783	783
	Printing & Publicity	-	1,395	1,395	-	776	776
	Programmes	-	601	601	-	336	336
	Performing Rights	-	328	328	-	250	250
	Other concert expenses	-	354	354	-	384	384
Payments for concerts		-	14,615	14,615	-	6,560	6,560
Summer & Play Day	Conductor and Leader	-	1,160	1,160	-	1,120	1,120
	Venue	-	270	270	-	313	313
	Music & other	-	118	118	-	146	146
Payments for Summer Sessions & Play Day		-	1,548	1,548	-	1,579	1,579
Other orchestral expenses	Hire of rehearsal room	-	5,094	5,094	-	2,435	2,435
	Rehearsal fees	-	7,530	7,530	-	6,701	6,701
	Extras for rehearsals	-	3,530	3,530	-	2,746	2,746
	Other rehearsal costs	-	152	152	-	649	649
	Music & Venue costs for previous and next seasons	-	-	-	-	966	966
	Subscriptions	-	460	460	-	346	346
	Professional fees	-	350	350	-	300	300
	Administration costs	-	1,376	1,376	-	1,351	1,351
Payments for other orchestral costs		-	18,492	18,492	-	15,495	15,495
TOTAL PAYMENTS IN THE PERIOD		-	34,655	34,655	-	23,634	23,633
(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS IN THE PERIOD		-	(4,747)	(4,747)	150	52,107	52,257
Transfers between funds (seat sponsorship)		(125)	125	-	(115)	115	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(125)	(4,622)	(4,747)	35	52,222	52,257
CASH FUNDS AT THE START OF THE YEAR		125	60,683	60,808	90	8,461	8,551
CASH FUNDS AT THE END OF THE YEAR		-	56,061	56,061	125	60,683	60,808

THE WESTMORLAND ORCHESTRA CIO

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 30 JUNE 2026

	Year ended 30 June 2026			Year ended 30 June 2025		
	Restricted Funds	General Funds	TOTAL	Restricted Funds	General Funds	TOTAL
ASSETS	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bank Accounts						
CAF Current Account	-	1,295	1,295	-	4,702	4,702
CAF Deposit Account	-	54,766	54,766	125	55,981	56,106
CASH FUNDS AT THE END OF THE YEAR	-	56,061	56,061	125	60,683	60,808
OTHER ASSETS AND LIABLITIES						
Debtors						
Gift Aid	-	1,723	1,723	-	-	-
Orchestra Tax Relief	-	6,132	6,132	-	5,313	5,313
Venue deposits	-	94	94	-	206	206
Music Hire in advance	-	279	279	-	434	434
Printing & Publicity	-	119	119	-	-	-
Summer Sessions	-	-	-	-	20	20
Other Assets at the end of the year	-	8,346	8,346	-	5,973	5,973
LIABILITIES						
Concert Venue Hire	-	-	-	-	1,500	1,500
Meeting room hire	-	72	72	-	146	146
Liabilities at the end of the year	-	72	72	-	1,646	1,646

Signed .....

A Robb
Hon Treasurer

.....

J Donally
Chair

Date

NOTES

Funds

Restricted Funds

Seat Sponsoship

Donations received to support members who would otherwise not be able to play with the orchestra. £125 was brought forward from the previous year. £125 transferred to General funds represents support for 3 members for part of the year or part of the subscription.

General Funds

Other General Funds - Other assets of the Orchestra are to be used at the discretion of the Committee in pursance of the Objects of the Charity as explained in the Trustees' Annual Report.