Charity Number: 1202948

Switchflicker CIO

Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2026

Switchflicker CIO
Reference and administrative information

for the period ended 31 March 2026

Charity number	1202948
Registered office and operational address	c/o Slade & Cooper Ltd Beehive Mill Jersey St Ancoats Manchester M4 6JG
Trustees	Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Dr Monica Pearl	Chair
Dr Andrew Westle	Vice Chair / Secretary
Richard Barnes	Treasurer

Key management personnel	Jayne Compton	Executive Director

Bankers	Santander Santander Business Banking Operations, Sunderland, SR43 4FW
Solicitors	Laura Marsden, Counterculture Unit 115 Ducie House, Ducie Street, Manchester, M1 2JW
Independent Examiner	Jennifer Daniel FCCA DChA Slade & Cooper Limited, Beehive Mill, Jersey St, Manchester, M4 6JG

Switchflicker CIO
Trustees' annual report

for the period ended 31 March 2026

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 1 forms part of this report. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the charity's constitution and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: SORP applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

Objectives and activities

The objects of the CIO are

To advance the education of the public in the performing arts and to promote the performing arts in particular but not exclusively by producing, promoting, and touring high-quality contemporary work across the UK for the public benefit.

The 'the performing arts' includes music, dance, drama, and performance art.

Our main activities are to produce art projects and tour new work.

The charity's main goals for the year 2025/2026 were to fundraise for, develop and present a programme of work by a wide range of live performance makers, and present this programme to as wide a public audience as possible.

Switchflicker creates and develops groundbreaking performance and visual art that brings opportunity, access and change to the local arts ecosystem. We engage marginalised communities in the North West and support LGBTQIA+, Global Majority, disabled and working-class artists to turn their ideas, usually inspired by lived experiences, into ambitious new work.

SWITCHFLICKER CIO:

- Delivering at Scale: Creating and touring contemporary performance locally, nationally, and internationally.
- Driving Northwest Excellence: Leading the region in interdisciplinary production and contemporary arts practice.
- Building Career Pathways: Connecting diverse voices with major venues, commissioner networks, and international festivals.
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The trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the charity each year. This report looks at what the charity has achieved and the outcomes of its work in the reporting period. The trustees report the success of each key activity and the benefits the charity has brought to those groups of people that it is set up to help. The review also helps the trustees ensure the charity's aims, objectives and activities remained focused on its stated purposes.

The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

Achievements and performance

The charity's main activities and who it tries to help are described below. All its charitable activities focus on producing art projects and touring new work and are undertaken to further Switchflicker CIO's charitable purposes for the public benefit.

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Switchflicker CIO's activity during 2025/26 financial year was very busy, touring several productions nationally and internationally. We developed and delivered a mixed programme of live performances both indoor and outdoor, as well as workshops, talks, in-conversation, and digital performances for public benefit.

Our 25/26 projects championed the voices of artists who have been historically excluded and underrepresented in the arts, presenting urgent, bold cross-artform works to audiences in national and international contexts. We are a collaborative partner, working with artists as they explore and develop new projects, contexts and ways of working.

Key activity:

Our key activity is delivering boundary-pushing performance, music and theatre that addresses social justice and creates meaningful impact.

- Productions such as ***All The Devils***, which explores addiction and isolation, are helping to improve the physical and mental wellbeing of a marginalised community.

- We continue to tour work to hard-to-reach audiences: ***Closer to My Dreams*** by Chad Taylor, commissioned for the Without Walls programme, toured nationally from 2024 to 2026 to major festivals and venues including Brighton Festival, The Whitworth, Ensemble Festival, Stockton International Riverside Festival and Birmingham Hippodrome. The work combines poetry, rap and hip hop choreography to offer an intimate portrayal of urban Black British life, and received strong audience response, positive reviews and helped build lasting relationships with new venues.

- Our ***Family Catwalk Extravaganza*** by Ghetto Fabulous has toured widely to free outdoor arts festivals for six consecutive years, engaging LGBTQIA+ communities, working-class audiences and families through accessible, participatory performance that celebrates self-expression and inclusion. It has also helped us reach audiences who may be less likely to engage with traditional arts venues or cultural programmes.

- Access and participation are central to our work: our 2026 pilot immersive dance experience, ***When I Hear Music***, reached more than 240 pupils, many experiencing live performance for the first time, with feedback describing the experience as calming, moving and confidence-building.

- We also support the development of new work through our **Associate Artists** programme, mentoring one artist each year over two years to create new contemporary performance, theatre, music, dance, interdisciplinary, heritage or socially engaged work. The programme responds

directly to underfunding by offering sustained mentorship and practical support, with a commitment to prioritising LGBTQIA+, Global Majority, disabled and working-class artists.

As Chad Taylor, Associate Artist, said: *"Without Switchflicker, the trajectory of my work over the last decade would look completely different... It has given me the space to grow as an artist."*

- We provided producing and bespoke consultancy support to arts organisations and projects: *Intimate Terrorism* by Alan McDonald, Homotopia and DuoVision.

Ongoing

- Organisational review of the charity's strengths/weaknesses:
  The performing arts sector is experiencing financial pressures due to the cost-of-living crisis impacting artists and audiences and an increasingly challenging touring context due to higher delivery costs, we are moving forward with a focus on trusts and foundations for multi-year funding to support the charity's financial resilience and sustainability.

- Representation:
  We affirm our commitment to focusing on producing work by artists from under-represented demographics, maintaining representation on our board, staff team, on and offstage freelance roles, and actively engaging audiences and participants from under-served and LGBTQIA+ demographics.

Beneficiaries of our services

The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when planning the programme of activity and determining how best to utilise funds raised.

The beneficiaries from our activities are the artists and creative team involved, and people experiencing the work as participants and audience members and through workshops/talks. We continue to actively try to increase the diversity of beneficiaries including staff, board, collaborating artists and practitioners, audiences and participants, and continue to implement our Diversity & Equality Policy.

Beneficiaries include:

Members of the public experiencing the work as audience members.

Artists working in a range of art-forms.

Other professionals working in the arts including producers, directors, choreographers, writers, photographers, production and technical personnel.

Funders and supporters of the work.

All the above are specific to each project but have a range of protected characteristics in terms of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

Financial review

The financial statements show the current state of Switchflicker CIO's finances for year ended 31 March 2026.

Switchflicker CIO's principal sources of income are:

Earned: production fees and box office income from touring and presenting partners £77,366

Arts Council England National Lottery Project Grants in support of individual projects/programmes £107,173 and National Lottery Community Fund £19,250

Fundraising: income through grants from trusts and foundations and donations towards core and in support of individual projects/programmes £24,443 from the Christina Smith Foundation.

The support of our partners is essential in our ability to continue supporting contemporary performance and interdisciplinary artists in the Northwest for local, national and international audiences. As most artistic projects are not self-supporting, the performing arts relies on a mixed economy of funding to survive. We continue to employ our team of freelancers on a project-by-project basis as funding allows to ensure that we deliver on our stated aims. Our revenue has grown, and a few project bids have been submitted to fund our work into next year.

We should like to thank our funders for their generous support of Switchflicker CIO this year: Arts Council England, National Lottery Community Fund and Christina Smith Foundation.

For more information, visit www.switchflicker.co.uk

Reserves policy

The charity's reserves policy is intended to ensure that its ongoing and future activities are reasonably protected from unexpected fluctuations in income and expenditure. In view of the main risks facing the organisation, including wider economic pressures and those affecting the performing arts sector, the trustees consider it prudent to hold unrestricted free reserves equivalent to around 3 to 6 months of core operating expenditure.

The trustees believe a target level of unrestricted funds of approximately £25,000 is appropriate.

Current free reserves, excluding designated funds and fixed assets, are on target. This policy will be kept under regular review in line with Charity Commission guidance.

Plans for the future

- Tour current projects nationally and internationally, including Closer to My Dreams, All the Devils and The Paul O'Grady Story.
- Develop The Paul O'Grady Story, a major exhibition and community programme marking the 60th anniversary of the partial decriminalisation of homosexuality in the UK. The project will celebrate the life and legacy of LGBTQIA+ trailblazer Paul O'Grady, whose iconic alter ego, Lily Savage, brought working-class drag culture into the mainstream during the challenging era of Section 28. It will become the first LGBTQIA+ acquisition at Birkenhead's Williamson Art Gallery.
- Expand our projects and services to meet identified need. Following a successful pilot, we will deliver 30 performances of When I Hear Music by Associate Artist Chad Taylor. The programme will support the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people across high-need

boroughs in Greater Manchester: Bury, Bolton, Manchester and Salford through visits to schools, public libraries and Pupil Referral Units (PRUs). The project is scheduled to roll out in 2027.
- Undertake research and development for new touring work and exhibitions planned for 2027–28.
- Continue supporting and developing creative talent, strengthening the talent pipeline and promoting routes into the arts workforce.
- Expand the reach of our Associate Artists Programme, enabling artists, writers, producers and arts practitioners to sustain and develop their careers.
- Conduct an organisational development review to support the charity's future growth and effectiveness.

Structure, governance and management

Switchflicker CIO is managed by a board of trustees, chaired by Dr Monica Pearl.

Members of the board meet on a quarterly basis. Day-to-day management is delegated to the Executive Director Jayne Compton, who manages all project based freelance staff and artists.

The organisation is a charitable incorporated organisation, registered as a charity on 4 May 2023 in England and Wales.

The charity is constituted under a constitution dated 4 May 2023. The trustees are members of the charity, but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 7 to the accounts.

The board and senior team regularly review the skills, knowledge and experience required to properly govern the organisation including a skills audit. We are a newly formed charity and, in the future, when a need for new trustees is identified, we will follow the processes outlined in our Diversity and Equality Policy to match the knowledge and skills required and to increase representation at Board level. On 31 March 2026, of three trustees, 100% identify as LGBTQAI+ and 33% as female.

As set out in the Articles of Association new trustees are appointed by the existing trustees and a robust process is in place to advertise for or solicit new charity trustees, based on their skills, experience and what they can offer to the organisation alongside the other trustees. No other person or body is entitled to appoint a charity trustee, and we carefully follow our Articles and Memorandum of Association concerning the appointment and retirement of trustees.

We recognise the responsibilities placed by law on a trustee and a thorough induction process will be put in place for all new trustees which includes meetings with the Chair, senior team, and other Trustees, sharing the Trustee Code of Conduct, Memorandum and Articles of Association, the latest Annual Report and Financial Statements, past minutes, and reading materials and talking through processes and information on their role and responsibilities as a trustee.

Related parties and relationships with other organisations

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period that require disclosure.

Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others

Not applicable

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

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 period and of its financial position at the end of the period. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- 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 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. 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 10/09/2026 and signed on their behalf by



Richard Barnes

Treasurer

Independent examiner's report

to the members of

Switchflicker CIO

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2026 which are set out on pages 9 to 15.

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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Jennifer Daniel FCCA DChA

Slade & Cooper Limited, Chartered Certified Accountants
Beehive Mill, Jersey Street
Manchester, M4 6JG

Date 25/09/2026.

Switchflicker CIO

Receipts and Payments Account
for the year ended 31 March 2026

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2026 £	*Total funds 2025 £*
Receipts					
Donations	3	-	24,443	24,443	*9,105*
Grants	4	-	126,423	126,423	*19,970*
Gross receipts from other charitable activities	5	36,671	40,695	77,366	*86,157*
Sub-total		**36,671**	**191,561**	**228,232**	***115,232***
Total receipts		**36,671**	**191,561**	**228,232**	***115,232***
Payments					
Payments relating directly to charitable activities		8,121	160,433	168,554	*100,187*
Governance costs:					
Legal support		-	-	-	-
Sub-total	6	**8,121**	**160,433**	**168,554**	***100,187***
Total payments		**8,121**	**160,433**	**168,554**	***100,187***
Net receipts/(payments) before transfers		**28,550**	**31,128**	**59,678**	***15,045***
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Net receipts/payments for the period		**28,550**	**31,128**	**59,678**	***15,045***
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		25,641	-	25,641	10,596
Total funds carried forward		**54,191**	**31,128**	**85,319**	***25,641***

Switchflicker CIO

Statement of balances
as at 31 March 2026

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2026 £	*Total funds 2025 £*
Cash funds					
Bank and cash balances at start of year		25,641	-	25,641	*9,701*
Debtor balance received		-	-	-	*895*
Surplus / (deficit) shown on receipts and payments account		28,550	31,128	59,678	*15,045*
Bank and cash balances at end of year		**54,191**	**31,128**	**85,319**	***25,641***
Other assets					
Debtors		-	-	-	-
Total other assets		**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Total Balances		**54,191**	**31,128**	**85,319**	***25,641***

Approved by the trustees on 10/09/2026 and signed on their behalf by:

R J Barnes

Richard Barnes (Treasurer)

1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts & Payments basis.

2 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity.

Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

3 Income from donations and legacies

Current reporting period

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2026 £
Donations	-	24,443	24,443
	-	24,443	24,443

Previous reporting period

	Unrestricted £	*Restricted £*	*2025 £*
Donations	*9,105*	*-*	*9,105*
	9,105	*-*	*9,105*

4 Grants received

Current reporting period

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2026 £
ACE NLPG: Family Catwalk 2025	-	11,000	11,000
ACE NLPG: All The Devils		15,750	15,750
ACE NLPG: Closer to my Dreams	-	17,000	17,000
ACE NLPG: When I Hear Music		49,995	49,995
ACE NLPG: Organisational Development		13,428	13,428
NLCF: Community Engagement		19,250	19,250
	-	126,423	126,423

Previous reporting period

	Unrestricted £	*Restricted £*	*2025 £*
ACE NLPG: Family Catwalk 2024	*-*	*19,500*	*19,500*
Without Walls: Closer to my Dreams 2024	*-*	*470*	*470*
	-	*19,970*	*19,970*

5 Receipts from charitable activities

Current reporting period

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2026 £
Touring income	24,421	40,695	65,116
Consultancy	10,000	-	10,000
Other income	2,250	-	2,250
	36,671	40,695	77,366

Previous reporting period

	Unrestricted £	*Restricted £*	*2025 £*
Touring income	*32,535*	*53,622*	*86,157*
	32,535	*53,622*	*86,157*

6 Payments relating directly to charitable activities

Current reporting period

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2026 £
Artist fees	-	100,000	100,000
Production Costs	2,097	21,614	23,711
Activity Costs	2,552	7,666	10,218
Accomodation Costs	-	2,414	2,414
Administration Costs	1,178	395	1,573
Professional Costs	1,565	28,102	29,667
Other Expenditure	729	242	971
	8,121	160,433	168,554

Previous reporting period

	Unrestricted £	*Restricted £*	*2025 £*
Artist fees	*-*	*50,588*	*50,588*
Production Costs	*15,947*	*24,059*	*40,006*
Activity Costs	*1,023*	*4,293*	*5,316*
Accomodation Costs	*-*	*2,796*	*2,796*
Administration Costs	*877*	*52*	*929*
Professional Costs	*150*	*200*	*350*
Other Expenditure	*114*	*88*	*202*
	18,111	*82,076*	*100,187*

7 Trustee remuneration and expenses, and related party transactions

None (2025: none) of the trustees nor any persons connected with them received any remuneration during the year.

None (2025: none) trustees received travel and subsistence expenses during the year.

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity, including guarantees, during the year (2025: none).

8 Outstanding debts and liabilities at 31 March 2026

As at 31 March 2026 there was no outstanding potential liability under any guarantee given by the CIO (31 March 2025: nil).

As at 31 March 2026 there was no outstanding debt owed by the CIO which was secured by a charge on any of the CIO's assets (31 March 2025: nil).

9 Analysis of movement in unrestricted funds

Current reporting period	Balance at 1 April 2025 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2026 £
General fund	25,641	36,671	(8,121)	-	54,191

Previous reporting period	Balance at 1 April 2024 *£*	*Receipts £*	*Payments £*	*Transfers £*	*Balance at 31 March 2025 £*
General fund	*2,112*	*41,640*	*(18,111)*	-	*25,641*

Name of fund	**Description, nature and purposes of the fund**
General fund	Bank and cash balances available for general charitable activities.

10 Analysis of movement in restricted funds

Current reporting period	Balance at 1 April 2025 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2026 £
Family Catwalk	-	23,461	(23,461)	-	-
All The Devils	-	15,750	(15,750)	-	-
Closer to my Dreams	-	22,500	(22,500)	-	-
When I Hear Music	-	49,995	(49,745)	-	250
Intimate Terrorism	-	24,443	(24,443)	-	-
Organisational Development	-	13,428	(1,800)	-	11,628
Community Engagement	-	19,250	-	-	19,250
Other Touring	-	22,984	(22,984)	-	-
	-	191,811	(160,683)	-	31,128

Previous reporting period	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	*Receipts £*	*Payments £*	*Transfers £*	*As at 31 March 2025 £*
Family Catwalk	-	*19,500*	*(19,500)*	-	-
Closer to my Dreams	*4,230*	*470*	*(4,700)*	-	-
Touring	*4,254*	*53,622*	*(57,876)*	-	-
	8,484	*73,592*	*(82,076)*	-	-

Restricted funds relate to specific touring projects.

11 Prior period Receipts & Payments Account

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Receipts					
Donations	3	*9,105*	*-*	*9,105*	*-*
Grants	4	*-*	*19,970*	*19,970*	*20,230*
Gross receipts from other charitable activities	5	*32,535*	*53,622*	*86,157*	*61,250*
Sub-total		***41,640***	***73,592***	***115,232***	***81,480***
Total receipts		***41,640***	***73,592***	***115,232***	***81,480***
Payments					
Payments relating directly to charitable activities		*18,111*	*82,076*	*100,187*	*70,430*
Governance costs:					
Legal support		*-*	*-*	*-*	*454*
Sub-total	6	***18,111***	***82,076***	***100,187***	***70,884***
Total payments		***18,111***	***82,076***	***100,187***	***70,884***
Net receipts/(payments) before transfers		***23,529***	***(8,484)***	***15,045***	***10,596***
Transfer between funds		*-*	*-*	*-*	*-*
Net receipts/payments for the period		***23,529***	***(8,484)***	***15,045***	***10,596***
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		*2,112*	*8,484*	*10,596*	***-***
Total funds carried forward		***25,641***	***-***	***25,641***	***10,596***

Charity Number: 1202948

Switchflicker CIO

Report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 March 2026

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Switchflicker CIO
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Key activity:

Our key activity is delivering boundary-pushing performance, music and theatre that addresses social justice and creates meaningful impact.

- Productions such as ***All The Devils***, which explores addiction and isolation, are helping to improve the physical and mental wellbeing of a marginalised community.

- We continue to tour work to hard-to-reach audiences: ***Closer to My Dreams*** by Chad Taylor, commissioned for the Without Walls programme, toured nationally from 2024 to 2026 to major festivals and venues including Brighton Festival, The Whitworth, Ensemble Festival, Stockton International Riverside Festival and Birmingham Hippodrome. The work combines poetry, rap and hip hop choreography to offer an intimate portrayal of urban Black British life, and received strong audience response, positive reviews and helped build lasting relationships with new venues.

- Our ***Family Catwalk Extravaganza*** by Ghetto Fabulous has toured widely to free outdoor arts festivals for six consecutive years, engaging LGBTQIA+ communities, working-class audiences and families through accessible, participatory performance that celebrates self-expression and inclusion. It has also helped us reach audiences who may be less likely to engage with traditional arts venues or cultural programmes.

- Access and participation are central to our work: our 2026 pilot immersive dance experience, ***When I Hear Music***, reached more than 240 pupils, many experiencing live performance for the first time, with feedback describing the experience as calming, moving and confidence-building.

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directly to underfunding by offering sustained mentorship and practical support, with a commitment to prioritising LGBTQIA+, Global Majority, disabled and working-class artists.

As Chad Taylor, Associate Artist, said: *"Without Switchflicker, the trajectory of my work over the last decade would look completely different... It has given me the space to grow as an artist."*

- We provided producing and bespoke consultancy support to arts organisations and projects: *Intimate Terrorism* by Alan McDonald, Homotopia and DuoVision.

Ongoing

- Organisational review of the charity's strengths/weaknesses:
  The performing arts sector is experiencing financial pressures due to the cost-of-living crisis impacting artists and audiences and an increasingly challenging touring context due to higher delivery costs, we are moving forward with a focus on trusts and foundations for multi-year funding to support the charity's financial resilience and sustainability.

- Representation:
  We affirm our commitment to focusing on producing work by artists from under-represented demographics, maintaining representation on our board, staff team, on and offstage freelance roles, and actively engaging audiences and participants from under-served and LGBTQIA+ demographics.

Beneficiaries of our services

The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when planning the programme of activity and determining how best to utilise funds raised.

The beneficiaries from our activities are the artists and creative team involved, and people experiencing the work as participants and audience members and through workshops/talks. We continue to actively try to increase the diversity of beneficiaries including staff, board, collaborating artists and practitioners, audiences and participants, and continue to implement our Diversity & Equality Policy.

Beneficiaries include:

Members of the public experiencing the work as audience members.

Artists working in a range of art-forms.

Other professionals working in the arts including producers, directors, choreographers, writers, photographers, production and technical personnel.

Funders and supporters of the work.

All the above are specific to each project but have a range of protected characteristics in terms of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

Financial review

The financial statements show the current state of Switchflicker CIO's finances for year ended 31 March 2026.

Switchflicker CIO's principal sources of income are:

Earned: production fees and box office income from touring and presenting partners £77,366

Arts Council England National Lottery Project Grants in support of individual projects/programmes £107,173 and National Lottery Community Fund £19,250

Fundraising: income through grants from trusts and foundations and donations towards core and in support of individual projects/programmes £24,443 from the Christina Smith Foundation.

The support of our partners is essential in our ability to continue supporting contemporary performance and interdisciplinary artists in the Northwest for local, national and international audiences. As most artistic projects are not self-supporting, the performing arts relies on a mixed economy of funding to survive. We continue to employ our team of freelancers on a project-by-project basis as funding allows to ensure that we deliver on our stated aims. Our revenue has grown, and a few project bids have been submitted to fund our work into next year.

We should like to thank our funders for their generous support of Switchflicker CIO this year: Arts Council England, National Lottery Community Fund and Christina Smith Foundation.

For more information, visit www.switchflicker.co.uk

Reserves policy

The charity's reserves policy is intended to ensure that its ongoing and future activities are reasonably protected from unexpected fluctuations in income and expenditure. In view of the main risks facing the organisation, including wider economic pressures and those affecting the performing arts sector, the trustees consider it prudent to hold unrestricted free reserves equivalent to around 3 to 6 months of core operating expenditure.

The trustees believe a target level of unrestricted funds of approximately £25,000 is appropriate.

Current free reserves, excluding designated funds and fixed assets, are on target. This policy will be kept under regular review in line with Charity Commission guidance.

Plans for the future

- Tour current projects nationally and internationally, including Closer to My Dreams, All the Devils and The Paul O'Grady Story.
- Develop The Paul O'Grady Story, a major exhibition and community programme marking the 60th anniversary of the partial decriminalisation of homosexuality in the UK. The project will celebrate the life and legacy of LGBTQIA+ trailblazer Paul O'Grady, whose iconic alter ego, Lily Savage, brought working-class drag culture into the mainstream during the challenging era of Section 28. It will become the first LGBTQIA+ acquisition at Birkenhead's Williamson Art Gallery.
- Expand our projects and services to meet identified need. Following a successful pilot, we will deliver 30 performances of When I Hear Music by Associate Artist Chad Taylor. The programme will support the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people across high-need

boroughs in Greater Manchester: Bury, Bolton, Manchester and Salford through visits to schools, public libraries and Pupil Referral Units (PRUs). The project is scheduled to roll out in 2027.
- Undertake research and development for new touring work and exhibitions planned for 2027–28.
- Continue supporting and developing creative talent, strengthening the talent pipeline and promoting routes into the arts workforce.
- Expand the reach of our Associate Artists Programme, enabling artists, writers, producers and arts practitioners to sustain and develop their careers.
- Conduct an organisational development review to support the charity's future growth and effectiveness.

Structure, governance and management

Switchflicker CIO is managed by a board of trustees, chaired by Dr Monica Pearl.

Members of the board meet on a quarterly basis. Day-to-day management is delegated to the Executive Director Jayne Compton, who manages all project based freelance staff and artists.

The organisation is a charitable incorporated organisation, registered as a charity on 4 May 2023 in England and Wales.

The charity is constituted under a constitution dated 4 May 2023. The trustees are members of the charity, but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 7 to the accounts.

The board and senior team regularly review the skills, knowledge and experience required to properly govern the organisation including a skills audit. We are a newly formed charity and, in the future, when a need for new trustees is identified, we will follow the processes outlined in our Diversity and Equality Policy to match the knowledge and skills required and to increase representation at Board level. On 31 March 2026, of three trustees, 100% identify as LGBTQAI+ and 33% as female.

As set out in the Articles of Association new trustees are appointed by the existing trustees and a robust process is in place to advertise for or solicit new charity trustees, based on their skills, experience and what they can offer to the organisation alongside the other trustees. No other person or body is entitled to appoint a charity trustee, and we carefully follow our Articles and Memorandum of Association concerning the appointment and retirement of trustees.

We recognise the responsibilities placed by law on a trustee and a thorough induction process will be put in place for all new trustees which includes meetings with the Chair, senior team, and other Trustees, sharing the Trustee Code of Conduct, Memorandum and Articles of Association, the latest Annual Report and Financial Statements, past minutes, and reading materials and talking through processes and information on their role and responsibilities as a trustee.

Related parties and relationships with other organisations

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period that require disclosure.

Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others

Not applicable

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

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 period and of its financial position at the end of the period. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- 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 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. 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the trustees on 10/09/2026 and signed on their behalf by



Richard Barnes

Treasurer

Independent examiner's report

to the members of

Switchflicker CIO

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2026 which are set out on pages 9 to 15.

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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Jennifer Daniel FCCA DChA

Slade & Cooper Limited, Chartered Certified Accountants
Beehive Mill, Jersey Street
Manchester, M4 6JG

Date 25/09/2026.

Switchflicker CIO

Receipts and Payments Account
for the year ended 31 March 2026

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2026 £	*Total funds 2025 £*
Receipts					
Donations	3	-	24,443	24,443	*9,105*
Grants	4	-	126,423	126,423	*19,970*
Gross receipts from other charitable activities	5	36,671	40,695	77,366	*86,157*
Sub-total		**36,671**	**191,561**	**228,232**	***115,232***
Total receipts		**36,671**	**191,561**	**228,232**	***115,232***
Payments					
Payments relating directly to charitable activities		8,121	160,433	168,554	*100,187*
Governance costs:					
Legal support		-	-	-	-
Sub-total	6	**8,121**	**160,433**	**168,554**	***100,187***
Total payments		**8,121**	**160,433**	**168,554**	***100,187***
Net receipts/(payments) before transfers		**28,550**	**31,128**	**59,678**	***15,045***
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Net receipts/payments for the period		**28,550**	**31,128**	**59,678**	***15,045***
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		25,641	-	25,641	10,596
Total funds carried forward		**54,191**	**31,128**	**85,319**	***25,641***

Switchflicker CIO

Statement of balances
as at 31 March 2026

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2026 £	*Total funds 2025 £*
Cash funds					
Bank and cash balances at start of year		25,641	-	25,641	*9,701*
Debtor balance received		-	-	-	*895*
Surplus / (deficit) shown on receipts and payments account		28,550	31,128	59,678	*15,045*
Bank and cash balances at end of year		**54,191**	**31,128**	**85,319**	***25,641***
Other assets					
Debtors		-	-	-	-
Total other assets		**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Total Balances		**54,191**	**31,128**	**85,319**	***25,641***

Approved by the trustees on 10/09/2026 and signed on their behalf by:

R J Barnes

Richard Barnes (Treasurer)

1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts & Payments basis.

2 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity.

Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

3 Income from donations and legacies

Current reporting period

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2026 £
Donations	-	24,443	24,443
	-	24,443	24,443

Previous reporting period

	Unrestricted £	*Restricted £*	*2025 £*
Donations	*9,105*	*-*	*9,105*
	9,105	*-*	*9,105*

4 Grants received

Current reporting period

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2026 £
ACE NLPG: Family Catwalk 2025	-	11,000	11,000
ACE NLPG: All The Devils		15,750	15,750
ACE NLPG: Closer to my Dreams	-	17,000	17,000
ACE NLPG: When I Hear Music		49,995	49,995
ACE NLPG: Organisational Development		13,428	13,428
NLCF: Community Engagement		19,250	19,250
	-	126,423	126,423

Previous reporting period

	Unrestricted £	*Restricted £*	*2025 £*
ACE NLPG: Family Catwalk 2024	*-*	*19,500*	*19,500*
Without Walls: Closer to my Dreams 2024	*-*	*470*	*470*
	-	*19,970*	*19,970*

5 Receipts from charitable activities

Current reporting period

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2026 £
Touring income	24,421	40,695	65,116
Consultancy	10,000	-	10,000
Other income	2,250	-	2,250
	36,671	40,695	77,366

Previous reporting period

	Unrestricted £	*Restricted £*	*2025 £*
Touring income	*32,535*	*53,622*	*86,157*
	32,535	*53,622*	*86,157*

6 Payments relating directly to charitable activities

Current reporting period

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2026 £
Artist fees	-	100,000	100,000
Production Costs	2,097	21,614	23,711
Activity Costs	2,552	7,666	10,218
Accomodation Costs	-	2,414	2,414
Administration Costs	1,178	395	1,573
Professional Costs	1,565	28,102	29,667
Other Expenditure	729	242	971
	8,121	160,433	168,554

Previous reporting period

	Unrestricted £	*Restricted £*	*2025 £*
Artist fees	*-*	*50,588*	*50,588*
Production Costs	*15,947*	*24,059*	*40,006*
Activity Costs	*1,023*	*4,293*	*5,316*
Accomodation Costs	*-*	*2,796*	*2,796*
Administration Costs	*877*	*52*	*929*
Professional Costs	*150*	*200*	*350*
Other Expenditure	*114*	*88*	*202*
	18,111	*82,076*	*100,187*

7 Trustee remuneration and expenses, and related party transactions

None (2025: none) of the trustees nor any persons connected with them received any remuneration during the year.

None (2025: none) trustees received travel and subsistence expenses during the year.

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity, including guarantees, during the year (2025: none).

8 Outstanding debts and liabilities at 31 March 2026

As at 31 March 2026 there was no outstanding potential liability under any guarantee given by the CIO (31 March 2025: nil).

As at 31 March 2026 there was no outstanding debt owed by the CIO which was secured by a charge on any of the CIO's assets (31 March 2025: nil).

9 Analysis of movement in unrestricted funds

Current reporting period	Balance at 1 April 2025 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2026 £
General fund	25,641	36,671	(8,121)	-	54,191

Previous reporting period	Balance at 1 April 2024 *£*	*Receipts £*	*Payments £*	*Transfers £*	*Balance at 31 March 2025 £*
General fund	*2,112*	*41,640*	*(18,111)*	-	*25,641*

Name of fund	**Description, nature and purposes of the fund**
General fund	Bank and cash balances available for general charitable activities.

10 Analysis of movement in restricted funds

Current reporting period	Balance at 1 April 2025 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	As at 31 March 2026 £
Family Catwalk	-	23,461	(23,461)	-	-
All The Devils	-	15,750	(15,750)	-	-
Closer to my Dreams	-	22,500	(22,500)	-	-
When I Hear Music	-	49,995	(49,745)	-	250
Intimate Terrorism	-	24,443	(24,443)	-	-
Organisational Development	-	13,428	(1,800)	-	11,628
Community Engagement	-	19,250	-	-	19,250
Other Touring	-	22,984	(22,984)	-	-
	-	191,811	(160,683)	-	31,128

Previous reporting period	Balance at 1 April 2024 £	*Receipts £*	*Payments £*	*Transfers £*	*As at 31 March 2025 £*
Family Catwalk	-	*19,500*	*(19,500)*	-	-
Closer to my Dreams	*4,230*	*470*	*(4,700)*	-	-
Touring	*4,254*	*53,622*	*(57,876)*	-	-
	8,484	*73,592*	*(82,076)*	-	-

Restricted funds relate to specific touring projects.

11 Prior period Receipts & Payments Account

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Receipts					
Donations	3	*9,105*	*-*	*9,105*	*-*
Grants	4	*-*	*19,970*	*19,970*	*20,230*
Gross receipts from other charitable activities	5	*32,535*	*53,622*	*86,157*	*61,250*
Sub-total		***41,640***	***73,592***	***115,232***	***81,480***
Total receipts		***41,640***	***73,592***	***115,232***	***81,480***
Payments					
Payments relating directly to charitable activities		*18,111*	*82,076*	*100,187*	*70,430*
Governance costs:					
Legal support		*-*	*-*	*-*	*454*
Sub-total	6	***18,111***	***82,076***	***100,187***	***70,884***
Total payments		***18,111***	***82,076***	***100,187***	***70,884***
Net receipts/(payments) before transfers		***23,529***	***(8,484)***	***15,045***	***10,596***
Transfer between funds		*-*	*-*	*-*	*-*
Net receipts/payments for the period		***23,529***	***(8,484)***	***15,045***	***10,596***
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		*2,112*	*8,484*	*10,596*	***-***
Total funds carried forward		***25,641***	***-***	***25,641***	***10,596***