

Charity registration number NIC103347

BEAT CARNIVAL
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

BEAT CARNIVAL

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Stefanie Campbell Lucy Dougan Frank Galbraith Oswyn Paulin	(Appointed 14 August 2023)
Charity number	NIC103347	
Company number	NI027789	
Registered office	11-47 Boyd Street Belfast BT13 2GU	
Auditor	Harbinson Mulholland Centrepont 24 Ormeau Avenue Belfast Co. Antrim Northern Ireland BT2 8HS	
Bankers	Ulster Bank Limited Arches Retail Park Belfast BT5 4GA	

BEAT CARNIVAL

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 11
Independent auditor's report	12 - 15
Statement of financial activities	16 - 17
Balance sheet	18
Statement of cash flows	19
Notes to the financial statements	20 - 30

BEAT CARNIVAL

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's [governing document], the Charities Act 2011 and "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)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

WHAT THE ORGANISATION DOES

Beat Carnival is Northern Ireland's foremost and long-standing Carnival Arts company. We create carnival parades and outdoor arts performances. The first city-centre parades were in 1995. We encourage our city of Belfast and communities across the country to think big about celebrating creative, community life in ways that are ambitious and welcoming to all. Beat's specialisms include carnival arts of drumming, dance, making (floats, puppets, props, costume), music, street theatre performance, children's arts and crafts. There is no other carnival arts organisation of the scale, activity, history or influence in Northern Ireland. Beat Carnival has introduced many of the artform techniques and trained many of the artists now working across the country.

We provide participation and training programmes and have extensive experience of work with community organisations. People gain new skills, connections and individual support at weekly activity programmes in Beat Carnival Centre and through extensive outreach. Carnival arts bring new sources of creativity to Northern Ireland's traditional experience of cultural parades and street music. Carnival arts, outdoors in public spaces with people from diverse backgrounds, are experienced in ways that are culturally inclusive. The organisation's involvement in a wide range of networks, locally and internationally, increases diversity of relationships and shared benefits. Beat Carnival's activity is provided free of charge to participants and audience so that barriers to access and engagement are as low as possible. Ease of access is one of the ways that the activity increases equality of opportunity.

Beat Carnival Centre with its programme of arts creation, education, training, community outreach and events production, provides a focal point for anyone interested in the development of carnival arts. Artists design, create, rehearse, teach and train at the Centre. The Carnival Centre's work makes a special contribution to festivals, community celebrations and civic events. Importantly, the premises and its activity provide an accessible, supportive and 'safe space', particularly for young people. Participants at Beat's weekly programme of open-access workshops range in age from four to over 65 years. Six or seven evening sessions operate each week at the Centre. Public audience at Beat's free events gain enjoyment and an increased sense of community pride and connection. In 2023-2024 Beat Carnival provided 1,078 benefit activities (workshops, artist sessions, events) for 140,510 beneficiaries.

VISION, MISSION STATEMENT AND VALUE BASE

Vision

The vision for Beat Carnival's work with artists, their audiences, the community, individual participants and young people is of a:

"vibrant, colourful, creative and welcoming society".

Beat Carnival will aim to achieve this through their organisational vision of being:

"the leaders in excellence of Carnival artforms".

Mission

The Beat Carnival's mission statement is to:

"Make accessible and spectacular Carnival, leaving a legacy of creative skills, collaboration, participation and celebration".

BEAT CARNIVAL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Values

Beat Carnival operates to a set of core values.

- Inclusive: Carnival is for everyone. Carnival activities celebrate diverse cultures and a common humanity with as few barriers to participation as possible.
- Quality: There is an aim for excellence in everything Beat Carnival does.
- Innovative: Beat Carnival will strive to take forward the carnival artform, creating new ideas and approaches. The skills and knowledge of local artists and carnival participants progressively increase through training and experience.
- Legacy: Carnival will be devised, developed and delivered in ways that leave a legacy of skills, ambition and achievement within communities.
- Civic pride: Carnival makes visible the organisation's great pride in being created in Belfast.
- Fun: Enjoyment and entertainment are key aspects of every Carnival.

PROVIDING PUBLIC BENEFIT

PUBLIC BENEFIT PURPOSES

- Beat Carnival's charitable purpose as set out in the Articles is, in summary, to:
- advance public education, appreciation of and participation in carnival
- promote arts and culture by managing an Arts Resource Centre as a cultural and social amenity
- organising and delivering carnival events, arts workshops and other activities, events, performances and initiatives throughout the year
- providing tuition in creative design, constructional, textile and performance skills
- promoting cultural tourism and cultural exchange and opportunities for vocational and recreational purposes for all groups and abilities
- advance community development by engaging with and assisting voluntary and community groups and organisations to organise and participate in cultural, arts, leisure and heritage projects and initiatives
- to promote other charitable purposes so long as these purposes would be considered to be charitable under the law of Northern Ireland.

2023 – 24 PURPOSE

- A sustainable company. In 2023-24 there was particular purpose and priority to strengthening the company, adapting the business model and preparing for the future. The organisation was preparing for a critical period of organisational transition. 2023-24 strategic development was to address the challenge of senior leadership transition, replacing the founder-leader of the cultural organisation. The organisation is acting in good time, to have a structured, two-year, strategically coordinated succession process. We have examined resilience and sustainability by engaging consultants, researchers, undertaking business planning and an extensive process of stakeholder consultation. Beat is planning for a two-year Strategic Coordinator post to work with managers through transition to put the organisation in good shape for the future.
- Programme purpose. Cultural democracy underpinned our approach. The programme delivered arts education and pathways to careers for younger people. Youth support, including well-being, was a central benefit, as was training and employment for artists in a wide range of artforms at the Centre. The Beat Carnival Centre programme provided weekly creative activities for all ages and abilities and the Centre was a hub for many workshops and events in neighbourhoods and city spaces, enabling arts access and inclusion. Programme design and delivery partners ranged from neighbourhoods described as disadvantaged /deprived, who told us they felt 'left-out' of many, often centralised, opportunities – they are on the periphery and experience many types of disconnection – to international culture partners.

WHAT HAPPENED IN 2023-2024

Direct benefits provided by Beat Carnival's activities in 23-24 included new awareness of, and participation in, creative activities for individuals, for groups and communities and for the general public. Free-access, collaborative, carnival arts activities fostered good relations and animation of public and neighbourhood spaces, including spaces that have been or are contested or controlled by factions. The public spaces where arts activity took place were made more welcoming for all. Beat Carnival's activity increased interest in arts in young people and under-engaged groups. The activity improved access to information and expertise about arts for excluded people and communities.

BEAT CARNIVAL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

In areas that are deemed 'disadvantaged' it inspired ambition and enabled personal achievement and pride. Beat created developmental partnerships with community groups and other arts companies, to increase representation, knowledge sharing, skills sharing, specialist support, capacity building and the promotion of shared values. Beat's safe, imaginative and attractive arts and cultural activity resulted in people, many of them being children and young people, engaging with others. Pleasure and fun were gained through the programmes. Children and young people benefited from emotional growth, personal development and increased social skills. Participants, both individuals and groups, were better equipped to make positive changes in their lives. Social connections were enabled in a year of damaging isolation and more people took positive action on issues. An important benefit of Beat Carnival's activity was significantly increased support of young people, through implementation of a long-term Youth Development programme.

Activity development and performance highlights over the year:

- Beat Carnival celebrated 30 years since company formation. A packed festival programme included community engagement workshops with community groups and schools; Brazil and Belfast trad fusion music night; Artist Residency from Shademakers carnival production company based on the Isle of Wight; a specially commissioned immersive theatre tour of Beat Carnival history; Carnival family event in 2 Royal Avenue, Belfast; sold out 'Electro Carnival' event at The MAC with suite of commissioned songs by Katie Richardson.
- Electro Carnival performance was repeated in SSE Arena at opening of One Young World conference, livestreamed worldwide.
- Growth of Youth Development Programme. With significant investment from The National Lottery Community Fund, Beat Carnival was able to sustain and expand the youth programme. Beat worked with over 60 young people per week (term times) across four projects in our core programming. The young people range in age from 5 years to 24 years old. The programmes focus on creative skills development; encouraging self-expression; and experiencing joy & less stress.
- Youth – Future Leaders. Staff mentored two senior young people in a new Future Leaders programme. Participants take a lead and learn project management and facilitation skills.
- Youth – A new Carnival School programme delivered with youth and community groups across Northern Ireland focused on groups experiencing poverty, having additional educational needs and facing discrimination (eg LGBTQIA+ groups). In programme sessions young people could express themselves via a range of carnival arts and create in a carnival celebration within their school or youth setting. 21 sessions, 11 groups, 273 participants.
- Youth – Summer Scheme - 15 sessions of our Summer Project with 35 participants and ended with a Carnival Arts Showcase and dissemination of the international SPOTing (Spaces of Transformation) Arts Education report to peers, funders and supporters.
- Youth – renovation of new 'Our Space' youth room at Beat Carnival Centre designed with and for young people.
- Many performances and events produced over the year included Halloween and Christmas entertainment.
- Contributed significantly to invigorating the Newry St Patrick's Day Parade. 3 floats, music, community engagement, Montserrat Masqueraders (Caribbean St Patrick's Day).
- QUB media students' documentary produced about Beat Carnival's involvement with Belfast's St Patrick's Day Parade.
- International collaborations and relationship development included the Trans Europe Halles network and a conference in Leipzig, Germany; TEH Arts Education Hub meeting in Paris, France; TEH Cultural Transformation Project and Movement; Masterclass sessions as part of International Samba festival Mega Samba in Portugal with 12 BEATnDRUM participants.
- North Belfast Festival development and programme. Sold out Samba performance in Oh Yeah Music Centre and successful family Open Day at Beat Carnival.
- Planning for Beach Of Dreams 2025, a major UK-wide creativity and climate action project and coastline festival. Beat Carnival is Northern Ireland partner.
- Academic connections – QUB Centre for Creative Ethnography and University of Liverpool RAC.
- Significant development for Beat Carnival 5-year strategy including sessions with Beat staff and Board.
- Three school work experience placements
- Individual placements provided for Arteducater students from ArtEZ University of The Arts, Arnhem, Netherlands: 1 undergraduate student for 6 weeks, 1 masters student for 3 months.
- Hosted Links network meeting.
- Hosted fact finding visits from Deputy Lord Mayor of Belfast, MLA All Party Group for the Arts chair, Sian Mulholland; and Arts Council NI senior officer Patricia Lavery.
- Governance development: new member and director recruitment and new Chair and Deputy Chair appointed.

BEAT CARNIVAL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

- One of the many comments and endorsements received over the year is this from a parent of a youth programme participant: *"This programme is absolutely amazing. It has definitely increased her confidence, has allowed her to make amazing new friends, and enjoy being creative and encouraging diversity. The staff are fabulous, they provide great opportunities for the kids and are so highly spoken of.. Communication is great and it is definitely a great safe space for children."*

Beat Carnival was able to ascertain the value and effectiveness of its activity because it monitored details of participation and outcomes; gathered feedback from participants and audience; used agreed performance indicators; produced reports and commissioned external consultation services.

• COMPANY AND PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

PROGRAMME PARTICIPATION and AUDIENCE

2023-2024 Programme		
1	Strategy Development	Staff capacity building, succession planning and business model development. Transition strategy planning including proposal for a Strategic Co-ordinator post. Succession Strategy underway.
2	Creativity Centre of Excellence	Building works were completed to improve access, inclusion with a new accessible entrance on Gardner Street and a new accessible toilet on the ground floor. Increased access to arts spaces for D/deaf/disabled people. Increased creative workspaces in Belfast City Centre. Proposal to Arts Council for support to engage professional services to safeguard building and improve facilities was not successful.
3	The Beat Space: Youth Programme	Youth Arts participation and education workshop sessions. New, co-designed youth room and facilities, Our Space. Increased access to quality arts experience for children & youth. increased arts education and research. increased artistic skills.
4	Beat Carnival Music	Specialised Carnival Music training and rehearsal sessions and a newly commissioned suite of music. Irish trad, Brazilian and world music performances; Rhythm Routes, to new destinations project; Electro Carnival new electronica to advance the carnival music artform. More people involved in music-making. Increased performance with community musicians. New music research and production moved artform forwards.
5	Big Ideas: Beat R&D & Training for new Outdoor Arts, Carnival and Being Green	Masterclass sessions New event development: significant research and development with artists and new partners for a new major Belfast 2024 event. Major application to Creative Ireland for UK and Ireland coastal arts project was not successful.
6	Events For All: Events Production	Beat 30 anniversary celebrations, St Patrick's Day in Newry and other festivals and events. Large scale events created in public spaces. A major event outside Belfast. New audience reached.
7	Outdoor & Carnival Arts Sector: Support & Growth in NI	Development of Carnival On The Coast concept and Creativity & Ecology theme. with potential collaborations in NI and Southern Ireland.
8	Community Arts with City and Neighbourhood	Beat community arts co-design in the city and with neighbourhoods. Participation in local networks and North Belfast Festival Steering Committee. Community Arts co-design and facilitation increased in marginalised areas including North Belfast. New North Belfast programmes facilitated. Increased contribution to networks and other cultural initiatives.
9	Beat International	Participation in European meetings and projects. Trans Europe Halles network of independent cultural centres: international networking and collaboration, conference meets, Arts Education Hub, Youth Hub, Cultural Transformation Movement. Maintained and increased participation in International networking and collaboration. Beat provided increased opportunities to others as cultural hub.
10	Beat Arts Services	Arts services delivery, sessions and events. Specialist arts services delivered across Northern Ireland. Arts audience increased. Income generated.

BEAT CARNIVAL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Number of full-time equivalent staff	3
Number of short-term, contracted or freelance staff	128
Number of volunteers	50
Number of volunteer hours	560
Number of participant sessions	324
Number of individual participants	1,592
Number of Artists work / development sessions	693
Number of Performances / Events	61
Number of estimated audience-attendees	131,725
Number of visitors from outside NI	2,000
Number of online products (videos etc)	60
Number of known online audience-views	13,102

Percentage of total programme that included particular categories of participants, % groups and individuals identified as usually 'missing out', that engaged in Beat Carnival programmes:

Participation Engagement	% of programme activity that involved individuals in these categories
People with a physical or mental impairment	100
Newcomer or ethnic minority people and groups	100
People living in deprived neighbourhoods	100
LGBTQ+ people	100
Older people (aged 65+)	50
Children and young people (aged 0-24)	80
Unemployed People	0

• STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

Nature of the Governing Document and Constitution of the Charity

Beat Carnival is a registered Charity (NIC103347 and HMRC XR 82700) constituted as a Company limited by guarantee and is therefore governed by Articles of Association. The directors of the company are also trustees of the charity. Eligibility for membership of the charity, and membership of the board of trustees is governed by the Articles of Association.

Relationships Between the Charity and Related Parties, Including its Subsidiaries

The charity has a social enterprise subsidiary (Beat Trading Ltd) with which it has many transactions and a controlling interest. The only other related parties are trustees and there are no transactions with them.

Company Operations and Project Management

Beat has a long-term Strategic Plan and an annual Operational Plan. Its projects operate within that framework. Projects are managed through Project Plans with timelines and Project Teams. The project budget is monitored and adjusted as necessary to ensure that spend does not exceed the project income.

Beat produces detailed risk assessment for events.

Beat targets recruitment and publicity to ensure that a wide cross-section of people get involved in the company and its programmes.

Beat's Director presents a monthly financial report to the company Board. Beat operates separate cost centres on SAGE.

Beat's financial statements are subject to a full financial audit at the end of each financial year. Beat management and Board of Directors regularly review financial procedures. Beat operates procurement policy and has a select list of suppliers that is updated at the end of each financial year.

BEAT CARNIVAL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Beat provides value for money by careful costing, recycling materials and having a high level of voluntary contribution.

Beat Carnival complies with legislative regulations laid out in Equal Opportunities legislation, the Disability Discrimination Act and the Children's Order, GDPR and other appropriate legislation. Beat Carnival Policies include: a Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy, a Health and Safety Policy, Community Relations Policy, Harassment Policy, Equal Opportunities Policy and Privacy Policy.

Staff Training

Staff and freelance artists received Carbon Literacy Training; Arts and Dementia training; LGBTQIA+ Awareness; Autism Awareness training. Board received Governance training

Staff Changes

Advertised for Strategic Coordinator post. No applicants.

Risk Statement

Further to the above management statements, the trustees identify the major risks to which the charity is exposed each financial year when preparing and updating a strategic plan, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charity. The trustees then review any major risks that have been identified and establish systems to mitigate those risks. The charity is satisfied that the systems are in place to mitigate their exposure to the major risks that have been so identified and reviewed. The charity is open to the usual financial risks of any organisation, and the charity has introduced controls to minimise these risks, such as two signatures being required for payments from the bank account. In addition, the accounts are regularly explained to members of the charity and are open for member's inspection at any time. Identified risks include: Strategic, Financial, Governance, People, Reputation, IT and Data, Health & Safety, Assets.

The Beat Carnival Centre building

There were issues of concern with repairs needed to Beat Carnival Centre, Northern Ireland's unique arts creation facility. We think the asset is an important, unique asset in the Northern Ireland and Belfast arts 'ecosystem' and should be safeguarded and developed for greater benefit. In this period we undertook further repairs to some of the widespread water ingress. The biggest improvement was in accessibility and inclusion, with the new automatic entrance from Gardener Street to the arts activity room and an adjacent disability accessible toilet.

• FUTURE BUSINESS & PLANNING, ARTISTIC PLANNING & AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT

Five Programme Elements planned to deliver Beat's 2024-2025 goals and outcomes, engaging 2,000 children, young people and adults in around 400 arts activities; 36 free-of-charge events in public spaces attract 123,000 audience. 2024-25 programme follows from Beat's extensive development work in 2023-24 involving stakeholders and strategy consultant. Activity is entirely aligned to Beat's strategic purpose and supports ACNI's five objectives.

The programme has seven strategic focus areas to deliver best possible impact for our communities, audiences and artists:

- **Lead for the Carnival artform** as a means of cultural expression by bringing artists and audiences together in a politically neutral but creatively diverse form of public programming. Examples: Carnival Arts R&D, music and making.
- **Develop the cohesion and skills of our local communities** by delivering accessible, engaging and creative programmes that upskill and entertain participants from all communities. Examples: youth programme; North and East Belfast outreach.
- **Create a cultural and creative hub** at our headquarters for the people of Belfast and beyond. Examples: youth space development and public access.
- **Showcase the creative potential of Northern Ireland** by championing local artists and hosting international visitors to participate, teach, and learn in collaborative exchanges. Examples: national and international cultural and carnival networks.
- **Partner with existing and new groups** to enhance our capacity and capability to deliver. Examples: connections with educational institutions, international carnival sector etc.
- **Enhance our reach and communication** with existing and new audiences. Example: enhanced marketing actions.
- **Develop a resilient organisation** that is sustainable and can transition to a new Managing Director. Examples: transition programme; board, staff and artist training; commercial events.

BEAT CARNIVAL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

2024-2025 context

We are proud to operate in the arts ecosystem of Belfast, Northern Ireland, and beyond into Europe. The context factors for Beat are vast due to the breadth of work we deliver.

Creativity infrastructure. Beat Carnival Centre provides unique infrastructure of people and facilities for sustaining access; authentic, creative authorship; diversity and ambition in NI's arts and culture ecosystem. Beat's resilience is proven in the context of reducing arts and culture funding and increasing costs: in 24-25 we will focus on developing our sustainability model through arts service level agreements, new commercial income products, business collaboration and CSR support – in addition to delivery through beneficially collaborative arts partnerships. Beat has plans for premises improvement to safeguard the building fabric and to increase accessibility for all. We have discussed with ACNI the need for specialist assistance to make progress.

Needs. Arts sector, artist and civic-social needs are well understood anecdotally and through Beat's long working experience. In 2021-2023 we undertook intensive community and arts consultations and employed researchers, including a team position, to provide researched findings that we will reflect and act on in 24-25. Participatory Action Research has informed Beat's planning as presented here. Beat will continue the reflective and developmental research process, including training with community artists.

We have programmes for Transition through company leadership succession; 'green carnival' methodology for environmental benefit through creative action; inclusion and health through SEN Carnival (special educational needs) the enlarged empowering youth programme and international Cultural Transformation Movement.

Legacy. Beat has created a vast legacy of trained artists, ambitious communities, expectant audiences, pleased partners and enthusiastic goodwill. The 2024-25 programme will capitalise on and further develop this legacy benefit for all, through collaborations locally and internationally.

2024-2025 in our wider context, the pivotal years to 2027

Transition, succession, beginnings and growth

Our strategy, from 2023 to 2027 outlines the priorities for Beat as it enters a new, exciting and bold phase. As the founding and leading team plan to retire in 2025, the programme here enables Beat Carnival to transition, grow and increase its impact in the face of change.

2024 and 2025 require programmes of organisational development as Beat looks to build sustained resilience to the coming changes, whilst 2025 will have a phased transition into a new leadership structure and team. In 2026 to 2027 Beat will embed this new team and continue to excel in delivering exceptional experiences and carnivals for communities.

2023 focused on organisational understanding, who we are, who we serve, what our purpose is, what we're good at and where we want to excel in the future to continue to serve our community.

2024 is the year of preparation

A programme of transition, ensuring our organisation is stable and resilient through strategic investments, and that our programme delivery can thrive.

2025 The year of change

A new leader takes the helm, with a planned, overlapping transition that allows for our team to adapt to changes and deliver exceptional programmes and reach new and existing audiences. 2026 the year of new beginnings, with new leadership, refined processes and programmes. 2027 will be the year of new opportunity and growth.

Financial review

The Statement of Financial Activities on page 16 reports on the charitable activities in brief with an expanded analysis in the notes on pages 19 - 28 to the accounts. It shows the overall source and application of funds. the Charity had net income resources as at 31 March 2024 of £50,935 (2023: £28,385)

BEAT CARNIVAL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Reserves policy

The Beat Carnival company is limited by guarantee and it has no share capital. As a charitable organisation as well as a limited company, Beat has the difficulty of attempting to meet the requirement of expending funds in line with charitable objectives, as well as maintaining a solvent company that can meet unforeseen circumstances. To this end and as part of the Business and Development planning, Beat has a Reserves Policy that outlines the rationale for holding reserves. Beat will aim to maintain organisational reserves at a level that equates to at least 50% of annual administration overheads to allow it to deal with loss of funding or other major shocks. Although Beat may not be in a position to maintain this level of free reserves at a particular point in time, it should strive to achieve a reserve that equates to this level.

Reserves structure

Complying with statutory and best practice guidelines, Beat reserves are split into the following categories.

1. Unrestricted funds

Funds that currently have no known specific current or future purpose. These are kept to a minimum to ensure the Beat is maximising the use of its available resources. These funds will be available to respond to unknown risks and opportunities. Unrestricted funds can be spent on anything that furthers the objectives of the organisation; the money has been generated through the sale of services or expertise, hires, or public fundraising or donations.

2. Designated (Unrestricted) Reserves — Business Risks & Working Capital

The Business Risks & Working Capital fund includes allocation towards the on-going working capital requirements for project and grant funding received in arrears.

It is proposed that these reserves should also take into account any unforeseen external risks, over which Beat has no control. Such risks included the following:

- The normal fluctuation in year on year activities — this relates to the situation where Beat may have to fund a projected loss in any particular period from existing resources.
- Provision of effective working capital to support the organisation's programme especially as many projects are funded in arrears thereby creating a requirement for bridging cashflow. The designated reserve may be utilised on an ongoing basis to bridge this cashflow gap, and as such saves Beat from expending resources on excessive bank interest and charges.
- Loss of funding for specific projects, whereby Beat gap funds the project in order to maintain staff.
- Legal actions that may arise, which will require funding.
- Changes in the political environment or in legislation that may require additional unplanned resources.
- Costs of expert insolvency advice or fundraising assistance.

These reserves are expendable at the discretion of the directors.

3. Designated (Unrestricted) Reserves — Specified Purpose

If part of an unrestricted fund is ear-marked for a particular project, it may be designated as a separate fund. This may be designated for a project that Beat is seeking to build resources for. Designation does not restrict the board members and they can change their minds. The designation will be recorded in the minutes of a board meeting, as will any subsequent re-designation. A number of designated funds may exist at any one time. Any transfer between funds and allocations to or from designated funds, as well as the reasons for setting up a fund, will be explained. The current specified funds are:

- Building Development and Maintenance Fund — to build a fund that will enable premises and facilities development in line with Beat's strategic plan for a Carnival Arts Centre of Excellence.
 - Redundancies Fund — to cover potential legal and contractual commitments in respect of staff redundancies.
 - Strategic Development and Succession Fund — a fund that in part represents David Boyd's Creative Britons award, which was donated to Beat as an unrestricted award and which Beat has decided to designate to contribute to specific costs of creative opportunity and development. For the coming leadership transition period, the Creative Development Fund is now extended to be a Strategic Development and Succession Fund, which will be particularly required in the 2023 — 2025 period of strategic and leadership change.
 - Beat Carnival Events Fund - a fund to ensure arts celebration activities can be delivered. Supporting specific fund-raising for programmes.
-

BEAT CARNIVAL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

4. Restricted Reserves

Funds that have been given for particular purposes and projects. Within Beat this reserve usually relates to specific grant funding received in advance. This reserve will be maintained at the level required by the stipulations of the grant awarding bodies. The level of the reserve will be calculated and agreed on an annual basis as part of the process of preparation of annual financial statements. The annual review should include an analysis of whether any of the stipulations have expired, therefore allowing the release of funds to an unrestricted reserve. The directors will undertake to ensure that all restricted funds are solely utilised in accordance with the terms of their being granted.

The first two items are 'Unrestricted Reserves', as they are not subject to any restriction in law.

Beat's Board will review the reserve strategy on an ongoing basis in order to ensure its relevance to current business circumstances and risks. A fund designated for Succession has been added in this year's reserves accounts.

Major risks

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks,

Risk Statement

Further to the above management statements, the trustees identify the major risks to which the charity is exposed each financial year when preparing and updating a strategic plan, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charity. The trustees then review any major risks that have been identified and establish systems to mitigate those risks. The charity is satisfied that the systems are in place to mitigate their exposure to the major risks that have been so identified and reviewed. The charity is open to the usual financial risks of any organisation, and the charity has introduced controls to minimise these risks, such as two signatures being required for payments from the bank account. In addition, the accounts are regularly explained to members of the charity and are open for member's inspection at any time. Identified risks include: Strategic, Financial, Governance, People, Reputation, IT and Data, Health & Safety, Assets.

Structure, governance and management

Beat Carnival is a registered Charity (NIC103347 and HMRC XR 82700) constituted as a Company Limited by Guarantee and is therefore governed by Articles of Association. The directors of the company are also trustees of the charity. Eligibility for membership of the charity, and membership of the board of trustees is governed by the Articles of Association.

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Stefanie Campbell

Lucy Dougan

(Appointed 14 August 2023)

Frank Galbraith

Oswyn Paulin

Jonathan Hodge

(Resigned 5 October 2023)

William McFarlane

(Resigned 4 March 2024)

Deirdre McKenna

(Resigned 10 June 2024)

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Members: Subscribers are members of the company. Others must apply for membership and be approved by the directors. A member may withdraw by giving written notice, unless there would be only two members remaining.

Directors: Number shall not be less than 3; there is no maximum number.

Appointment of directors: the company may by ordinary resolution appoint a director. A director may resign office by notice to the company.

BEAT CARNIVAL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Company Operations And Project Management

Beat has a long-term Strategic Plan and an annual Operational Plan. Its projects operate within that framework. Projects are managed through Project Plans with timelines and Project Teams. The project budget is monitored and adjusted as necessary to ensure that spend does not exceed the project income. Beat produces detailed risk assessment for events.

Beat targets recruitment and publicity to ensure that a wide cross-section of people get involved in the company and its programmes.

Beat's Director presents a monthly financial report to the company Board. Beat operates separate cost centres on SAGE.

Beat's financial statements are subject to a full financial audit at the end of each financial year. Beat management and Board of Directors regularly review financial procedures. Beat operates procurement policy and has a select list of suppliers that is updated at the end of each financial year.

Beat provides value for money by careful costing, recycling materials and having a high level of voluntary contribution.

Beat Carnival complies with legislative regulations laid out in Equal Opportunities legislation, the Disability Discrimination Act and the Children's Order, GDPR and other appropriate legislation. Beat Carnival Policies include: a Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy, a Health and Safety Policy, Community Relations Policy, Harassment Policy, Equal Opportunities Policy and Privacy Policy.

The organisational structure and how decisions are made

The board of directors/trustees meets 6 times a year as a full board. It has established sub groups that discuss the activities of the charity in terms of finance, premises, staffing and programming. The subgroups make recommendations to the board and monitor operational activities. Staff have delegated authority to carry out day to day work within policies agreed by the board. Financial standing orders give necessary authorisation of different amounts.

The policies and procedures adopted for the Induction and training of directors/trustees

Prior to being elected, nominees are invited to a Board meeting, as well as visiting the premises, to meet trustees and members of staff. All new directors are provided with an information pack containing details of the articles of association, reserves, financial performance to date, budget insurance cover and marketing plan.

Setting Of Staff Salaries

Salaries for posts are set according to the benchmark NJC Salary Scales, widely used in the voluntary and community sector in Northern Ireland and endorsed and used by NICVA, the voluntary sector umbrella body. The NJC payscales are local government payscales resulting from negotiations between the employer and trade union sides of the National Joint Council. The benchmark or point of comparison that was used when considering the salary for the posts, was selected through review and recommendation by an external HR consultant, aligned to guidance produced by NICVA and agreed by the Beat Carnival Trustees.

Relationships between the charity and related parties, including its subsidiaries

The charity has a social enterprise subsidiary (Beat Trading Ltd) with which it has many transactions and a controlling interest. The only other related parties are trustees and there are no transactions with them

BEAT CARNIVAL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year.

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

- 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 accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material 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 sufficient 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 trust deed. 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.

Auditor

In accordance with the company's articles, a resolution proposing that Harbinson Mulholland be reappointed as auditor of the company will be put at a General Meeting.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Stefanie Campbell
Trustee

Date: 7/10/24

BEAT CARNIVAL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF BEAT CARNIVAL

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Beat Carnival (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act (NI) 2008.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you were:

- the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the directors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the group's or the parent company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

BEAT CARNIVAL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE TRUSTEES OF BEAT CARNIVAL

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

BEAT CARNIVAL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE TRUSTEES OF BEAT CARNIVAL

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and/or senior management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the sector;

We focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including Companies Act 2006, taxation legislation, data protection, anti-bribery, employment, environmental and health and safety legislation

- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations;

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in Note 2 were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions;

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC and the company's legal advisors;

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

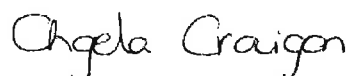
Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

BEAT CARNIVAL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE TRUSTEES OF BEAT CARNIVAL

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Angela Craigan (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Harbinson Mulholland
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor**

Centrepoint
24 Ormeau Avenue
Belfast
Co. Antrim
Northern Ireland
BT2 8HS
07/10/2024
.....

Harbinson Mulholland is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

BEAT CARNIVAL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds general	Unrestricted funds designated	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds general	Unrestricted funds designated	Restricted funds	Total
		2024	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023	2023
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income from:									
Donations and legacies	3	-	47,772	-	47,772	2,636	49,355	-	51,991
Charitable activities	4	26,019	-	323,587	349,606	11,207	-	263,929	275,136
Investments	5	5,445	-	-	5,445	1,380	-	-	1,380
Total income		<u>31,464</u>	<u>47,772</u>	<u>323,587</u>	<u>402,823</u>	<u>15,223</u>	<u>49,355</u>	<u>263,929</u>	<u>328,507</u>
Expenditure on:									
Charitable activities	6	23,970	50,225	278,110	352,305	12,298	25,448	262,082	299,828
Other expenditure	10	383	-	-	383	294	-	-	294
Total expenditure		<u>24,353</u>	<u>50,225</u>	<u>278,110</u>	<u>352,688</u>	<u>12,592</u>	<u>25,448</u>	<u>262,082</u>	<u>300,122</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		<u>7,111</u>	<u>(2,453)</u>	<u>45,477</u>	<u>50,135</u>	<u>2,631</u>	<u>23,907</u>	<u>1,847</u>	<u>28,385</u>
Transfers between funds		(2,234)	2,234	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>4,877</u>	<u>(219)</u>	<u>45,477</u>	<u>50,135</u>	<u>2,631</u>	<u>23,907</u>	<u>1,847</u>	<u>28,385</u>
Reconciliation of funds:									
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		8,475	410,415	336,736	755,626	5,844	386,508	334,889	727,241
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		<u>13,352</u>	<u>410,196</u>	<u>382,213</u>	<u>805,761</u>	<u>8,475</u>	<u>410,415</u>	<u>336,736</u>	<u>755,626</u>

BEAT CARNIVAL

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

BEAT CARNIVAL


BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		339,220		343,341
Current assets					
Debtors	13	29,231		15,957	
Cash at bank and in hand		451,881		417,226	
		481,112		433,183	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(14,571)		(20,898)	
Net current assets			466,541		412,285
Total assets less current liabilities			805,761		755,626
Net assets			805,761		755,626
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	16		382,213		336,736
Unrestricted funds - general			13,352		8,475
Unrestricted funds - designated	17		410,196		410,415
			805,761		755,626

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on

7/10/24



Stefanie Campbell
Trustee

BEAT CARNIVAL

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	20		42,604		(47,042)
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(13,393)		(37,907)	
Investment income received		5,445		347	
Net cash used in investing activities			(7,948)		(36,527)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			34,656		10,515
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			417,226		406,710
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			451,881		417,226

BEAT CARNIVAL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Beat Carnival is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is 11-47-Boyd Street, Belfast, County Antrim BT13 2GU, Northern Ireland

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's [governing document], the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "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)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, [modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value]. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

BEAT CARNIVAL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	2% straight line
Plant and equipment	20% straight line
Fixtures and fittings	20% straight line
Motor vehicles	25% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

BEAT CARNIVAL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

BEAT CARNIVAL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Donations and gifts	-	47,772	47,772	2,636	49,355	51,991

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Charitable activities						
Sale of goods	22,146	3,316	25,462	7,394	-	7,394
Performance related grants	-	320,271	320,271	-	263,929	263,929
Charitable rental income	3,690	-	3,690	3,770	-	3,770
Other income	183	-	183	43	-	43
	26,019	323,587	349,606	11,207	263,929	275,136

Performance related grants analysis

	Charitable activities 2024 £	Charitable activities 2023 £
Arts Council Core & Programme Funding	143,138	154,248
Belfast City Council Multi Annual Funding	33,000	33,000
DFC/BCC Access & Including (Capital)	-	30,000
Children in Need	-	10,500
Erasmus+	12,835	16,169
PRS Foundation	9,000	-
The National Lottery Community Fund	71,171	-
Dormant Accounts	24,450	-
BCC Other	21,677	-
ACNI	5,000	-
Other	-	20,012
	320,271	263,929

BEAT CARNIVAL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Interest receivable	5,445	1,380

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Charitable activities 2024 £	Charitable activities 2023 £
Direct costs		
Artist, Performer and Tutor Fees	79,915	60,284
Venue Rental	1,089	460
Crew/Production Management	1,725	8,159
Travel & Subsistence	7,171	1,494
Skills Training	1,061	747
Programme Co-Ordination	23,362	3,561
Event Services	4,644	803
Publicity/Marketing	4,342	1,391
Materials	4,285	9,933
Evaluation & Consultancy	5,108	-
	<u>132,702</u>	<u>86,832</u>
Share of support and governance costs (see note 7)		
Support	200,767	193,035
Governance	18,836	19,961
	<u>352,305</u>	<u>299,828</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds - general	23,970	12,298
Unrestricted funds - designated	50,225	25,448
Restricted funds	278,110	262,082
	<u>352,305</u>	<u>299,828</u>

BEAT CARNIVAL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

7 Support costs allocated to activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Staff costs	137,448	131,280
Depreciation	17,515	16,202
Office expenses	13,536	15,403
Motor expenses	3,032	4,841
Printing, postage & stationery	2,238	2,561
Repairs & maintenance	16,735	10,908
Computer maintenance	2,787	3,682
Insurance	5,834	4,971
Training & recruitment	1,031	1,672
Subscriptions & memberships	611	1,515
Governance costs	18,836	19,961
	<u>219,603</u>	<u>212,996</u>
Analysed between:		
Charitable activities	<u>219,603</u>	<u>212,996</u>

	2024	2023
	£	£
Governance costs comprise:		
Audit and accountancy fees	3,610	4,440
Legal and professional	15,226	15,521
	<u>18,836</u>	<u>19,961</u>

8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

2024	2023
Number	Number
<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

BEAT CARNIVAL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

9	Employees	(Continued)	
	Employment costs	2024	2023
		£	£
	Wages and salaries	122,740	108,941
	Social security costs	8,132	7,986
	Other pension costs	6,576	14,353
		<u>137,448</u>	<u>131,280</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Aggregate compensation	<u>108,045</u>	<u>102,203</u>

10 Other expenditure

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Financing costs	<u>383</u>	<u>294</u>

11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

BEAT CARNIVAL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Plant and equipment	Fixtures and fittings	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1 April 2023	377,253	50,240	64,592	45,760	537,845
Additions	-	13,393	-	-	13,393
At 31 March 2024	<u>377,253</u>	<u>63,633</u>	<u>64,592</u>	<u>45,760</u>	<u>551,238</u>
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 April 2023	55,256	36,023	57,464	45,760	194,503
Depreciation charged in the year	7,545	7,501	2,469	-	17,515
At 31 March 2024	<u>62,801</u>	<u>43,524</u>	<u>59,933</u>	<u>45,760</u>	<u>212,018</u>
Carrying amount					
At 31 March 2024	<u>314,452</u>	<u>20,109</u>	<u>4,659</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>339,220</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>321,997</u>	<u>14,217</u>	<u>7,127</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>343,341</u>

13 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	3,222	-
Other debtors	25,057	15,212
Prepayments and accrued income	952	745
	<u>29,231</u>	<u>15,957</u>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	3,224	(268)
Other creditors	4,935	14,695
Accruals and deferred income	6,412	6,471
	<u>14,571</u>	<u>20,898</u>

15 Retirement benefit schemes

	2024	2023
	£	£
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	<u>6,576</u>	<u>14,353</u>

BEAT CARNIVAL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

15 Retirement benefit schemes

(Continued)

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

16 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2024 £
Arts Council Commission	5,000	5,000	(10,000)	-
Arts Council Capital	292,803	-	(6,986)	285,817
Arts Council Core & Programme	-	143,138	(143,138)	-
Arts Council Equipment Grant	5,308	-	(3,522)	1,786
Belfast City Council Arts & Heritage	-	14,177	-	14,177
Belfast City Council CFF	-	7,500	(7,500)	-
Belfast City Council MAF	-	33,000	(33,000)	-
The National Lotter Community Fund	-	71,171	(46,883)	24,288
Children in Need	5,701	-	(5,701)	-
DFC/BCC Access & Inclusion (Capital)	29,948	-	(600)	29,348
Dormant Accounts	-	24,450	(796)	23,654
Eramus+	(2,024)	12,835	(10,811)	-
PRS Foundation	-	9,000	(9,000)	-
Samba Masterclass	-	3,316	(173)	3,143
	<u>336,736</u>	<u>323,587</u>	<u>(278,110)</u>	<u>382,213</u>

Restricted funds are legacies and donations received for specified purposes within the overall aims of the Charity.

17 Unrestricted funds - designated

These are unrestricted funds which are material to the charity's activities.

	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
Working Capital Fund	150,000	47,772	(50,225)	12,453	160,000
Building Development Fund	140,000	-	-	(10,000)	130,000
Redundancies Fund	40,500	-	-	-	40,500
Succession Strategy Fund	60,000	-	-	(15,304)	44,696
Beat Carnival Events Fund	19,915	-	-	15,085	35,000
	<u>410,415</u>	<u>47,772</u>	<u>(50,225)</u>	<u>2,234</u>	<u>410,196</u>

BEAT CARNIVAL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

17 Unrestricted funds - designated

(Continued)

Unrestricted funds comprise those funds which the Management Committee are free to use in accordance with the organisation's objectives.

Working Capital Fund - allocated towards the ongoing capital requirements for project and grant funding received in areas

Building Development Fund - allocated to allow for maintenance and repair risks and for accrued depreciation

Redundancies Fund - allocated to provide for potential redundancy costs

Strategic Development and Succession Fund - allocated to Strategic Development and Succession

Events Fund - allocated towards events held

18 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	8,475	31,464	(24,353)	(2,234)	13,352
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Previous year:	At 1 April 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	5,844	15,223	(12,592)	-	8,475
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

19 Related party transactions

The charity received a donation of £47,772 (2023: £49,355) from Beat Trading Limited, a company limited by guarantee whose only member is Beat Carnival. The amount due in respect of this donation at the year end was £Nil (2022: £Nil)

20 Cash generated from operations	2024	2023
	£	£
Surplus for the year	50,135	28,385
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(5,445)	(1,380)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	17,515	16,202
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(13,274)	15,733
(Decrease) in creditors	(6,327)	(11,898)
Cash generated from operations	<u>42,604</u>	<u>47,042</u>

BEAT CARNIVAL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

21 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charity had no material debt during the year.