

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

**Directors' Report and
Financial Statements**

For the year ended 31 March 2025

*Company Registration Number SC075079
Registered Charity Number SC015039*

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Directors' Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

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SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Directors' Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

The directors have pleasure in presenting their report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Objectives and activities

The Scottish Chamber Orchestra ("SCO") was established in 1974 and was incorporated as a company, limited by guarantee, on 4 June 1981.

The SCO is dedicated to the performance, creation and appreciation of music throughout Scotland, United Kingdom and internationally.

The SCO is a major contributor to Scotland's international profile. One of the country's five National Performing Companies, the SCO is a significant cultural ambassador and one of Scotland's most internationally respected arts organisations. Through its core activities, the SCO makes a highly significant contribution to the quality of life the length and breadth of Scotland. They encompass a wide-ranging and diverse programme of performances and a commitment to an extensive repertoire including the commissioning and performance of new music by both Scottish and non-Scottish composers.

The SCO has a long-established reputation as a leader in the field of creative learning. Musicians connect with and inspire people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities across Scotland, in an innovative, accessible and engaging programme of activities in nurseries, schools, colleges, universities, hospitals, care homes, and community centres.

All aspects of the SCO's work are assessed regularly, using a range of criteria and measures, including critical feedback, peer review, audience feedback, number of performances and workshops delivered against targets and audience and participation figures.

Our Strategic Plan 2023-28 can be summarised as follows:

Vision: To be a world-class chamber orchestra that nurtures exceptional music-making for all.

Mission: Creating musical experiences which transform and enhance lives across Scotland and beyond, reflecting our dynamic world.

Values: Passionate; Connected; Open; Agile; Courageous

Approach: Excellence; Inclusion; Collaboration; Reflection

Strategic Priorities:

- To engage audiences through a dynamic and relevant programme
- Becoming more diverse and inclusive
- Preparing for our new home
- Harnessing the power of digital
- Working sustainably
- Valuing our people

The following report touches on all of these areas.

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Directors' Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Achievements and performance

Following the conclusion of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra's landmark 50th Anniversary celebrations in May 2024, the Orchestra has continued apace, always reaching for the highest level of artistic excellence and expression. Building on the momentum of this extraordinary milestone, the last year was defined by music-making of the highest calibre, bold programming, ambitious new commissions, and an ever-deepening commitment to reaching and inspiring audiences in every corner of Scotland and beyond.

The financial year began on a high note with a celebratory Parliamentary Reception at Holyrood on 14 May 2024 to celebrate the SCO's 50th birthday. Around 160 guests gathered in the Garden Lobby to hear Clare Adamson MSP, Convenor of the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee, and Angus Robertson MSP, Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture, speak warmly and appreciatively of the Orchestra's quality, range, and impact. It was particularly encouraging to hear the Cabinet Secretary reaffirm the Scottish Government's commitment to increasing funding for the cultural sector by £100m over the next four years — a timely and welcome statement of support for the arts in Scotland.

Andrew Manze was announced as our Principal Guest Conductor in April, coinciding with two memorable concerts: Ravel's Piano Concerto in G with the exquisite Edinburgh-born Steven Osborne, and an all-Vaughan Williams programme opening with a special performance of the Concerto Grosso by 39 young musicians of varying musical abilities from Edinburgh, East Lothian, and Glasgow alongside the SCO strings. This marked the first appearance of our SCO Academy within the main Winter Season. Developed in partnership with City of Edinburgh and East Lothian Instrumental Music Services, Glasgow Create, St Mary's Music School, and SCO musicians led by Sub-Principal Second Violin Gordon Bragg, the project involved two weekends of coaching and mentoring before the performances in the Usher Hall and City Halls. Andrew embraced the project wholeheartedly, and its success inspired a new SCO Academy commission from Jay Capperauld for a future season.

The 50th Anniversary Season was brought to a triumphant close with a European tour in late May 2024, one of the SCO's most memorable in recent years. Maxim conducted the Orchestra with guest soloist Alina Ibragimova in a programme that included Jay Capperauld's *The Origin of Colour*, alongside works by Mozart, Beethoven, and Mendelssohn's *Hebrides Overture*. The journey began in Toulouse, continued to Liège and Antwerp, and concluded with two performances at Würzburg's renowned *Mozartfest*. As ever, we were proud to represent Scotland on the global stage to new audiences and every performance was met with warm acclaim, resulting in re-invitations from all our hosts.

The SCO's 2024 Summer Tour of Scotland, in its 45th year, remains at the heart of the Orchestra's identity and its mission to make exceptional live music accessible to all. From June to August the Orchestra travelled from bustling towns to remote Highland villages, performing 19 concerts to audiences totalling over 4,000 people. Full orchestral programmes conducted by Maxim in Helensburgh, Blair Castle, Kinlochleven, and Callander were met with packed halls and warm, enthusiastic receptions. Beyond the music itself, the Tour's spirit of camaraderie – musicians and audiences sharing unique, local experiences – created the kind of connection that stays with people long after the final note.

In August, the SCO returned to the Edinburgh International Festival with two major projects that demonstrated the Orchestra's versatility and artistry. Under Maxim's direction, a concert staging of Mozart's *Così fan tutte* was acclaimed for its expressive clarity and theatrical vitality, while a vivid production of Bizet's *Carmen* with Opéra-Comique revealed the Orchestra's sensuous, nuanced playing. A beautiful chamber concert of Mozart with Maxim at the fortepiano accompanied by SCO Principals offered an intimate counterpoint performed to an absorbed Queen's Hall audience.

The SCO's 2024/25 Winter Season, running from late September to May, comprised 70 performances across eight Scottish cities and towns, reaching around 45,000 people. Building on the breadth and ambition of the anniversary programme, the Season blended cornerstone masterworks, rediscovered gems, and striking contemporary commissions with imaginative cross-genre collaborations. Maxim's sixth season as Principal Conductor saw his relationship with the Orchestra and audiences deepen even further. Highlights included a joyful Dvořák season opening celebration with cellist, Steven Isserlis, powerful performances of Prokofiev's *Classical Symphony*, Brahms' *Second Symphony*, and Mozart's *Mass in C minor*, and a dynamic concert centred on *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik*. The Season closed in a wonderful reunion with Nicola Benedetti for Brahms' *Violin Concerto*, followed by Mendelssohn's *Scottish Symphony*—a fitting tribute to Scotland's landscapes and cultural heritage. Whether leading a week of Baroque favourites, navigating the bold colours of Prokofiev and Brahms, or championing new commissions such as SCO Associate Composer Jay Capperauld's thrilling *Bruckner's Skull*, Maxim's bond with both musicians and audience remains palpable.

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

The SCO Chorus under the leadership of Director Gregory Batsleer continued to perform to great acclaim both with and without the Orchestra and extended its Young Singers' Programme. One cohort of six young singers (two sopranos, two altos, one tenor and one bass) completed a programme of activity in August 2024, with a new cohort of seven beginning in September. Participants have access to specialist workshops, training with experts in the field, and the opportunity to work with internationally renowned conductors. In the past year this included a performance of Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, initially given at the BBC Proms in 2023, and repeated as the SCO Season Finale of May 2024. A *capella* concerts in Perth and Stirling in June 2024 enhanced the profile of the Chorus alongside its annual Christmas' concerts at Greyfriars Kirk in Edinburgh. The latter included Lucy Walker's *Silent Night*, an SCO Chorus commission of a new arrangement for unaccompanied choir.

Indeed, new music was a central feature of the Season. SCO Associate Composer Jay Capperauld's *Bruckner's Skull* and *Carmina Gadelica* – the latter inspired by Alexander Carmichael's collection of Gaelic folk poetry – received rapturous responses. Jay's work often draws on traditional tunes, melodies, and themes that explore and celebrate Scotland's cultural heritage—positioning him as one of Scotland's most distinctive and vital artistic voices. Other premieres included Péter Eötvös' *Aurora* for double bass, strings, and accordion; Anders Hillborg's *Viola Concerto*; Madeleine Isaksson's *Flows*; and 15-year-old Tsothe Zédginidze's *Symphony No. 1*, making him the youngest composer ever commissioned by the SCO. Together, these works reinforced the Orchestra's role in championing contemporary voices and shaping the repertoire of tomorrow.

The Season also saw the launch of *New Dimensions*, a bold, informal concert strand designed to attract younger and more diverse audiences. Featuring DJ-led foyer sets, cabaret-style seating, and relaxed presentation, the series combined provocative premieres, immersive minimalism, and fresh takes on classical works. Reduced pricing, free tickets for under-18s, and targeted outreach ensured accessibility, while the quality of the performances drew in existing audiences as well. Over 2,500 people attended the six *New Dimensions* concerts in Edinburgh and Glasgow, many experiencing the SCO for the first time.

Creative Learning remains at the heart of the SCO's mission, and 2024/25 saw the programme engage more than 11,000 people across hospitals, care homes, schools, and community venues. The *ReConnect* programme for people living with dementia expanded following the award of a Dementia Trust Disruption Award, allowing delivery to Findlay House, an NHS Lothian hospital based complex clinical care unit (HBCCC) in Leith, Edinburgh, where we are working with patients with more complex needs. *ReConnect* Tea Dances, relaxed performances designed for people with dementia and their carers, continued to flourish, with events in Glasgow, Stirling and Edinburgh.

The Orchestra completed the fourth year of its residency in Craigmillar, reaching around 2,000 residents through choirs, multi-artform workshops, school programmes, and dementia-friendly sessions. A new initiative, *VIBE*, was launched in the Borders in February 2025, supporting young people's mental and emotional wellbeing through collaborative music-making, with participants preparing for a performance at the Melrose Music Festival later in the year.

The 2024/25 Digital Season, filmed at Leith Theatre, offered free online access to works by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, Andrea Tarrodi, and Ruth Gipps, attracting more than 15,000 views and extending the SCO's reach to those unable to attend in person. This hybrid model enhances the Orchestra's accessibility and educational impact while strengthening its international profile.

The 2024/25 financial year marked the second year of delivery against the SCO's five-year Strategic Plan, which underlines our dedication to excellence in performance, diversity in audiences, fostering creativity and wellbeing, and working with marginalised communities across Scotland. It was a year of artistic growth, expanded outreach, and strengthened resilience, supported throughout by the dedication of our musicians, staff, and board members, whose skill, commitment, and passion drive everything we do. These achievements have been made possible by the confidence and continuity that our supporters provide.

As we look to the year ahead, we remain committed to delivering music-making of the highest quality, inspiring creativity, and ensuring the SCO plays a vibrant and meaningful role in the cultural life of the nation.

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Public Funding

Our Scottish Government Core Grant for 2024/25 was confirmed with a 3.1% uplift on prior year (see note 23). This was supplemented with a welcome £125,000 grant to support the international touring activity referred to above.

In December, we were advised that our core grant for 2025/26 would increase by just over 4% to £2.137m. We remain extremely grateful to the Scottish Government for this outstanding support.

We were also pleased to secure an in-principle extension to our 3-year strategic partner funding from City of Edinburgh Council grant at £50k per annum which will run until 2026/27.

Orchestra Tax Relief via the UK Government continued to be a key source of funding. The headline rate of 50% will fall to 45% with effect from 1 April 2025.

Individual Giving, Trusts and Foundations

We are very thankful to the many loyal supporters who continue to invest in our work. Our regular Individual Giving programme and Major Gift income (annual donations of over £5,000 from individuals) remained strong as we worked on creating more opportunities to build relationships with our donors and bring them closer to the Orchestra via in-person meetings and special events. We will continue to invest in this area of work over the course of next year.

Our Trusts and Foundations fundraising continues to perform well and is in large part down to our impactful Creative Learning Programme, including the Craigmillar Residency, and how attractive that is to funders. However, demand for this type of funding is incredibly competitive and becoming even more so.

Financial review

The results for the year are detailed in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 14.

The revenue net movement in funds is a deficit of £97,376 (2024: surplus £192,119). The principal movements in the current year are:

- a deficit in unrestricted funds before transfers of £84,095 (2024: surplus: £544,299). This result reflects the majority of activity – a mixture of in-person and digital orchestral projects, radio and tv broadcasts, and Creative Learning activities, as more fully described in the Achievements and Performance section. The result includes an Orchestra Tax credit of £1,094,309 which is comparable to prior year due to the similar scale of qualifying activity and a headline tax rate which remained unchanged.
- a deficit in the designated Property Fund before transfers of £22,224 (2024: surplus: £62,793) arising from the performance of the investment portfolio (see note below).
- a deficit in other designated funds of £41,965 before transfers (2024: deficit £286,745). This was incurred via planned expenditure on digital projects, and a European Tour (May 2024).
- a surplus in Restricted Funds of £50,908 (2024: deficit £128,228), which resulted from expenditure on international touring, offset by funds raised for the SCO Chorus via a *Big Give* campaign in December.

The purpose of designated funds is explained more fully in note 17. These are funds set aside by the Trustees to support planned activity, such as future recordings, international touring, digital projects and player development.

On the Balance Sheet, the Revenue Reserve shows a surplus of £133,220 (2024: surplus £180,409) and is underpinned by the General Reserve of £230,777 (2024: £230,777). Total unrestricted general funds on the balance sheet are therefore £363,997 (2024: £411,186).

Movements in restricted funds are detailed in note 17. The balance of restricted funds at year end of £316,974 (2024: £266,066) consists of three separate amounts. Firstly, a balance relating to SCO Productions (development of the SCO Chorus), secondly, funding for Concert Hall Development which will be utilised as the Orchestra prepares for a move into a new Edinburgh performance base, and finally a Fixed Assets fund which covers the depreciation of assets purchased using restricted capital grants.

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

Principal Funding Sources and Reserves Policy

The principal funding sources of the company are a core grant from the Scottish Government, box office income, philanthropic support, corporate sponsorship and local authority funding. The Board has identified a minimum reserve requirement equivalent to three months' costs, which will enable the company to meet commitments as they fall due. At 31 March 2025, the company had total reserves of £2,812,985 (2024: £2,910,361) which is above target level. However, within this balance are £316,974 (2024: £266,066) of restricted funds which are not available for the general purposes of the company. The Trustees have designated reserves to a range of future activity as explained more fully in note 17. Through regular review of financial performance, open and transparent dialogue with key stakeholders and seeking to identify additional funding, the directors aim to manage this position and address any gap which may arise due to unanticipated costs or decline in income.

Investment policy and performance

The Board has set an investment policy for its endowment fund of balanced growth with medium risk. The day-to-day investment management has been delegated to a firm of investment management professionals Adam & Company Investment Management whose performance is reviewed and monitored by the Directors on a regular basis. The main investment objective is to protect the capital of the SCO in real terms. Directors regularly review ethical restrictions as well as opportunities to develop the portfolio's ESG (environmental, social and governance) credentials and sustainability of investments. There is currently a restriction on direct investment in tobacco. The portfolio's value decreased by 2.27% over the 12 months to 31 March 2025 compared to a peer group composite benchmark index which decreased by 1.22% over the same period.

Risk Management

The Board's risk management strategy comprises

- Regular review of the principal risks and uncertainties faced by the company;
- The establishment of policies, systems and procedures to mitigate those risks;
- The implementation of procedures to minimise or manage any potential impact on the organisation, should those risks materialise.

The overall approach remains valid, although the risk analysis and underlying risk assessments continue to be updated according to circumstances. As financial margins become increasingly tighter, there is an increased risk from any unavoidable changes in planning or unexpected box-office returns. The latter is monitored on a regular and timely basis as the orchestra's work is spread throughout the year, albeit with more activity during the Winter Season months of September to April. Budgeting and expenditure are tightly controlled, and planning systems are constantly reviewed in an attempt to lessen the impact of such eventualities.

The principal risk continues to be a sudden or unexpected decline in central government funding, especially whilst-public finances are constricted, and inflation levels remains unsettled. The status of this funding is monitored carefully via regular reporting, evaluation against set objectives and dialogue with the funder. Where possible, forward planning is tailored accordingly.

A failure to attract and retain significant private sector income (Corporate Sponsorship; Individual Giving; Trusts & Foundations) which has grown considerably over recent years would also be detrimental to the company's ability to operate successfully. The company is in the initial stages of implementing a new fundraising strategy, with a donor-centred focus at its core, is actively encouraging legacy giving via a newly created Legacy Giving Circle created in the 50th anniversary year and actively reviews the success of fundraising work to mitigate this risk.

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

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For the year ended 31 March 2025

Plans for future periods

As we embark on Year 3 of our current 5-year Strategic Plan – 2023-2028 – we look forward to presenting an ambitious, diverse and geographically broad programme of performances, workshops and events all designed to reach and enhance the lives of people in Scotland and beyond. Highlights of the 2025/26 year include;

- Two separate European tours led by Principal Conductor Maxim Emelyanychev with concerts in Amsterdam, Gdansk, Zurich, followed by appearances in Bucharest and Sibiu as part of the Enescu Festival and Bonn as part of the *BeethovenFest*, with further appearances in Brno, Brussels and Essen
- A series of unique performances filmed for online distribution, featuring new music commissioned by the SCO and composed by Associate Composer Jay Capperauld
- A Summer tour of towns and villages throughout Scotland, including Kingussie, Golspie and Findhorn, Kilmelford, Crianlarich, Airdrie, Hamilton, Hawick and Castle Douglas
- Festival performances at the BBC Proms in the Royal Albert Hall in London, the Edinburgh International Festival East Neuk Festival and Celtic Connections
- A Winter Season of weekly concerts in Edinburgh and Glasgow, with further performances in Aberdeen, Perth, St Andrews, Dumfries and Ayr, featuring Principal Conductor Maxim Emelyanychev, Principal Guest Conductor Andrew Manze, plus a range of worldclass guest conductors and soloists, including Lorenza Borrani, Jess Gillam, Colin Currie and Pekka Kussisto
- Four concerts in the Winter Season featuring the Scottish Chamber Orchestra Chorus
- New music commissioned from Jay Capperauld
- Tapestry - a special event celebrating the culmination of the SCO's 5-year community residency in Edinburgh's Craigmillar
- A series of Tea Dance concerts, specially designed for people living with Dementia
- A performance in the Melrose Music Festival celebrating Year 1 of our VIBE in the Borders project.

Structure, governance and management

The company is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The number of directors is as follows:

Ex Officio	Chair
Lay	Maximum of six
Local Authority	Maximum of three

The full board of the company – which deals with strategic issues – meets four to five times per year. New directors are identified and recruited with reference to maintaining the appropriate balance of skills and experience on the board. All new directors are provided with an induction pack and meet separately with the Chair and Chief Executive in order to familiarise themselves with the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the committee and decision-making process, the business plan, the financial performance of the company and their legal obligations under company and charity law. Development and training needs are identified in consultation with the Chair and arranged as required for all directors.

Directors take office for up to two three-year terms. In exceptional circumstances, directors may be invited to take office for up to a further and final three years.

Day-to-day management of the company is delegated by the board to the Chief Executive, who is supported by a management team. Arrangements for setting the pay and remuneration of the company's Chief Executive are managed by the Chair and other trustees of the Executive Committee who will consider industry and sector pay benchmarks, the resources and requirements of the company as well as the individual performance development review process.

The group consists of Scottish Chamber Orchestra Limited (the parent company) and SCO Trading Limited, its wholly owned subsidiary. As SCO Trading Ltd has been dormant throughout the reporting period, it has not been consolidated into these financial statements.

Related party transactions

No director received any remuneration or expenses as a result of their office as a director.

City of Edinburgh Council, Glasgow City Council and Fife Council have nominated representatives who were appointed directors of the company. City of Edinburgh Council awards an annual core grant to the company.

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Directors' Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Reference and administrative details

Scottish Chamber Orchestra Limited

Charitable company registered in Scotland

Company Number SC075079

Scottish Charity Number SC015039

Patron

His Majesty The King

Life President

Donald MacDonald, CBE CA

Chief Executive

Gavin Reid, LVO

Directors

Lay

Joanna Baker, CBE, Chair

Rachael Erskine

resigned 9/12/24

Sarah Davidson, CB

Peter Maniura, MVO

Charles Macquaker

Mark Urquhart

Pamela Gillies, CBE

Local Authority

Cllr Val Walker (Edinburgh)

resigned 17/4/25

Cllr Margaret Graham (Edinburgh) appointed 29/5/25

Cllr Eva Bolander (Glasgow)

resigned 26/6/24

Cllr Paul Leinster (Glasgow)

appointed 24/7/24

Cllr Jonny Tepp (Fife)

resigned 7/4/25

Company Secretary

Ian White CA

Orchestra Advisers

Katherine Bryer

appointed 9/12/24

Eric de Wit

appointed 9/12/24

Peter Franks

resigned 9/12/24

Alison Green

resigned 9/12/24

Philip Higham

resigned 9/12/24

Kana Kawashima

Jamie Kenny

appointed 9/12/24

Louise Lewis Goodwin

Management team

Gavin Reid, LVO (Chief Executive)

Judith Colman (Concerts Director)

Laura Baxter (Creative Learning Director)

Derek Gilchrist (Marketing & Communications Director)

Ian White CA (Finance & Administration Director)

Martin Lawlor (Development Director)

Auditor

Azets Audit Services

Quay 2

139 Fountainbridge

Edinburgh

EH3 9QG

Bankers

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc

36 St Andrew Square

Edinburgh

EH2 2YB

Solicitors

Turcan Connell

Princes Exchange

1 Earl Grey Street

Edinburgh

EH3 9EE

Registered office

4 Royal Terrace

Edinburgh

EH7 5AB

Investment advisers

Adam & Company Investment Management Ltd

40 Princes Street

Edinburgh

EH2 2BY

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Directors' Report

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Statement of directors' responsibilities

The directors (who are also trustees of Scottish Chamber Orchestra Limited) are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the income and expenditure of the Company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)", the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, and Regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Disclosure of information to the auditor

As far as the directors are aware at the time the report is approved:

- there is no relevant information of which the Charitable Company's auditor is unaware, and
- the directors have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information, and to establish that the Charitable Company's auditor is aware of the information.

Small company exemptions

The above report has been prepared in accordance with the 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) and in accordance with special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Auditor

A resolution to re-appoint Azets Audit Services as auditor will be put to the members at the annual general meeting.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 4 December 2025

And signed on its behalf by



Ian White CA
Company Secretary
Edinburgh

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED
(a company limited by guarantee)

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members and Directors of Scottish Chamber Orchestra Limited

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Scottish Chamber Orchestra Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating the Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its income and expenditure 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 Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

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 charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the Financial Reporting Council's (FRC's) Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our 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

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED
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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members and Directors of Scottish Chamber Orchestra Limited
(continued)
For the year ended 31 March 2025

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 directors are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, 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.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Directors' Report, which includes the Report of the Trustees for the purposes of charity law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors' 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 charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the Directors' Report and take advantage of the small companies' exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report.

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members and Directors of Scottish Chamber Orchestra Limited
(continued)
For the year ended 31 March 2025

Responsibilities of the directors

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities statement set out on page 8, the directors (who are also the trustees of the charitable company for the purposes of charity law) 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 directors 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 directors are responsible for assessing the charitable company'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 directors either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with the Acts and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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 FRC's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditor's Report.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above and on the FRC's website, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

We obtain and update our understanding of the charitable company, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the charitable company is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the charitable company that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED
(a company limited by guarantee)

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members and Directors of Scottish Chamber Orchestra Limited
(continued)
For the year ended 31 March 2025

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud (continued)

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including 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 charitable company through discussions with management, and from our 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 charitable company, including the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and taxation, data protection, anti-bribery, environmental, employment 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.

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 any correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the charitable company's legal advisors.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charitable 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 these financial statements were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED
(a company limited by guarantee)

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members and Directors of Scottish Chamber Orchestra Limited
(continued)
For the year ended 31 March 2025

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and to the charitable company's directors, as a body, in accordance with regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members, as a body, and the directors, as a body, 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 charitable company, the charitable company's members, as a body, and the charitable company's directors, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Azets Audit Services

Allison Gibson, Senior Statutory Auditor

For and on behalf of Azets Audit Services, Statutory Auditor

Eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Chartered Accountants

Quay 2

139 Fountainbridge

Edinburgh

EH3 9QG

Date: 10 December 2025

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

**Statement of Financial Activities
(incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)
For the year ended 31 March 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Property Fund £	Other Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Income from:							
<i>Donations and legacies</i>							
grant income	4	2,103,000	-	34,760	325,770	2,463,530	2,426,842
sponsorship, donations, commissions and legacies	4	1,004,256	-	-	-	1,004,256	961,780
<i>Charitable activities</i>							
performance income	4	1,197,594	-	-	14,556	1,212,150	1,216,707
publications and other earned income	4	31,657	-	11,082	-	42,739	68,515
<i>Other trading activities</i>							
CD & merchandise income	4	3,205	-	-	-	3,205	6,855
<i>Investment income</i>	4	49,122	-	-	-	49,122	42,644
Total income	4	4,388,834	-	45,842	340,326	4,775,002	4,723,343
Expenditure on:							
<i>Raising funds</i>							
development & sponsorship	6	284,232	-	-	155	284,387	285,129
CD & merchandise costs	6	1,478	-	-	-	1,478	1,763
<i>Charitable activities</i>							
	7	5,281,528	-	87,807	289,263	5,658,598	5,359,130
Total expenditure		5,567,238	-	87,807	289,418	5,944,463	5,646,022
Net (losses) / gains on investments		-	(22,224)	-	-	(22,224)	62,793
Net (expenditure) / income before taxation & transfers		(1,178,404)	(22,224)	(41,965)	50,908	(1,191,685)	(859,886)
Orchestra tax credit		1,094,309	-	-	-	1,094,309	1,052,005
Net (expenditure) / income before transfers		(84,095)	(22,224)	(41,965)	50,908	(97,376)	192,119
Transfers between funds	17	36,906	-	(36,906)	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(47,189)	(22,224)	(78,871)	50,908	(97,376)	192,119
Total funds brought forward	17	411,186	683,110	1,549,999	266,066	2,910,361	2,718,242
Total funds carried forward	17	363,997	660,886	1,471,128	316,974	2,812,985	2,910,361

All the results for the year are derived from continuing operations.
The notes on pages 17 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £	2024 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12	64,574		89,387	
Investments	13	912,145		934,370	
Total fixed assets			976,719		1,023,757
Current assets					
Stock	14	6,169		7,218	
Debtors	15	2,532,284		1,326,186	
Cash at bank and in hand		453,109		1,635,285	
Total current assets		2,991,562		2,968,689	
Liabilities					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	16	(1,155,296)		(1,082,085)	
Net current assets			1,836,266		1,886,604
Net assets			2,812,985		2,910,361
Reserves					
	17				
Revenue Reserve		133,220		180,409	
General Reserve		230,777		230,777	
Total unrestricted funds			363,997		411,186
Property fund			660,886		683,110
Other designated funds			1,471,128		1,549,999
Restricted funds			316,974		266,066
Total charity funds			2,812,985		2,910,361

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements were authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 4 December 2025 and are signed on its behalf by:



..... Chair
Joanna Baker, CBE

Company Registration Number SC075079

The notes on pages 17 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Statement of Cash Flows

As at 31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:			
NET CASH (USED IN)/PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	1A	(1,226,877)	818,663
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:			
Investment income		49,122	42,644
Proceeds from sale of tangible fixed assets		-	17,500
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(4,421)	(58,013)
Net Proceeds from sale of investments		225,060	194,897
Purchase of investments		(225,060)	(194,897)
Transfer of cash from income a/c to capital a/c		-	(19,930)
NET CASH PROVIDED BY/(USED IN) INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		44,701	(17,799)
CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		(1,182,176)	800,864
CASH AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR		1,635,285	834,421
CASH AT THE END OF THE YEAR	1B	453,109	1,635,285

Note 1A	2025 £	2024 £
Net (expenditure) / income for the year	(97,376)	192,119
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	29,234	34,862
Losses / (gains) on investments	22,224	(62,793)
Investment income	(49,122)	(42,644)
Gain on sale of fixed assets	-	(9,764)
Decrease in stock	1,049	1,106
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	(1,206,098)	476,870
Increase in creditors	73,212	228,907
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(1,226,877)	818,663

Note 1B – Analysis of cash and cash equivalents including changes in net debt	At 1 April 2024 £	Cashflows £	Non-cash Changes £	At 31 March 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	1,635,285	(1,182,176)	-	453,109

The notes on pages 17 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2025

1. Accounting policies

General information

These financial statements are presented in pounds sterling (GBP) as that is the currency in which the charitable company's transactions are denominated. They comprise the financial statements of Scottish Chamber Orchestra Limited. They present information about the company as an individual undertaking and not about its group by virtue of section 402 of the Companies Act 2006.

The principal activity of Scottish Chamber Orchestra Limited is to promote the performance, creation and appreciation of music throughout Scotland, the United Kingdom and internationally.

Scottish Chamber Orchestra Limited is a private charitable company limited by guarantee incorporated in the United Kingdom and registered in Scotland. It is recognised as a charity for tax purposes by HMRC and is registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) under charity number SC015039. In the event of the winding up of the charitable company a member is liable to contribute a sum not exceeding £1. Details of the registered office and company registration number can be found on page 7 of these financial statements.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention unless otherwise specified within these accounting policies and in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland' ("FRS 102") (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)', the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Scottish Chamber Orchestra Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires directors to exercise their judgement in the process of applying the accounting policies. Use of available information and application of judgement are inherent in the formation of estimates. Actual outcomes in the future could differ from such estimates. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are disclosed in note 2.

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are noted below. These policies have been applied consistently to all the years presented in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charitable company's financial statements unless otherwise stated.

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the year ended 31 March 2025

1. Accounting policies - continued

Going concern

The directors are of the opinion that the charitable company can continue to meet its obligations as they fall due for the foreseeable future. The company is reliant on grants from the Scottish Government and the directors believe that adequate funding from this source combined with unrestricted and designated reserves can be factored into annual budgets to continue to operate. Therefore, the directors have prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis.

Recognition and allocation of income

Income is recognised when the company has legal entitlement to the funds, the receipt is probable and the amount can be measured reliably. Where practicable, income is related to the operating activities of the company.

Where there are performance conditions attached to any grants and donations, income is recognised when the conditions have been met or when meeting the conditions are within the company's control and there is sufficient evidence that they have been met or will be met. Where a grant condition allows for the recovery of any unexpended grant, a liability is recognised when repayment becomes probable.

Where there are terms placed on income that limit the company's discretion over how that income can be used, that income is shown as restricted income in the accounts.

Entitlement to legacy income exists when the company has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left, the executor is satisfied that the gift will not be required to satisfy claims on the estate and any conditions are within the control of the company or have been met. Where legacies have been notified to the company and the criteria for income recognition haven't been met, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material. Legacy income is measured at fair value, generally the cash amount receivable, and is discounted if deferred for more than 12 months. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as interest receivable.

Gift aid is treated as part of the related gift unless the donor or terms of appeal have specified otherwise and is credited when receivable.

Income received in advance of a performance is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met. Sponsorship income and dividend income are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when the right to receipt is established and is measured at fair value, generally the transaction value.

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the year ended 31 March 2025

1. Accounting policies - continued

Recognition and allocation of expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when the company has entered into a legal or constructive obligation and related where practicable to the operating activities of the company (e.g. Promotions, Engagements, Creative Learning). Where possible, expenditure is attributed directly to the function to which it relates. Where this is not possible it is allocated on the basis of staff time (where duties span more than one activity), or on a basis consistent with the use of the resources, for example in proportion to the direct expenditure incurred under each heading. The allocation of support costs is shown in Note 8.

Raising funds comprises those costs which are associated with the generation of income from sources other than from undertaking charitable activities and includes costs of attracting sponsorship and other private donations and trading costs.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the company in the delivery of its charitable activities and services.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the company and include costs linked to the strategic management of the company.

Funds

Unrestricted funds are income sources which are receivable for the objects of the company without further specified purposes and are available as general funds.

Designated funds are unrestricted income sources which have been earmarked for a specific future purpose.

Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of management and support costs.

Transfers from unrestricted funds are made to meet any shortfalls in restricted projects.

Fixed assets

Fixed Assets are stated at cost. Depreciation is provided on all fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Furniture and fittings	10%-25% straight line
Computer systems	20%-33%% straight line
Musical instruments	10%-20% straight line
Music	10% straight line
Motor vehicles	25% straight line

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the year ended 31 March 2025

1. Accounting policies - continued

Investments

Quoted investments are stated at fair value at the reporting date. The investment in the wholly owned subsidiary of the company is included in the financial statements at cost less impairment. Gains and losses arising on revaluation are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which they arise.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after due regard for obsolete and slow-moving stocks, in the ordinary course of business.

Debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for goods sold or services performed. Trade debtors are recognised at the undiscounted amount of cash receivable, which is normally invoice price, less any allowances for doubtful debts.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand and balances with banks which are readily convertible and are measured at fair value.

Creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired. They are recognised at the undiscounted amount owed to the supplier, which is normally the invoice price.

Financial assets and financial liabilities

Financial instruments are recognised in the statement of financial activities when the company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Financial instruments are initially measured at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction which includes transaction costs for financial instruments not subsequently measured at fair value. Subsequent to initial recognition, they are accounted for as set out below. A financing transaction is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at the market rate of interest for similar debt instrument.

Financial instruments are classified as either 'basic' or 'other' in accordance with Chapter 11 of FRS102.

At the end of each reporting period, basic financial instruments are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. All financial instruments not classified as basic are measured at fair value at the end of the reporting period with the resulting changes recognised in income or expenditure. Where the fair value cannot be reliably measured, they are recognised at cost less impairment.

Financial assets are derecognised when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the assets expire, or when the company has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership. Financial liabilities are derecognised only once the liability has been extinguished through discharge, cancellation or expiry.

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the year ended 31 March 2025

1. Accounting policies - continued

Leases and hire purchase contracts

Leases which transfer substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership to the charity are classed as finance leases. Assets held under finance leases are recognised as assets at the lower of the fair value of the asset at the date of acquisition and the present minimum lease payments. The related obligation to the lessor is included in the balance sheet as a finance lease obligation.

Finance costs, which represent the difference between the total leasing commitment and the fair value of the assets acquired, are charged to the statement of financial activities over the lease term at a constant rate.

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to expenditure on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Foreign currency translation

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction.

Pension commitments

The charity operates a personal pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. Contributions payable by the charity are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year to which they relate.

Orchestra tax credit

The orchestra tax credit is credited to the Statement of Financial Activities consistent with the principles of corporation tax, based on performances during the financial year which meet the criteria of the relief.

2. Critical judgements and estimates

In preparing the financial statements directors make estimates and assumptions which affect reported results, financial position and disclosure of contingencies. Use of available information and application of judgement are inherent in the formation of the estimates, together with past experience and expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results in the future could differ from such estimates.

The estimates and assumptions with a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are:

- Legacy income is measured at fair value, but where part of a legacy left to the company includes property or shares to be sold, judgement is used to estimate the amount receivable.

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the year ended 31 March 2025

3. Comparative Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Property Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total £
Income & endowments from:					
<i>Donations and legacies</i>					
grant income	2,042,000	-	82,380	302,462	2,426,842
sponsorship, donations, commissions and legacies	961,780	-	-	-	961,780
<i>Charitable activities</i>					
performance income	1,206,559	-	-	10,148	1,216,707
publications and other earned income	33,230	-	35,285	-	68,515
<i>Other trading activities</i>					
CD & merchandise income	6,855	-	-	-	6,855
<i>Investment income</i>	42,644	-	-	-	42,644
Total income	4,293,068	-	117,665	312,610	4,723,343
Expenditure on:					
<i>Raising funds</i>					
development & sponsorship	284,700	-	-	429	285,129
CD & merchandise costs	1,763	-	-	-	1,763
<i>Charitable activities</i>	4,514,311	-	404,410	440,409	5,359,130
Total expenditure	4,800,774	-	404,410	440,838	5,646,022
Net gains on investments	-	62,793	-	-	62,793
Net (expenditure)/income before transfers and orchestra tax credit	(507,706)	62,793	(286,745)	(128,228)	(859,886)
Orchestra tax credit	1,052,005	-	-	-	1,052,005
Net (expenditure)/income before transfers	544,299	62,793	(286,745)	(128,228)	192,119
Gross transfers between funds	(518,433)	150,000	368,433	-	-
Net movement in funds	25,866	212,793	81,688	(128,228)	192,119

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the year ended 31 March 2025

4. Income

	Note	Company	
		2025	2024
		£	£
Grant income			
Funding from public bodies	23	2,228,000	2,129,000
Project funding		235,530	297,842
		2,463,530	2,426,842
Sponsorship, donations, commissions and legacies			
Sponsorship and Corporate Partnerships		175,036	166,500
Trusts and Individuals		829,220	795,280
		1,004,256	961,780
Performance income	5	1,212,150	1,216,707
Publications & other earned income			
Programme & hire sales		31,657	33,230
Royalty income		11,082	35,285
		42,739	68,515
CD & merchandise income		3,205	6,855
Investment income		49,122	42,644
Total income		4,775,002	4,723,343

Included in the above is £14,556 (2024: £10,148) of restricted performance income. Also included is £325,770 (2024: £302,462) of restricted grant income from a range of Trusts and Foundations to support Creative Learning activity, and from the Scottish Government (as per note 23) towards capital expenditure and international touring. There were no unfulfilled performance-related conditions or contingencies attached to the Scottish Government grants. Unrestricted grants from the Scottish Government and City of Edinburgh Council are for the support of the general activities of the SCO.

5. Performance income

Performance income is earned from the company's principal activity of concert promotion. The analysis of performance income by geographical area is as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
United Kingdom	970,511	1,067,102
European Community	241,639	149,605
Total	1,212,150	1,216,707

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the year ended 31 March 2025

6. Analysis of costs of raising funds

		CD & Merchandise Costs £	Development & Sponsorship £	Total 2025 £
Direct costs		1,478	278,279	279,757
Support costs	Note 8	-	4,932	4,932
Governance costs	Note 9	-	1,176	1,176
Total		1,478	284,387	285,865

Analysis of costs of raising funds – (Comparative)

		CD & Merchandise Costs £	Development & Sponsorship £	Total 2024 £
Direct costs		1,763	275,590	277,353
Support costs	Note 8	-	7,993	7,993
Governance costs	Note 9	-	1,546	1,546
Total		1,763	285,129	286,892

7. Analysis of costs of charitable activities

		Promotions £	Engagements & Media £	Creative Learning £	Total 2025 £
Concert & event costs		2,727,581	566,742	338,381	3,632,704
Staff costs		497,854	213,883	222,364	934,101
Direct overheads		463,526	146,208	34,028	643,762
Support costs	8	291,237	46,417	24,097	361,751
Governance costs	9	69,462	11,071	5,747	86,280
Total		4,049,660	984,321	624,617	5,658,598

Direct Overheads include audition, transport & external player costs; SCO Chorus; music & instrument hire; composer commissions, box-office commissions, marketing & promotional activity

Analysis of costs of charitable activities (Comparative)

		Promotions £	Engagements & Media £	Creative Learning £	Total 2024 £
Concert & event costs		2,565,341	610,044	280,632	3,456,017
Staff costs		458,135	201,144	226,759	886,038
Direct overheads		431,337	115,287	24,455	571,079
Support costs	8	299,569	64,457	9,679	373,705
Governance costs	9	57,950	12,469	1,872	72,291
Total		3,812,332	1,003,401	543,397	5,359,130

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the year ended 31 March 2025

8. Analysis of support costs

	Raising funds £	Promotions £	Engagements & Media £	Creative Learning £	Total 2025 £
General Administration	2,375	140,242	22,351	11,604	176,572
Property and Utilities	2,402	141,826	22,604	11,735	178,567
Restricted fund fixed asset depreciation	155	9,169	1,462	758	11,544
Total	4,932	291,237	46,417	24,097	366,683

General Administration includes: facility management, office leases, communications, IT, health & safety, insurance and compliance costs.

Analysis of support costs (Comparative)

	Raising funds £	Promotions £	Engagements & Media £	Creative Learning £	Total 2024 £
General Administration	4,501	168,694	36,297	5,450	214,942
Property and Utilities	3,063	114,785	24,698	3,709	146,255
Restricted fund fixed asset depreciation	429	16,090	3,462	520	20,501
Total	7,993	299,569	64,457	9,679	381,698

9. Analysis of governance costs

	Raising funds £	Promotions £	Engagements & Media £	Creative Learning £	Total 2025 £
Audit and Legal	823	48,601	7,746	4,021	61,191
Staff Time & Meetings	353	20,861	3,325	1,726	26,265
Total	1,176	69,462	11,071	5,747	87,456

Analysis of governance costs (Comparative)

	Raising funds £	Promotions £	Engagements & Media £	Creative Learning £	Total 2024 £
Audit and Legal	1,015	38,036	8,184	1,229	48,464
Staff Time & Meetings	531	19,914	4,285	643	25,373
Total	1,546	57,950	12,469	1,872	73,837

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the year ended 31 March 2025

10. Net (expenditure) / income

This is stated after charging / (crediting):	2025 £	2024 £
Hire of equipment	956	1,315
Rent	105,364	101,478
Auditor's remuneration	22,000	20,960
Auditor's remuneration - non audit services	9,220	6,889
Depreciation	29,234	34,862
Gain on disposal of fixed assets	-	(9,764)

11. Staff numbers and costs

The average monthly number of employees of the company during the year was as follows:	2025 Number	2024 Number
Office and management	27	27

The aggregate remuneration and associated costs of the company's employees were:	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	976,110	917,185
Employer's NI contributions	90,247	89,348
Employer's pension contributions	102,032	92,095
	1,168,389	1,098,628

The number of employees whose remuneration (excluding employer pension contributions) exceeded £60,000 in the year, was	2025 Number	2024 Number
in the band £60,001-£70,000	1	2
in the band £70,001-£80,000	1	-
in the band £100,001-£110,000	-	1
in the band £110,001-£120,000	1	-

The key management personnel of the company is comprised of six employees: Chief Executive, Concerts Director, Creative Learning Director, Director of Development, Marketing & Communications Director, Finance & Administration Director. The cost to the company of salaries, benefits in kind, pension contributions and employer's national insurance contributions for key management was £503,060 (2024: £485,221).

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements – continued

For the year ended 31 March 2025

12. Tangible assets -	Furniture & Fittings	Computer Systems	Musical Instruments	Music	Motor Vehicles	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£	£	£
At 1 April 2024	34,565	138,006	270,207	91,605	169,621	704,004
Additions	-	3,414	-	1,007	-	4,421
Disposals	-	(24,532)	-	-	-	(24,532)
At 31 March 2025	34,565	116,888	270,207	92,612	169,621	683,893
Depreciation						
At 1 April 2024	33,789	120,636	250,917	91,413	117,862	614,617
Provided for year	245	7,950	3,593	147	17,299	29,234
Disposals	-	(24,532)	-	-	-	(24,532)
At 31 March 2025	34,034	104,054	254,510	91,560	135,161	619,319
Net book value						
At 31 March 2025	531	12,834	15,697	1,052	34,460	64,574
At 31 March 2024	776	17,370	19,290	192	51,759	89,387

13. Investments

	2025 £	2024 £
Quoted investments	908,264	913,387
Cash	3,781	20,883
Investment in subsidiary company	100	100
	912,145	934,370

The investment in the subsidiary represents 100% of the issued share capital of SCO Trading Limited. The company is dormant and registered in Scotland (no. SC126870), the registered address is 4 Royal Terrace, Edinburgh, Midlothian, EH7 5AB.

The net assets of SCO Trading at 31 March 2025 are £100 (2024: £100), which comprise current assets of £100 (2024: £100) less current liabilities of £nil (2024: £nil). Relevant financial information regarding SCO Trading Limited for the year ended 31 March 2025 is as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Turnover	-	-
Gross profit	-	-
Administration expenses	-	-
Operating profit	-	-
Profit before tax	-	-
Tax	-	-
Net profit	-	-

Gift aid of £nil was paid to the parent charity during the year (2024: £721).

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the year ended 31 March 2025

13. Investments (continued)

Quoted investments

	2025	2024
	£	£
Fair value at 1 April	913,387	758,337
Less: disposals at cost (proceeds £213,839, gain £35,906)	(177,933)	(78,141)
Add: acquisitions at cost	225,060	194,897
Net movements on revaluation at 31 March	(52,250)	38,294
Fair value at 31 March	908,264	913,387
	2025	2024
	£	£
Historical cost at 31 March	690,695	648,808

The total portfolio is analysed as follows:	UK	Non-UK	Total
	£	£	£
Investments listed on a recognised stock exchange	338,788	569,476	908,264
Cash	3,781	-	3,781
Total	342,569	569,476	912,045

The investments are managed by Adam and Company Investment Management. The holdings comprising in excess of 5% of the total market value of the investments at 31 March 2025 were:

	Market Value	
	£	
Findlay Park American ICAV USD	8.23%	75,067
JP Morgan ICVC JPM US Equity Inc	5.22%	47,580

14. Stocks

	2025	2024
	£	£
Compact discs and other related merchandise	6,169	7,218

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the year ended 31 March 2025

15. Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	36,000	17,937
Prepayments and accrued income	2,418,834	1,261,590
Other debtors	77,450	46,659
	2,532,284	1,326,186

16. Creditors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	354,409	184,202
Social security and other taxes	52,629	74,871
Other creditors	78,421	84,162
Accruals and deferred income	669,837	738,850
	1,155,296	1,082,085

Included within the balance of accruals and deferred income are donations which contain terms and conditions that must be met before the charity is entitled to the resources. Advance ticket sales are also deferred. The movement in deferred income was as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Advance funding & ticket sales b/fwd	579,839	184,400
Advance funding & ticket sales released in year	(497,178)	(335,429)
Advance funding & ticket sales received in year	369,725	730,868
As at 31 March	452,386	579,839

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the year ended 31 March 2025

17. Statement of Funds

	At 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Investment Losses £	Orchestra Tax Relief £	Transfers In / (Out) £	At 31 March 2025 £
Unrestricted Funds							
Revenue Reserve	180,409	4,388,834	(5,567,238)	-	1,094,309	36,906	133,220
General Reserve	230,777	-	-	-	-	-	230,777
Total Unrestricted	411,186	4,388,834	(5,567,238)	-	1,094,309	36,906	363,997
Designated Funds							
Property Fund	683,110	-	-	(22,224)	-	-	660,886
<i>Other Designated Funds</i>							
Recordings	274,994	11,082	-	-	-	-	286,076
Business Recovery	216,906	-	-	-	-	(216,906)	-
International Touring	244,105	-	(12,551)	-	-	-	231,554
American Development	171,773	34,760	(10,000)	-	-	-	196,533
CPD / Healthy Orchestra	94,346	-	(1,728)	-	-	-	92,618
Projects & Commissioning	203,067	-	(19,320)	-	-	180,000	363,747
Digital Projects	344,808	-	(44,208)	-	-	-	300,600
Total Other Designated	1,549,999	45,842	(87,807)	-	-	(36,906)	1,471,128
Restricted Funds							
Creative Learning	-	120,750	(120,750)	-	-	-	-
SCO Productions	28,777	219,576	(157,124)	-	-	-	91,229
SCO Hall Development	83,291	-	-	-	-	-	83,291
SCO Fixed Assets	153,998	-	(11,544)	-	-	-	142,454
Total Restricted	266,066	340,326	(289,418)	-	-	-	316,974
Total Funds	2,910,361	4,775,002	(5,944,463)	(22,224)	1,094,309	-	2,812,985

Unrestricted Funds are funds that are available for the company to use toward any purpose.

Revenue Reserve: set aside to offset adverse variances arising from normal operations and to provide some flexibility for Trustees to consider in-year changes to planned activity.

General Reserve: as suggested by the name, general reserves are not kept aside for any particular purpose other than the general financial strengthening of the company in line with the agreed Reserves Policy.

Designated Funds are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the company for a specific purpose.

Property Fund: arising from the sale of a previously owned property and to support lease commitments regarding repairs and maintenance of the administration office.

Recordings: to support plans to record further CDs for commercial release.

Business Recovery: to support transition and recovery following COVID-19.

International Touring: to support planned tours to Europe and other international engagements.

American Development: to underpin USA-related activity and/or touring in future seasons.

CPD / Healthy Orchestra: to support health initiatives for Performing Members, and matched funding towards continuing professional development (CPD) activities which will enhance the work of musicians with the SCO.

Projects & Commissioning: for commissioning and/or special projects through & beyond SCO's 50th anniversary season.

Digital Projects: to support ongoing digital infrastructure, projects and activity.

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the year ended 31 March 2025

17. Statement of Funds (continued)

Restricted Funds are reserves where the use to which the income can be put is specified by the grantor or donor. In all cases, the uses to which the income can be put must be within the Objects of the company.

Creative Learning Fund: to support education and community engagement activity.

SCO Productions Fund: to support specific SCO Productions and activity, e.g. additional SCO Chorus activity

SCO Hall Development Fund: SCO projects and planning for a proposed move to the Dunard Centre a new all-purpose performance venue in Edinburgh.

SCO Fixed Assets Fund: a balance of grants relating to capital expenditure offset by ongoing depreciation of the restricted asset purchases.

Statement of Funds (Comparative)

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Investment Gains £	Orchestra Tax Relief £	Transfers In / (Out) £	At 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted Funds							
Revenue Reserve	154,543	4,293,068	(4,800,774)	-	1,052,005	(518,433)	180,409
General Reserve	230,777	-	-	-	-	-	230,777
Total Unrestricted	385,320	4,293,068	(4,800,774)	-	1,052,005	(518,433)	411,186
Designated Funds							
Property Fund	470,317	-	-	62,793	-	150,000	683,110
<i>Other Designated Funds</i>							
Recordings	217,167	35,285	(45,891)	-	-	68,433	274,994
Business Recovery	316,906	-	-	-	-	(100,000)	216,906
International Touring	175,288	32,000	(13,183)	-	-	50,000	244,105
American Development	81,393	50,380	(10,000)	-	-	50,000	171,773
CPD / Healthy Orchestra	96,582	-	(2,236)	-	-	-	94,346
50 th Anniversary	285,000	-	(281,933)	-	-	200,000	203,067
Digital Projects	295,975	-	(51,167)	-	-	100,000	344,808
Total Other Designated	1,468,311	117,665	(404,410)	-	-	368,433	1,549,999
Restricted Funds							
Creative Learning	-	212,462	(212,462)	-	-	-	-
SCO Productions	136,504	100,148	(207,875)	-	-	-	28,777
SCO Hall Development	83,291	-	-	-	-	-	83,291
SCO Fixed Assets	174,499	-	(20,501)	-	-	-	153,998
Total Restricted	394,294	312,610	(440,838)	-	-	-	266,066
Total Funds	2,718,242	4,723,343	(5,646,022)	62,793	1,052,005	-	2,910,361

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the year ended 31 March 2025

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Fixed Assets	Other Net Assets	Total 2025
	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	834,265	(470,268)	363,997
Designated Property Fund	-	660,886	660,886
Other Designated Funds	-	1,471,128	1,471,128
Restricted Funds	142,454	174,520	316,974
Total	976,719	1,836,266	2,812,985

**Analysis of net assets between funds
(Comparative)**

	Fixed Assets	Other Net Assets	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	869,759	(458,573)	411,186
Designated Property Fund	-	683,110	683,110
Other Designated Funds	-	1,549,999	1,549,999
Restricted Funds	153,998	112,068	266,066
Total	1,023,757	1,886,604	2,910,361

19. Constitution

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. Each member of the company has undertaken to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the deficit arising in the event of the SCO being placed in liquidation. As at the conclusion of the last annual general meeting, there were 58 members (31 performing and 27 lay).

20. Taxation

There is no liability for tax as the holding company is accepted for charitable status in Scotland by HM Revenue & Customs.

21. Capital commitments

At 31 March 2025, capital expenditure to the value of £nil was committed but not provided for in the financial statements (2024 - £nil).

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA LIMITED

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

For the year ended 31 March 2025

22. Operating lease commitments

At 31 March 2025, the company had total future commitments under non-cancellable operating leases payable as follows:-

	2025	2024
	£	£
Lease of premises		
Within one year	142,295	118,978
Within two to five years	35,000	52,500
Office equipment		
Within one year	956	956
Within two to five years	2,868	3,824

23. Funding from public bodies

The Scottish Chamber Orchestra receives financial support from the Scottish Government and Local Authorities throughout Scotland through revenue funding. The principal grants received during the year were as follows:-

	2025	2024
	£	£
Scottish Government		
Core Revenue	2,053,000	1,992,000
International Touring Fund	125,000	47,000
Other Project Funding	-	40,000
Total Scottish Government	2,178,000	2,079,000
The City of Edinburgh Council	50,000	50,000
Total other public bodies	50,000	50,000
Total funding from public bodies	2,228,000	2,129,000

24. Related Party Transactions

No director receives any remuneration or expenses as a result of their office as a director. The City of Edinburgh Council, Glasgow City Council and Fife Council have nominated representatives who were appointed directors of the company. City of Edinburgh Council awards an annual core grant to the company (Note 23). During the year the aggregate amount of donations received from directors was £39,600 (2024: £50,224).