

Dumfries and Galloway Chamber of the Arts
Scottish Charity Number SC044658
Trustees' Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2019

Current Trustees

Carolyn Yates (appointed 11 th July 2016)	Karen Ward Boyd (appointed 8 th August 2016)
Anne Barclay (appointed 15 th July 2015)	Cathy Agnew (appointed 8 th August 2016)
Davie McMillan (appointed 4 th April 2016)	Stephen Lacey (appointed 4 th April 2016)
Katharine Wheeler (appointed 20 th December 2017)	

Other Trustees

David Smith (resigned 16th April 2019)

Contact Address

C/o Dumfries & Galloway Council Offices, Municipal Chambers, Buccleuch Street, Dumfries, DG1 2AD.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

All of the Chamber's trustees are appointed or re-appointed by the trustees at the annual general meeting each year.

Governing Document

The Chamber is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) and the purposes and administration arrangements are set out in the constitution. The SCIO was incorporated on 13th February 2014 and prior to this the Chamber operated as an unincorporated association, known as the Dumfries and Galloway Arts Partnership.

Charitable Purposes

The Chamber's purposes are the advancement of the arts, heritage and culture in Dumfries and Galloway and elsewhere and principally for the benefit of the people of Dumfries and Galloway. And in furtherance thereof:-

1. advance the arts, heritage and culture in Dumfries and Galloway for the benefit of the people of the region,
2. provide expert advice to Dumfries and Galloway Council and others on policy, programmes and projects relating to the arts, heritage and culture; and
3. encourage greater involvement in the arts, heritage and culture by the provision of support to practitioners, participants and local organisations.

DGU (or DGUnlimited) is the day-to-day operating name of the Dumfries and Galloway Chamber of the Arts. It is a membership organisation that works with, and provides a voice for, Dumfries and Galloway's creative sector. DGU champions and advocates the vital role creative practitioners and organisations play in contributing to the wellbeing of our communities and economy.

Activities and Achievements

The 2018/19 financial year saw DG Unlimited (DGU) continue to support and represent the collective strengths of Dumfries and Galloway's creative sector. DGU's independence and neutrality within the region's creative sector enables us to work with individual practitioners and the region's arts organisations to define sector needs, broker partnerships, meet specific community and artistic needs, and exploit areas of mutual interest for public benefit and the creative sector itself.

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Membership of DGU has grown by 13% in the last 12 months up from 368 to 415. Membership is free and open to anyone with an interest in the arts.

This year DGU conducted its inaugural Annual Members Survey with 22% of members completing the online Survey Monkey form. Feedback from members was encouraging and the Charity will take into account what members have said is important to them particularly around three key areas in 2018/19 – 1) Improved communication; 2) More networking opportunities; 3) Increased access to skills development.

DGU's core work is driven by the strategic aims set out within Distil the charity's strategic plan (2017-21). The charity continued to maintain a low level of operational costs through its team of four freelance commissions who operate flexibly across the region providing advice, guidance and support to individuals and organisations. The commissions are issued through an open tendering process currently operated by Dumfries and Galloway Council and consist of an Arts Development Director, Administration and Communications Co-ordinator, and two regional Development Officers.

From 2018/19 Dumfries and Galloway Council cut its Strategic Arts budget by £25,000 from £149,588 to £124,588 per annum. For this year the charity was able absorb the majority of this cut through a reduced grant from the Council without a significant impact on its services due to monies brought forward from 2017/18. Regretfully this means the charity will have to reduce the number of its freelance commissions from four to three in 2019/20.

DGU supported and provided advice to Dumfries and Galloway Council in the distribution of £70,000 to the creative sector through the Regional Arts Fund 6. 19 applications were received with 14 projects funded – a 74% success rate. The total request for funding was £108,000. The total amount of additional partnership funding levered by the awarded projects was £388,540, which means for every £1 of Council funding an additional £6.55 was brought into the region from other sources. The fund continues to demonstrate its important contribution to the region's economy, the creative industries workforce and public benefit through a wide range of high quality activities and events.

The charity administered two funds: Get Involved, Get Inspired which supports projects that benefit people in their communities; and Innovate, Create, Cultivate which supports creative practitioners professional development. A total of 33 applications were received with 24 being successfully awarded a total of £14,291 for projects taking place across Dumfries and Galloway. The combined total additional partnership funding levered was £17,885 meaning that for every £1 of DGU funding an additional £1.25 was secured from other sources.

DGU worked again this year with Dumfries and Galloway Council, Live Borders and Upland in partnership with Creative Scotland in the delivery of a combined Visual Artist and Craft Maker Awards Scheme 2019-2020 for individual artists and makers living and working in the Scottish Borders or Dumfries and Galloway.

The charity's biennial conference brought together creative practitioners and organisations from across Scotland to share stories of their 'Creative Routes' and top tips of how to carve out a career in the arts and creative industries. Practitioners from 17 to 70 years old shared anecdotes about juggling multiple jobs, re-training, spotting a gap in the market, as well as their hopes for the arts in Dumfries and Galloway.

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To mark the Scottish Government's themed Year of Young People the Youth Arts Framework commissioned by DGU was launched at the Creative Routes conference. Abby Gray aged 17 from Kirkcowan and a member of the National Youth Arts Advisory Group made an impassioned 'Call To Action' for the region's creatives to pledge their support for the framework.

A Civic Reception for the conference was held at Moat Brae the evening before the conference. A welcome speech by the Leader of Dumfries and Galloway Council Elaine Murray was followed by a performance of 'Barrie's Legacy' by the Advanced Higher & Higher Drama Class from Dumfries Academy.

The regular drop-in service called 'Connecting with You' continues to be popular, with members and non-members seeking advice and guidance to help with their professional development; as is Connected our twice a month e-bulletin which shares the latest news and opportunities in the creative sector regionally and nationally.

DGU was invited to make a presentation at the Creative Aberdeenshire Network to share learning from Dumfries and Galloway's place partnership to help inform the network's plans for the development of their own Creative Scotland funded place partnership programme.

The Charity sponsored the Cultural Champion of the Year category at the D&G Life Awards.

DGU hosted an open consultation event to discuss the Scottish Government's Draft Cultural Strategy for Scotland, the event was facilitated by Jim Tough, former CEO of the Scottish Arts Council. The charity submitted a letter to the First Minister and the Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs on behalf of the consultation group outlining some general thoughts on the draft strategy which was accompanied by a full report on the day's discussions.

DGU accepted an invitation to join Dumfries and Galloway Council's Cultural Strategy Working Group which was established to drive forward and coordinate the work of developing a strategy for the region.

DGU held consultation meetings with the pARTners Group and Dumfries and Galloway's Creative Industries Working Group on the consultation document for the establishment of a new Enterprise Agency for the South of Scotland and submitted two reports to the interim South of Scotland Enterprise Partnership.

Future plans

Over the next 12 months the Charity plans to deliver a range of new activities including:

Creative Scotland Open Project Fund – submit an application for Creatives Unlimited, a two-year project that aims to enhance the sustainability and resilience of the region's creative professional practitioners and arts organisations. The project will consist of a year-round region-wide programme of support, training, mentoring, guidance, artists' resources and networking events.

South of Scotland Enterprise Partnership – contribute to the Partnership's consultation process in developing a South of Scotland Enterprise Agency and be an active member of the advisory Cultural and Creative Industries Theme Group.

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Dumfries and Galloway Council's Cultural Strategy – continue to contribute to the work of the Council's Cultural Strategy Working Group including the engagement process and drafting of the strategy and action plan documents.

Youth Arts Framework Advocate - working with the pARTners group, which is made up of representatives from the region's creative organisations, commission a young person to take forward some of the key areas detailed in its Youth Arts Framework.

pARTners Group – establish a Terms of Reference for the group and widen its membership.

ESSAM 2019 – Participate in the 32nd European Summer School for Advanced Management (ESSAM) seeking support from MBA participants on a consultancy project exploring the development of a creative leadership programme for Dumfries and Galloway.

Trustees' Remuneration and Expenses

None of the trustees received remuneration for their services or were reimbursed for any expenditure during the year, except for the following trustees who reclaimed travel, telephone and hospitality costs:-

David McMillan - £496.00

Anne Barclay - £264.00

Cathy Agnew - £780.00

Reserves

At the year end, the Chamber had restricted funds of £2,972 and unrestricted funds of £5,645.

The accounts for the year are attached and form part of this report.

This report was approved by the trustees on 5th November 2019 and signed on their behalf by:

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Catherine Agnew
Chairman

Dumfries and Galloway Chamber of the Arts
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Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31st March 2019

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
<u>Receipts</u>				
D&G Council: ICC: GIGI	585	-	585	-
Young Peoples Project	-	-	-	8,000
Creative Scotland	154	-	154	1,500
Dumfries & Galloway Council	70,223	-	70,223	62,500
	<u>70,962</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>70,962</u>	<u>72,000</u>
Total Receipts	70,962	-	70,962	72,000
<u>Payments</u>				
Charitable Activities:				
Administration and Communications Co-ordinator	11,232	-	11,232	14,512
DO (East)	9,042	-	9,042	-
DO (West)	9,052	-	9,052	-
Arts Development Director	23,100	-	23,100	21,825
GIGI fund payments	5,369	-	5,369	5,365
ICC fund payments	8,742	-	8,742	7,423
	<u>66,537</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>66,537</u>	<u>49,125</u>
Governance Costs:				
Conference	6,358	-	6,358	-
Communications	1,192	-	1,192	3,872
Travel	1,754	-	1,754	2,852
Venue Hire & Subsistence	855	-	855	670
Office costs	88	-	88	67
Independent Examiners Fee	390	-	390	-
Telephone	-	-	-	108
Insurance	226	-	226	-
Training	180	-	180	-
Miscellaneous Expenses	2,600	-	2,600	5,716
	<u>13,643</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,643</u>	<u>13,285</u>
Total Payments	<u>80,180</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>80,180</u>	<u>62,410</u>
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year	<u>(9,218)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(9,218)</u>	<u>9,590</u>

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Statement of Balances as at 31st March 2019

	2019	2018
	£	£
<u>Bank and Cash in Hand</u>		
Opening Balances	17,835	8,245
Surplus for the year	<u>(9,218)</u>	<u>9,590</u>
Closing Balances	<u><u>8,617</u></u>	<u><u>17,835</u></u>
<u>Reserves</u>		
Restricted Funds	2,972	2,972
General Unrestricted Fund	<u>5,645</u>	<u>14,863</u>
Total Funds	<u><u>8,617</u></u>	<u><u>17,835</u></u>

The Trust has no other investments, assets or material liabilities.

The balance on restricted funds consists of the unspent portion of grants received from Dumfries & Galloway Council for the following commissions:-

- Regional Arts Hub Convenor
- Communications Structure and Strategy
- Annual Conference for the Arts

Approved by the trustees on 5th November 2019 and signed on their behalf by:

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Catherine Agnew
Chairman

Dumfries and Galloway Chamber of the Arts
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

I report on the unaudited accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2019 set out on pages 5 to 6.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and the Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of The Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under Section 44(1)(c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements;
 - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 accounts Regulations; and
 - (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations.have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mrs G Gray, BAcc CA
Carson & Trotter
Chartered Accountants
123 Irish Street
Dumfries
DG1 2PE

13th November 2019