

PERFORMANCE COLLECTIVE STRANRAER

Annual Report & Financial Statements

For the Year Ended

31 March 2025

ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

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TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees are pleased to present their report together with the financial statements and the independent examiner's report for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Reference & Administrative Information

Charity Name

Performance Collective Stranraer

Charity is Known As

PCS

Charity No

SC049147

Address

[REDACTED]

Current Trustees

[REDACTED]

Other trustees who served throughout the year

[REDACTED]

Structure Governance & Management

Constitution

The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (a SCIO). It was registered in its current legal form on 20 March 2019 and was last updated on 31st October 2025.

Appointment of Trustees

The individuals present at the time of the charity's incorporation and who signed the declaration forms shall be deemed to have been appointed by the members as charity trustees with effect from the date of incorporation of the organisation.

Anyone who is a member of the charity will be eligible to be elected/appointed as a charity trustee. Elections shall take place at each AGM of the charity but trustees can appoint members onto the board at any time throughout the year.

At each AGM, all of the charity trustees elected/appointed shall retire from office – but shall then be eligible for re-election.

Objectives & Activities

Charitable purposes

Performance Collective Stranraer (PCS) exists to promote and advance the arts, heritage and culture in Dumfries and Galloway, with a particular focus on theatre and performance-making.

The charity works with professional theatre-makers, artists and creatives across Scotland, while actively promoting equal access to the performing arts in rural and geographically isolated communities. PCS is committed to widening participation in theatre-making by creating opportunities for people who do not easily access drama workshops, professional training or live performance.

Who We Are

Performance Collective Stranraer is a development organisation established to nurture, promote and sustain theatre artists from rural South West Scotland, primarily Dumfries and Galloway.

Founded in 2017, PCS was created in response to the lack of professional arts training and progression routes available locally. Our work bridges the gap between youth theatre and the professional performance industry, supporting artists to transform creative interests into viable and sustainable career pathways.

PCS primarily supports young people and early-career artists aged 16–30, offering a structured yet flexible programme of creative development rooted in ensemble practice, professional skills-building and strong pastoral support.

What We Do

PCS delivers a year-round programme designed to support artists at multiple stages of development. Our core activity strands include:

- **Residential Artistic Development Labs** – intensive, ensemble-based creative opportunities.
- **Mentoring** – bespoke one-to-one professional support
- **Workshops & Masterclasses** – creative, technical and wellbeing-focused
- **“Go See” Opportunities** – shared engagement with high-quality live performance
- **Making and Touring Work** – training and paid professional performance opportunities
- **Creative Wellbeing Support** – embedding reflection, care and peer support

Together, these strands aim to support sustainable creative lives — not just individual projects.

Artistic Vision & Values

PCS believes confidence in artistic practice stems from confidence in self, and from understanding one’s place within a wider creative and social context.

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Our work is:

- Ensemble-led
- Artist-centred
- Inclusive and non-judgemental
- Rooted in rural experience
- Responsive to members' needs
- Founded on skills development

We prioritise process as well as product, valuing experimentation, failure, reflection and collective learning as essential to artistic growth.

Governance

PCS is led by:

- **Commission Freelance Artistic Director:** Sarah Rose Graber
- **Chairperson of the Board of Trusees:** Carolyn Yates

The organisation operates with a small core team of freelance artists, supported by a voluntary Board of Trustees. PCS works on a project-funded model, initiating activity only when funding is secured and adapting programme scale in response to capacity and resources.

PCS welcomed a new young intern **Aisling Anderson** as our freelance Creative Producer during the year, strengthening production capacity, organisational resilience and support for young artists across the programme.

PCS maintains strong internal communication through monthly newsletters and online networks. We are pleased to confirm that **Luke Welsh will continue in the role of Members' Newsletter Editor**, supporting connection, visibility and community across our dispersed rural membership.

Positioning & Strategic Direction

PCS continues to position itself as a region-wide development organisation, supporting young theatre and performance makers across Dumfries and Galloway, and increasingly nationally, rather than a single locality.

The organisation is working towards:

- Larger-scale, longer-term creative development projects
- A touring, multidisciplinary performance work in future years
- Increased regional visibility and recognition
- More sustainable staffing and leadership capacity
- National reach

This strategic direction underpins the activity described in this report and informs PCS's ongoing funding and partnership development.

PCS Activity: What We Delivered for Members

Creative & Professional Development

Online Dramaturgy Workshop (May 2024)

PCS hosted an online dramaturgy workshop exploring how clear dramaturgical questions — when, how and why — can deepen storytelling and strengthen performance development. Participants reported feeling inspired, challenged and equipped with practical tools to apply to their own work.

The PCS Wellness Project

In 2024, PCS launched the PCS Wellness Project — a series of free wellbeing workshops designed specifically for artists.

Responding to the realities of creative work, including precarious employment, rejection and burnout, sessions combined yoga, therapeutic theatre and reflective creative practice. The final workshop, held at the Crannog Centre in Castle Douglas, offered a full day of embodied and creative activity, shared food and informal connection.

Due to funding limitations, this marked the conclusion of the Wellness Project for the time being, though PCS intends to revisit this strand in future years.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe Experience (August 2024)

With support from Youth Theatre Arts Scotland, PCS members attended a curated day at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, experiencing a range of solo, immersive and ensemble-based performance. The visit offered shared critical reflection and reference points for members' own practice.

Ensemble Labs & Residential Development

PCS continued to deliver its core ensemble development model through labs and intensives combining warm-ups, skills-based workshops, creative exploration and informal sharing's'.

The 9th Residential Development Lab (January 2025) marked a significant milestone:

- First PCS lab hosted at the Studio Theatre in Moffat
- Four days of ensemble practice and storytelling

When the Artistic Director was unexpectedly hospitalised shortly before the lab due to pregnancy complications, the programme continued thanks to the leadership of two highly experienced theatre practitioners:

- [REDACTED], a performer, director and theatre-maker working across stage, screen, street and site-specific performance, known for bold physical storytelling and ensemble practice.
- [REDACTED], a theatre artist, writer, director and performer whose work spans physical theatre, clown, cabaret and devised ensemble performance.

Their involvement ensured participants received high-quality professional development, reinforcing the value of PCS's national creative networks. The Artistic Director later gave birth safely and has since returned to work.

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

PCS Activity: What We Delivered for Members cont.

Bippity (Street Theatre Ensemble)

Bippity remains PCS's primary earned-income activity. Between March and May 2025, the ensemble employed existing members, trained new participants and provided paid professional performance experience that can contribute towards Equity membership.

Performances took place across Castle Douglas, Dumfries and Crawick Multiverse, with audiences responding enthusiastically to the work's playful, accessible and visually striking approach.

Mentoring Programme

PCS continued its bespoke one-to-one mentoring programme, supporting members transitioning from youth arts into professional practice. Support included funding applications, career planning, skills development and confidence-building. Mentoring remains central to PCS's mission and impact.

Community & Celebration

In December 2024, PCS hosted its annual online Christmas Extravaganza, prioritising accessibility and connection. Members came together for games, music and conversation, with surprise postal gifts sent to ensemble members.

Organisational Challenges

The year presented challenges including:

- Funding limitations affecting continuation of wellbeing provision
- Capacity pressures during staff periods of transition and leave

Despite this, PCS successfully delivered its core programme, maintained strong ensemble engagement and continued to support artists' development across the region.

Members' Achievements & Outcomes

Solo Theatre Development

One member made significant progress developing a one-person show exploring hillwalking, work-related stress and solitude. Supported by professional rehearsal space and national funding, the work demonstrates successful progression in independent practice alongside professional acting employment.

Outdoor Ensemble Theatre

Working together, PCS members formed a new outdoor performance company and premiered their first large-scale show at Crawick Multiverse, marking a key step in collective devising, touring ambition and professional collaboration.

Playwriting & Story Worlds

One member developed a new full-length play while expanding the same creative world through a publicly shared short story, narrated by another PCS member. The work reflects sustained creative development and peer collaboration.

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

PCS Activity: What We Delivered for Members cont.

Members' Achievements & Outcomes

Immersive Performance Practice

One member performed across eight days in a large-scale immersive production, contributing to an event that sold over 600 tickets and offering intensive professional performance experience.

Music & Live Performance

One member had an exceptional year of live performance, appearing at major festivals and venues across Scotland with a five-piece band, demonstrating strong professional momentum and audience reach.

Creative Writing & Facilitation

One newer member delivered a creative writing workshop at a historic arts venue and published a widely read reflective essay online, extending their practice beyond performance into facilitation and cultural commentary.

Comedy & Sector Engagement

One member continued developing stand-up material through regular live performance while supporting the wider arts ecology through Front of House work at a major regional festival.

Producing & Youth Music

Alongside organisational work, one member maintained an active music practice and co-delivered an innovative youth music programme, offering young people insight into professional creative careers.

Dance & Community Practice

One member continued delivering relaxed, accessible monthly dance workshops for participants aged eight and over, extending PCS values into community engagement.

Alumni Outcomes

Former PCS members continued to progress professionally, including performance at spoken word and literary events, and receipt of a highly competitive regional development award supporting work on a new musical adaptation of a Scottish literary classic.

Case studies reflect publicly shared professional activity and are anonymised for reporting purposes.

Looking to the Future

It is the intention of the board to change the name of Performance Collective Stranraer SCIO to **Performance Collective Stranraer SCIO**, marking a new chapter in the company's growth as it extends its work across the country.

Since its foundation, the organisation has supported young people, artists, and theatre makers in Dumfries & Galloway, creating original performances and opening access up to the arts in rural communities. Over time, its work has expanded, connecting theatre makers and audiences from across Scotland.

The new name and updated charitable purposes, will be approved by the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR), to reflect this broader remit.

Financial Review

Total Income for the year was £35,554 (2024: £62,060) and expenditure for the year was £29,784 (2024: £37,846), resulting in a surplus for the year of £5,770 (2024: 24,214).

Total unrestricted income for the year was £1,037 (2024: £41,615) and expenditure for the year was £4,655 (2024: £12,496), resulting in a deficit for the year of £3,618 (2024: 29,119).

Reserves Policy

The Board recognise that they do not have an operating reserves policy. However, the charity operates on a project-to-project basis and only initiate new projects once the full funding requirements are secured.

Approved by the trustees on 29 December 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Performance Collective Stranraer

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 11 to 14.

Respective Responsibility of Trustees and 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) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The Charity Trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (a) to (c) 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 Statement

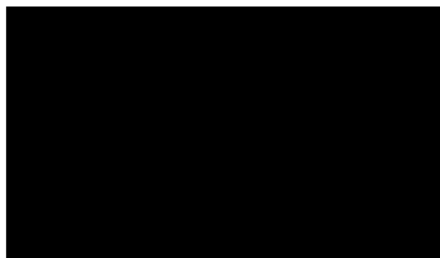
My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual 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 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:-
to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
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.



LM Bookkeeping Services
c/o 8 Kings Road
Whithorn
DG8 8PP

29 December 2025

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Receipts	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025	2024
Grants	4	-	34,517	34,517	55,445
CDDF Bippity Show Contributions		1,037	-	1,037	500
Barfil Trust Donation		-	-	-	4,500
Other – Trustee Loan		-	-	-	1,500
Other – Misc		-	-	-	115
Total Receipts		1,037	34,517	35,554	62,060
Payments (relating to charitable activities)					
Artistic Director Costs		-	13,224	13,224	13,432
Associate Director Costs		-	-	-	-
Creative Producer		-	6,688	6,688	4,598
Intern Costs		-	550	550	1,790
Staff Associates		-	1,731	1,731	888
Actors/Professional Fees		-	-	-	1,647
Health & Wellbeing Workshops		1,290	-	1,290	664
Residential Labs		-	2,532	2,532	6,712
Bippity Costs inc Actors		835	-	835	970
Multi-Media Project		-	-	-	2,073
Production Costs		-	-	-	-
Go See Fund - Development		-	404	404	128
Facility Hire		-	-	-	450
General Travel & Accommodation Costs		103	-	103	790
Film/Publicity		-	-	-	-
Youth Beatz Costs		-	-	-	199
Card Payment Fees		-	-	-	790
Governance/					
Admin/Memberships/Insurance		950	-	950	845
Christmas Event		225	-	225	
Other		252	-	252	370
Other – Trustee Loan Repayment		-	-	-	1,500
Wrongly Paid Account – Rectified in 2025 Accounts	5	1,000	-	1,000	
Total Payments		4,655	25,129	29,784	37,846
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		(3,618)	9,388	5,770	24,214

STATEMENT OF BALANCES

As at 31 March 2025

Funds Reconciliation	Note	2025	2024
Cash at Bank & In Hand 31/03/2024		24,433	219
Surplus/(Deficit) for year		5,770	24,214
Cash at Bank & In Hand – 31/03/2025		30,203	24,433
Bank & Cash Balances			
Bank of Scotland Current Account		30,203	24,433
Cash in Hand		-	-
		30,203	24,433

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

As at 31 March 2025

1. Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) regulations 2006 (as amended).

2. Nature and Purpose of Funds

Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. Restricted funds are those that may only be used on projects as outlined in the original grant awards. The charity received funds of both natures.

3. Trustees Remuneration

Remuneration was paid to two trustees for £457 (2024: £235) towards travel expenses.

4. Grants

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025 £	2024 £
The Holywood Trust		-	34,070	34,070	35,000
D&G Arts Festival – Multi-Media		-	447	447	1,790
Creative Scotland		-	-	-	11,655
D&G Council – Multi-Media		-	-	-	1,000
The Robertson Trust		-	-	-	2,500
William Syson Trust		-	-	-	4,000
		-	34,517	34,517	55,445

The Holywood Trust towards monthly costs of freelancer commission costs and any expenses incurred and costs relating to 'Go See' 'Lab 9' activities.

DG Arts Festival towards costs to run members hands-on workshops and training sessions in audio performance making.

D&G Council towards costs to run members hands-on workshops and training sessions in audio performance making.

5. Payment Corrections

£1,000 was paid from the charity bank account in error on January 2025 to trustee [REDACTED], which was not picked up and corrected until the following financial year. This amount will show in the 2025-2026 final accounts.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

As at 31 March 2025

6. Movement of Funds

	As at 31/03/24	Receipts	Payments	As at 31/03/25
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	£	£	£	£
General fund	28,314	1,037	4,655	24,696
<u>Restricted Funds</u>				
Hollywood Trust – Listen Up 2411	(4,598)	34,070	24,579	4,893
D&G Council – MM	717	-	103	614
D&G Arts Festival - MM	-	447	447	-
	(3,881)	34,517	25,129	5,507
<u>Total Funds</u>	24,433	35,554	29,784	30,203

Approved by the trustees on 29 December 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

