IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

England & Wales · Charity number 1085033

Details

Other names	IRISH IN GREENWICH
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	03890639
Registered	2001-02-15
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	2b Devonshire Road Bexleyheath Kent DA6 8DS
Phone	02088544466
Email	office@irishcommunityservices.org.uk
Website	www.irishcommunityservices.org

Activities

Objects: TO WORK TOWARDS THE ALLEVIATION OF POVERTY, SICKNESS AND ISOLATION AND FOR THE CREATION OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND ACCESS TO SERVICES FOR IRISH PEOPLE AND THEIR DESCENDANTS IN THE BOROUGH OF GREENWICH AND SUBJECT THERETO THE LONDON BOROUGH OF BEXLEY, LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM AND ADJACENT BOROUGHS FOR ALL ETHNIC GROUPS

Activities: We run Irish themed events online and in person, as well as Tea Cake Club's and have the following projects. Advice and Advocacy, Elders Outreach, Carers Support, Volunteers project, Out & About project & Memory Services project.

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Accommodation/housing, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LONDON BOROUGHS OF GREENWICH, BEXLEY AND LEWISHAM AND ADJACENT BOROUGHS
- Bexley
- Greenwich
- Lewisham

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£491,516	£518,170	-	-
2024-03-31	£423,015	£442,890	-	-
2023-03-31	£458,772	£393,305	-	-
2022-03-31	£316,116	£317,065	-	-
2021-03-31	£319,202	£334,891	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
PATRICK ANTHONY FRANCIS BURNS	Chair	
Cassandra Grice		2022-01-22
Eamonn Dillon		2020-08-22
Mark McCormack		2017-11-01
Michael Vincent		2022-02-22
PAUL INGNATIUS EWINGS		
Vincent Dignam		2024-12-07

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IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

England & Wales - Charity number 1085033

Accounts

Registered number: 03890639

England and Wales

Charity Number: 1085033

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

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IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – 31 MARCH 2025

Legal & Administrative Information

Company number	-	03890639 (England and Wales)
Charity number	-	1085033
Trustees/Directors	-	E Dillon (Chair) – Appointed Chair October 2024 P Burns C Grice K Kay – Resigned 13/08/2024 M Vincent (Treasurer) M Twomey – Resigned 22/07/2024 P Ewings V Dignam – Appointed 07/12/2024 M McCormack – Resigned from chair October 2024
Key management personnel	-	S Mulligan
Registered office	-	2b Devonshire Road Bexleyheath Kent DA6 8DS
Auditors	-	Simpson Wreford LLP Wellesley House Duke of Wellington Avenue Royal Arsenal London SE18 6SS
Bankers	-	National Westminster Bank PLC 135 Bishopsgate London EC2M 3UR

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees are pleased to present their annual directors' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 March 2025 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

Structure, governance and management

Irish Community Services is a company limited by guarantee and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association which set out the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees (who are also the directors for the purpose of company law), who served as the Management Committee during the period were:

M Vincent
P Burns
P Ewings
E Dillon
V Dignam – Appointed 07/12/2024
M McCormack
M Twomey – Resigned 22/07/2024
C Grice
K Kay – Resigned 13/08/2024

The Executive Management Committee is made up of all Trustees.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Trustee Recruitment and Induction

At Irish Community Services we recruit trustees with specific skills and experiences. The process of finding and welcoming new trustees to an established board is an excellent opportunity to evaluate and improve on the Centre's activities effectiveness. The recruitment process is open and transparent and clear about the responsibilities involved.

As a comparatively small charity with limited resources we need to keep a simple approach to recruitment. We review the gaps in our collective experience and consider what additional skills are needed in the organisation. Finding new Trustees with the right skills is sometimes challenging. We recognise that recruitment of Trustees from people we know could give the perception of exclusivity. However we also see the advantages in recruitment by recommendation and over the years this has proved to attract the right calibre of person for our organisation - both as Trustees and active Management Committee members.

Although Trustees generally do not have direct contact with or access to information about the vulnerable people we are serving, we do have a vetting procedure. Trustees are required to have a clear enhanced DBS check.

Objectives and activities

The Charity's objectives are:

- The charity's objectives and principal activity are to benefit the Irish Community in Greenwich, Bexley and Lewisham in line with Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. Irish Community Services plays a full part in supporting the economic, cultural and social development of the community while, in particular, promoting independent living for all older Irish people.
- To relieve persons in need, poverty or distress, particularly, but not exclusively of Irish descent, through the provision of advice and information concerning health, welfare and entitlements as well as other support services.
- Other charitable purposes, including the provision of facilities for the benefit of the public, particularly but not exclusively for persons of Irish descent in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for those persons in need of such facilities.
- Improving welfare for all and promoting Irish culture.

Mission Statement

We provide information, advice, support and social opportunities.
We promote Irish culture amongst the Irish and other communities in South London.

Goals

- ICS address the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable Irish emigrants, in particular the elderly;
- We support equitable access for Irish emigrants and Irish community organisations to local statutory and voluntary services;
- We foster a more vibrant sense of community and Irish identity amongst the Irish in South London
- We encourage closer links between Irish communities in the UK and Ireland, to the benefit of both
- We work with all communities in South London with the objective of improving social and community cohesion

Our Services, Achievement and Performance

ICS is a grass roots community organisation responding to the needs of Irish ethnic minority communities across South London.

The Irish constitute the largest, longest established ethnic minority community in Britain, nationally experiencing serious health inequalities including higher levels of poor mental health, dementia, cancers, cardiovascular disease, alcohol and drug misuse.

There are also barriers to accessing information and services including historical experiences, use of language, and unfamiliarity with systems and procedures.

The Irish Traveller community is one of the most marginalised and excluded community in Britain, experiencing serious inequalities in health, income, access to education, training and employment.

We currently have an Elders Outreach Service, Advice & Health Project, Carers Project, Volunteers Project, and our Weekly Socials & Community Online Project.

ICS is well known and respected within the local Irish community. We are involved in a number of collaborations. Locally we are working with other BME Health & Social Care organisations strengthening partnerships as competitive providers within the current commissioning structures and contract culture.

We are a valued partner in the National Irish Support Partnership whose focus is on building on the capacity and track records of existing Irish voluntary sector organisations. We work across the London Boroughs of Greenwich, Lewisham and Bexley and are key contributors to the local Voluntary Forums, Safer Neighbourhood Boards and Health Forums.

Elders Information, Advice and Support Services	**Benefits**
Service User led process involving: • Assessment; • Referral to Key Worker and partner agencies; • Support Planning and Engagement with Service users via office, home, or one of our outreach surgeries; • Outcomes Focused with regular reviews; • Drop-in easy access no appointment necessary point of contact in a welcoming environment; • Delivered by highly skilled and experienced staff; • Free at the point of delivery.	• Practical and emotional support delivered in a welcoming professional environment; • Support is holistic, personalized and culturally appropriate – tackles a wide range of complex issues; • Help with form filling and new welfare benefits gained for service users; • Signposting to other organisations; • Improved quality of life; • Added value in terms of community engagement and empowerment of vulnerable people; • Excellent value for money for commissioners and funders.

Training	Benefits
• Regular Training for Staff & Volunteers • Cultural Awareness	• Improved cultural competency in service delivery across a range of external services • Highly skilled practitioners in the workforce • Enhanced partnership working • Offer work experience for Interns
Carers' Project, Volunteer Project and Weekly Socials and Community Online Project	**Benefits**
• Regular 'get-together' for older people including music, song, dance, both online and offline. • Chair based exercise classes promoting physical and social activity and community connections to improve health and well-being; • A programme of online weekly activities including Bingo, quiz, good news café, singing sessions, support groups and more. • Carers' Support Services; • Dementia Services with Reminiscence groups; • Volunteer Project; • Mental Health and Suicide Awareness; • Irish Cancer Support Groups • Cultural celebrations • Access to ICS information, advice and support services; • A full programme of Weekly Socials events including 2x lunch clubs, a tea cake club, book club, games group and more.	• Improved health and well-being through community involvement, connections and activities • Advice, support and practical help on all carers' issues • Exercise classes help the elderly to remain fit and healthy also benefits their mental health • Reminiscence groups for clients with dementia, memory loss or cognitive impairment promotes positive mental health improves well-being • Cancer support groups support people to face up to the challenges of cancer and secure best treatment, this promotes better recovery, assists with better mental health by working together in a group and offering and receiving mutual support. • Added value in terms of cultural identity, social inclusion and community engagement • Volunteer opportunities, including training and work experience

Elders Outreach Project

This service, operated by our Elders Manager, Elders Co-Ordinator and two trainee advice roles helps users obtain their entitlements, assists in appeals, and negotiates with Social Services on domestic help to assist continued independent living. The value of the extra entitlements secured in the financial year 2024/25 is £2.1million using the common formula agreed for Advice charities. This project was awarded the Advice Quality Standard (AQS) for advice and casework with clients.

Weekly Socials and Community Online Project

This service is delivered by our Weekly Socials Manager, Coordinator, Chef, and Café Supervisor, with the support of dedicated volunteers. It offers a weekly programme of both online and in-person social activities for clients to enjoy and participate in. Activities include lunch clubs, the Tea & Cake Club, Aggies Café, card group, choir, craft group, book club, and more. In addition, tablet devices are available to help clients learn, engage, and connect online.

Volunteers Project

We rely on volunteers for a variety of activities which include supporting the Weekly Socials and Community Online project, providing Befriending, assisting Carers and Housebound clients and also providing admin support in the office. The total number at the end of 2024/25 was 113. All volunteers are subject to DBS checks and appropriate training.
Volunteer hours for the year were 6,412 which has a Social Value of £57,130.92 if volunteers were paid the minimum wage of £8.91 per hour.

Volunteers from Ewings & Co Solicitors also run a legal advice surgery, volunteer hours for the year were 168 which has a value of £36,288 if Ewings & Co charged their market rates. Ewings & Co Solicitors is a related party as it is owned by P. Ewings, a Trustee.

The Family Carers Service and Memory Services

This service is dedicated to supporting both carers and those they care for, with a particular emphasis on the Memory Services, which provide specialist support for people living with dementia and their carers. The service offers up-to-date advice, emotional support, and practical assistance, including help with form filling and participation in social services review meetings. Additional support includes a volunteer "Sitting-in" scheme offering weekly respite for carers, a carers' support group, regular newsletters, and home visits. The service also provides at-home foot care, relaxation therapies for clients, and both online and in-person carers' groups that include social outings and day trips.

Advice & Health Project

This service works with younger Irish clients, many of whom have health issues. It offers advice and practical help on all welfare and unemployment benefits, housing, employment and debt. The value of the extra entitlements secured in the financial year 2024/25 is £553k using the common formula agreed for Advice charities. It also offers information, advice and support in all areas affecting health and wellbeing. The project runs a Cancer Support group and provides weekly advice at the Woolwich Service User Project that directly support people affected by

homelessness. It was awarded the Advice Quality Standard (AQS) for its advice and casework with clients.

Management and Admin

The Executive Director manages the staff team and the day to day running of the Charity ensuring all reporting, compliance, legal and financial responsibilities are met. The Director and the management committee are assisted by a trainee finance officer. The very challenging financial and funding environment has required the Director and Trustees to develop a more sophisticated and intelligence led funding strategy which is starting to show results.

Partnership Working

ICS is committed to partnership working, firmly believing that this approach is central to ensuring the best possible outcome for our service users and the most effective and efficient use of resources, skills and expertise. We have developed extensive partnerships across health, housing and community care services and networks across South London. We are strategically represented at local, regional, and national levels, influencing and informing the commissioning and development of services through the sharing of knowledge, community intelligence, learning, and best practice. Our partnerships span a wide range of sectors and organisations, including local authorities, the NHS, the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), the Department for Education, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), Irish in Britain, the Embassy of Ireland, the Department of Foreign Affairs, Enterprise & Trade, and local BME groups. We also work closely with Bloomsbury Institute, Townley Grammar School, Premier Day Lodge Nursery, the local Police, and a variety of local voluntary, community, and faith sector organisations.
We are identified as an organisation that:

- Continually 'punches above our weight' in terms of maintaining services while responding to emerging/changing needs
- Is a key player in local multi agency partnerships
- Constructively challenges decisions and practices to improve outcomes
- Evidences excellent staff and volunteer retention

FUNDERS

We are most grateful to our funders, supporters and sponsors: Emigrant Support Programme (ESP Irish Government), The National Lottery, East Wickham & Welling War Memorial Trust, The Ireland Funds of Great Britain, London Borough of Bexley, The Ten Percent Foundation, City Bridge Foundation and our members.

Reserves Policy

Deferred income from The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Emigrant Support Programme (The Irish Government) will be spent on staff salaries. Unrestricted reserves will be built up over a period of years until they account for the equivalent of three months payroll to mitigate against any untoward events.

Based on the past year's results this represents a figure of £75,120. Total reserves at the year-end were £122,832 (2024: £149,486).

Risk Management

The Trustees have reviewed the charity's exposure to risk and procedures have been established to mitigate the risks which the charity faces.

A consideration of the precarious nature of charitable funding and the uncertainty associated with funding cycles has evolved a strategic funding plan to diversify income streams and reduce over reliance on any one funder.

Volunteers

Volunteers play a pivotal role in the running of all our services throughout the year. We would like to express our gratitude to all of our volunteers without whom we would not be able to support as many as we do.

Trustees' Responsibilities

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

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure of the charity for that period.

In preparing the financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our trustees' annual report:

- there is no relevant information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which the auditor is unaware, and
- the trustees, having made enquiries of fellow directors and the auditor that they ought to have individually taken, have each taken all steps that he/she is obliged to take as a director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

Auditors

Simpson Wreford LLP were appointed as Independent auditors during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

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

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees/directors on 13/12/25

E Dillon (Chair)

M Vincent (Treasurer)

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of Irish Community Services for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement and the related notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 31 March 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;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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

Conclusions relating to going concern
We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

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

Other information
The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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 trustees' report (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report) have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception
In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit;
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; 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.

Responsibilities of the trustees
As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 3-9, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

The trustees have elected for the financial statements to be audited in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 rather than the Companies Act 2006. Accordingly, we have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act. 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 for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council'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

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, data protection and health and safety regulation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of key 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.

Audit response to risks identified

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

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

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

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in Note 1 were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

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

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation and;
- enquiring of key management as to actual and potential litigation and claims.
- reviewing correspondence with the Charity Commission

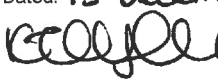
There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and the regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's trustees 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 Charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Kate Taylor FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Simpson Wreford LLP, Statutory Auditors
and Chartered Accountants
Wellesley House
Duke of Wellington Avenue
Royal Arsenal
London SE18 6SS

Dated: 15 December 2025



IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Including Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £	2024 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	1	138,032	-	138,032	124,135
Other trading activities		10,945	-	10,945	12,184
Investments		2,183	-	2,183	1,609
Charitable activities	2	1,115	338,796	339,911	281,874
Other		445	-	445	3,213
Total		152,720	338,796	491,516	423,015
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities		83,291	429,494	512,785	437,690
Other		-	5,385	5,385	5,200
Total	6	83,291	434,879	518,170	442,890
Net income/(expenditure)		69,429	(96,083)	(26,655)	(19,875)
Transfers between funds		(95,453)	95,453	-	-
Net movement in funds					
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		148,855	631	149,486	169,361
Total funds carried forward		122,832	-	122,832	149,486

The notes on pages 14 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	8		103,309		129,960
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	14,723		50,903	
Cash at bank and in hand		83,422		85,413	
		98,145		136,316	
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(78,622)		(116,790)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			19,523		19,526
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			122,832		149,486
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted income funds			122,832		148,855
Restricted income funds			-		631
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS	11		122,832		149,486

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The financial statements on pages 14 to 23 were approved by the Trustees on 13/12/25 and signed on their behalf by

E Dillon (Chair)

M Vincent (Treasurer)

Company Registration No. 03890639.

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and in the preceding year.

Company information
Irish Community Services is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. The registered office is 2b Devonshire Road, Bexleyheath, Kent, DA6 8DS.

(a) Basis of preparation
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006.

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

The effects of events relating to the year ended 31 March 2025 which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 31 March 2024 and the results for the year ended on that date.

Irish Community Services meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

(b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis
The charity has secured funding from the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Emigrant Support Programme for the next financial year, allowing them to fund their activities and on this basis the charity is considered a going concern.

(c) Income
Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably. Except as follows:

- Donations and legacy income are received by way of donations and gifts and are included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.
- Charitable activity income is recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which is specified by the donor.

- When donors impose conditions, which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the pre-conditions for use have been met.
- When donors specify that donations and grants are for a particular restricted purpose this income is included in incoming resources of restricted funds when receivable.

(d) Donated services and facilities
Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of volunteers is not recognised. Refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

(e) Resources expended and irrecoverable VAT
Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Certain expenditure is directly attributable to specific activities and has been included in those cost categories. Certain other costs, which are attributable to more than one activity, are apportioned across cost categories on the basis of staff costs spent on those activities. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

Charitable activities costs include the direct cost of providing services, as well as a share of overheads.

Governance costs include the cost of compliance with the charity's constitutional and statutory requirements.

The cost of generating funds relate to the costs incurred by the charity in raising funds for charitable work.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

(f) Tangible fixed assets
Fixed assets are valued at cost, with impairment reviews performed annually. It is the policy of the company to provide depreciation at the following annual rate in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful economic life.

Office Equipment	-	20% on cost
Computer Equipment	-	33.3% on cost
Leasehold Improvements	-	Over the term of the lease
Furniture & Fittings	-	20% on cost

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £100 except where the items are expected to have a life expectancy of less than 2 years.

(g) Debtors
Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

(h) Cash at bank and in hand
Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

(i) Creditors and provisions
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

(j) Financial instruments
The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

(k) Pensions
The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

(l) Fund accounting
General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the Company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors which have been raised by the Company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Statutory grants which are given as contributions towards the Company's core services are treated as unrestricted.

(m) Government grants
Government grants are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when there is reasonable assurance that the grant conditions will be met and the grants will be received.

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS – 31 MARCH 2025

1. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted 2025	Restricted 2025	Total 2025	Total 2024
Voluntary income	£	£	£	£
Donations	51,789	-	51,789	18,389
Legacies	3,604	-	3,604	50,000
Gift aid	3,310	-	3,310	3,412
Membership fees	6,415	-	6,415	6,195
Weekly Social Events Income	72,914	-	72,914	46,139
	138,032	**-**	**138,032**	**124,135**

2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted 2025	Restricted 2025	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade;				
Emigrant Support Programme	-	247,290	247,290	221,454
East Wickham & Welling War Memorial	115	-	115	320
Ireland Fund of GB	-	2,000	2,000	5,000
London Borough of Bexley	-	61,000	61,000	-
National Lottery - Community Fund	-	20,000	20,000	50,000
The Haberdashers Company	-	-	-	3,600
London Catalyst	-	-	-	1,500
City Bridge Foundation		8,506	8,506	
The ten percent Foundation	1,000		1,000	-
Total Income From Charitable Activities	**1,115**	**338,796**	**339,911**	**281,874**

During the year ended 31 March 2025, Irish Community Services received a grant of £259,000 from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Emigrant Support Programme. The grant covers the period ending 30 June 2025 and was for the following activities:

- £33,000 contribution towards Advice & Health
- £35,000 contribution towards Carers Support Services
- £71,000 contribution towards Elders Outreach & Advocacy
- £60,000 contribution towards the salary of a Executive Director & Operations Manager
- £60,000 contribution towards the Weekly Socials and Community Online Project

The grants awarded for the 2024/25 financial year have all been spent during the year. The grants awarded for 2024/25 will be spent in the next financial year and so have not been recorded as income for the year ended 31 March 2025 but are carried forward as deferred income on the balance sheet.

Total deferred income in relation to 2024/25 amounts to £64,750, which relates to the period 1st April 2025 – 30th June 2025.

Deferred income brought forward of £56,397 was released to the Statement of Financial Activities during the year and included under income from charitable activities.

3. STAFF COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	276,586	259,376
Social security costs - employer's contribution	18,298	17,365
Staff pensions	5,596	5,369
	300,480	**282,110**

The average monthly head count was 12 staff (2024: 11 staff).

No employee had employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2024: nil).

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION

Trustees received no remuneration or employee benefits during the year (2024: nil).

5. VOLUNTEERS

We rely on a number of volunteers to run our services, and their contribution is critical to the delivery of these services. In accordance with FRS102 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

6. TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Other Direct Costs	Direct Staff Costs	Support Costs	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities					
Salaries	-	294,884	-	294,884	276,741
Staff Pension	-	5,596	-	5,596	5,369
Staff Training	837	-	-	837	3,486
Recruitment	-	-	-	-	-
Advertising	-	-	11,189	11,189	10,274
Bank Charges and Interest	-	-	1,134	1,134	852
Choir Expenses	1,072	-	-	1,072	950
Depreciation	-	-	32,665	32,665	32,665
Foot Care Expenses	235	-	-	235	578
Fundraising Expenses	5,599	-	-	5,599	520
Grants paid	38,600	-	-	38,600	-
Group expenses	6,775	-	-	6,775	2,658
Hall hire	444	-	-	444	6,596
Insurance	-	-	1,780	1,780	1,687
IT Support	-	-	1,332	1,332	1,541
Merchandise Expenses		-		-	123
Payroll Services	-	-	1,056	1,056	966
Printing, Postage and Stationery	-	-	5,512	5,512	5,360
Professional Fees	-	-	10,441	10,441	6,694
Rent and Rates	-	-	30,915	30,915	30,086
Repairs and Renewals	-	-	7,572	7,572	11,552
Sim Cards and Broadband	487	-	-	487	2,711
Software Costs	-	-	1,665	1,665	1,601
Subscriptions	-	-	182	182	110
Sundry	1,742	-	-	1,742	1,655
Telephone Charges	-	-	4,459	4,459	1,439
Travel	3,647	-	-	3,647	6,217
Website Costs	-	-	177	177	132
Weekly Social Expenses	42,790	-	-	42,790	25,127
	102,228	300,480	110,077	512,785	437,690
Governance costs					
Audit Fees	-	-	4,681	4,681	4,950
Management Committee Expenses	-	-	704	704	250
Total	102,228	300,480	115,462	518,170	442,890

7. EXPENDITURE BY CHARITABLE ACTIVITY

	Advice & Health	Carers' Support	Elders Outreach	Community Online & Socials	Management & Admin	Total
Staff costs	26,967	27,254	93,473	74,972	77,813	300,480
Other direct	933	1,405	2,601	55,872	41,417	102,228
Support costs	15,080	15,414	30,214	30,829	18,541	110,077
Governance costs	683	683	1,365	1,365	1,289	5,385
	43,662	44,757	127,653	163,039	139,059	518,170

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Equipment & IT	Lease Hold Improv.	Furniture & Fixtures for Leasehold	Furniture and Fixtures	Total
Cost					£
At 1 April 2024	13,459	156,833	1,926	6,150	178,368
Additions	2,069	3,945	-	-	6,014
At 31 March 2025	15,528	160,778	1,926	6,150	184,382
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2024	10,479	34,852	428	2,649	48,408
Charge for year	1,198	29,873	367	1,227	32,665
At 31 March 2025	11,677	64,725	795	3,876	81,073
Net book value					
At 31 March 2025	3,851	96,053	1,131	2,274	103,309
At 31 March 2024	2,980	121,981	1,498	3,501	129,960

9. DEBTORS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	100	155
Prepayments and accrued income	8,869	45,123
Other debtors	5,754	5,625
Total	14,723	50,903

10. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	3,683	4,210
Other creditors	5,599	235
Accruals and deferred income	69,340	62,345
Loan from trustee	-	50,000
Total	78,622	116,790

11. ANALYSIS OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BY FUND

	At 1 April 2024	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	At 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds					
Advice & Health	-	32,647	(43,662)	11,015	-
Carers' Support	-	33,893	(44,757)	10,864	-
Management & Admin	-	95,000	(95,000)		-
Elders Outreach	-	85,424	(127,653)	42,230	-
Weekly Socials & Community Online	-	91,832	(123,176)	31,344	-
London Catalyst	631	-	(631)	-	-
Restricted Funds	631	338,796	(434,879)	95,453	-
Core Unrestricted Funds	148,855	152,720	(83,291)	(95,453)	122,832
Total Funds	**149,486**	**491,516**	**(518,170)**	**-**	**122,832**

12. ANALYSIS OF UNRESTRICTED AND RESTRICTED FUNDS

Purposes of revenue restricted funds
Balances on restricted funds represent unspent funds given specifically for individual projects. These balances will be carried forward and spent on each project in the following year. The purpose of each fund is described in the Trustees' report.

Sufficient resources are held in each fund to enable the funds to be applied in accordance with any restrictions.

13. TRANSFERS

A transfer totalling £95,453 has been made from unrestricted funds to restricted funds. This transfer represents overspends on restricted funds which are not fully funded by grants received from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Emigrant Support Programme in Ireland.

14. NET ASSETS

	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	103,309	103,309
Net current assets	-	19,523	19,523
	-	**122,832**	**122,832**

15. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Trustees were authorised to receive reimbursement for their expenditure.

P Burns received £99 (2024: £80) for the reimbursement of travel expenses. P Burns is a related party by virtue of the fact he is a Trustee of the charity.

A loan repayment was made to P Burns of £50,000 against the loan advanced, the balance on the loan from P Burns at the year end was £nil (2024 £50,000).

After the year end P Burns advanced a loan of £50,000 to the charity, no interest is payable on the loan which is unsecured and repayable in advance.

16.NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR

This is stated after charging:

	2025 £	2024 £
Auditors' remuneration - audit fee	4,681	4,950
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	32,665	32,665

17. CORPORATION TAXATION

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

18. CONTROLLING PARTY

The ultimate control of the charity resides with the board of Trustees.

19. OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY AUDITORS

In common with many other entities of our size and nature we use our auditors to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

20. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost and charge represent contributions payable by the company to the fund and amounted to £5,596 (2024: £5,369).

Pension costs are allocated to restricted and unrestricted funds based on the staff that are assigned to the project or service funded from those sources.

21. LEASES

At the reporting end date the company had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Leasehold buildings	69,375	91,875
Equipment	2,171	2,916

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

England & Wales - Charity number 1085033

Accounts

Registered number: 03890639

England and Wales

Charity Number: 1085033

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Contents

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IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – 31 MARCH 2024

Legal & Administrative Information

Company number	-	03890639 (England and Wales)
Charity number	-	1085033
Trustees/Directors	-	A Forde – Resigned 19/08/2023 E Dillon P Burns C Grice K Kay M Vincent (Treasurer) M Twomey P Ewings W Cotter – Resigned 19/08/2023 M McCormack (Chair)
Key management personnel	-	S Mulligan
Registered office	-	2b Devonshire Road Bexleyheath Kent DA6 8DS
Auditors	-	Simpson Wreford LLP Wellesley House Duke of Wellington Avenue Royal Arsenal London SE18 6SS
Bankers	-	National Westminster Bank PLC 135 Bishopsgate London EC2M 3UR

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – 31 MARCH 2024

The trustees are pleased to present their annual directors' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 March 2024 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

Structure, governance and management

Irish Community Services is a company limited by guarantee and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association which set out the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees (who are also the directors for the purpose of company law), who served as the Management Committee during the period were:

M Vincent
A Forde
P Burns
P Ewings
E Dillon
W Cotter
M McCormack
M Twomey
C Grice
K Kay

The Executive Management Committee is made up of all Trustees.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Trustee Recruitment and Induction

At Irish Community Services we recruit trustees with specific skills and experiences. The process of finding and welcoming new trustees to an established board is an excellent opportunity to evaluate and improve on the Centre's activities effectiveness. The recruitment process is open and transparent and clear about the responsibilities involved.

As a comparatively small charity with limited resources we need to keep a simple approach to recruitment. We review the gaps in our collective experience and consider what additional skills are needed in the organisation. Finding new Trustees with the right skills is sometimes challenging. We recognise that recruitment of Trustees from people we know could give the perception of exclusivity. However we also see the advantages in recruitment by recommendation and over the years this has proved to attract the right calibre of person for our organisation - both as Trustees and active Management Committee members.

Although Trustees generally do not have direct contact with or access to information about the vulnerable people we are serving, we do have a vetting procedure. Trustees are required to have a clear enhanced DBS check.

Objectives and activities

The Charity's objectives are:

- The charity's objectives and principal activity are to benefit the Irish Community in Greenwich, Bexley and Lewisham in line with Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. Irish Community Services plays a full part in supporting the economic, cultural and social development of the community while, in particular, promoting independent living for all older Irish people.
- To relieve persons in need, poverty or distress, particularly, but not exclusively of Irish descent, through the provision of advice and information concerning health, welfare and entitlements as well as other support services.
- Other charitable purposes, including the provision of facilities for the benefit of the public, particularly but not exclusively for persons of Irish descent in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for those persons in need of such facilities.
- Improving welfare for all and promoting Irish culture.

Mission Statement

We provide information, advice, support and social opportunities.
We promote Irish culture amongst the Irish and other communities in South London.

Goals

- ICS address the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable Irish emigrants, in particular the elderly;
- We support equitable access for Irish emigrants and Irish community organisations to local statutory and voluntary services;
- We foster a more vibrant sense of community and Irish identity amongst the Irish in South London
- We encourage closer links between Irish communities in the UK and Ireland, to the benefit of both
- We work with all communities in South London with the objective of improving social and community cohesion

Our Services, Achievement and Performance

ICS is a grass roots community organisation responding to the needs of Irish ethnic minority communities across South London.

The Irish constitute the largest, longest established ethnic minority community in Britain, nationally experiencing serious health inequalities including higher levels of poor mental health, dementia, cancers, cardiovascular disease, alcohol and drug misuse.

There are also barriers to accessing information and services including historical experiences, use of language, and unfamiliarity with systems and procedures.

The Irish Traveller community is one of the most marginalised and excluded community in Britain, experiencing serious inequalities in health, income, access to education, training and employment.

We currently have an Elder Outreach Services, Advice & Health Project, Carers Support Services, Volunteers Project and our Weekly Socials and Community Online Project.

ICS is well known and respected within the local Irish community. We are involved in a number of collaborations. Locally we are working with other BME Health & Social Care organisations strengthening partnerships as competitive providers within the current commissioning structures and contract culture.

We are a valued partner in the National Irish Support Partnership whose focus is on building on the capacity and track records of existing Irish voluntary sector organisations. We work across the London Boroughs of Greenwich, Lewisham and Bexley and are key contributors to the local Voluntary Forums, Safer Neighbourhood Boards and Health Forums.

Elders Information, Advice and Support Services	**Benefits**
Service User led process involving: • Assessment; • Referral to Key Worker and partner agencies; • Support Planning and Engagement with Service users via office, home, or one of our outreach surgeries; • Outcomes Focused with regular reviews; • Drop-in easy access no appointment necessary point of contact in a welcoming environment; • Delivered by highly skilled and experienced staff; • Free at the point of delivery.	• Practical and emotional support delivered in a welcoming professional environment; • Support is holistic, personalized and culturally appropriate – tackles a wide range of complex issues; • Help with form filling and new welfare benefits gained for service users; • Signposting to other organisations; • Improved quality of life; • Added value in terms of community engagement and empowerment of vulnerable people; • Excellent value for money for commissioners and funders.

Training	**Benefits**
• Regular Training for Staff & Volunteers • Cultural Awareness	• Improved cultural competency in service delivery across a range of external services • Highly skilled practitioners in the workforce • Enhanced partnership working • Offer work experience for Interns
Carers' Project, Volunteer Project and Weekly Socials and Community Online Project	**Benefits**
• Regular 'get-together' for older people including music, song, dance, both online and offline. • Chair based exercise classes promoting physical and social activity and community connections to improve health and well-being; • A programme of online weekly activities including Bingo, quiz, good news café, singing sessions, support groups and more. • Carers' Support Services; • Dementia Services with Reminiscence groups; • Volunteer Project; • Mental Health and Suicide Awareness; • Irish Cancer Support Groups • Cultural celebrations • Access to ICS information, advice and support services; • A full programme of Weekly Socials events including 2x lunch clubs, a tea cake club, book club, games group and more.	• Improved health and well-being through community involvement, connections and activities • Advice, support and practical help on all carers' issues • Exercise classes help the elderly to remain fit and healthy also benefits their mental health • Reminiscence groups for clients with dementia, memory loss or cognitive impairment promotes positive mental health improves well-being • Cancer support groups support people to face up to the challenges of cancer and secure best treatment, this promotes better recovery, assists with better mental health by working together in a group and offering and receiving mutual support. • Added value in terms of cultural identity, social inclusion and community engagement • Volunteer opportunities, including training and work experience

Elders Outreach Project

This service, operated by Anne Ryan and Pat Richardson, helps users obtain their entitlements, assists in appeals, and negotiates with Social Services on domestic help to assist continued independent living. The value of the extra entitlements secured in the financial year 2023/24 is £1.85 million using the common formula agreed for Advice charities. This project was awarded the Advice Quality Standard (AQS) for advice and casework with clients.

Weekly Socials and Community Online Project

This service is operated by Jo Higgins and Debbie Fitzpatrick with the support of volunteers, it operates a weekly programme of online and offline social activities for the clients to participate in. This project also includes a walking group, with a walk across Greenwich and Bexley each week. There are also tablet devices available for clients to learn, engage and connect online.

Volunteers Project

We rely on volunteers for a variety of activities which include supporting the Weekly Socials and Community Online project, providing Befriending, assisting Carers and Housebound clients and also providing admin support in the office. The total number at the end of 2023/24 was 102. All volunteers are subject to DBS checks and appropriate training.
Volunteer hours for the year were 2,575 which has a Social Value of £22,943.25 if volunteers were paid the minimum wage of £8.91 per hour.

Volunteers from Ewings & Co Solicitors also run a legal advice surgery, volunteer hours for the year were 204 which has a value of £44,064 if Ewings & Co charged their market rates. Ewings & Co Solicitors is a related party as it is owned by P. Ewings, a Trustee.

The Family Carers Service and Memory Services

This service focuses on helping carers and the cared for and and particularly valued is the Memory services for people with dementia and their carers. The service provides up to-date advice, support and practical help with form filling and social services review meetings. There is a volunteer ‘Sitting-in’ scheme that offers respite to carers on a weekly basis, carers support group, newsletter, and home visits. The Memory service offers specialist services for clients with dementia and now runs four Happy day reminiscence groups in Greenwich, Bexley and Lewisham for dementia sufferers and their carers’. There are 409 carers and cared for accessing this service.

Advice & Health Project

This service works with younger Irish clients, many of whom have health issues. It offers advice and practical help on all welfare and unemployment benefits, housing, employment and debt. It also offers information, advice and support in all areas affecting health and wellbeing. The project runs a Cancer support group and provides weekly advice at the Woolwich Service User Project that directly support people affected by homelessness. It was awarded the Advice Quality Standard (AQS) for its advice and casework with clients.

Management and Admin

The Executive Director manages the staff team and the day to day running of the Charity ensuring all reporting, compliance, legal and financial responsibilities are met. The Director and the management committee are assisted by a part-time finance officer. The very challenging financial and funding environment has required the Director and Trustees to develop a more sophisticated and intelligence led funding strategy which is starting to show results.

Partnership Working

ICS is committed to partnership working, firmly believing that this approach is central to ensuring the best possible outcome for our service users and the most effective and efficient use of resources, skills and expertise. We have developed extensive partnerships across health, housing and community care services and networks across South London. We are strategically represented locally, regionally and nationally, influencing and informing the commissioning and development of services through sharing knowledge, community intelligence, learning and best practice. Partners include local authorities, NHS, Department of Health (DoH), Department of Communities and Local Government (CLG), Education, Department of Work and Pensions (DWP), Irish in Britain, Embassy of Ireland, Department of Foreign Affairs Enterprise & Trade, local BME groups, local Police, and a wide range of local voluntary, community and faith sector agencies.

We are identified as an organisation that:

- Continually 'punches above our weight' in terms of maintaining services while responding to emerging/changing needs
- Is a key player in local multi agency partnerships
- Constructively challenges decisions and practices to improve outcomes
- Evidences excellent staff and volunteer retention

FUNDERS

We are most grateful to our funders, supporters and sponsors: Emigrant Support Programme (ESP Irish Government), The National Lottery, East Wickham & Welling War Memorial Trust, The Ireland Funds of Great Britain, The Haberdashers Company, London Catalyst, London Borough of Bexley, the Friends of Irish Community Services (ICS) and our members.
The results for the year are as shown in the Statement of Financial Activities and the main funders are as detailed in note 2 of the accounts.

Reserves Policy

Deferred income from The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Emigrant Support Programme (The Irish Government) will be spent on staff salaries. Unrestricted reserves will be built up over a period of years until they account for the equivalent of three months payroll to mitigate against any untoward events.

Based on the past year's results this represents a figure of £67,764. Total reserves at the year-end were £149,487 (2023: £169,361).

Risk Management

The Trustees have reviewed the charity's exposure to risk and procedures have been established to mitigate the risks which the charity faces.

A consideration of the precarious nature of charitable funding and the uncertainty associated with funding cycles has evolved a strategic funding plan to diversify income streams and reduce over reliance on any one funder.

Volunteers

Volunteers play a pivotal role in the running of all our services throughout the year. We would like to express our gratitude to all of our volunteers without whom we would not be able to support as many as we do.

Trustees' Responsibilities

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

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure of the charity for that period.

In preparing the financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our trustees' annual report:

- there is no relevant information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which the auditor is unaware, and
- the trustees, having made enquiries of fellow directors and the auditor that they ought to have individually taken, have each taken all steps that he/she is obliged to take as a director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

Auditors

Simpson Wreford LLP were appointed as Independent auditors during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

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

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees/directors on 17 August 2024.

M McCormack (Chair)

M Vincent (Treasurer)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of Irish Community Services for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement and the related notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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

Conclusions relating to going concern
We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

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

Other information
The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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 trustees' report (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report) have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception
In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit;
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; 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.

Responsibilities of the trustees
As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 3-9, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

The trustees have elected for the financial statements to be audited in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 rather than the Companies Act 2006. Accordingly, we have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act. 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 for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council'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

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, data protection and health and safety regulation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of key 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.

Audit response to risks identified

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

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

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

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in Note 1 were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

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

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation and;
- enquiring of key management as to actual and potential litigation and claims.
- reviewing correspondence with the Charity Commission

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and the regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's trustees 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 Charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Kate Taylor FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Simpson Wreford LLP, Statutory Auditors
and Chartered Accountants
Wellesley House
Duke of Wellington Avenue
Royal Arsenal
London SE18 6SS

Dated: 9 December 2024

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Including Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £	2023 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	1	124,135	-	124,135	59,441
Other trading activities		12,184	-	12,184	13,296
Investments		1,609	-	1,609	669
Charitable activities	2	8,920	272,954	281,874	381,240
Other		3,213	-	3,213	4,126
Total		150,061	272,954	423,015	458,772
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities		30,349	407,341	437,690	389,944
Other		-	5,200	5,200	3,361
Total	6	30,349	412,541	442,890	393,305
Net income/(expenditure)		119,711	(139,587)	(19,875)	65,467
Transfers between funds		(103,239)	103,239	-	-
Net movement in funds					
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		132,383	36,978	169,361	103,894
Total funds carried forward		148,855	630	149,486	169,361

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 14 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	8		129,960		162,035
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	50,903		12,218	
Cash at bank and in hand		85,413		105,035	
		136,316		117,253	
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	(116,790)		(109,927)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			19,526		7,326
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			149,486		169,361
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted income funds			148,855		132,383
Restricted income funds			631		36,978
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS	11		149,486		169,361

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2024, although an audit has been carried out under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these accounts under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 14 to 23 were approved by the Trustees on 17 August 2024 and signed on their behalf by

M McCormack (Chair) M Vincent (Treasurer)

Company Registration No. 03890639.

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and in the preceding year.

Company information
Irish Community Services is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. The registered office is 2b Devonshire Road, Bexleyheath, Kent, DA6 8DS.

(a) Basis of preparation
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006.

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

The effects of events relating to the year ended 31 March 2024 which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 31 March 2024 and the results for the year ended on that date.

Irish Community Services meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

(b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis
The charity has secured funding from the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Emigrant Support Programme for the next financial year, allowing them to fund their activities and on this basis the charity is considered a going concern.

(c) Income
Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably. Except as follows:

- Donations and legacy income are received by way of donations and gifts and are included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.
- Charitable activity income is recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which is specified by the donor.

- When donors impose conditions, which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the pre-conditions for use have been met.
- When donors specify that donations and grants are for a particular restricted purpose this income is included in incoming resources of restricted funds when receivable.

(d) Donated services and facilities
Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of volunteers is not recognised. Refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

(e) Resources expended and irrecoverable VAT
Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Certain expenditure is directly attributable to specific activities and has been included in those cost categories. Certain other costs, which are attributable to more than one activity, are apportioned across cost categories on the basis of staff costs spent on those activities. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

Charitable activities costs include the direct cost of providing services, as well as a share of overheads.

Governance costs include the cost of compliance with the charity's constitutional and statutory requirements.

The cost of generating funds relate to the costs incurred by the charity in raising funds for charitable work.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

(f) Tangible fixed assets
Fixed assets are valued at cost, with impairment reviews performed annually. It is the policy of the company to provide depreciation at the following annual rate in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful economic life.

Office Equipment	-	20% on cost
Computer Equipment	-	33.3% on cost
Leasehold Improvements	-	Over the term of the lease
Furniture & Fittings	-	20% on cost

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £100 except where the items are expected to have a life expectancy of less than 2 years.

(g) Debtors
Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

(h) Cash at bank and in hand
Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

(i) Creditors and provisions
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

(j) Financial instruments
The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

(k) Pensions
The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

(l) Fund accounting
General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the Company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors which have been raised by the Company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Statutory grants which are given as contributions towards the Company's core services are treated as unrestricted.

(m) Government grants
Government grants are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when there is reasonable assurance that the grant conditions will be met and the grants will be received.

1. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted 2024	Restricted 2024	Total 2024	Total 2023
Voluntary income	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
Donations	18,389	-	18,389	14,637
Legacies	50,000		50,000	-
Asda foundation	-	-	-	1,300
Gift aid	3,412	-	3,412	5,547
Membership fees	6,195	-	6,195	5,825
Weekly Social Events Income	46,139	-	46,139	32,132
	124,135	**-**	**124,135**	**59,441**

2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted 2024	Restricted 2024	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade;				
Emigrant Support Programme	-	221,454	221,454	206,864
East Wickham & Welling War Memorial	320	-	320	100
Groundwork UK	-	-	-	5,000
Ireland Fund of GB	5,000	-	5,000	11,000
London Borough of Bexley	-	-	-	30,000
National Lottery - Community Fund	-	50,000	50,000	128,276
The Haberdashers Company	3,600	-	3,600	-
London Catalyst	-	1,500	1,500	-
			-	
Total Income From Charitable Activities	**8,920**	**272,954**	**281,874**	**381,240**

During the year ended 31 March 2024, Irish Community Services received a grant of £234,000 from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Emigrant Support Programme. The grant covers the period ending 30 June 2024 and was for the following activities:

- £32,000 contribution towards Advice & Health
- £34,000 contribution towards Carers Support Services
- £70,000 contribution towards Elders Outreach & Advocacy
- £40,000 contribution towards the salary of a Executive Director
- £58,000 contribution towards the Weekly Socials and Community Online Project

The grants awarded for the 2023/24 financial year have all been spent during the year. The grants awarded for 2024/25 will be spent in the next financial year and so have not been recorded as income for the year ended 31 March 2024 but are carried forward as deferred income on the balance sheet.

Total deferred income in relation to 2024/25 amounts to £56,397, which relates to the period 1st April 2024 – 30th June 2024.

Deferred income brought forward of £52,263 was released to the Statement of Financial Activities during the year and included under income from charitable activities.

3. STAFF COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	259,376	216,939
Social security costs - employer's contribution	17,365	14,516
Staff pensions	5,369	5,371
	282,110	**236,826**

The average monthly head count was 11 staff (2023: 9 staff).

No employee had employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2023: nil).

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION

Trustees received no remuneration or employee benefits during the year (2023: nil).

5. VOLUNTEERS

We rely on a number of volunteers to run our services, and their contribution is critical to the delivery of these services. In accordance with FRS102 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

6. TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Other Direct Costs	Direct Staff Costs	Support Costs	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities					
Salaries	-	276,741	-	276,741	231,455
Staff Pension	-	5,369	-	5,369	5,371
Staff Training	3,486	-	-	3,486	2,598
Recruitment	-	-	-	-	668
Advertising	-	-	10,274	10,274	6,905
Bank Charges and Interest	-	-	852	852	839
Carer Expenses	-	-	-	-	95
Choir Expenses	950	-	-	950	1,531
Depreciation	-	-	32,665	32,665	10,043
Foot Care Expenses	578	-	-	578	368
Fundraising Expenses	520	-	-	520	716
Grants paid	-	-	-	-	26,904
Group expenses	2,658	-	-	2,658	864
Hall hire	6,596	-	-	6,596	3,313
Insurance	-	-	1,687	1,687	1,615
IT Support	-	-	1,541	1,541	1,938
Merchandise Expenses	-	-	123	123	-
Office renovations	-	-	-	-	3,800
Payroll Services	-	-	966	966	894
Printing, Postage and Stationery	-	-	5,360	5,360	8,744
Professional Fees	-	-	6,694	6,694	6,087
Promotional Expenses	-	-	-	-	707
Rent and Rates	-	-	30,086	30,086	30,436
Repairs and Renewals	-	-	11,552	11,552	5,032
Sim Cards and Broadband	2,711	-	-	2,711	6,597
Software Costs	-	-	1,601	1,601	1,537
Subscriptions	-	-	110	110	176
Sundry	1,655	-	-	1,655	653
Telephone Charges	-	-	1,439	1,439	1,346
Travel	6,217	-	-	6,217	4,115
Ukraine Fund Raising	-	-	-	-	495
Walking Group Expenses	-	-	-	-	1,194
Website Costs	-	-	132	132	1,420
Weekly Social Expenses	25,127	-	-	25,127	21,488
	50,497	282,110	105,083	437,690	389,944
Governance costs					
Audit Fees	-	-	4,950	4,950	3,000
Management Committee Expenses	-	-	250	250	361
Total	50,497	282,110	110,283	442,890	393,305

7. EXPENDITURE BY CHARITABLE ACTIVITY

	Advice & Health	Carers' Support	Elders Outreach	Community Online & Socials	Management & Admin	Total
Staff costs	27,874	30,678	77,559	71,625	74,374	282,110
Other direct	6,467	2,249	2,857	37,624	1,300	50,497
Support costs	14,171	14,194	28,341	28,610	19,767	105,083
Governance costs	743	743	1,486	1,486	743	5,200
	49,255	47,863	110,243	139,345	96,184	442,890

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Equipment & IT	Lease Hold Improv.	Furniture & Fixtures for Leasehold	Furniture and Fixtures	Total
Cost					£
At 1 April 2023	12,869	156,833	1,926	6,150	177,778
Additions	590	-	-	-	590
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	13,459	156,833	1,926	6,150	178,368
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2023	9,281	4,979	61	1,422	15,743
Charge for year	1,198	29,873	367	1,227	32,665
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	10,479	34,852	428	2,649	48,408
Net book value					
At 31 March 2024	2,980	121,981	1,498	3,501	129,960
At 31 March 2023	3,588	151,854	1,865	4,728	162,035

9. DEBTORS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	155	-
Prepayments and accrued income	45,123	6,593
Other debtors	5,625	5,625
Total	50,903	12,218

10. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	4,210	2,878
Other creditors	235	225
Accruals and deferred income	62,345	56,824
Loan from trustee	50,000	50,000
Total	116,790	109,927

Other creditors consist of monthly employee reimbursements paid in the April salary payments. The loan from the Trustee is unsecured.

11. ANALYSIS OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BY FUND

	At 1 April 2023	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds					
Advice & Health	-	24,204	(49,255)	25,051	-
Carers' Support	-	33,750	(47,863)	14,113	-
Management & Admin	-	40,000	(40,000)	-	-
Elders Outreach	-	66,250	(110,243)	43,993	-
Community Online & Socials	-	57,250	(108,126)	50,876	-
National Lottery	36,978	50,000	(56,184)	(30,794)	-
London Catalyst	-	1,500	(869)	-	631
Restricted Funds	36,978	272,954	(412,541)	103,239	631
Core Unrestricted Funds	132,383	150,061	(30,349)	(103,239)	148,855
Total Funds	**169,361**	**423,015**	**(442,890)**	**-**	**149,486**

12. ANALYSIS OF UNRESTRICTED AND RESTRICTED FUNDS

Purposes of revenue restricted funds

Balances on restricted funds represent unspent funds given specifically for individual projects. These balances will be carried forward and spent on each project in the following year. The purpose of each fund is described in the Trustees' report.

Sufficient resources are held in each fund to enable the funds to be applied in accordance with any restrictions.

12. TRANSFERS

Transfers of £30,794 have been made from the National Lottery grant funding against projects run by the charity, these are not fully funded by grants received from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Emigrant Support Programme in Ireland.

13. NET ASSETS

	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	129,961	129,961
Net current assets	631	18,894	19,525
	631	**148,855**	**149,486**

14. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Trustees were authorised to receive reimbursement for their expenditure.

P Burns received £80 (2023: £178) for the reimbursement of travel expenses. P Burns is a related party by virtue of the fact he is a Trustee of the charity.

P Burns has also loaned £50,000 to the charity in the year, this amount is outstanding at the year-end (2023 £50,000). No interest is charged on the loan, and it is repayable subject to the provisions within the loan agreement. These funds were loaned with the purpose of financing building works in the year.

15. NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR

This is stated after charging:

	2024 £	2023 £
Auditors' remuneration - audit fee	4,950	3,000
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	32,665	10,043

16. CORPORATION TAXATION

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

17. CONTROLLING PARTY

The ultimate control of the charity resides with the board of Trustees.

18. OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY AUDITORS

In common with many other entities of our size and nature we use our auditors to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

19. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost and charge represent contributions payable by the company to the fund and amounted to £5,369 (2023: £5,371).

Pension costs are allocated to restricted and unrestricted funds based on the staff that are assigned to the project or service funded from those sources.

20. LEASES

At the reporting end date the company had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Leasehold buildings	91,875	114,375
Equipment	2,916	3,660

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

England & Wales - Charity number 1085033

Accounts

Registered number: 03890639

England and Wales

Charity Number: 1085033

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023



IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – 31 MARCH 2023

Legal & Administrative Information

Company number	-	03890639 (England and Wales)
Charity number	-	1085033
Trustees/Directors	-	A Forde (President) E Dillon P Burns (Chair) C Grice – *Appointed 22 January 2022* K Kay – *Appointed 22 January 2022* M Vincent – *Appointed 22 January 2022* M Twomey P Ewings W Cotter M McCormack (Treasurer)
Key management personnel	-	S Mulligan
Registered office	-	2b Devonshire Road Bexleyheath Kent DA6 8DS
Auditors	-	Simpson Wreford LLP Wellesley House Duke of Wellington Avenue Royal Arsenal London SE18 6SS
Bankers	-	National Westminster Bank PLC 135 Bishopsgate London EC2M 3UR

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees are pleased to present their annual directors' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 March 2023 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

Structure, governance and management

Irish Community Services is a company limited by guarantee and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association which set out the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees (who are also the directors for the purpose of company law), who served as the Management Committee during the period were:

M Vincent
A Forde
P Burns
P Ewings
E Dillon
A Lucas
W Cotter
M McCormack
M Twomey
C Grice
K Kay

The Executive Management Committee is made up of all Trustees.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Trustee Recruitment and Induction

At Irish Community Services we recruit trustees with specific skills and experiences. The process of finding and welcoming new trustees to an established board is an excellent opportunity to evaluate and improve on the Centre's activities effectiveness. The recruitment process is open and transparent and clear about the responsibilities involved.

As a comparatively small charity with limited resources we need to keep a simple approach to recruitment. We review the gaps in our collective experience and consider what additional skills are needed in the organisation. Finding new Trustees with the right skills is sometimes challenging. We recognise that recruitment of Trustees from people we know could give the perception of exclusivity. However we also see the advantages in recruitment by recommendation and over the years this has proved to attract the right calibre of person for our organisation - both as Trustees and active Management Committee members.

Although Trustees generally do not have direct contact with or access to information about the vulnerable people we are serving, we do have a vetting procedure. Trustees are required to have a clear enhanced DBS check.

Objectives and activities

The Charity's objectives are:

- The charity's objectives and principal activity are to benefit the Irish Community in Greenwich, Bexley and Lewisham in line with Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. Irish Community Services plays a full part in supporting the economic, cultural and social development of the community while, in particular, promoting independent living for all older Irish people.
- To relieve persons in need, poverty or distress, particularly, but not exclusively of Irish descent, through the provision of advice and information concerning health, welfare and entitlements as well as other support services.
- Other charitable purposes, including the provision of facilities for the benefit of the public, particularly but not exclusively for persons of Irish descent in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for those persons in need of such facilities.
- Improving welfare for all and promoting Irish culture.

Mission Statement

We provide information, advice, support and social opportunities.
We promote Irish culture amongst the Irish and other communities in South London.

Goals

- ICS address the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable Irish emigrants, in particular the elderly;
- We support equitable access for Irish emigrants and Irish community organisations to local statutory and voluntary services;
- We foster a more vibrant sense of community and Irish identity amongst the Irish in South London
- We encourage closer links between Irish communities in the UK and Ireland, to the benefit of both
- We work with all communities in South London with the objective of improving social and community cohesion

Our Services, Achievement and Performance

ICS is a grass roots community organisation responding to the needs of Irish ethnic minority communities across South London.

The Irish constitute the largest, longest established ethnic minority community in Britain, nationally experiencing serious health inequalities including higher levels of poor mental health, dementia, cancers, cardiovascular disease, alcohol and drug misuse.

There are also barriers to accessing information and services including historical experiences, use of language, and unfamiliarity with systems and procedures.

The Irish Traveller community is one of the most marginalised and excluded community in Britain, experiencing serious inequalities in health, income, access to education, training and employment.

We currently have an Elder Outreach Services, Advice & Health Project, Carers Support Services, Volunteers Project and our Weekly Socials and Community Online Project.

ICS is well known and respected within the local Irish community. We are involved in a number of collaborations. Locally we are working with other BME Health & Social Care organisations strengthening partnerships as competitive providers within the current commissioning structures and contract culture.

We are a valued partner in the National Irish Support Partnership whose focus is on building on the capacity and track records of existing Irish voluntary sector organisations. We work across the London Boroughs of Greenwich, Lewisham and Bexley and are key contributors to the local Voluntary Forums, Safer Neighbourhood Boards and Health Forums.

Elders Information, Advice and Support Services	**Benefits**
Service User led process involving: • Assessment; • Referral to Key Worker and partner agencies; • Support Planning and Engagement with Service users via office, home, or one of our outreach surgeries; • Outcomes Focused with regular reviews; • Drop-in easy access no appointment necessary point of contact in a welcoming environment; • Delivered by highly skilled and experienced staff; • Free at the point of delivery.	• Practical and emotional support delivered in a welcoming professional environment; • Support is holistic, personalized and culturally appropriate – tackles a wide range of complex issues; • Help with form filling and new welfare benefits gained for service users; • Signposting to other organisations; • Improved quality of life; • Added value in terms of community engagement and empowerment of vulnerable people; • Excellent value for money for commissioners and funders.

Training	Benefits
• Regular Training for Staff & Volunteers • Cultural Awareness	• Improved cultural competency in service delivery across a range of external services • Highly skilled practitioners in the workforce • Enhanced partnership working • Offer work experience for Interns
Carers' Project, Volunteer Project and Weekly Socials and Community Online Project	**Benefits**
• Regular 'get-together' for older people including music, song, dance, both online and offline. • Chair based exercise classes promoting physical and social activity and community connections to improve health and well-being; • A programme of online weekly activities including Bingo, quiz, good news café, singing sessions, support groups and more. • Carers' Support Services; • Dementia Services with Reminiscence groups; • Volunteer Project; • Mental Health and Suicide Awareness; • Irish Cancer Support Groups • Cultural celebrations • Access to ICS information, advice and support services; • A full programme of Weekly Socials events including 2x lunch clubs, a tea cake club, book club, games group and more.	• Improved health and well-being through community involvement, connections and activities • Advice, support and practical help on all carers' issues • Exercise classes help the elderly to remain fit and healthy also benefits their mental health • Reminiscence groups for clients with dementia, memory loss or cognitive impairment promotes positive mental health improves well-being • Cancer support groups support people to face up to the challenges of cancer and secure best treatment, this promotes better recovery, assists with better mental health by working together in a group and offering and receiving mutual support. • Added value in terms of cultural identity, social inclusion and community engagement • Volunteer opportunities, including training and work experience

Elders Outreach Project

This service, operated by Anne Ryan and Pat Richardson, helps users obtain their entitlements, assists in appeals, and negotiates with Social Services on domestic help to assist continued independent living. The value of the extra entitlements secured in the financial year 2022/23 is £1.3 million using the common formula agreed for Advice charities. This project was awarded the Advice Quality Standard (AQS) for advice and casework with clients.

Weekly Socials and Community Online Project

This service is operated by Jo Higgins and Debbie Fitzpatrick with the support of volunteers, it operates a weekly programme of online and offline social activities for the clients to participate in. This project also includes a walking group, with a walk across Greenwich and Bexley each week. There are also tablet devices available for clients to learn, engage and connect online.

Volunteers Project

We rely on volunteers for a variety of activities which include supporting the Weekly Socials and Community Online project, providing Befriending, assisting Carers and Housebound clients and also providing admin support in the office. All volunteers are subject to DBS checks and appropriate training.
Volunteer hours for the year were 2,840 which has a Social Value of £25,304 if volunteers were paid the minimum wage of £8.91 per hour.
Volunteers from Ewings & Co Solicitors also run a legal advice surgery, volunteer hours for the year were 156 which has a value of £33,696 if Ewings & Co charged their market rates. Ewings & Co Solicitors is a related party as it is owned by Paul Ewings, a Trustee.

The Family Carers Service and Memory Services

This service focuses on helping carers and the cared for and and particularly valued is the Memory services for people with dementia and their carers. The service provides up to-date advice, support and practical help with form filling and social services review meetings. There is a volunteer 'Sitting-in' scheme that offers respite to carers on a weekly basis, carers support group, newsletter, and home visits. The Memory service offers specialist services for clients with dementia and now runs four Happy day reminiscence groups in Greenwich, Bexley and Lewisham for dementia sufferers and their carers'. There are 431 carers and cared for accessing this service.

Advice & Health Project

This service works with younger Irish clients, many of whom have health issues. It offers advice and practical help on all welfare and unemployment benefits, housing, employment and debt. It also offers information, advice and support in all areas affecting health and wellbeing. The project runs a Cancer support group and provides weekly advice at the Woolwich Service User Project that directly support people affected by homelessness. It was awarded the Advice Quality Standard (AQS) for its advice and casework with clients.

Management and Admin

The Executive Director manages the staff team and the day to day running of the Charity ensuring all reporting, compliance, legal and financial responsibilities are met. The Director and the management committee are assisted by a part-time finance officer. The very challenging financial and funding environment has required the Director and Trustees to develop a more sophisticated and intelligence led funding strategy which is starting to show results.

Partnership Working

ICS is committed to partnership working, firmly believing that this approach is central to ensuring the best possible outcome for our service users and the most effective and efficient use of resources, skills and expertise. We have developed extensive partnerships across health, housing and community care services and networks across South London. We are strategically represented locally, regionally and nationally, influencing and informing the commissioning and development of services through sharing knowledge, community intelligence, learning and best practice. Partners include local authorities, NHS, Department of Health (DoH), Department of Communities and Local Government (CLG), Education, Department of Work and Pensions (DWP), Irish in Britain, Embassy of Ireland, Department of Foreign Affairs Enterprise & Trade, local BME groups, local Police, and a wide range of local voluntary, community and faith sector agencies.

We are identified as an organisation that:

- Continually 'punches above our weight' in terms of maintaining services while responding to emerging/changing needs
- Is a key player in local multi agency partnerships
- Constructively challenges decisions and practices to improve outcomes
- Evidences excellent staff and volunteer retention

FUNDERS

We are most grateful to our funders, supporters and sponsors: Emigrant Support Programme (ESP Irish Government), The National Lottery, East Wickham & Welling War Memorial Trust, The Ireland Funds of Great Britain, Groundwork UK, the Friends of Irish Community Services (ICS) and our members.

Financial review

The results for the year are as shown in the Statement of Financial Activities and the main funders are as detailed in note 2 of the accounts.

Reserves Policy

Deferred income from The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Emigrant Support Programme (The Irish Government) will be spent on staff salaries. Unrestricted reserves will be built up over a period of years until they account for the equivalent of three months payroll to mitigate against any untoward events.

Based on the past year's results this represents a figure of £59,207. Total reserves at the year-end were £169,361 (2022: £103,894).

Risk Management

The Trustees have reviewed the charity's exposure to risk and procedures have been established to mitigate the risks which the charity faces.

A consideration of the precarious nature of charitable funding and the uncertainty associated with funding cycles has evolved a strategic funding plan to diversify income streams and reduce over reliance on any one funder.

Volunteers

Volunteers play a pivotal role in the running of all our services throughout the year. We would like to express our gratitude to all of our volunteers without whom we would not be able to support as many as we do.

Trustees' Responsibilities

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

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure of the charity for that period.

In preparing the financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom

governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our trustees' annual report:

- there is no relevant information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which the auditor is unaware, and
- the trustees, having made enquiries of fellow directors and the auditor that they ought to have individually taken, have each taken all steps that he/she is obliged to take as a director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

Auditors

Simpson Wreford LLP were appointed as Independent auditors during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

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

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees/directors on 19 August 2023

P Burns (Chair)

M McCormack (Treasurer)

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of Irish Community Services for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement and the related notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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

Conclusions relating to going concern
We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

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

Other information
The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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 trustees' report (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report) have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception
In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit;
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; 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.

Responsibilities of the trustees
As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 3-9, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

The trustees have elected for the financial statements to be audited in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 rather than the Companies Act 2006. Accordingly, we have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act. 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 for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council'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

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, data protection and health and safety regulation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of key 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.

Audit response to risks identified

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

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

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

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in Note 1 were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

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

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation and;
- enquiring of key management as to actual and potential litigation and claims.
- reviewing correspondence with the Charity Commission

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and the regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's trustees 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 Charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Kate Taylor FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Simpson Wreford LLP, Statutory Auditors
and Chartered Accountants
Wellesley House
Duke of Wellington Avenue
Royal Arsenal
London SE18 6SS

Dated: 19th August 2023

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Including Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £	2022 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	1	59,442	-	59,441	31,747
Other trading activities		13,295	-	13,296	2,322
Investments		669	-	669	31
Charitable activities	2	16,100	365,140	381,240	281,827
Other		4,126	-	4,126	189
Total		93,632	365,140	458,772	316,116
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities		25,413	364,892	390,305	314,065
Other		1,286	1,714	3,000	3,000
Total	6	26,699	366,606	393,305	317,065
Net income/(expenditure)		66,933	(1,466)	65,467	- 949
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds					
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		65,450	38,444	103,894	104,843
Total funds carried forward		132,383	36,978	169,361	103,894

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 14 to 23 form part of these financial statements.

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	7		162,035		3,030
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	8	12,218		74,110	
Cash at bank and in hand		105,035		85,514	
		117,253		159,624	
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(109,927)		(58,760)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			7,326		100,864
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			169,361		103,894
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted income funds			132,383		62,691
Designated income funds			-		2,759
Restricted income funds			36,978		38,444
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS	10		169,361		103,894

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2023, although an audit has been carried out under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these accounts under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 12 to 23 were approved by the Trustees on 19 August 2023 and signed on their behalf by

P Burns (Chair)

M McCormack (Treasurer)

Company Registration No. 0389063

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and in the preceding year.

Company information
Irish Community Services is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. The registered office is 2b Devonshire Road, Bexleyheath, Kent, DA6 8DS.

(a) Basis of preparation
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006.

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

The effects of events relating to the year ended 31 March 2023 which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 31 March 2023 and the results for the year ended on that date.

Irish Community Services meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

(b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis
The charity has secured funding from the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Emigrant Support Programme for the next financial year, allowing them to fund their activities and on this basis the charity is considered a going concern.

(c) Income
Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably. Except as follows:

- Donations and legacy income are received by way of donations and gifts and are included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.
- Charitable activity income is recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which is specified by the donor.

- When donors impose conditions, which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the pre-conditions for use have been met.
- When donors specify that donations and grants are for a particular restricted purpose this income is included in incoming resources of restricted funds when receivable.

(d) Donated services and facilities
Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of volunteers is not recognised. Refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

(e) Resources expended and irrecoverable VAT
Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Certain expenditure is directly attributable to specific activities and has been included in those cost categories. Certain other costs, which are attributable to more than one activity, are apportioned across cost categories on the basis of staff costs spent on those activities. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

Charitable activities costs include the direct cost of providing services, as well as a share of overheads.

Governance costs include the cost of compliance with the charity's constitutional and statutory requirements.

The cost of generating funds relate to the costs incurred by the charity in raising funds for charitable work.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

(f) Tangible fixed assets
Fixed assets are valued at cost, with impairment reviews performed annually. It is the policy of the company to provide depreciation at the following annual rate in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful economic life.

Office Equipment	-	20% on cost
Computer Equipment	-	33.3% on cost
Leasehold Improvements	-	20% on cost
Furniture & Fittings	-	20% on cost

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £100 except where the items are expected to have a life expectancy of less than 2 years.

(g) Debtors
Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

(h) Cash at bank and in hand
Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

(i) Creditors and provisions
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

(j) Financial instruments
The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

(k) Pensions
The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

(l) Fund accounting
General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the Company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors which have been raised by the Company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Statutory grants which are given as contributions towards the Company's core services are treated as unrestricted.

(m) Government grants
Government grants are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when there is reasonable assurance that the grant conditions will be met and the grants will be received.

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS – 31 MARCH 2023

1. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted 2023	Restricted 2023	Total 2023	Total 2022
Voluntary income	£	£	£	£
Donations	14,637	-	14,637	8,887
Asda foundation	1,300	-	1,300	-
Gift aid	5,547	-	5,547	3,253
Membership fees	5,825	-	5,825	7,065
Weekly Social Events Income	32,132	-	32,132	12,543
	59,442	**-**	**59,442**	**31,747**

2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted 2023	Restricted 2023	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Emigrant Support Programme	-	206,864	206,864	199,011
Arnold Clark Automotive	-	-	-	1,000
Bexley Lottery	-	-	-	663
Charitable Trusts	-	-	-	250
East Wickham & Welling War Memorial	100	-	100	500
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	-	-	15,000
Groundwork UK	5,000		5,000	-
Ireland Fund of GB	11,000	-	11,000	1,000
London Borough of Bexley	-	30,000	30,000	1,500
National Lottery - Community Fund	-	128,276	128,276	60,000
Pebbles Janu - The Rank Foundation	-	-	-	2,750
Welfare Grant	-	-	-	153
Total Income From Charitable Activities	**16,100**	**365,140**	**381,240**	**281,827**

During the year ended 31 March 2023, Irish Community Services received a grant of £209,050 from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Emigrant Support Programme. The grant covers the period ending 30 June 2023 and was for the following activities:

- £26,050 contribution towards Advice & Health
- £33,000 contribution towards Carers Support Services
- £55,000 contribution towards Elders Outreach & Advocacy
- £40,000 contribution towards the salary of a Executive Director
- £55,000 contribution towards the Weekly Socials and Community Online Project

The grants awarded for the 2022/23 financial year have all been spent during the year. The grants awarded for 2023/24 will be spent in the next financial year and so have not been recorded as income for the year ended 31 March 2023 but are carried forward as deferred income on the balance sheet.

Total deferred income in relation to 2023/24 amounts to £52,263, which relates to the period 1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024.

Deferred income brought forward of £50,076 was released to the Statement of Financial Activities during the year and included under income from charitable activities.

3. STAFF COSTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	216,939	201,363
Social security costs - employer's contribution	14,516	13,468
Staff pensions	5,371	5,694
	236,826	**220,525**

The average monthly head count was 9 staff (2022: 9 staff).

No employee had employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2022: nil).

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION

Trustees received no remuneration or employee benefits during the year (2022: nil).

5. VOLUNTEERS

We rely on a number of volunteers to run our services, and their contribution is critical to the delivery of these services. In accordance with FRS102 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS – 31 MARCH 2023

6. TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Other Direct Costs	Direct Staff Costs	Support Costs	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities					
Salaries	-	231,455	-	231,455	214,831
Staff Pension	-	5,371	-	5,371	5,694
Staff Training	1,114	-	1,484	2,598	1,424
Recruitment	286	-	382	668	-
Advertising	5,942	-	963	6,905	788
Bank Charges and Interest	839	-	-	839	780
Carer Expenses	-	-	95	95	215
Choir Expenses	1,531	-	-	1,531	1,100
Depreciation	5,345	-	4,699	10,043	3,028
Foot Care Expenses	-	-	368	368	390
Fundraising Expenses	699	-	17	716	162
Grants paid	150	-	26,754	26,904	-
Group expenses	602	-	262	864	-
Hall hire	1,568	-	1,745	3,313	-
Insurance	692	-	923	1,615	1,474
IT Support	914	-	1,024	1,938	1,709
IT Upgrade	-	-	-	-	941
Management Committee Exps	155	-	206	361	1,112
Merchandise Expenses	0	-	-	-	240
Office renovations	3,800	-	0	3,800	9,626
Payroll Services	383	-	511	894	840
Printing, Postage and Stationery	3,756	-	4,987	8,744	8,730
Professional Fees	2,646	-	3,441	6,087	6,170
Promotional Expenses	646	-	61	707	365
Rent and Rates	13,044	-	17,392	30,436	26,366
Repairs and Renewals	2,168	-	2,864	5,032	2,429
Sim Cards and Broadband	2,997	-	3,600	6,597	6,067
Software Costs	659	-	879	1,537	969
Subscriptions	110	-	66	176	360
Sundry	291	-	362	653	404
Telephone Charges	1,019	-	327	1,346	3,392
Travel	1,311	-	2,805	4,115	1,720
Ukraine Fund Raising	-	-	495	495	-
Walking Group Expenses	-	-	1,194	1,194	1,772
Website Costs	609	-	812	1,420	99
Weekly Social Expenses	21,488	-	-	21,488	10,717
Welfare Grant Paid	-	-	-	-	153
	74,762	236,825	78,716	390,305	314,065
Other					
Audit Fees	3,000	-	-	3,000	3,000
Total	77,762	236,825	78,716	393,305	317,065

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Cost	Equipment & IT	Lease Hold Improv.	Furniture & Fixtures for Leashold	Furniture and Fixtures	Total £
At 1 April 2022	8,632	-	-	451	9,083
Additions	4,590	156,833	1,926	5,699	169,048
Disposals	(353)	-	-	-	(353)
At 31 March 2023	12,869	156,833	1,926	6,150	177,778
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2022	5,872	-	-	181	6,053
Charge for year	3,762	4,979	61	1,241	10,043
Disposals	(353)	-	-	-	(353)
At 31 March 2023	9,281	4,979	61	1,422	15,743
Net book value					
At 31 March 2023	3,588	151,854	1,865	4,728	162,035
At 31 March 2022	2,760	-	-	270	3,030

8. DEBTORS

	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments and accrued income	6,593	8,484
Other debtors	5,625	65,626
Total	12,218	74,110

9. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	2,878	2,909
Other creditors	225	101
Accruals and deferred income	56,824	55,750
Loan from trustee	50,000	-
Total	109,927	58,760

Other creditors consist of monthly employee reimbursements paid in the April salary payments. The loan from the Trustee is unsecured.

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

10. ANALYSIS OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BY FUND

	At 1 April 2022 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2023 £
Restricted Funds					
Advice & Health	-	27,038	(32,395)	5,357	-
Carers' Support	-	31,826	(39,251)	7,425	-
Management & Admin	-	38,750	(57,256)	18,506	-
Elders Outreach	-	55,000	(69,414)	14,414	-
Community Online & Socials	-	54,250	(95,554)	41,304	-
Dementia Project	11,426	-	(11,426)	-	-
Groundwork	5,056	-	(5,056)	-	-
Crafting Project	1,325	-	(1,325)	-	-
National Lottery	5,637	128,276	(24,929)	(72,006)	36,978
London Borough of Bexley		30,000	(30,000)		-
Independent Living	15,000	-	-	(15,000)	-
Restricted Funds	38,444	365,140	(366,606)	-	36,978
Core Unrestricted Funds	62,691	93,632	(23,940)	-	132,383
Unrestricted - Designated	2,759	-	(2,759)	-	-
Total Funds	**103,894**	**458,772**	**393,305**	**-**	**169,361**

11. ANALYSIS OF UNRESTRICTED AND RESTRICTED FUNDS

Purposes of revenue restricted funds
Balances on restricted funds represent unspent funds given specifically for individual projects. These balances will be carried forward and spent on each project in the following year. The purpose of each fund is described in the Trustees' report.

Sufficient resources are held in each fund to enable the funds to be applied in accordance with any restrictions.

Purposes of designated funds
During the year ended 31st March 2021 the charity received a COVID-19 grant from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Emigrant Support Programme. It was agreed that the grant could be used to cover the costs of 5 KOMP devices and 16 Samsung Tablets. The cost of the equipment totalled £5,285 and has been included as part of tangible fixed assets. Depreciation of £1,762 has been charged during the year (2022: £1,762). The charity also designated £2,994 from the National Lottery to fund 5 KOMP devices and this amount has been included as part of tangible fixed assets. Depreciation of £998 (2022: £998) has been charged during the year. This has been accounted for in accordance with the SORP. The fund is now fully utilised.

12. TRANSFERS

Transfers of £72,006 have been made from the National Lottery grant funding against projects run by the charity, these are not fully funded by grants received from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Emigrant Support Programme in Ireland.

The transfer of the grant from independent living has been made to the Elders Outreach Programme, as all costs in relation to this grant are tied to the same activity.

13. NET ASSETS

	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	162,035	162,035
Net current assets	36,978	(29,652)	7,326
	36,978	**132,383**	**169,361**

14. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Trustees were authorised to receive reimbursement for their expenditure.

P Burns received £178 (2022: £102) for the reimbursement of travel expenses. P Burns donated £690 to the charity which has been used to purchase a new fridge freezer. P Burns is a related party by virtue of the fact he is a Trustee of the charity.

P Burns has also loaned £50,000 to the charity in the year (2022: £nil) this amount is outstanding at the year end. No interest is charged on the loan, and it is repayable subject to the provisions within the loan agreement. These funds were loaned with the purpose of financing building works in the year. Legal fees of £1,440 were paid in relation to the loan agreement.

15. NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR

This is stated after charging:

	2023 £	2022 £
Auditors' remuneration - audit fee	3,000	3,000
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	10,043	3,028

16. CORPORATION TAXATION

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

17. CONTROLLING PARTY

The ultimate control of the charity resides with the board of Trustees.

18. OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY AUDITORS

In common with many other entities of our size and nature we use our auditors to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

19. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost and charge represent contributions payable by the company to the fund and amounted to £5,371 (2022: £5,694).

Pension costs are allocated to restricted and unrestricted funds based on the staff that are assigned to the project or service funded from those sources.

20. LEASES

At the reporting end date the company had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Leasehold buildings	114,375	136,875
Equipment	3,660	-

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

England & Wales - Charity number 1085033

Accounts

Registered number: 03890639

England and Wales

Charity Number: 1085033

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Contents

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12	Statement of financial activities
13	Balance sheet
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IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – 31 MARCH 2022

Legal & Administrative Information

Company number	-	03890639 (England and Wales)
Charity number	-	1085033
Trustees/Directors	-	A Forde (President) E Dillon P Burns (Chair) C Grice – *Appointed 22 January 2022* K Kay – *Appointed 22 January 2022* M Vincent – *Appointed 22 January 2022* M Twomey A Lucas – *Resigned 15 May 2021* P Ewings W Cotter M McCormack (Treasurer)
Key management personnel	-	S Mulligan
Registered office	-	2b Devonshire Road Bexleyheath Kent DA6 8DS
Auditors	-	Simpson Wreford LLP Wellesley House Duke of Wellington Avenue Royal Arsenal London SE18 6SS
Bankers	-	Allied Irish Bank Retail Business PO Box 52496 London NW3 9ED National Westminster Bank PLC 135 Bishopsgate London EC2M 3UR

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – 31 MARCH 2022

The trustees are pleased to present their annual directors' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 March 2022 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

Structure, governance and management

Irish Community Services is a company limited by guarantee and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association which set out the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees (who are also the directors for the purpose of company law), who served as the Management Committee during the period were:

M Vincent
A Forde
P Burns
P Ewings
E Dillon
A Lucas
W Cotter
M McCormack
M Twomey
C Grice
K Kay

The Executive Management Committee is made up of all Trustees.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Trustee Recruitment and Induction

At Irish Community Services we recruit trustees with specific skills and experiences. The process of finding and welcoming new trustees to an established board is an excellent opportunity to evaluate and improve on the Centre's activities effectiveness. The recruitment process is open and transparent and clear about the responsibilities involved.

As a comparatively small charity with limited resources we need to keep a simple approach to recruitment. We review the gaps in our collective experience and consider what additional skills are needed in the organisation. Finding new Trustees with the right skills has always been challenging. We recognise that recruitment of Trustees from people we know could give the perception of exclusivity. However we also see the advantages in recruitment by recommendation and over the years this has proved to attract the right calibre of person for our organisation - both as Trustees and Management Committee members.

Although Trustees generally do not have direct contact with or access to information about the vulnerable people we are serving, we do have a vetting procedure. Trustees are required to have a clear enhanced DBS check.

Objectives and activities

The Charity's objectives are:

- The charity's objectives and principal activity are to benefit the Irish Community in Greenwich, Bexley and Lewisham in line with Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. Irish Community Services plays a full part in supporting the economic, cultural and social development of the community while, in particular, promoting independent living for all older Irish people.
- To relieve persons in need, poverty or distress, particularly, but not exclusively of Irish descent, through the provision of advice and information concerning health and benefits as well as other support services.
- Other charitable purposes, including the provision of facilities for the benefit of the public, particularly but not exclusively for persons of Irish descent in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for those persons in need of such facilities.
- Improving welfare for all and promoting Irish culture.

Mission Statement

We provide information, advice, support and social opportunities.
We promote Irish culture amongst the Irish and other communities in South London.

Goals

- ICS address the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable Irish emigrants, in particular the elderly;
- We support equitable access for Irish emigrants and Irish community organisations to local statutory and voluntary services;
- We foster a more vibrant sense of community and Irish identity amongst the Irish in South London
- We encourage closer links between Irish communities in the UK and Ireland, to the benefit of both
- We work with all communities in South London with the objective of improving social and community cohesion

Our Services, Achievement and Performance

ICS is a grass roots community organisation responding to the needs of Irish ethnic minority communities across South London.

The Irish constitute the largest, longest established ethnic minority community in Britain, nationally experiencing serious health inequalities including higher levels of poor mental health, dementia, cancers, cardiovascular disease, alcohol and drug misuse.

There are also barriers to accessing information and services including historical experiences, use of language, lack of knowledge of systems and procedures.

The Irish Traveller community is often the most marginalised and excluded community in Britain, experiencing serious inequalities in health, income, access to education, training and employment.

We currently have an Elder Outreach Services, Advice & Health Project, Carers Support Services, Memory Services, Volunteers Project and our Weekly Socials Project.

ICS is well known and respected within the local Irish community. We are involved in a number of collaborations. Locally we are working with other BME Health & Social Care organisations strengthening partnerships as competitive providers within the current commissioning structures and contract culture.

We are a valued partner in the national Irish in Britain Policy Action Group and Irish Support Partnership whose focus is on building on the capacity and track records of existing Irish voluntary sector organisations.

Elders Information, Advice and Support Services	**Benefits**
Elders Outreach Services & Advice & Health Project Service User led process involving: • Assessment; • Referral to Key Worker and partner agencies; • Support Planning and Engagement with Service users via office, home, or one of our outreach surgeries; • Outcomes Focused with regular reviews; • Drop-in easy access no appointment necessary point of contact in a welcoming environment; • Delivered by highly skilled and experienced staff; • Free at the point of delivery.	• Practical and emotional support delivered in a welcoming professional environment; • Support is holistic, personalized and culturally appropriate – tackles a wide range of complex issues; • Help with form filling and new welfare benefits gained for service users; • Signposting to other organisations; • Improved quality of life; • Added value in terms of community engagement and empowerment of vulnerable people; • Excellent value for money for commissioners and funders.

Training	**Benefits**
• Regular Training for Staff & Volunteers • Cultural Awareness • Health and Social Care Trainee Placement Provider ICS works in partnership with Greenwich & City Universities.	• Improved cultural competency in service delivery across a range of external services • Highly skilled practitioners in the workforce • Enhanced partnership working • Offer work experience for Interns
Carers' Project, Memory Services, Volunteer Project and Weekly Socials Project	**Benefits**
• Regular 'get-together' for older people including music, song, dance, both online and offline. • Chair based exercise classes promoting physical and social activity and community connections to improve health and well-being; • A programme of online weekly activities including Bingo, quiz, good news café, singing sessions, support groups and more. • Carers' Support Services; • Dementia Services with Reminiscence groups; • Volunteer Project; • Mental Health and Suicide Awareness; • Irish Cancer Support Groups • Cultural celebrations • Access to ICS information, advice and support services; • Other social groups	• Improved health and well-being through community involvement, connections and activities • Advice, support and practical help on all carers' issues • Exercise classes help the elderly to remain fit and healthy also benefits their mental health • Reminiscence groups for clients with dementia, memory loss or cognitive impairment promotes positive mental health improves well-being • Cancer support groups support people to face up to the challenges of cancer and secure best treatment, this promotes better recovery, assists with better mental health by working together in a group and offering and receiving mutual support. • Added value in terms of cultural identity, social inclusion and community engagement • Volunteer opportunities, including training and work experience

Elders Outreach Project

This service, operated by Anne Ryan and Pat Richardson, helps users obtain their entitlements, assists in appeals, and negotiates with Social Services on domestic help to assist continued independent living. The value of the extra entitlements secured in the financial year 2021/22 is £1.89 million using the common formula agreed for Advice charities. This project was awarded the Advice Quality Standard (AQS) for advice work with clients.

Weekly Socials and Community Online Project

This service is operated by Jo Higgins with the support of volunteers, it operates a weekly programme of online and offline social activities for the clients to participate in. This project also includes a walking group, with a walk across Greenwich, Bexley, and Lewisham every day, 5 days a week. There are also tablet devices available for clients to learn, engage and connect online.

Volunteers Project

We rely on volunteers for a variety of activities which include supporting the Weekly Socials and Community Online project, providing Befriending, assisting Carers and Housebound clients and also providing admin support in the office. All volunteers are subject to DBS checks and appropriate training.
Volunteer hours for the year were 1,421 which has a Social Value of £12,661 if volunteers were paid the minimum wage of £8.91 per hour.

Volunteers from Ewings & Co Solicitors also run a legal advice surgery, volunteer hours for the year were 312 which has a value of £67,392 if Ewings & Co charged their market rates. Ewings & Co Solicitors is a related party as it is owned by Paul Ewings, a Trustee.

The Family Carers Service and Memory Services

This service focuses on helping carers and the cared for and and particularly valued is the Memory services for people with dementia and their carers. The service provides up to-date advice, support and practical help with form filling and social services review meetings. There is a volunteer 'Sitting-in' scheme that offers respite to carers on a weekly basis, carers support group, newsletter, and home visits. The Memory service offers specialist services for clients with dementia and now runs four Happy day reminiscence groups in Greenwich, Bexley and Lewisham for dementia sufferers and their carers'. There are 204 carers and cared for accessing this service.

Advice & Health Project

This service works with younger Irish clients, many of whom have health issues. It offers advice and practical help on all welfare and unemployment benefits, housing, employment and debt. It also offers information, advice and support in all areas affecting health and wellbeing. The project runs a monthly back to work Job club, Cancer Support group and Women Travellers Support group. It was awarded the Advice Quality Standard (AQS) for its work with clients.

Management and Admin

The Executive Director manages the staff team and the day to day running of the Charity ensuring all reporting, compliance, legal and financial responsibilities are met. The Director and the management committee are assisted by a part-time finance officer. The very challenging financial and funding environment has required the Director and Trustees to develop a more sophisticated and intelligence led funding strategy which is starting to show results.

Partnership Working

ICS is committed to partnership working, firmly believing that this approach is central to ensuring the best possible outcome for our service users and the most effective and efficient use of resources, skills and expertise. We have developed extensive partnerships across health, housing and community care services and networks across South London. We are strategically represented locally, regionally and nationally, influencing and informing the commissioning and development of services through sharing knowledge, community intelligence, learning and best practice. Partners include local authorities, NHS, Department of Health (DoH), Department of Communities and Local Government (CLG), Education, Department of Work and Pensions (DWP), Irish in Britain, Embassy of Ireland, Department of Foreign Affairs Enterprise & Trade, local BME groups, local Police, and a wide range of local voluntary, community and faith sector agencies.

We are identified as an organisation that:

- Continually 'punches above our weight' in terms of maintaining services while responding to emerging/changing needs
- Is a key player in local multi agency partnerships
- Constructively challenges decisions and practices to improve outcomes
- Is a valued partner in enhancing student learning with Trainee Social Workers from the local Universities
- Evidences excellent staff and volunteer retention

FUNDERS

We are most grateful to our funders, supporters and sponsors: Emigrant Support Programme (ESP Irish Government), The National Lottery, Pebbles Janu, West London Irish, Garfield Weston Foundation, the Friends of Irish Community Services (ICS) and our members.

Financial review

The results for the year are as shown in the Statement of Financial Activities and the main funders are as detailed in note 2 of the accounts.

Reserves Policy

Deferred income from The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Emigrant Support Programme (The Irish Government) will be spent on staff salaries. Unrestricted reserves will be built up over a period of years until they account for the equivalent of three months payroll to mitigate against any untoward events.

Based on the past year's results this represents a figure of £55,131. Total reserves at the year-end were £103,894 (2021: £104,843).

Risk Management

The Trustees have reviewed the charity's exposure to risk and procedures have been established to mitigate the risks which the charity faces.

A consideration of the precarious nature of charitable funding and the uncertainty associated with funding cycles has evolved a strategic funding plan to diversify income streams and reduce over reliance on any one funder.

Volunteers

Volunteers play a pivotal role in the running of all our services throughout the year. We would like to express our gratitude to all of our volunteers without whom we would not be able to support as many as we do.

Trustees' Responsibilities

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

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure of the charity for that period.

In preparing the financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom

governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our trustees' annual report:

- there is no relevant information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which the auditor is unaware, and
- the trustees, having made enquiries of fellow directors and the auditor that they ought to have individually taken, have each taken all steps that he/she is obliged to take as a director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

Auditors

Simpson Wreford LLP were appointed as Independent auditors during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

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

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees/directors on 27th October 2022

P Burns (Chair)

M McCormack (Treasurer)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of Irish Community Services for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement and the related notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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

Conclusions relating to going concern
We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

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

Other information
The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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 trustees' report (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report) have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception
In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit;
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; 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.

Responsibilities of the trustees
As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 3-9, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

The trustees have elected for the financial statements to be audited in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 rather than the Companies Act 2006. Accordingly, we have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act. 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 for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council'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

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, data protection and health and safety regulation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of key 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.

Audit response to risks identified

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

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

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

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in Note 1 were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

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

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation and;
- enquiring of key management as to actual and potential litigation and claims.
- reviewing correspondence with the Charity Commission

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and the regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's trustees 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 Charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Kate Taylor FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Simpson Wreford LLP, Statutory Auditors and Chartered Accountants
Wellesley House
Duke of Wellington Avenue
Royal Arsenal
London SE18 6SS

Dated: 28th October 2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Including Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £	2021 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	1	31,503	244	31,747	23,615
Other trading activities		224	2,098	2,322	3,155
Investments		31	-	31	41
Coronavirus job retention scheme		-	-	-	18,235
Charitable activities	2	52,000	229,827	281,827	273,525
Other		49	139	189	631
Total		83,807	232,309	316,116	319,202
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities		79,162	234,903	314,065	331,891
Other		1,214	1,786	3,000	3,000
Total	6	80,376	236,689	317,065	334,891
Net income/(expenditure)		3,432	(4,381)	(949)	(15,689)
Transfers between funds		(9,559)	9,559	-	-
Net movement in funds					
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		71,578	33,265	104,843	120,532
Total funds carried forward		65,450	38,443	103,894	104,843

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 14 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	7		3,030		6,058
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	8	74,110		12,191	
Cash at bank and in hand		85,514		139,740	
		159,624		151,931	
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(58,760)		(53,146)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			100,864		98,785
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			103,894		104,843
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted income funds			62,691		66,059
Designated income funds			2,759		5,519
Restricted income funds			38,444		33,265
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS	10		103,894		104,843

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2022, although an audit has been carried out under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these accounts under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 12 to 24 were approved by the Trustees on 27/10/22 and signed on their behalf by

P Burns (Chair)

M McCormack (Treasurer)

Company Registration No. 0389063

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and in the preceding year.

Company information
Irish Community Services is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. The registered office is 2b Devonshire Road, Bexleyheath, Kent, DA6 8DS.

(a) Basis of preparation
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006.

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

The effects of events relating to the year ended 31 March 2022 which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 31 March 2022 and the results for the year ended on that date.

Irish Community Services meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

(b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis
The charity has secured funding from the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Emigrant Support Programme for the next financial year, allowing them to fund their activities and on this basis the charity is considered a going concern.

(c) Income
Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably. Except as follows:

- Donations and legacy income are received by way of donations and gifts and are included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.
- Charitable activity income is recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which is specified by the donor.

- When donors impose conditions, which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the pre-conditions for use have been met.
- When donors specify that donations and grants are for a particular restricted purpose this income is included in incoming resources of restricted funds when receivable.

(d) Donated services and facilities
Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of volunteers is not recognised. Refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

(e) Resources expended and irrecoverable VAT
Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Certain expenditure is directly attributable to specific activities and has been included in those cost categories. Certain other costs, which are attributable to more than one activity, are apportioned across cost categories on the basis of staff costs spent on those activities. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

Charitable activities costs include the direct cost of providing services, as well as a share of overheads.

Governance costs include the cost of compliance with the charity's constitutional and statutory requirements.

The cost of generating funds relate to the costs incurred by the charity in raising funds for charitable work.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

(f) Tangible fixed assets
Fixed assets are valued at cost, with impairment reviews performed annually. It is the policy of the company to provide depreciation at the following annual rate in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful economic life.

Office Equipment	-	20% on cost
Computer Equipment	-	33.3% on cost
Leasehold Improvements	-	20% on cost
Furniture & Fittings	-	20% on cost

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £100 except where the items are expected to have a life expectancy of less than 2 years.

(g) Debtors
Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

(h) Cash at bank and in hand
Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

(i) Creditors and provisions
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

(j) Financial instruments
The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

(k) Pensions
The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

(l) Fund accounting
General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the Company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors which have been raised by the Company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Statutory grants which are given as contributions towards the Company's core services are treated as unrestricted.

(m) Government grants
Government grants are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when there is reasonable assurance that the grant conditions will be met and the grants will be received.

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS – 31 MARCH 2022

1. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted 2022	Restricted 2022	Total 2022	Total 2021
Voluntary income	£	£	£	£
Donations	8,643	244	8,887	18,443
Gift aid	3,253	-	3,253	2,816
Membership fees	7,065	-	7,065	2,356
Weekly Social Events Income	12,543	-	12,543	-
	31,503	**244**	**31,747**	**23,615**

2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted 2022	Restricted 2022	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Emigrant Support Programme	52,000	147,011	199,011	198,690
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Emigrant Support Programme - COVID 19	-	-	-	40,695
Asda	-	-	-	300
Arnold Clark Automotive	-	1,000	1,000	-
Bexley Lottery	-	663	663	-
Charitable Trusts	-	250	250	550
East Wickham & Welling War Memorial	-	500	500	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	15,000	15,000	-
Groundwork UK	-	-	-	5,500
Independent Living	-	-	-	15,000
Ireland Fund of GB	-	1,000	1,000	-
London Borough of Bexley	-	1,500	1,500	-
National Lottery - Community Fund	-	60,000	60,000	-
National Lottery - COVID-19 Response	-	-	-	9,590
Pebbles Janu - The Rank Foundation	-	2,750	2,750	-
Royal Borough of Greenwich	-	-	-	2,600
Welfare Grant	-	153	153	-
West London Irish WLIS	-	-	-	600
	52,000	**229,827**	**281,827**	**273,525**
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	-	-	-	18,235
Total Income From Charitable Activities	**52,000**	**229,827**	**281,827**	**291,760**

During the year ended 31 March 2022, Irish Community Services received a grant of £200,305 from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Emigrant Support Programme. The grant covers the period ending 30 June 2022 and was for the following activities:

- £30,000 contribution towards Advice & Health
- £28,305 contribution towards Carers Support Services
- £55,000 contribution towards Elders Outreach & Advocacy
- £52,000 contribution towards the Weekly Socials and Community Online Project
- £35,000 contribution towards the salary of a Executive Director

The grants awarded for the 2021/22 financial year have all been spent during the year. The grants awarded for 2022/23 will be spent in the next financial year and so have not been recorded as income for the year ended 31 March 2022 but are carried forward as deferred income on the balance sheet.

Total deferred income in relation to 2022/23 amounts to £50,076, which relates to the period 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023.

Deferred income brought forward of £48,783 was released to the Statement of Financial Activities during the year and included under income from charitable activities.

3. STAFF COSTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	201,363	195,809
Social security costs - employer's contribution	13,468	11,701
Staff pensions	5,694	5,278
Redundancy costs	-	9,574
	220,525	**222,362**

The average monthly head count was 9 staff (2021: 10 staff).

No employee had employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2021: nil).

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION

Trustees received no remuneration or employee benefits during the year (2021: nil).

5. VOLUNTEERS

We rely on a number of volunteers to run our services, and their contribution is critical to the delivery of these services. In accordance with FRS102 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

6. TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Other Direct Costs £	Direct Staff Costs £	Support Costs £	2022 £	2021 £
Charitable activities					
Salaries	-	214,831	-	214,831	207,510
Staff Pension	-	5,694	-	5,694	5,278
Staff Training	475	-	949	1,424	1,709
Redundancy	-	-	-	-	9,574
Advertising	338	-	450	788	3,451
Bank Charges and Interest	780	-	-	780	650
Carer Expenses	-	-	215	215	(220)
Choir Expenses	1,100	-	-	1,100	975
COVID-19 Expenses	-	-	-	-	3,410
Depreciation	1,336	-	1,692	3,028	3,070
Foot Care Expenses	-	-	390	390	-
Fundraising Expenses	62	-	100	162	359
Insurance	580	-	894	1,474	1,263
IT Support	749	-	960	1,709	-
IT Upgrade	941	-	-	941	8,463
Leasing	-	-	-	-	1,720
Management Committee Exps	480	-	632	1,112	161
Merchandise Expenses	240	-	-	240	-
Office renovations	5,994	-	3,632	9,626	-
Payroll Services	320	-	520	840	1,344
Printing, Postage and Stationery	3,470	-	5,260	8,730	5,212
Professional Fees	2,901	-	3,269	6,170	3,053
Promotional Expenses	159	-	206	365	22,712
Rent and Rates	10,057	-	16,309	26,366	30,215
Repairs and Renewals	967	-	1,462	2,429	6,368
Sim Cards and Broadband	1,939	-	4,128	6,067	6,323
Software Costs	369	-	600	969	1,248
Subscriptions	254	-	106	360	95
Sundry	103	-	301	404	8
Telephone Charges	1,490	-	1,902	3,392	6,540
Travel	581	-	1,139	1,720	1,302
Walking Group Expenses	1,772	-	-	1,772	-
Website Costs	41	-	58	99	99
Weekly Social Expenses	10,717	-	-	10,717	-
Welfare Grant Paid	-	-	153	153	-
	48,215	220,525	45,326	314,065	331,891
Other					
Audit Fees	3,000	-	-	3,000	3,000
Total	51,215	220,525	45,326	317,065	334,891

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Cost	Equipment & IT	Furniture and Fixtures	Total £
At 1 April 2021	9,197	565	9,762
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	(565)	(114)	(679)
At 31 March 2022	8,632	451	9,083
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2021	3,499	205	3,704
Charge for year	2,938	90	3,028
Disposals	(565)	(114)	(679)
At 31 March 2022	5,872	181	6,053
Net book value			
At 31 March 2022	2,760	270	3,030
At 31 March 2021	5,697	361	6,058

8. DEBTORS

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	8,484	6,566
Other debtors	65,626	5,625
Total	74,110	12,191

9. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	2,909	1,224
Other creditors	101	30
Accruals and deferred income	55,750	51,892
Total	58,760	53,146

Other creditors consist of monthly employee reimbursements paid in the April salary payments.

10. ANALYSIS OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BY FUND

	At 1 April 2021 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2022 £
Restricted Funds					
Advice & Health	-	32,251	(23,440)	(8,811)	-
Carers' Support	-	31,938	(37,176)	5,238	-
Management & Admin	-	39,391	(39,391)	-	-
Elders Outreach	-	62,016	(75,148)	13,132	-
Community Online	-	4,393	(4,393)	-	-
Central Support	-	2,321	(2,321)	-	-
Dementia Project	11,426	-	-	-	11,426
Groundwork	5,056	-	-	-	5,056
Crafting Project	1,325	-	-	-	1,325
National Lottery	458	60,000	(54,821)	-	5,637
Independent Living	15,000	-	-	-	15,000
Restricted Funds	33,265	232,309	(236,689)	9,559	38,444
Core Unrestricted Funds	66,059	83,807	(77,616)	(9,559)	62,691
Unrestricted - Designated	5,519	-	(2,760)	-	2,759
Total Funds	**104,843**	**316,116**	**(317,065)**	**-**	**103,894**

11. ANALYSIS OF UNRESTRICTED AND RESTRICTED FUNDS

Purposes of revenue restricted funds
Balances on restricted funds represent unspent funds given specifically for individual projects. These balances will be carried forward and spent on each project in the following year. The purpose of each fund is described in the Trustees' report.

Sufficient resources are held in each fund to enable the funds to be applied in accordance with any restrictions.

Purposes of designated funds
During the year ended 31st March 2021 the charity received a COVID-19 grant from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Emigrant Support Programme. It was agreed that the grant could be used to cover the costs of 5 KOMP devices and 16 Samsung Tablets. The cost of the equipment totalled £5,285 and has been included as part of tangible fixed assets. Depreciation of £1,762 has been charged during the year (2021: £1,762). The charity also designated £2,994 from the National Lottery to fund 5 KOMP devices and this amount has been included as part of tangible fixed assets. Depreciation of £998 (2021: £998) has been charged during the year. This has been accounted for in accordance with the SORP.

12. NET ASSETS

	Restricted Funds 2022	Unrestricted Funds 2022	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	3,030	3,030
Net current assets	38,444	62,420	100,864
	38,444	**65,450**	**103,894**

13. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Trustees were authorised to receive reimbursement for their expenditure.

In addition to her salary, S Mulligan received £458 (2021: £2,211) for the reimbursement of telephone, travel, hamper and other project costs. S Mulligan is a related party by virtue of the fact she is Key Management Personnel of the charity.

P Burns received £102 (2021: £831) for the reimbursement of travel expenses. P Burns is a related party by virtue of the fact he is a Trustee of the charity.

At the year end £60,001 of the charities funds were held in a deposit account in the name of P Burns. This was due to the closure of the AIB bank accounts and the difficulties associated with opening a new business bank account. This amount has been included under other debtors.

14. NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR

This is stated after charging:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration - audit fee	3,000	3,000
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	3,028	3.070

15. CORPORATION TAXATION

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

16. CONTROLLING PARTY

The ultimate control of the charity resides with the board of Trustees.

17. OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY AUDITORS

In common with many other entities of our size and nature we use our auditors to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

18. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost and charge represent contributions payable by the company to the fund and amounted to £5,694 (2021: £5,278).

Pension costs are allocated to restricted and unrestricted funds based on the staff that are assigned to the project or service funded from those sources.

19. GOVERNMENT GRANTS

Income from Government grants comprises grants received under the Government Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (see note 2).

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Unrestricted £	*Restricted* £	*Total* £
Income			
Donations and legacies	31,503	244	31,747
Other trading activities	224	2,098	2,322
Investments	31	-	31
Charitable activities	52,000	229,827	281,827
Other	49	140	188
	83,807	232,309	316,116
Expenditure			
Salaries	29,854	184,977	214,831
Staff pension	1,383	4,310	5,694
Staff training	475	949	1,424
Advertising	338	450	788
Audit fees	1,214	1,786	3,000
Bank charges and interest	380	400	780
Carer expenses	-	215	215
Choir expenses	1,100	-	1,100
Depreciation	1,298	1,730	3,028
Foot care expenses	-	390	390
Fundraising	61	101	162
Insurance	580	894	1,474
IT support	749	960	1,709
IT upgrade	941	-	941
Management committee expenses	480	632	1,113
Merchandise expenses	240	-	240
Office renovation costs	5,994	3,632	9,626
Payroll services	320	520	840
Printing, postage and stationery	3,470	5,260	8,730
Professional fees	2,901	3,269	6,170
Promotional events	159	206	365
Rent and rates	10,057	16,309	26,366
Repairs and renewals	967	1,463	2,429
Sim cards and broadband	1,939	4,128	6,067
Software costs	369	600	969
Subscriptions and memberships	254	107	360
Sundry	103	301	404
Telephone charges	1,490	1,902	3,392
Travel	581	1,139	1,720
Walking group expenses	1,772	-	1,772
Website expenses	41	58	99
Weekly social expenses	10,716	-	10,716
Welfare grant paid	153	-	153
	80,376	236,689	317,065
Net profit / (loss)	3,431	(4,381)	(949)
Transfers	(9,559)	9,559	-
Net movements in 2022	**(6,128)**	**5,178**	**(949)**

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

England & Wales - Charity number 1085033

Accounts

Registered number: 03890639

England and Wales

Charity Number: 1085033

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – 31 MARCH 2021

Legal & Administrative Information

Company number	-	03890639 (England and Wales)
Charity number	-	1085033
Trustees/Directors	-	A Forde (President) E Dillon – *Appointed 22 August 2020* A Lucas – *Resigned 15 May 2021* P Burns (Chair) M Twomey P Ewings W Cotter M McCormack (Treasurer)
Key management personnel	-	S Mulligan
Registered office	-	2b Devonshire Road Bexleyheath Kent DA6 8DS
Auditors	-	Simpson Wreford LLP Wellesley House Duke of Wellington Avenue Royal Arsenal London SE18 6SS
Bankers	-	Allied Irish Bank Retail Business PO Box 52496 London NW3 9ED

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – 31 MARCH 2021

The trustees are pleased to present their annual directors' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 March 2021 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

Structure, governance and management

Irish Community Services is a company limited by guarantee and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. The Company was established under a Memorandum of Association which set out the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees (who are also the directors for the purpose of company law), who served as the Management Committee during the period were:

A Lucas
A Forde
P Burns
P Ewings
W Cotter
M McCormack
M Twomey
E Dillon

The Executive Management Committee is made up of all Trustees.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Trustee Recruitment and Induction

At Irish Community Services we recruit trustees with specific skills and experiences. The process of finding and welcoming new trustees to an established board is an excellent opportunity to evaluate and improve on the Centre's activities effectiveness. The recruitment process is open and transparent and clear about the responsibilities involved.

As a comparatively small charity with limited resources we need to keep a simple approach to recruitment. We review the gaps in our collective experience and consider what additional skills are needed in the organisation. Finding new Trustees with the right skills has always been challenging. We recognise that recruitment of Trustees from people we know could give the perception of exclusivity. However we also see the advantages in recruitment by recommendation and over the years this has proved to attract the right calibre of person for our organisation - both as Trustees and Management Committee members.

Although Trustees generally do not have direct contact with or access to information about the

vulnerable people we are serving, we do have a vetting procedure. Trustees are required to have a clear enhanced DBS check.

Objectives and activities

The Charity's objectives are:

- The charity's objectives and principal activity are to benefit the Irish Community in Greenwich, Bexley and Lewisham in line with Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. Irish Community Services plays a full part in supporting the economic, cultural and social development of the community while, in particular, promoting independent living for all older Irish people.
- To relieve persons in need, poverty or distress, particularly, but not exclusively of Irish descent, through the provision of advice and information concerning health and benefits as well as other support services.
- Other charitable purposes, including the provision of facilities for the benefit of the public, particularly but not exclusively for persons of Irish descent in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for those persons in need of such facilities.
- Improving welfare for all and promoting Irish culture.

Mission Statement

We provide information, advice, support and social opportunities.
We promote Irish culture amongst the Irish and other communities in South London.

Goals

- ICS address the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable Irish emigrants, in particular the elderly;
- We support equitable access for Irish emigrants and Irish community organisations to local statutory and voluntary services;
- We foster a more vibrant sense of community and Irish identity amongst the Irish in South London
- We encourage closer links between Irish communities in the UK and Ireland, to the benefit of both
- We work with all communities in South London

Our Services, Achievement and Performance

ICS is a grass roots community organisation responding to the needs of Irish ethnic minority communities across South London.

The Irish constitute the largest, longest established ethnic minority community in Britain, nationally experiencing serious health inequalities including higher levels of poor mental health, dementia, cancers, cardiovascular disease, alcohol and drug misuse. There are also barriers to accessing information and services including historical experiences, use of language, lack of knowledge of systems and procedures.

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – 31 MARCH 2021

The Irish Traveller community is often the most marginalised and excluded community in Britain, experiencing serious inequalities in health, income, access to education, training and employment.

We currently have an Elder Outreach Services, Advice & Health Project, Carers Support Services, Memory Services, Volunteers Project and our Weekly Socials Project.

ICS is well known and respected within the local Irish community. We are involved in a number of collaborations. Locally we are working with other BME Health & Social Care organisations strengthening partnerships as competitive providers within the current commissioning structures and contract culture.

We are a valued partner in the national Irish in Britain Policy Action Group and Irish Support Partnership whose focus is on building on the capacity and track records of existing Irish voluntary sector organisations.

Elders Information, Advice and Support Services	**Benefits**
Elders Outreach Services & Advice & Health Project Service User led process involving: • Assessment; • Referral to Key Worker and partner agencies; • Support Planning and Engagement with Service users via office, home, or one of our outreach surgeries; • Outcomes Focused with regular reviews; • Drop-in easy access no appointment necessary point of contact in a welcoming environment; • Delivered by highly skilled and experienced staff; • Free at the point of delivery.	• Practical and emotional support delivered in a welcoming professional environment; • Support is holistic, personalized and culturally appropriate – tackles a wide range of complex issues; • Help with form filling and new welfare benefits gained for service users; • Signposting to other organisations; • Improved quality of life; • Added value in terms of community engagement and empowerment of vulnerable people; • Excellent value for money for commissioners and funders.

Training	**Benefits**
• Regular Training for Staff & Volunteers • Cultural Awareness • Health and Social Care Trainee Placement Provider ICS works in partnership with Greenwich & City Universities.	• Improved cultural competency in service delivery across a range of external services • Highly skilled practitioners in the workforce • Enhanced partnership working • Offer work experience for Interns
Carers' Project, Memory Services, Volunteer Project and Weekly Socials Project	**Benefits**
• Regular 'get-together' for older people including music, song, dance, both online and offline. • Chair based exercise classes promoting physical and social activity and community connections to improve health and well-being; • A programme of online weekly activities including Bingo, quiz, good news café, singing sessions, support groups and more. • Carers' Support Services; • Dementia Services with Reminiscence groups; • Volunteer Project; • Mental Health and Suicide Awareness; • Irish Cancer Support Groups • Cultural celebrations • Access to ICS information, advice and support services; • Other social groups	• Improved health and well-being through community involvement, connections and activities • Advice, support and practical help on all carers' issues • Exercise classes help the elderly to remain fit and healthy also benefits their mental health • Reminiscence groups for clients with dementia, memory loss or cognitive impairment promotes positive mental health improves well-being • Cancer support groups support people to face up to the challenges of cancer and secure best treatment, this promotes better recovery, assists with better mental health by working together in a group and offering and receiving mutual support. • Added value in terms of cultural identity, social inclusion and community engagement • Volunteer opportunities, including training and work experience • Excellent value for money

Elders Outreach Project

This service, operated by Anne Ryan and Pat Richardson, helps users obtain their entitlements, assists in appeals, and negotiates with Social Services on domestic help to assist continued independent living. The value of the extra entitlements secured in the financial year 2020/21 is £2.1 million using the common formula agreed for Advice charities. This project was awarded the Advice Quality Standard (AQS) for advice work with clients.

Weekly Socials and Community Online Project

This service is operated by Jo Higgins with the support of volunteers, it operates a weekly programme of online and offline social activities for the clients to participate in. This project also includes a walking group, with a walk across Greenwich, Bexley, and Lewisham every day, 5 days a week. There are also tablet devices available for clients to learn, engage and connect online.

Volunteers Project

We rely on volunteers for a variety of activities which include supporting the Weekly Socials and Community Online project, providing Befriending, assisting Carers and Housebound clients and also providing admin support in the office. The total number at the end of 2020/21 was 70. All volunteers are subject to DBS checks and appropriate training.
Volunteer hours for the period were 1,972 which has a Social Value of £17,196 if volunteers were paid the minimum wage of £8.72 per hour.

The Family Carers Service and Memory Services

This service focuses on helping carers and the cared for and is managed by Mary Pegler with Jo Higgins co-ordinating the Memory services for people with dementia and their carers. The service provides up to-date advice, support and practical help with form filling and social services review meetings. There is a volunteer 'Sitting-in' scheme that offers respite to carers on a weekly basis, carers support group, newsletter and home visits. The Memory service offers specialist services for clients with dementia and now runs four Happy day reminiscence groups in Greenwich, Bexley and Lewisham for dementia sufferers and their carers'. There are 424 carers and cared for accessing this service.

Advice & Health Project

This service is operated by Mary Kibisu. It works with younger Irish clients, many of whom have health issues. It offers advice and practical help on all welfare and unemployment benefits, housing, employment and debt. It also offers information, advice and support in all areas affecting health and wellbeing. The project runs a monthly back to work Job club, Cancer Support group and Women Travellers Support group. It was awarded the Advice Quality Standard (AQS) for its work with clients.

Management and Admin

The Executive Director, Shauna Mulligan, managed the staff team and the day to day running of the Charity ensuring all legal and financial responsibilities are met. The Director and the management committee are assisted by a part-time finance assistant, Sarah Bowes. The very

challenging financial and funding environment has required the Director and Trustees to develop a more sophisticated and intelligence led funding strategy which is starting to show results.

Partnership Working

ICS is committed to partnership working, firmly believing that this approach is central to ensuring the best possible outcome for our service users and the most effective and efficient use of resources, skills and expertise. We have developed extensive partnerships across health, housing and community care services and networks across South London. We are strategically represented locally, regionally and nationally, influencing and informing the commissioning and development of services through sharing knowledge, community intelligence, learning and best practice. Partners include local authorities, NHS, Department of Health (DoH), Department of Communities and Local Government (CLG), Education, Department of Work and Pensions (DWP), Irish in Britain, Embassy of Ireland, Department of Foreign Affairs Enterprise & Trade, local BME groups, local Police, and a wide range of local voluntary, community and faith sector agencies.

We are identified as an organisation that:

- Continually 'punches above our weight' in terms of maintaining services while responding to emerging/changing needs
- Is a key player in local multi agency partnerships
- Constructively challenges decisions and practices to improve outcomes
- Is a valued partner in enhancing student learning with Trainee Social Workers from the local Universities
- Evidences excellent staff and volunteer retention

FUNDERS

We are most grateful to our funders, supporters and sponsors: Emigrant Support Programme (ESP Irish Government), Independent Living, The National Lottery, West London Irish, Groundwork UK, the Friends of Irish Community Services (ICS) and our members.

Financial review

The results for the year are as shown in the Statement of Financial Activities and the main funders are as detailed in note 2 of the accounts.

Reserves Policy

Deferred income from The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Emigrant Support Programme (The Irish Government) will be spent on staff salaries. Unrestricted reserves will be built up over a period of years until they account for the equivalent of three months payroll to mitigate against any untoward events. Based on the past year's results this represents a figure of £53,197. Total reserves at the year-end were £104,843 (2020: £120,532).

Risk Management

The Trustees have reviewed the charity's exposure to risk and procedures have been established to mitigate the risks which the charity faces.

A consideration of the precarious nature of charitable funding and the uncertainty associated with funding cycles has evolved a strategic funding plan to diversify income streams and reduce over reliance on any one funder.

Volunteers

Volunteers play a pivotal role in the running of all our services throughout the year. We would like to express our gratitude to all of our volunteers without whom we would not be able to support as many as we do.

Trustees' Responsibilities

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

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure of the charity for that period.

In preparing the financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Statement as to disclosure to our auditors

In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our trustees' annual report:

- there is no relevant information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which the auditor is unaware, and
- the trustees, having made enquiries of fellow directors and the auditor that they ought to have individually taken, have each taken all steps that he/she is obliged to take as a director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

Auditors

Simpson Wreford LLP were appointed as Independent auditors during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

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

Signed on behalf of the board of trustees/directors on... 14th October 2021

P Burns (Chair)

M McCormack (Treasurer)

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of Irish Community Services for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement and the related notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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

Conclusions relating to going concern
We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

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

Other information
The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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 trustees' report (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report) have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception
In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit;
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; 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.

Responsibilities of the trustees
As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 3-9, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

The trustees have elected for the financial statements to be audited in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 rather than the Companies Act 2006. Accordingly, we have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act. 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 for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council'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

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the computer software and support sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the Companies Act 2006, data protection and FCA regulation;
- 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.

Audit response to risks identified

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

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

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

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in Note 1 were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

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

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation and;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims.
- reviewing correspondence with the FCA

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and the regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's trustees 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 Charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Kate Taylor FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Simpson Wreford LLP, Statutory Auditors
and Chartered Accountants
Wellesley House
Duke of Wellington Avenue
Royal Arsenal
London SE18 6SS

Dated: 24 October 2021

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Including Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £	2020 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	1	23,575	40	23,615	76,962
Other trading activities		3,155	-	3,155	4,702
Investments		41	-	41	328
Coronavirus job retention scheme		18,235	-	18,235	-
Charitable activities	2	71,495	202,030	273,525	236,156
Other		631	-	631	3,977
Total		117,132	202,070	319,202	322,125
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities		127,006	204,885	331,891	330,589
Other		1,000	2,000	3,000	3,000
Total	6	128,006	206,885	334,891	333,589
Net income/(expenditure)		(10,874)	(4,815)	(15,688)	(11,464)
Transfers between funds		(25,671)	25,671	-	-
Net movement in funds					
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		108,123	12,409	120,532	131,996
Total funds carried forward		71,578	33,265	104,843	120,532

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 14 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	7		6,058		45
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	8	12,191		44,519	
Cash at bank and in hand		139,740		131,075	
		151,931		175,594	
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(53,146)		(55,107)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			98,785		120,487
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			104,843		120,532
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted income funds			66,059		108,123
Designated income funds			5,519		-
Restricted income funds			33,265		12,409
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS	10		104,843		120,532

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2021, although an audit has been carried out under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these accounts under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 12 to 24 were approved by the Trustees on 4/10/21 and signed on their behalf by

P Burns (Chair)

M McCormack (Treasurer)

Company Registration No. 0389063

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and in the preceding year.

Company information
Irish Community Services is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. The registered office is 2b Devonshire Road, Bexleyheath, Kent, DA6 8DS.

(a) Basis of preparation
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006.

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

The effects of events relating to the year ended 31 March 2021 which occurred before the date of approval of the financial statements by the Trustees has been included in the financial statements to the extent required to show a true and fair view of the state of affairs at 31 March 2021 and the results for the year ended on that date.

Irish Community Services meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

(b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis
The charity has secured funding from the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Emigrant Support Programme for the next financial year, allowing them to fund their activities and on this basis the charity is considered a going concern.

(c) Income
Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably. Except as follows:

- Donations and legacy income are received by way of donations and gifts and are included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.
- Charitable activity income is recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which is specified by the donor.

- When donors impose conditions, which have to be fulfilled before the charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred and not included in incoming resources until the pre-conditions for use have been met.
- When donors specify that donations and grants are for a particular restricted purpose this income is included in incoming resources of restricted funds when receivable.

(d) Donated services and facilities
Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of volunteers is not recognised. Refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

(e) Resources expended and irrecoverable VAT
Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Certain expenditure is directly attributable to specific activities and has been included in those cost categories. Certain other costs, which are attributable to more than one activity, are apportioned across cost categories on the basis of staff costs spent on those activities. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

Charitable activities costs include the direct cost of providing services, as well as a share of overheads.

Governance costs include the cost of compliance with the charity's constitutional and statutory requirements.

The cost of generating funds relate to the costs incurred by the charity in raising funds for charitable work.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

(f) Tangible fixed assets
Fixed assets are valued at cost, with impairment reviews performed annually. It is the policy of the company to provide depreciation at the following annual rate in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful economic life.

Office Equipment	-	20% on cost
Computer Equipment	-	33.3% on cost
Leasehold Improvements	-	20% on cost
Furniture & Fittings	-	20% on cost

Items of equipment are capitalised where the purchase price exceeds £100 except where the items are expected to have a life expectancy of less than 2 years.

(g) Debtors
Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

(h) Cash at bank and in hand
Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

(i) Creditors and provisions
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

(j) Financial instruments
The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

(k) Pensions
The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

(l) Fund accounting
General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the Company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors which have been raised by the Company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Statutory grants which are given as contributions towards the Company's core services are treated as unrestricted.

(m) Government grants
Government grants are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when there is reasonable assurance that the grant conditions will be met and the grants will be received.

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS – 31 MARCH 2021

1. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted 2021	Restricted 2021	Total 2021	Total 2020
Voluntary income	£	£	£	£
Donations	18,403	40	18,443	8,807
Gift aid	2,816	-	2,816	3,968
Membership fees	2,356	-	2,356	2,480
Lunch club income	-	-	-	61,707
	23,575	**40**	**23,615**	**76,962**

2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted 2021	Restricted 2021	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Emigrant Support Programme	52,000	146,690	198,690	203,500
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Emigrant Support Programme - COVID 19	19,495	21,200	40,695	-
Asda	-	300	300	896
East Wickham & Welling War Memorial	-	-	-	500
Independent Living	-	15,000	15,000	-
National Lottery - COVID-19 Response		9,590	9,590	-
West London Irish WLIS	-	600	600	-
Welfare Grant	-	-	-	250
Ireland Fund of GB	-	-	-	2,000
Charitable Trusts	-	550	550	10
Groundwork UK	-	5,500	5,500	-
Royal Borough of Greenwich	-	2,600	2,600	-
The Henry Smith Charities	-	-	-	29,000
	71,495	**202,030**	**273,525**	**236,156**
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	18,235	-	18,235	-
Total Income From Charitable Activities	**89,730**	**202,030**	**291,760**	**236,156**

During the year ended 31 March 2021, Irish Community Services received a grant of £198,690 from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Emigrant Support Programme. The grant covers the period ending 30 June 2021 and was for the following activities:

- £29,827 contribution towards Advice & Health
- £27,863 contribution towards Carers Support Services
- £54,000 contribution towards Elders Outreach & Advocacy
- £22,000 contribution towards Lunch Clubs and Volunteer Project
- £16,000 contribution towards the Community Online Project
- £35,000 contribution towards the salary of a Project Manager
- £14,000 contribution towards central support

The grants awarded for the 2020/21 financial year have all been spent during the year. The grants awarded for 2021/22 will be spent in the next financial year and so have not been recorded as income for the year ended 31 March 2021 but are carried forward as deferred income on the balance sheet.

Total deferred income in relation to 2021/22 amounts to £49,838, which relates to the period 1st April 2021 – 31st March 2022.

Deferred income brought forward of £51,371 was released to the Statement of Financial Activities during the year and included under income from charitable activities.

3. STAFF COSTS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	195,809	192,671
Social security costs - employer's contribution	11,701	12,675
Staff pensions	5,278	7,412
Redundancy costs	9,574	-
	222,362	**212,758**

The average monthly head count was 10 staff (2020: 9 staff).

No employee had employee benefits in excess of £60,000 (2020: nil).

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION

Trustees received no remuneration or employee benefits during the year (2020: nil).

5. VOLUNTEERS

We rely on a number of volunteers to run our services, and their contribution is critical to the delivery of these services. In accordance with FRS102 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

6. TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Other Direct Costs	Direct Staff Costs	Support Costs	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities					
Salaries	-	207,510	-	207,510	205,346
Staff Pension	-	5,278	-	5,278	7,412
Staff Training	1,669		40	1,709	810
Redundancy	-	9,574	-	9,574	-
Recruitment	-		-	-	1,706
Advertising	1,181		2,270	3,451	-
COVID-19 Expenses	1,627		1,782	3,410	-
Leasing	573		1,147	1,720	1,983
Travel	215		1,087	1,302	5,564
Telephone Charges	2,994		3,546	6,540	3,061
Printing, Postage and Stationery	2,519		2,693	5,212	2,818
Subscriptions	24		71	95	455
Management Committee Exps	54		107	161	1,094
Lunch Club Expenses	-		-	-	62,042
Insurance	421		842	1,263	1,200
IT Upgrade	8,463		-	8,463	-
Support Group Costs	-		-	-	836
Fundraising Expenses	197		162	359	948
Promotional Expenses	-		22,712	22,712	-
Choir Expenses	800		175	975	956
Website Costs	33		66	99	228
Sim Cards and Broadband	1,961		4,362	6,323	-
Software Costs	549		699	1,248	1,183
Sundry	-		8	8	716
Carer Expenses	-		(220)	(220)	780
Repairs and Renewals	1,964		4,404	6,368	2,115
Rent and Rates	9,230		20,985	30,215	22,876
Bank Charges and Interest	650		-	650	1,101
Donations	-		-	-	320
Professional Fees	1,015		2,038	3,053	3,601
Payroll Services	414		930	1,344	792
Welfare Grant Paid	-		-	-	269
Depreciation	1,205		1,866	3,070	375
	37,757	222,362	71,772	331,891	330,589
Other					
Audit Fees	3,000	-	-	3,000	3,000
Total	40,757	222,362	71,772	334,891	333,589

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Cost	Equipment & IT	Lease Hold Improv. £	Furniture and Fixtures	Total £
At 1 April 2020	2,099	-	114	2,213
Additions	8,632	-	451	9,083
Disposals	(1,534)	-	-	(1,534)
At 31 March 2021	9,197	-	565	9,762
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2020	2,075	-	93	2,168
Charge for year	2,958	-	112	3,070
Disposals	(1,534)	-	-	(1,534)
At 31 March 2021	3,499	-	205	3,704
Net book value				
At 31 March 2021	5,698	-	360	6,058
At 31 March 2020	23	-	22	45

8. DEBTORS

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	6,566	38,894
Other debtors	5,625	5,625
Total	12,191	44,519

9. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	1,224	358
Other creditors	30	158
Accruals and deferred income	51,892	54,591
Total	53,146	55,107

Other creditors consist of monthly employee reimbursements paid in the April salary payments.

10. ANALYSIS OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BY FUND

	At 1 April 2020 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2021 £
Restricted Funds					
Advice & Health	983	29,827	(36,848)	6,039	-
Carers' Support	-	27,904	(33,918)	6,014	-
Management & Admin	-	35,850	(35,850)	-	-
Elders Outreach	-	54,600	(69,283)	14,683	-
Dementia Project	11,426	-	-	-	11,426
Groundwork	-	5,500	(444)	-	5,056
Crafting Project	-	2,600	(1,275)	-	1,325
National Lottery	-	9,590	(7,136)	(1,996)	458
Christmas Fund	-	21,200	(22,131)	931	-
Independent Living	-	15,000	-	-	15,000
Restricted Funds	12,409	202,070	(206,885)	25,671	33,265
Core Unrestricted Funds	108,123	117,132	(125,246)	(33,950)	66,059
Unrestricted - Designated	-	-	(2,760)	8,279	5,519
Total Funds	**120,532**	**319,202**	**(334,891)**	-	**104,843**

11. ANALYSIS OF UNRESTRICTED AND RESTRICTED FUNDS

Purposes of revenue restricted funds
Balances on restricted funds represent unspent funds given specifically for individual projects. These balances will be carried forward and spent on each project in the following year. The purpose of each fund is described in the Trustees' report.

Sufficient resources are held in each fund to enable the funds to be applied in accordance with any restrictions.

Purposes of designated funds
During the year ended 31st March 2021 the charity received a COVID-19 grant from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Emigrant Support Programme. It was agreed that the grant could be used to cover the costs of 5 KOMP devices and 16 Samsung Tablets. The cost of the equipment totalled £5,285 and has been included as part of tangible fixed assets. Depreciation of £1,762 has been charged during the year. The charity also designated £2,994 from the National Lottery to fund 5 KOMP devices and this amount has been included as part of tangible fixed assets. Depreciation of £998 has been charged during the year. This has been accounted for in accordance with the SORP.

12. NET ASSETS

	Restricted Funds 2021	Unrestricted Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	6,058	6,058
Net current assets	33,265	65,520	98,785
	33,265	**71,578**	**104,843**

13. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Trustees were authorised to receive reimbursement for their expenditure.

In addition to her salary, S Mulligan received £2,211 (2020: £nil) for the reimbursement of telephone, hamper and other project costs. S Mulligan is a related party by virtue of the fact she is Key Management Personnel of the charity.

P Burns received £831 (2020: £nil) for the reimbursement of travel expenses. P Burns is a related party by virtue of the fact he is a Trustee of the charity.

E Stafford received £nil (2020: £1,137) for the reimbursement of travel and telephone expenses. E Stafford is a related party by virtue of the fact she was Key Management Personnel of the charity until the 29th February 2020.

14. NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR

This is stated after charging:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration - audit fee	3,000	3,000
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	3,070	375

15. CORPORATION TAXATION

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

16. CONTROLLING PARTY

The ultimate control of the charity resides with the board of Trustees.

17. OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY AUDITORS

In common with many other entities of our size and nature we use our auditors to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

18. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost and charge represent contributions payable by the company to the fund and amounted to £5,278 (2020: £7,412).

Pension costs are allocated to restricted and unrestricted funds based on the staff that are assigned to the project or service funded from those sources.

19. GOVERNMENT GRANTS

Income from Government grants comprises grants received under the Government Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (see note 2).

IRISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Unrestricted	*Restricted*	*Total*
	£	£	£
Income			
Donations and legacies	23,575	40	23,615
Other trading activities	3,155	-	3,155
Investments	41	-	41
Coronavirus job retention scheme	18,235	-	18,235
Charitable activities	71,495	202,030	273,525
Other	631	-	631
	117,132	202,070	319,202
Expenditure			
Salaries	76,859	130,651	207,510
Staff pension	2,580	2,699	5,278
Staff training	1,669	40	1,709
Redundancy	9,574	-	9,574
Travel	215	1,087	1,302
Telephone charges	2,994	3,546	6,540
Printing, postage and stationery	2,519	2,693	5,212
Subscriptions and memberships	24	71	95
Management committee expenses	54	107	161
Leasing costs	573	1,147	1,720
Advertising	1,181	2,270	3,451
COVID-19 expenses	1,627	1,782	3,410
Insurance	421	842	1,263
IT Upgrade	8,463	-	8,463
Choir expenses	800	175	975
Carer expenses	-	(220)	(220)
Website expenses	33	66	99
Sim cards and broadband	1,961	4,362	6,323
Software costs	549	699	1,248
Sundry	-	8	8
Repairs and renewals	1,964	4,404	6,368
Rent and rates	9,230	20,985	30,215
Bank charges and interest	227	424	650
Fundraising	196	163	359
Promotional events	-	22,712	22,712
Audit fees	1,000	2,000	3,000
Professional fees	1,015	2,038	3,053
Payroll services	414	930	1,344
Depreciation	1,866	1,205	3,070
	128,006	206,885	334,891
Net profit / (loss)	(10,874)	(4,815)	(15,688)
Transfers	(25,671)	25,671	-
Net movements in 2021	**(36,545)**	**20,856**	**(15,688)**