

Charity No. 1150776 (England and Wales)

THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY  
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

Irwin Donaghey Stockman LLP  
23/25 Queen Street  
COLERAINE  
Co Londonderry  
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# THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

## CHARITY INFORMATION

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<b>Charity registration number</b>	1150776
<b>Registered office</b>	PO Box 270 Guildhall LONDON EC2P 2EJ
<b>Auditor</b>	Irwin Donaghey Stockman LLP 23/25 Queen Street COLERAINE Co Londonderry BT52 1BG
<b>Bankers</b>	Danske Bank Corporate Banking Centre PO Box 183 BELFAST BT1 6JS
<b>Investment managers</b>	Baring Fund Managers Ltd 20 Old Bailey LONDON EC4M 7BF (to August 2021)  Cazenove Capital Management 1 London Wall Place LONDON EC2Y 5AU  CCLA Fund Managers Ltd Senator House 85 Queen Victoria Street LONDON EC4V 4ET (from August 2021)
<b>Solicitors</b>	Elliott Duffy Garrett 40 Linenhall Street BELFAST BT2 8BA

## CHARITY INFORMATION

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### List of Trustees 2021-22

**Governor:** Alderman Sir William Anthony Bowater Russell

**Deputy Governor:** Wendy Hyde, Deputy

**Aldermen:** Robert Picton Seymour Howard (from 10/03/2022)  
Gregory Jones, QC  
Nicholas Stephen Leland Lyons (to 10/03/2022)

**Commoners:** John David Absalom, Deputy  
Peter Gerard Dunphy, Deputy  
Christopher Michael Hayward, Deputy  
Charles Edward Lord, OBE, JP, Deputy  
Philip Woodhouse, Deputy  
Mary Durcan (from 10/03/2022)  
Dawn Linsey Wright (from 10/03/2022)  
Oliver Sells, QC (from 10/03/2022)  
Shravan Jashvantrai Joshi, MBE, Deputy (from 10/03/2022)  
James Henry George Pollard, Deputy (to 10/03/2022)  
Simon D'Olier Duckworth, OBE, DL, (to 10/03/2022)  
Vivienne Littlechild, MBE, JP (to 10/03/2022)  
Jeremy Lewis Simons, OBE, MSc (to 10/03/2022)  
Hugh Fenton Morris, Deputy (to 24/03/2022)  
Ian Christopher Norman Seaton, MBE (to 10/03/2022)

**Society's Representative  
(Northern Ireland) & Secretary:** Edward Montgomery, MBE DL

**Assistant Secretary:** Candya L Farmer



## TRUSTEES' REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

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The Trustees are pleased to present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Society's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

### WHO ARE WE?

Established through Royal Charters granted by King James I in 1613 and King Charles II in 1662, The Honourable The Irish Society has since then maintained interests and managed its ownership in land, buildings and rivers for the benefit of the community of County Londonderry and adjoining areas. A modernising Supplemental Charter was granted to the Irish Society on 20 December 2012. The Society is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission for England and Wales - Registration number 1150776.

### OBJECTIVE

From its early association with the Plantation of Ulster, the Irish Society has evolved into a self-funding, cross-community charitable organisation; a succession of trustees have been committed to ensuring that the Society continues to make a positive impact by remaining contemporary, credible and relevant in everything that it does; and they have agreed a Mission Statement *"to work with key partners for the economic and social benefit of Northern Ireland"*.

The Society's objects are defined in the 2012 Supplemental Charter as follows: The promotion of any exclusively charitable purpose for the benefit of the community of the County of Londonderry and neighbouring areas including those within the following descriptions:

- the advancement of education;
- the advancement of citizenship or community development;
- the advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science;
- the advancement of amateur sport;
- the advancement of environmental protection or improvement; and/or
- the relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022**

### ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE

#### OVERVIEW

The year saw a gradual recovery from the worst effects of the Coronavirus pandemic, but it continued to have an impact on the Society's normal activity.

- The staff continued with a mixture of working from home and attending the offices in Guildhall and Cutts House, Coleraine. Virtual meetings of the various sub-committees took place throughout the year, although Court meetings in London reverted to 'face to face' after the summer of 2021 as Guildhall reopened its doors.
- Trustee visits to Northern Ireland in June, October and February saw a welcome return towards normality, but there were inevitably fewer face to face group engagements, large scale gatherings and less entertainment. The aim was to ensure that key business got done, while minimising risks to either trustees or those being visited. School prize days were especially affected.
- Charitable activity continued at the high level of the past few years, with over **£200,000** allocated in direct grants and an increased budget given to the Local Advisory Committee. Some programmes, such as the National Citizen Service NI were obliged to find innovative ways to operate under the pandemic conditions but continued to enjoy the Society's support nonetheless. One special area of support this year were 2 projects to support local councils celebrate the 100th anniversary of Northern Ireland's foundation, along with a trip to the City of London for local Mayors. Financial support from the Drapers and Clothworkers Livery Companies was maintained as in previous years.
- Commercial Property activity was relatively quiet, although progress was made in bringing a full planning application for redevelopment of the Castleroe Laboratory Site to Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council. Some of our smaller tenants continued to struggle with the Covid-19 consequences of enforced closures and the reluctance of people to visit town centres.
- The fisheries of the Lower Bann saw a busy year with one of the best salmon runs (again) in the region and benign fishing conditions for the majority of the summer. Over 600 salmon were taken and released safely alive from the prime beat at Carnroe.

#### CHARITABLE GRANTS

Applications for **small grants** to local 'not-for-profit' organisations can be made through a simple process – by e-mail, post or via the Society's website ([www.honourableirishsociety.org.uk](http://www.honourableirishsociety.org.uk)). All applications are scrutinised by a Local Advisory Committee (LAC) which has existed since 1974 and is comprised of cross-party elected representatives drawn from three local authorities in County Londonderry established in April 2015: Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council; Derry City & Strabane District Council; and Mid Ulster District Council. Grants are equally available to both main sections of Northern Ireland's divided community, Roman Catholic and Protestant, on a wholly impartial basis – which reflects the broad makeup of the community in which the Society works. Indeed, many of the grants made go to groups in which Catholics and Protestants work together in harmony promoting peace and reconciliation.

The Society has been able to achieve a much greater charitable impact in Northern Ireland in recent years, thanks to the active support of City Livery Companies and the City of London Corporation. The trustees again acknowledge with much gratitude donations from:

- **The Drapers' Company** - annual donation to the Society's small grants programme of **£20,000**.
- **The Clothworkers' Foundation** – a continuing donation of **£20,000** to the Northern Ireland Fund, enabling the Society to reach out to other parts of NI beyond the North West.
- **The City of London Corporation** - again boosting the Society's general grant-making ability by **£30,000** (an increase of £5,000 from previous years) - offsetting reduced income from capital tied up in a potential property development site in Coleraine. In 2021-22 this largely enabled support for the NI Centenary and associated projects mentioned above, plus contribution to a clean-up project on the River Bann organised by Sea2it - a Community Interest Company with a mission to bring together community groups, schools and individuals as volunteers to tackle marine and freshwater litter on the river estuary around Coleraine.



## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022**

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### SCHOOLS & EDUCATION SUPPORT

**Primary Schools (Ballougry, Culmore, D H Christie Memorial, The Irish Society's and Millburn):** Although all have been in the state controlled sector for many years, the Society's trustees continue to maintain a special link and level of financial support for five primary schools in County Londonderry that were originally founded by the Irish Society for both Protestant and Catholic children between the ages of 4 and 11. As in previous years, the Society contributed to annual prize-giving for pupils completing their primary education. And a donation was also made to each school at Christmas time towards festivities. Although some outdoor and/or limited meetings between trustees and schools were possible, the Secretary had to undertake most prize givings alone and no schools were able to visit the City of London, for the second year. However, across the five primary schools, over 1,300 children still benefit every year from the Society's support.

After a break due to Covid-19, the Society was this year able to fund Hatchery in the Classroom – an environmental project for primary schools along the Lower Bann corridor - with **£8,000**. This paid for Mark Patterson, our long-serving consultant, to deliver the programme in 9 primary schools along the Lower Bann corridor, pairing mainly Catholic schools with mainly Protestant ones for extra community benefit. Mark has informed the Society of his intention to retire after some 15 years delivering this very popular programme, but he has found a worthy successor in Stephen McIlwaine who was able to meet the trustees in February 2022 at a school event.

**Secondary Schools:** During the year, the Irish Society again partnered with Enterprise Causeway to deliver a Careers Convention in March 2022 with **£5,000**, enabling the event to take place to the benefit of well over 1,000 children from schools all over the North-West. Without the Society's funding, this event (which was held online again, following a move to 'virtual' during the pandemic) would not have happened.

The Society also continued to support the Star Programme linking **Lisneal College** and **St Mary's College** in Londonderry. In February the Governor and other trustees were once again able to make an actual visit to St Mary's, where they heard first hand of the special Saturday School activities that our funds are used for. Riding and bowling seem to be the most popular and the collaboration between the two schools was as evident as always.

The Society's annual support for **Sandelford School** in Coleraine, which caters for children from ages 3 to 19 with a wide range of special educational needs, was repeated this year and **£5,000** was given towards the fitting out of 2 new sensory rooms, which help to calm agitated or distressed children. No trustee visit was possible during the pandemic but, as always, the Principal has confirmed how significant the Society's continuing support is for the School and Edward Montgomery was able to visit to hand over the funding and see the proposed works. He also took the opportunity to say farewell to Sharon Tennant, the long-serving Principal, as she is retiring at the end of the current academic year.

At tertiary education level, a new initiative received the Society's support this year: Ulster University's Magee Campus in Derry-Londonderry opened its new Graduate Medical School which has been long-fought for locally and will hopefully lead to a better level of medical service in the North-West in the medium term. Of the 72 first year intake, 12 students were in need of bursary support to enable them to carry out their studies and the Society was one of a number of charities which responded by funding 2 half bursaries of **£3,000** each, on a 4-year commitment. The Deputy Governor and colleagues had the pleasure of meeting the first two students on their visit to Magee in October.

# THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022**

### OTHER GRANTS

During the year, just over 100 small community grants and around a dozen larger grants were made by the Society.

The largest of these remains our support for Co-operation Ireland in delivering the National Citizen Service in NI. In the year, **£22,500** was donated to an adjusted programme for young leaders and former NCS students in Londonderry and Coleraine; this was because the government department responsible for the whole programme in NI had decided to 'pause' its support due to the pandemic. Over 20 young people benefited from personal improvement training and working with other young people on social and community projects.

Other larger grants were made to a wide variety of organisations in need, such as: Cavell Nurses Trust to support nurses and care staff in difficulties, Age Concern Causeway to support older people, a Walled City Passion Play on Derry's Walls, assisting in the purchase of new vehicles for St John Ambulance in the North West, helping mental health charity Ashes to Gold in Coleraine and replacing a worn out organ in a Culmore church with historic connections to the Society.

2021 saw the 100th anniversary of Northern Ireland and the Society was approached by local councillors and organisations seeking its support for commemorative activities. Given the sensitivities around the subject, a sub-committee worked with Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council and Derry City & Strabane District Council to come up with a workable project for each council.

- **£13,000** was granted for the purchase of twenty NI 100 Centennial benches for Derry City & Strabane District Council. A specific application process was established along similar lines to last year's Schools IT Fund, resulting in the allocation of steel benches to a range of community organisations in Derry-Londonderry and the surrounding area that had requested one.
- **£12,500** was granted to Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council as a contribution to the commissioning and installation of a commemorative stained-glass window for Coleraine Town Hall, featuring local places, people and events from the last 100 years. The Secretary took part in a joint working group with Council officers and stakeholders which finally agreed on a design which is now being worked up by the artist, and currently subject to a Council equality screening exercise.

In addition, the Mayors of Causeway and Derry City were invited to visit London over 12/13th November to attend the Silent Ceremony, take lunch with the Irish Society trustees and watch the Lord Mayor's Show as guests of the City, along with other dignitaries, from a viewpoint on the south transept of St Paul's Cathedral. Both Mayors and council officers who attended expressed their gratitude for the invitation and the opportunity to network with the City and the Irish Society.



## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022*

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### RIVER & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

The Society continued to manage the 38 mile long Lower Bann river and its fisheries this year. The voluntary sub-committee (Bann Division) maintained its overwatch of the fishing and environmental protection operations, as it has done for many years.

One full-time and two part-time members of staff were employed during the year to perform river bailiffing, management and protection duties for the Society - which involves regular patrolling of the river and its tributaries to enforce the government's Catch & Release policy and prevent / deter general poaching, pollution and predation of the fisheries. This expenditure of over **£100,000** per annum is necessary given the extent and importance of the Lower Bann fisheries to the whole NI economy and environment and as a resource for recreation, tourism and education.

The income from fishing was slightly below last year's level but still very strong compared with a few years ago. Another excellent run of salmon was counted, giving yet more comfort to local fishermen and ghillies that the river is slowly recovering from many years of decline. Game fishing enjoyed very suitable weather conditions during June-September, with low river flows which suit our beats due to the dry summer. The pandemic's effects on fishing had always been relatively slight and this year saw no difficulties encountered.

Tourist angling is slowly taking off, due to the work of our agent Cressabelle, run by Catherine and Kieran Deery.

Coarse fishing competitions returned to the Bann in the autumn of 2021 and were well-attended by over 40 NI/GB/Rol anglers.

No angling conference or events were held during the year, but plans are afoot to host another hybrid event in Coleraine in the autumn of 2022.

A river bank clean-up campaign on the Lower Bann estuary was grant aided in autumn 2021 and it is hoped to turn this into a regular activity as plastic and other waste has started to spoil enjoyment of the river.

### COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ESTATE

A summary of activity in the Society's commercial property portfolio during the year is as follows:

- A full planning application for the redevelopment of the former ABC Laboratory site at Castleroe was submitted just before Christmas 2021. The expectation is that a decision will be forthcoming from Causeway Coast & Glens planners in the autumn of 2022 – these matters are typically taking 9-12 months to be assessed. The application is for a development of 34 apartments, a business unit and café, with parking and amenity areas.
- The neighbouring and larger former Spanboard factory site remains undeveloped, with no active marketing taking place during the year, but from time to time unsolicited offers are received from developers indicating that the site is of considerable value to the Society. No offers have yet resulted in negotiations. Meanwhile, a local engineering firm is using the hard-surfaced part of the site for open air storage of completed equipment prior to delivery to clients, in return for some useful rent.
- The Society continues to experience some difficulties with some of its small shops in Coleraine town centre, with the departure of one tenant before Christmas and the delayed opening of another's business. Despite the difficulties faced by small businesses, two new possible tenants had come forward by the year end and it is hoped a deal can be reached to get all 4 shops open once more.
- The leasing situation at the Rocks Lodge Trout Farm in Co Tyrone remains unresolved, although the tenant Dawnfresh Seafoods Ltd is operating a fish farm and paying rent to the Society.

# THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022**

### RISK MANAGEMENT

Trustees are mindful of the Society's Policy on Risk and elements of the Risk Register are reviewed at every Court meeting on a rolling basis to ensure that all relevant risks are given due consideration and the Register is updated in its entirety over a 12-month period. Overall, the trustees consider that the assets of the Society will continue to be well diversified. The commitments that the Society has to honour by law are not significant.

### FINANCIAL REVIEW

It is the policy of the trustees to generate sufficient income to pay for the Society's charitable purposes and management each year, while maintaining the overall value of the Society's assets, so that it may continue to achieve its charitable objectives into the future. The trustees aim to spend increased resources each year on charitable activities based on budgeted income and expenditure, while at the same time maintaining sufficient reserves to meet any expected capital requirements.

The Society has a number of mainly commercial properties and property interests in Northern Ireland which it uses to generate income for grant-giving purposes in support of its activities. The property portfolio was professionally revalued in early 2021 with a total restated value of £3.8m (up from £3.2m in 2016).

The Society also has an investment portfolio managed on a discretionary basis by external fund managers – at the start of the year by Barings Targeted Return Fund and Cazenove Capital Management. Early in the year, Barings announced they intended to close their fund, thus making it essential for the Society to find an alternative. A beauty parade process was undertaken, led by the Deputy Governor with expert assistance and CCLA were appointed during August 2021 on a balanced management basis.

Towards the end of the year, following meetings with Cazenove, it was decided to split their portfolio into 3 elements, to take advantage of a private equity fund (10%), a specialist ESG fund (40%) and the remaining 50% staying in the original Charity Multi Asset Fund. While the income derived from these new arrangements will likely be slightly reduced, there is potential for better capital growth.

In general, there are no restrictions on the investments that the Society can make. The portfolios are monitored against industry benchmarks and a specific target.

The Society's cash investments are deposited in the charities pooled fund operated by the City of London Corporation and managed externally on its behalf.

At 30 April 2022 free reserves amounted to £11,987,374 (2021: £12,105,405) - see Balance Sheet at page 20.

### REVIEW OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES IN THE YEAR

Net Incoming Resources in the year to 30 April 2022 were **-£118,901** (2021: £1,588,063). The reduction was mainly due to less favourable investment conditions in the spring of 2022 affecting the Society's portfolios, as international markets reacted negatively to the Russian invasion of Ukraine and associated economic shocks, particularly in the energy sectors.

Charitable expenditure amounted to £556,355 (2021: £572,104). Taking into account other unrealised losses of £192,206 (2021: £1,539,852) as set out on page 15, this left an overall deficit for the year of £118,901 (2021: surplus of £1,684,644).



# THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022*

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### PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

During the period, the Society has continued to keep tight control of its administration and other costs. As a result, the trustees were again able to allocate increased funds to the charitable budget during the year, and it is hoped this trend will continue into the future, based on the following strategies:

- The trustees believe that the Irish Society could achieve more if greater funds were available generally, and they continue to work with the London Livery Companies – particularly those with historic connections in County Londonderry. The longer term intention is to expand the number of Livery Companies engaged – not just with the purpose of increasing funding ability but by harnessing their networks and expertise.
- The Society will also seek to develop connections with philanthropic individuals and organisations, including the Northern Irish diaspora that may consider the Society as a charitable vehicle for making donations into the Province for specific projects such as the NI National Citizen Service.
- Trustees will also continue to work with partner organisations such as Co-operation Ireland, Cavell Nurses Trust and Community Foundation NI where their objectives align with the Irish Society's strategy. They will also explore what other organisations might be engaged to further the Society's aims.
- The Society has a long term aim of restructuring / developing its property portfolio where possible to produce an increased income, especially by bringing the Castleroe sites to fruition. To this end, the trustees intend to carry out a strategic review of commercial property in the next year.
- Resources will continue to be spent on managing the fishery assets and protecting the environment of the Lower Bann River and its tributaries in order to enable greater public use and enjoyment, while generating a surplus of income over expenditure - especially by developing external angling tourism, which has to date been very modest in NI. A tourist agent, Cressabelle, was appointed in 2020 and it is hoped will lead in due course to increased levels of tourist bookings for fishing and accommodation in the area.

### STRUCTURE, MANAGEMENT & GOVERNANCE

The Society is administered by a Court of 15 trustees, which meets at least four times a year. All are Aldermen or Common Councilmen of the City of London Corporation and elected onto the Court of the Irish Society by fellow members of the Court of Aldermen and Common Council. Trustees for the period covered by the Report & Financial Statements are listed under Charity Information. The Society requires all trustees to commit to a written Code of Conduct governing their behaviour; all new trustees are given an introduction to the work of the Society and provided with copies of recent accounts and minutes of meetings; and are encouraged to participate in at least one formal visit to Northern Ireland as early as possible following appointment, to see the operations of the Society and the difference its grants make to the community. The Charity's Secretary is based in Coleraine, Northern Ireland, and the Assistant Secretary at Guildhall in London.

The trustees confirm that they are aware of the Guidance promulgated by the Charity Commission under the Charities Act 2011 in relation to Public Benefit, recognise their obligation to have regard thereto and – from the feedback received from grant recipients – are confident that their activities are delivering Public Benefit.

The Irish Society's Court has appointed a Finance Committee (chaired by the Deputy Governor) to consider and monitor its financial position and recommend the approval of the annual financial statements to its Court members. Committee members during the accounting year were as follows: **Wendy Hyde**, (Chair to 31/03/2022 and Vice Chair thereafter); **Edward Lord**, (Chair from 31/03/2022); **Simon Duckworth**, (to 10/03/2022); **Peter Dunphy**, (Vice Chair to 31/03/2022); **Mary Durcan**, (from 31/03/2022); **Alderman Robert Howard**, (from 31/03/2022); **Henry Pollard**, (to 10/03/2022); **Alderman Nicholas Lyons**, (to 10/03/2022); **Ian Seaton**, (to 10/03/2022); and **Philip Woodhouse**. And Common Councilman **Nicholas Bensted-Smith**, remains a co-opted member of the Finance Committee for investment matters.

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022*

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### KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL REMUNERATION

The board of trustees and the Secretary are the key management personnel in charge of directing, controlling, running and operating the Society on a day to day basis. All trustees give of their time freely and no trustee remuneration was paid in the year. Details of reimbursed expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in the notes to the accounts (see note 10).

Trustees are required to disclose all relevant interests; register them with the Secretary; and, in accordance with the Society's policy, withdraw from discussion / decisions where a potential conflict of interest arises. The Assistant Secretary maintains a Register using information drawn from the City of London Corporation's declarations of interest.

The Secretary's salary is reviewed annually and, like that of other staff, normally increased in accordance with average earnings. The remuneration is also benchmarked with grant-making charities of a similar size and activity to ensure that the level set is fair and not out of line with that generally paid for similar roles.

### STATEMENT OF THE COURT'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Court is responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and Relevant Financial Reporting Framework. The Court is required to prepare financial statements for each year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Society for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Court is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable 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;
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Society will continue in business.

The Court is responsible for maintaining proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Court is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements.

### AUDITOR

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



# THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022*

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### DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITOR

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

The Trustees report was approved by Order of the Court



Alderman Sir William Anthony Bowater Russell  
Governor

20 July 2022

# THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Honourable The Irish Society (the 'Society') for the year ended 30 April 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the 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 30 April 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

#### 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 Society 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

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

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

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

#### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.



# THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

#### Responsibilities of Trustees

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

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

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

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

- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the society through discussions with trustees and management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the sector;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence.

We assessed the susceptibility of the society'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;
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations; and
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- testing journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessing whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias;
- investigating the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

# THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

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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 statements disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims;
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the Society's legal advisors.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed 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.

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

#### Other matters

This report is made solely to the society's members, as a body, in accordance with section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Society and the Society's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Mr Ian Donaghey MBE, (Senior Statutory Auditor)**  
**for and on behalf of Irwin Donaghey Stockman LLP**

**Chartered Accountants**

**Statutory Auditor**

23/25 Queen Street

COLERAINE

Co Londonderry

BT52 1BG

20th July 2022

Irwin Donaghey Stockman LLP is eligible for appointment as auditor of the Society by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

# THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<b><u>Income and endowments from:</u></b>					
Donations and grants	3	30,000	40,000	70,000	95,000
Other trading activities	4	320,319	-	320,319	284,578
Investment income	5	256,823	-	256,823	270,275
Other income	6	1,683	-	1,683	4,375
<b>Total income</b>		<b>608,825</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>648,825</b>	<b>654,228</b>
<b><u>Expenditure on:</u></b>					
Managing funds	7	19,165	-	19,165	33,913
Charitable activities	8	515,485	40,870	556,355	572,104
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<b>534,650</b>	<b>40,870</b>	<b>575,520</b>	<b>606,017</b>
<b>Trading surplus/(deficit)</b>		<b>74,175</b>	<b>(870)</b>	<b>73,305</b>	<b>48,211</b>
Net unrealised gains/(losses) on investments	13	(192,206)	-	(192,206)	1,539,852
<b>Net (outgoing)/incoming resources</b>		<b>(118,031)</b>	<b>(870)</b>	<b>(118,901)</b>	<b>1,588,063</b>
<b><u>Other recognised gains and losses</u></b>					
Revaluation of tangible fixed assets		-	-	-	96,581
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(118,031)</b>	<b>(870)</b>	<b>(118,901)</b>	<b>1,684,644</b>
Fund balances at 1 May 2021		12,280,326	157,000	12,437,326	10,752,682
<b>Fund balances at 30 April 2022</b>		<b>12,162,295</b>	<b>156,130</b>	<b>12,318,425</b>	<b>12,437,326</b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.



# THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30 APRIL 2022

	Notes	£	2022 £	£	2021 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	14		707,517		724,501
Investment properties	15		3,802,000		3,802,000
Investments	16		7,603,150		7,653,074
			<u>12,112,667</u>		<u>12,179,575</u>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	18	184,920		168,679	
Cash at bank and in hand		252,648		316,372	
			<u>437,568</u>	<u>485,051</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	19	(231,810)		(227,300)	
Net current assets			<u>205,758</u>		<u>257,751</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>12,318,425</u>		<u>12,437,326</u>
<b>Income funds</b>					
Restricted funds			156,130		157,000
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
General unrestricted funds		11,987,374		12,105,405	
Revaluation reserve		<u>174,921</u>		<u>174,921</u>	
			<u>12,162,295</u>		<u>12,280,326</u>
			<u>12,318,425</u>		<u>12,437,326</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 20 July 2022

Trustee



# THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

	Notes	£	2022 £	£	2021 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
Cash absorbed by operations	24		(156,412)		(106,391)
<b>Investing activities</b>					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(2,691)		(2,832)	
Purchase of investments		(151,438)		-	
Schroders fees deducted at source		(10,006)		(9,218)	
Investment income received		256,823		270,275	
<b>Net cash generated from investing activities</b>			92,688		258,225
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>			-		-
<b>Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>			(63,724)		151,834
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			316,372		164,538
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>			252,648		316,372

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

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**1 Accounting policies**

**Charity information**

The Honourable The Irish Society is a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

**1.1 Accounting convention**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The Society is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

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

**1.2 Going concern**

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

In making this assessment the Trustees have considered the ongoing impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the Society's cash flows and liquidity.

With respect to the next reporting period, the most significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the Society are the levels of investment return and the performance of investment markets (see the Risk Management and Financial Review sections of the Trustees' report for more information).

**1.3 Charitable funds**

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

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in notes 3 and 8 to the financial statements.

**1.4 Incoming resources**

All income is recognised once:

- the charity has entitlement to the income;
- it is probable that the income will be received; and
- the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Turnover is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and represents amounts receivable for goods and services provided in the normal course of business, net of discounts, VAT and other sales related taxes.



# THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

##### 1.5 Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Society to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

The costs of generating funds consists solely of investment management fees.

Costs of charitable activities include grants made, governance costs and an apportionment of support costs as shown in Note 8.

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Support costs include office and staff costs and have been allocated to the activity cost category or on a basis consistent with the use of resources – e.g. staff costs by the time spent, and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the Society and its compliance with regulation and good practice. Governance costs include the governance arrangements which relate to the general running of the charity as opposed to the direct management functions in generating funds, service delivery, project work and grant making. These costs include such items as external legal advice, Trustees' expenses are associated with visits to Northern Ireland.

The allocation of support and governance costs is analysed in Note 11.

##### 1.6 Tangible fixed assets

The Society's properties were valued in the prior financial year by O'Connor Kennedy Turtle, Chartered Surveyors, providing a market value as at 30 April 2021, in line with the Society's intentions of carrying out a formal valuation of its properties every five years in accordance with FRS 102.

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

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

Leasehold land and buildings	Straight line over 50 years
Motor vehicles and boats	25% straight line
Furniture and office equipment	20% straight line

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

Other properties occupied by the Society are not treated as investment properties. These are depreciated on a straight line basis over fifty years. They are similarly valued at least once in every five years and included in the above report.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.7 Investment properties

Investment property, which is property held to earn rentals and/or for capital appreciation, is measured using the fair value model and stated at its fair value at the reporting end date. The surplus or deficit on revaluation is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. No depreciation is provided on investment properties, in accordance with accounting standards. The majority of the investment properties which are generating rental income are valued by reference to yield. Those which are not generating rental income have been valued at the Trustees' best estimates.

1.8 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

The Society does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments.

The main form of financial risk faced by the Society is that of volatility in equity markets and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or sub sectors.

**Realised gains and losses**

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains and losses are combined in the Statement of Financial Activities.

1.9 Impairment of fixed assets

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

Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset for which the estimates of future cash flows have not been adjusted.

If the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised immediately in income/(expenditure) for the year, unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease.

Recognised impairment losses are reversed if, and only if, the reasons for the impairment loss have ceased to apply. Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but so that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised immediately, unless the relevant asset is carried in at a revalued amount, in which case the reversal of the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation increase.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.10 Cash and cash equivalents

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

1.11 Financial instruments

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

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

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

**Basic financial assets**

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

**Basic financial liabilities**

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

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

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

**Derecognition of financial liabilities**

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

1.12 Taxation

The Society is not liable to tax on capital gains, rent, investment income and certain other income.

1.13 Employee benefits

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

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

# THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

#### 2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

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

#### Critical judgements

#### Valuation of investment properties

Investment properties were revalued as at 30 April 2021. It is the Society's policy to obtain external valuations every 5 years.

#### 3 Donations and grants

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	2022 £	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £
Donations and grants	30,000	40,000	70,000	95,000
<b>For the year ended 30 April 2021</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>70,000</b>		<b>95,000</b>
<b>Donations and gifts</b>				
Livery company - Drapers	-	20,000	20,000	20,000
Livery company - Clothworkers	-	20,000	20,000	20,000
City of London	30,000	-	30,000	25,000
Drapers to NCS	-	-	-	10,000
Mercers to NCS	-	-	-	6,500
City of London to NCS	-	-	-	11,000
Other	-	-	-	2,500
	<b>30,000</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>70,000</b>	<b>95,000</b>

# THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

### 4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2022 £	2021 £
Commercial property rent	169,186	122,962
Fishing, coarse, game and sporting	151,133	161,616
Other trading activities	320,319	284,578

### 5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2022 £	2021 £
Dividends - equities	256,823	270,275

### 6 Other income

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2022 £	2021 £
Other income	1,683	4,375

### 7 Managing funds

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2022 £	2021 £
Investment management fees	19,165	33,913
	19,165	33,913

# THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

### 8 Charitable activities

	Education	Community	Environmental	Total	Total
	Development	Protection &	Improvement	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Grant funding of activities (see note 9)	103,686	113,396	14,980	232,062	202,048
Share of support costs (see note 11)	57,473	57,471	172,413	287,357	326,971
Share of governance costs (see note 11)	7,386	7,387	22,162	36,935	43,084
	<u>168,544</u>	<u>178,254</u>	<u>209,555</u>	<u>556,355</u>	<u>572,104</u>
<b>Analysis by fund</b>					
Unrestricted funds	155,496	150,434	209,555	515,485	
Restricted funds	13,050	27,820	-	40,870	
	<u>168,546</u>	<u>178,254</u>	<u>209,555</u>	<u>556,355</u>	
<b>For the year ended 30 April 2021</b>					
Unrestricted funds	181,406	118,167	232,531		532,104
Restricted funds	18,550	20,700	750		40,000
	<u>199,956</u>	<u>138,867</u>	<u>233,281</u>		<u>572,104</u>



# THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

### 9 Grants payable

	Education	Community Development	Environmental Protection & Improvement	Total 2022	Total 2021
	2022	2022	2022		
	£	£	£	£	£
Grants to institutions:					
Advisory Committee	23,158	38,291	2,100	63,549	55,864
Clothworkers	6,330	13,170	-	19,500	20,000
Drapers	5,350	14,650	-	20,000	19,650
London budget	46,098	47,285	12,880	106,263	65,687
To NCS	22,500	-	-	22,500	40,000
	<u>103,436</u>	<u>113,396</u>	<u>14,980</u>	<u>231,812</u>	<u>201,198</u>
Grants to individuals	250	-	-	250	850
	<u>103,686</u>	<u>113,396</u>	<u>14,980</u>	<u>232,062</u>	<u>202,048</u>

The Society makes grants for assistance in line with its aims of promoting the welfare of County Londonderry and adjoining areas in Northern Ireland. Grants are made on a cross-community basis to local organisations and individuals for deserving causes and to local primary, secondary and tertiary educational establishments. Details of some of the London grants that the Society paid out during the year can be seen in the Trustees' Report (pages 4-6). Full details of all Advisory Committee, Drapers' and Clothworkers' grants can be found on the Society's website. Grants payable are payments made in furtherance of the charitable objectives of the Society.

### 10 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the Society during the year. Expense claims totalling **£1,575** (2021: none due to pandemic) were reimbursed by the Society for travel and subsistence on behalf of **five** trustees.

# THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

### 11 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	181,620	36,794	218,414	218,501
Depreciation	19,673	-	19,673	19,295
Rent, rates, insurance & utilities	17,938	-	17,938	17,679
Repairs & maintenance	9,105	-	9,105	5,064
Advertising, PR, & printing	293	-	293	750
Telephone	2,617	-	2,617	1,998
Computer & website costs	947	-	947	5,909
Motor & travel	19,006	-	19,006	12,275
Legal & professional (NI property)	30,594	-	30,594	77,048
Audit & accountancy	1,884	-	1,884	1,884
General (office sundries, stationery, subscriptions)	3,680	-	3,680	2,931
Audit fees	-	2,400	2,400	2,400
Accountancy	-	1,600	1,600	1,600
Legal fees (non-property)	-	(3,859)	(3,859)	2,720
	<u>287,357</u>	<u>36,935</u>	<u>324,292</u>	<u>370,054</u>
Analysed between				
Charitable activities	<u>287,357</u>	<u>36,935</u>	<u>324,292</u>	<u>370,054</u>

Governance costs includes payments to the auditors of **£2,400 (2021 - £2,400)** for audit fees, and additional accounts preparation work of **£1,600 (2021 - £1,600)**.



# THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

### 12 Employees

#### Number of employees

The average monthly number of full time equivalent employees during the year was:

	2022 Number	2021 Number
Direct charitable activities	4	4
Administration	2	2
	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>

#### Employment costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	171,200	169,562
Social security costs	17,292	17,113
Other pension costs	29,922	31,826
	<u>218,414</u>	<u>218,501</u>

No member of the Court received any remuneration.

The number of employees who received total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000 is as follows:

	2022 Number	2021 Number
£60,001-£70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

### 13 Net gains/(losses) on investments

	Unrestricted funds	Total
	2022 £	2021 £
Net unrealised gains/(losses) on investments	(192,206)	994,358
Revaluation of investment properties	-	545,494
	<u>(192,206)</u>	<u>1,539,852</u>

# THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

### 14 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land and buildings	Motor vehicles and boats	Furniture and office equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
<b>Cost or valuation</b>				
At 1 May 2021	780,000	52,791	20,681	853,472
Additions	-	1,792	899	2,691
At 30 April 2022	780,000	54,583	21,580	856,163
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>				
At 1 May 2021	69,769	40,957	18,247	128,973
Depreciation charged in the year	15,600	2,869	1,204	19,673
At 30 April 2022	85,369	43,826	19,451	148,646
<b>Carrying amount</b>				
At 30 April 2022	694,631	10,757	2,129	707,517
At 30 April 2021	710,233	11,834	2,434	724,501

Land and buildings with a carrying amount of £780,000 were revalued at 30 April 2021 by O'Connor Kennedy Turtle, independent valuers not connected with the Society on the basis of market value. The valuation conforms to International Valuation Standards and was based on recent market transactions on arm's length terms for similar properties.

The revaluation surplus is disclosed at the bottom of the Statement of Financial Activities regarding 2021.

The Society owns paintings, silver and other fixed assets in Northern Ireland, which are included at a £Nil book value but were valued in June 2011 by Danny Kinahan Fine Art & Antiques at £272,630. The Society also owns some silver items, five badges of office, a 17th Century (copy) Royal Charter and a modern Charter, all normally held in London and together valued at £100,000. No further valuations have been obtained since June 2011.

### 15 Investment property

	2022
	£
<b>Fair value</b>	
At 1 May 2021 and 30 April 2022	3,802,000

Investment property comprises a number of different commercial properties. The fair value of the investment properties has been arrived at on the basis of a valuation carried out at 30 April 2021 by O'Connor Kennedy Turtle Chartered Surveyors, who are not connected with the Society. The valuation was made on an open market value basis by reference to market evidence of transaction prices for similar properties. It is the accounting policy of the company to obtain independent valuations for investment properties every five years.

# THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

### 16 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments	Other investments	Cash held by investment manager	Total
	£	£		£
<b>Cost or valuation</b>				
At 1 May 2021	7,630,286	2	22,786	7,653,074
Additions	2,197,369	-	-	2,197,369
Movement in cash held	-	-	(19,212)	(19,212)
Investment losses - unrealised	(189,212)	-	-	(189,212)
Barings investment management costs	(9,158)	-	-	(9,158)
Disposals	(2,029,711)	-	-	(2,029,711)
At 30 April 2022	7,599,574	2	3,574	7,603,150
<b>Carrying amount</b>				
At 30 April 2022	7,599,574	2	3,574	7,603,150
At 30 April 2021	7,630,286	2	22,786	7,653,074

### 17 Financial instruments

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Carrying amount of financial assets</b>		
Instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss	7,599,574	7,630,286

### 18 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>		
Trade debtors	113,247	120,235
Other debtors	64,450	44,234
Prepayments and accrued income	7,223	4,210
	184,920	168,679

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

19 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Other taxation and social security	38,791	24,639
Trade creditors	5,191	21,162
Other creditors	166,380	156,737
Accruals and deferred income	21,448	24,762
	<u>231,810</u>	<u>227,300</u>

20 Retirement benefit schemes

The Society operates a Pension Scheme providing benefits based on final pensionable pay for all of its employees.

The assets of the Scheme are held separately from those of the Society in the City of London Corporation Pension Fund.

The Scheme is a funded, defined benefit scheme. However it is also classified as a multi-employer scheme under FRS 102. Although the employer's contributions are affected by a surplus or deficit in the scheme, the employer is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities in the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis.

As a result, the Scheme is accounted for as if it were a defined contribution scheme, as required by FRS 102. The employer's contributions made to the Scheme in the period were £29,922 (2021: £31,826), with an employer's contribution rate of 17.5% of pensionable pay. Employee's contributions were between 5.5% and 12.5% of pensionable pay.

Valuation date	31 March 2019	31 March 2016
Value of assets (smoothed)	£1,062,901,000	£796,301,000
Value of liabilities	£1,175,715,000	£945,576,000
Funding level of accrued benefits	90%	84%
Investment return on future contributions per annum	9.8%	5.7%
Investment return on accumulated assets per annum	9.8%	5.7%
Pension increases per annum	2.6%	2.4%
Rate of price inflation	2.6%	2.4%

# THE HONOURABLE THE IRISH SOCIETY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

### 21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted 2022 £	Restricted 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Unrestricted 2021 £	Restricted 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Fund balances at 30 April 2022 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	707,517	-	707,517	724,501	-	724,501
Investment properties	3,802,000	-	3,802,000	3,802,000	-	3,802,000
Investments	7,603,150	-	7,603,150	7,653,074	-	7,653,074
Current assets/ (liabilities)	205,758	-	205,758	257,751	-	257,751
	<u>12,318,425</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,318,425</u>	<u>12,437,326</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,437,326</u>



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

**22 Operating lease commitments**

At the reporting end date the Society had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Within one year	550	550

This refers to the monthly Licence to Occupy arrangement with the City of London Corporation in respect of the Society's office at Guildhall, London.

**23 Related party transactions**

**Remuneration of key management personnel**

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows.

	2022 £	2021 £
Aggregate compensation	82,236	80,972

The Society considers its key management personnel to comprise the Trustees and the Society's Secretary & Representative (Northern Ireland).

A former Irish Society trustee was Chairman (not remunerated) of the Advisory Board of Barings' Targeted Return Fund, one of the investment vehicles used by the Society up until August 2021.

No guarantees have been given or received.

**24 Cash generated from operations**

	2022 £	2021 £
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(118,901)	1,588,063
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(234,664)	(236,362)
Fair value gains and losses on investment properties	-	(545,494)
Fair value gains and losses on investments	189,212	(994,358)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	19,673	19,295
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in debtors	(16,242)	(14,471)
Increase in creditors	4,510	76,936
<b>Cash absorbed by operations</b>	<b>(156,412)</b>	<b>(106,391)</b>



*The Honourable Irish Society*

**Our Mission Statement:**

*'To work in partnership for the economic and social benefit of Northern Ireland'*

For more information about how to join us in helping communities in Northern Ireland, contact us at:

[office@irishsociety.co.uk](mailto:office@irishsociety.co.uk)

or visit our website at:

[www.honourableirishsociety.org.uk/](http://www.honourableirishsociety.org.uk/)