

## **Wah Hep Chinese Community**

### **Trustee's Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025**

The Trustees present the annual report and the financial statements for Wah Hep Chinese Community for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees who served during the year and up to date of this report are set out with Wah Hep Charity Account Structure, Governance and Management. Wah Hep Chinese Community Association was set up in 1999 as an unincorporated organization governed by its Constitution.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

The aim of Wah Hep is to unite the Chinese Community in the Southern Area by: celebrating and promoting an understanding of Chinese culture; building the capacity of the Chinese Community to achieve its potential; helping members of the Chinese Community to access the services and support required to meet their needs and aspirations; helping the Chinese Community to feel included as active citizens of Northern Ireland; and working within the framework of social equality in partnership with statutory and voluntary bodies, to promote community development and work for the benefit of all sectors of the community.

#### **Values and Principles**

Wah Hep's work is guided by the following values and principles.

Values : "Self-help" - this is the central value of Wah Hep and relates to helping the Chinese community to become active members of the wider community through helping each other;

Culture - the promotion and celebration of Chinese cultures and traditions;

Rights & Equality - for the Chinese community to be active citizens and to be able to make their own choices and decisions; and all are treated as equals Unity between different Chinese communities; and Integration with the wider community.

#### **Achievements and performance**

There are an estimated 2000 people of Chinese and Vietnamese origin living in County Armagh. The majority live in the Greater Craigavon area: making it the largest settled Chinese ethnic minority grouping outside of Belfast. The Chinese community are from Hong Kong, Vietnam and Mainland China. The majority of the Chinese population are born in UK. In past years there has been an increase in the number of immigrants from the People's Republic of China. However, the needs of the community share a common base given that its members are ethnic Chinese, originating from the provinces of southern China and share therefore a common culture and heritage.

As in the rest of Northern Ireland most of the Chinese communities in County Armagh are engaged in the catering industry, working in family run restaurants and take-aways, this involves long, unsociable working hours and few opportunities for integrating into the wider community.

The needs audit and social profile survey which was carried out has highlighted:

49% of the Chinese community are 18 and under. 91.1% of the Chinese community have difficulty with access to Information and Services. 13.7% (mainly adults) could speak no English at all and 37.5% could only speak a little English.

## **Wah Hep Chinese Community**

### **Trustee's Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025 (cont'd)**

#### **Wah Hep provides the following services:**

Wah Hep centre which provides vital information to the Chinese and wider community Anti racial and cultural awareness training, Health advocacy and Interpretation  
A meeting place for the statutory agencies, the wider community, Ethnic communities Adult English classes  
Chinese 50+ Club  
Chinese library facility  
Host of traditional cultural festivals  
Chinese schools, after school clubs and youth club  
Home visits for most needy and vulnerable elderly members of the Chinese community  
Workshops and clinics concerning statutory services.

#### **Chinese Language School and After School Club**

Since the year 2000, the After School club runs 2 afternoons per week along with the Chinese Language School which runs every Saturday. The After School club offers homework support for the children and promotes active citizenship activities. Annually 65 sessions. We have specially designed classes to support English language at GCSE level. These classes are twice weekly where young people can learn to develop literacy skills to enable them to experience success at GCSE. The Chinese language school teaches young children how to read and write the Chinese language whilst maintaining their heritage and culture. It enhances the focus on Chinese culture and traditions. Annually 35 sessions.

#### **Adult English Language Class**

There was 12 registered participants for this program. The program ran for 8 weeks. The classes consists of conversations, reading, writing, interactive learning. The classes was enjoyable and informative. 100% of the students have reported improvement in their written and spoken English Language skill.

#### **50+ Club exercise classes and walking club**

Number of older BME people availing of sessions: Gym 13 x sessions  
with 6-8 Participants

Total 82 Participants

2x health walking Session with 12-16 Participants

total 25 Participants

Number of older BME people availing of sessions: 4 sessions x summer outing with 15-20 Participants

Total 64 Participants

100% members report they feel healthier and increase their uptake of physical exercise. Improvement in their physical wellbeing.

## **Wah Hep Chinese Community**

### **Trustee's Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025 (cont'd)**

#### **Information drop in centre and Advocacy Service**

The Information Drop in Centre acts as a point of contact for the public in obtaining information on Chinese culture and tradition, dealing with over 1000 users. Thus it can be seen that the Drop in Centre is multi-functional and services not only as a meeting place but also a place for disseminating information and help to the wider community. The Information centre provides a summer scheme and training workshop, community and statutory meeting and Chinese Library Service. The Drop In Centre offers various type of services along with Wah Hep different projects such as Advocacy work, Capacity Building, and After School Club and Chinese Language Classes in centre. Currently the centre is also being used by wider community groups within the Craigavon area.

The Wah Hep Advocacy work & interpreting service has been very successful since it came into service in February 2003. We provide practical help and support to the Chinese Community for example we arrange appointments for clients in various statutory agencies and also provide an interpreting and translation service. Our advocacy work concerning: social security, health, education and housing. Also, quite often we are the first point of contact for the client therefore we often have to help register them with a suitable GP and assist with the collection and explanation of prescriptions. This often involves providing practical assistance: telephoning on client's behalf and assisting them to set up bank accounts.

We also run be-friending service for older / vulnerable community member. Proving hand- holding process: Home Hospital visits, accompany them to essential services, introduce them to the local leisure centre and get involved in a healthy life style

Total Advocacy & befriending are 455 Cases

#### **Host of traditional cultural festivals :**

Mid-Autumn Festival in September - over 56 participants

Chinese New Year Celebration in February - over 131 participants

All Participants felt that their culture are being maintained, appreciated and respected

Anti-racism & Cultural Awareness Training Cross-community initiatives.

Culture awareness training x 1 with total 22 young people

Anti-racism & Cultural Awareness Training at The Saint John the Baptist college

1st session 25 participants

2nd session 36 participants

Total 61 participants

90% of people report they have a better understanding and better equipped in dealing with racial and sectarian discrimination.

## **Wah Hep Chinese Community**

### **Trustee's Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)**

#### **Summer Scheme**

The summer scheme offers opportunities for families and their children enjoy, and to learn about local culture and heritage together. The summer scheme not only enables families to meet up in local communities and to exchange news and experiences but also provides opportunities for old and young people to socialise, and the children to learn to be independent, and widen their skills e.g.: communication, ability to talk to others, and to gain knowledge in different areas.

Total number of participants facilitated at summer recreational scheme:

Parent & children total = 108

Craigavon Family BBQ

Mountpanther

Enniskillen

Dublin City

#### **Residential**

Residential= 24 youth

12-14 August 2024

Tullymore National Outdoor Centre

All participants report better awareness of the different cultures and traditions in N.Ireland and an increased mutual understanding & sense of belonging.

Wah Hep Chinese Community Association has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit (PBR1) to ensure that the activities entered into during the year have helped to achieve Wah Hep Chinese Community Association objectives and activities, as well as providing public benefit.

#### **Financial Review**

The income in the charity from various sources was £113,014, with outgoings of £113,453, giving a loss of £439.

The Trustees are deeply grateful to their funders and to the community for their financial support during the year ended 31 March 2025.

The Bank and Cash in Hand Balance as at 31 March 2025 was £31,645 (of this balance £0 were unrestricted funds). It is the Trustees' Policy to hold sufficient reserves to cover unexpected emergencies, to enhance funds to pay for future events and activities and to further the objectives of the charity.

#### **Going Concern**

The Trustees have reviewed Wah Hep Chinese Community Association planned expenditure for the year ahead and are satisfied that there are adequate funds in place to ensure that the Group can continue its activities and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 can be signed off as a going concern.

## **Wah Hep Chinese Community**

### **Trustee's Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the statement of receipts and payments and statement of assets and liabilities in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland with Income of less than £250,000 requires the trustees to prepare a statement of receipts and payments and a statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the assets and liabilities of the Charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

#### **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Trustees have prepared the financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in the United Kingdom (accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council in the UK, including Charities SORP (FRS 102) "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)" and promulgated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in the United Kingdom and United Kingdom Law) Under that law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity and of the statement of financial activities of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and identify the standards in question, subject to any material departures being disclosed and explained in the financial statements and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue as a going concern.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the association and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2008 and the provision of the Constitution of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## **Wah Hep Chinese Community**

### **Trustee's Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025 (continued)**

#### **Statement as to disclosure to our examiners**

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

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charity's examiner is unaware, and
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's examiner is aware of that information

#### **Independent Examiner**

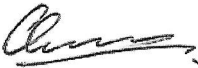
The examiner, Brian Ruddell of Ruddell & Company, has indicated his willingness to continue in office, and a resolution concerning his reappointment was passed at the charity's AGM.

#### **Signed on Behalf of the Trustees**

Chairperson



Treasurer



Date 29/01/2026