

# **Carrickfergus & District MENCAP Society**

## **Trustees' Annual Report**

**Year ended 31 December 2022**

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022.

### **Reference and administrative details**

<b>Registered charity name</b>	Carrickfergus & District MENCAP Society
<b>Charity registration number</b>	101253
<b>Principal office</b>	15 Donegall Way Co. Antrim BT389LW United Kingdom

### **The trustees**

Mr S Bell  
Mr I Crowe  
Mrs D McElroy  
Mr T Monteith (Retired 3 March 2022)

<b>Independent examiner</b>	John Magee Aubrey Campbell & Co. 631 Lisburn Road Belfast BT9 7GT
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### **Structure, governance and management**

Mencap have strong relations with a local network of more than 500 affiliated groups, of which the Carrickfergus and District Society is one, working in partnership with people with a learning disability.

All of our services support people to live life as they choose, providing independence, advice, and a voice for changes that people with a learning disability want.

The Society in Carrickfergus is a charity in its own right, working to ensure that people with a learning disability and their families have support locally. We have a Board of Trustees, with a traditional structure - elected office bearers (Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer) and lay membership.

Statutory compliance and administration has traditionally been under the control of the Treasurer, although all Trustees are aware of their responsibility to act collectively to ensure the proper administration of the charity, safeguard its assets and resources to ensure that they are used solely in the furtherance of the objectives of the charity, and act in the best interests of the charity, avoiding conflicts between it and their personal interests.

### **Public Benefit Statement**

The trustees confirm that they have had due regard for the guidance produced on public benefit by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland and are pleased to report that during the period the charitable company has continued to provide public benefits through the programmes and services we offer.

# **Carrickfergus & District MENCAP Society**

## **Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)***

**Year ended 31 December 2022**

### **Objectives and activities**

Mencap works with people with a learning disability to change laws, challenge prejudice and support them to live their lives as they choose. The Carrickfergus and District Society do not typically hold fundraising events for their own benefit, but play a vital role in providing its members and local community with financial and moral support.

### **Achievements and performance**

The Society donated £5,947 to worthy causes and projects during this financial period (2021: £500). During the year £2,799 was spent on improving facilities at Ellis Grove. A further £5,671 was spent on garden furniture at the Hawthorns Adult Centre.

### **Financial review**

The Society's cash investments have been disclosed at market valuation. It is acknowledged that this will inevitably lead to fluctuations with regard to the value of total funds held by the Society going forward, but this is an unavoidable requirement of the Charity Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).

### **Plans for future periods**

The Society continues to communicate with the local bodies which it has previously supported in respect of needs arising. There are plans to help fund outdoor play facilities in a local primary school with a Learning Support Unit. This unit will help support Foundation and Key Stage 1 children with moderate learning difficulties and autism.

The Society is also open to the possibility that some of the funds currently held might be used in a facility, perhaps on a co-funded basis, with the local Health Trust. However, continued austerity measures imposed by successive governments make this unlikely in the short to medium term.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 22 May 2023 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Mr S Bell  
Trustee

Mr I Crowe  
Trustee

Mrs D McElroy  
Trustee