

North Down Development Organisation Ltd

Northern Ireland · Charity number 101257

Details

Known as No

Status Received

Registered 2014-12-08

Register [View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register](#)

Contact

Address North Down Development Organisation
Ltd
Enterprise House
2-4 Balloo Avenue
Bangor
BT19 7qt
BT19 7QT

Phone 02891 271525

Email mail@nddo.co.uk

Website www.nddo.co.uk

Activities

Purposes: The objects of the Organisation shall be the promotion for the public benefit of urban and rural regeneration in the Borough of North Down (the "area of benefit"), being an area of social and economic deprivation, by all or any of the following means: (i) the relief of poverty in such ways as may be thought fit (ii) the relief of unemployment in such ways as may be thought fit, including assistance to find employment (iii) the advancement of education, training or retraining, particularly among unemployed people, and provide unemployed people with work experience (iv) the provision of financial assistance, technical assistance or business advice or consultancy in order to provide training and employment opportunities for unemployed people in cases of financial or other charitable need through help: (i) in setting up their own business, or (ii) to existing businesses (v) the creation of training and employment opportunities by the provision of workspace, buildings and/or land for use on favourable terms

What the charity does: The prevention or relief of poverty, The advancement of education, The advancement of citizenship or community development, The relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage

How the charity works: Economic development, Education/training, Relief of poverty, Rural development, Urban development

Who the charity helps: Adult training,General public,Unemployed/low income,Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£495,774	£454,274	£-177,143	5

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Gerry O'boyle		
Ivan Thompson		
John Montgomery		
Mr Alistair Cathcart		
Stephen Holywood		

North Down Development Organisation Ltd

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101257

Accounts



North Down Development Organisation Limited

(A company limited by guarantee)

· Report and Financial Statements

Year Ended 31st March 2025

Charity no: NIC 101257

Company no: NI017966



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Legal

Directors (Trustees)

Mr I Thompson (Chairman)
Mr Alistair Cathcart
Mrs M Smith
Mr G O'Boyle
Mr J Montgomery
Mr Stephen Holywood

**Chief Executive &
Company Secretary**

Mrs L Vance

Registered Office

Enterprise House
Balloo Avenue
Bangor
Co Down
BT19 7QT

**Independent
Auditor**

Bradley Accounting and Taxation
Chartered Certified Accountants
& Registered Auditor
Suite B, Formation Works Maryland
Maryland Industrial Estate
Ballygowan Road
Belfast
BT23 6BL

Bankers

Danske Bank
Belfast Business Centre
Donegall Square West
Belfast, BT1 6JS

Solicitors

McCoubrey Hinds
61 Main Street
Bangor
BT20 5AP



Report for the Directors' year end 31st March 2025

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, submit their annual report and the financial statements independently reviewed for the year ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP) (FRS 102) in preparing financial statements of the charity in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015.

Structure, governance and management

North Down Development Organisation Limited (NDDO) was incorporated in 1984 and is governed by its memorandum and articles of association. It is the Local Enterprise Development Agency for the area having been set up as a company limited by guarantee and achieved charitable status with HMRC in 2003. Charitable status was achieved on 8th December 2014 with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland – first LEA to achieve this. It is also a member of Enterprise Northern Ireland; a partnership of enterprise centres which provide a NI wide network of support for prospective and established businesses who have chosen the entrepreneurial option. NDDO focuses on maintaining and ensuring quality in all areas and it is of utmost importance and is reflected in the relevant accreditations attained by the Organisation including the transition to the new standard ISO 9001:2015 along with individual staff accreditations and training. The Organisation reinvests any surpluses back into the community; either by provision of affordable workspace or through a wide range of training and development courses.

Objectives, Activities and Future Plans

The Organisation's main objectives are to develop enterprise in the local Council area and assist in the creation, and retention, of businesses in the area and to continue to work in partnership with other economic development organisations. In order to promote, and encourage new business, the Organisation provides a range of value added business support services including, but not restricted to, provision of managed workspace and training for future entrepreneurs.

The objectives of the Organisation are the promotion for the public benefit of urban and rural regeneration in the Council area of Ards and North Down by relief of poverty in such ways as may be seen fit, the relief of unemployment, the advancement of education, training or retraining, particularly among unemployed people and provide them with work experience, the provision of financial and technical assistance or business advice or consultancy in order to provide training and employment opportunities for unemployed people in cases of financial or other charitable need through help in setting up their own business, assisting existing businesses and the creation of training and employment opportunities by the provision of workspace, building and/or land for use on favourable terms.

NDDO is involved in promoting entrepreneurship and transferring business skills across all sections of the local community and does a significant amount of work in disadvantaged areas. The Organisation provides a range of training programmes including, but not restricted to, pre-start, start-up, growth and cross border – many of the programmes are aimed at youth and promoting entrepreneurship across all sections of the local community, particularly in Neighbourhood Renewal areas and encouragement of micro businesses to be creative, innovative and forward thinking. NDDO are the only local training organisation delivering a complete portfolio of programmes designed to support the business needs to, not only start-up businesses, but also growth businesses.



Report of the Directors for the year end 31st March 2025

Objectives, Activities and Future Plans (continued)

During the year ending 31 March 2025, the Organisation achieved the following:-

Go Succeed Start	186 business plans and action plans completed - January 2024 - March 2025
Go Succeed Grow	19 clients 1-2-1 mentoring supported-April 2024-March 2025
NI EESS	11 clients (5 over target) receiving 1-2-1 mentoring support up to 20 hours and workshops 3 full time job/6 enrolled on Go Succeed Programme
ENI Conx	NDDO as a member of ENI are involved in this business platform and NDDO continued to signpost clients within the Ards and North Down Borough Council
Job Fairs	NDDO continued to be present at a number of job fairs within the Borough - using the opportunity to promote the new training programme
Prime Connect Network	15-29 participants-3 sessions
LMP	Board Member-sub committees training/employability-bi-monthly meetings/events/workshops
Female Peer Support Network	12-15 women - weekly networking workshops - 6 sessions

The Organisation has an overall workspace area of 109,846 sq ft offering a provision of both workshop facilities and a range of offices. Average occupancy during the year was 85% and the Trustees continue to believe that this is a strategic part of the Organisation's future. It is the Trustees' intention to continue to improve and develop this very important area of the Organisation's operations and a programme of refurbishment and reinvestment will continue. The board are still intending to extend the Innotec site, but due to major increases in building/material costs and other factors including INI timeframes to build, this has not progressed but remains high on the priority list. Talks with the bank have continued and they are supportive when the timeframe permits.

Occupancy levels have decreased to 85% - cost of living continued to have an impact on businesses and with the uncertainty and costs many office clients left to work from home to reduce overheads. A list of performance indicators are included within the ISO9001:2015 Accreditation and these are reviewed on an annual basis. Principal risks to the Organisation are occupancy levels and the continued decline in training income - current training on the Go For It Programme is an extension due to finish in September.

Appointment of Trustees

Following the recent merging of Councils the appointment of Trustees reflects representation from the new Ards and North Down Borough Council. Trustees, who are also directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law, give their time and expertise on a voluntary basis and play an active role in the affairs of the Organisation. The Trustees meet on a bi-monthly basis where all major decisions in relation to the Organisation are addressed.



Report of the Directors for the year end 31st March 2025

Trustee Induction & Training

Prospective Trustees are usually recommended by existing Board members, and are invited to meet with the Chief Executive and Chairman when they are given an insight into the running of the Organisation, their obligations, what their role would be within the Board and the aims and objectives of the Organisation. They are then invited to attend a Board meeting in an observer capacity, before deciding if they wish to join the Board.

Health and Safety/Equal opportunities

NDDO adhere to its Health & Safety and Equal Opportunity Policies, which are an integral part of its ISO 9001:2015

Financial review

The financial results are set out on pages 7 to 12 and statement of reserves in note 10 to these accounts.

As previously mentioned, NDDO succeeded an average occupancy of 85% throughout the year. Salaries and other costs have also been controlled as far as possible combating increasing inflationary pressures.

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted reserves that have not been designated for a particular purpose should be maintained at a level to ensure that in the event of a significant drop in income, it will be able to continue the charity's current activities and debt repayments, while consideration is given to additional ways to raise income.

Statement of disclosure of information to independent accountant.

We, the directors of the company who held office at the date of approval of these Financial Statements, as set out above, each confirm so far as we are aware, that:

- there is no relevant accounting information of which the company's examiner are unaware; and
- we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken as directors in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant accounting information and to establish that the company's examiner are aware of that information.

Plans for future periods and Major Risks

The major risk affecting the company would be a decline in the demand for premises owned by the company in the local market place. The Trustees however, are satisfied with the company's financial progress during the year. Occupancy rates have decreased slightly during the year but demand for workshops remain strong and the decrease reflects the drop in office accommodation. A number of existing tenants now wish to develop their business to a second level and need larger space which is encouraging going forward. The company is funded through cash generated by its rental activities which in turn subsidise the training and services departments of the organisation. The company has longer term financing in the form of a fixed loan that is secured until 2026 - when payment is completed then there will be no outstanding borrowings.

The board have discussed the future extension of the Innotec site. The development of the organisations property base would assist in the creation and retention of businesses in the local area and ongoing development of training programmes and delivery of same in partnership with other local economic development organisations.



Report of the Directors for the year end 31st March 2025

Public benefit statement

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty as prescribed by section 4 Of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 to have due regard to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland public benefit guidance.

The creation of employment, training and work experience for residents living in economically and socially deprived areas and consequently a reduction in poverty, unemployment and hardship, leading to a better quality of life for the beneficiaries and consequent improvements in health and well being. Enhanced knowledge about setting up and running small businesses and social enterprises resulting in increased levels of self-employment and better prospects of sustainable development, increased levels of knowledge and transferable vocational skills among employees/work experience trainees, assisting in the creation of a more educated, skilled and qualified community. A great sense among the beneficiaries of more fulfilled and purposeful lives, result in a safer, more stable and cohesive community. These benefits can be evidenced in records kept by various agencies of the number of jobs and work experience opportunities created and numbers of those who have successfully completed training courses. Evidence can also be found in independent evaluations of the activities of enterprise agencies carried out by funding bodies and in community surveys of living standards and attitudes. Some private benefit is obtained by the owners of small businesses who rent units on favourable terms, but this is ancillary to the main purpose and is greatly outweighed by the gains in public benefit. No harm arises from these purposes.

Provision of training courses which will enable people to avail of the self-employment option – these courses are free of charge and some include the completion of a Business Plan. The purpose of the training and mentoring is to encourage someone to start their own business and provides them with enough information and guidance to bring their idea into fruition and equips them with the tools to run their own business. This in turn boosts self-confidence and self-belief and also can relieve poverty as some of the training is directed specifically to those in TSN or, areas of deprivation, which can be found within the local Borough.

Young people are also targeted as not everyone is suited to university or employment and pre-start training, again delivered at no cost to the participant, but sometimes also having an accreditation attached, is vital to allow a young person to pursue self-employment. Getting women back into work is also an important part of the Organisation's remit but no one is excluded and the Organisation is constantly looking to improve and extend its range of programmes in order to provide a comprehensive programme of training at no charge.

Provision of workspace on simple terms, provision of services and ongoing support and monitoring is an important part of the Organisation's remit – rental from the workspace provision allows the Organisation to provide other essential services at a minimum cost or free of charge.

Any small surpluses achieved are reinvested in the Organisation either by extension or improvement of existing property, upgrade of existing services and continued support for businesses in the early stages.

The Trustees, who are drawn from the local community, are passionate, that training and mentoring, is a very important aspect of the Organisation's work and, while rental income is required in order to finance the training, it is a fundamental part of the Organisation.

Going Concern

The organisation's business activities, together with factors likely to affect its future development performance and position are set out above. The Trustees consider that appropriate level of occupancy are likely to be sustained through the going concern foresight period, on the basis of level of current tenancy agreements. As a consequence, the Trustees believe that the company is well placed to manage its business risks successfully, despite the current economic outlook.

Having considered the risks and the current environment, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Organisation has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

Independent Auditor

A resolution proposing that Bradley Accounting and Taxation be re-appointed as an independent auditor of the charity will be put to the Annual General Meeting.



Report of the Directors for the year end 31st March 2025

Trustees Responsibilities Statement

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

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources 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;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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 Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. The trustees 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.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's examiner is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information

This report was approved by the Board on the

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ivan Thompson".

Chairman

Ivan Thompson

26-8-2025



We have audited the financial statements of North Down Development Organisation Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Charity Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including 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 and comprising Charities SORP.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024, and of its incoming resources application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 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 responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company 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 charitable company'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 trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. 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. 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.

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, which includes the [directors' report is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' 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 charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 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; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit [; or

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on pages 1-5 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 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 charitable company'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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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.

We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

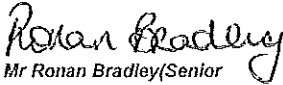
As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the charitable company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charitable company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation (ie. gives a true and fair view).

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report or for the opinions we have formed.


**Mr Ronan Bradley (Senior
Statutory Auditor)**
*For and on behalf of Bradley
Accounting and Taxation, Statutory
Auditor*
Suite B, Formation Works Maryland
Maryland Industrial Estate
Ballygowan Road
Belfast
BT23 6BL



Statement of Financial Activities

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
Incoming Resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
Investment income		8,748	-	8,748	479
Extraordinary Income					
Insurance income for flood damage		-	-	-	55,562
Incoming resources from charitable activities:					
Tenant Income		358,128	-	358,128	364,964
Services		48,867	-	48,867	54,221
Training Programme		-	80,031	80,031	24,540
Government Support		-	-	-	-
Total incoming resources		<u>415,743</u>	<u>80,031</u>	<u>495,774</u>	<u>499,766</u>
Resources expended					
Charitable activities		-	100,890	-	63,959
Establishment		137,501	-	137,501	130,853
Management & Administration		202,091	-	202,091	193,709
Extraordinary expenditure for flood damage		-	-	-	55,562
Governance costs		13,792	-	13,792	8,301
Total resources expended	2	<u>353,384</u>	<u>100,890</u>	<u>454,274</u>	<u>452,384</u>
Net incoming resources		62,359	- 20,859	41,500	47,382
Net movement in funds					
Transfer funds					
Fund balances brought forward 01 April 2024		2,168,294	- 297,288	1,871,006	1,823,624
Fund balances carried forward at 31st March 2025		<u>2,230,653</u>	<u>- 318,147</u>	<u>1,912,506</u>	<u>1,871,006</u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. All gains and losses recognised in the year are included above.

There were no recognised gains and losses for 2025 other than those included in the profit and loss account.

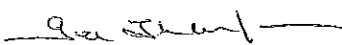


Charity Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2025
Company Registration Number NI017966

	Note:	2025	2024
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	5	2,520,135	2,619,226
Debtors	6	92,748	99,060
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>550,697</u>	<u>513,642</u>
		643,445	612,702
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>160,481</u>	<u>139,863</u>
Net current assets		<u>482,964</u>	<u>472,839</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>3,003,099</u>	<u>3,092,065</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	8	<u>16,662</u>	<u>75,741</u>
Net assets		<u><u>2,986,437</u></u>	<u><u>3,016,324</u></u>
Funds:			
Deferred capital grants	9	1,073,931	1,145,318
Unrestricted funds	10		
General funds		1,912,506	1,871,006
Designated funds			
Total funds		<u><u>2,986,437</u></u>	<u><u>3,016,324</u></u>

• The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages 7 to 12 were approved and authorised to issue by the Directors and signed on their behalf by:



 Ivan Thompson 26-8-2025 Chairman



Notes forming part of the financial statements

1 Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP) (FRS 102), The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and the Charities Act (Northern-Ireland) 2008.

(b) Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on the "Legal" page. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

(c) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost 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.

Investment income and gains are allocated to the appropriate fund.

(d) Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy, excludes VAT and other discounts.

Rental income is generated through the lease of premises owned by the organisation. Income is recognised evenly over the period of the lease term.

Training income is for the services provided to entrepreneurs within the organisation's area of operation and is recognised when the service has been completed in accordance with the programme provider's directions.

Capital grants received in respect of the acquisition or construction of fixed assets are credited to deferred capital grants in the balance sheet and are released to the income and expenditure account over the useful economic life of the asset for which the grant was awarded.

(e) Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

Training services and costs are recognised when incurred and are not deferred until the relevant programme has been completed.

(f) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

The company holds property primarily as a public benefit entity for the benefit of fostering businesses. Property has been classified as tangible fixed assets and not as investment property on accordance with FRS102.

Where there has been significant refurbishment costs incurred, these are treated as capital improvements, and depreciated in accordance with the policy rates used below.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost on a straight line basis over their expected useful economic lives as follows:

Long leasehold land	nil
Buildings & Offices	2% - 3.33% straight line
Hi-tech units	2% straight line
Fixtures & Fittings	10% - 20% straight line
Motor Vehicles	25% straight line

Property disposals, where the directors feel that proceeds are immaterial to the overall value of the land and buildings, are credited gross to the fixed assets without taking the net proceeds through the profit and loss account.



Notes forming part of the financial statements

1 Accounting policies (continued)

(f) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is not charged on assets in the course of construction and a full charge for the year is made for assets brought into use during the year. No charge for depreciation is made in the year in which an asset is disposed of.

Where buildings and equipment are acquired with the aid of specific grants, the assets are capitalised and depreciated in accordance with the policy set out above, with the related grant credited to a deferred capital grant account and released to the income and expenditure account over the expected useful economic life of the related asset.

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of the fixed asset may not be recoverable.

(g) Pension costs

The company operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. The costs of contributions are written off against profits in the year they are payable.

(h) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours.

(i) Financial instruments

The Company only enters into basic financial instruments transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like trade and other accounts receivable and payable, loans from banks and other third parties,

Debt instruments (other than those wholly repayable or receivable within one year), including loans and other accounts receivable and payable, are initially measured at present value of the future cash flows and subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Debt instruments that are payable or receivable within one year, typically trade payables or receivables, are measured, initially and subsequently, at the undiscounted amount of the cash or other consideration, expected to be paid or received.

2 Total resources expended

Other direct costs include:	2025	2024
Auditors' Fees	5,260	1,800
Depreciation – on owned assets	116,165	120,497
Capital Grants released	- 71,388	- 71,388
Loan Interest	<u>3,033</u>	<u>4,354</u>

3 Director' remuneration

The Directors neither received nor waived any emoluments during the year (2023: £Nil).

4 Staff Costs

	2025	2024
Wages and salaries	164,841	156,320
Social security costs	9,469	8,305
Defined Pension costs	<u>10,111</u>	<u>9,891</u>

The average number of employees, calculated on a full-time equivalent basis, analysed by function was:

	2025	2024
Management and administration	4	4
Training	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

There was one employee received a salary of £80,000 for the year.



Notes forming part of the financial statements

5 Tangible fixed assets

	Long Leasehold Land	Buildings & Adaptations	Hi-tech Units	Fixtures Fittings & Equipment	Motor Vehicles	Total
Cost						
At 1 April 2024	164,353	5,179,218	329,431	165,484	34,605	5,873,091
Additions	-	17,074	-	-	-	17,074
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2025	164,353	5,196,292	329,431	165,484	34,605	5,890,165
Depreciation						
At 1 April 2024	-	2,921,466	192,074	131,673	8,652	3,253,865
Charge for year	-	93,988	6,588	6,938	8,651	116,165
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2025	-	3,015,454	198,662	138,611	17,303	3,370,030
Net book value						
At 31 March 2025	164,353	2,180,838	130,769	26,873	17,302	2,520,135
<i>At 31 March 2024</i>	<i>164,353</i>	<i>2,257,752</i>	<i>137,357</i>	<i>33,811</i>	<i>25,953</i>	<i>2,619,226</i>

Valuation

The buildings were last valued independently during January 2018 by Mr. Mark McKinstry MRICS & Mr Stephen Deyemond MRICS of TDK Commercial Property Consultants. In their opinion, the fair valuation of the properties was £3,100,000. The trustees form an opinion that as the economy is improving and the industrial property market recovering, the current historic net book values carried in these accounts are not inappropriate; and they do not consider that a revaluation is justified given the improving market.

Leasehold Land

Purchase of land was acquire from IDB on a 999 year lease. There is no ground rent payable. There are restrictive covenants place on the use of the land for enterprise use only.

Capital Commitments

Capital expenditure contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements, was £ Nil (2024: £Nil).

6 Debtors

	2025	2024
Trade debtors	1,752	1,721
Other debtors-Accrued Income	59,241	62,122
Prepayments and other accrued income	31,755	35,217
	92,748	99,060

7 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
Trade creditors	9,442	39,054
Taxation and social security costs	14,798	4,885
Other creditors-Advance Rents	20,707	29,255
Accruals and deferred income	17,430	7,590
Payments on Account-Enterprise Northern Ireland Ltd	39,025	-
Loans and overdrafts	59,079	59,079
	160,481	139,863



Notes forming part of the financial statements

8 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2025	2024
Bank Loans	<u>16,662</u>	<u>75,741</u>
<u>The amounts fall due as follows:</u>		
In the second to fifth year inclusive	<u>16,662</u>	<u>75,741</u>
More than five years	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Total borrowings are secured by a legal mortgage on the company's premises, a fixed charge over book debts, and a floating charge on the other assets of the company. The company combined its fixed and floating interest rate loans into a single account at a rate of 1.5% on the present lending margin currently at .75%. The loan is due to be repaid in 2026.

9 Deferred capital grants

	2025	2024
<u>Land & buildings</u>		
At 31 March 2025	1,145,319	1,216,707
<u>Released to income and expenditure</u>		
At 31 March 2025	<u>71,388</u>	<u>71,388</u>
	<u>1,073,931</u>	<u>1,145,319</u>

The capital grants to assist building these units had conditions attached, pre and post competition. These were fulfilled within the time limits varying from 5-6 years after the grant was awarded. The grants are not repayable thereafter and the organisation is free to dispose of them without returning any the proceeds.

10 Statement of funds

	At 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2025		
General reserve	2,168,294	415,743	-	353,384	-	2,230,653	
Total unrestricted funds	<u>2,168,294</u>	<u>415,743</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>353,384</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,230,653</u>	
Restricted funds:							
Training	-	297,288	80,031	-	100,890	-	318,147
Total restricted funds	<u>-</u>	<u>297,288</u>	<u>80,031</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>100,890</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>318,147</u>
Total funds	<u>1,871,006</u>	<u>495,774</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>454,274</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,912,506</u>	

11 Financial Instruments

	2025	2024
Financial assets		
Financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss	<u>550,697</u>	<u>513,642</u>
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	<u>123,320</u>	<u>209,047</u>

Financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise cash in hand and bank.

Financial Liabilities measured at amortised cost comprise bank and asset loans, trade creditors, and sundry creditors.



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
Incoming Resources				
<u>Incoming resources from generated funds:</u>				
Interest received	8,748	-	8,748	479
<u>Incoming resources from charitable activities:</u>				
Tenant Income				
New building workshops	73,522	-	73,522	76,767
New building offices	21,585	-	21,585	26,085
Hi-Tech units	32,210	-	32,210	29,616
Original building	138,608	-	138,608	141,363
Innotec Drive (Business Village)	92,203	-	92,203	91,133
	<u>358,128</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>358,128</u>	<u>364,964</u>
Services Activities				
Telephone	323	-	323	365
Photocopies	7	-	7	1
Electricity	27,506	-	27,506	32,764
Receptionist	11,871	-	11,871	13,286
Water Rates	5,760	-	5,760	5,970
Postage	1,068	-	1,068	740
Room Hire	2,332	-	2,332	1,095
	<u>48,867</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>48,867</u>	<u>54,221</u>
Training				
Exploring Enterprise	-	3,428	3,428	1,713
NISS Go Succeed	-	76,503	76,503	-
Start Her Up	-	-	-	-
Workshops	-	-	-	-
Go For It	-	-	-	22,427
ENI Start Up Loan Mentoring	-	100	100	400
	<u>-</u>	<u>80,031</u>	<u>80,031</u>	<u>24,540</u>
Extraordinary Income				
Insurance income for flood damage	-	-	-	55,562
Total incoming resources	<u>415,743</u>	<u>80,031</u>	<u>495,774</u>	<u>499,766</u>



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
Resources expended				
<u>Charitable activities training</u>				
Wages & salaries	-	44,697	44,697	41,033
NIC employer's	-	2,894	2,894	2,445
Pension	-	1,527	1,527	1,424
Training	-	51,772	51,772	15,465
Misc	-	-	-	3,051
Costs	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>100,890</u>	<u>100,890</u>	<u>63,418</u>
<u>Establishment</u>				
Water Rates	4,482	-	4,482	3,790
Power & Light & Heat	54,838	-	54,838	73,358
Cleaning	34,931	-	34,931	33,419
Insurances	30,746	-	30,746	18,726
Repairs & maintenance	12,043	-	12,043	10,414
Vacant premises rates	461	-	461	-
	<u>137,501</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>137,501</u>	<u>139,707</u>
<u>Management & Administration</u>				
Wages & salaries	120,144	-	120,144	107,248
NIC employer's	6,575	-	6,575	5,245
Pension costs	8,584	-	8,584	8,219
Advertising	1,500	-	1,500	1,075
Telephone, fax & internet	6,146	-	6,146	5,929
Postage and stationery	3,090	-	3,090	3,146
Car and travel	1,174	-	1,174	1,083
Finance costs	3,033	-	3,033	5,609
Depreciation	116,165	-	116,165	127,293
P/I on disposal asset	-	-	-	14,526
Deferred grants released	- 71,388	-	- 71,388	- 71,388
Bad debt provision	-	-	-	84
Miscellaneous	7,068	-	7,068	2,467
	<u>202,091</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>202,091</u>	<u>181,484</u>
<u>Governance costs</u>				
Examiner's/Audit Fees	5,260	-	5,260	1,800
Book keeping	4,960	-	4,960	4,140
Professional	3,572	-	3,572	1,750
	<u>13,792</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,792</u>	<u>7,690</u>
<u>Extraordinary Expenditure</u>				
Repairs in relation to flood damage	-	-	-	-
Total resources expended	<u>353,384</u>	<u>100,890</u>	<u>454,274</u>	<u>392,299</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>415,743</u>	<u>80,031</u>	<u>495,774</u>	<u>499,766</u>
Net incoming resources	<u>62,359</u>	<u>- 20,859</u>	<u>41,500</u>	<u>107,467</u>

North Down Development Organisation Ltd

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101257

Accounts



North Down Development Organisation Limited

(A company limited by guarantee)

Report and Financial Statements

Year Ended 31st March 2024

Charity no: NIC 101257

Company no: NI017966



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Legal

Directors (Trustees)

Mr I Thompson (Chairman)
Mr Alistair Cathcart
Mr Stephen Dunlop (resigned 29 August 2023)
Mrs M Smith
Mr G O'Boyle
Mr J Montgomery
Mr Stephen Holywood (appointed 29 August 2023)

**Chief Executive &
Company Secretary**

Mrs L Vance

Registered Office

Enterprise House
Balloo Avenue
Bangor
Co Down
BT19 7QT

**Independent
Auditor**

Bradley Accounting and Taxation
Chartered Certified Accountants
Suite D, Formation Works Maryland
Maryland Industrial Estate
Ballygowan Road
Belfast
BT23 6BL

Bankers

Danske Bank
77 Main Street
Bangor
BT20 5AP

Solicitors

McCoubrey Hinds
61 Main Street
Bangor
BT20 5AP



Report for the Directors' year end 31st March 2024

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, submit their annual report and the financial statements independently reviewed for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP) (FRS 102) in preparing financial statements of the charity in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015.

Structure, governance and management

North Down Development Organisation Limited (NDDO) was incorporated in 1984 and is governed by its memorandum and articles of association. It is the Local Enterprise Development Agency for the area having been set up as a company limited by guarantee and achieved charitable status with HMRC in 2003. Charitable status was achieved on 8th December 2014 with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland – first LEA to achieve this. It is also a member of Enterprise Northern Ireland; a partnership of enterprise centres which provide a NI wide network of support for prospective and established businesses who have chosen the entrepreneurial option. NDDO focuses on maintaining and ensuring quality in all areas and it is of utmost importance and is reflected in the relevant accreditations attained by the Organisation including the transition to the new standard ISO 9001:2015 along with individual staff accreditations and training. The Organisation reinvests any surpluses back into the community; either by provision of affordable workspace or through a wide range of training and development courses.

Objectives, Activities and Future Plans

The Organisation's main objectives are to develop enterprise in the local Council area and assist in the creation, and retention, of businesses in the area and to continue to work in partnership with other economic development organisations. In order to promote, and encourage new business, the Organisation provides a range of value added business support services including, but not restricted to, provision of managed workspace and training for future entrepreneurs.

The objectives of the Organisation are the promotion for the public benefit of urban and rural regeneration in the Council area of Ards and North Down by relief of poverty in such ways as may be seen fit, the relief of unemployment, the advancement of education, training or retraining, particularly among unemployed people and provide them with work experience, the provision of financial and technical assistance or business advice or consultancy in order to provide training and employment opportunities for unemployed people in cases of financial or other charitable need through help in setting up their own business, assisting existing businesses and the creation of training and employment opportunities by the provision of workspace, building and/or land for use on favourable terms.

NDDO is involved in promoting entrepreneurship and transferring business skills across all sections of the local community and does a significant amount of work in disadvantaged areas. The Organisation provides a range of training programmes including, but not restricted to, pre-start, start-up, growth and cross border – many of the programmes are aimed at youth and promoting entrepreneurship across all sections of the local community, particularly in Neighbourhood Renewal areas and encouragement of micro businesses to be creative, innovative and forward thinking. NDDO are the only local training organisation delivering a complete portfolio of programmes designed to support the business needs to, not only start-up businesses, but also growth businesses.



Report of the Directors for the year end 31st March 2024

Objectives, Activities and Future Plans (continued)

During the year ending 31 March 2024, the Organisation achieved the following:-

GO FOR IT - NIBSUP	52 business plans were completed April 23 - December 23
Go Succeed Start	18 business plans and action plans completed - January 2024 - March 2024
Go Succeed Grow	10 clients 1-2-1 mentoring supported
NI EESS	11 clients (5 over target) receiving 1-2-1 mentoring support up to 20 hours and workshops. 4 clients completing CCEA Understanding Business Enterprise. 1 full time job/1 enrolled on Go Succeed Programme
ENI Loan Fund	7 loan applications were completed and submitted.
ENI Plus Service	NDDO as a member of Enterprise NI (ENI) and in conjunction with them, launched a new initiative; the ENI Pus - a powerful business platform providing essential services, resources, advice, learning, benefits and substantial cost savings for businesses and business owners. NDDO has assisted promotion of the platform for tenants and local business owners located in Ards and North Down Borough Council area.
Job Fairs	NDDO continued to be present at a number of job fairs within the Borough - using the opportunity to promote the new training programme
Female Peer Support Network	15 women - weekly networking workshops - 8 sessions

The Organisation has an overall workspace area of 109,846 sq ft offering a provision of both workshop facilities and a range of offices. Average occupancy during the year was 90% and the Trustees continue to believe that this is a strategic part of the Organisation's future. It is the Trustees' intention to continue to improve and develop this very important area of the Organisation's operations and a programme of refurbishment and reinvestment will continue. The board are still intending to extend the Innotec site, but due to major increases in building/material costs and other factors including INI timeframes to build, this has not progressed but remains high on the priority list. Talks with the bank have continued and they are supportive when the timeframe permits.

Occupancy levels have decreased to 90% - cost of living continued to have an impact on businesses especially with the increase in home mortgage rates - one business did purchase their own premises. A list of performance indicators are included within the ISO9001:2015 Accreditation and these are reviewed on an annual basis. Principal risks to the Organisation are occupancy levels and the continued decline in training income - current training on the Go For It Programme is an extension due to finish in September.

Appointment of Trustees

Following the recent merging of Councils the appointment of Trustees reflects representation from the new Ards and North Down Borough Council. Trustees, who are also directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law, give their time and expertise on a voluntary basis and play an active role in the affairs of the Organisation. The Trustees meet on a bi-monthly basis where all major decisions in relation to the Organisation are addressed.



Report of the Directors for the year end 31st March 2024

Trustee Induction & Training

Prospective Trustees are usually recommended by existing Board members, and are invited to meet with the Chief Executive and Chairman when they are given an insight into the running of the Organisation, their obligations, what their role would be within the Board and the aims and objectives of the Organisation. They are then invited to attend a Board meeting in an observer capacity, before deciding if they wish to join the Board.

Health and Safety/Equal opportunities

NDDO adhere to its Health & Safety and Equal Opportunity Policies, which are an integral part of its ISO 9001:2015

Financial review

The financial results are set out on pages 7 to 12 and statement of reserves in note 10 to these accounts.

As previously mentioned , NDDO succeeded an average occupancy of 90% throughout the year. Salaries and other costs have also been controlled as far as possible combating increasing inflationary pressures.

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted reserves that have not been designated for a particular purpose should be maintained at a level to ensure that in the event of a significant drop in income, it will be able to continue the charity's current activities and debt repayments , while consideration is given to additional ways to raise income.

Statement of disclosure of information to independent accountant.

We, the directors of the company who held office at the date of approval of these Financial Statements, as set out above, each confirm so far as we are aware, that:

- there is no relevant accounting information of which the company's examiner are unaware; and
- we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken as directors in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant accounting information and to establish that the company's examiner are aware of that information.

Plans for future periods and Major Risks

The major risk affecting the company would be a decline in the demand for premises owned by the company in the local market place. The Trustees however, are satisfied with the company's financial progress during the year. Occupancy rates have decreased slightly during the year but demand for workshops remain strong and the decrease reflects the drop in office accommodation. A number of existing tenants now wish to develop their business to a second level and need larger space which is encouraging going forward. The company is funded through cash generated by its rental activities which in turn subsidise the training and services departments of the organisation. The company has longer term financing in the form of a fixed loan that is secured until 2026 - when payment is completed then there will be no outstanding borrowings.

The board have discussed the future extension of the Innotec site. The development of the organisations property base would assist in the creation and retention of businesses in the local area and ongoing development of training programmes and delivery of same in partnership with other local economic development organisations.



Report of the Directors for the year end 31st March 2024

Public benefit statement

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty as prescribed by section 4 Of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 to have due regard to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland public benefit guidance.

The creation of employment, training and work experience for residents living in economically and socially deprived areas and consequently a reduction in poverty, unemployment and hardship, leading to a better quality of life for the beneficiaries and consequent improvements in health and well being. Enhanced knowledge about setting up and running small businesses and social enterprises resulting in increased levels of self-employment and better prospects of sustainable development, increased levels of knowledge and transferable vocational skills among employees/work experience trainees, assisting in the creation of a more educated, skilled and qualified community. A great sense among the beneficiaries of more fulfilled and purposeful lives, result in a safer, more stable and cohesive community. These benefits can be evidenced in records kept by various agencies of the number of jobs and work experience opportunities created and numbers of those who have successfully completed training courses. Evidence can also be found in independent evaluations of the activities of enterprise agencies carried out by funding bodies and in community surveys of living standards and attitudes. Some private benefit is obtained by the owners of small businesses who rent units on favourable terms, but this is ancillary to the main purpose and is greatly outweighed by the gains in public benefit. No harm arises from these purposes.

Provision of training courses which will enable people to avail of the self-employment option – these courses are free of charge and some include the completion of a Business Plan. The purpose of the training and mentoring is to encourage someone to start their own business and provides them with enough information and guidance to bring their idea into fruition and equips them with the tools to run their own business. This in turn boosts self-confidence and self-belief and also can relieve poverty as some of the training is directed specifically to those in TSN or, areas of deprivation, which can be found within the local Borough.

Young people are also targeted as not everyone is suited to university or employment and pre-start training, again delivered at no cost to the participant, but sometimes also having an accreditation attached, is vital to allow a young person to pursue self-employment. Getting women back into work is also an important part of the Organisation's remit but no one is excluded and the Organisation is constantly looking to improve and extend its range of programmes in order to provide a comprehensive programme of training at no charge.

Provision of workspace on simple terms, provision of services and ongoing support and monitoring is an important part of the Organisation's remit – rental from the workspace provision allows the Organisation to provide other essential services at a minimum cost or free of charge.

Any small surpluses achieved are reinvested in the Organisation either by extension or improvement of existing property, upgrade of existing services and continued support for businesses in the early stages.

The Trustees, who are drawn from the local community, are passionate, that training and mentoring, is a very important aspect of the Organisation's work and, while rental income is required in order to finance the training, it is a fundamental part of the Organisation.

Going Concern

The organisation's business activities, together with factors likely to affect its future development performance and position are set out above. The Trustees consider that appropriate level of occupancy are likely to be sustained through the going concern foresight period, on the basis of level of current tenancy agreements. As a consequence, the Trustees believe that the company is well placed to manage its business risks successfully, despite the current economic outlook.

Having considered the risks and the current environment, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Organisation has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

Independent Auditor

A resolution proposing that Bradley Accounting and Taxation be re-appointed as an independent auditor of the charity will be put to the Annual General Meeting.



Report of the Directors for the year end 31st March 2024

Trustees Responsibilities Statement

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

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources 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;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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 Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. The trustees 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.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's examiner is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information

This report was approved by the Board on the

17th December 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ivan Thompson", written over a horizontal line.

Chairman

Ivan Thompson

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of North Down Development Organisation Limited

We have audited the financial statements of North Down Development Organisation Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Charity Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including 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) and comprising Charities SORP.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 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 responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company 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 charitable company'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 trustees' annual report², other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. 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. 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.

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, which includes the [strategic report and the]³ directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' 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 charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 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; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit []; or

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on pages 1-5 the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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 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 charitable company'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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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.

[Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.]⁵ The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.]⁷

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the charitable company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charitable company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation (ie. gives a true and fair view).

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Mr Ronan Bradley (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Bradley Accounting and Taxation, Statutory Auditor

Suite D, Formation Works Maryland

Maryland Industrial Estate

Ballygowan Road

Belfast

BT23 6BL

17.12.24



Statement of Financial Activities

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
Incoming Resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
Investment income		479	-	479	519
Extraordinary Income					
Insurance income for flood damage		55,562	-	55,562	
Incoming resources from charitable activities:					
Tenant Income		364,964	-	364,964	371,169
Services		54,221	-	54,221	64,316
Training Programme		-	24,540	24,540	27,687
Government Support		-	-	-	
Total incoming resources		<u>475,226</u>	<u>24,540</u>	<u>499,766</u>	<u>463,691</u>
Resources expended					
Charitable activities		-	63,959		63,418
Establishment		130,853	-	130,853	139,707
Management & Administration		193,709	-	193,709	181,484
Extraordinary expenditure for flood damage		55,562	-	55,562	
Governance costs		8,301	-	8,301	7,690
Total resources expended	2	<u>388,425</u>	<u>63,959</u>	<u>452,384</u>	<u>392,299</u>
Net incoming resources		86,801	- 39,419	47,382	71,392
Net movement in funds					
Transfer funds					
Fund balances brought forward 01 April 2023		2,081,493	- 257,869	1,823,624	1,752,232
Fund balances carried forward at 31st March 2024		<u>2,168,294</u>	<u>- 297,288</u>	<u>1,871,006</u>	<u>1,823,624</u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. All gains and losses recognised in the year are included above.

There were no recognised gains and losses for 2024 other than those included in the profit and loss account.



Charity Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2024
Company Registration Number NI017966

	Note:	2024	2023
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	5	2,619,226	2,729,252
Debtors	6	99,060	23,425
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>513,642</u>	<u>526,858</u>
		612,702	550,283
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>139,863</u>	<u>103,126</u>
Net current assets		472,839	447,157
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>3,092,065</u>	<u>3,176,409</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	8	<u>75,741</u>	<u>136,080</u>
Net assets		<u><u>3,016,324</u></u>	<u><u>3,040,329</u></u>
Funds:			
Deferred capital grants	9	1,145,318	1,216,705
Unrestricted funds	10		
General funds		1,871,006	1,823,624
Designated funds			
Total funds		<u><u>3,016,324</u></u>	<u><u>3,040,329</u></u>

For the year ending 31st March 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors Responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages 7 to 12 were approved and authorised to issue by the Directors and signed on their behalf by:

Ivan Thompson

Chairman

17.12.24



Notes forming part of the financial statements

1 Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP) (FRS 102), The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and the Charities Act (Northern-Ireland) 2008.

(b) Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on the "Legal" page. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

(c) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost 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.

Investment income and gains are allocated to the appropriate fund.

(d) Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy, excludes VAT and other discounts.

Rental income is generated through the lease of premises owned by the organisation. Income is recognised evenly over the period of the lease term.

Training income is for the services provided to entrepreneurs within the organisation's area of operation and is recognised when the service has been completed in accordance with the programme provider's directions.

Capital grants received in respect of the acquisition or construction of fixed assets are credited to deferred capital grants in the balance sheet and are released to the income and expenditure account over the useful economic life of the asset for which the grant was awarded.

(e) Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

Training services and costs are recognised when incurred and are not deferred until the relevant programme has been completed.

(f) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

The company holds property primarily as a public benefit entity for the benefit of fostering businesses. Property has been classified as tangible fixed assets and not as investment property on accordance with FRS102.

Where there has been significant refurbishment costs incurred, these are treated as capital improvements, and depreciated in accordance with the policy rates used below.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost on a straight line basis over their expected useful economic lives as follows:

Long leasehold land	nil
Buildings & Offices	2% - 3.33% straight line
Hi-tech units	2% straight line
Fixtures & Fittings	10% - 20% straight line
Motor Vehicles	25% straight line

Property disposals, where the directors feel that proceeds are immaterial to the overall value of the land and buildings, are credited gross to the fixed assets without taking the net proceeds through the profit and loss account.



Notes forming part of the financial statements

1 Accounting policies (continued)

(f) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is not charged on assets in the course of construction and a full charge for the year is made for assets brought into use during the year. No charge for depreciation is made in the year in which an asset is disposed of.

Where buildings and equipment are acquired with the aid of specific grants, the assets are capitalised and depreciated in accordance with the policy set out above, with the related grant credited to a deferred capital grant account and released to the income and expenditure account over the expected useful economic life of the related asset.

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of the fixed asset may not be recoverable.

(g) Pension costs

The company operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. The costs of contributions are written off against profits in the year they are payable.

(h) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours.

(i) Financial instruments

The Company only enters into basic financial instruments transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like trade and other accounts receivable and payable, loans from banks and other third parties,

Debt instruments (other than those wholly repayable or receivable within one year), including loans and other accounts receivable and payable, are initially measured at present value of the future cash flows and subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Debt instruments that are payable or receivable within one year, typically trade payables or receivables, are measured, initially and subsequently, at the undiscounted amount of the cash or other consideration, expected to be paid or received.

2 Total resources expended

Other direct costs include:

	2024	2023
Independent's Examiners Fees	1,800	1,800
Depreciation – on owned assets	120,497	127,293
Capital Grants released	- 71,388	- 71,388
Loan Interest	4,354	5,609

3 Director' remuneration

The Directors neither received nor waived any emoluments during the year (2023: £Nil).

4 Staff Costs

	2024	2023
Wages and salaries	156,320	148,281
Social security costs	8,305	7,690
Defined Pension costs	9,891	9,643

The average number of employees, calculated on a full-time equivalent basis, analysed by function was:

	2024	2023
Management and administration	4	4
Training	1	1

There was one employee received a salary of between £75,000 and £80,000 for the year.



Notes forming part of the financial statements

5 Tangible fixed assets

	Long Leasehold Land	Buildings & Adaptations	Hi-tech Units	Fixtures Fittings & Equipment	Motor Vehicles	Total
Cost						
At 1 April 2023	164,353	5,179,218	329,431	155,012	34,605	5,862,619
Additions	-	-	-	10,472	-	10,472
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	164,353	5,179,218	329,431	165,484	34,605	5,873,091
Depreciation						
At 1 April 2023	-	2,822,363	185,486	125,519	-	3,133,368
Charge for year	-	99,103	6,588	6,154	8,652	120,497
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	-	2,921,466	192,074	131,673	8,652	3,253,865
Net book value						
At 31 March 2024	164,353	2,257,752	137,357	33,811	25,953	2,619,226
<i>At 31 March 2023</i>	<i>164,353</i>	<i>2,356,855</i>	<i>143,945</i>	<i>29,493</i>	<i>34,605</i>	<i>2,729,251</i>

Valuation

The buildings were last valued independently during January 2018 by Mr. Mark McKinstry MRICS & Mr Stephen Deyermond MRICS of TDK Commercial Property Consultants. In their opinion, the fair valuation of the properties was £3,100,000. The trustees form an opinion that as the economy is improving and the industrial property market recovering, the current historic net book values carried in these accounts are not inappropriate; and they do not consider that a revaluation is justified given the improving market.

Leasehold Land

Purchase of land was acquire from IDB on a 999 year lease. There is no ground rent payable.

There are restrictive covenants place on the use of the land for enterprise use only.

Capital Commitments

Capital expenditure contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements, was £ Nil (2023: £Nil).

6 Debtors

	2024	2023
Trade debtors	1,721	97
Other debtors	62,122	
Prepayments and other accrued income	35,217	23,328
	99,060	23,425

7 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
Trade creditors	39,054	2,320
Taxation and social security costs	4,885	14,852
Other creditors	29,255	20,073
Accruals and deferred income	7,590	9,383
Obligations under finance leases	-	
Loans and overdrafts	59,079	56,498
	139,863	103,126



Notes forming part of the financial statements

8 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2024	2023
Bank Loans	75,741	136,080
<u>The amounts fall due as follows:</u>		
In the second to fifth year inclusive	75,741	136,080
More than five years	-	

Total borrowings are secured by a legal mortgage on the company's premises, a fixed charge over book debts, and a floating charge on the other assets of the company. The company combined its fixed and floating interest rate loans into a single account at a rate of 1.5% on the present lending margin currently at .75%. The loan is due to be repaid in 2026.

9 Deferred capital grants

	2024	2023
<u>Land & buildings</u>		
At 31 March 2024	1,216,707	1,288,095
<u>Released to income and expenditure</u>	71,388	71,388
At 31 March 2024	1,145,319	1,216,707

The capital grants to assist building these units had conditions attached, pre and post competition. These were fulfilled within the time limits varying from 5-6 years after the grant was awarded. The grants are not repayable thereafter and the organisation is free to dispose of them without returning any the proceeds.

10 Statement of funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2024
General reserve	2,081,493	475,226	- 388,425	-	2,168,294
Total unrestricted funds	2,081,493	475,226	- 388,425	-	2,168,294
Restricted funds:					
Training	-	257,869	24,540	- 63,959	-
Total restricted funds	-	257,869	24,540	- 63,959	-
Total funds	1,823,624	499,766	- 452,384	-	1,871,006

11 Financial Instruments

	2024	2023
Financial assets		
Financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss	513,642	526,858
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	209,047	239,205

Financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise cash in hand and bank.

Financial Liabilities measured at amortised cost comprise bank and asset loans, trade creditors, and sundry creditors.

North Down Development Organisation Ltd

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101257

Annual report



Report for the Directors' year end 31st March 2024

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, submit their annual report and the financial statements independently reviewed for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP) (FRS 102) in preparing financial statements of the charity in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015.

Structure, governance and management

North Down Development Organisation Limited (NDDO) was incorporated in 1984 and is governed by its memorandum and articles of association. It is the Local Enterprise Development Agency for the area having been set up as a company limited by guarantee and achieved charitable status with HMRC in 2003. Charitable status was achieved on 8th December 2014 with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland – first LEA to achieve this. It is also a member of Enterprise Northern Ireland; a partnership of enterprise centres which provide a NI wide network of support for prospective and established businesses who have chosen the entrepreneurial option. NDDO focuses on maintaining and ensuring quality in all areas and it is of utmost importance and is reflected in the relevant accreditations attained by the Organisation including the transition to the new standard ISO 9001:2015 along with individual staff accreditations and training. The Organisation reinvests any surpluses back into the community; either by provision of affordable workspace or through a wide range of training and development courses.

Objectives, Activities and Future Plans

The Organisation's main objectives are to develop enterprise in the local Council area and assist in the creation, and retention, of businesses in the area and to continue to work in partnership with other economic development organisations. In order to promote, and encourage new business, the Organisation provides a range of value added business support services including, but not restricted to, provision of managed workspace and training for future entrepreneurs.

The objectives of the Organisation are the promotion for the public benefit of urban and rural regeneration in the Council area of Ards and North Down by relief of poverty in such ways as may be seen fit, the relief of unemployment, the advancement of education, training or retraining, particularly among unemployed people and provide them with work experience, the provision of financial and technical assistance or business advice or consultancy in order to provide training and employment opportunities for unemployed people in cases of financial or other charitable need through help in setting up their own business, assisting existing businesses and the creation of training and employment opportunities by the provision of workspace, building and/or land for use on favourable terms.

NDDO is involved in promoting entrepreneurship and transferring business skills across all sections of the local community and does a significant amount of work in disadvantaged areas. The Organisation provides a range of training programmes including, but not restricted to, pre-start, start-up, growth and cross border – many of the programmes are aimed at youth and promoting entrepreneurship across all sections of the local community, particularly in Neighbourhood Renewal areas and encouragement of micro businesses to be creative, innovative and forward thinking. NDDO are the only local training organisation delivering a complete portfolio of programmes designed to support the business needs to, not only start-up businesses, but also growth businesses.



Report of the Directors for the year end 31st March 2024

Objectives, Activities and Future Plans (continued)

During the year ending 31 March 2024, the Organisation achieved the following:-

GO FOR IT - NIBSUP	52 business plans were completed April 23 - December 23
Go Succeed Start	18 business plans and action plans completed - January 2024 - March 2024
Go Succeed Grow	10 clients 1-2-1 mentoring supported
NI EESS	11 clients (5 over target) receiving 1-2-1 mentoring support up to 20 hours and workshops. 4 clients completing CCEA Understanding Business Enterprise. 1 full time job/1 enrolled on Go Succeed Programme
ENI Loan Fund	7 loan applications were completed and submitted.
ENI Plus Service	NDDO as a member of Enterprise NI (ENI) and in conjunction with them, launched a new initiative; the ENI Plus - a powerful business platform providing essential services, resources, advice, learning, benefits and substantial cost savings for businesses and business owners. NDDO has assisted promotion of the platform for tenants and local business owners located in Ards and North Down Borough Council area.
Job Fairs	NDDO continued to be present at a number of job fairs within the Borough - using the opportunity to promote the new training programme
Female Peer Support Network	15 women - weekly networking workshops - 8 sessions

The Organisation has an overall workspace area of 109,846 sq ft offering a provision of both workshop facilities and a range of offices. Average occupancy during the year was 90% and the Trustees continue to believe that this is a strategic part of the Organisation's future. It is the Trustees' intention to continue to improve and develop this very important area of the Organisation's operations and a programme of refurbishment and reinvestment will continue. The board are still intending to extend the Innotec site, but due to major increases in building/material costs and other factors including INI timeframes to build, this has not progressed but remains high on the priority list. Talks with the bank have continued and they are supportive when the timeframe permits.

Occupancy levels have decreased to 90% - cost of living continued to have an impact on businesses especially with the increase in home mortgage rates - one business did purchase their own premises. A list of performance indicators are included within the ISO9001:2015 Accreditation and these are reviewed on an annual basis. Principal risks to the Organisation are occupancy levels and the continued decline in training income - current training on the Go For It Programme is an extension due to finish in September.

Appointment of Trustees

Following the recent merging of Councils the appointment of Trustees reflects representation from the new Ards and North Down Borough Council. Trustees, who are also directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law, give their time and expertise on a voluntary basis and play an active role in the affairs of the Organisation. The Trustees meet on a bi-monthly basis where all major decisions in relation to the Organisation are addressed.



Report of the Directors for the year end 31st March 2024

Trustee Induction & Training

Prospective Trustees are usually recommended by existing Board members, and are invited to meet with the Chief Executive and Chairman when they are given an insight into the running of the Organisation, their obligations, what their role would be within the Board and the aims and objectives of the Organisation. They are then invited to attend a Board meeting in an observer capacity, before deciding if they wish to join the Board.

Health and Safety/Equal opportunities

NDDO adhere to its Health & Safety and Equal Opportunity Policies, which are an integral part of its ISO 9001:2015

Financial review

The financial results are set out on pages 7 to 12 and statement of reserves in note 10 to these accounts.

As previously mentioned , NDDO succeeded an average occupancy of 90% throughout the year. Salaries and other costs have also been controlled as far as possible combating increasing inflationary pressures.

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted reserves that have not been designated for a particular purpose should be maintained at a level to ensure that in the event of a significant drop in income, it will be able to continue the charity's current activities and debt repayments , while consideration is given to additional ways to raise income.

Statement of disclosure of information to independent accountant.

We, the directors of the company who held office at the date of approval of these Financial Statements, as set out above, each confirm so far as we are aware, that:

- there is no relevant accounting information of which the company's examiner are unaware; and
- we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken as directors in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant accounting information and to establish that the company's examiner are aware of that information.

Plans for future periods and Major Risks

The major risk affecting the company would be a decline in the demand for premises owned by the company in the local market place. The Trustees however, are satisfied with the company's financial progress during the year. Occupancy rates have decreased slightly during the year but demand for workshops remain strong and the decrease reflects the drop in office accomodation. A number of existing tenants now wish to develop their business to a second level and need larger space which is encouraging going forward. The company is funded through cash generated by its rental activites which in turn subsidise the training and services departments of the organisation. The company has longer term financing in the form of a fixed loan that is secured until 2026 - when payment is completed then there will be no outstanding borrowings.

The board have discussed the future extension of the Innotec site. The development of the organisations property base would assist in the creation and retention of businesses in the local area and ongoing development of training programmes and delivery of same in partnership with other local economic development organisations.



Report of the Directors for the year end 31st March 2024

Public benefit statement

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty as prescribed by section 4 Of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 to have due regard to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland public benefit guidance.

The creation of employment, training and work experience for residents living in economically and socially deprived areas and consequently a reduction in poverty, unemployment and hardship, leading to a better quality of life for the beneficiaries and consequent improvements in health and well being. Enhanced knowledge about setting up and running small businesses and social enterprises resulting in increased levels of self-employment and better prospects of sustainable development, increased levels of knowledge and transferable vocational skills among employees/work experience trainees, assisting in the creation of a more educated, skilled and qualified community. A great sense among the beneficiaries of more fulfilled and purposeful lives, result in a safer, more stable and cohesive community. These benefits can be evidenced in records kept by various agencies of the number of jobs and work experience opportunities created and numbers of those who have successfully completed training courses. Evidence can also be found in independent evaluations of the activities of enterprise agencies carried out by funding bodies and in community surveys of living standards and attitudes. Some private benefit is obtained by the owners of small businesses who rent units on favourable terms, but this is ancillary to the main purpose and is greatly outweighed by the gains in public benefit. No harm arises from these purposes.

Provision of training courses which will enable people to avail of the self-employment option – these courses are free of charge and some include the completion of a Business Plan. The purpose of the training and mentoring is to encourage someone to start their own business and provides them with enough information and guidance to bring their idea into fruition and equips them with the tools to run their own business. This in turn boosts self-confidence and self-belief and also can relieve poverty as some of the training is directed specifically to those in TSN or, areas of deprivation, which can be found within the local Borough.

Young people are also targeted as not everyone is suited to university or employment and pre-start training, again delivered at no cost to the participant, but sometimes also having an accreditation attached, is vital to allow a young person to pursue self-employment. Getting women back into work is also an important part of the Organisation's remit but no one is excluded and the Organisation is constantly looking to improve and extend its range of programmes in order to provide a comprehensive programme of training at no charge.

Provision of workspace on simple terms, provision of services and ongoing support and monitoring is an important part of the Organisation's remit – rental from the workspace provision allows the Organisation to provide other essential services at a minimum cost or free of charge.

Any small surpluses achieved are reinvested in the Organisation either by extension or improvement of existing property, upgrade of existing services and continued support for businesses in the early stages.

The Trustees, who are drawn from the local community, are passionate, that training and mentoring, is a very important aspect of the Organisation's work and, while rental income is required in order to finance the training, it is a fundamental part of the Organisation.

Going Concern

The organisation's business activities, together with factors likely to affect its future development performance and position are set out above. The Trustees consider that appropriate level of occupancy are likely to be sustained through the going concern foresight period, on the basis of level of current tenancy agreements. As a consequence, the Trustees believe that the company is well placed to manage its business risks successfully, despite the current economic outlook.

Having considered the risks and the current environment, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Organisation has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

Independent Auditor

A resolution proposing that Bradley Accounting and Taxation be re-appointed as an independent auditor of the charity will be put to the Annual General Meeting.



Report of the Directors for the year end 31st March 2024

Trustees Responsibilities Statement

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

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources 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;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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 Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. The trustees 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.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's examiner is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information

This report was approved by the Board on the

17th December 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ivan Thompson", is written over a horizontal line.

Chairman

Ivan Thompson

North Down Development Organisation Ltd

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101257

Annual return

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of North Down Development Organisation Limited

We have audited the financial statements of North Down Development Organisation Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Charity Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including 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) and comprising Charities SORP.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 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 responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company 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 charitable company'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 trustees' annual report², other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. 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. 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.

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, which includes the [strategic report and the]³ directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' 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 charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 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; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit []; or

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on pages 1-5 the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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 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 charitable company'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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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.

[Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.]⁵ The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.]⁷

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the charitable company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charitable company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation (ie. gives a true and fair view).

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Mr Ronan Bradley (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Bradley Accounting and Taxation, Statutory Auditor

Suite D, Formation Works Maryland

Maryland Industrial Estate

Ballygowan Road

Belfast

BT23 6BL

17.12.24

North Down Development Organisation Ltd

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101257

Accounts



North Down Development Organisation Limited

(A company limited by guarantee)

Report and Financial Statements

Year Ended 31st March 2023

Charity no: NIC 101257

Company no: NI017966



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Legal

Directors (Trustees)

Mr I Thompson (Chairman)
Mr Alistair Cathcart
Mr Stephen Dunlop
Mrs M Smith
Mr G O'Boyle
Mr J Montgomery

**Chief Executive &
Company Secretary**

Mrs L Vance

Registered Office

Enterprise House
Balloo Avenue
Bangor
Co Down
BT19 7QT

**Independent
Examiner**

Hamilton Morris Waugh
Chartered Certified Accountants
34 Dufferin Avenue
Bangor
BT20 3AA

Bankers

Danske Bank
77 Main Street
Bangor
BT20 5AP

Solicitors

McCoubrey Hinds
61 Main Street
Bangor
BT20 5AP



Report for the Directors' year end 31st March 2023

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, submit their annual report and the financial statements independently reviewed for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP) (FRS 102) in preparing financial statements of the charity in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015.

Structure, governance and management

North Down Development Organisation Limited (NDDO) was incorporated in 1984 and is governed by its memorandum and articles of association. It is the Local Enterprise Development Agency for the area having been set up as a company limited by guarantee and achieved charitable status with HMRC in 2003. Charitable status was achieved on 8th December 2014 with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland – first LEA to achieve this. It is also a member of Enterprise Northern Ireland; a partnership of enterprise centres which provide a NI wide network of support for prospective and established businesses who have chosen the entrepreneurial option. NDDO focuses on maintaining and ensuring quality in all areas and it is of utmost importance and is reflected in the relevant accreditations attained by the Organisation including the transition to the new standard ISO 9001:2015 along with individual staff accreditations and training. The Organisation reinvests any surpluses back into the community; either by provision of affordable workspace or through a wide range of training and development courses.

Objectives, Activities and Future Plans

The Organisation's main objectives are to develop enterprise in the local Council area and assist in the creation, and retention, of businesses in the area and to continue to work in partnership with other economic development organisations. In order to promote, and encourage new business, the Organisation provides a range of value added business support services including, but not restricted to, provision of managed workspace and training for future entrepreneurs.

The objectives of the Organisation are the promotion for the public benefit of urban and rural regeneration in the Council area of Ards and North Down by relief of poverty in such ways as may be seen fit, the relief of unemployment, the advancement of education, training or retraining, particularly among unemployed people and provide them with work experience, the provision of financial and technical assistance or business advice or consultancy in order to provide training and employment opportunities for unemployed people in cases of financial or other charitable need through help in setting up their own business, assisting existing businesses and the creation of training and employment opportunities by the provision of workspace, building and/or land for use on favourable terms.

NDDO is involved in promoting entrepreneurship and transferring business skills across all sections of the local community and does a significant amount of work in disadvantaged areas. The Organisation provides a range of training programmes including, but not restricted to, pre-start, start-up, growth and cross border – many of the programmes are aimed at youth and promoting entrepreneurship across all sections of the local community, particularly in Neighbourhood Renewal areas and encouragement of micro businesses to be creative, innovative and forward thinking. NDDO are the only local training organisation delivering a complete portfolio of programmes designed to support the business needs to, not only start-up businesses, but also growth businesses.



Report of the Directors for the year end 31st March 2023

Objectives, Activities and Future Plans (continued)

During the year ending 31 March 2023, the Organisation achieved the following:-

GO FOR IT - NIBSUP	80 business plans were completed April – March along with 3 direct referrals being identified and forwarded to INI.
EEP4	Year 5 Courses 9 and 10 had 17 participants submitting portfolios and achieving Accreditation Certificates in Enterprise. 6 of the 17 moved on to the Go For It Programme, a further 4 secured full time employment and 5 entered into self - employment.
GO FOR IT workshops	A series of 5 workshops were held throughout the year and all achieved the statutory attendance of 12.
NDDO workshops	Four workshops were held independently by NDDO and were well attended.
ENI Loan Fund	7 loan applications were completed and submitted.
ENI Plus Service	NDDO as a member of Enterprise NI (ENI) and in conjunction with them, launched a new initiative; the ENI Pus - a powerful business platform providing essential services, resources, advice, learning, benefits and substantial cost savings for businesses and business owners. NDDO has assisted promotion of the platform for tenants and local business owners located in Ards and North Down Borough Council area.
Job Fairs	NDDO attended a number of virtual job fairs to promote the option of self employment namely Ards and North Down Jobs Fair and North Down Local Market Partnership
Start Her Up Programme	NDDO in conjunction with the ENI network delivered a programme for women 18-40 interested in enterprise - 2 participants were awarded £1,000 start up award

The Organisation has an overall workspace area of 109,846 sq ft offering a provision of both workshop facilities and a range of offices. Average occupancy during the year was 91% and the Trustees continue to believe that this is a strategic part of the Organisation's future. It is the Trustees' intention to continue to improve and develop this very important area of the Organisation's operations and a programme of refurbishment and reinvestment will continue. The board are still intending to extend the Innotec site, but due to major increases in building/material costs and other factors including INI timeframes to build, this has not progressed but remains high on the priority list. Talks with the bank have continued and they are supportive when the timeframe permits.

Occupancy levels have decreased to 91% - cost of living especially utility increases and the increase in business rates following Reval23 have been major factors in businesses not taking on their own premises and this has also been reflected in the training numbers coming through. A list of performance indicators are included within the ISO9001:2015 Accreditation and these are reviewed on an annual basis. Principal risks to the Organisation are occupancy levels and the continued decline in training income - current training on the Go For It Programme is an extension due to finish in September.

Appointment of Trustees

Following the recent merging of Councils the appointment of Trustees reflects representation from the new Ards and North Down Borough Council. Trustees, who are also directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law, give their time and expertise on a voluntary basis and play an active role in the affairs of the Organisation. The Trustees meet on a bi-monthly basis where all major decisions in relation to the Organisation are addressed.



Report of the Directors for the year end 31st March 2023

Trustee Induction & Training

Prospective Trustees are usually recommended by existing Board members, and are invited to meet with the Chief Executive and Chairman when they are given an insight into the running of the Organisation, their obligations, what their role would be within the Board and the aims and objectives of the Organisation. They are then invited to attend a Board meeting in an observer capacity, before deciding if they wish to join the Board.

Health and Safety/Equal opportunities

NDDO adhere to its Health & Safety and Equal Opportunity Policies, which are an integral part of its ISO 9001:2015

Financial review

The financial results are set out on pages 7 to 12 and statement of reserves in note 10 to these accounts.

As previously mentioned , NDDO succeeded an average occupancy of 91% throughout the year. Salaries and other costs have also been controlled as far as possible combating increasing inflationary pressures.

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted reserves that have not been designated for a particular purpose should be maintained at a level to ensure that in the event of a significant drop in income, it will be able to continue the charity's current activities and debt repayments , while consideration is given to additional ways to raise income.

Statement of disclosure of information to independent accountant.

We, the directors of the company who held office at the date of approval of these Financial Statements, as set out above, each confirm so far as we are aware, that:

- there is no relevant accounting information of which the company's examiner are unaware; and
- we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken as directors in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant accounting information and to establish that the company's examiner are aware of that information.

Plans for future periods and Major Risks

The major risk affecting the company would be a decline in the demand for premises owned by the company in the local market place. The Trustees however, are satisfied with the company's financial progress during the year. Occupancy rates have decreased slightly during the year and demand is steadily improving with an increase in enquiries from both inside and outside the organisation. A number of existing tenants now wish to develop their business to a second level and need larger space which is encouraging going forward. The company is funded through cash generated by its rental activities which in turn subsidise the training and services departments of the organisation. The company has longer term financing in the form of a fixed loan that is secured until 2026 - when payment is completed then there will be no outstanding borrowings.

The board have discussed the future extension of the Innotec site. The development of the organisations property base would assist in the creation and retention of businesses in the local area and ongoing development of training programmes and delivery of same in partnership with other local economic development organisations.



Report of the Directors for the year end 31st March 2023

Public benefit statement

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty as prescribed by section 4 Of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 to have due regard to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland public benefit guidance.

The creation of employment, training and work experience for residents living in economically and socially deprived areas and consequently a reduction in poverty, unemployment and hardship, leading to a better quality of life for the beneficiaries and consequent improvements in health and well being. Enhanced knowledge about setting up and running small businesses and social enterprises resulting in increased levels of self-employment and better prospects of sustainable development, increased levels of knowledge and transferable vocational skills among employees/work experience trainees, assisting in the creation of a more educated, skilled and qualified community. A great sense among the beneficiaries of more fulfilled and purposeful lives, result in a safer, more stable and cohesive community. These benefits can be evidenced in records kept by various agencies of the number of jobs and work experience opportunities created and numbers of those who have successfully completed training courses. Evidence can also be found in independent evaluations of the activities of enterprise agencies carried out by funding bodies and in community surveys of living standards and attitudes. Some private benefit is obtained by the owners of small businesses who rent units on favourable terms, but this is ancillary to the main purpose and is greatly outweighed by the gains in public benefit. No harm arises from these purposes.

Provision of training courses which will enable people to avail of the self-employment option – these courses are free of charge and some include the completion of a Business Plan. The purpose of the training and mentoring is to encourage someone to start their own business and provides them with enough information and guidance to bring their idea into fruition and equips them with the tools to run their own business. This in turn boosts self-confidence and self-belief and also can relieve poverty as some of the training is directed specifically to those in TSN or, areas of deprivation, which can be found within the local Borough.

Young people are also targeted as not everyone is suited to university or employment and pre-start training, again delivered at no cost to the participant, but sometimes also having an accreditation attached, is vital to allow a young person to pursue self-employment. Getting women back into work is also an important part of the Organisation's remit but no one is excluded and the Organisation is constantly looking to improve and extend its range of programmes in order to provide a comprehensive programme of training at no charge.

Provision of workspace on simple terms, provision of services and ongoing support and monitoring is an important part of the Organisation's remit – rental from the workspace provision allows the Organisation to provide other essential services at a minimum cost or free of charge.

Any small surpluses achieved are reinvested in the Organisation either by extension or improvement of existing property, upgrade of existing services and continued support for businesses in the early stages.

The Trustees, who are drawn from the local community, are passionate, that training and mentoring, is a very important aspect of the Organisation's work and, while rental income is required in order to finance the training, it is a fundamental part of the Organisation.

Going Concern

The organisation's business activities, together with factors likely to affect its future development performance and position are set out above. The Trustees consider that appropriate level of occupancy are likely to be sustained through the going concern foresight period, on the basis of level of current tenancy agreements. As a consequence, the Trustees believe that the company is well placed to manage its business risks successfully, despite the current economic outlook.

Having considered the risks and the current environment, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Organisation has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

Independent Examiner

A resolution proposing that Hamilton Morris Waugh be re-appointed as an independent examiner of the charity will be put to the Annual General Meeting.



Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

Trustees Responsibilities Statement

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

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources 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;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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 Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. The trustees 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.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's examiner is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information

This report was approved by the Board on the 24th August 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ivan Thompson', is written over a horizontal line.

Chairman

Ivan Thompson



Report of the Independent Examiner

Independent Examiner's Report to the North Down Development Organisation Limited

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31st March 2023 which are set out on pages 7 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees (and also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants which is one of the listed bodies

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. McDowell', is written over a horizontal line.

Adam McDowell FCCA

Independent Examiner

Chartered Certified Accountants

For and on behalf of Hamilton Morris Waugh

34 Dufferin Avenue

Bangor

BT20 3AA

1st September 2023



Statement of Financial Activities

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Incoming Resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
Investment income		519	-	519	471
Incoming resources from charitable activities:					
Tenant Income		371,169	-	371,169	374,721
Services		64,316	-	64,316	31,291
Training Programme		-	27,687	27,687	26,681
Government Support		-	-	-	-
Total incoming resources		436,004	27,687	463,691	433,164
Resources expended					
Charitable activities					
Establishment		-	63,418	-	69,374
Management & Administration		139,707	-	139,707	110,386
Governance costs		181,484	-	181,484	189,776
		7,690	-	7,690	9,410
Total resources expended	2	328,881	63,418	392,299	378,946
Net incoming resources		107,123	- 35,731	71,392	54,218
Net movement in funds					
Transfer funds					
Fund balances brought forward 01 April 2022		1,974,370	- 222,138	1,752,232	1,698,014
Fund balances carried forward at 31st March 2023		2,081,493	- 257,869	1,823,624	1,752,232

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. All gains and losses recognised in the year are included above.

There were no recognised gains and losses for 2023 other than those included in the profit and loss account.



Charity Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2023
Company Registration Number NI017966

	Note:	2023	2022
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	5	2,729,252	2,820,809
Debtors	6	23,425	22,009
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>526,858</u>	<u>495,854</u>
		550,283	517,863
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>103,126</u>	<u>105,767</u>
Net current assets		<u>447,157</u>	<u>412,096</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>3,176,409</u>	<u>3,232,905</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	8	<u>136,080</u>	<u>192,578</u>
Net assets		<u><u>3,040,329</u></u>	<u><u>3,040,327</u></u>
Funds:			
Deferred capital grants	9	1,216,705	1,288,095
Unrestricted funds	10		
General funds		1,823,624	1,752,232
Designated funds			
Total funds		<u><u>3,040,329</u></u>	<u><u>3,040,327</u></u>

For the year ending 31st March 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors Responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages 7 to 12 were approved and authorised to issue by the Directors on the 24th August 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Ivan Thompson

Chairman



Notes forming part of the financial statements

1 Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP) (FRS 102), The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and the Charities Act (Northern-Ireland) 2008.

(b) Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on the "Legal" page. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

(c) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost 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.

Investment income and gains are allocated to the appropriate fund.

(d) Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy, excludes VAT and other discounts.

Rental income is generated through the lease of premises owned by the organisation. Income is recognised evenly over the period of the lease term.

Training income is for the services provided to entrepreneurs within the organisation's area of operation and is recognised when the service has been completed in accordance with the programme provider's directions.

Capital grants received in respect of the acquisition or construction of fixed assets are credited to deferred capital grants in the balance sheet and are released to the income and expenditure account over the useful economic life of the asset for which the grant was awarded.

(e) Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

Training services and costs are recognised when incurred and are not deferred until the relevant programme has been completed.

(f) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

The company holds property primarily as a public benefit entity for the benefit of fostering businesses. Property has been classified as tangible fixed assets and not as investment property on accordance with FRS102.

Where there has been significant refurbishment costs incurred, these are treated as capital improvements, and depreciated in accordance with the policy rates used below.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost on a straight line basis over their expected useful economic lives as follows:

Long leasehold land	nil
Buildings & Offices	2% - 3.33% straight line
Hi-tech units	2% straight line
Fixtures & Fittings	10% - 20% straight line
Motor Vehicles	25% straight line

Property disposals, where the directors feel that proceeds are immaterial to the overall value of the land and buildings, are credited gross to the fixed assets without taking the net proceeds through the profit and loss account.

Notes forming part of the financial statements

1 Accounting policies (continued)

(f) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is not charged on assets in the course of construction and a full charge for the year is made for assets brought into use during the year. No charge for depreciation is made in the year in which an asset is disposed of.

Where buildings and equipment are acquired with the aid of specific grants, the assets are capitalised and depreciated in accordance with the policy set out above, with the related grant credited to a deferred capital grant account and released to the income and expenditure account over the expected useful economic life of the related asset.

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of the fixed asset may not be recoverable.

(g) Pension costs

The company operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. The costs of contributions are written off against profits in the year they are payable.

(h) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours.

(i) Financial instruments

The Company only enters into basic financial instruments transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like trade and other accounts receivable and payable, loans from banks and other third parties,

Debt instruments (other than those wholly repayable or receivable within one year), including loans and other accounts receivable and payable, are initially measured at present value of the future cash flows and subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Debt instruments that are payable or receivable within one year, typically trade payables or receivables, are measured, initially and subsequently, at the undiscounted amount of the cash or other consideration, expected to be paid or received.

2 Total resources expended

Other direct costs include:

	2023	2022
Independent's Examiners Fees	1,800	1,800
Depreciation – on owned assets	127,293	134,863
Capital Grants released	- 71,388	- 71,388
Loan Interest	5,609	6,863
	<u>5,609</u>	<u>6,863</u>

3 Director' remuneration

The Directors neither received nor waived any emoluments during the year (2022: £Nil).

4 Staff Costs

	2023	2022
Wages and salaries	148,281	141,793
Social security costs	7,690	6,097
Defined Pension costs	9,643	9,339
	<u>9,643</u>	<u>9,339</u>

The average number of employees, calculated on a full-time equivalent basis, analysed by function was:

	2023	2022
Management and administration	4	4
Training	1	1
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

There was one employee received a salary of between £70,000 and £75,000 for the year.



Notes forming part of the financial statements

5 Tangible fixed assets

	Long Leasehold Land	Buildings & Adaptations	Hi-tech Units	Fixtures Fittings & Equipment	Motor Vehicles	Total
Cost						
At 1 April 2022	164,353	5,168,613	329,431	155,012	32,470	5,849,879
Additions	-	10,605	-	-	34,605	45,210
Disposals	-	-	-	-	32,470	32,470
At 31 March 2023	164,353	5,179,218	329,431	155,012	34,605	5,862,619
Depreciation						
At 1 April 2022	-	2,707,549	178,898	119,627	22,996	3,029,070
Charge for year	-	114,813	6,588	5,892	-	127,293
Disposals	-	-	-	-	22,996	22,996
At 31 March 2023	-	2,822,362	185,486	125,519	-	3,133,367
Net book value						
At 31 March 2023	164,353	2,356,856	143,945	29,493	34,605	2,729,252
<i>At 31 March 2022</i>	<i>164,353</i>	<i>2,461,064</i>	<i>150,533</i>	<i>35,385</i>	<i>9,474</i>	<i>2,820,809</i>

Valuation

The buildings were last valued independently during January 2018 by Mr. Mark McKinstry MRICS & Mr Stephen Deyermond MRICS of TDK Commercial Property Consultants. In their opinion, the fair valuation of the properties was £3,100,000. The trustees form an opinion that as the economy is improving and the industrial property market recovering, the current historic net book values carried in these accounts are not inappropriate; and they do not consider that a revaluation is justified given the improving market.

Leasehold Land

Purchase of land was acquire from IDB on a 999 year lease. There is no ground rent payable. There are restrictive covenants place on the use of the land for enterprise use only.

Capital Commitments

Capital expenditure contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements, was £ Nil (2022: £Nil).

6 Debtors

	2023	2022
Trade debtors	97	1,067
Prepayments and other accrued income	23,328	20,942
	23,425	22,009

7 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
Trade creditors	2,320	1,870
Taxation and social security costs	14,852	16,634
Other creditors	20,073	20,524
Accruals and deferred income	9,383	10,241
Obligations under finance leases	-	-
Loans and overdrafts	56,498	56,498
	103,126	105,767

Notes forming part of the financial statements

8 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2023	2022
Bank Loans	136,080	192,578
<u>The amounts fall due as follows:</u>		
In the second to fifth year inclusive	136,080	192,578
More than five years	-	

Total borrowings are secured by a legal mortgage on the company's premises, a fixed charge over book debts, and a floating charge on the other assets of the company. The company combined its fixed and floating interest rate loans into a single account at a rate of 1.5% on the present lending margin currently at .75%. The loan is due to be repaid in 2026.

9 Deferred capital grants

	2023	2022
<u>Land & buildings</u>		
At 31 March 2023	1,288,095	1,359,483
<u>Released to income and expenditure</u>	71,388	71,388
At 31 March 2023	1,216,707	1,288,095

The capital grants to assist building these units had conditions attached, pre and post competition. These were fulfilled within the time limits varying from 5-6 years after the grant was awarded. The grants are not repayable thereafter and the organisation is free to dispose of them without returning any the proceeds.

10 Statement of funds

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 March 2023
General reserve	1,974,370	436,004	- 328,881	-	2,081,493
Total unrestricted funds	1,974,370	436,004	- 328,881	-	2,081,493
Restricted funds:					
Training	-	222,138	27,687	- 63,418	- - 257,869
Total restricted funds	-	222,138	27,687	- 63,418	- - 257,869
Total funds	1,752,232	463,691	- 392,299	-	1,823,624

11 Financial Instruments

	2023	2022
Financial assets		
Financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss	526,858	495,854
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	239,205	298,345

Financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise cash in hand and bank.

Financial Liabilities measured at amortised cost comprise bank and asset loans, trade creditors, and sundry creditors.



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Incoming Resources				
<u>Incoming resources from generated funds:</u>				
Interest received	519	-	519	471
<u>Incoming resources from charitable activities:</u>				
Tenant Income				
New building workshops	75,506	-	75,506	74,978
New building offices	31,053	-	31,053	34,013
Hi-Tech units	32,843	-	32,843	33,535
Original building	143,066	-	143,066	141,770
Innotec Drive (Business Village)	88,701	-	88,701	90,425
	<u>371,169</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>371,169</u>	<u>374,721</u>
Services Activities				
Telephone	404	-	404	403
Fax	-	-	-	-
Photocopies	3	-	3	91
Electricity	42,848	-	42,848	13,772
Receptionist	12,742	-	12,742	12,107
Water Rates	5,810	-	5,810	3,390
Postage	624	-	624	1,095
Room Hire	1,885	-	1,885	433
	<u>64,316</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,316</u>	<u>31,291</u>
Training				
ENI Co-Innovate	-	-	-	11
Exploring Enterprise	-	5,283	5,283	2,948
Inspire YOUTH	-	-	-	-
Start Her Up	-	36	36	-
Workshops	-	258	258	-
Go For It	-	22,110	22,110	23,744
ENI Start Up Loan Mentoring	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>27,687</u>	<u>27,687</u>	<u>26,681</u>
Government support				
Covid-19 JRS	-	-	-	-
Total incoming resources	<u>436,004</u>	<u>27,687</u>	<u>463,691</u>	<u>433,164</u>



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Resources expended				
<u>Charitable activities training</u>				
Wages & salaries	-	41,033	41,033	47,146
NIC employer's	-	2,445	2,445	2,396
Pension	-	1,424	1,424	1,359
Training	-	15,465	15,465	15,910
Misc	-	3,051	3,051	2,563
Costs	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>63,418</u>	<u>63,418</u>	<u>69,374</u>
<u>Establishment</u>				
Rates	3,790	-	3,790	6,696
Power & Light & Heat	73,358	-	73,358	45,472
Cleaning	33,419	-	33,419	32,732
Insurances	18,726	-	18,726	15,455
Repairs & maintenance	10,414	-	10,414	10,031
Vacant premises rates	-	-	-	-
	<u>139,707</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>139,707</u>	<u>110,386</u>
<u>Management & Administration</u>				
Wages & salaries	107,248	-	107,248	94,647
NIC employer's	5,245	-	5,245	3,701
Pension costs	8,219	-	8,219	7,980
Advertising	1,075	-	1,075	75
Telephone, fax & internet	5,929	-	5,929	5,806
Postage and stationery	3,146	-	3,146	3,328
Car and travel	1,083	-	1,083	1,209
Finance costs	5,609	-	5,609	6,863
Depreciation	127,293	-	127,293	134,863
P/I on disposal asset	- 14,526	-	- 14,526	-
Deferred grants released	- 71,388	-	- 71,388	- 71,388
Bad debt provision	84	-	84	1,732
Miscellaneous	2,467	-	2,467	960
	<u>181,484</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>181,484</u>	<u>189,776</u>
<u>Governance costs</u>				
Examiner's Fees	1,800	-	1,800	1,800
Book keeping	4,140	-	4,140	5,292
Professional	1,750	-	1,750	2,318
	<u>7,690</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,690</u>	<u>9,410</u>
Total resources expended	<u>328,881</u>	<u>63,418</u>	<u>392,299</u>	<u>378,946</u>
Total incoming resources	<u>436,004</u>	<u>27,687</u>	<u>463,691</u>	<u>433,164</u>
Net incoming resources	<u>107,123</u>	<u>- 35,731</u>	<u>71,392</u>	<u>54,218</u>

North Down Development Organisation Ltd

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101257

Annual report



Report for the Directors' year end 31st March 2023

The trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, submit their annual report and the financial statements independently reviewed for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP) (FRS 102) in preparing financial statements of the charity in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015.

Structure, governance and management

North Down Development Organisation Limited (NDDO) was incorporated in 1984 and is governed by its memorandum and articles of association. It is the Local Enterprise Development Agency for the area having been set up as a company limited by guarantee and achieved charitable status with HMRC in 2003. Charitable status was achieved on 8th December 2014 with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland – first LEA to achieve this. It is also a member of Enterprise Northern Ireland; a partnership of enterprise centres which provide a NI wide network of support for prospective and established businesses who have chosen the entrepreneurial option. NDDO focuses on maintaining and ensuring quality in all areas and it is of utmost importance and is reflected in the relevant accreditations attained by the Organisation including the transition to the new standard ISO 9001:2015 along with individual staff accreditations and training. The Organisation reinvests any surpluses back into the community; either by provision of affordable workspace or through a wide range of training and development courses.

Objectives, Activities and Future Plans

The Organisation's main objectives are to develop enterprise in the local Council area and assist in the creation, and retention, of businesses in the area and to continue to work in partnership with other economic development organisations. In order to promote, and encourage new business, the Organisation provides a range of value added business support services including, but not restricted to, provision of managed workspace and training for future entrepreneurs.

The objectives of the Organisation are the promotion for the public benefit of urban and rural regeneration in the Council area of Ards and North Down by relief of poverty in such ways as may be seen fit, the relief of unemployment, the advancement of education, training or retraining, particularly among unemployed people and provide them with work experience, the provision of financial and technical assistance or business advice or consultancy in order to provide training and employment opportunities for unemployed people in cases of financial or other charitable need through help in setting up their own business, assisting existing businesses and the creation of training and employment opportunities by the provision of workspace, building and/or land for use on favourable terms.

NDDO is involved in promoting entrepreneurship and transferring business skills across all sections of the local community and does a significant amount of work in disadvantaged areas. The Organisation provides a range of training programmes including, but not restricted to, pre-start, start-up, growth and cross border – many of the programmes are aimed at youth and promoting entrepreneurship across all sections of the local community, particularly in Neighbourhood Renewal areas and encouragement of micro businesses to be creative, innovative and forward thinking. NDDO are the only local training organisation delivering a complete portfolio of programmes designed to support the business needs to, not only start-up businesses, but also growth businesses.



Report of the Directors for the year end 31st March 2023

Objectives, Activities and Future Plans (continued)

During the year ending 31 March 2023, the Organisation achieved the following:-

GO FOR IT - NIBSUP	80 business plans were completed April – March along with 3 direct referrals being identified and forwarded to INI.
EEP4	Year 5 Courses 9 and 10 had 17 participants submitting portfolios and achieving Accreditation Certificates in Enterprise. 6 of the 17 moved on to the Go For It Programme, a further 4 secured full time employment and 5 entered into self - employment.
GO FOR IT workshops	A series of 5 workshops were held throughout the year and all achieved the statutory attendance of 12.
NDDO workshops	Four workshops were held independently by NDDO and were well attended.
ENI Loan Fund	7 loan applications were completed and submitted.
ENI Plus Service	NDDO as a member of Enterprise NI (ENI) and in conjunction with them, launched a new initiative; the ENI Pus - a powerful business platform providing essential services, resources, advice, learning, benefits and substantial cost savings for businesses and business owners. NDDO has assisted promotion of the platform for tenants and local business owners located in Ards and North Down Borough Council area.
Job Fairs	NDDO attended a number of virtual job fairs to promote the option of self employment namely Ards and North Down Jobs Fair and North Down Local Market Partnership
Start Her Up Programme	NDDO in conjunction with the ENI network delivered a programme for women 18-40 interested in enterprise - 2 participants were awarded £1,000 start up award

The Organisation has an overall workspace area of 109,846 sq ft offering a provision of both workshop facilities and a range of offices. Average occupancy during the year was 91% and the Trustees continue to believe that this is a strategic part of the Organisation's future. It is the Trustees' intention to continue to improve and develop this very important area of the Organisation's operations and a programme of refurbishment and reinvestment will continue. The board are still intending to extend the Innotec site, but due to major increases in building/material costs and other factors including INI timeframes to build, this has not progressed but remains high on the priority list. Talks with the bank have continued and they are supportive when the timeframe permits.

Occupancy levels have decreased to 91% - cost of living especially utility increases and the increase in business rates following Reval23 have been major factors in businesses not taking on their own premises and this has also been reflected in the training numbers coming through. A list of performance indicators are included within the ISO9001:2015 Accreditation and these are reviewed on an annual basis. Principal risks to the Organisation are occupancy levels and the continued decline in training income - current training on the Go For It Programme is an extension due to finish in September.

Appointment of Trustees

Following the recent merging of Councils the appointment of Trustees reflects representation from the new Ards and North Down Borough Council. Trustees, who are also directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law, give their time and expertise on a voluntary basis and play an active role in the affairs of the Organisation. The Trustees meet on a bi-monthly basis where all major decisions in relation to the Organisation are addressed.



Report of the Directors for the year end 31st March 2023

Trustee Induction & Training

Prospective Trustees are usually recommended by existing Board members, and are invited to meet with the Chief Executive and Chairman when they are given an insight into the running of the Organisation, their obligations, what their role would be within the Board and the aims and objectives of the Organisation. They are then invited to attend a Board meeting in an observer capacity, before deciding if they wish to join the Board.

Health and Safety/Equal opportunities

NDDO adhere to its Health & Safety and Equal Opportunity Policies, which are an integral part of its ISO 9001:2015

Financial review

The financial results are set out on pages 7 to 12 and statement of reserves in note 10 to these accounts.

As previously mentioned , NDDO succeeded an average occupancy of 91% throughout the year. Salaries and other costs have also been controlled as far as possible combating increasing inflationary pressures.

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted reserves that have not been designated for a particular purpose should be maintained at a level to ensure that in the event of a significant drop in income, it will be able to continue the charity's current activities and debt repayments , while consideration is given to additional ways to raise income.

Statement of disclosure of information to independent accountant.

We, the directors of the company who held office at the date of approval of these Financial Statements, as set out above, each confirm so far as we are aware, that:

- there is no relevant accounting information of which the company's examiner are unaware; and
- we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken as directors in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant accounting information and to establish that the company's examiner are aware of that information.

Plans for future periods and Major Risks

The major risk affecting the company would be a decline in the demand for premises owned by the company in the local market place. The Trustees however, are satisfied with the company's financial progress during the year. Occupancy rates have decreased slightly during the year and demand is steadily improving with an increase in enquiries from both inside and outside the organisation. A number of existing tenants now wish to develop their business to a second level and need larger space which is encouraging going forward. The company is funded through cash generated by its rental activities which in turn subsidise the training and services departments of the organisation. The company has longer term financing in the form of a fixed loan that is secured until 2026 - when payment is completed then there will be no outstanding borrowings.

The board have discussed the future extension of the Innotec site. The development of the organisations property base would assist in the creation and retention of businesses in the local area and ongoing development of training programmes and delivery of same in partnership with other local economic development organisations.



Report of the Directors for the year end 31st March 2023

Public benefit statement

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty as prescribed by section 4 Of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 to have due regard to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland public benefit guidance.

The creation of employment, training and work experience for residents living in economically and socially deprived areas and consequently a reduction in poverty, unemployment and hardship, leading to a better quality of life for the beneficiaries and consequent improvements in health and well being. Enhanced knowledge about setting up and running small businesses and social enterprises resulting in increased levels of self-employment and better prospects of sustainable development, increased levels of knowledge and transferable vocational skills among employees/work experience trainees, assisting in the creation of a more educated, skilled and qualified community. A great sense among the beneficiaries of more fulfilled and purposeful lives, result in a safer, more stable and cohesive community. These benefits can be evidenced in records kept by various agencies of the number of jobs and work experience opportunities created and numbers of those who have successfully completed training courses. Evidence can also be found in independent evaluations of the activities of enterprise agencies carried out by funding bodies and in community surveys of living standards and attitudes. Some private benefit is obtained by the owners of small businesses who rent units on favourable terms, but this is ancillary to the main purpose and is greatly outweighed by the gains in public benefit. No harm arises from these purposes.

Provision of training courses which will enable people to avail of the self-employment option – these courses are free of charge and some include the completion of a Business Plan. The purpose of the training and mentoring is to encourage someone to start their own business and provides them with enough information and guidance to bring their idea into fruition and equips them with the tools to run their own business. This in turn boosts self-confidence and self-belief and also can relieve poverty as some of the training is directed specifically to those in TSN or, areas of deprivation, which can be found within the local Borough.

Young people are also targeted as not everyone is suited to university or employment and pre-start training, again delivered at no cost to the participant, but sometimes also having an accreditation attached, is vital to allow a young person to pursue self-employment. Getting women back into work is also an important part of the Organisation's remit but no one is excluded and the Organisation is constantly looking to improve and extend its range of programmes in order to provide a comprehensive programme of training at no charge.

Provision of workspace on simple terms, provision of services and ongoing support and monitoring is an important part of the Organisation's remit – rental from the workspace provision allows the Organisation to provide other essential services at a minimum cost or free of charge.

Any small surpluses achieved are reinvested in the Organisation either by extension or improvement of existing property, upgrade of existing services and continued support for businesses in the early stages.

The Trustees, who are drawn from the local community, are passionate, that training and mentoring, is a very important aspect of the Organisation's work and, while rental income is required in order to finance the training, it is a fundamental part of the Organisation.

Going Concern

The organisation's business activities, together with factors likely to affect its future development performance and position are set out above. The Trustees consider that appropriate level of occupancy are likely to be sustained through the going concern foresight period, on the basis of level of current tenancy agreements. As a consequence, the Trustees believe that the company is well placed to manage its business risks successfully, despite the current economic outlook.

Having considered the risks and the current environment, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Organisation has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

Independent Examiner

A resolution proposing that Hamilton Morris Waugh be re-appointed as an independent examiner of the charity will be put to the Annual General Meeting.



Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 March 2023

Trustees Responsibilities Statement

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

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources 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;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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 Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. The trustees 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.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's examiner is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information

This report was approved by the Board on the 24th August 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ivan Thompson", written over a horizontal line.

Chairman

Ivan Thompson

North Down Development Organisation Ltd

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101257

Annual return



Report of the Independent Examiner

Independent Examiner's Report to the North Down Development Organisation Limited

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31st March 2023 which are set out on pages 7 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees (and also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants which is one of the listed bodies

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. McDowell', is written over a horizontal line.

Adam McDowell FCCA

Independent Examiner

Chartered Certified Accountants

For and on behalf of Hamilton Morris Waugh

34 Dufferin Avenue

Bangor

BT20 3AA

1st September 2023