

Omagh Volunteer Centre

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees, who are also directors of Omagh Volunteer Centre for the purposes of company law and who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out below.

Structure, governance and management

Monica Coyle	Chairperson
Nicholas Cassidy	Secretary
Colin Kerrigan	Treasurer
Pauline McSorley	

Committee Members

Kate McMackin
Eithne McAnespy
Cllr Alan Rainey

The trustees meet on a monthly basis to receive a report on the charity's operational and financial activities.

Objectives and activities

Volunteering is 'the commitment of time and energy, freely given, without financial gain, using individual's skills for the benefit of the local community. Omagh Volunteer Centre works to promote, support, and develop volunteering across Omagh.

Our activities include recruiting/placing volunteers, developing/promoting volunteering opportunities, recruiting/supporting good practice in volunteer involving organisations, delivering/sourcing training, promoting the multiple benefits of volunteering for the volunteer, organisation, and society, and delivering programmes which support volunteering, for example The B-Friend Hub befriending project for older people.

Omagh Volunteer Centre is an umbrella body for Access NI for the area and processing standard and enhanced disclosure checks for registered groups

Omagh Volunteer Centre

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023

Achievements and performance

During the 22/23 year, OVC continued to provide a responsive service to develop and support volunteering across the Omagh area using a diverse range of methods including talks, promotional stands, face to face meetings, and online.

Promotion of volunteering and our services continued with marketing and social media campaigns, promotional videos, events, and quarterly newsletters. We continue to promote and develop volunteering, representing the Centre on Community Planning, Neighbourhood Renewal, partnerships, on the Management Committees of registered community groups. The Centre registered 225 new volunteers and hosted an appreciation lunch event for 40 volunteers as part of Volunteers Week in June 2022, with 150 appreciation boxes and 200 certificates coordinated to support groups with their own recognition activities.

Six "Turn up and Try" volunteering events were organised with ongoing tailored support with good practice, training information and guidance delivered to 89 registered voluntary and community groups.

Building upon the successful delivery of the B-Friend Hub befriending project for older people across Omagh, Fermanagh and Strabane, OVC made another successful application to the National Lottery Community Fund, for a new follow up project and in August 2022, were awarded £455,851.76 for the "Beyond the Call" project to provide telephone, home and peer group befriending activities for 300 older people, supported by a team of 60 trained volunteer, for a further 3 year period.

The Centre continues to receive core funding from the Department for Communities (DfC) for the delivery of the Volunteering Infrastructure Support Programme (VISP) as well as the National Lottery Community Fund for the Beyond the call project. Additional funding was provided by DfC for Volunteers week recognition activities and from the Halifax Foundation to deliver certified and accredited training.

Plans for future periods

Future plans for the Charity include:

- Increasing the number and diversity of people who register to volunteer.
- Increasing the number of community and voluntary groups registered to avail of our range of services.
- Continued support to the minority ethnic and refugee community, disability projects including the NOW Group and partnership working with specialist services including the Cedar Foundation and Disability action.
- Promotion of the EPIC volunteer recognition awards programme in partnership with the independent volunteer centres.
- Continued engagement and collaboration with the Independent Volunteer Centres (Volunteer Centres NI), including the Dormant account application.
- Delivery of the Beyond the Call project, funded by the National Lottery Community fund with ongoing exploration of mainstream funding for associated services.
- Build new and existing partnerships and relationships with statutory and voluntary/community groups in our local area including WHSCT, Fermanagh Omagh District Council, NIFRS etc., engaging at every level for the development and promotion of volunteering.
- Delivery of tailored training for groups and volunteers, funded by the Halifax Foundation.
- Actively participate in the Review of Infrastructure programme (RISP), a review of infrastructure support across NI, led by DfC.

Omagh Volunteer Centre

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 March 2023

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Omagh Volunteer Centre for the purpose of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Company law 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company 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;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

The trustees have complied with the duty to have regard to the guidance issued by the Commission under section 4(b) 'of the Charities Act (the public benefit requirement statutory guidance)

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions for small companies under Companies Act 2006.

On behalf of the board



Nicholas Cassidy

Secretary

4th December 2023

Charity number : NIC 101816

2nd Floor Anderson House
41c Market Street
Omagh
Co. Tyrone