

North Down Community Network

Northern Ireland · Charity number 102333

Details

Known as NDCN

Status Received

Registered 2015-08-11

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

Contact

Address North Down Community Network
Community Resource Centre
5 Castle Park Road
Bangor
County Down
BT20 4tf
BT20 4TF

Phone 02891461386

Email admin@ndcn.co.uk

Website www.ndcn.co.uk

Activities

Purposes: The Company's purposes are specifically restricted to the advancement of education, the promotion, development and support of the voluntary and community sector and the promotion of the benefit of the inhabitants (hereinafter called the "beneficiaries") of the North Down Borough and its environs of County Down, Northern Ireland ("hereinafter called the "area of benefit") without distinction of age, gender, sexual orientation, disability/ability, race, ethnic origin, political, religious or other opinion by associating the statutory and local authorities, voluntary organisations and the inhabitants in a common effort to advance education and to provide or assisting the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants and in particular to: (a) promote the efficiency and effectiveness of voluntary and community organisations and projects in the area of benefit by providing advice, information, education and training, administrative support and practical assistance to such organisations and projects for the benefit of the public; (b) promote or assist in promoting community capacity building programmes and projects for the benefit of the people in the area of benefit who have need of such assistance as a result of their youth, age, disability or infirmity, or social and economic circumstances, in an effort to increase the abilities, skills and self-confidence of such communities in the area of benefit; (c) relieve poverty by the promotion, facilitation and organisation of adequate, accessible and quality programmes of vocational and educational training, information and support in an effort to acquire skills and retraining to assist the beneficiaries in obtaining employment; (d) promote or assist in the promotion of and cooperation and networking between voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit between themselves and others; (e) identify the funding and policy needs of voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit; (f) advance any other exclusively charitable purpose as the directors, may from time to time, decide in accordance with the law of charity.

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, Other charitable purposes

How the charity works: Advice/advocacy/information, Community development, Education/training, Grant making, Relief of poverty, Rural development, Search and rescue, Urban development, Volunteer development, Youth development

Who the charity helps: Children (5-13 year olds), Community safety/crime prevention, General public, Interface communities, Older people, Tenants, Voluntary and community sector, Volunteers, Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£377,916	£353,065	£-13,785	9

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Mr Aaron McMahon		
Mr David Mcclarin		
Mr John Hammond		
Mr Robert Gamble		
Mrs Alison Gloria Coyle		
Mrs Margaret Boyle		
Mrs Valerie Dickson		

North Down Community Network

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102333

Accounts

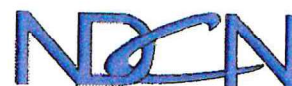
Registered company number : NI 050662
Registered in Northern Ireland
Registered charity number : NIC 102333
Charity Number XR37170

NORTH DOWN COMMUNITY NETWORK
(A Private Company Limited by Guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025





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Officers And Advisors

Directors/Trustees

Valerie Miskimmon - Storehouse North Down

(Chairperson)

David McClarin - Independent

(Treasurer)

Margaret Boyle - Independent

Aaron McMahon – Clondeboye Village Community Association

Kirsty Richardson – Homestart

(resigned 08/04/2025)

Alison Coyle

(appointed 08/04/2025)

Registered Office

5 Castle Park Road

Bangor

BT20 4TF

Bankers

Ulster Bank

Springfield Shopping Centre

Bangor

BT19 1NB

Independent Examiner

Adam McDowell FCCA

Hamilton Morris Waugh

Chartered Certified Accountants

34 Dufferin Avenue

Bangor

Co Down

BT20 3AA

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The trustees (who are also the directors of North Down Community Network for the purposes of company law) 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).

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 2015 (FRS102);
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments 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;
- 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 that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The trustees 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.

In so far as, the trustees are aware:

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

By order of the board



Valerie Miskimmon
Director

Date: 20/12/25

NORTH DOWN COMMUNITY NETWORK

Company limited by guarantee: Company No: NI 050662, incorporated 13th May 2004
Charity Commission registered: Number: NIC 102333
HMRC registered Charity Number: XR 37170

Registered address: North Down Community Network Resource Centre, 5 Castle Park Road, Bangor, Co Down, BT20 4TF

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their report and the examined financial statements of the charity for the year / period ended 31 March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Trustees of the charity

The directors of the charitable company are its trustees for the purposes of charity law. The trustees who have served during the year and since the year end are as follows:

Aaron McMahon	
Valerie Miskimmon	Chairperson
David McClarin	Treasurer
Maggie Boyle	
Kirsty Richardson	Resigned 08/04/2025
Alison Coyle	Appointed 08/04/2025

Structure, governance and management

North Down Community Network (NDCN) is a company limited by guarantee. It has 48 paying members which are organisations operating in the community and voluntary sector in or around the north of Down – and another 44 non-paying associates*. The members elect a board of up to 12 directors each of whom is recommended by a member organisation, except for up to 3 independents who are selected because they bring particular skill or knowledge. Its day-to-day operations are controlled by the Manager who reports to the board.

* As at 31 March 2025

Objectives and activities

NDCN exists because there are communities and individuals in Bangor and the wider north of Down who need assistance. It seeks to help people to help themselves and its vision is that communities in Bangor and the wider north of Down should be safe, peaceful, diverse, inclusive, flourishing and economically vibrant – thus making the area one in which people want to live.

In particular its charitable purposes include:

- a. promoting the efficiency and effectiveness of voluntary and community organisations and projects in the north of Down by providing advice, information, education and training, administrative support and practical assistance;
- b. promoting or assisting in promoting capacity building programmes and projects for the benefit of the people who have need of such assistance as a result of their youth, age, disability or infirmity, or social and economic circumstances;
- c. relieving poverty by the promotion, facilitation and organisation of adequate, accessible and quality programmes of vocational and educational training;
- d. promoting or assisting in the promotion of cooperation and networking between voluntary and community organisations and others in the area; and
- e. identifying, and helping to address, the funding and policy needs of voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit.

NDCN acts as a focal point for the community and for community and voluntary sector organisations in the north of Down. For them it delivers a range of regular and/or routine services, it reacts where it can when it is asked and proactively it tries to identify issues where it thinks it can make a difference for their benefit.

During the 2024-2025 period, NDCN has made substantial progress in fostering community development through a balanced approach comprising routine activities, reactive responses, and proactive initiatives. Each facet is designed to address the evolving needs of our community, member groups and wider sector, ensuring impactful outcomes across the board.

Routine Activities

Our routine programmes have been integral to building skills and enhancing community development, some examples of specific activities include:

- Training and Education: We delivered 91 sessions to 59 participants on crucial skills such as AI, committee management, ICT, Canva, and social media, empowering participants to leverage technology for personal and professional growth.
- Health and Wellbeing: Conducted 74 sessions attended by 291 individuals, focusing on mental health, physical wellness, and community engagement through activities like strength and balance exercises and walking groups, enhancing community cohesion and individual well-being.
- Capacity Building: Basic finance and good governance training were provided to 11 community partners, ensuring robust organisational structures and supporting sustainability.
- Resources and Compliance: We distributed 25 Community Development Toolkits and completed 85 Access NI checks, fostering best practice, ensuring safe delivery and informed communities.
- Networking and Support: Facilitated 9 networking meetings for community associations in Bangor, promoting best practices and collaboration, while providing 173 one-on-one support occurrences, including governance, funding, events, claims and crisis management advice.
- Examination of Accounts: We conducted 13 independent examinations of accounts for member groups and smaller charities, ensuring compliance with Charity legislation. This service helped maintain financial transparency and accountability within the community sector.
- Funding and development: supported volunteer led groups to secure funding to the value of £87,000 to address the varying needs and priorities of their communities.

Reactive Activities

Addressing urgent community needs remains a priority, some examples of specific activities include:

- Resource Linkage: Our funder and information session, attended by 120+ people, connected community members to essential resources, enhancing their capacity to secure funding and support services; this was based on their response to a needs assessment.
- Economic Empowerment: By signposting 54 individuals to social enterprise opportunities and directly signposting 215 people to advice services in areas like benefits, debt, and housing, we promoted economic resilience and provided pathways to financial support, and in some cases, independence.
- Interagency Collaboration: Engaging in meetings with organisations such as the NIHE, PHA, PSNI and SE Trust etc to progress activities and react to emerging needs.
- Volunteer enhancement: signposting 46 people onto volunteering roles to use their skills and passion as soon as possible to meet needs.
- Advocacy Support: Supported 5 volunteer-led groups in their resource advocacy, amplifying grassroots voices and doing what we could to ensure community needs are prioritised.

Proactive Initiatives

Our proactive efforts focus on strategic collaborations and empowerment, some examples of specific activities include:

- Strategic Engagement: Participation in forums like the NIHE Homelessness Taskforce and Charity Commission NI forum has positioned us to advocate for systemic changes that benefit the community.
- Ministerial Engagement: We hosted a meeting with the Minister of the Department for Communities, representing community needs and experiences from the Community and Voluntary Sector. This meeting underscored our commitment to highlighting the challenges faced by the sector and advocating for equitable support for people and areas under-represented and resourced.
- Women's Empowerment: Hosting 12 women's group meetings fostered assertiveness and engagement, empowering women to address their concerns and participate actively in community life.
- Volunteer Engagement: Recruiting 5 new volunteers and launching 3 recruitment drives bolstered community capacity, and went some way to support involvement of local people in improving their communities.
- Accessibility and Inclusion: Continued participation in the Asylum Seekers Forum. Making information available in a range of languages and distributing 29 warm clothing packs reinforced our commitment to inclusivity and support for vulnerable groups in need.
- Youth Development with DICE Futures: Engaged 191 young people in activities that build life skills, community involvement and raised aspirations. Programmes included the Young Leaders Programme, where 9 young people were recruited as leaders. They conducted a needs assessment on peer issues like bullying and online pressures, developed development ideas, and will serve as mentors using a 'Whole-Brain' learning approach. Educational support was also provided, including SEAG transition skills, homework help, and GCSE exam revision support. Additionally, a 'Leavers' programme supported primary students transitioning to post-primary education.
- Information Dissemination: Distributed 9,000 Information and Support booklets directly into the homes and hands of people in need, and produced 12 episodes of the Community Matters Podcast, raising awareness and providing valuable resources in an accessible and modern way.

Financial review (including reserves policy)

NDCN thrives and delivers impact thanks to the generous support from a range of funders, including the Department for Communities, the Public Health Agency, the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, and The National Lottery Community Fund, among others. These partnerships are crucial for our operations, allowing us to continue our vital work in the community. Additionally, NDCN benefits from donations, which play a key role in covering costs not fully funded by our main supporters.

In terms of financial prudence, NDCN has defined a minimum level of special reserves, ensuring we maintain a stable financial footing. This reserve is intended to cover potential closure costs, including three months of operational expenses and staff redundancy payments. Following a thorough review last year, we set this reserve at £30,000 for the 2024-2025 period, with plans to reassess this figure in the coming year to ensure ongoing security and responsibility.

Despite the financial challenges prevalent in the Community and Voluntary Sector, we are pleased to report that NDCN has successfully generated a modest surplus this year. This achievement underscores our commitment to financial sustainability, as we continue to strive for a balance between funding pressures and the delivery of our services.

Plans for future periods

In the coming years, NDCN aims to sustain and expand its range of essential services, tailored to meet the evolving needs of our community. Our strategy involves delivering routine services, responding promptly to urgent needs, and proactively identifying areas where we can make a significant impact. To achieve this, we will continue to actively seek out funding and support, ensuring that we can operate effectively within the financial resources available to us.

Efficiency will be at the core of our operations. We plan to implement new processes and leverage technology to streamline our activities, reducing costs while maintaining service quality. This might involve adopting digital tools for better project management or improving our communication channels to reach more people efficiently. By doing so, we hope to stretch every pound further, ensuring that our programmes deliver maximum value to those we serve.

Moreover, we are committed to nurturing partnerships with existing funders and exploring new collaborations to diversify our income streams. Building strong relationships with stakeholders will be crucial, not only for financial support but also for aligning our objectives with broader community goals. This holistic approach will help us sustain our operations and continue to provide valuable services despite funding challenges.

Finally, our plans include regular evaluations of our programmes to ensure they remain relevant and impactful. By collecting feedback and measuring outcomes, we can refine our strategies and better allocate resources where they are needed most.

- Optimise operations through technology and streamlined processes.
- Build and maintain strong relationships with members, funders and partners.
- Diversify funding sources to enhance financial sustainability.
- Regularly assess programme and activity effectiveness to ensure continued impact.

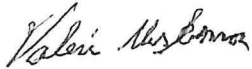
Disclosure of information to the examiner

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 auditors 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.

In approving the Trustees' Annual Report, we also approve the Strategic Report included therein, in our capacity as company directors.*

On behalf of the board



Valerie Miskimmon MBE
Chairperson



Independent Examiner's Report to the North Down Community Network

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 that reads 'A. McDowell'.

Adam McDowell FCCA

Independent Examiner

For and on behalf of Hamilton Morris Waugh Chartered Certified Accountants,

34 Dufferin Avenue

Bangor

Co Down

BT20 3AA

11/12/25



Statement of Financial Activities

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Special Reserve	Total 2025	Total 2024
Incoming Resources							
Charitable Activities		31,137		309,871		341,008	301,906
<u>Incoming resources from generated funds</u>							
Voluntary		9,392				9,392	13,679
Activities which generate funds		27,516				27,516	28,229
<u>Other Incoming Resources</u>							
						-	9,546
Total incoming resources	3	<u>68,045</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>309,871</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>377,916</u>	<u>353,360</u>
Resources expended							
Raising Funds							
Charitable Activities		39,201	608	306,270		346,079	361,328
Governance costs		6,987				6,987	7,389
Total resources expended	4	<u>46,187</u>	<u>608</u>	<u>306,270</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>353,065</u>	<u>368,717</u>
Net incoming resources		21,858	(608)	3,601	-	24,851	(15,357)
Net movement in funds							
Fund balances carried forward at 1 April 24		53,869	15,770	41,987	26,000	137,626	152,983
Transfer to special reserves		(4,000)			4,000	-	
Transfers between restricted, designated and unrestricted funds							
Fund balances carried forward at 31 March 2025		<u>71,727</u>	<u>15,162</u>	<u>45,588</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>162,477</u>	<u>137,626</u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

All gains and losses recognised in the year are included above.



Charity Balance Sheet
Company Registration Number NI050662

	Notes	2025	2024
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	6	8,515	12,795
As restated for premises		<u>8,515</u>	<u>12,795</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	7	5,107	3,294
Cash at bank and in hand	8	<u>162,640</u>	<u>137,792</u>
		167,747	141,086
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>13,785</u>	<u>16,254</u>
Net current assets		<u>153,962</u>	<u>124,832</u>
Net assets		<u><u>162,477</u></u>	<u><u>137,626</u></u>
Funds:			
<u>Special Reserves</u>			
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			
General funds		30,000	26,000
Designated funds			
General funds		71,727	53,869
Designated funds		15,162	15,770
<u>Restricted Funds</u>			
		<u>45,588</u>	<u>41,987</u>
Total funds		<u><u>162,477</u></u>	<u><u>137,626</u></u>

For the year ending 31st March 2025 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies but as this company is a charity, it is subject to an Independent Examination under the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

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 Company's financial statements have been delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 8 to 12 were approved and authorised for issue by the trustees and signed on behalf of the board:

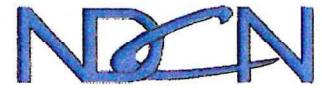
D. McClarin
David McClarin (Treasurer)

9/12/25
Date

Valerie Miskimmon
Valerie Miskimmon (Chairperson)

10/12/25
Date

The notes on pages 11 - 13 form part of these accounts



Notes forming part of the financial statements

1 Company status

The company is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.00 towards the assets of the company in the event of liquidation.

2 Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" published in 2005 and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland and the Companies Act 2006.

(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

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the directors in the furtherance of the objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the funder.

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policy is applied to a particular category of income:

Voluntary income is received by way of donations, appeals and collections and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

(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.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity

(f) Value Added Tax

The charity is not registered for VAT purposes, therefore irrecoverable VAT is charged to the Statement of Financial Activities, or capitalised as part of the cost of the related asset where appropriate

(g) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets under the cost model are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.



Notes forming part of the financial statements

2 Accounting policies (continued)

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:

Office Equipment	20% straight line
Fixtures & Fittings	12.5% straight line
Computers	25% straight line
Premises	15% straight line

(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. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

(i) Financial Instruments

The Company only enters into basic financial instruments transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like other accounts receivable and payable.

(j) Judgments in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty

There have been no material judgements needed or used in preparation of these accounts.

(j) 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.

3 Incoming Resources

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
<u>Incoming resources from charitable activities:</u>					
Public Health Authority	880		64,409	65,289	58,670
Access NI	1,640			1,640	1,803
DfC Grants - CIF			53,280	53,280	51,118
Dice Futures			126,027	126,027	29,970
				-	
PCDW - NIHE			34,105	34,105	33,941
ANDBC - SLA	15,145			15,145	
ANDBC Hardship Fund	11,972			11,972	
				-	
NI Electric	1,500			1,500	
CFNI (Citizenship)			5,000	5,000	
Ards & North Down Borough Council				-	17,981
CFNI (Wellbeing)			27,050	27,050	98,950
Co-op				-	
Tesco Groundwork				-	
SE Trust Across the Generations				-	
Children In Need				-	9,333
ACNI				-	140
	<u>31,137</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>309,871</u>	<u>341,008</u>	<u>301,906</u>
<u>Incoming resources from generated funds:</u>					
<u>Voluntary Income</u>					
Donations & Gifts	9,392			9,392	13,679
Gift Aid					
<u>Activities which generate funds</u>					
Donations for use of rooms	15,654			15,654	28,229
Membership Fees	1,638			1,638	2,000
Member Accounts	652			652	756
Other	9,572			9,572	6,790
Total incoming resources	<u>68,045</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>309,871</u>	<u>377,916</u>	<u>353,360</u>



Notes forming part of the financial statements					
	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
4 Resources expended					
Raising Funds	-	-	-	-	-
Unfunded salaries	22,225			22,225	31,057
Unfunded employers pension	630			630	668
Unfunded ENIC	1,463			1,463	
Cleaning	45			45	487
Legal Fees	2,400			2,400	-
Advertising & Marketing	90			90	120
Access NI		608		608	1,267
Light & Heat	3,814			3,814	4,181
Printing, stationery & postage	280			280	4,558
Telephone & Internet	529			529	2,507
IT Software & Consumables	1,115			1,115	830
Repairs and maintenance	-			-	1,827
Staff Training	526			526	-
General	408			408	134
Ground rent	-			-	2,000
Travel and entertaining				-	98
Subscriptions	521			521	541
Insurance	-			-	1,943
Water rates	-			-	83
Sessional Hours	525			525	680
Fundraising Costs	-			-	-
Project Expenses	2,353			2,353	23,514
ANDBC Hardship Costs	2,217			2,217	-
DfC/CIF costs			51,015	51,015	50,182
DICE Futures costs			105,899	105,899	8,385
Dice Connections costs				-	7,622
Return of grant income				-	18,274
PHA Costs			64,728	64,728	63,269
Lottery Climate Fund				-	-
SE Seeding Trust				-	2,961
CFNI (Wellbeing)			50,611	50,611	77,301
Children In Need				-	19,166
Other/Depreciation Expense	59			59	1,601
PCDW project			34,017	34,017	33,470
	<u>39,201</u>	<u>608</u>	<u>306,270</u>	<u>346,079</u>	<u>361,328</u>
<u>Governance Costs</u>				-	
Depreciation	6,280			6,280	6,512
Bank Charges	292			292	262
Audit & accountancy	414			414	615
	<u>6,987</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,987</u>	<u>7,389</u>
Total resources expended	<u><u>46,187</u></u>	<u><u>608</u></u>	<u><u>306,270</u></u>	<u><u>353,065</u></u>	<u><u>368,717</u></u>

Notes forming part of the financial statements

4 Director' remuneration

The Directors neither received nor waived any emoluments during the year (2024: £Nil).

5 Staff Costs

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

	2025	2024
Management and administration	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>
There were no employees receiving a salary of more than £60,000 for year to 2025 and 2024		
Employment costs	2025	2024
Wages and salaries	180,651	170,666
Social security costs	11,014	9,096
	<u>191,665</u>	<u>179,762</u>

6 Tangible fixed assets

	Computers	Office Equipment	Fixtures & Fittings	Premises	Total
Cost					
1st April 2024	33,322	8,361	14,981	10,100	66,764
Additions	2,000				2,000
Disposals					-
31st March 2025	<u>35,322</u>	<u>8,361</u>	<u>14,981</u>	<u>10,100</u>	<u>68,764</u>
Depreciation					
1st April 2024	26,255	5,380	13,244	9,090	53,969
Charge for year	4,032	923	315	1,010	6,280
Disposals					-
31st March 2025	<u>30,287</u>	<u>6,303</u>	<u>13,559</u>	<u>10,100</u>	<u>60,249</u>
Net book value					
31st March 2025	<u>5,035</u>	<u>2,058</u>	<u>1,422</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,515</u>
<i>31st March 2024</i>	<u><i>7,067</i></u>	<u><i>2,981</i></u>	<u><i>1,737</i></u>	<u><i>1,010</i></u>	<u><i>12,795</i></u>

7 Debtors

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Trade debtors	5,117			5,117	3,304
Other debtors					
Prepayments and accrued income	- 10			- 10	(10)
	<u>5,107</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,107</u>	<u>3,294</u>

8 Cash at bank and in hand

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Ulster Bank current	112,132			112,132	106,019
PHA Grants			7,677	7,677	8,295
CIF 3.3			5,781	5,781	792
Dice			36,841	36,841	22,223
Cash in hand	210			210	463
	<u>112,341</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>50,299</u>	<u>162,640</u>	<u>137,792</u>



Notes forming part of the financial statements

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Taxation and social security costs					-
Trade creditors				1,297	1,378
Other creditors				10,928	11,716
Accruals and deferred income				1,560	3,160
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,785</u>	<u>16,254</u>

10 Related party transactions and control

North Down Community Network is constituted as a charitable company limited by guarantee and having no share capital. As such, there are no members with shareholdings in control of the company; control is vested in the trustees as a body.

Invoices totalling £7,990 (2024 - £15,455), relating to 19 transactions for printing (2024 - 18) were paid to Clandeboye Printing Services. Clandeboye Printing Services is owned by North Down Community Network director Aaron McMahon.

Invoices totalling £13,120 (2024 - £2,640), relating to 7 transactions for Sessional Hours were paid to Aaron McMahon who is a director of North Down Community Network

11 Restatement of reserves

The trustees have reviewed the assets valuation for the current period and have concluded it to be of fair value.



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Community Investment Fund/DFC

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
Income					
DfC Grant			53,280	53,280	51,118
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>53,280</u>	<u>53,280</u>	<u>51,118</u>
Expenditure					
Sessional hours			1,560	1,560	4,239
Salaries and wages			45,155	45,155	42,585
Emoloyers Pension			1,354	1,354	
Employers NIC			2,592	2,592	1,859
Fuel & Energy			355	355	1,500
Return of Grant Income			-	-	4,399
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51,015</u>	<u>51,015</u>	<u>54,581</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,266</u>	<u>2,266</u>	<u>- 3,463</u>



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

PHA Project

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
Income					
Public Health Agency Grant			64,409	64,409	58,670
General Income			-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,409</u>	<u>64,409</u>	<u>58,670</u>
Expenditure					
Staff costs					
Salaries and wages	-	-	31,557	31,557	32,084
Employers Pension			947	947	
Employers NIC	-	-	1,986	1,986	2,002
Travel and subsistence	-	-	-	-	25
Project costs	-	-	23,420	23,420	19,897
Running costs			50	50	255
Telephone	-	-	-	-	598
Printing, postage & stationery	-	-	3,317	3,317	2,258
Heat and light	-	-	-	-	1,092
Insurance	-	-	1,000	1,000	1,500
Repairs and maintenance	-	-	-	-	59
Subscriptions	-	-	670	670	-
Bank Fees	-	-	-	-	-
Management Charges	-	-	1,000	1,000	2,000
Audit Fee	-	-	780	780	1,000
Rent	-	-	-	-	500
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,728</u>	<u>64,728</u>	<u>63,269</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>319</u>	<u>319</u>	<u>4,599</u>



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

DICE Connections

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
Income					
Donations & Gifts	-	-	-	-	-
National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Other Income	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Expenditure					
Staff costs					
Salaries and wages				-	4,286
Employers NIC				-	-
Access NI Fees				-	-
Recruitment Expenses				-	-
Travel and subsistence				-	-
Project costs				-	3,067
Running costs					
Printing, postage & stationery				-	-
Heat and light				-	-
Telephone & Internet				-	269
Repairs and maintenance				-	-
Accommodation				-	-
Insurance				-	-
IT Costs				-	-
Management Charges				-	-
Audit Fee				-	-
Staff training				-	-
General Expenses				-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,622</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>- 7,622</u>

DICE FUTURES

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
Income					
Grants	-	-	126,027	126,027	
Other Income	-	-	-	-	
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>126,027</u>	<u>126,027</u>	<u>-</u>
Expenditure					
Staff costs					
Salaries and wages			47,490	47,490	3,434
Employers Pension			1,417	1,417	
Employers NIC			2,853	2,853	251
Access NI Fees			-	-	
Recruitment Expenses			2,201	2,201	
Travel and subsistence			-	-	
Project costs			39,815	39,815	4,108
Running costs					
Postage			-	-	592
Heat and light			288	288	
Telephone & Internet			-	-	
Repairs and maintenance			304	304	
Accommodation			-	-	
Insurance			1,000	1,000	
IT Costs			-	-	
Management Charges			8,000	8,000	
Audit Fee			468	468	
Staff training			66	66	
Subscriptions			378	378	
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>105,899</u>	<u>105,899</u>	<u>8,385</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,128</u>	<u>20,128</u>	<u>- 8,385</u>



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

(PCDW) Peripatetic Community Development Worker Project

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
Income					
NIHE Grant			34,105	34,105	33,941
Other Income				-	
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,105</u>	<u>34,105</u>	<u>33,941</u>
Expenditure					
Staff costs					
Salaries and wages			30,703	30,703	31,624
Employers Pension			921		
Employers NIC			2,071	2,071	1,739
Access NI			-	-	-
Telephone			-	-	-
Travel and subsistence			323	323	106
Project Costs	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,017</u>	<u>33,096</u>	<u>33,469</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>1,009</u>	<u>472</u>



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

CFNI (Wellbeing)

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
<u>Income</u>					
Donations & Gifts					
Grants			27,050	27,050	98,950
Other Income					-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,050</u>	<u>27,050</u>	<u>98,950</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Staff costs			-	-	13,117
Salaries and wages			4,829	4,829	18,628
Employers NIC			49	49	613
Access NI Fees			-	-	-
Recruitment Expenses			-	-	-
Travel and subsistence			-	-	68
Project costs			39,234	39,234	18,168
Running costs				-	-
Printing, postage & stationery				-	214
Heat and light			1,833	1,833	11,935
Telephone & Internet			407	407	647
Repairs and maintenance				-	584
Rent				-	10,000
Insurance			500	500	1,000
Office costs				-	944
Management Charges			294	294	784
Advertising			2,206	2,206	600
Staff training			1,208	1,208	-
General Expenses			50	50	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>50,611</u>	<u>50,611</u>	<u>77,302</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>- 23,561</u>	<u>- 23,561</u>	<u>21,648</u>



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Other Grants	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
<u>Income</u>					
ANDBC SLA	15,145			15,145	10,000
CFNI Citizenship			5,000	5,000	-
NI Electric	1,500			1,500	-
ACNI				-	140
SE Trust Across the Generations				-	-
Lottery Climate Fund				-	5,011
Co-op				-	-
Covid Charity Fund				-	-
Donations & Gifts				-	-
ANDBC Harship Fund	11,972			11,972	7,981
Children In Need				-	9,333
Access NI checks				-	1,803
Other Income				-	-
	<u>28,617</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>33,617</u>	<u>34,268</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Salaries				-	13,761
Project Costs			1,600	1,600	11,996
Project expenses				-	-
Advertising & marketing				-	-
Postage, printing & stationery				-	225
Light, heat & power				-	-
Other expenses				-	1,126
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,600</u>	<u>1,600</u>	<u>27,107</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>28,617</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,400</u>	<u>32,017</u>	<u>7,161</u>

North Down Community Network

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102333

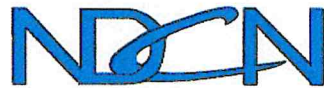
Accounts

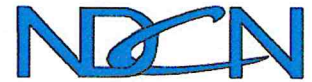
Registered company number : NI 050662
Registered in Northern Ireland
Registered charity number : NIC 102333
Charity Number XR37170

NORTH DOWN COMMUNITY NETWORK
(A Private Company Limited by Guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 24





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Officers And Advisors

Directors/Trustees

Valerie Miskimmon - Storehouse North Down

David McClarin - Independent

Margaret Boyle - Independent

Peter Gay – Independent

Aaron McMahon – Clandeboye Village Community Association

Robin Masefield - Independent

Kirsty Richardson - Independent

(Chairperson)

(Treasurer)

(Appointed 25th April 2023)

(Resigned 25th April 2024)

(Resigned 25th April 2024)

(Appointed 25th April 2024)

Registered Office

5 Castle Park Road

Bangor

BT20 4TF

Bankers

Ulster Bank

Springfield Shopping Centre

Bangor

BT19 1NB

Independent Examiner

Adam McDowell FCCA

Hamilton Morris Waugh

Chartered Certified Accountants

34 Dufferin Avenue

Bangor

Co Down

BT20 3AA

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The trustees (who are also the directors of North Down Community Network for the purposes of company law) 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).

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 2015 (FRS102);
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments 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;
- 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 that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The trustees 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.

In so far as, the trustees are aware:

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

By order of the board



Valerie Miskimmon
Director

Date: 10/12/24

NORTH DOWN COMMUNITY NETWORK

Company limited by guarantee: Company No: NI 050662, incorporated 13th May 2004
Charity Commission registered: Number: NIC 102333
HMRC registered: Charity Number: XR 37170

Registered address: North Down Community Network Resource Centre, 5 Castle Park Road, Bangor, Co Down, BT20 4TF

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their report and the examined financial statements of the charity for the year / period ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Trustees of the charity

The directors of the charitable company are its trustees for the purposes of charity law. The trustees who have served during the year and since the year end are as follows:

Peter Gay	Resigned 25 th April 2024
Aaron McMahon	
Robin Masefield	Resigned 25 th April 2024
Valerie Miskimmon	Chairperson
David McClarin	Treasurer
Maggie Boyle	
Kirsty Richardson	Appointed 25 th April 2024

Structure, governance and management

North Down Community Network (NDCN) is a company limited by guarantee. It has 56 paying members which are organisations operating in the community and voluntary sector in or around the north of Down – and another 42 non-paying associates*. The members elect a board of up to 12 directors each of whom is recommended by a member organisation, except for up to 3 independents who are selected because they bring particular skill or knowledge. Its day-to-day operations are controlled by the Manager who reports to the board.

* As at 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities

NDCN exists because there are communities and individuals in Bangor and the wider north of Down who need assistance. It seeks to help people to help themselves and its vision is that communities in Bangor and the wider north of Down should be safe, peaceful, diverse, inclusive, flourishing and economically vibrant – thus making the area one in which people want to live.

In particular its charitable purposes include:

In particular its charitable purposes include:

- a. promoting the efficiency and effectiveness of voluntary and community organisations and projects in the north of Down by providing advice, information, education and training, administrative support and practical assistance;
- b. promoting or assisting in promoting capacity building programmes and projects for the benefit of the people who have need of such assistance as a result of their youth, age, disability or infirmity, or social and economic circumstances;
- c. relieving poverty by the promotion, facilitation and organisation of adequate, accessible and quality programmes of vocational and educational training;
- d. promoting or assisting in the promotion of cooperation and networking between voluntary and community organisations and others in the area; and
- e. identifying, and helping to address, the funding and policy needs of voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit.

NDCN acts as a focal point for the community and for community and voluntary sector organisations in the north of Down. For them it delivers a range of regular and/or routine services, it reacts where it can when it is asked and proactively it tries to identify issues where it thinks it can make a difference for their benefit. Throughout 2021-2022 operations were significantly affected both by the restrictions placed on them by the Covid-19 pandemic and by the additional community needs that pandemic caused. Both these effects are reflected in the following activity summaries:

Routine activities. In 2023-24 NDCN's activities included:

- The operation of the accessible town centre drop-in space on Main Street Bangor, the NDCN Wellbeing Centre & Community Hub.
- A weekly programme of wellbeing activities Monday – Friday for people to access towards supporting their physical and mental health and wellbeing, funded by the Public Health Agency.
- The provision of community outreach support and capacity building from the Outreach Community Development Worker who is funded by the NI Housing Executive.
- Supporting the provision of support for young people in four areas of Bangor funded by The National Lottery Community Fund.
- A range of information and support services to strengthen the infrastructure of the Community and Voluntary sector across North Down.
- Collaborative activities with a range of partner organisations.
- Activities to support the health and wellbeing of people in need with signposting services, group work sessions, a mental health forum and access to IT, funded by the Dep of Health via CFNI.

Reactive responses. NDCN endeavours to respond to needs, such as those which create a crisis and/or require an urgent response, as and when they emerge in communities. During the year there continued to be a responsive approach to managing the impact of the cost-of-living crisis and the pressures and challenges this placed on the most vulnerable people in communities. We delivered services and support in communities on an outreach basis with partners and the work with young people via weekly youth clubs

and tailored programmes. These challenges were also compounded by the ongoing impact of the pandemic on the mental health of people, young and older.

Proactive initiatives. NDCN looks out for other opportunities to further its work and engage strategically for benefit of the people and groups it serves and support. For instance, we conduct needs assessment to help identify needs and plan the most appropriate response, we also continue to participate in a range of forums and partnerships and facilitate the North Down Community Practitioners Forum to support and co-ordinate volunteer lead community associations as they respond to needs in their communities. NDCN participate in the Charity Commission Forum to represent the needs of our member groups and partners. In addition, NDCN are members of the Bangor Connects group, which includes representatives from local groups, businesses, and organisations. We also continue to host the NDCN Community Matters podcast which aims to explore important issues and needs in an informal and accessible way; topics covered are in direct relation to need so have included the impact of cost of living, housing shortages, political apathy in NI and more.

Achievements, performance and public benefit statement

In addressing its objectives and declare purposes during the year NDCN delivered the following benefits:

1. Sector support. Promoting the efficiency and effectiveness of voluntary and community sector in the north of Down:
 - 201 occurrences of one-to-one support with community groups and organisations.
 - 59 meetings to lobby for needs of community groups/areas.
 - Hosted 2 showcasing volunteer events.
 - Delivered 416 training, development or health sessions to participants.
 - Conducted 4 needs assessment surveys in areas of disadvantage.
 - 5856 people signposted to a range of information, services and support.
 - Supported groups with 48 applications for funding.
 - Signposted 46 people onto volunteering.
 - Issued 28 online magazines (e-zines) to 410+ contacts.
 - 1000 social media posts promoting the activities and services of community groups.
 - Created and distributed 20,000 'information and support summary' booklets which contained a wide range of information about member groups and many other sources of support and information.
 - Created 12 NDCN Community Matters podcast programmes created.
 - Supported 2 new groups with the charity registration process.
2. Capacity building. Promoting capacity building for the benefit of the people who need such assistance:
 - Delivered youth clubs for 10-15 year olds with 1800 attendees over the year, to meet their needs regarding safe, fun and welcoming spaces to build their capacity, resilience, life skills and aspirations. This also include a Children In Need programme to support career development and improve educational attainment of young people.

- Created 2 volunteer showcasing and recognition events with 156 people attending.
 - Facilitated the Asylum Seekers support group consisting of partners from the statutory sector, Mears Foundation, faith based and community and voluntary sector who were collectively seeking to respond to the asylum seekers who were put in Bangor by the Home Office after arriving in the UK.
3. Poverty relief. Relieving poverty by accessible schemes and programmes of vocational and educational training:
- Provided one-to-one and small peer group training on 8 occasions build capacity, skills and knowledge of local community group volunteers.
 - Made 189 foodbank referrals for people in poverty who required food.
 - Distributed 112 warm packs of clothing for people on benefits or from vulnerable groups.
 - Supported people in need and crisis with electric, gas, white-goods, and meal vouchers as part of a 'hardship co-operative' with 5 other community partners.
 - Signposted 302 people on to Advice services.
 - Secured resources to help people at risk of homelessness remain in their homes and maintain their tenancy.
 - Delivered Community Café in town centre for people in need.
4. Networking. Promoting cooperation and networking between voluntary and community organisations and others:
- NDCN are members of the Borough Community Planning Poverty Forum group, members of Bangor Connects (stakeholders in Bangor exploring regeneration of the town), and the Charity Commission NI Forum.
 - Hosted 7 Community Practitioner meetings consisting of 5 volunteer led Community Associations from areas of need.
 - NDCN attended 4 regional meetings with Network Organisations across Northern Ireland.
 - Hosted 2 Mental Health Forum meetings to share best practice and collate information to maximise the ability of member groups to signpost people on to support and services.
5. Organisational help. Helping to address the needs of voluntary and community organisations:
- Supported groups with 47 applications for funding.
 - Supported 13 groups with Charity Commission returns to ensure regulations were met.
 - Conducted examination of accounts for 18 groups and organisations.
 - Conducted 80 Access NI checks for groups and organisations.
 - On 325 occasions met with community groups and organisations for training, support and capacity development.
 - Supported community groups with applications to support their activities in responding to communities and residents and their needs emerging from the cost-of-living crisis,

ongoing impact of mental health issues and concerns about the uncertainty of NI political situation.

Financial review (including reserves policy)

NDCN can do all this because it receives funding from the Department for Communities, the Public Health Agency, the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, The National Lottery Community Fund, Dept of Health via Community Foundation for NI, Children In Need, Ards and North Down Borough Council. It is thus dependent on these funders for its ability to operate. NDCN also has a small income via donations which are used to top-up and cover unfunded costs.

NDCN has established the minimum the level of free 'special' reserves that the charity ought to have. This is the level of unrestricted general funds which should normally be at least enough to cover the cost of closure (which would include the next three months of the estimated running costs for committed overheads plus that amount of money which would cover staff redundancies). After being reviewed last year, the 2023-24 this reserve amount was set at £26,000. This will be reviewed again in the coming year.

Going concern note. Due to the challenges of funding pressures within the Community and Voluntary Sector, NDCN has made a deficit in the year. However, the organisation has shown an improvement from the prior the year. They will be continuing these efforts to achieve and maintain financial sustainability.

Plans for future periods

NDCN's future plans are to continue to deliver appropriate routine, reactive and/or proactive services and, in order to be able to do this, to continue to source support where it can but to work as efficiently as possible within the limits of the funding it manages to obtain.

Disclosure of information to the examiner

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 auditors 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.

In approving the Trustees' Annual Report, we also approve the Strategic Report included therein, in our capacity as company directors.*

On behalf of the board



Valerie Miskimmon MBE
Chairperson

Independent Examiner's Report to the North Down Community Network

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.



Adam McDowell FCCA

Independent Examiner

For and on behalf of Hamilton Morris Waugh Chartered Certified Accountants,
34 Dufferin Avenue

Bangor

Co Down

BT20 3AA

10/12/24

Statement of Financial Activities

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Special Reserve	Total 2024	Total 2023
Incoming Resources							
Charitable Activities		19,784		282,122		301,906	273,229
<u>Incoming resources from generated funds</u>							
Voluntary		13,679				13,679	11,954
Activities which generate funds		28,229				28,229	31,641
<u>Other Incoming Resources</u>		9,546				9,546	14,996
Total incoming resources	3	<u>71,238</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>282,122</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>353,360</u>	<u>331,819</u>
Resources expended							
Raising Funds							
Charitable Activities		75,576	1,267	284,485		361,328	358,072
Governance costs		7,389				7,389	7,497
Total resources expended	4	<u>82,965</u>	<u>1,267</u>	<u>284,485</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>368,717</u>	<u>365,569</u>
Net incoming resources		(11,727)	(1,267)	(2,363)	-	(15,357)	(33,750)
Net movement in funds							
Fund balances carried forward at 1 April 23		65,596	17,037	44,350	26,000	152,983	186,733
Transfer to special reserves							
Transfers between restricted, designated and unrestricted funds							
Fund balances carried forward at 31 March 2024		<u>53,869</u>	<u>15,770</u>	<u>41,987</u>	<u>26,000</u>	<u>137,626</u>	<u>152,983</u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

All gains and losses recognised in the year are included above.



Charity Balance Sheet
Company Registration Number NI050662

	Notes	2024	2023
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	6	12,795	16,313
As restated for premises		<u>12,795</u>	<u>16,313</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	7	3,294	13,286
Cash at bank and in hand	8	<u>137,792</u>	<u>137,764</u>
		141,086	151,050
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>16,254</u>	<u>14,380</u>
Net current assets		<u>124,832</u>	<u>136,670</u>
Net assets		<u><u>137,626</u></u>	<u><u>152,983</u></u>
Funds:			
<u>Special Reserves</u>		26,000	26,000
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			
General funds		53,869	65,596
Designated funds		15,770	17,037
<u>Restricted Funds</u>		<u>41,987</u>	<u>44,350</u>
Total funds		<u><u>137,626</u></u>	<u><u>152,983</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 but as this company is a charity, it is subject to an Independent Examination under the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

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 Company's financial statements have been delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 8 to 13 were approved and authorised for issue by the trustees and signed on behalf of the board:


David McClarin (Treasurer)

10.12.24
Date


Valerie Miskimmon (Chairperson)

10.12.24
Date

The notes on pages 11 - 13 form part of these accounts

Notes forming part of the financial statements

1 Company status

The company is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.00 towards the assets of the company in the event of liquidation.

2 Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" published in 2005 and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland and the Companies Act 2006.

(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

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the directors in the furtherance of the objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the funder.

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policy is applied to a particular category of income:

Voluntary income is received by way of donations, appeals and collections and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

(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.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity

(f) Value Added Tax

The charity is not registered for VAT purposes, therefore irrecoverable VAT is charged to the Statement of Financial Activities, or capitalised as part of the cost of the related asset where appropriate

(g) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets under the cost model are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

Notes forming part of the financial statements

2 Accounting policies (continued)

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:

Office Equipment	20% straight line
Fixtures & Fittings	12.5% straight line
Computers	25% straight line
Premises	15% straight line

(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. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

(i) Financial Instruments

The Company only enters into basic financial instruments transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like other accounts receivable and payable.

(j) Judgments in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty

There have been no material judgements needed or used in preparation of these accounts.

(j) 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.

3 Incoming Resources

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
<u>Incoming resources from charitable activities:</u>					
Public Health Authority			58,670	58,670	64,064
Access NI	1,803			1,803	2,467
DfC Grants - CIF			51,118	51,118	54,784
Dice Futures			29,970	29,970	
DICE Connections				-	12,500
PCDW - NIHE			33,941	33,941	30,872
ANDBC - SLA				-	10,433
Big Lottery (Awards for ALL)				-	-
NIHE Homelessness Prevention				-	12,750
Homelessness 21-22				-	1,626
Lottery Climate Fund				-	-
Ards & North Down Borough Council	17,981			17,981	-
CFNI (Wellbeing)			98,950	98,950	68,425
Co-op				-	1,009
Tesco Groundwork				-	1,125
SE Trust Across the Generations				-	5,000
Children In Need			9,333	9,333	9,833
ACNI			140	140	1,592
	<u>19,784</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>282,122</u>	<u>301,906</u>	<u>273,228</u>
<u>Incoming resources from generated funds:</u>					
<u>Voluntary Income</u>					
Donations & Gifts	13,679			13,679	11,954
Gift Aid				-	-
<u>Activities which generate funds</u>					
Donations for use of rooms	28,229			28,229	30,041
Membership Fees	2,000			2,000	1,600
Member Accounts	756			756	-
Other	6,790			6,790	14,996
Total incoming resources	<u>71,238</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>282,122</u>	<u>353,360</u>	<u>331,819</u>



Notes forming part of the financial statements					
	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
3 Resources expended					
Raising Funds	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Unfunded salaries	31,057			31,057	26,163
Unfunded employers pension	668			668	1,368
Cleaning	487			487	322
Advertising & Marketing	120			120	990
PHA costs			63,269	63,269	66,386
Access NI		1,267		1,267	792
Light & Heat	4,181			4,181	8,046
Printing, stationery & postage	4,558			4,558	1,604
Telephone & Internet	2,507			2,507	1,970
Computer costs	830			830	747
Repairs and maintenance	1,827			1,827	739
General	134			134	1,489
Ground rent	2,000			2,000	2,000
Travel and entertaining	98			98	266
Subscriptions	541			541	884
Insurance	1,943			1,943	582
Water rates	83			83	157
Sessional Hours	680			680	260
Fundraising Costs				-	126
Project Expenses	23,514			23,514	3,386
Awards for all				-	10,760
DfC/CIF costs			50,182	50,182	51,096
DICE Futures costs			8,385	8,385	53,950
Dice Connections costs			7,622	7,622	
Return of Grant Income			18,274	18,274	-
NIHE Homelessness Prevention				-	-
Homelessness 21-22				-	1,626
Lottery Climate Fund			2,961	2,961	2,489
SE Seeding Trust			2,602	2,602	
Lottery Covid Response				-	206
ANDBC SLA costs				-	426
CFNI (Wellbeing)			77,301	77,301	87,364
Children In Need			19,166	19,166	
Other	348		1,253	1,601	3,158
PCDW project			33,470	33,470	31,972
	<u>75,576</u>	<u>1,267</u>	<u>284,485</u>	<u>361,328</u>	<u>358,072</u>
<i>Governance Costs</i>					
Depreciation	6,512				6,004
Bank Charges	262				325
Audit & accountancy	615				1,168
	<u>7,389</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,497</u>
Total resources expended	<u>82,965</u>	<u>1,267</u>	<u>284,485</u>	<u>368,717</u>	<u>365,569</u>

Notes forming part of the financial statements

4 Director' remuneration

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

5 Staff Costs

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

	2024	2023
Management and administration	7	9

There were no employees receiving a salary of more than £60,000 for year to 2024 and 2023.

	2024	2023
Employment costs		
Wages and salaries	170,666	169,117
Social security costs	9,096	9,837
	<u>179,762</u>	<u>178,954</u>

6 Tangible fixed assets

	Computers	Office Equipment	Fixtures & Fittings	Premises	Total
Cost					
1st April 2023	33,322	5,367	14,981	10,100	63,770
Additions		2,994			2,994
Disposals					-
31st March 2024	<u>33,322</u>	<u>8,361</u>	<u>14,981</u>	<u>10,100</u>	<u>66,764</u>
Depreciation					
1st April 2023	22,619	4,457	12,806	7,575	47,457
Charge for year	3,636	923	438	1,515	6,512
Disposals					-
31st March 2024	<u>26,255</u>	<u>5,380</u>	<u>13,244</u>	<u>9,090</u>	<u>53,969</u>
Net book value					
31st March 2024	<u>7,067</u>	<u>2,981</u>	<u>1,737</u>	<u>1,010</u>	<u>12,795</u>
<i>31st March 2023</i>	<u>10,703</u>	<u>910</u>	<u>2,175</u>	<u>2,525</u>	<u>16,313</u>

7 Debtors

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Trade debtors	3,304			3,304	13,296
Other debtors					
Prepayments and accrued income	- 10			- 10	(10)
	<u>3,294</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,294</u>	<u>13,286</u>

8 Cash at bank and in hand

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Ulster Bank current	106,019			106,019	69,054
CIF 3.3			792	792	51,348
PHA Grants			8,295	8,295	8,342
Dice			22,223	22,223	8,895
Cash in hand	463			463	124
	<u>106,482</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,310</u>	<u>137,792</u>	<u>137,763</u>



Notes forming part of the financial statements

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Taxation and social security costs					-
Trade creditors			1,378	1,378	1,495
Other creditors			11,716	11,716	11,325
Accruals and deferred income			3,160	3,160	1,560
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,254</u>	<u>16,254</u>	<u>14,380</u>

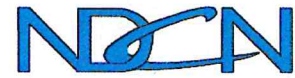
10 Related party transactions and control

North Down Community Network is constituted as a charitable company limited by guarantee and having no share capital. As such, there are no members with shareholdings in control of the company; control is vested in the trustees as a body.

Invoices totalling £15,455 (2023 £6,083), relating to 18 transactions for printing (2023 - 20 transactions), were paid to Clandeboye Printing Services. Clandeboye Printing Services is owned by North Down Community Network director Aaron McMahon.

11 Restatement of reserves

The trustees have reviewed the assets valuation for the current period and have concluded it to be of fair value.



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Community Investment Fund/DFC

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
Income					
DfC Grant	-	-	51,118	51,118	54,784
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51,118</u>	<u>51,118</u>	<u>54,784</u>
Expenditure					
Sessional hours			4,239	4,239	4,951
Salaries and wages			42,585	42,585	43,199
Employers NIC			1,859	1,859	2,946
Fuel & Energy			1,500	1,500	1,500
Return of grant income			4,399	4,399	
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>54,581</u>	<u>54,581</u>	<u>52,596</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>- 3,463</u>	<u>- 3,463</u>	<u>2,188</u>

NIHE Homelessness Prevention

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
Income					
Grant	-	-	-	-	12,750
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,750</u>
Expenditure					
Project Costs					
Project expenses				-	-
Light, Power & Heat				-	-
Printing & Stationery				-	-
Room Hire				-	-
Line Management & evaluation				-	-
Return of grant income			12,750	12,750	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,750</u>	<u>12,750</u>	<u>-</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(12,750)</u>	<u>(12,750)</u>	<u>12,750</u>



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

PHA Project

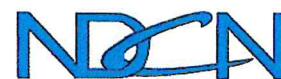
	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
Income					
Public Health Agency Grant			58,670	58,670	64,064
General Income			-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>58,670</u>	<u>58,670</u>	<u>64,064</u>
Expenditure					
Staff costs					
Salaries and wages	-	-	32,084	32,084	32,932
Employers NIC	-	-	2,002	2,002	3,712
Travel and subsistence	-	-	25	25	-
Project costs	-	-	19,897	19,897	23,021
Running costs			255	255	-
Telephone	-	-	598	598	317
Printing, postage & stationery	-	-	2,258	2,258	1,227
Heat and light	-	-	1,092	1,092	1,058
Insurance	-	-	1,500	1,500	1,782
Repairs and maintenance	-	-	59	59	-
Hospitality	-	-	-	-	-
Bank Fees	-	-	-	-	35
Management Charges	-	-	2,000	2,000	1,337
Audit Fee	-	-	1,000	1,000	300
Rent	-	-	500	500	1,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>63,269</u>	<u>63,269</u>	<u>66,721</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>- 4,599</u>	<u>- 4,599</u>	<u>- 2,657</u>



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

DICE Connections

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
Income					
Donations & Gifts	-	-	-	-	-
National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	-	-	12,500
Other Income	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,500</u>
Expenditure					
Staff costs					
Salaries and wages			4,286	4,286	23,741
Employers NIC				-	2,019
Access NI Fees				-	-
Recruitment Expenses				-	-
Travel and subsistence				-	-
Project costs			3,067	3,067	23,631
Running costs					
Printing, postage & stationery				-	730
Heat and light				-	-
Telephone & Internet			269	269	482
Repairs and maintenance				-	-
Accomodation				-	-
Insurance				-	1,113
IT Costs				-	-
Management Charges				-	800
Audit Fee				-	-
Staff training				-	264
General Expenses				-	1,671
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,622</u>	<u>7,622</u>	<u>54,451</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>- 7,622</u>	<u>- 7,622</u>	<u>- 41,951</u>



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

National Lottery - Awards For All

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
<u>Income</u>					
Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Other Income	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Staff costs					
Salaries and wages	-	-	-	-	-
Employers NIC	-	-	-	-	-
Travel and subsistence	-	-	-	-	-
Project costs					
Sessional Hours	-	-	-	-	2,234
Project expenses	-	-	-	-	5,388
Running costs					
Telephone & internet	-	-	-	-	1,392
Heat and light	-	-	-	-	-
General Expenses	-	-	-	-	1,747
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,761</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(10,761)</u>



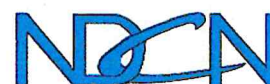
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Peripatetic Community Development Worker Project

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
Income					
NIHE Grant			33,941	33,941	30,872
Other Income				-	
	-	-	<u>33,941</u>	<u>33,941</u>	<u>30,872</u>
Expenditure					
Staff costs					
Salaries and wages			31,624	31,624	
Employers NIC			-	-	31,624
Access NI			1,739	1,739	179
Telephone			-	-	-
Travel and subsistence			106	106	169
Project Costs					
	-	-	<u>33,469</u>	<u>33,469</u>	<u>31,972</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	-	-	<u>472</u>	<u>472</u>	<u>(1,100)</u>

Hub at the Heart of Community

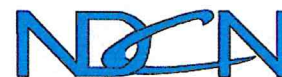
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Income					
Grant				-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Expenditure					
Project Costs					
Project expenses				-	
Running costs					
Advertising & Marketing				-	
Heat and light				-	
Telephone				-	
Repairs and maintenance				-	
Rates				-	
Insurance				-	
IT Costs				-	
Travel Costs				-	
Printing & Stationery				-	
General Expenses				-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Surplus/(Deficit)	-	-	-	-	-



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

CFNI (Wellbeing)

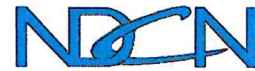
	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
Income					
Donations & Gifts					68,425
Grants			98,950	98,950	
Other Income					-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>98,950</u>	<u>98,950</u>	<u>68,425</u>
Expenditure					
Staff costs			13,117	13,117	
Salaries and wages			18,628	18,628	15,167
Employers NIC			613	613	981
Access NI Fees				-	-
Recruitment Expenses				-	1,740
Travel and subsistence			68	68	27
Project costs			18,168	18,168	36,185
Running costs				-	-
Printing, postage & stationery			214	214	1,996
Heat and light			11,935	11,935	9,484
Telephone & Internet			647	647	778
Repairs and maintenance			584	584	753
Rent			10,000	10,000	10,000
Insurance			1,000	1,000	1,000
Office costs			944	944	175
Management Charges			784	784	4,660
Advertising			600	600	1,150
Staff training				-	1,555
General Expenses				-	2,015
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>77,302</u>	<u>77,302</u>	<u>87,666</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,648</u>	<u>21,648</u>	<u>- 19,241</u>



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Homelessness 23-24

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	<i>Total 2023</i>
<u>Income</u>					
Grant income					- 1,626
Other Income				-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>- 1,626</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Project costs					
Advertising					
General expenses					
Accommodation					
Management Charges					
Travel and subsistence					
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,626)</u>



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Other Grants

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
Income					
ANDBC SLA	10,000			10,000	10,433
NIHE Homeless Prevention				-	12,750
Tesco Groundwork				-	1,125
ACNI			140	140	1,592
SE Trust Across the Generations				-	5,000
Lottery Climate Fund			5,011	5,011	-
Co-op				-	1,009
Covid Charity Fund				-	-
Donations & Gifts				-	11,954
ANDBC Harship Fund	7,981			7,981	-
Children In Need			9,333	9,333	9,833
Access NI checks		1,803		1,803	2,467
Other Income				-	47,674
	17,981	1,803	14,484	34,268	103,837
Expenditure					
Salaries			13,761	13,761	
Project Costs			11,996	11,996	
Project expenses				-	
Advertising & marketing				-	
Postage, printing & stationery			225	225	
Light, heat & power				-	
Other expenses				-	
Return of grant income			1,125	1,125	
	-	-	27,107	27,107	-
Surplus/(Deficit)	17,981	1,803	- 12,623	7,161	103,837

North Down Community Network

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102333

Annual report

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The trustees (who are also the directors of North Down Community Network for the purposes of company law) 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).

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 2015 (FRS102);
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments 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;
- 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 that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The trustees 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.

In so far as, the trustees are aware:

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

By order of the board



Valerie Miskimmon
Director

Date: 10/12/24

NORTH DOWN COMMUNITY NETWORK

Company limited by guarantee: Company No: NI 050662, incorporated 13th May 2004
Charity Commission registered: Number: NIC 102333
HMRC registered Charity Number: XR 37170

Registered address: North Down Community Network Resource Centre, 5 Castle Park Road, Bangor, Co Down, BT20 4TF

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their report and the examined financial statements of the charity for the year / period ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Trustees of the charity

The directors of the charitable company are its trustees for the purposes of charity law. The trustees who have served during the year and since the year end are as follows:

Peter Gay	Resigned 25 th April 2024
Aaron McMahon	
Robin Masefield	Resigned 25 th April 2024
Valerie Miskimmon	Chairperson
David McClarin	Treasurer
Maggie Boyle	
Kirsty Richardson	Appointed 25 th April 2024

Structure, governance and management

North Down Community Network (NDCN) is a company limited by guarantee. It has 56 paying members which are organisations operating in the community and voluntary sector in or around the north of Down – and another 42 non-paying associates*. The members elect a board of up to 12 directors each of whom is recommended by a member organisation, except for up to 3 independents who are selected because they bring particular skill or knowledge. Its day-to-day operations are controlled by the Manager who reports to the board.

* As at 31 March 2024

Objectives and activities

NDCN exists because there are communities and individuals in Bangor and the wider north of Down who need assistance. It seeks to help people to help themselves and its vision is that communities in Bangor and the wider north of Down should be safe, peaceful, diverse, inclusive, flourishing and economically vibrant – thus making the area one in which people want to live.

In particular its charitable purposes include:

In particular its charitable purposes include:

- a. promoting the efficiency and effectiveness of voluntary and community organisations and projects in the north of Down by providing advice, information, education and training, administrative support and practical assistance;
- b. promoting or assisting in promoting capacity building programmes and projects for the benefit of the people who have need of such assistance as a result of their youth, age, disability or infirmity, or social and economic circumstances;
- c. relieving poverty by the promotion, facilitation and organisation of adequate, accessible and quality programmes of vocational and educational training;
- d. promoting or assisting in the promotion of cooperation and networking between voluntary and community organisations and others in the area; and
- e. identifying, and helping to address, the funding and policy needs of voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit.

NDCN acts as a focal point for the community and for community and voluntary sector organisations in the north of Down. For them it delivers a range of regular and/or routine services, it reacts where it can when it is asked and proactively it tries to identify issues where it thinks it can make a difference for their benefit. Throughout 2021-2022 operations were significantly affected both by the restrictions placed on them by the Covid-19 pandemic and by the additional community needs that pandemic caused. Both these effects are reflected in the following activity summaries:

Routine activities. In 2023-24 NDCN's activities included:

- The operation of the accessible town centre drop-in space on Main Street Bangor, the NDCN Wellbeing Centre & Community Hub.
- A weekly programme of wellbeing activities Monday – Friday for people to access towards supporting their physical and mental health and wellbeing, funded by the Public Health Agency.
- The provision of community outreach support and capacity building from the Outreach Community Development Worker who is funded by the NI Housing Executive.
- Supporting the provision of support for young people in four areas of Bangor funded by The National Lottery Community Fund.
- A range of information and support services to strengthen the infrastructure of the Community and Voluntary sector across North Down.
- Collaborative activities with a range of partner organisations.
- Activities to support the health and wellbeing of people in need with signposting services, group work sessions, a mental health forum and access to IT, funded by the Dep of Health via CFNI.

Reactive responses. NDCN endeavours to respond to needs, such as those which create a crisis and/or require an urgent response, as and when they emerge in communities. During the year there continued to be a responsive approach to managing the impact of the cost-of-living crisis and the pressures and challenges this placed on the most vulnerable people in communities. We delivered services and support in communities on an outreach basis with partners and the work with young people via weekly youth clubs

and tailored programmes. These challenges were also compounded by the ongoing impact of the pandemic on the mental health of people, young and older.

Proactive initiatives. NDCN looks out for other opportunities to further its work and engage strategically for benefit of the people and groups it serves and support. For instance, we conduct needs assessment to help identify needs and plan the most appropriate response, we also continue to participate in a range of forums and partnerships and facilitate the North Down Community Practitioners Forum to support and co-ordinate volunteer lead community associations as they respond to needs in their communities. NDCN participate in the Charity Commission Forum to represent the needs of our member groups and partners. In addition, NDCN are members of the Bangor Connects group, which includes representatives from local groups, businesses, and organisations. We also continue to host the NDCN Community Matters podcast which aims to explore important issues and needs in an informal and accessible way; topics covered are in direct relation to need so have included the impact of cost of living, housing shortages, political apathy in NI and more.

Achievements, performance and public benefit statement

In addressing its objectives and declare purposes during the year NDCN delivered the following benefits:

1. Sector support. Promoting the efficiency and effectiveness of voluntary and community sector in the north of Down:
 - 201 occurrences of one-to-one support with community groups and organisations.
 - 59 meetings to lobby for needs of community groups/areas.
 - Hosted 2 showcasing volunteer events.
 - Delivered 416 training, development or health sessions to participants.
 - Conducted 4 needs assessment surveys in areas of disadvantage.
 - 5856 people signposted to a range of information, services and support.
 - Supported groups with 48 applications for funding.
 - Signposted 46 people onto volunteering.
 - Issued 28 online magazines (e-zines) to 410+ contacts.
 - 1000 social media posts promoting the activities and services of community groups.
 - Created and distributed 20,000 'information and support summary' booklets which contained a wide range of information about member groups and many other sources of support and information.
 - Created 12 NDCN Community Matters podcast programmes created.
 - Supported 2 new groups with the charity registration process.
2. Capacity building. Promoting capacity building for the benefit of the people who need such assistance:
 - Delivered youth clubs for 10-15 year olds with 1800 attendees over the year, to meet their needs regarding safe, fun and welcoming spaces to build their capacity, resilience, life skills and aspirations. This also include a Children In Need programme to support career development and improve educational attainment of young people.

- Created 2 volunteer showcasing and recognition events with 156 people attending.
 - Facilitated the Asylum Seekers support group consisting of partners from the statutory sector, Mears Foundation, faith based and community and voluntary sector who were collectively seeking to respond to the asylum seekers who were put in Bangor by the Home Office after arriving in the UK.
3. Poverty relief. Relieving poverty by accessible schemes and programmes of vocational and educational training:
- Provided one-to-one and small peer group training on 8 occasions build capacity, skills and knowledge of local community group volunteers.
 - Made 189 foodbank referrals for people in poverty who required food.
 - Distributed 112 warm packs of clothing for people on benefits or from vulnerable groups.
 - Supported people in need and crisis with electric, gas, white-goods, and meal vouchers as part of a 'hardship co-operative' with 5 other community partners.
 - Signposted 302 people on to Advice services.
 - Secured resources to help people at risk of homelessness remain in their homes and maintain their tenancy.
 - Delivered Community Café in town centre for people in need.
4. Networking. Promoting cooperation and networking between voluntary and community organisations and others:
- NDCN are members of the Borough Community Planning Poverty Forum group, members of Bangor Connects (stakeholders in Bangor exploring regeneration of the town), and the Charity Commission NI Forum.
 - Hosted 7 Community Practitioner meetings consisting of 5 volunteer led Community Associations from areas of need.
 - NDCN attended 4 regional meetings with Network Organisations across Northern Ireland.
 - Hosted 2 Mental Health Forum meetings to share best practice and collate information to maximise the ability of member groups to signpost people on to support and services.
5. Organisational help. Helping to address the needs of voluntary and community organisations:
- Supported groups with 47 applications for funding.
 - Supported 13 groups with Charity Commission returns to ensure regulations were met.
 - Conducted examination of accounts for 18 groups and organisations.
 - Conducted 80 Access NI checks for groups and organisations.
 - On 325 occasions met with community groups and organisations for training, support and capacity development.
 - Supported community groups with applications to support their activities in responding to communities and residents and their needs emerging from the cost-of-living crisis,

ongoing impact of mental health issues and concerns about the uncertainty of NI political situation.

Financial review (including reserves policy)

NDCN can do all this because it receives funding from the Department for Communities, the Public Health Agency, the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, The National Lottery Community Fund, Dept of Health via Community Foundation for NI, Children In Need, Ards and North Down Borough Council. It is thus dependent on these funders for its ability to operate. NDCN also has a small income via donations which are used to top-up and cover unfunded costs.

NDCN has established the minimum the level of free 'special' reserves that the charity ought to have. This is the level of unrestricted general funds which should normally be at least enough to cover the cost of closure (which would include the next three months of the estimated running costs for committed overheads plus that amount of money which would cover staff redundancies). After being reviewed last year, the 2023-24 this reserve amount was set at £26,000. This will be reviewed again in the coming year.

Going concern note. Due to the challenges of funding pressures within the Community and Voluntary Sector, NDCN has made a deficit in the year. However, the organisation has shown an improvement from the prior the year. They will be continuing these efforts to achieve and maintain financial sustainability.

Plans for future periods

NDCN's future plans are to continue to deliver appropriate routine, reactive and/or proactive services and, in order to be able to do this, to continue to source support where it can but to work as efficiently as possible within the limits of the funding it manages to obtain.

Disclosure of information to the examiner

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 auditors 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.

In approving the Trustees' Annual Report, we also approve the Strategic Report included therein, in our capacity as company directors.*

On behalf of the board



Valerie Miskimmon MBE
Chairperson

North Down Community Network

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102333

Annual return

Independent Examiner's Report to the North Down Community Network

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.



Adam McDowell FCCA

Independent Examiner

For and on behalf of Hamilton Morris Waugh Chartered Certified Accountants,
34 Dufferin Avenue

Bangor

Co Down

BT20 3AA

10/12/24

North Down Community Network

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102333

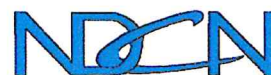
Accounts

Statement of Financial Activities

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Special Reserve	Total 2023	Total 2022
Incoming Resources							
Charitable Activities		12,900	-	260,328		273,229	344,324
<u>Incoming resources from generated funds</u>							
Voluntary		11,954	-			11,954	755
Activities which generate funds		31,641				31,641	17,900
<u>Other Incoming Resources</u>		14,996				14,996	22,935
Total incoming resources	3	<u>71,491</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>260,328</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>331,819</u>	<u>385,914</u>
Resources expended							
Raising Funds		-	-	-		-	216
Charitable Activities		51,427	792	305,853		358,072	321,531
Governance costs		6,362	-	1,135		7,497	7,601
Total resources expended	4	<u>57,790</u>	<u>792</u>	<u>306,988</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>365,569</u>	<u>329,348</u>
Net incoming resources		13,701	(792)	(46,659)	-	(33,750)	56,566
Net movement in funds							
Fund balances brought forward at 1 April 2022		51,895	17,829	91,009	26,000	186,733	130,167
Transfer to special reserves							
Transfers between restricted, designated and unrestricted funds							
Fund balances carried forward at 31 March 2023		<u>65,596</u>	<u>17,037</u>	<u>44,350</u>	<u>26,000</u>	<u>152,983</u>	<u>186,733</u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities.

All gains and losses recognised in the year are included above.



Charity Balance Sheet
Company Registration Number NI050662

	Notes	2023	2022
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	6	16,313	20,868
As restated for premises		16,313	20,868
Current assets			
Debtors	7	13,286	16,874
Cash at bank and in hand	8	137,764	197,539
		151,050	214,413
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	14,380	48,548
Net current assets		136,670	165,865
Net assets		152,983	186,733
Funds:			
<u>Special Reserves</u>		26,000	26,000
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			
General funds		65,596	51,895
Designated funds		17,037	17,829
<u>Restricted Funds</u>		44,350	91,009
Total funds		152,983	186,733

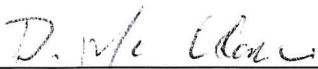
For the year ending 31st March 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies but as this company is a charity, it is subject to an Independent Examination under the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

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 Company's financial statements have been delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 8 to 12 were approved and authorised for issue by the trustees and signed on behalf of the board:



David McClarin (Treasurer)

14-Dec-23

Date



Valerie Miskimmon (Chairperson)

14-Dec-23

Date

The notes on pages 11 - 13 form part of these accounts

Notes forming part of the financial statements

1 Company status

The company is a private company limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.00 towards the assets of the company in the event of liquidation.

2 Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" published in 2005 and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland and the Companies Act 2006.

(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

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the directors in the furtherance of the objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the funder.

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policy is applied to a particular category of income:

Voluntary income is received by way of donations, appeals and collections and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

(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.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity

(f) Value Added Tax

The charity is not registered for VAT purposes, therefore irrecoverable VAT is charged to the Statement of Financial Activities, or capitalised as part of the cost of the related asset where appropriate

(g) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets under the cost model are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

Notes forming part of the financial statements

2 Accounting policies (continued)

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:

Office Equipment	20% straight line
Fixtures & Fittings	12.5% straight line
Computers	25% straight line
Premises	15% straight line

(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. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

(i) Financial Instruments

The Company only enters into basic financial instruments transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like other accounts receivable and payable.

(j) Judgments in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty

There have been no material judgements needed or used in preparation of these accounts.

(j) 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.

3 Incoming Resources

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
<u>Incoming resources from charitable activities:</u>					
Public Health Authority			64,064	64,064	54,797
Access NI Fees	2,467			2,467	1,880
DfC Grants - CIF	-		54,784	54,784	51,621
DICE	-		12,500	12,500	48,569
PCDW - NIHE	-		30,872	30,872	29,434
ANDBC - SLA	10,433			10,433	13,000
Big Lottery (Awards for ALL)	-			-	9,975
NIHE Homelessness Prevention	-		12,750	12,750	- 75
Homelessness 21-22	-		- 1,626	- 1,626	37,008
Love Here Love Here	-			-	2,332
Covid Charity Fund	-			-	12,000
Lottery Covid Response/Climate Fund	-			-	7,500
CFNI (Wellbeing)	-		68,425	68,425	66,544
Co-op	-		1,009	1,009	
Tesco Groundwork	-		1,125	1,125	-
SE Trust Across the Generations	-		5,000	5,000	
Children In Need	-		9,833	9,833	9,333
ACNI	-		1,592	1,592	407
	12,900	-	260,328	273,229	344,324
<u>Incoming resources from generated funds:</u>					
<u>Voluntary Income</u>					
Donations & Gifts	11,954	-	-	11,954	755
Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Activities which generate funds</u>					
Donations for use of rooms	30,041	-	-	30,041	15,935
Membership Fees	1,600	-	-	1,600	1,965
<u>Other Incoming Resources</u>					
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	-	-	-	-	1,600
Other	14,996	-	-	14,996	21,335
Total incoming resources	71,491	-	260,328	331,819	385,914



Notes forming part of the financial statements					
	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
3 Resources expended					
Raising Funds	-	-	-	-	216
	-	-	-	-	216
Unfunded salaries	26,163			26,163	23,437
Unfunded employers pension	1,368			1,368	
Cleaning	322			322	-
Advertising & Marketing	990			990	-
PHA costs			66,386	66,386	53,979
Access NI		792		792	843
Light & Heat	8,046			8,046	2,675
Printing, stationery & postage	1,604			1,604	706
Telephone & Internet	1,970			1,970	1,689
Computer costs	747			747	1,622
Repairs and maintenance	739			739	964
General	1,489			1,489	955
Ground rent	2,000			2,000	667
Travel and entertaining	266			266	396
Subscriptions	884			884	488
Insurance	582			582	2,747
Water rates	157			157	155
Sessional Hours	260			260	-
Fundraising Costs	126			126	-
Project Expenses	3,386			3,386	-
Awards for all			10,760	10,760	1,166
DfC/CIF costs			51,096	51,096	49,482
DICE costs			53,950	53,950	65,359
Tesco Groundwork				-	-
NIHE Homelessness Prevention				-	-
Homelessness 21-22			- 1,626	- 1,626	30,697
Lottery Climate Fund			2,489	2,489	-
Covid Charity Fund				-	2,699
Lottery Covid Response			206	206	1,195
ANDBC SLA costs			426	426	1,299
CFNI (Wellbeing)			87,364	87,364	40,655
Children In Need				-	900
Other	329		2,829	3,158	8,372
PCDW project			31,972	31,972	28,385
	<u>51,427</u>	<u>792</u>	<u>305,853</u>	<u>358,072</u>	<u>321,532</u>
<u>Governance Costs</u>				-	-
Depreciation	6,004	-	-	6,004	5,815
Bank Charges	290	-	35	325	226
Audit & accountancy	68	-	1,100	1,168	1,560
	<u>6,362</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,135</u>	<u>7,497</u>	<u>7,601</u>
Total resources expended	<u>57,790</u>	<u>792</u>	<u>306,988</u>	<u>365,569</u>	<u>329,348</u>

Notes forming part of the financial statements

4 Directors' remuneration

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

5 Staff Costs

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

Management and administration	2023	2022
	9	9

There were no employees receiving a salary of more than £60,000 for year to 2021 and 2020.

Employment costs	2023	2022
Wages and salaries	169,117	150,558
Social security costs	9,837	8,130
	<u>178,954</u>	<u>158,688</u>

6 Tangible fixed assets

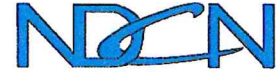
	Computers	Office Equipment	Fixtures & Fittings	Premises	Total
Cost					
1st April 2022	33,223	5,367	13,631	10,100	62,321
Additions	99		1,350	-	1,449
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
31st March 2023	<u>33,322</u>	<u>5,367</u>	<u>14,981</u>	<u>10,100</u>	<u>63,770</u>
Depreciation					
1st April 2022	18,983	4,133	12,277	6,060	41,453
Charge for year	3,636	324	529	1,515	6,004
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
31st March 2023	<u>22,619</u>	<u>4,457</u>	<u>12,806</u>	<u>7,575</u>	<u>47,457</u>
Net book value					
31st March 2023	<u>10,703</u>	<u>910</u>	<u>2,175</u>	<u>2,525</u>	<u>16,313</u>
<i>31st March 2022</i>	<u>14,240</u>	<u>1,234</u>	<u>1,354</u>	<u>4,040</u>	<u>20,868</u>

7 Debtors

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2023	2022
Trade debtors	13,296			13,296	16,892
Other debtors				-	
Prepayments and accrued income	- 10			- 10	(18)
	<u>13,286</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,286</u>	<u>16,874</u>

8 Cash at bank and in hand

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2023	2022
Ulster Bank current	69,054			69,054	90,587
PHA Grants			8,342	8,342	25,018
CIF 3.3			51,348	51,348	29,336
Dice			8,895	8,895	52,229
Cash in hand			124	124	369
	<u>69,054</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>68,708</u>	<u>137,763</u>	<u>197,539</u>



Notes forming part of the financial statements

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Designated</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Taxation and social security costs				-	-
Trade creditors	1,495			1,495	32,110
Other creditors	11,325			11,325	12,969
Accruals and deferred income	1,560			1,560	3,469
	<u>14,380</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,380</u>	<u>48,548</u>

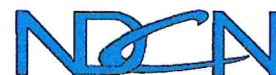
10 Related party transactions and control

North Down Community Network is constituted as a charitable company limited by guarantee and having no share capital. As such, there are no members with shareholdings in control of the company; control is vested in the trustees as a body.

Invoices totalling £6,083 (2022 - £3,220), relating to 20 transactions for printing (2022 - 12) during 2022-23, were paid to Clandeboye Printing Services. Clandeboye Printing Services is owned by North Down Community Network director Aaron McMahon.

11 Restatement of reserves

The trustees have reviewed the assets valuation for the current period and have concluded it to be of fair value.



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Community Investment Fund

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Income					
DfC Grant			54,784	54,784	51,621
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>54,784</u>	<u>54,784</u>	<u>51,621</u>
Expenditure					
Sessional hours			4,951	4,951	4,789
Salaries and wages			43,199	43,199	42,190
Employers NIC			2,946	2,946	2,503
Fuel & Energy			1,500	1,500	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52,596</u>	<u>52,596</u>	<u>49,482</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,188</u>	<u>2,188</u>	<u>2,139</u>

NIHE Homelessness Prevention

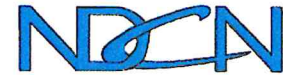
	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Income					
Grant			12,750	12,750	- 75
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,750</u>	<u>12,750</u>	<u>- 75</u>
Expenditure					
Project Costs					
Project expenses				-	-
Light, Power & Heat				-	-
Printing & Stationery				-	-
Room Hire				-	-
Line Management & evaluation				-	-
Other expenses				-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,750</u>	<u>12,750</u>	<u>- 75</u>



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

PHA Project

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Income					
Public Health Agency Grant			64,064	64,064	54,797
General Income			-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,064</u>	<u>64,064</u>	<u>54,797</u>
Expenditure					
Staff costs					
Salaries and wages	-	-	32,932	32,932	32,286
Employers NIC	-	-	3,712	3,712	2,072
Travel and subsistence	-	-	-	-	-
Project costs	-	-	23,021	23,021	10,693
Running costs					
Telephone	-	-	317	317	445
Printing, postage & stationery	-	-	1,227	1,227	541
Heat and light	-	-	1,058	1,058	450
Insurance	-	-	1,782	1,782	450
Repairs and maintenance	-	-	-	-	400
Hospitality	-	-	-	-	-
Bank Fees	-	-	35	35	44
Management Charges	-	-	1,337	1,337	2,000
Audit Fee	-	-	300	300	564
Rent	-	-	1,000	1,000	4,598
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>66,721</u>	<u>66,721</u>	<u>54,543</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>- 2,657</u>	<u>- 2,657</u>	<u>254</u>



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

DICE Project

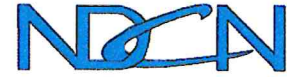
	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Income					
Donations & Gifts	-	-	-	-	257
National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	12,500	12,500	48,313
Other Income	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,500</u>	<u>12,500</u>	<u>48,570</u>
Expenditure					
Staff costs					
Salaries and wages			23,741	23,741	30,534
Employers NIC			2,019	2,019	1,262
Access NI Fees					-
Recruitment Expenses					-
Travel and subsistence					-
Project costs			23,631	23,631	20,054
Running costs					-
Printing, postage & stationery			730	730	261
Heat and light					3,865
Telephone			482	482	524
Repairs and maintenance					25
Accommodation					4,868
Insurance			1,113	1,113	450
IT Costs					-
Management Charges			800	800	3,200
Audit Fee					996
Staff training			264	264	160
General Expenses			1,671	1,671	157
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>54,450</u>	<u>54,450</u>	<u>66,356</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>- 41,950</u>	<u>- 41,950</u>	<u>- 17,786</u>



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

National Lottery - Awards For All

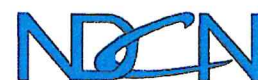
	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Income					
Grants	-	-	-	-	9,975
Other Income	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,975</u>
Expenditure					
Staff costs					
Salaries and wages	-	-	-	-	-
Employers NIC	-	-	-	-	-
Travel and subsistence	-	-	-	-	-
Project costs					
Sessional Hours	-	-	2,234	2,234	-
Project expenses	-	-	-	-	403
Running costs					
Telephone & internet	-	-	1,392	1,392	726
Heat and light	-	-	-	-	-
General Expenses	-	-	1,747	1,747	36
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,760</u>	<u>10,760</u>	<u>1,166</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(10,760)</u>	<u>(10,760)</u>	<u>8,809</u>



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Peripatetic Community Development Worker Project

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Income					
NIHE Grant			30,872	30,872	29,435
Other Income				-	
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,872</u>	<u>30,872</u>	<u>29,435</u>
Expenditure					
Staff costs					
Salaries and wages			31,624	31,624	26,772
Employers NIC			179	179	1,578
Access NI					-
Telephone					-
Travel and subsistence			169	169	37
Project Costs	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,972</u>	<u>31,972</u>	<u>28,386</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,100)</u>	<u>(1,100)</u>	<u>1,049</u>



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

CFNI (Wellbeing)

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Income					
Donations & Gifts					2,910
Grants			68,425	68,425	62,475
Other Income					1,159
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>68,425</u>	<u>68,425</u>	<u>66,544</u>
Expenditure					
Staff costs					
Salaries and wages			15,167	15,167	-
Employers NIC			981	981	-
Access NI Fees					-
Recruitment Expenses			1,740	1,740	-
Travel and subsistence			27	27	-
Project costs			36,185	36,185	30,051
Running costs					-
Printing, postage & stationery			1,996	1,996	137
Heat and light			9,484	9,484	3,000
Telephone			778	778	570
Repairs and maintenance			753	753	2,913
Rent			10,000	10,000	840
Insurance			1,000	1,000	170
Office costs			175	175	1,518
Management Charges			4,660	4,660	-
Advertising			1,150	1,150	578
Staff training			1,555	1,555	796
General Expenses			2,015	2,015	81
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>87,664</u>	<u>87,664</u>	<u>40,654</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>- 19,239</u>	<u>- 19,239</u>	<u>25,890</u>



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Homelessness 21-22

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
<u>Income</u>					
Grant income				- 1,626	37,008
Other Income	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>- 1,626</u>	<u>37,008</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Project costs					24,294
Advertising					90
General expenses					75
Accomodation					2,360
Management Charges					3,820
Travel and subsistence					58
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,697</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,626)</u>	<u>6,311</u>



Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Other Grants

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Income					
ANDBC SLA				-	13,000
NIHE Homeless Prevention			12,750	12,750	-
Tesco Groundwork			1,125	1,125	-
ACNI			1,592	1,592	-
SE Trust Across the Generations			5,000	5,000	-
Lottery Climate Fund				-	7,500
Co-op			1,009	1,009	-
Covid Charity Fund				-	12,000
Donations & Gifts				-	755
				-	-
Children In Need			9,833	9,833	9,333
Access NI checks				-	1,880
Other Income				-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,309</u>	<u>31,309</u>	<u>44,468</u>
Expenditure					
Raising Funds					
				-	-
Project Costs					
			799	799	-
Project expenses					900
Advertising & marketing					-
Postage, printing & stationery					-
Light, heat & power					2,699
Other expenses					843
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>799</u>	<u>799</u>	<u>4,442</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,510</u>	<u>30,510</u>	<u>40,026</u>

North Down Community Network

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102333

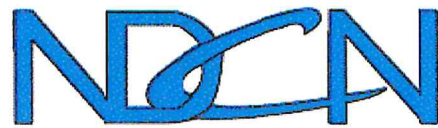
Annual report

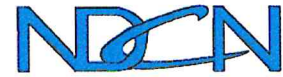
Registered company number : NI 050662
Registered in Northern Ireland
Registered charity number : NIC 102333
Charity Number XR37170

NORTH DOWN COMMUNITY NETWORK
(A Private Company Limited by Guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023





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Officers And Advisors

Directors/Trustees

Valerie Miskimmon - Storehouse North Down

Simon Bridge– Hollywood Shared Town

David McClarin - Independent

Kieran McKenna - Independent

Peter Gay – Independent

Aaron McMahon – Clandeboye Village Community Association

Robin Masefield

Margaret Boyle

(Chairperson)

(Treasurer) (resigned 25th January 2022)

(Secretary) (appointed 25th January 2022)

(Treasurer) (Appointed 25th January 2022)

(Appointed 13 December 2022)

(Appointed 25 April 2023)

Registered Office

5 Castle Park Road

Bangor

BT20 4TF

Bankers

Ulster Bank

Springfield Shopping Centre

Bangor

BT19 1NB

Independent Examiner

Adam McDowell FCCA

Hamilton Morris Waugh Chartered Certified Accountants

34 Dufferin Avenue

Bangor

Co Down

BT20 3AA

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The trustees (who are also the directors of North Down Community Network for the purposes of company law) 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).

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 2015 (FRS102);
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments 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;
- 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 that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The trustees 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.

In so far as, the trustees are aware:

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

By order of the board



Valerie Miskimmon
Director

Date: 14-Dec-23

NORTH DOWN COMMUNITY NETWORK

Company limited by guarantee: Company No: NI 050662, incorporated 13th May 2004
Charity Commission registered: Number: NIC 102333
HMRC registered: Charity Number: XR37170

Registered address: North Down Community Network Resource Centre, 5 Castle Park Road, Bangor, Co Down, BT20 4TF

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their report and the examined financial statements of the charity for the year / period ended 31 March 2023. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Trustees of the charity

The directors of the charitable company are its Trustees for the purposes of charity law. The Trustees who have served during the year and since the year end are as follows:

Peter Gay	
Aaron McMahon	
Margaret Boyle	Appointed 25 April 2023
Robin Masefield	Appointed 13 December 2022
Valerie Miskimmon	Chair from December 2020
Kieran McKenna	Treasurer from 15 th Feb 2022
David McClarin	Secretary from 15 th Feb 2022

Structure, governance and management

North Down Community Network (NDCN) is a company limited by guarantee. It has 58 paying members which are organisations operating in the community and voluntary sector in or around the north of Down – and another 48 non-paying associates*. The members elect a board of up to 12 directors each of whom is recommended by a member organisation, except for up to 3 independents who are selected because they bring particular skill or knowledge. Its day-to-day operations are controlled by the Manager who reports to the board.

* As at 31 March 2023

Objectives and activities

NDCN exists because there are communities and individuals in Bangor and the wider north of Down who need assistance. It seeks to help people to help themselves and its vision is that communities in Bangor and the wider north of Down should be safe, peaceful, diverse, inclusive, flourishing and economically vibrant – thus making the area one in which people want to live.

In particular its charitable purposes include:

- a. promoting the efficiency and effectiveness of voluntary and community organisations and projects in the north of Down by providing advice, information, education and training, administrative support and practical assistance;
- b. promoting or assisting in promoting capacity building programmes and projects for the benefit of the people who have need of such assistance as a result of their youth, age, disability or infirmity, or social and economic circumstances;
- c. relieving poverty by the promotion, facilitation and organisation of adequate, accessible and quality programmes of vocational and educational training;
- d. promoting or assisting in the promotion of cooperation and networking between voluntary and community organisations and others in the area; and
- e. identifying, and helping to address, the funding and policy needs of voluntary and community organisations in the area of benefit.

NDCN acts as a focal point for the community and for community and voluntary sector organisations in the north of Down. For them it delivers a range of regular and/or routine services, it reacts where it can when it is asked and proactively it tries to identify issues where it thinks it can make a difference for their benefit. Throughout 2021-2022 operations were significantly affected both by the restrictions placed on them by the Covid-19 pandemic and by the additional community needs that pandemic caused. Both these effects are reflected in the following activity summaries:

Routine activities. In 2022-23 NDCN's activities included:

- The operation of the essential and accessible drop-in space on Main Street Bangor, the NDCN Wellbeing Centre & Community Hub.
- A weekly programme of wellbeing activities Monday – Friday for people to access towards supporting their physical and mental health and wellbeing, funded by the Public Health Agency.
- The provision of community outreach support and capacity building from the Outreach Community Development Worker who is funded by the NI Housing Executive.
- Supporting the provision of support for young people in four areas of Bangor funded by The National Lottery Community Fund.
- A range of information and support services to strengthen the infrastructure of the Community and Voluntary sector across North Down.
- Collaborative activities with a range of partner organisations.
- Activities to support the health and wellbeing of people in need with signposting services, group work sessions, a mental health forum and access to IT, funded by the Dep of Health via CFNI.

Reactive responses. NDCN endeavours to respond to needs, such as those which create a crisis and/or require an urgent response, as and when they emerge in communities. During the year there continued to be a responsive approach to managing the impact of the cost-of-living crisis and the pressures and challenges this placed on the most vulnerable people in communities. We delivered services and support in communities on an outreach basis with partners and the work with young people via weekly youth clubs and tailored programmes. These challenges were also compounded by the ongoing impact of the pandemic on the mental health of people, young and older.

Proactive initiatives. NDCN looks out for other opportunities to further its work and engage strategically for benefit of the people and groups it serves and support. For instance, NDCN continued to participate in a range of forums and partnerships including facilitating the Bangor Asylum Seeker working group and participating in the ANDBC Ukrainian Support group and Community Support group. We also participate in the Charity Commission Forum to represent the needs of our member groups and partners. We are members of the Bangor Connects group, which includes representatives from local groups, businesses, and organisations. We also launched the new NDCN Community Matters podcast which aims to explore important issues and needs in an informal and accessible way; topics covered are in direct relation to need so have included the impact of cost of living, debt and more.

Achievements, performance and public benefit statement

In addressing its objectives and declare purposes during the year NDCN delivered the following benefits:

1. Sector support. Promoting the efficiency and effectiveness of voluntary and community sector in the north of Down:
 - 240 occurrences of one-to-one support with community groups and organisations.
 - 42 meetings to lobby for needs of community groups/areas.
 - Hosted 2 showcasing volunteer events.
 - Hosted 4 virtual support meetings for member groups in response to needs identified as result of COVID.
 - 3559 people signposted to a range of information, services and support.
 - Supported groups with 48 applications for funding.
 - Signposted 44 people onto volunteering.
 - Issued 20 online magazines (e-zines) to 540+ contacts with 398 events promoted.
 - 734 social media posts promoting the activities and services of community groups.
 - Created and distributed 20,000 'information and support summary' booklets which contained a wide range of information about member groups and many other sources of support and information.
 - Created 6 NDCN Community Matters podcast programmes and launched on Spotify.
 - Supported 4 new groups with the charity registration process.
2. Capacity building. Promoting capacity building for the benefit of the people who need such assistance:
 - Delivered youth clubs for 10-15 year olds with 1770 attendees over the year, to meet their needs regarding safe, fun and welcoming spaces to build their capacity, resilience, life skills and aspirations. This also include a Children In Need programme to support career development and improve educational attainment of young people.
 - Created 2 volunteer showcasing and recognition events with 120 people attending.
 - Facilitated the Asylum Seekers support group consisting of partners from the statutory sector, Mears Foundation, faith based and community and voluntary sector who were

collectively seeking to respond to the asylum seekers who were put in Bangor by the Home Office after arriving in the UK.

3. Poverty relief. Relieving poverty by accessible schemes and programmes of vocational and educational training:
 - Provided one-to-one and small peer group training on 92 occasions build capacity, skills and knowledge of local community group volunteers.
 - Made 202 foodbank referrals for people in poverty who required food.
 - Distributed 101 warm packs of clothing for people on benefits or from vulnerable groups.
 - Supported people in need and crisis with electric, gas, white-goods, and meal vouchers.
 - Signposted 279 people on to Advice services.
 - Secured resources to help people at risk of homelessness remain in their homes and maintain their tenancy.
 - Launched Community Café in town centre for people in need.

4. Networking. Promoting cooperation and networking between voluntary and community organisations and others:
 - NDCN are members of Bangor Surestart Management Committee, members of the Borough Community Planning Poverty Forum group, members of Bangor Connects (stakeholders in Bangor exploring regeneration of the town), Asylum Seeker group and Ukrainian Support group.
 - Hosted 7 Community Practitioner meetings consisting of 5 volunteer led Community Associations from areas of need.
 - NDCN attended 5 regional meetings with Network Organisations across Northern Ireland.
 - Hosted 4 Mental Health Forum meetings to share best practice and collate information to maximise the ability of member groups to signpost people on to support and services.

5. Organisational help. Helping to address the needs of voluntary and community organisations:
 - Supported groups with 49 applications for funding.
 - Supported 13 groups with Charity Commission returns to ensure regulations were met.
 - Conducted examination of accounts for 17 groups and organisations.
 - Conducted 101 Access NI checks for groups and organisations.
 - On 315 occasions met with community groups and organisations for training, support and capacity development.
 - Supported community groups with applications to support their activities in responding to communities and residents and their needs emerging from the cost-of-living crisis and ongoing impact of COVID.

Financial review (including reserves policy)

NDCN can do all this because it receives funding from the Department for Communities, the Public Health Agency, the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, The National Lottery Community Fund, Dept of Health via Community Foundation for NI, Children In Need, Ards and North Down Borough Council. It is thus dependent on these funders for its ability to operate. NDCN also has a small income via donations which are used to top-up and covered unfunded costs.

NDCN has established the minimum level of free 'special' reserves that the charity ought to have. This is the level of unrestricted general funds which should normally be at least enough to cover the cost of closure (which would include the next three months of the estimated running costs for committed overheads plus that amount of money which would cover staff redundancies). After being reviewed last year, the 2022-23 this reserve amount was set at £26,000. This will be reviewed again in the coming year.

Going concern note. The organisation had additional costs over the period which arose due to cost of living increases, staff costs and a reduction in some funding that available the previous year. NDCN will be continue their efforts to achieve and maintain financial sustainability.

Plans for future periods

NDCN's future plans are to continue to deliver appropriate routine, reactive and/or proactive services and, in order to be able to do this, to continue to source support where it can but to work as efficiently as possible within the limits of the funding it manages to obtain.

Disclosure of information to the examiner

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 auditors 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.

In approving the Trustees' Annual Report, we also approve the Strategic Report included therein, in our capacity as company directors.*

On behalf of the board

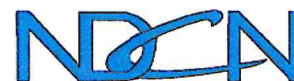


Valerie Miskimmon MBE
Chairperson

North Down Community Network

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102333

Annual return



Independent Examiner's Report to the North Down Community Network

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 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'.

Adam McDowell FCCA
Independent Examiner
For and on behalf of Hamilton Morris Waugh Chartered Certified Accountants,
34 Dufferin Avenue
Bangor
Co Down
BT20 3AA
14/12/2023