

# COALISLAND LEARN AND LEISURE ASSOCIATION

## ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

1<sup>st</sup> APRIL 2022 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2023

### PURPOSES

The Association was established to promote to the benefit of the inhabitants of Coalisland and its environs (hereinafter described as "the area of benefit) without distinction of age, sex, race, political, religious, or other opinions, by associating with statutory authorities and voluntary organisations in a common effort to provide facilities where people can meet to socialise and learn in a recreational setting with the object of improving the life of the said inhabitants.

### Public Benefits

Under our Purposes: Coalisland Learn and Leisure Association provides a variety of craft classes involving sewing, knitting and crochet. Currently we provide two classes a week ranging from crochet and patchwork to knitting and dressmaking. All classes are supervised by competent and suitably qualified tutors so that participants can improve their skills. Included in each session is time for refreshments and chat. The Association also engages with a number of other Agencies who provide speakers on topics such as home safety, health and wellbeing, looking after oneself and entitlements available. We also have an exhibition of the best of our work every year to give the public an opportunity to see the crafts and maybe join us. We also try to arrange outings/trips each year.

### Beneficiaries

The Charity's beneficiaries are primarily older/retired people living in and around the Coalisland area of Mid-Ulster District.

### Activities

The year we have tried to re gather our members to classes, as many of those are older, there is a certain hesitancy and nervousness in re-joining in group activities. We encourage them to drop in for a cuppa and chat if they don't want to stay for the class. We ensure members feel comfortable if they wish to wear a mask or socially distance. It was decided by the committee and trustees we would meet any shortfall for expenses (wages and rent) from our comfortable bank balance for this financial year. The committee and the trustees decided at meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September we would look into opening an account with Coalisland Credit Union. We were having difficulty getting answers to some queries from Santander. You had to contact them by phone, rather than a local branch, this involved hanging on the telephone for on at least two occasions for over two hours. The Credit Union appealed to us because you had actual person to person contact. We moved to a Credit Union Account in October and find it very satisfactory. We had a very enjoyable Christmas

Lunch in the Glenavon Hotel. We continued our personal knitting and sewing projects as well as work for various Charities, including Premature Baby Unit of CHU, Marie Curie, Christian Aid and blankets for Nursing Homes. Unfortunately at the end of February we were saddened by the death of our esteemed member and chair Yvonne O'Neill. Yvonne had been a founder member and fully committed, hardworking member for the last forty years. May she rest in peace.

FINANCIAL REVIEW AT THE END OF YEAR: The Association continues to operate for the local community.

OUTSTANDING DEBTS AND LIABILITIES: There are no outstanding debts or liabilities.

RESERVES POLICY: A small reserve of money is retained in the group's account to ensure we can continue to operate.

FUNDS IN MATERIAL DEFICIT AND STEPS TAKEN TO MITIGATE: There were no funds in material deficit. No mitigation required.

FUNDS HELD BY THE CHARITY AS A CUSTODIAN TRUSTEES: None N/A

RESTRICTIONS ON WHO CAN BENEFIT: There are none

PUBLIC BENEFIT: The direct benefits which flow from our purposes include: improved socialising and networking skills, improved health and wellbeing, improved ability and confidence in new skills in craftwork.

PRIVATE BENEFIT: There is no private benefit to any individual.

HARM: No harm has occurred.

SERIOUS INCIDENT REPORTING: There are no serious incidents to report.

VULNERABLE BENEFICIARIES: Appropriate procedures and policies are in place

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE: The trustees have complied with their duty to have regard to the Charity Commission NI's Public Benefit Guidance when exercising powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

*Ethna M<sup>c</sup> Crory*  
SIGNED..... Chairperson of Trustees. Date..... *25/1/24*  
*Ethna M<sup>c</sup> Crory*