

Survivors (North West)

Northern Ireland · Charity number 102882

Details

Status Overdue

Registered 2015-08-18

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

Contact

Address Survivors (North West)
Progressive House
25 The Diamond
Derry City
Northern Ireland
Bt48 6hp
BT48 6HP

Phone 07833503372

Email bjpeace712@hotmail.com

Activities

Purposes: THE PURPOSES OF THE ORGANISATION ARE: To assist, support and advise through Information, Education and Advocacy, Survivors of Institutional Abuse Develop and inspire Civic Values and encouraging involvement of its members in Voluntary and Community activity

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

How the charity works: Counselling/support, General charitable purposes, Welfare/benevolent

Who the charity helps: Addictions (drug/solvent/alcohol abuse), Mental health, Older people, Specific areas of deprivation, Victim support

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2022-04-06	£13,904	£13,683	£0	0

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Mr Don Browne		
Mr John Heaney		
Mr Jon Mccourt		
Will		

Survivors (North West)

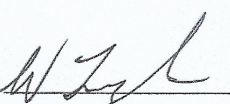
Northern Ireland - Charity number 102882

Accounts

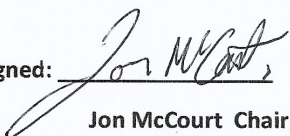
Survivors (North West)

Statement of accounts from 6th April 2021 to 6th April 2022

		Income	
A/C Balance at 6th April 2021			£404.59
<u>Deposits</u>			
TEO	£13500		
		Grand Total Balance	£13904.59
<u>Expenditure/Outlay</u>			
Residentials	£6837.89		
Programme costs/Day Trips	£1732.61		
Travel/Mileage	£471.87		
Bus Hire	£1100.00		
Publicity and Printing	£96.46		
Insurance	£317.76		
Welfare/Oil, Gas, Electric, Coal	£2642.00		
Bank Charges	£90.00		
Reimbursement TEO	£394.92		
Total Expenditure	£13683.51	Balance Total	£13904.59
		Account Balance at Bank 09/04/22	£221.08

Signed: 

William Lynch Treasurer

Signed: 

Jon McCourt Chairperson

Survivors (North West)

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102882

Accounts

Survivors (North West)

Statement of accounts from 21 April 2020 to 6th April 2021

Income			
A/C Balance at 6th April 2021			£4506.62
<u>Deposits</u>			
TEO	£5000		
		<u>Grand Total Balance</u>	£9506.62
<u>Expenditure/Outlay</u>			
Residential	£2339.02		
Travel/Mileage	£659.15		
Publicity and Printing	£85.87		
Insurance	£307.99		
Welfare:oil, Gas, Electric, Coal	£2840.00		
Wreaths, Flowers, Cards	£100.00		
Bank Charges	£90.00		
Reimbursement to Developing Healthy Cities (Not Spent COVID)	£2680.00		
Total Expenditure	£9102.03	Balance Total	£9506.62
		Account Balance at Bank 21/04/21	£404.59

Signed: 

William Lynch' Treasurer

Signed 

Jon McCourt Chairperson

Survivors (North West)

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102882

Annual report

**Survivors
(North West)
2020-2021**

Charity Number 102882
Date Registered 18/08/15

About us

Survivors (North West) is a Support and Advocacy organisation established to assist Victims and Survivors of Historical Institutional Abuse who suffered abuse as children while "in care" in residential homes and Institutions in Northern Ireland. The group, representing Victims and Survivors from the North West was originally part of a province wide organisation that was formed in 2009 seeking an Inquiry into Historical Institutional Abuse. The Northern Ireland Assembly agreed to hold an Inquiry into Historical Institutional Abuse commencing in 2013. Survivors (North West) became an autonomous organisation with its own constitution in December 2014 and applied for and was granted Charity Status by the Northern Ireland Charity Commission in August 2015. Until funding through the Small Grants Scheme under the then Office of the First and Deputy First Minister (OFMDFM) the group had a very small budget raised through voluntary donations from members and supporters. We now receive an annual funding from The Executive Office of €10,000 per year. We do no other fundraising. This funding is subject to renewal at the discretion of The Executive Office (TEO). Because of COVID and Lockdown in 2020 there were limited opportunities for the group to spend the full allocation so we received the first instalment of €5000 from the Executive Office. Survivors (North West) meets on a weekly basis at the WAVE Trauma Centre in Bishop Street on a Friday, between 10.00am and 1.00pm It is a casual drop-in service, where members can call in for information, updates, social time, catch up conversation and to draw on the services provided by WAVE, to seek Welfare Rights Advice from Advice NI, whose representative is available every two weeks. On any given week attendance can be between 10 and 20 members. Refreshments, Tea, Coffee, Sandwiches are available. It is well used as many of our members live alone so it is an opportunity to socialise as well as having experienced staff to deal with any issues or queries they may have.

COVID 19

Our last full meeting was in the WAVE Centre on March 20th 2020, the following week the COVID 19 Emergency struck and preventing all meetings and gatherings. This happened just over a week from the Historical Institutional Abuse Redress Process was due to start accepting applications. The First and Deputy First Ministers announced that the Redress Process would open for applications on the 31st March 2020. The Executive Office had prepared us for the announcement a few weeks earlier. But they had originally envisioned an online process which they believed would be straight forward. We had been working with civil servants at The Executive Office, David Sterling, Head of the Civil Service (HOCS), the newly appointed Interim Advocate, Brendan McAllister, Rosetta Trust and Survivors Together (two Victim/Survivor Groups from Belfast) for months simplifying the application form particularly for older and less literate Victims and Survivors. Those who had attended the Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry in Banbridge, that had concluded in July 2016, could rely on the evidence they had given to the Inquiry, with the option of adding additional information as their "Statement of Experience" on which a decision on a Redress Payment would be made. They had to contact a solicitor and furnish an original birth Certificate and photo ID and their Statement of Experience, all of which would be certified by the solicitor then uploaded online to the Redress Board Platform. Solicitor's offices were closed, many of the applicants never held a passport and some had great difficulty obtaining or retrieving an original copy of their Birth Certificate, particularly those who had been placed in Residential Institutions directly from Mother and Baby Homes or those who had been placed from homes in the Irish Republic. Those who had not been to the inquiry now had to find a way of recalling and recording events from decades ago and putting them into a Statement of Experience, obtaining their Birth Certificate and Photo ID and getting them to a solicitor to make the application. Initially we wrote to the Institutions where children were placed seeking information on their behalf, some were very co-operative others less so. Some of the records from the HIA Inquiry were at the Public Records Office Northern Ireland in Belfast but they were in the process of digitising those records and due to COVID were working with a skeleton staff, then we were making applications for Free Bus Passes for those that were over 60

years old as that was a form of Photo ID that the Redress Board would accept. Thankfully caseworkers at WAVE and the Victim Support Service were an invaluable asset when called on to assist in this mammoth and gruelling task.

Over the first couple of months of COVID, as well as checking in on our members, we were able to streamline an effective method of getting applications to solicitor's offices which were closed to the public but were still functioning. The first payments from the Redress Board were made in early May 2020. Phone calls, messages and emails, Local, National and International dealing with applications were the norm for the next few months as well as constant contact with the Executive Office, TEO Staff, the Redress Board Secretary, David Sterling (HOCS), the Interim Advocate, solicitors and Victims and Survivors. Due to COVID, all of our activities were put on hold. We got permission from TEO to reallocate funding from Activities to meeting the welfare needs of our members, with their agreement, part the allocation of funding was used to buy Coal, Oil, Gas and Electric for our members most of whom were permanently at home due to the enforced lock down.

The first break that came was in August when a hotel in Donegal had a staged opening and we were able to book 2 nights there as long as everyone tested negative and we adapted the COVID Protocols: Masks and Hand Sanitizer. While there were zoom meetings held it was imperative that we continued to meet in person with TEO, The Interim Advocate, and the Redress board to sort issues related to the Redress Process which was at one stage almost overwhelming. We also, through arrangement made by the Interim Advocates office, had separate meetings in Belfast the President of the Redress Board and with the representatives of 3 of the Religious Residential Institutions. Among the reasons for this was to ensure that they were reminded that Sir Anthony Hart had stated that they should make an appropriate contribution to the Redress Scheme. In line with the recommendation from the Ryan Report, Fiona Ryan was appointed as the Commissioner for Survivors of Institutional Childhood Abuse on the 14th December 2020. We met with her the following week. A decision was taken at the meeting with the agreement of available members on Friday 27th March 2021 that as a result of COVID restrictions, no Annual General Meeting would be held and that the Management Committee would stay in place for the following year. The Management Committee have agreed.

Treasurers Remarks

Covid impacted badly on this year's program. At the outset realising that many of our members would be housebound because of the lockdown, we sought and were granted permission from The Executive Office to reallocate money from the budget to meeting their welfare needs. So oil, gas, electric and coal were purchased at a cost of E2840.00. I worked with the Chairman and Secretary to reach out to as many members as possible to ensure they were safe, we also delivered hard copies of the Redress Application Forms across the city and in Donegal until there was a block on traffic leaving without good purpose. In August we were able to get a residential weekend at a hotel in Donegal. It proved to be a welcome break for our members who had felt really isolated during that phase of the lockdown.

Unfortunately, the money, E2680, we had been allocated from the Developing Healthy Cities Programme arrived too late and there wasn't time to develop the programme we had hoped would meet their funding criteria so it had to be returned. As of 21st April 2021 we have a balance in the bank of E404.59. we hope that next year will be a better year for us all. Sadly this year we had 2 funerals to attend of former residents of local Institutions.

Independent Examiner

In accordance with the decision of the Management Committee at the meeting held remotely on 27th March 2021 Lucinda Dougan has agreed to act as an independent Examiner for our accounts this year. Her Report and the Accounts are attached below.

Will Lynch (Treasurer)

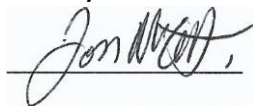
Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Cash Assets at Santander The Diamond Derry 6th April 2021 €404.59 Survivors (North West) have no other cash assets.

We have no other assets property or equipment of value

At this time there are no outstanding debts.

Approved and adopted by a meeting of the Management Committee on Friday 27th March 2021 and signed on their behalf.



Jon McCourt. Chairperson.

Survivors (North West)

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102882

Annual return

Independent examiners report to the charity trustees of Survivors (North West)

I report on the accounts of the Survivors (North West) for the year ending 6th April 2021 which is set out below.

Respective responsibilities of charity Trustees and examiner.

As the charities trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

Examine the accounts under Section 65 of the Charities Act.

Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Commissioner under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners 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.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as charity Trustees concerning and such matters.

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

That the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act.

That the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act.

That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiners statement.

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 of Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Signed	<u><i>L. Doherty</i></u>	Address	<u>ADVICE NI</u>
Print	<u>L DOHERTY</u>		<u>FORESTVIEW, PURNUS LAWS</u>
Date	<u>30/04/2021</u>		<u>NEWTONBOROUGH, BELFAST</u>
			<u>BT8 7AR</u>

Survivors (North West)

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102882

Accounts

Survivors (North West)

Statement of Accounts from 06 April 2019 to 06 April 2020

Income

A/C Balance at 06 April 2019 £770.67

Deposits

TEO	£15000.00
Donegal County Council	£206.96
Developing Healthy Cities	£2680.00
Bank Interest	£2.55

Total £17889.51

Grand Total

£18660.18

Expenditure/Outlay

Residential's £7032.81

Programme Costs/Day Trips £1899.08

Travel/Mileage £770.63

Bus Hire £1060.00

Publicity and Printing £124.69

Insurance £302.29

Wreaths, Flowers, Cards £169.75

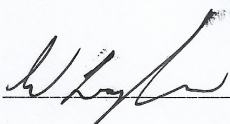
Bank Charges £90.00

Total £14153.56

£14153.56

Account Balance at bank 06/04/20

£4506.62

Signed:  William Lynch
(Treasurer)

Signed:  Jon McCourt
(Chairperson)

Survivors (North West)

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102882

Annual report

Annual Report

Survivors (North West) 2019-2020

**Charity no. 102882
Date registered. 18/08/2015**

About us: Survivors (North West) is a Support and Advocacy Organisation established to assist Victims and Survivors of Historical Institutional Abuse who suffered abuse as children while “in care” in residential homes and Institutions in Northern Ireland. The group, representing Victims and Survivors from the North West was originally part of a province wide organisation that was formed in 2009 seeking an Inquiry into Historical Institutional Abuse. The Northern Ireland Assembly agreed to hold an Inquiry into Historical Institutional Abuse commencing in 2013. Survivors (North West) became an autonomous organisation with its own constitution in December 2014 and applied for and was granted Charity Status by the Northern Ireland Charity Commission in August 2015. Until funding through the Small Grants Scheme under the then Office of the First and Deputy First Minister (OFMDFM) the group had a very small budget raised through voluntary donations from members and supporters.

We now receive an annual funding from The Executive Office of £10,000 per year. We do no other fundraising. This funding is subject to renewal at the discretion of The Executive Office (TEO).

The Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry Report was released in January 2017. Two years later there has been no action on any of the recommendations contained in that report. This was due to the collapse of the Northern Ireland Executive before the report could be reviewed by the First and Deputy First Ministers and approved by Ministers of the Northern Ireland Executive.

Survivors (North West) welcomed the findings contained in the Report, however, we felt that the many of the recommendations fell short of meeting the current and future needs of Victims and Survivors of Historical Institutional Abuse. Early in 2016 we engaged with other interested parties to create proposals that would reflect the needs of Victims and Survivors. These included Rosetta Trust (Belfast) Patrick Corrigan (Amnesty International) Professor

Patricia Lundy (Ulster University) KRW Law (Belfast) Professor Kathleen Mahoney (University of Calgary) and other individual Victims and Survivors collectively “The Panel of Experts on Redress” (POER).

Subsequent to the release of the Historical Institutional Abuse Report the Panel of Experts on Redress, again consulted widely with Victims and Survivors on the way forward and on amending the recommendations contained in the Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry Report and working with The Executive Office (TEO) discussing effective mechanisms for their delivery.

The collapse of the Northern Ireland Executive days before the release of the Hart Report left decisions on legislation and finance with the Northern Ireland Civil Service and ultimately with David Sterling (HOCS) Head of the Northern Ireland Civil Service. The Panel of Experts on Redress met continually to find a way forward and members of the panel have met frequently with The Executive Office and with David Sterling (HOCS). Subsequent to his commitment from a meeting in August 2019, and the approval of the Secretary of State, would draft legislation which would hopefully progress the recommendations in the Historical Institutional Abuse Report through, either a reformed Northern Ireland Executive and Assembly, or failing that for action by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland at Westminster. It was hoped to see urgent progress by the Autumn of 2018. The collapse of the Northern Ireland Executive due to the resignation of the Deputy First Minister meant that there was no functioning Assembly. We continued to push for substantive discussions to take place on Redress and the rest of the recommendations of the Hart Report. In 2017 we had 2 meetings with James Brokenshire as the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, each time we were told he was powerless in the absence of an Executive to implement the recommendations in the report. That is was a matter best dealt with by a local functioning Assembly and Executive. He was totally resistant when we demanded that the legislation required could be passed by Westminster. The approach was similar from his replacement as Secretary of State who we met with on three occasions. Initially she said Westminster wasn't an option, a view apparently upheld at a Judicial Review into whether she had the power to implement the Recommendations. Eventually after many discussions with The Executive Office

and David Sterling, the Secretary of State agreed that HOCS should proceed to draft legislation with the support of all of the political parties. She responded to the first draft by sending questions to each of the political parties and having got responses to her queries, on the day we were meeting her at Stormont, sending further and requests for clarification to the parties on the details of the proposed legislation. We were in no doubt that The Secretary of State was using the legislation as a tool to get a coalition of the unwilling around one table to reform an Executive. It didn't work, but David Sterling, The Executive Office and political parties had come up with a draft Bill for the implementation of the Hart recommendations. Then a new Secretary of State was appointed in July 2019, Julian Smith was like a breath of fresh air. The earlier Judicial Review finding was reserved and eventually decreed with the "Estoppel Principle" that "there was a failure to act on the legitimate expectation" that Sir Anthony Hart had created when he announced at the launch of the Historical Institutional Abuse Report that he expected the roll out of the recommendations by November 2017. The Secretary of State could take the Legislation to Westminster. After serious and engaged consultation involving The Secretary of State, the Political Parties, the Panel of Experts on Redress, Survivors (North West), Rosetta Trust and Survivors Together and Victims and Survivors, legislation, including the changes that we had insisted be made to the original draft legislation finally made its way to Westminster. Then the Prime Minister, Boris Johnston illegitimately collapsed parliament and it appeared that we would have to wait until a new election before the Historical Institutional Abuse Bill 2019 would see the light of day. A lot more lobbying and meetings with political parties and the Secretary of State, then parliament was recalled by The Speaker, as it had been found to have been illegally shut down. On the last day of the "Boris Johnston" Parliament on the 5th of November 2019 after a powerful and emotional speech by the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Julian Smith, the legislation passed unopposed and without amendment. The Historical Institutional Abuse (Northern Ireland) Act became law and received Royal Assent. In consultation with HOCS, TEO, the political Parties, The Panel of Experts on Redress, Rosetta Trust, Survivors Together, Survivors (North West) worked on the application and delivery mechanism for the redress process. The Application Process opened on the 31st of March 2020, 5 months after the legislation was passed and 11 years after the first approach had been made to

The Northern Ireland Assembly to hold an Inquiry into Historical Institutional Abuse.

Brendan McAllister was appointed as the Interim Advocate for Victims and Survivors of Historical Institutional Abuse, taking up the role in August 2019. He was appointed by David Sterling (HOCS). His role is to act as an independent voice for Victims and Survivors and to represent victims and survivors of Historical Institutional Abuse and lobby for the implementation of the recommendations from the Hart Inquiry. The group went to Belfast to meet with Brendan shortly after his appointment. The first issue we raised was the consultation on the Legislation that was being prepared.

Report of Activities and Events

The Group meets weekly at the WAVE Trauma Centre and is well attended by members. On any given week between 10 and 20 members can come through the meeting. It is an opportunity to ensure that members are managing alright and to update them on any new developments, information from TEO and other matters. Survivors (North West) at its meeting at the Wave Centre offers an informal drop-in service, conversation, discussion, information and updates on the latest developments for Victims and Survivors of Historical Institutional Abuse. Refreshments are provided.

The staff from Advice NI are an invaluable asset to the group. Their patience and empathy are amazing. Members have remarked on the assistance that they have been given with regard to benefit entitlement and claims. Some even finding that there were benefits that they were entitled to that they didn't even know about. They have also continued to work with some members on family tracing and the search for personal records as these are going to be required as the Redress Process rolls out. They were also helpful when it came to suggestions on the design and format of the application for Redress applications.

The counselling and support provided at the WAVE Centre is also well utilised.

Since the release of the Historical Institutional Abuse Report in January 2017 and increasingly since the Passing of the Historical Institutional Abuse Act in November 2019 there have been many requests for information and advice. These have come from former residents of Institutions now living in the Irish Republic, Britain and further afield. Particularly interesting have been contacts from former Child Migrants in Australia. We continue to have contact with many Victims and Survivors outside of this jurisdiction as the Redress process, which opened on the 2nd of March, moves forward. The plan was that Redress Application forms would be available on-line, but as most of our members did not have access to computers and few had the ability to use one anyway, that hard copies would be available. We were however able to print off copies for members locally and advise them to consult with a solicitor to get them filled in, It will also require a lot of work from staff at WAVE and Advice NI to help retrieve records, birth Certificates and proper Identification Documents for applicants. This was just about to make the process difficult.

On 20th March the Government declared the COVID emergency.

Offices closed down, solicitors could only work by phone appointments, we were inundated with requests about applications, documents, personal files from Victims and Survivors who had waited so long for this to happen.

Our Annual General Meeting was scheduled to take place on Friday 10th April. Unfortunately, COVID struck and all gatherings were cancelled. Our last group meeting took place on 20th March 2020 and the WAVE Centre was closed. After contacting available members, a committee decision was made to retain the committee officers until the next Annual General Meeting.

Jon McCourt	Chairperson
John Heaney	Secretary
Will Lynch	Treasurer
Don Brown	Welfare Officer

Survivors (North West) AGM

WAVE Trauma Centre

25-30 The Diamond Derry

11.00am 10th April 2020

CANCELLED

DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS

Over the last few weeks we have been able to distribute Redress Application forms to all of our members locally and to many victims and survivors outside of this jurisdiction including Donegal and England, where we contacted local media and the Irish Centres in major cities. We have made the Executive Office and the Redress Board aware of the difficulties caused by the COVID lockdown and they are sympathetic.

In August we organised an daytrip and overnight stay in Donegal. The day started with breakfast in Creeslough and a bus trip to the Workhouse in Dunfanaghy which many members found interesting. Followed by a boat trip on the lake at Dunlewey and lunch in Dunfanaghy then back for an overnight stay at the Inishowen Gateway. Most of our group are between 60 and 70 years old and many live alone. This is a break from social isolation and gives them the opportunity to relax in a completely different environment.

Because extra funding was made available by The Executive office it was possible to bring a group of 22 members to Dublin for a two night stay which we used for updates and evaluation on the implementation of the HIA Legislation in December and a Christmas meal was provided at Brunswick Superbowl in Derry.

There were meetings in Belfast with The Executive Office, the newly appointed Interim Advocate, Brendan McAllister, the Chairman of the Redress Board Judge Colton and his staff to familiarise ourselves with them and establish a working relationship. We also met with party leaders and their delegates appointed to deal with Historical Institutional Abuse issues, even though there is no functioning

Executive or Assembly, to continue to put pressure on them to ensure that they keep Victims and Survivors of Historical Institutional Abuse on their agenda.

Public Benefit

The profile of Survivors (North West) has ensured that there is an awareness of Historical Institutional Abuse. It has prompted many discussions and there have been opportunities to discuss it within the community sector. Frequent requests for media interviews offer opportunities for discussion in the public realm. It forms part of public discourse at events on Human Rights, Child Protection and Justice including seminars and conferences. The opportunity of visiting schools and community projects are welcome chances to highlight not only the experience itself but the difficulties that former residents of Institutions have faced in coping not only with a traumatic past but fitting into society as a result of their experiences. Involvement in Survivors (North West) limits social isolation, develops new interests and empowers our members to make better choices. It also offers companionship and support. The services and resources through statutory provision, that are available to assist them, are negligible and professional counselling and practical help is not something that any agency seems willing to prioritise. Waiting lists for counselling seem to grow ever longer and limited to a small number of sessions for each client. That is why the service at the WAVE Centre is invaluable to some of our members. It is hoped that with additional funding more help can be made available outside the current statutory provision. The role of the counsellors at the WAVE Centre is an extremely important stopgap for our members but unfortunately is limited by currently available resources. All of this adds to the greater urgency of seeing the roll out of the Redress Scheme for Victims and Survivors of Historical Institutional Abuse and the delivery of service provision included in the Recommendations of the Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry Report. As well as financial Redress we will hopefully see the development of a bespoke service that will address the needs of Victims and Survivors of Historical Institutional Abuse in the long term. The personal media and community outreach has gained us vital significant public support and increased understanding on an issue that was for too long buried in the mists of shame and history. As we inform those we meet, we change attitudes not just in communities and individuals but in ourselves. Engagement has led to members taking up other activities and volunteering in community projects.

Jon McCourt
Chairperson

Treasurers Remarks
Survivors (North West)
AGM 2019-2020

Opening balance this year was £770.67. Once again, additional funding from the Executive Office allowed us to have extra spend in the programme which meant we could have a residential in Dublin. We also received funding from The Developing Healthy Cities Initiative but unfortunately because of the lateness of the funding and restrictions on its criteria for use, time did not allow it to be spent so it will be returned to the funder. Once again were glad to see an increased uptake among members in events. Although there has been no change in the situation at Stormont with no Executive or Assembly in place, we continue to press for the implementation of the recommendations from the Hart Report. That means a more determined effort has been made to influence policy makers, MLA's and what seems to have been a revolving door of Secretaries of State, so more meetings in Belfast seem to have become the rule rather than the exception. So travel expenses including the bus for the group to meet with the new Interim Advocate Brendan McAllister have seen an increase from the previous year. At this time there has been no call for applications for funding for this year and with the COVID outbreak and its possible restrictions, we do not know when it will happen. The account balance as of 6th April 2020 is £4506.62, of which £2680 will be returned to The Developing Healthy Cities Initiative as we were unable to spend it in time due to it arriving too late to develop a programme that met its criteria.

In accordance with the decision of the Management Committee at the meeting held on 20th March 2020 Lucinda Dougan has agreed to act as an independent Examiner for our accounts this year. Her Report and the Accounts are attached below.

Will Lynch (Treasurer)

Survivors (North West)

Northern Ireland - Charity number 102882

Annual return

Independent examiners report to the charity trustees of Survivors (North West)

I report on the accounts of the Survivors (North West) for the year ending 6th April 2020 which is set out below.

Respective responsibilities of charity Trustees and examiner.

As the charities trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

Examine the accounts under Section 65 of the Charities Act.

Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Commissioner under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiners 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.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as charity Trustees concerning and such matters.

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

That the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act.

That the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act.

That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiners statement.

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 of Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Signed	<u>K. Dougan</u>	Address	<u>ANI</u>
Print	<u>L. DOUGAN</u>		<u>PURNIS LANE</u>
Date	<u>10/04/2020</u>		<u>NEWTONBOLENA, BELFAST</u>
			<u>BT8 7AR</u>