

**Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**  
**Financial Statements**  
**31 March 2024**

# **Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

## **Financial Statements**

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

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# **Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

## **Trustees' Annual Report**

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

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The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

### **Reference and administrative details**

**Registered charity name** Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group

**Charity registration number** 103386

**Principal office** Omagh Community House  
2 Drumragh Avenue  
Omagh  
County Tyrone  
BT78 1DP

### **The trustees**

Timea Galambos  
Jimmy Law  
Rowena Barrun  
Andrea de los Santos  
Lorena Cassidy  
Danuta Kelly  
Christine Rodgers  
Allan Rainey  
Joni Beatty (Resigned 6 July 2023)  
Andrea Ketyiova (Appointed 6 July 2023)

**Independent examiner** Nial Colhoun  
Watson & Colhoun  
Unit B15, Omagh Enterprise Centre  
Great Northern Road  
Omagh  
County Tyrone  
BT78 5LU

# **Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

## **Trustees' Annual Report** *(continued)*

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

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### **Structure, governance and management**

i) **Governing document**

Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group (OECSG) was established in 1998 and registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland on the 24th September 2015. The governing document of the charity is its Constitution.

ii) **Recruitment and appointment of trustees**

Trustees are appointed at each annual general meeting.

iii) **Trustees induction and training**

New members of OECSG Management Committee are provided with a copy of the Constitution and policy document outlining the relevant responsibilities of Committee members and Office Holders. The Manager of OECSG will ensure that new members are properly briefed and provided with the necessary induction and training to carry out their duties.

iv) **Risk management**

The major risk facing OECSG is the uncertainty over funding from government bodies which the charity is dependent on. New streams of funding are constantly researched and sourced to enable our work to continue.

v) **Organisational structure**

At present there are nine trustees who serve on the management committee who meet on a regular basis and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity as outlined in the Constitution.

vi) **Related Parties**

All Management Committee meetings include a "conflict of interest" obligation for members to declare should it be required.

### **Objectives and activities**

The charity's objective and principal activity is to offer support to ethnic minority groups and their supportive organisations primarily within the Omagh district area, but also including County Tyrone and the whole of Northern Ireland. They do this by:

a) Promoting good relations in Northern Ireland;

b) Endeavouring to eliminate isolation and discrimination on the grounds of race in the area of benefit; and

c) Encouraging equality of opportunity within the area of benefit between people of different racial groups.

The trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the aims and objectives of the charity and in planning for future activities.



# **Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

## **Trustees' Annual Report** *(continued)*

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

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### **Achievements and performance**

#### **Overview**

The period 2023-2024 has brought some much needed political stability to Northern Ireland with the return to normal activity of the Executive and the Stormont Assembly. This is very welcome, especially for the voluntary/community sector of which we are a part. However, the pressure on budgetary allocations continues to have a negative impact for many organizations dependent on the Executive Office for their continuing work and this inevitably manifests itself with the delayed transfer of approved funds. Thankfully, OECSG has been managing to deal positively with this issue as we strive to provide the best possible service to our members.

During this past year we have had a significant increase in demand for immigration advice and support and this is clearly the result of a lot more people seeking residency status here, with many of those new arrivals coming in through Dublin and then deciding to travel on to Northern Ireland, very often to join family members or friends.

Important events that were organized by our group included the visit of the Hungarian Ambassador to the UK to Omagh where he was greeted by a large contingent of the Hungarian community residing in the Omagh District Area who prepared a special welcoming programme.

Another important event was the Polish Consulate requesting OECSG staff member, Karolina Wenta, to coordinate Omagh Community House as a voting centre for the Polish parliamentary elections held on 15 October 2023 with almost 600 eligible voters availing of the opportunity to exercise their franchise.

We are grateful to all the volunteers and people who continue to support our work, especially our management committee who help to keep our organization strong. Special mention must be given to our Chairperson, Jimmy Law, who works incessantly to guide us in the right direction.

#### **Advice & Advocacy**

Our advice centre is the focal point of our work and is providing our members with the support they need in every aspect of their immediate needs, including employment, housing, health, education, access to public services and social welfare entitlements. This year we have assisted more than 200 people with immigration and residency support in partnership with South Tyrone Empowerment Programme (STEP).

The total number of recorded enquiries dealt with through our office for the 2023-2024 year was 2073, an increase of 10 percent over the previous year. It must be remembered that the great majority of our clients do not have English as their first language and were provided with interpreter support, to ensure the optimum outcome for their needs.

#### **Activities & Events**

Over the 2023-2024 period OECSG organized a wide range of social and cultural activities and events including:

- Ethnic Halloween in Community House with 120 attendees
- Christmas gathering in St. Joseph's Hall with 300 people
- Chinese New Year in Community House with 120 in attendance
- Family outing to Mela Cultural Festival Belfast
- Hungarian Saturday School organized for 20 children Sept 23- June 24
- 8 Cultural Diversity presentations
- Organized elector centre in Community House for Polish parliamentary elections

# **Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

## **Trustees' Annual Report** *(continued)*

### **Year ended 31 March 2024**

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#### **Training/Capacitation**

OECSG organized a wide range of training and skills courses during 2023-24 to provide our members with better opportunities to access employment. This support is vital to help them to integrate more fully into the local community. These included:

- 4 ESOL courses benefiting 55 students funded by Radius Housing
- 4 wellbeing courses delivered: 2 Pilates courses with 38 participants; 1 Yoga course with 18 people and 1 Recreational Spanish course with 12 participants
- Food Hygiene training with 13 people receiving certificates.

#### **Networking**

To ensure that the rights of ethnic minorities are respected and upheld, OECSG networks with different groups within the community/voluntary sector locally and regionally. This helps us to make maximum use of the resources available from both the statutory and community sector and this collaborative work has enabled us to identify the wider needs of ethnic groups and offer practical responses and make important referrals to other bodies when required. The principal groups we network with include:

- STEP Dungannon in the provision of immigration advice and support
- Radius Housing in the delivery of training and cultural activities
- Good Relations Team Fermanagh & Omagh District Council supporting project work
- Chinese Welfare Association, Filipino Community Association promoting cultural outreach.

#### **Financial review**

##### **Funding**

In April we completed the second year of our 3 year funding award from the Minority Ethnic Development Fund which runs until April 2025. We completed all the requisite progress reports and final claims to ensure that we availed 100% of our award amount which covers 3 staff salaries and our utility and rent expenditure.

During the 2023-24 period we received project grant awards from different agencies for a total of £22,836 to carry out a wide range of training courses as well as social and cultural events. This included £15,046 from Radius Housing; £3,900 from Halifax Foundation; £1,045 from Fermanagh & Omagh Council; and £2,845 from donations. Under a service level agreement with STEP Dungannon we also received £12,374 to provide immigration advice and support, which we are continuing to do.

#### **Plans for future periods**

##### **Looking to the future**

We expect 2024-2025 to be a challenging period due to budgetary constraints from our core funders at The Executive Office, but we are confident we will face those challenges with the same determination that has allowed us to provide invaluable and vital support and service to all ethnic minority communities in the Fermanagh & Omagh District.

# **Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

## **Trustees' Annual Report** *(continued)*

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

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The trustees' annual report was approved on 26 June 2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

  
Danuta Kelly  
Trustee



# **Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the '2008 Act'). You are satisfied that your charity is not required by charity law to be audited and have chosen instead to have an independent examination.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements as carried out under section 65 of the 2008 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with my examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept as required by with section 63 of the 2008 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of the 2008 Act; or
4. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Nial Colhoun  
Independent Examiner

Watson & Colhoun  
Unit B15, Omagh Enterprise Centre  
Great Northern Road  
Omagh  
County Tyrone  
BT78 5LU

*2 July 2024*



# **Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

## **Statement of Financial Activities**

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

			2024		2023
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>					
Donations and legacies	4	2,845	–	2,845	481
Charitable activities	5	5,032	103,984	109,017	107,107
<b>Total income</b>		<u>7,877</u>	<u>103,984</u>	<u>111,862</u>	<u>107,588</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure on charitable activities	6	3,286	107,674	110,962	104,788
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>3,286</u>	<u>107,674</u>	<u>110,962</u>	<u>104,788</u>
<b>Net income and net movement in funds</b>		<u>4,591</u>	<u>(3,690)</u>	<u>900</u>	<u>2,800</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		141	4,841	4,982	2,182
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>4,732</u>	<u>1,151</u>	<u>5,883</u>	<u>4,982</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.  
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 9 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

# Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group

## Statement of Financial Position

31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	10	11,972	14,126
Cash at bank and in hand		2,449	158
		<u>14,421</u>	<u>14,284</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	11	8,539	9,302
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>5,882</u>	<u>4,982</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>5,882</u>	<u>4,982</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted funds		1,151	4,841
Unrestricted funds		4,732	141
<b>Total charity funds</b>	12	<u>5,883</u>	<u>4,982</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 26 June 2024, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Jimmy Law  
Trustee

The notes on pages 9 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

# **Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

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### **1. General information**

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in Northern Ireland and is unincorporated. The address of the principal office is Omagh Community House, 2 Drumragh Avenue, Omagh, County Tyrone, BT78 1DP.

### **2. Statement of compliance**

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the 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 (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

### **3. Accounting policies**

#### **Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

#### **Going concern**

Funding from The Executive Office has been secured and is guaranteed until March 2025. Applications have been made to other bodies such as Fermanagh Omagh District Council and the charity are confident that this funding will be secured. The directors therefore conclude that based on the above secured funding combined with reserves already held, the accounts should be prepared on a going concern basis.

#### **Disclosure exemptions**

The entity satisfies the criteria of being a qualifying entity as defined in FRS 102. As such, advantage has been taken of the disclosure exemption available under paragraph 1.12 of FRS 102 which allows no cash flow statement to be presented for the charity.

#### **Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported. These estimates and judgements are continually reviewed and are based on experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

#### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

# Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group

## Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

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### 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

#### Incoming resources

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.

- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

#### Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes VAT, and is classified under the heading 'Expenditure on charitable activities' in the Statement of Financial Activities. This includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

### 4. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
<b>Donations</b>				
Members contributions and donations	<u>2,845</u>	<u>2,845</u>	<u>481</u>	<u>481</u>

### 5. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
The Executive Office	–	74,652	74,652
Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	6	1,039	1,045
British Red Cross	–	2,000	2,000
EUSS Programme	2,380	9,993	12,374
Lottery Funding	2,646	(2,646)	–
Radius & Apex Housing Association	–	15,046	15,046
Halifax Grant	–	3,900	3,900
	<u>5,032</u>	<u>103,984</u>	<u>109,017</u>



# Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group

## Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

### 5. Charitable activities *(continued)*

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
The Executive Office	720	73,261	73,981
Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	900	4,850	5,750
British Red Cross	–	2,000	2,000
EUSS Programme	718	10,258	10,976
Lottery Funding	–	9,520	9,520
Radius & Apex Housing Association	–	4,880	4,880
Halifax Grant	–	–	–
	<u>2,338</u>	<u>104,769</u>	<u>107,107</u>

### 6. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Charitable activities	2,941	105,676	108,617
Support costs	345	1,998	2,345
	<u>3,286</u>	<u>107,674</u>	<u>110,962</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Charitable activities	4,860	97,955	102,815
Support costs	–	1,973	1,973
	<u>4,860</u>	<u>99,928</u>	<u>104,788</u>

### 7. Independent examination fees

	2024 £	2023 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>1,590</u>	<u>1,230</u>

### 8. Staff costs

The average head count of employees during the year was 3 (2023: 3).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2023: Nil).

### 9. Trustee remuneration and expenses

During the year one trustee was paid £581 for reimbursement of expenses of for charitable events and travel (2023: £1,152).

# Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group

## Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

### 10. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	<u>11,972</u>	<u>14,126</u>

### 11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts	—	2,544
Social security and other taxes	3,581	2,698
Other Creditors	<u>4,958</u>	<u>4,060</u>
	<u>8,539</u>	<u>9,302</u>

### 12. Analysis of charitable funds

#### Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>141</u>	<u>7,877</u>	<u>(3,286)</u>	<u>4,732</u>

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
General funds	<u>2,182</u>	<u>2,819</u>	<u>(4,860)</u>	<u>141</u>

#### Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2023	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Fund	<u>4,841</u>	<u>103,984</u>	<u>(107,674)</u>	<u>1,151</u>

	At 1 April 2022	Income	Expenditure	At 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Fund	<u>—</u>	<u>104,769</u>	<u>(99,928)</u>	<u>4,841</u>

# **Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group**

## **Management Information**

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

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**The following pages do not form part of the financial statements.**

# Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group

## Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 March 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Income and endowments</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Members contributions and donations	2,845	481
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
The Executive Office	74,652	73,981
Fermanagh & Omagh District Council	1,045	5,750
British Red Cross	2,000	2,000
EUSS Programme	12,374	10,976
Lottery Funding	—	9,520
Radius & Apex Housing Association	15,046	4,880
Halifax Grant	3,900	—
	<u>109,017</u>	<u>107,107</u>
<b>Total income</b>	<u>111,862</u>	<u>107,588</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>		
Wages and salaries	73,887	71,239
Rent	4,386	5,117
Rates and water	2,053	3,107
Insurance	586	584
Other establishment	570	2,209
Motor vehicle expenses	581	1,379
Legal and professional fees	2,345	1,973
Telephone	1,888	1,539
Interest on bank loans and overdrafts	250	316
Training and tutors	12,660	7,742
Donations - crisis fund	2,000	2,000
Sundry expenses	1,273	990
Events and workshops	8,483	6,593
	<u>110,962</u>	<u>104,788</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>110,962</u>	<u>104,788</u>
<b>Net income</b>	<u>900</u>	<u>2,800</u>



# Omagh Ethnic Communities Support Group

## Notes to the Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 March 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>		
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
<i>Grant funding activities</i>		
Wages	73,887	71,239
Rent	4,386	5,117
Room Hire	2,053	3,107
Insurance	586	584
Printing, Stationery and Advertising	570	2,209
Travel Expenses	581	1,379
Telephone	1,888	1,539
Bank Charges	250	316
Training and Tutors	12,660	7,742
Donations - Crisis Fund	2,000	2,000
Sundry Expenses	1,273	990
Events and Workshops	8,483	6,593
	<u>108,617</u>	<u>102,815</u>
<b>Governance costs</b>		
Accountancy fee	1,590	1,230
Professional fees	755	743
	<u>2,345</u>	<u>1,973</u>
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>	<u>110,962</u>	<u>104,788</u>