

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

Northern Ireland · Charity number 103505

Details

Known as DART

Status Received

Company number [38364](#)

Registered 2015-11-19

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

Contact

Address Dart Partnership
10 Charlestown Avenue
Carn Industrial Estate
Portadown
County Armagh
BT63 5zf
BT63 5ZF

Phone 028 3831 7810

Email info@dartpartnership.org.uk

Website www.dartpartnership.co.uk

Activities

Purposes: The company shall have the object of operating safe, affordable and accessible transport services on a not-for-profit basis for the benefit of the community without distinction of age, sex, religion or other opinion: I. to assist the work of organisation and bodies engaged in the relief of poverty, sickness and the disabilities of age, the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation within the meaning of Section 1 of the Recreational Charities Act 1958 and any other charitable purpose in the Down/Armagh region (the 'area of benefit'); and II. when necessary, to relieve poverty, sickness and the disabilities of age.

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

How the charity works: Community transport

Who the charity helps: Adult training, Learning disabilities, Men, Mental health, Older people, Physical disabilities, Sensory disabilities, Voluntary and community sector, Volunteers, Women, Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£864,063	£818,847	£0	15

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Mr Alan Gilmore		
Mr John Dalzell Spiers		
Mr John Kane		
Mr John Magennis		
Mr Robert Verner		
Mrs Maria Treacy		

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103505

Accounts

Company Registration Number: NI038364
Charity Number: NIC103505

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements

for the financial year ended 31 March 2025

Daly Park & Company Ltd
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
4 Carnegie Street
Lurgan
Co. Armagh
BT66 6AS
Northern Ireland

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' and Other Information	3
Trustees' Annual Report	4 – 7
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	8
Independent Auditor's Report	9- 11
Statement of Financial Activities	12
Balance Sheet	13
Notes to the Financial Statements	14 - 19

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
TRUSTEES' AND OTHER INFORMATION

Trustees	John Spiers John Magennis Robert John Verner John Kane Alan Gilmore
Charity Number in Northern Ireland	NIC103505
Company Registration Number	NI038364
Registered Office and Principal Address	10 Charlestown Avenue Portadown Co. Armagh BT63 5ZF Northern Ireland
Auditors	Daly Park & Company Ltd Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors 4 Carnegie Street Lurgan Co. Armagh BT66 6AS Northern Ireland
Principal Bankers	Danske Bank 39 Market St Lurgan Co. Armagh BT66 6AB Northern Ireland

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2025

The trustees present their Trustees' Annual Report, combining the Directors' Report and Trustees' Report, and the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Trustees' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Trustees' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines. The trustees of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's constitution are known as members of the board of trustees.

In this report the trustees of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 March 2025.

The company is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and, although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP effective January 2015), the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

Mission, Objectives and Strategy

Aims & Objectives

Down Armagh Rural Transport (DART) provides affordable, accessible, community transport services in response to the needs of people living in the Craigavon and Banbridge area. DART secures grants and donations to support provision of subsidized transport for beneficiaries. DART deliver services using community minibuses and volunteer's cars.

DART provides information and advice to enable people to avail of various means of travel to enable access to local services. DART works in partnership with other transport providers to ensure alternatives and linkages to other transport services are available for individuals and community organisations.

Structure, Governance and Management

Structure

Governing Document

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in the respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The company is under the control of the directors who are, therefore, acting trustees for the charity.

Appointment of acting Trustees / Directors

As described in the Articles of Association a new director may be eligible for appointment if 21 days before the annual general meeting, written notice is deposited with the registered office of the intended proposal, signed by a member and signed by the person being proposed, so as to indicate his/ her willingness to be elected.

Trustee Induction and Training

New trustees are briefed on their legal obligation under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Board and decision-making processes and recent financial performance of the charity. Trustees are encouraged to view the Charities Commission website so as to gain a full understanding of trustee roles and responsibilities.

Review of Activities, Achievements and Performance

Despite continuing fiscal pressure and a 35% real-term reduction in public funding since 2018, DART completed over 26,000 passenger trips across its services. These trips included essential access to medical care, education, employment, and community participation. A major achievement was the continued delivery of the Access Plus program funded by Motability, now in its second year, supporting 2,498 individual specialist trips for children and adults with disabilities, up by 94% on year one figures.

This year marked the completion of a full digital transformation programme, encompassing booking systems, driver scheduling, user communications, and financial operations. These upgrades, supported through capital investment, have significantly reduced back-office costs, improved service efficiency, and enhanced the user experience. DART now operates as a fully digital organisation across all business areas.

As part of its commitment to future-proofing services, DART has continued to diversify beyond DfI core funding. A major milestone was reached in 2024/25 with the planning and development of a DVSA-approved Driver Training Centre, due

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2025

to launch in 2025/26. This new facility will deliver certified D1 driver training and Driver Certificate of Professional Competence (CPC) modules, generating earned income to cross-subsidise core community transport services.

Critically, four in-house trainers successfully achieved the VRQ qualification, enabling DART to internally deliver CPC D1 courses to a professional standard. This investment in workforce capacity not only supports the new training enterprise but also strengthens DART's long-term sustainability and regional impact.

A key achievement in 2024/25 was the revitalisation of the Disability Action Transport Scheme (DATS) in Craigavon and Banbridge, driven by the successful implementation of DART's strategic marketing plan. This initiative resulted in a 55.4% increase in passenger numbers during the year. The service now features fully digital and mobile sign-up options and a significantly streamlined customer journey, enabling quicker access from registration to first trip. This transformation has strengthened local engagement and positioned DATS as a more accessible and responsive transport solution for disabled users.



The Drive to Thrive program continued to grow, enabling local volunteers to receive professional driving qualifications in exchange for community service. This innovative model supports both social mobility and transport sustainability while embedding DART deeper within the local community infrastructure.

DART has actively lobbied Minister Liz Kimmons and the Department for Infrastructure to address the precarious funding model for community transport. The organisation has made clear calls for an end to discretionary funding arrangements and a commitment to a multi-year funding settlement, policy clarity, and greater integration of community transport within the transport network in Northern Ireland. Our advocacy efforts are driven by a vision of transport as a foundational service for inclusion, independence, and regional cohesion.



The achievements of 2024/25 demonstrate DART's ongoing resilience, adaptability, and strategic intent in a challenging policy and funding landscape. Through a focus on innovation, digital integration, and the development of sustainable income streams, DART continues to deliver essential services to the communities that rely on them most. DART remains deeply committed to its mission of inclusion and accessibility and enters 2025/26 with a renewed focus on capacity building, partnership working, and long-term impact

Financial Results

At the end of the financial year the company has assets of £694,618 (2024 - £652,371) and liabilities of £15,299 (2024 - £18,268). The net assets of the company have increased by £45,216.

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2025

Trustees

The trustees who served throughout the financial year, except as noted, were as follows:

John Spiers
John Magennis
Robert John Verner
John Kane
Alan Gilmore

In accordance with the Articles of Association, the directors retire by rotation and being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards

The company engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2006
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

Reserves Policy

The Reserves policy has been updated during the course of the current year by the trustees. A new free reserves target of between three to six months' running costs, up to a maximum of £420,000, has been agreed. In addition, the capital replacement reserve target is still £280,000, which the trustees feel would be sufficient for the replacement of fleet vehicles and accessible equipment as they reach the end of their natural life cycle. No change was made to the contingency reserve.

The Trustees feel that these levels of reserves are essential to enable the Charity to continue to provide its activities for the foreseeable future. The Reserves Policy is an integral part of the charity's planning, budget and forecasts

Public Benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities for the year the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities have helped achieve the charity purposes and provide a benefit to the beneficiaries.

Down Armagh Rural Transport (DART) Partnership exists to develop, deliver and maintain not-for-profit accessible community transport options for the public benefit of our members.

Our public benefit provided through our transport services reduces social isolation and social exclusion by reaching the hard to reach and providing access to essential services and connections to the wider community.

Our services improve the quality of life and health and well-being for our users by enabling access to health and medical facilities.

DART's services also target social need by facilitating access to training and employment opportunities for our members.

Our organisation is committed to community development principles and we work in close partnership with other organisations and charities engaged in promoting the relief of persons who are in need through the provision of appropriate services.

Other direct benefits include the promotion of volunteering and training which provides public benefit to groups and communities and the provision of accredited driver training which enhances the skills and personal development of community volunteers.

Certification statement

We confirm that the RTF & ARTS grant has been used solely for the purposes intended and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant.

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
for the financial year ended 31 March 2025

The Auditors

The auditors, Daly Park & Company Ltd, (Chartered Accountants) have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 23/6/25 and signed on its behalf by:

John Magennis
Director



Alan Gilmore
Director



Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

for the financial year ended 31 March 2025

The trustees, who are also directors of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees as the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law) including FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the net income or expenditure of the company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the 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 (information needed by the company's auditor in connection with preparing the auditor's report) of which the company's auditor is unaware, and
- the trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 23/6/25 and signed on its behalf by:

John Magennis
Director



Alan Gilmore
Director



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the Members of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the company financial statements of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership ('the company') for the financial year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 2. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

In our opinion, when reporting in accordance with a fair presentation framework the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and of its surplus for the financial year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's Report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the Members of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the Trustees' Annual Report.

Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on page 6, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditor's Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

There is an inherent difficulty in detecting irregularities during audit. However the effectiveness of entity's controls, the nature and extent of audit procedures performed, gives us confidence in detecting irregularities

Further information regarding the scope of our responsibilities as auditor

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the , whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our Auditor's Report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our Auditor's Report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the Members of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Ruairi Maginn (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of

DALY PARK & COMPANY LTD

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors

4 Carnegie Street

Lurgan

Co. Armagh

BT66 6AS

Northern Ireland

23/6/2025

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)

for the financial year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Other Restricted Funds 2025 £	DFI Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Other Restricted Funds 2024 £	DFI Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Incoming Resources									
Voluntary Income	3.1	8,930	284,170	538,065	831,165	16,776	292,367	541,195	850,338
Activities for generating funds	3.2	23,440	-	-	23,440	14,758	-	-	14,758
Investments	3.3	9,458	-	-	9,458	729	-	-	729
Total incoming resources		41,828	284,170	538,065	864,063	32,263	292,367	541,195	865,825
Resources Expended									
Charitable activities	4.1	11,588	265,499	541,760	818,847	14,725	210,135	541,195	766,055
Net incoming/outgoing resources before transfers		30,240	18,671	(3,695)	45,216	17,538	82,232	-	99,770
Gross transfers between funds		71,305	(75,000)	3,695	-	108,744	(108,744)	-	-
Net movement in funds for the financial year		101,545	(56,329)	-	45,216	126,282	(26,512)	-	99,770
Reconciliation of funds:									
Total funds beginning of the year	13	577,774	56,329	-	634,103	451,492	82,841	-	534,333
Total funds at the end of the year		679,319	-	-	679,319	577,774	56,329	-	634,103

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the financial year.

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

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Company Number: NI038364

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	9	<u>66,328</u>	<u>64,918</u>
Current Assets			
Debtors	10	49,166	94,959
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>579,124</u>	<u>492,494</u>
		<u>628,290</u>	<u>587,453</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(15,299)</u>	<u>(18,268)</u>
Net Current Assets		<u>612,991</u>	<u>569,185</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<u>679,319</u>	<u>634,103</u>
Funds			
Other Restricted trust funds		-	56,329
Designated funds (Unrestricted)		350,000	350,000
General fund (unrestricted)		<u>329,319</u>	<u>227,774</u>
Total funds	13	<u>679,319</u>	<u>634,103</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 23/6/25 and signed on its behalf by

John Magennis
Director



Alan Gilmore
Director



Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the financial year ended 31 March 2025

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office of the company is 10 Charlestown Avenue, Portadown, Co. Armagh, BT63 5ZF, Northern Ireland which is also the principal place of business of the company. The financial statements have been presented in Pound (£) which is also the functional currency of the company.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charity's financial statements.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102".

As permitted by the Companies Act 2006, the company has varied the standard formats in that act for the Statement of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet. Departures from the standard formats are to comply with the requirements of the Charities SORP and are in compliance with section 4.7, 10.6 and 15.2 of that SORP.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements of the company for the financial year ended 31 December 2017 have been prepared on the going concern basis and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102".

Cash flow statement

The company has availed of the exemption in FRS 102 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement because it is classified as a small company.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income or capital is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the company is legally entitled to it, its financial value can be quantified with reasonable certainty and there is reasonable certainty of its ultimate receipt. Entitlement to legacies is considered established when the company has been notified of a distribution to be made by the executors. Income received in advance of due performance under a contract is accounted for as deferred income until earned. Grants for activities are recognised as income when the related conditions for legal entitlement have been met. All other income is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Resources Expended

All resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis. Charitable activities include costs of services and grants, support costs and depreciation on related assets. Costs of generating funds similarly include fundraising activities. Non-staff costs not attributed to one category of activity are allocated or apportioned pro-rata to the staffing of the relevant service. Finance, HR, IT and administrative staff costs are directly attributable to individual activities by objective. Governance costs are those associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or at valuation, less accumulated depreciation. The charge to depreciation is calculated to write off the original cost or valuation of tangible fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives as follows:

Land and buildings freehold	-	4% Straight line
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	-	50% Straight line
Motor vehicles	-	50% Straight line

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the financial year ended 31 March 2025

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due. Income recognised by the company from government agencies and other co-funders, but not yet received at financial year end, is included in debtors.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand comprises cash on deposit at banks requiring less than three months notice of withdrawal.

Taxation and deferred taxation

No current or deferred taxation arises as the company has been granted charitable exemption. Irrecoverable valued added tax is expensed as incurred.

3. INCOME						
3.1	DONATIONS AND LEGACIES	Unrestricted Funds	Other Restricted Funds	DFI Restricted Funds	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£	£
	<u>DFI Restricted Income:</u>					
	DRD Rural Transport Fund			287,334		275,752
	Assisted Rural Transport Scheme			68,766		76,250
	Disability Action Transport Scheme			179,129		186,921
	Dial A Lift Passenger Fare			2,836		2,272
	Other Restricted Funds		284,170			292,367
	Unrestricted Funds	41,828				16,776
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
3.2	OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025	2024
			£	£	£	£
	Transport Services & Training		23,440	-	23,440	14,758
			<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
3.3	INVESTMENTS		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025	2024
			£	£	£	£
	Investments		9,458	-	9,458	729
			<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
4. EXPENDITURE						
4.1	CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Direct Costs	Other Costs	Support Costs	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£	£
	Direct Service Delivery Costs	470,463	-	1,012	471,475	444,190
	Dispatch Function Costs	150,925	-	12,755	163,680	171,105
	Administration & Support	56,741	-	126,951	183,692	150,760
		<u>678,129</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>140,718</u>	<u>818,847</u>	<u>766,055</u>

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the financial year ended 31 March 2025

5. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	2025 £	2024 £
Audit Fees	2,750	2,500
Depreciation	104,984	67,851
General Expenses	5,431	4,309
Bank Charges	350	370
General Office Costs	27,203	26,568
	<u>140,718</u>	<u>101,598</u>

6. NET INCOMING RESOURCES

	2025 £	2024 £
Net Incoming Resources are stated after charging/(crediting):		
Depreciation of tangible assets	104,984	67,851
(Surplus)/deficit on disposal of tangible fixed assets	(4,583)	1,435
Auditor's remuneration: - audit services	2,750	2,500
	<u>103,151</u>	<u>71,786</u>

7. INVESTMENT AND OTHER INCOME

	2025 £	2024 £
Bank interest	9,458	729
	<u>9,458</u>	<u>729</u>

8. EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION

Number of employees

The average number of persons employed (including executive trustees) during the financial year was as follows:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Employees	12	12
	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>

The staff costs comprise:

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	186,128	188,366
Pension costs	4,451	4,463
	<u>190,579</u>	<u>192,829</u>

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the financial year ended 31 March 2025

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Land and buildings freehold £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 April 2024	8,500	45,479	258,285	312,264
Additions	-	10,978	100,000	110,978
Disposals	-	(14,197)	-	(14,197)
At 31 March 2025	<u>8,500</u>	<u>42,260</u>	<u>358,285</u>	<u>409,045</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2024	3,400	38,471	205,475	247,346
Charge for the financial year	1,700	7,974	95,310	104,984
On disposals	-	(9,613)	-	(9,613)
At 31 March 2025	<u>5,100</u>	<u>36,832</u>	<u>300,785</u>	<u>342,717</u>
Net book value				
At 31 March 2025	<u><u>3,400</u></u>	<u><u>5,428</u></u>	<u><u>57,500</u></u>	<u><u>66,328</u></u>
At 31 March 2024	<u><u>5,100</u></u>	<u><u>7,008</u></u>	<u><u>52,810</u></u>	<u><u>64,918</u></u>

10. DEBTORS

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	21,836	17,677
Amounts owed by related parties	-	3,837
Other debtors	23,980	67,019
Taxation and social security costs	3,350	6,426
	<u>49,166</u>	<u>94,959</u>

11. CREDITORS
Amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Taxation and social security costs	6,820	7,747
Accruals and deferred income	8,479	10,521
	<u>15,299</u>	<u>18,268</u>

12. RESERVES

	2025 £	2024 £
At the beginning of the year	634,103	534,333
Surplus for the financial year	45,216	99,770
At the end of the year	<u>679,319</u>	<u>634,103</u>

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the financial year ended 31 March 2025

13. FUNDS**13.1 RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
At 1 April 2023	451,492	82,841	534,333
Movement during the financial year	126,282	(26,512)	99,770
At 31 March 2024	577,774	56,329	634,103
Movement during the financial year	101,545	(56,329)	45,216
At 31 March 2025	679,319	-	679,319

13.2 ANALYSIS OF MOVEMENTS ON FUNDS

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Closing Balance
<u>DFI Restricted Funds:</u>					
DRD Rural Transport Fund	-	287,334.00	- 287,334.00		-
Assisted Rural Transport Scheme	-	68,766.00	- 72,461.00	3,695.00	-
Disability Action Transport Scheme	-	179,129.00	- 179,129.00		-
Dial A Lift Passenger Fares	-	2,836.00	- 2,836.00		-
	-	538,065.00	- 541,760.00	3,695.00	-
<u>Other Restricted Funds:</u>					
Rank Foundation	24,000.00	44,222.00	- 68,222.00		-
Motability	18,973.00	217,154.00	- 161,127.00	- 75,000.00	-
SHSCT	13,356.00	22,794.00	- 36,150.00		-
	56,329.00	284,170.00	- 265,499.00	- 75,000.00	-
<u>Unrestricted Funds:</u>					
Unrestricted- Capital Replacement	280,000.00				280,000.00
Unrestricted- Contingency	70,000.00				70,000.00
Unrestricted General	227,774.00	41,828.00	- 11,588.00	71,305.00	329,319.00
	577,774.00	41,828.00	- 11,588.00	71,305.00	679,319.00
Total Funds	634,103.00	864,063.00	- 818,847.00	-	679,319.00

The Unrestricted Capital Replacement Reserve represents the approximate cost to fund four replacement vehicles. The charity currently has five minibuses coming up to ten years old which will need to be replaced to continue to provide all its existing services.

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the financial year ended 31 March 2025

13.3 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Fixed assets - charity use £	Current assets £	Current liabilities £	Total £
Endowment capital Expendable	199,493	598,087	-	797,580
Restricted trust funds	17,400	126,478	-	143,878
Unrestricted general funds	(150,565)	497,407	(608,981)	(262,139)
	66,328	1,221,972	(608,981)	679,319

14. STATUS

The company is limited by guarantee not having a share capital.

The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of its being wound up while they are members, or within one year thereafter, for the payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before they ceased to be members, and the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £ 1.

15. POST-BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

There have been no significant events affecting the Charity since the financial year-end.

16. TRUSTEE REMUNERATION

None of the Trustees received nor waived any remuneration for their services as Trustees in either the current or previous financial year

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103505

Accounts

Company Registration Number: NI038364
Charity Number: NIC103505

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements
for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

Daly Park & Company Ltd
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
4 Carnegie Street
Lurgan
Co. Armagh
BT66 6AS
Northern Ireland

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' and Other Information	3
Trustees' Annual Report	4 - 6
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	7
Independent Auditor's Report	8 - 10
Statement of Financial Activities	11
Balance Sheet	12
Notes to the Financial Statements	13 - 18

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' AND OTHER INFORMATION

Trustees	John Spiers John Magennis Robert John Verner John Kane Alan Gilmore
Charity Number in Northern Ireland	NIC103505
Company Registration Number	NI038364
Registered Office and Principal Address	10 Charlestown Avenue Portadown Co. Armagh BT63 5ZF Northern Ireland
Auditors	Daly Park & Company Ltd Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors 4 Carnegie Street Lurgan Co. Armagh BT66 6AS Northern Ireland
Principal Bankers	Danske Bank 39 Market St Lurgan Co. Armagh BT66 6AB Northern Ireland

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees present their Trustees' Annual Report, combining the Directors' Report and Trustees' Report, and the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Trustees' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Trustees' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines. The trustees of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's constitution are known as members of the board of trustees.

In this report the trustees of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 March 2024.

The company is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and, although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP effective January 2015), the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

Mission, Objectives and Strategy

Aims & Objectives

Down Armagh Rural Transport (DART) provides affordable, accessible, community transport services in response to the needs of people living in the Craigavon and Banbridge area. DART secures grants and donations to support provision of subsidized transport for beneficiaries. DART deliver services using community minibuses and volunteer's cars.

DART provides information and advice to enable people to avail of various means of travel to enable access to local services. DART works in partnership with other transport providers to ensure alternatives and linkages to other transport services are available for individuals and community organisations.

Structure, Governance and Management

Structure

Governing Document

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in the respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The company is under the control of the directors who are, therefore, acting trustees for the charity.

Appointment of acting Trustees / Directors

As described in the Articles of Association a new director may be eligible for appointment if 21 days before the annual general meeting, written notice is deposited with the registered office of the intended proposal, signed by a member and signed by the person being proposed, so as to indicate his/ her willingness to be elected.

Trustee Induction and Training

New trustees are briefed on their legal obligation under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Board and decision-making processes and recent financial performance of the charity. Trustees are encouraged to view the Charities Commission website so as to gain a full understanding of trustee roles and responsibilities.

Review of Activities, Achievements and Performance

The accounting year has once again been marked by ongoing uncertainty surrounding the stability of public finances, leading to a precarious situation that has put the continuance of publicly funded community transport at risk across Northern Ireland. This environment of short-term and discretionary public funding cycles continues to negatively impact community transport services for vulnerable users through a policy of managed decline, characterized by a discretionary approach to services and the perpetual salami slicing of budgets.

Since 2018, DART has experienced a 35% real-term reduction in funding. Despite this decline, there has been an increase in demand, accompanied by significant rises in business and operational costs for providing services to users of Dial-A-Lift (DAL) and Disability Action Transport Service (DATS). In response to these pressures, DART has focused on cost reduction and accelerating the digitalization of services to reduce back-office expenses. During the last accounting period, DART completed approximately 25,000 trips, despite significant operational reductions in

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

services due to annual DFI cuts.

In the 2023/ 2024 period, DART has prioritized non-DFI services as a strategic imperative to de-risk the organization and transition towards a community development hub model for future sustainability. The Motability-funded Access Plus project had a successful first year, delivering 1,288 highly specialized individual trips for disabled children, enabling greater participation in school extracurricular activities and broader access to health and social events for disabled individuals.

The accounting year has also seen significant planning for future projects, with major applications and partnerships in the pipeline for 2025. A preview of the direction of travel for DART's future services was evident in the successful launch of DART's 'Drive to Thrive' project, an innovative employability and volunteering scheme providing professional D1 training in exchange for 100 hours of volunteering time. Volunteers drive a social car for individuals with limited access to essential services.

DART's commitment to innovation is further demonstrated through its ongoing investment in digital infrastructure. By embracing modern technology, DART aims to streamline operations, enhance service delivery, and improve user experience. This digital transformation is not only about reducing costs but also about making services more accessible and user-friendly, thereby meeting the evolving needs of the community.

Moreover, DART has been actively seeking collaborations with local stakeholders in health and education and other non-profit organizations to diversify funding sources and expand service offerings. These partnerships are crucial for creating a resilient operational model that can withstand financial uncertainties and continue to provide essential services to those in need.

As DART reflects on another successful year of project delivery, it is clear that innovation, flexibility, and change will remain constants moving into 2024/ 2025. The organization's ability to adapt and evolve in response to challenges is a testament to its resilience and dedication to serving the community. After all, the best way to predict the future is to create it.

Financial Review

The results for the financial year are set out on page 1 and additional notes are provided showing income and expenditure in greater detail.

Financial Results

At the end of the financial year the company has assets of £652,371 (2023 - £779,923) and liabilities of £18,268 (2023 - £245,590). The net assets of the company have increased by £99,770.

Reserves Policy

The Reserves policy was updated in the prior year and has been kept the same in the current year by the trustees. A new free reserves target of £232,000, equivalent to six months running costs, has been agreed. The capital replacement reserve target is still £280,000, which the trustees feel would be sufficient for the replacement of fleet vehicles and accessible equipment as they reach the end of their natural life cycle. The contingency reserve was increased to £70,000, which trustees feel would be sufficient to cover their regular expenditure in the event of an unexpected event.

The Trustees feel that these levels of reserves are essential to enable the Charity to continue to provide its activities for the foreseeable future. The Reserves Policy is an integral part of the charity's planning, budget and forecasts.

Trustees

The trustees who served throughout the financial year, except as noted, were as follows:

John Spiers
John Magennis
Robert John Verner
John Kane
Alan Gilmore

In accordance with the Articles of Association, the directors retire by rotation and being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards

The company engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2006
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

Public Benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities for the year the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities have helped achieve the charity purposes and provide a benefit to the beneficiaries.

Down Armagh Rural Transport (DART) Partnership exists to develop, deliver and maintain not-for-profit accessible community transport options for the public benefit of our members.

Our public benefit provided through our transport services reduces social isolation and social exclusion by reaching the hard to reach and providing access to essential services and connections to the wider community.

Our services improve the quality of life and health and well-being for our users by enabling access to health and medical facilities.

DART's services also target social need by facilitating access to training and employment opportunities for our members.

Our organisation is committed to community development principles and we work in close partnership with other organisations and charities engaged in promoting the relief of persons who are in need through the provision of appropriate services.

Other direct benefits include the promotion of volunteering and training which provides public benefit to groups and communities and the provision of accredited driver training which enhances the skills and personal development of community volunteers.

Certification Statement

We confirm that the DFI grant has been used solely for the purposes intended and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant

The Auditors

The auditors, Daly Park & Company Ltd, (Chartered Accountants) have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 26th June 2024 and signed on its behalf by:


John Spiers
Director


John Magennis
Director

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees, who are also directors of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees as the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law) including FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the net income or expenditure of the company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the 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 (information needed by the company's auditor in connection with preparing the auditor's report) of which the company's auditor is unaware, and
- the trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 26th June 2024 and signed on its behalf by:


John Spiers
Director


John Magerinis
Director

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the Members of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the company financial statements of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership ('the company') for the financial year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 2. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

In our opinion, when reporting in accordance with a fair presentation framework the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its surplus for the financial year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's Report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the Members of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the Trustees' Annual Report.

Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on page 6, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditor's Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

There is an inherent difficulty in detecting irregularities during audit. However the effectiveness of entity's controls, the nature and extent of audit procedures performed, gives us confidence in detecting irregularities

Further information regarding the scope of our responsibilities as auditor

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the , whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our Auditor's Report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our Auditor's Report. However, future events or conditions may cause the the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
to the Members of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Ruairi Maginn (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of
DALY PARK & COMPANY LTD
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
4 Carnegie Street
Lurgan
Co. Armagh
BT66 6AS
Northern Ireland

26th June 2024

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)

for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Other Restricted Funds 2024 £	DFI Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Other Restricted Funds 2023 £	DFI Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Incoming Resources									
Voluntary Income	3.1	16,776	292,367	541,195	850,338	-	113,853	270,466	384,319
Activities for generating funds	3.2	14,758	-	-	14,758	8,746	-	-	8,746
Investments	3.3	729	-	-	729	77	-	-	77
Total incoming resources		32,263	292,367	541,195	865,825	8,823	113,853	270,466	393,142
Resources Expended									
Charitable activities	4.1	14,725	210,135	541,195	766,055	80,294	96,520	288,400	465,214
Net incoming/outgoing resources before transfers		17,538	82,232	-	99,770	(71,471)	17,333	(17,934)	(72,072)
Gross transfers between funds		108,744	(108,744)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds for the financial year		126,282	(26,512)	-	99,770	(71,471)	17,333	(17,934)	(72,072)
Reconciliation of funds:									
Total funds beginning of the year	14	451,492	82,841	-	534,333	522,963	65,508	17,934	606,405
Total funds at the end of the year		577,774	56,329	-	634,103	451,492	82,841	-	534,333

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the financial year.

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Company Number: NI038364

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 March 2024

		2024	2023
	Notes	£	£
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	9	64,918	28,132
Current Assets			
Debtors	10	94,959	64,523
Cash at bank and in hand		492,494	687,268
		587,453	751,791
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	(18,268)	(10,475)
Net Current Assets		569,185	741,316
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		634,103	769,448
Grants receivable	12	-	(235,115)
Total Net Assets		634,103	534,333
Funds			
Restricted trust funds		56,329	82,841
Designated funds (Unrestricted)		350,000	297,500
General fund (unrestricted)		227,774	153,992
Total funds	14	634,103	534,333

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 26th June 2024 and signed on its behalf by


John Spiers
Director


John Magennis
Director

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office of the company is 10 Charlestown Avenue, Portadown, Co. Armagh, BT63 5ZF, Northern Ireland which is also the principal place of business of the company. The financial statements have been presented in Pound (£) which is also the functional currency of the company.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charity's financial statements.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102".

As permitted by the Companies Act 2006, the company has varied the standard formats in that act for the Statement of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet. Departures from the standard formats are to comply with the requirements of the Charities SORP and are in compliance with section 4.7, 10.6 and 15.2 of that SORP.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements of the company for the financial year ended 31 December 2017 have been prepared on the going concern basis and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102".

Cash flow statement

The company has availed of the exemption in FRS 102 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement because it is classified as a small company.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income or capital is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the company is legally entitled to it, its financial value can be quantified with reasonable certainty and there is reasonable certainty of its ultimate receipt. Entitlement to legacies is considered established when the company has been notified of a distribution to be made by the executors. Income received in advance of due performance under a contract is accounted for as deferred income until earned. Grants for activities are recognised as income when the related conditions for legal entitlement have been met. All other income is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Resources Expended

All resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis. Charitable activities include costs of services and grants, support costs and depreciation on related assets. Costs of generating funds similarly include fundraising activities. Non-staff costs not attributed to one category of activity are allocated or apportioned pro-rata to the staffing of the relevant service. Finance, HR, IT and administrative staff costs are directly attributable to individual activities by objective. Governance costs are those associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or at valuation, less accumulated depreciation. The charge to depreciation is calculated to write off the original cost or valuation of tangible fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives as follows:

Land and buildings freehold	-	4% Straight line
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	-	50% Straight line
Motor vehicles	-	50% Straight line

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due. Income recognised by the company from government agencies and other co-funders, but not yet received at financial year end, is included in debtors.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand comprises cash on deposit at banks requiring less than three months notice of withdrawal.

Taxation and deferred taxation

No current or deferred taxation arises as the company has been granted charitable exemption. Irrecoverable valued added tax is expensed as incurred.

2a. GOING CONCERN

At the date of approval of these financial statements, the charity has yet to receive formal confirmation from the Department of Infrastructure in relation to the 2024/25 funding for the Rural Transport Fund and Assisted Rural Travel Scheme. This funding amounted to £538,923 in the 2023/24 financial year. In the interim period, the charity is currently receiving monthly grants on a similar level to the funding provided for 2023/24. The trustees are confident that a formal letter of offer and agreement of the 2024/25 funding package will be agreed shortly. In this interim period, the trustees are carefully managing cashflow and are in the process of looking at other sources of income. Delays in the confirmation of these grants have been the norm in recent years. The trustees continue to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

3. INCOME

3.1	DONATIONS AND LEGACIES	Other Restricted Funds £	DFI Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
	Unrestricted Funds £				
	Grant Income:				
	DFI Restricted Income:				
	DRD Rural Transport Fund	-	275,752	275,752	106,602
	Assisted Rural Transport Scheme	-	76,250	76,250	32,160
	Disability Action Transport Scheme	-	186,921	186,921	146,879
	DFI Blue/ Green Infrastructure	-	-	-	-17,934
	Dial A Lift Passenger Fare	-	2,272	2,272	2,759
	Other Restricted Funds	-	-	292,367	113,853
	Unrestricted Funds	16,776	-	19,976	-
		<u>16,776</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,976</u>	<u>-</u>
3.2	OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
	Transport Services & Training	14,758	-	14,758	8,746
		<u>14,758</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,758</u>	<u>8,746</u>
3.3	INVESTMENTS	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
	Investments	729	-	729	77
		<u>729</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>729</u>	<u>77</u>
4.	EXPENDITURE				

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

4.1 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Direct Costs £	Other Costs £	Support Costs £	2024 £	2023 £
Despatch Function Costs	162,854	-	8,251	171,105	144,152
Direct Service Delivery Costs	221,075	222,027	1,088	444,190	208,696
Administration & Support	58,501	-	92,259	150,760	112,366
	<u>442,430</u>	<u>222,027</u>	<u>101,598</u>	<u>766,055</u>	<u>465,214</u>
5. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS				2024 £	2023 £
Audit Fees				2,500	2,600
Depreciation				67,851	34,855
General Expenses				4,309	4,486
Bank Charges				370	332
General Office Costs				26,568	31,194
				<u>101,598</u>	<u>73,467</u>
6. NET INCOMING RESOURCES				2024 £	2023 £
Net Incoming Resources are stated after charging/(crediting):					
Depreciation of tangible assets				67,851	34,855
Deficit on disposal of tangible fixed assets				1,435	18,085
Auditor's remuneration: - audit services				2,500	2,600
				<u>2,500</u>	<u>2,600</u>
7. INVESTMENT AND OTHER INCOME				2024 £	2023 £
Bank interest				729	77
				<u>729</u>	<u>77</u>
8. EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION					
Number of employees					
The average number of persons employed (including executive trustees) during the financial year was as follows:					
				2024 Number	2023 Number
Employees				12	12
The staff costs comprise:					
				2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries				188,366	140,354
Pension costs				4,463	9,833
				<u>192,829</u>	<u>150,187</u>

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Land and buildings freehold £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 April 2023	8,500	31,462	175,332	215,294
Additions	-	14,017	90,620	104,637
Disposals	-	-	(7,667)	(7,667)
At 31 March 2024	<u>8,500</u>	<u>45,479</u>	<u>258,285</u>	<u>312,264</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2023	1,700	26,755	158,707	187,162
Charge for the financial year	1,700	11,716	54,435	67,851
On disposals	-	-	(7,667)	(7,667)
At 31 March 2024	<u>3,400</u>	<u>38,471</u>	<u>205,475</u>	<u>247,346</u>
Net book value				
At 31 March 2024	<u><u>5,100</u></u>	<u><u>7,008</u></u>	<u><u>52,810</u></u>	<u><u>64,918</u></u>
At 31 March 2023	<u><u>6,800</u></u>	<u><u>4,707</u></u>	<u><u>16,625</u></u>	<u><u>28,132</u></u>
10. DEBTORS			2024	2023
			£	£
Trade debtors			17,677	30,434
Amounts owed by related parties			3,837	3,837
Other debtors			67,019	20,827
Taxation and social security costs			6,426	9,425
			<u>94,959</u>	<u>64,523</u>
11. CREDITORS			2024	2023
Amounts falling due within one year			£	£
Taxation and social security costs			7,747	5,219
Accruals and deferred income			10,521	5,256
			<u>18,268</u>	<u>10,475</u>
12. GRANTS RECEIVABLE			2024	2023
			£	£
Capital grants received and receivable				
Increase in financial year			-	235,115
13. RESERVES			2024	2023
			£	£
At the beginning of the year			534,333	606,405
Surplus/(Deficit) for the financial year			99,770	(72,072)
At the end of the year			<u>634,103</u>	<u>534,333</u>

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

14. FUNDS**14.1 RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
At 1 April 2022	522,963	65,508	606,405
Movement during the financial year	(71,471)	17,333	(72,072)
At 31 March 2023	451,492	82,841	534,333
Movement during the financial year	126,282	(26,512)	99,770
At 31 March 2024	577,774	56,329	634,103

14.2 ANALYSIS OF MOVEMENTS ON FUNDS

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Closing Balance
<u>DFI Restricted Funds:</u>					
DRD Rural Transport Fund	-	275,752.00	- 275,752.00		-
Assisted Rural Transport Scheme	-	76,250.00	- 76,250.00		-
Disability Action Transport Scheme	-	186,921.00	- 186,921.00		-
Dial A lift Passenger Fares	-	2,272.00	- 2,272.00		-
	-	541,195.00	- 541,195.00	-	-
<u>Other Restricted Funds:</u>					
The National Lottery Community Fund	40,919.00	20,667.00	- 61,586.00		-
ABC Council	2,181.00	-	- 2,181.00		-
Rank Foundation	20,162.00	15,615.00	- 11,777.00		24,000.00
Motability	-	235,115.00	- 107,398.00	- 108,744.00	18,973.00
SHSCT	19,579.00	20,970.00	- 27,193.00		13,356.00
	82,841.00	292,367.00	- 210,135.00	- 108,744.00	56,329.00
<u>Unrestricted Funds:</u>					
Unrestricted - Capital Replacement	280,000.00				280,000.00
Unrestricted- Contingency	17,500.00			52,500.00	70,000.00
Unrestricted General	153,992.00	32,263.00	- 14,725.00	56,244.00	227,774.00
	451,492.00	32,263.00	- 14,725.00	108,744.00	577,774.00
Total Funds	534,333.00	865,825.00	- 766,055.00	-	634,103.00

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

14.3 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Fixed assets - charity use £	Current assets £	Current liabilities £	Total £
DFI Restricted Funds	199,493	598,087	-	797,580
Other Restricted funds	17,400	126,478	-	143,878
Unrestricted general funds	(151,975)	456,732	(612,112)	(307,355)
	<u>64,918</u>	<u>1,181,297</u>	<u>(612,112)</u>	<u>634,103</u>

15. STATUS

The company is limited by guarantee not having a share capital.

The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of its being wound up while they are members, or within one year thereafter, for the payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before they ceased to be members, and the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £ 1.

16. POST-BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

There have been no significant events affecting the Charity since the financial year-end.

17. TRUSTEE REMUNERATION

None of the Trustees received nor waived any remuneration for their services as Trustees in either the current or previous financial year.

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103505

Annual report

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees present their Trustees' Annual Report, combining the Directors' Report and Trustees' Report, and the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Trustees' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Trustees' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines. The trustees of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's constitution are known as members of the board of trustees.

In this report the trustees of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 March 2024.

The company is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and, although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP effective January 2015), the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

Mission, Objectives and Strategy

Aims & Objectives

Down Armagh Rural Transport (DART) provides affordable, accessible, community transport services in response to the needs of people living in the Craigavon and Banbridge area. DART secures grants and donations to support provision of subsidized transport for beneficiaries. DART deliver services using community minibuses and volunteer's cars.

DART provides information and advice to enable people to avail of various means of travel to enable access to local services. DART works in partnership with other transport providers to ensure alternatives and linkages to other transport services are available for individuals and community organisations.

Structure, Governance and Management

Structure

Governing Document

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in the respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The company is under the control of the directors who are, therefore, acting trustees for the charity.

Appointment of acting Trustees / Directors

As described in the Articles of Association a new director may be eligible for appointment if 21 days before the annual general meeting, written notice is deposited with the registered office of the intended proposal, signed by a member and signed by the person being proposed, so as to indicate his/ her willingness to be elected.

Trustee Induction and Training

New trustees are briefed on their legal obligation under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Board and decision-making processes and recent financial performance of the charity. Trustees are encouraged to view the Charities Commission website so as to gain a full understanding of trustee roles and responsibilities.

Review of Activities, Achievements and Performance

The accounting year has once again been marked by ongoing uncertainty surrounding the stability of public finances, leading to a precarious situation that has put the continuance of publicly funded community transport at risk across Northern Ireland. This environment of short-term and discretionary public funding cycles continues to negatively impact community transport services for vulnerable users through a policy of managed decline, characterized by a discretionary approach to services and the perpetual salami slicing of budgets.

Since 2018, DART has experienced a 35% real-term reduction in funding. Despite this decline, there has been an increase in demand, accompanied by significant rises in business and operational costs for providing services to users of Dial-A-Lift (DAL) and Disability Action Transport Service (DATS). In response to these pressures, DART has focused on cost reduction and accelerating the digitalization of services to reduce back-office expenses. During the last accounting period, DART completed approximately 25,000 trips, despite significant operational reductions in

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

services due to annual DFI cuts.

In the 2023/ 2024 period, DART has prioritized non-DFI services as a strategic imperative to de-risk the organization and transition towards a community development hub model for future sustainability. The Motability-funded Access Plus project had a successful first year, delivering 1,288 highly specialized individual trips for disabled children, enabling greater participation in school extracurricular activities and broader access to health and social events for disabled individuals.

The accounting year has also seen significant planning for future projects, with major applications and partnerships in the pipeline for 2025. A preview of the direction of travel for DART's future services was evident in the successful launch of DART's 'Drive to Thrive' project, an innovative employability and volunteering scheme providing professional D1 training in exchange for 100 hours of volunteering time. Volunteers drive a social car for individuals with limited access to essential services.

DART's commitment to innovation is further demonstrated through its ongoing investment in digital infrastructure. By embracing modern technology, DART aims to streamline operations, enhance service delivery, and improve user experience. This digital transformation is not only about reducing costs but also about making services more accessible and user-friendly, thereby meeting the evolving needs of the community.

Moreover, DART has been actively seeking collaborations with local stakeholders in health and education and other non-profit organizations to diversify funding sources and expand service offerings. These partnerships are crucial for creating a resilient operational model that can withstand financial uncertainties and continue to provide essential services to those in need.

As DART reflects on another successful year of project delivery, it is clear that innovation, flexibility, and change will remain constants moving into 2024/ 2025. The organization's ability to adapt and evolve in response to challenges is a testament to its resilience and dedication to serving the community. After all, the best way to predict the future is to create it.

Financial Review

The results for the financial year are set out on page 1 and additional notes are provided showing income and expenditure in greater detail.

Financial Results

At the end of the financial year the company has assets of £652,371 (2023 - £779,923) and liabilities of £18,268 (2023 - £245,590). The net assets of the company have increased by £99,770.

Reserves Policy

The Reserves policy was updated in the prior year and has been kept the same in the current year by the trustees. A new free reserves target of £232,000, equivalent to six months running costs, has been agreed. The capital replacement reserve target is still £280,000, which the trustees feel would be sufficient for the replacement of fleet vehicles and accessible equipment as they reach the end of their natural life cycle. The contingency reserve was increased to £70,000, which trustees feel would be sufficient to cover their regular expenditure in the event of an unexpected event.

The Trustees feel that these levels of reserves are essential to enable the Charity to continue to provide its activities for the foreseeable future. The Reserves Policy is an integral part of the charity's planning, budget and forecasts.

Trustees

The trustees who served throughout the financial year, except as noted, were as follows:

John Spiers
John Magennis
Robert John Verner
John Kane
Alan Gilmore

In accordance with the Articles of Association, the directors retire by rotation and being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards

The company engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2006
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

Public Benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities for the year the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities have helped achieve the charity purposes and provide a benefit to the beneficiaries.

Down Armagh Rural Transport (DART) Partnership exists to develop, deliver and maintain not-for-profit accessible community transport options for the public benefit of our members.

Our public benefit provided through our transport services reduces social isolation and social exclusion by reaching the hard to reach and providing access to essential services and connections to the wider community.

Our services improve the quality of life and health and well-being for our users by enabling access to health and medical facilities.

DART's services also target social need by facilitating access to training and employment opportunities for our members.

Our organisation is committed to community development principles and we work in close partnership with other organisations and charities engaged in promoting the relief of persons who are in need through the provision of appropriate services.

Other direct benefits include the promotion of volunteering and training which provides public benefit to groups and communities and the provision of accredited driver training which enhances the skills and personal development of community volunteers.

Certification Statement

We confirm that the DFI grant has been used solely for the purposes intended and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant

The Auditors

The auditors, Daly Park & Company Ltd, (Chartered Accountants) have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 26th June 2024 and signed on its behalf by:


John Spiers
Director


John Magennis
Director

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103505

Annual return

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the Members of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the company financial statements of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership ('the company') for the financial year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 2. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

In our opinion, when reporting in accordance with a fair presentation framework the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its surplus for the financial year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's Report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the Members of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the Trustees' Annual Report.

Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on page 6, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditor's Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

There is an inherent difficulty in detecting irregularities during audit. However the effectiveness of entity's controls, the nature and extent of audit procedures performed, gives us confidence in detecting irregularities

Further information regarding the scope of our responsibilities as auditor

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the , whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our Auditor's Report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our Auditor's Report. However, future events or conditions may cause the the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
to the Members of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Ruairi Maginn (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of
DALY PARK & COMPANY LTD
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
4 Carnegie Street
Lurgan
Co. Armagh
BT66 6AS
Northern Ireland

26th June 2024

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103505

Accounts

Company Number: NI038364
Charity Number: NIC103505

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements

for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

Daly Park & Company Ltd
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
4 Carnegie Street
Lurgan
Co. Armagh
BT66 6AS
Northern Ireland

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' and Other Information	3
Trustees' Annual Report	4 - 7
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	8
Independent Auditor's Report	9 - 11
Statement of Financial Activities	12 - 12
Balance Sheet	13
Notes to the Financial Statements	14 - 19

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
TRUSTEES' AND OTHER INFORMATION

Trustees	John Spiers John Magennis Robert John Verner John Kane Alan Gilmore William Archer (Resigned 22 February 2023)
Charity Number in Northern Ireland	NIC103505
Company Number	NI038364
Registered Office and Principal Address	10 Charlestown Avenue Portadown Co. Armagh BT63 5ZF Northern Ireland
Auditors	Daly Park & Company Ltd Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors 4 Carnegie Street Lurgan Co. Armagh BT66 6AS Northern Ireland
Bankers	Danske Bank 39 Market St Lurgan Co. Armagh BT66 6AB Northern Ireland

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees present their Trustees' Annual Report, combining the Directors' Report and Trustees' Report, and the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Trustees' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Trustees' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines. The trustees of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's constitution are known as members of the board of trustees.

In this report the trustees of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 March 2023.

The company is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and, although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP effective January 2015), the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

Financial Results

At the end of the financial year the company has assets of £779,923 (2022 - £639,428) and liabilities of £245,590 (2022 - £33,023). The net assets of the company have decreased by £(72,072).

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

Trustees

The trustees who served throughout the financial year, except as noted, were as follows:

John Spiers
John Magennis
Robert John Verner
John Kane
Alan Gilmore
William Archer (Resigned 22 February 2023)

Objectives and Activities

Down Armagh Rural Transport (DART) provides affordable, accessible, community transport services in response to the needs of people living in the Craigavon and Banbridge area. DART secures grants and donations to support provision of subsidized transport for beneficiaries. DART deliver services using community minibuses and volunteer 's cars. DART provides information and advice to enable people to avail of various means of travel to enable access to local services. DART works in partnership with other transport providers to ensure alternatives and linkages to other transport services are available for individuals and community organisations.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in the respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The company is under the control of the directors who are, therefore, acting trustees for the charity.

Appointment of acting Trustees / Directors

As described in the Articles of Association a new director may be eligible for appointment if 21 days before the annual general meeting, written notice is deposited with the registered office of the intended proposal, signed by a member and signed by the person being proposed, so as to indicate his/ her willingness to be elected.

Trustee Induction and Training

New trustees are briefed on their legal obligation under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Board and decision-making processes and recent financial performance of the charity. Trustees are encouraged to view the Charities Commission website so as to gain a full understanding of trustee roles and responsibilities.

Principal Achievements 2022-2023

Down Armagh Rural Transport (DART) Partnership Ltd, has continued to provide, through this accounting period, a range of public benefits through the development and delivery of a range of community-based transport and training services which reduce social exclusion and increase the quality of life for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in our community.

In terms of service growth, passenger trips are up 51% on the previous year with over 25,000 trips delivered as DART continues a well-established growth trend in respect of the post-Covid environment, with Dial-A Lift services back to post-Covid levels.

Accredited training services have grown by 300% with 100 people training to accredited standards in either a MIDAS qualification or CPC Minibus D1.

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

The accounting year 2022-2023 has also seen DART attract major funding from the Motability Community Transport grant. This £600,000 funding subvention from Motability will allow DART to diversify into a range of non-core services such as delivering specialised transport intervention to disabled children to allow them to participate more fully in school extracurricular activities and facilitating broader access for disabled people to health and social events. All of these successfully funded services have been developed to meet some of the identified gaps in the accessible transport network.

The three-year funding provided through the Motability Community Transport Fund has also enabled DART to purchase two new accessible minibus vehicles to add to the existing DART accessible minibus fleet.

Additionally, DART Direct (DART's social enterprise arm) has been providing full D1 minibus training during the accounting period for community drivers, through a social enterprise approach which offers a newly designed and fully structured training pathway for candidates to attain the professional driving qualification.



As general concerns mount concerning the stability of Department for Infrastructure core funding streams for Dial-A-Lift (DAL) and the Disability Action Transport Service (DATS), DART is acutely aware of the pressing need to diversify further beyond core grant and reliance on annual grants into a more fully diversified social enterprise operation with an emphasis on creating sustainable income streams for transport and training services.

Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards

The company engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2006
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

Reserves Policy

The Reserves policy has been updated during the course of the current year by the trustees. A new free reserves target of £232,000, equivalent to six months running costs, has been agreed. The capital replacement reserve target is still £280,000, which the trustees feel would be sufficient for the replacement of fleet vehicles and accessible equipment as they reach the end of their natural life cycle. No change was made to the contingency reserve.

The Trustees feel that these levels of reserves are essential to enable the Charity to continue to provide its activities for the foreseeable future. The Reserves Policy is an integral part of the charity's planning, budget and forecasts.

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

Public Benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities for the year the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities have helped achieve the charity purposes and provide a benefit to the beneficiaries.

Down Armagh Rural Transport (DART) Partnership exists to develop, deliver and maintain not-for-profit accessible community transport options for the public benefit of our members.

Our public benefit provided through our transport services reduces social isolation and social exclusion by reaching the hard to reach and providing access to essential services and connections to the wider community.

Our services improve the quality of life and health and well-being for our users by enabling access to health and medical facilities.

DART's services also target social need by facilitating access to training and employment opportunities for our members.

Our organisation is committed to community development principles and we work in close partnership with other organisations and charities engaged in promoting the relief of persons who are in need through the provision of appropriate services.

Other direct benefits include the promotion of volunteering and training which provides public benefit to groups and communities and the provision of accredited driver training which enhances the skills and personal development of community volunteers.

Auditors

The auditors, Daly Park & Company Ltd, (Chartered Accountants) have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

Certification Statement

We confirm that the DFI grant has been used solely for the purposes intended and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 27.6.23 and signed on its behalf by:

John Spiers
Director



John Magennis
Director



Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees, who are also directors of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees as the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law) including FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the net income or expenditure of the company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the 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 (information needed by the company's auditor in connection with preparing the auditor's report) of which the company's auditor is unaware, and
- the trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 27.6.23 and signed on its behalf by:

John Spiers
Director



John Magennis
Director



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the Members of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the company financial statements of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership ('the company') for the financial year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 2. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

In our opinion, when reporting in accordance with a fair presentation framework the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its deficit for the financial year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's Report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the Members of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the Trustees' Annual Report.

Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on page 6, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditor's Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

There is an inherent difficulty in detecting irregularities during audit. However the effectiveness of entity's controls, the nature and extent of audit procedures performed, gives us confidence in detecting irregularities

Further information regarding the scope of our responsibilities as auditor

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our Auditor's Report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our Auditor's Report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
to the Members of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.


Ruairi Maginn (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of
DALY PARK & COMPANY LTD
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
4 Carnegie Street
Lurgan
Co. Armagh
BT66 6AS
Northern Ireland

27/06/2023

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)

for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds		Other Restricted Funds		DFI Restricted Funds		Total 2023	Unrestricted Funds		Other Restricted Funds		DFI Restricted Funds		Total 2022
		2023	£	2023	£	2023	£		2022	£	2022	£	2022	£	
Incoming Resources															
Voluntary Income	3.1	-		260,732		14,226		274,958	10,616	237,691	33,881		282,188		
Activities for generating funds	3.2	8,746		-		109,361		118,107	75,960	-	124,013		199,973		
Investments	3.3	77		-		-		77	353	-	-		353		
Total incoming resources		8,823		260,732		123,587		393,142	86,929	237,691	157,894		482,514		
Resources Expended															
Charitable activities	4.1	80,294		243,399		141,521		465,214	10,870	328,570	157,907		497,347		
Net incoming/outgoing resources before transfers		(71,471)		17,333		(17,934)		(72,072)	76,059	(90,879)	(13)		(14,833)		
Gross transfers between funds		-		-		-		-	80,418	-	(80,418)		-		
Net movement in funds for the financial year		(71,471)		17,333		(17,934)		(72,072)	156,477	(90,879)	(80,431)		(14,833)		
Reconciliation of funds															
Balances brought forward at 1 April 2022	14	522,963		65,508		17,934		606,405	366,486	156,387	98,365		621,238		
Balances carried forward at 31 March 2023		451,492		82,841		-		534,333	522,963	65,508	17,934		606,405		

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the financial year.

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Company Number: NI038364

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	9	28,132	93,491
Current Assets			
Debtors	10	64,523	112,947
Cash at bank and in hand		687,268	432,990
		751,791	545,937
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	(10,475)	(33,023)
Net Current Assets		741,316	512,914
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		769,448	606,405
Grants receivable	12	(235,115)	-
Net Assets		534,333	606,405
Funds			
DFI Restricted funds		-	17,934
Other funds:	13		
Restricted trust funds		82,841	65,508
Unrestricted designated funds		297,500	522,963
General fund (unrestricted)		153,992	-
Total funds	14	534,333	606,405

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 27.6.23 and signed on its behalf by

John Spiers
Director



John Magennis
Director



Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office of the company is 10 Charlestown Avenue, Portadown, Co. Armagh, BT63 5ZF, Northern Ireland which is also the principal place of business of the company. The financial statements have been presented in Pound Sterling (£) which is also the functional currency of the company.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charity's financial statements.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102".

As permitted by the Companies Act 2006, the company has varied the standard formats in that act for the Statement of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet. Departures from the standard formats are to comply with the requirements of the Charities SORP and are in compliance with section 4.7, 10.6 and 15.2 of that SORP.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements of the company for the financial year ended 31 December 2017 have been prepared on the going concern basis and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102".

Cash flow statement

The company has availed of the exemption in FRS 102 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement because it is classified as a small company.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income or capital is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the company is legally entitled to it, its financial value can be quantified with reasonable certainty and there is reasonable certainty of its ultimate receipt. Entitlement to legacies is considered established when the company has been notified of a distribution to be made by the executors. Income received in advance of due performance under a contract is accounted for as deferred income until earned. Grants for activities are recognised as income when the related conditions for legal entitlement have been met. All other income is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or at valuation, less accumulated depreciation. The charge to depreciation is calculated to write off the original cost or valuation of tangible fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives as follows:

Land and buildings freehold	-	20% Straight line
Fixtures, fittings, and equipment	-	50% Straight line
Motor vehicles	-	50% Straight line

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due. Income recognised by the company from government agencies and other co-founders, but not yet received at financial year end, is included in debtors.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand comprises cash on deposit at banks requiring less than three months' notice of withdrawal.

Taxation and deferred taxation

No current or deferred taxation arises as the company has been granted charitable exemption. Irrecoverable valued added tax is expensed as incurred.

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

continued

3. INCOME					
3.1 DONATIONS AND LEGACIES	Unrestricted Funds	Other Restricted Funds	DFI Restricted Funds	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Grant income- Disability Action Transport Scheme	-	146,879	-	146,879	186,200
Grant income-Assisted Rural Transport Scheme	-	-	32,160	32,160	33,881
DFI Blue/Green Infrastructure	-	-	-17,934	-17,934	-
Other Restricted Funds	-	113,853	-	113,853	51,491
Grant Income	-	260,732	14,226	274,958	271,572
3.2 OTHER CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES					
		Unrestricted Funds	DFI Restricted Funds	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£
DFI Rural Transport Funding	-	-	106,602	106,602	121,490
DAL Generated Fare Income	-	-	2,759	2,759	2,523
Transport Services & Training	8,746	8,746	-	8,746	75,960
		8,746	109,361	118,107	199,973
3.3 INVESTMENTS					
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£
Investments		77	-	77	353
4. EXPENDITURE					
4.1 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Direct Costs	Other Costs	Support Costs	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Direct Service Delivery Costs	207,362	-	1,334	208,696	252,767
Despatch Function Costs	132,024	-	12,128	144,152	100,326
Administration & Support	52,361	-	60,005	112,366	144,254
	391,747	-	73,467	465,214	497,347
5. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS					
				2023	2022
				£	£
Depreciation				34,855	58,035
General Office costs				31,194	34,547
General expenses				4,486	6,852
Bank fees				332	233
Audit fees				2,600	2,113
				73,467	101,780

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

continued

6. NET INCOMING RESOURCES		2023	2022	
		£	£	
Net Incoming Resources are stated after charging/(crediting):				
Depreciation of tangible assets		34,855	58,035	
Deficit/(surplus) on disposal of tangible fixed assets		18,085	(3,600)	
Auditor's remuneration:				
- audit services		2,600	2,113	
Grants receivable received		-	(9,916)	
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
7. INVESTMENT AND OTHER INCOME		2023	2022	
		£	£	
Revenue grants received		-	9,916	
Bank interest		77	353	
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
		<u>77</u>	<u>10,269</u>	
8. EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION				
Number of employees				
The average number of persons employed (including executive trustees) during the financial year was as follows:				
		2023	2022	
		Number	Number	
Employees		<u>12</u>	<u>10</u>	
The staff costs comprise:		2023	2022	
		£	£	
Wages and salaries		140,354	126,956	
Pension costs		9,833	12,162	
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
		<u>150,187</u>	<u>139,118</u>	
9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS				
	Land and buildings freehold	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 April 2022	-	24,254	271,642	295,896
Additions	8,500	7,208	-	15,708
Disposals	-	-	(96,310)	(96,310)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 March 2023	8,500	31,462	175,332	215,294
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2022	-	22,048	180,357	202,405
Charge for the financial year	1,700	4,707	28,448	34,855
On disposals	-	-	(50,098)	(50,098)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 March 2023	1,700	26,755	158,707	187,162
Net book value				
At 31 March 2023	<u>6,800</u>	<u>4,707</u>	<u>16,625</u>	<u>28,132</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>2,206</u>	<u>91,285</u>	<u>93,491</u>

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

continued

10.	DEBTORS		2023		2022
			£		£
	Trade debtors/prepayments		30,434		12,713
	Amounts owed by related parties		3,837		3,837
	Other debtors-DFI Other		3,067		11,931
	Other debtors-DFI Blue/Green Infrastructure Fund		-		17,934
	Other debtors-ABC Covid & Essentials Fund		-		5,000
	Other debtors-Restricted Disability Action Transport Scheme		13,930		41,411
	Other debtors-Dart Direct		3,830		3,830
	Taxation and social security costs		9,425		16,291
			<u>64,523</u>		<u>112,947</u>
11.	CREDITORS		2023		2022
	Amounts falling due within one year		£		£
	Taxation and social security costs		5,219		4,879
	Accruals and deferred income-Other accruals		5,256		3,617
	Accruals and deferred income- DFI Blue/ Green Infrastructure Fund		-		24,527
			<u>10,475</u>		<u>33,023</u>
12.	GRANTS RECEIVABLE		2023		2022
			£		£
	Capital grants received and receivable				
	Increase in financial year		<u>235,115</u>		<u>-</u>
	In the year ended 31 March 2023 Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership had committed to purchase several motor vehicles. Mobility grant funding was secured and received at the year end. The grant's recognition is conditional upon delivery of the motor vehicles which are due to be purchased and delivered within the next twelve months.				
13.	RESERVES		2023		2022
			£		£
	At 1 April 2022		606,405		621,238
	Deficit for the financial year		(72,072)		(14,833)
	At 31 March 2023		<u>534,333</u>		<u>606,405</u>
14.	FUNDS				
14.1	RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	Unrestricted	Other	DFI	Total
		Funds	Restricted	Restricted	Funds
		£	Funds	Funds	£
		£	£	£	£
	At 1 April 2021	366,486	148,056	106,696	621,238
	Movement during the financial year	156,477	(82,548)	(88,762)	(14,833)
	At 31 March 2022	522,963	65,508	17,934	606,405
	Movement during the financial year	(71,471)	17,333	(17,934)	(72,072)
	At 31 March 2023	<u>451,492</u>	<u>82,841</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>534,333</u>

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

continued

14.2 ANALYSIS OF MOVEMENTS ON FUNDS

	Balance 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	Balance 31 March 2023 £
DFI Restricted Funds					
DFI Blue/ green Infrastructure Fund	17,934	-17,934	-	-	-
Assisted Rural Transport Scheme	-	32,160	32,160	-	-
DAL General Fare Income	-	2,759	2,759	-	-
DFI Rural Transport Funding	-	106,602	106,602	-	-
	<u>17,934</u>	<u>123,587</u>	<u>141,521</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Other Restricted funds					
Disability Action Transport Scheme	-	146,879	146,879	-	-
Armagh City Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council	5,000	(2,400)	419	-	2,181
The National Lottery Community Fund	50,621	62,000	71,702	-	40,919
Southern Health & Social Care Trust	9,887	20,253	10,561	-	19,579
Rank Foundation	-	34,000	13,838	-	20,162
	<u>65,508</u>	<u>260,732</u>	<u>243,399</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82,841</u>
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted - Capital Replacement	280,000	-	-	-	280,000
Unrestricted - Contingency	17,500	-	-	-	17,500
Unrestricted General	225,463	8,823	80,294	-	153,992
	<u>522,963</u>	<u>8,823</u>	<u>80,294</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>451,492</u>
Total funds	<u>606,405</u>	<u>393,142</u>	<u>465,214</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>534,333</u>

14.3 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Fixed assets - charity use £	Current assets £	Current liabilities £	Deferred Grant income £	Total £
DFI restricted Funds	-	-	-	-	-
Mobility restricted grant	-	-	-	(235,115)	(235,115)
Other restricted funds	-	82,841	-	-	82,841
Unrestricted general funds	28,132	668,950	(10,475)	-	686,607
	<u>28,132</u>	<u>751,791</u>	<u>(10,475)</u>	<u>(235,115)</u>	<u>534,333</u>

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

continued

15. STATUS

The company is limited by guarantee not having a share capital.

The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of its being wound up while they are members, or within one year thereafter, for the payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before they ceased to be members, and the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £ 1.

16. POST-BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

There have been no significant events affecting the Charity since the financial year-end.

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103505

Annual report

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees present their Trustees' Annual Report, combining the Directors' Report and Trustees' Report, and the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Trustees' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Trustees' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines. The trustees of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's constitution are known as members of the board of trustees.

In this report the trustees of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 March 2023.

The company is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and, although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice (Charities SORP effective January 2015), the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

Financial Results

At the end of the financial year the company has assets of £779,923 (2022 - £639,428) and liabilities of £245,590 (2022 - £33,023). The net assets of the company have decreased by £(72,072).

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

Trustees

The trustees who served throughout the financial year, except as noted, were as follows:

John Spiers
John Magennis
Robert John Verner
John Kane
Alan Gilmore
William Archer (Resigned 22 February 2023)

Objectives and Activities

Down Armagh Rural Transport (DART) provides affordable, accessible, community transport services in response to the needs of people living in the Craigavon and Banbridge area. DART secures grants and donations to support provision of subsidized transport for beneficiaries. DART deliver services using community minibuses and volunteer 's cars. DART provides information and advice to enable people to avail of various means of travel to enable access to local services. DART works in partnership with other transport providers to ensure alternatives and linkages to other transport services are available for individuals and community organisations.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in the respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The company is under the control of the directors who are, therefore, acting trustees for the charity.

Appointment of acting Trustees / Directors

As described in the Articles of Association a new director may be eligible for appointment if 21 days before the annual general meeting, written notice is deposited with the registered office of the intended proposal, signed by a member and signed by the person being proposed, so as to indicate his/ her willingness to be elected.

Trustee Induction and Training

New trustees are briefed on their legal obligation under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Board and decision-making processes and recent financial performance of the charity. Trustees are encouraged to view the Charities Commission website so as to gain a full understanding of trustee roles and responsibilities.

Principal Achievements 2022-2023

Down Armagh Rural Transport (DART) Partnership Ltd, has continued to provide, through this accounting period, a range of public benefits through the development and delivery of a range of community-based transport and training services which reduce social exclusion and increase the quality of life for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in our community.

In terms of service growth, passenger trips are up 51% on the previous year with over 25,000 trips delivered as DART continues a well-established growth trend in respect of the post-Covid environment, with Dial-A Lift services back to post-Covid levels.

Accredited training services have grown by 300% with 100 people training to accredited standards in either a MIDAS qualification or CPC Minibus D1.

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

The accounting year 2022-2023 has also seen DART attract major funding from the Motability Community Transport grant. This £600,000 funding subvention from Motability will allow DART to diversify into a range of non-core services such as delivering specialised transport intervention to disabled children to allow them to participate more fully in school extracurricular activities and facilitating broader access for disabled people to health and social events. All of these successfully funded services have been developed to meet some of the identified gaps in the accessible transport network.

The three-year funding provided through the Motability Community Transport Fund has also enabled DART to purchase two new accessible minibus vehicles to add to the existing DART accessible minibus fleet.

Additionally, DART Direct (DART's social enterprise arm) has been providing full D1 minibus training during the accounting period for community drivers, through a social enterprise approach which offers a newly designed and fully structured training pathway for candidates to attain the professional driving qualification.



As general concerns mount concerning the stability of Department for Infrastructure core funding streams for Dial-A-Lift (DAL) and the Disability Action Transport Service (DATS), DART is acutely aware of the pressing need to diversify further beyond core grant and reliance on annual grants into a more fully diversified social enterprise operation with an emphasis on creating sustainable income streams for transport and training services.

Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards

The company engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2006
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

Reserves Policy

The Reserves policy has been updated during the course of the current year by the trustees. A new free reserves target of £232,000, equivalent to six months running costs, has been agreed. The capital replacement reserve target is still £280,000, which the trustees feel would be sufficient for the replacement of fleet vehicles and accessible equipment as they reach the end of their natural life cycle. No change was made to the contingency reserve.

The Trustees feel that these levels of reserves are essential to enable the Charity to continue to provide its activities for the foreseeable future. The Reserves Policy is an integral part of the charity's planning, budget and forecasts.

Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

Public Benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities for the year the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities have helped achieve the charity purposes and provide a benefit to the beneficiaries.

Down Armagh Rural Transport (DART) Partnership exists to develop, deliver and maintain not-for-profit accessible community transport options for the public benefit of our members.

Our public benefit provided through our transport services reduces social isolation and social exclusion by reaching the hard to reach and providing access to essential services and connections to the wider community.

Our services improve the quality of life and health and well-being for our users by enabling access to health and medical facilities.

DART's services also target social need by facilitating access to training and employment opportunities for our members.

Our organisation is committed to community development principles and we work in close partnership with other organisations and charities engaged in promoting the relief of persons who are in need through the provision of appropriate services.

Other direct benefits include the promotion of volunteering and training which provides public benefit to groups and communities and the provision of accredited driver training which enhances the skills and personal development of community volunteers.

Auditors

The auditors, Daly Park & Company Ltd, (Chartered Accountants) have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

Certification Statement

We confirm that the DFI grant has been used solely for the purposes intended and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 27.6.23 and signed on its behalf by:

John Spiers
Director



John Magennis
Director



Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees, who are also directors of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees as the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law) including FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the net income or expenditure of the company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the 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 (information needed by the company's auditor in connection with preparing the auditor's report) of which the company's auditor is unaware, and
- the trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 27.6.23 and signed on its behalf by:

John Spiers
Director



John Magennis
Director



Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

Northern Ireland - Charity number 103505

Annual return

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the Members of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the company financial statements of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership ('the company') for the financial year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 2. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

In our opinion, when reporting in accordance with a fair presentation framework the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its deficit for the financial year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's Report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the Members of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the Trustees' Annual Report.

Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on page 6, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditor's Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

There is an inherent difficulty in detecting irregularities during audit. However the effectiveness of entity's controls, the nature and extent of audit procedures performed, gives us confidence in detecting irregularities

Further information regarding the scope of our responsibilities as auditor

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our Auditor's Report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our Auditor's Report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
to the Members of Down Armagh Rural Transport Partnership
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.


Ruairi Maginn (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of
DALY PARK & COMPANY LTD
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
4 Carnegie Street
Lurgan
Co. Armagh
BT66 6AS
Northern Ireland

27/06/2023