

**Trustees Report
for the year ended 30 September 2023**

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2023. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the constitution, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Structure, governance and management

The group is an unincorporated charity.

Trustees

The trustees who served during the year were as follows:

C Hamill, S Jones, B Jeffers, C Green, C Radcliffe, B Madden, B McCaughey, C Baxter, A MacQuillan, J Denvir, A Carr, A Hughes, C Welsh.

Objectives and activities

The objects for which the group is established are:

- To provide a range of activities for clients of the Everton Day Centre.
- To promote access to benefits through information and opportunities for networking.

Achievements and performance

It has been a long haul but I'm pleased to note that life for all working at or attending Everton Centre has returned to very nearly what it was before 2020. This is due to the great work done by staff at all levels within Everton to minimise the impact of the restrictions and to restore normality as soon as it was possible.

We are now able to meet regularly in Everton throughout the year and to avoid irksome personal precautions. Members who live at home have been back in full attendance for over a year and those in care homes have seen a marked increase in their attendance as well.

I want to acknowledge the generosity, over many years of the Dockers' Club. In pre-Covid days, they used to host a much-enjoyed pre-Christmas dance for members of Everton. It has not proved possible to restore this, due to lingering concerns about issues of close proximity. But the Dockers very kindly sent us a cheque for £455 out of the blue last November.

After all the refurbishment which finished a year ago and which made such a difference to the feel and atmosphere in Everton, I'm pleased to note that there are now plans for a phase 3 in the area of the reception and adjacent rooms and hopes are high that it will happen in 2023/24. More long term plans include the kitchen area and the outside space.

Everton Centre parents and carers group

I am delighted to report that representatives of Danske Bank accepted our invitation to come to Everton and see the Clevertouch screen in action. They made a major contribution last year towards the purchase of this equipment. The members of Everton showed the impressive IT skills which this clever technology inculcates in them.

I know we have all been affected this year by industrial action. The fact that committed staff have felt obliged to take such action is an indictment of the healthcare system in Northern Ireland and not of the staff themselves. If a little inconvenience to us helps ultimately to improve conditions in the healthcare system, then I feel it is worth doing.

I regret to note that one of our trustees, Brendan McCaughey has decided to step down from our board. Brendan served over many years and played a valuable part in our deliberations. He was always a cheerful, friendly presence at our meetings. However, his niece Emma has agreed to come on in his stead and I look forward to working with her.

I want to thank all the many people whose hard work and commitment have contributed so much to the success of Everton as a centre which enriches the lives of our loved ones. Staff at every level have worked together with care and commitment and I want to thank them all. And I also want to mention the parents and carers who served with us over the last year. I think we perform as a valuable support to Everton and I want to thank them particularly.

Financial review

During the year the group maintained sound financial reserves.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice- Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

This report was approved by the Board on 9th November 2023 and signed on its behalf by

C. Hamill, Chairman