

## **Mid & East Antrim Agewell Partnership**

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

<b>Chairman</b>	Mr W McCaughey
<b>Trustees</b>	Mr W McCaughey Mrs E R Booker Mrs M A Morrow Mr H Nicholl Mr S Gordon Ms J S Mcguigan Mr S Slaine Mrs D Neill Mrs A Keenan Mr I Deboys Mrs K Brady Mrs Anne Bell
<b>Secretary</b>	Mr C Havelin
<b>Senior Management / Leadership Team</b>	Ms J Marshall, Executive Director of Community Programmes Ms S McLaughlin, Executive Director of Health Programmes
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	NIC104587
<b>Company Registration Number</b>	NI620052
<b>Registered Office</b>	The charity is incorporated in Northern Ireland. Broughshane House 70 Main Street Broughshane BALLYMENA County Antrim BT42 4JW
<b>Auditor</b>	D T Carson & Co. 51-53 Thomas Street Ballymena Co Antrim BT43 6AZ

## **Mid & East Antrim Agewell Partnership**

### **Trustees' Report**

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, are pleased to present the annual Trustees report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act 2006 purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2008, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, 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 2019).

#### **Background**

Mid & East Antrim Agewell Partnership (MEAAP) was established in March 2011, with the aim of improving the lives of older people within the Mid & East Antrim area i.e. Ballymena, Larne & Carrickfergus. MEAAP became a Company Limited by Guarantee in August 2013 and has since registered with the Charities Commission for Northern Ireland in January 2016.

#### **Trustees and officers**

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:	Mr W McCaughey
	Mrs E R Booker
	Mrs M A Morrow
	Mr H Nicholl
	Mr S Gordon
	Ms J S McGuigan
	Mr S Slaine
	Mrs D Neill
	Mrs A Keenan (appointed 11 October 2022)
	Mr I Deboys (appointed 11 October 2022)
	Mrs K Brady (appointed 11 October 2022)
	Mrs Anne Bell (appointed 11 October 2022)
	Mrs N McCrudden (appointed 11 October 2022 and resigned 28 April 2023)
	Mrs J Haveron (resigned 11 October 2022)
	Mr K W Wilson (resigned 11 October 2022)
	Mr D Davison (resigned 11 October 2022)

## Mid & East Antrim Agewell Partnership

### Trustees' Report

Chairman:	Mr W McCaughey Mr K W Wilson (resigned 11 October 2022)
Secretary:	Mr C Havelin
Senior Management / Leadership Team:	Ms J Marshall, Executive Director of Community Programmes Ms S McLaughlin, Executive Director of Health Programmes

#### Objectives and activities

##### *Objects and aims*

##### Vision, Mission and Values

##### Vision

Mid & East Antrim is a place where everyone can actively age well together, being involved, heard and valued.

##### Mission

Our mission is to support individuals and communities to actively age well through partnership working, as we believe everyone deserves a good quality of life.

##### Values

- Listening, Caring and Sharing
- Honesty and Openness
- Challenging and Influencing
- Connecting and Transforming

##### *Objectives, strategies and activities*

Specific objectives for the year 2022 -2023 were:

1. Relieve Poverty - The direct benefits which flow from this purpose include increased uptake of benefits, raising awareness of financial hardship; increased confidence in securing assistance; and increased opportunities to gaining support either directly by AGEWELL or signposted by AGEWELL i.e. the provision of items including keep warm packs, healthy food parcels, home security measures, nuisance call blocking devices, subsidised handyperson scheme, volunteer transport. These benefits are evidenced through the feedback from the local community, beneficiaries receiving the service, evaluation of projects by awarding bodies.
2. Advance Education - The direct benefits which flow from this purpose include improved employability or volunteering opportunities for older people, creation of new or enhanced skills, increased self-confidence, and increased access to training opportunities within the Mid & East Antrim Borough Council area, increased uptake of mainstream educational services and a reduction in isolation. These benefits are evidenced through feedback from the local community, beneficiaries attending courses, evaluation of projects by tutors and awarding bodies.
3. To Promote Health - The direct benefits which flow from this purpose include: reduced social isolation, improvement of the quality of life for those in need and reduced levels of stress and anxiety and increased mental health among those in need. These benefits are evidenced through attendance at activities such as our luncheon clubs, handyperson service users, home security service users, Good Morning service users, feedback from statutory organisations such as Police Service for Northern Ireland, Mid & East Antrim Borough Council, Northern Health & Social Care Trust & Public Health Agency, beneficiaries, independent evaluations of our activities.

## **Mid & East Antrim Agewell Partnership**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### ***Public benefit***

The public benefits that Mid & East Antrim Agewell Partnership seek to achieve are:

1. The prevention or relief of poverty
2. The advancement of education
3. The advancement of health or the saving of lives

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of The Charities Act 2008 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

#### **Achievements and performance**

Our key projects during 2022/2023 have included:-

##### **IMPACTAgewell®**

In 2022/2023 we entered Year 3 of our funding arrangement with the Dunhill Medical Trust and the Health and Social Care Board. During this period we have continued to scale the programme across Mid and East Antrim to include partnerships with 20 GP Practices. The programme aims to support older people using an assets based community development approach, focusing on the social determinants of health, to improve their health and wellbeing.

In 2022/2023 we received 674 referrals to support older people through the IMPACTAgewell programme.

##### **Ageing Well Programme**

As an organisation we have continued to deliver our Handyperson service and Good Morning Telephone Befriending support in partnership with Bryson Energy, Good Morning Ballymena, Good Morning Carrickfergus and Good Morning Larne.

This service was extended for a further year to support older people throughout 2022/2023. The Ageing Well Service is funded by various Mid & East Antrim Borough Council Community Planning Partners including The Health & Social Care Board, Public Health Agency, Northern Health & Social Care Trust, Northern Ireland Housing Executive and Mid & East Antrim Borough Council. Throughout the year 2022/2023 The Ageing Well Service supported 518 older people with the Handyperson Service and maintained support for over 500 of older people with Good Morning telephone calls.

##### **Community Navigator Service**

The year 2022/2023 saw the final year of service delivery for the Community Navigator Service. The Community Navigator Service was funded by The Northern Health & Social Care Trust and delivered in partnership with Age NI. The service provided much needed telephone signposting for older people and statutory agencies, providing information on support and services available in the community and voluntary sector. The service also provided support to local older peoples groups with funding, governance and project support. In the year 2022/2023 the Community Navigator supported 1115 older people across the Mid and East Antrim area.

## **Mid & East Antrim Agewell Partnership**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### **Additional projects**

In addition to the key projects highlighted above, the organisation has also sourced and secured funding for additional small projects to support and underpin the key services. These include; cost of living support with our Helping Hands project which supported households over the winter period. Support with scams including delivery of our weekly Scamsavvy text alert, which highlights new scams in circulation, as well as community performances of 'Red Flag', a theatre performance, written and performed to highlight the impact of scams.

We were delighted to secure two years of funding from DoH, administered by The Community Foundation NI to support Older Carers with a free door to door ironing service to help relieve the physical pressures of household tasks.

The social and emotional aspects of support remain important to us as we continue to provide telephone counselling for older people as well as matching local volunteers and older people together for befriending as part of our Building Flourishing Friendships project, funded by Awards for All.

As an organisation we were also delighted to host Northern Ireland's first Funeral Festival, to raise awareness about the importance of end of life planning. This event was supported by the writing and launch of a book called 'Mars Bar and Apple Sandwiches and Other Stories', funded by MEABC Community Relations, which showcased experiences of death and dying from around the world.

Agewell continues to support those older people who reside in care homes and this is why with funding from the Halifax Foundation we were able to deliver our 'Book Buddies' programme to six care homes and six primary schools across the Borough. This literacy programme, provided friendship across the generations through the art of reading aloud and storytelling. Its main aim, targeted, isolation in older adults as well as promoting literacy, performance skills and an ethos of volunteering from a young age for the children.

#### **Financial review**

The total unretreicted incoming resources for the year amounted to £8,300 (2022: £33,901), with expenditure of £49,240 (2022: £36,104) resulting in a net decrease of funds, after transfers, of £19,275 (2022: increase of £48,614).

This leaves unrestricted funds after transfers of £130,233 (2022: £149,508) at the year end.

## **Mid & East Antrim Agewell Partnership**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### **Policy on reserves**

The Task Force on Resourcing the Voluntary and Community Sector recommends that all Voluntary and Community Organisations should have a policy on reserves proportionate to their needs and funders should view reserves as a positive statement of prudent management and not a barrier to providing funding.

It is further recommended that the Charity Commission Guidance on organisational reserves should be adopted.

In formulating an assessment on the level of reserves the following guidelines provided by the Charity Commission have been used:

- Current and anticipated income and expenditure levels;
- The organisation's lack of any other tangible assets (such as a building);
- Current and projected funding patterns;
- The notice and redundancy requirements associated with the employees; and
- The programmes/services that the organisation plan to deliver in the period covered by the strategic plan.

Based on the guidelines above AGEWELL should therefore aim to have an operating reserve equal to 3 months operating costs i.e. approximately £90,000. The AGEWELL Board of Trustees has agreed that a specific fund is set up to hold organisational reserves.

The Board of Trustees will be responsible for monitoring the level of reserves on a quarterly basis. This policy should be reviewed every 3 years in line with the strategic planning cycle. At this time, if it is demonstrated that it is appropriate to do so, the level can either be reduced or increased..

#### **Future Plans**

Mid & East Antrim Agewell Partnership continue to work towards the achievement of the organisational aims by implementing a new organisational strategy with focus on the strategic pillars listed below;

#### ***2022-2025 Strategic Pillars***

1. Delivering innovative solutions for a healthier and more connected society
2. Ensuring the voice of Older People is heard in community and health policy development
3. Reconnecting Older People by strengthening and developing local community groups and partnerships
4. Supporting the wellbeing and skills development of our staff
5. Delivering strong governance and back-office services to all our stakeholders

In addition to this the organisation has commenced work on a new three year Income Generation Strategy. An effective income generation strategy will provide Agewell with increased financial stability and flexibility. By diversifying income streams through new avenues, including increased 'on the ground' fundraising, regular giving and a new social enterprise, this will help increase the organisations overall earnings, and achieve a greater sense of financial security.

## **Mid & East Antrim Agewell Partnership**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### **Going concern**

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

At the time of approving the accounts the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing these financial statements.

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

##### ***Nature of governing document***

The Charity's governing document is the Memorandum and Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up trustees are required to contribute £1.

##### ***Recruitment and appointment of trustees***

Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the Trustees of the Charity are elected to serve for a period of three years after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

The Charity seeks to ensure that Trustees with a range of experience from within the business profession serve on the committee. In the event of particular skills and experience being lost due to retirement, individuals are approached to offer themselves for election to the Charity.

##### ***Induction and training of trustees***

On appointment, Trustees are invited to an induction and provided with a induction pack of resources detailing relevant organisational details, as well as information on their legal obligations and responsibilities. The Trustees are invited to attend governance training as provided by NICVA and C03 throughout their term of office.

##### ***Arrangements for setting key management personnel remuneration***

Key Management Personnel consist of two Executive Directors, whose remuneration is agreed by the Trustees with support and advice provided by an independent HR Company.

##### ***Organisational structure***

The organisation is managed and directed by its Trustees. The Trustees are elected annually and meet bi monthly throughout the year.

## **Mid & East Antrim Agewell Partnership**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### **Relationships with related parties**

##### **Trustees**

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with the charity or a related entity.

Trustee expenses incurred for the financial year totalled £549.31.

#### ***Major risks and management of those risks***

##### ***Risk management***

The organisation carries out a full risk audit exercise on an annual basis. This exercise is carried out by the Trustees and senior management team and seeks to identify the risks that the charity is exposed to, with particular interest in the operational and financial risks that may affect the charity's ability to carry out its objectives. As part of this exercise, alongside the identification of risks, mitigating factors are also discussed. The Trustees are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks identified. This risk audit is then reviewed regularly at trustee meetings throughout the year. A key element of the management of financial risk is that of the organisational reserves policy and its regular review by Trustees.

#### **Financial instruments**

##### ***Objectives and policies***

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk.

##### ***Credit risk***

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and other receivables. The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its other receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows.

## **Mid & East Antrim Agewell Partnership**

### **Trustees' Report**

#### **Statement of trustees' responsibilities**

The trustees (who are also the directors of Mid & East Antrim Agewell Partnership for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". The report and accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable 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 applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

#### **Disclosure of information to auditor**

Each trustee has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The trustees confirm that there is no relevant information that they know of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

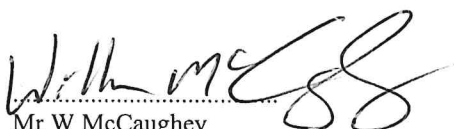
#### **Reappointment of auditor**

In accordance with section 485 of the Companies Act 2006, a resolution for the re-appointment of D T Carson & Co. as auditors of the charity is to be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

#### **Small companies provision statement**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 12 October 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

  
Mr W McCaughey  
Chairman and trustee