

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Northern Ireland · Charity number 105725

## Details

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Status Received

Company number [60834](#)

Registered 2016-11-10

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

## Contact

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Address Unit 5  
The Old Clubhouse  
20 Sandholes Road  
Cookstown  
Co Tyrone  
BT80 1ar  
BT80 1AR

Phone 028 8675 8655

Email [louise@nirwn.org](mailto:louise@nirwn.org)

Website [www.nirwn.org](http://www.nirwn.org)

## Activities

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**Purposes:** OBJECTS The Company is established to promote and support rural women in rural Northern Ireland (the “area of benefit”) without distinction of age, sexuality, nationality, ethnic identity, disability, political or religious opinion, by associating the statutory authorities, voluntary organisations and other bodies the inhabitants and in particular: (i) To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of rural women’s organisations and projects in the area by providing advice, information, education and training, and practical support to such organisations and projects for the benefit of the public; (ii) To raise awareness among the general public and provide representation to policy makers of the needs and experiences of rural women in the area of benefit; (iii) To promote or assist in promoting cooperation and networking between women’s organisations in the area of benefit for information exchange and policy consultation. (iv) To promote the participation of rural women in decision making amongst public bodies in the area of benefit

**What the charity does:** The prevention or relief of poverty, The advancement of citizenship or community development

**How the charity works:** Advice/advocacy/information,Community development,Cross-border/cross-community,Education/training,Gender,General charitable purposes,Human rights/equality,Rural development

**Who the charity helps:** Voluntary and community sector,Women

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£327,348	£330,479	£-88,528	8

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Claire Boyd		
Frances Kerr		
Grainne Knox		
Helen Flynn		
Kate Jackson		
Lesley Gault		
Majella Murphy		
Mary Begley		
Mrs Patricia Anne Buckley		
Nuala Mckenna		
Rachel Doran		

**Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105725

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# Accounts

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**Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Unaudited Financial Statements**  
**31 March 2025**

**KELLY & O'NEILL LTD**

Chartered accountants  
15E Molesworth Street  
Cookstown  
Co. Tyrone  
BT80 8NX

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2025

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# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 31 March 2025

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The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

#### Reference and administrative details

**Registered charity name** Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

**Charity registration number** NIC105725

**Company registration number** NI060834

**Principal office and registered office** Unit 5  
20 Sandholes Road  
Cookstown  
Co. Tyrone  
BT80 9AR

#### The trustees

P Buckley  
F Kerr  
A McVicker (Resigned 12 May 2025)  
M Murphy  
M McSorley  
L Mooney  
C Fitzpatrick (Resigned 21 July 2025)  
M Byrne (Resigned 7 October 2025)

**Independent examiner** Cathal O'Neill FCA  
15E Molesworth Street  
Cookstown  
Co. Tyrone  
BT80 8NX

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

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#### Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 29 January 1997. The company was established by a Memorandum of Association and is governed under its Articles of Association.

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

P Buckley  
F Kerr  
A McVicker (Resigned 12 May 2025)  
M Murphy  
M McSorley  
L Mooney  
C Fitzpatrick (Resigned 21 July 2025)  
M Byrne (Resigned 7 October 2025)

#### Objectives and activities

The Company is established to promote and support rural women in rural Northern Ireland (the "area of benefit") without distinction of age, sexuality, nationality, ethnic identity, disability, political or religious opinion, by associating the statutory authorities, voluntary organisations and other bodies the inhabitants and in particular:

- (i) To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of rural women's organisations and projects in the area by providing advice, information, education and training, and practical support to such organisations and projects for the benefit of the public.
- (ii) To raise awareness among the general public and provide representation to policy makers of the needs and experiences of rural women in the area of benefit.
- (iii) To promote or assist in promoting cooperation and networking between women's organisations in the area of benefit for information exchange and policy consultation.
- (iv) To promote the participation of rural women in decision making amongst public bodies in the area of benefit.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

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#### Achievements and performance

During 2024-2025, NIRWN continued to champion the voices, experiences and leadership of rural women across Northern Ireland, delivering meaningful impact at community, regional and policy levels. Guided by our members' lived realities, we expanded our programmes, strengthened our advocacy and deepened partnerships to address inequality, promote inclusion and support women's participation in civic, cultural, economic and peacebuilding spaces. From creative expression and community celebration to influencing strategic frameworks and decision-making at the highest levels, NIRWN's work this year reflects both the diversity of rural women's lives and our shared commitment to building safer, fairer and more connected rural communities.

"The Big Quilt" stands out as one of our most impactful projects this year - realising a long-cherished dream within NIRWN. This project illustrates the pride rural women have in their communities through textiles, capturing the essence of what they value and how they convey their unique sense of place. Participants came from diverse sections of our community, fostering a positive and inclusive environment. NIRWN supported our members to attend the first of the 2024 Rural Pride events in Omagh on Saturday 22nd June 2024 where we were proud to display our 'Big Quilt'. The quilt was created by women who participated in our Rural Engagement Arts Programme. We also brought it along to the very first Fermanagh Pride event on Saturday 7th September. This work was supported by the National Lottery Rural Engagement Arts Programme (REAP) delivered through the Arts Council NI (ACNI).

To mark this year's International Women's Day, support was provided to eight of our member groups to organise their own activities to mark the event. It is important to fully embrace and celebrate the diversity, uniqueness and strengths of women. In marking this UN recognised day each year on the 8th March, women celebrate their individuality and prioritise self-care, while empowering themselves to challenge the status quo, inspire change and create a more equitable world for everyone.

We have continued our work linking our membership to key decision makers and political representatives. We have hosted member sessions with Fleur Anderson MP Under Secretary of State for NI; Sorcha Eastwood MP; Rural Team of Sinn Fein and the Minister of DAERA Andrew Muir MLA amongst others. We have represented our members and their issues across all political parties and governance structures, Stormont Committees, Co Design Groups, Policy consultations etc.

An example of our influence in these spaces is the Launch of The End Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategic Framework, which recognises particular risks to women's safety and additional barriers they face in accessing to justice, services and support. The accompanying Action Plan for the first two years includes a target to run a community led review of the needs of women and girls facing additional risk of violence and barriers to access services, and to make recommendations in the first phase to include rural women. We are working closely with TEO to support this action. We are confident that this would not have been included in such a vital and long-awaited Strategic Framework without NIRWN's input and representation for rural women at the co design and policy development phase. Through support from Community Foundation NI (CFNI) NIRWN was able to offer bursary support during this period to rural women who experienced homelessness as a result of violence against women and girls.

NIRWN was a Co-Design group member for the NI Women's Parliament with representatives from other organisations from the Women's Sector. NIRWN was delighted to be able to bring three of our members and their supporters to Parliament Buildings on Friday 28th February 2025 to represent the voice of rural women. Speaker Edwin Poots MLA chaired a special sitting of the Women's Parliament in the Assembly Chamber. Key topics addressed included Violence against Women and Girls; Access

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# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2025

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to Health Services for Women; Unpaid Work; Caring Responsibilities and Affordable Childcare. NIRWN members had the opportunity to speak on issues affecting rural women in their areas.

Over the past year, we have continued to grow our communications and membership, while expanding our programming to respond to the needs of our members. We delivered lots of bespoke training in response to member needs e.g., Taiko Drumming, fused glass, digital skills, scam awareness etc. We developed and led the delivery of a pilot Heritage Project named "Breathing Spaces". This was a shared heritage project aimed at utilising our built heritage spaces, both inside and outside, to explore our commonalities and shared histories, providing neutral, inclusive spaces as an innovative way to approach Good Relations.

Our work on our Women Breaking Barriers Project moved into year 2 of delivery under the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. At the end of year 2 of the regional project, NIRWN had worked with 378 'economically inactive' rural women. 76 of these rural women were supported into sustained employment. There was consistent demand for spaces on the project, and the participant focused nature of the design and delivery created meaningful outcomes. It is evident that when barriers such as confidence, caring responsibilities and travel costs are addressed, rural women are keen to engage.

During the reporting year, NIRWN continued to deliver and strengthen women-led peacebuilding, gender equality and civic participation through the Women's Spaces programme and associated policy, research and public engagement activity.

Now in its third year, the Women's Spaces partnership programme, supported by Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Ireland, continued to build rural women's confidence, leadership and capacity to participate meaningfully in peacebuilding and decision-making. The programme is shaped by women's lived experiences and provides safe, inclusive and trauma-informed spaces for dialogue, learning and leadership development. In Year 3, the programme engaged with 278 participants, a significant growth year on year, demonstrating both reach and sustained demand for this work across rural communities.

A key highlight of the year was the launch of the Pillars for Peacebuilding Toolkit, coordinated through the Women's Spaces programme. The toolkit provided a practical framework to support women and women's groups to engage in peacebuilding across rural and shared spaces. The launch event attracted over 170 participants, attending both in person and online, reflecting strong interest and sectoral engagement.

NIRWN continued to work with CFNI on "Nothing About Us Without Us." NIRWN ensured that rural women's voices informed programme design, policy development and advocacy activity, particularly for women who are under-represented in public and civic spaces. NIRWN offered many opportunities for our members and rural women to engage, including the delivery of a four-week programme called "Visible Vocal and Valued", as well as online bespoke training.

Gender focused peacebuilding work was further developed through collaboration with Social Change Initiative (SCI), including work connected to an Icelandic research initiative on gender equality. This work explored international best practice and its relevance to Northern Ireland, informing NIRWN's gender analysis, policy engagement and peacebuilding approach. During this period the report was distributed online and via social media networks with an international reach.

NIRWN contributed to the Wider Civic Initiative programme aimed at strengthening inclusive democratic participation. This work involved structured engagement and dialogue and resulted in a published report focused on housing, highlighting the gender and rural dimensions of housing insecurity. The initiative concluded with a Civic Assembly-style event, bringing together community voices, civic society and decision-makers.

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# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2025

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We are grateful for the ongoing investment in rural women by DAERA and DfC through The Women's Regional Infrastructure Support Programme (WRISP) and the support for NIRWN's vision and mission by Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust (JRCT).

#### Financial review

The company is a not for profit charitable organisation with the main purpose of providing a neutral venue to the local community and charitable organisations.

For the year ended 31 March 2025, the charity's total income was £327,348, an increase of 13% from the previous year. Income was primarily derived from grants, which continues to provide a stable basis for delivering the charity's objectives.

Expenditure for the year totalled £330,479, an increase of 18% from the previous year. £327,894 of this was spent directly on charitable activities, and £2,585 on governance costs. The trustees are satisfied that the charity's resources have been applied in line with its objectives and that spending continues to be monitored carefully.

At the year end, the charity held total reserves of £16,868, which the trustees will continue to apply in support of the charity's objectives.

It is noted that outstanding grant payments were not received before year end as anticipated however, Trustees had received confirmation that all payments due would be paid and a payment schedule had been proposed.

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to these.

Overall, the charity's financial position remains stable, and the trustees are confident that it can continue to deliver its objectives in the coming year, while managing resources carefully.

#### Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 29 January 2026 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

*Mary McSorley*

**M McSorley**  
**Director**

# **Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

**Year ended 31 March 2025**

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN) ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025.

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

As the trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the '2008 Act') and the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act'). You are satisfied that the accounts of the company are not required by charity or company law to be audited and have chosen instead to have an independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements as carried out under section 65 of the 2008 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

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

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 65 of the 2008 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Chartered Accountants Ireland, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

# **Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31 March 2025**

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

*Cathal O'Neill*

**Cathal O'Neill FCA  
Independent Examiner**

**15E Molesworth Street  
Cookstown  
Co. Tyrone  
BT80 8NX**

**29 January 2026**

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2025

		Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>					
Charitable activities	5	<u>58,594</u>	<u>268,754</u>	<u>327,348</u>	<u>289,605</u>
<b>Total income</b>		<u>58,594</u>	<u>268,754</u>	<u>327,348</u>	<u>289,605</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Expenditure on charitable activities	6,7	<u>51,620</u>	<u>278,859</u>	<u>330,479</u>	<u>271,509</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>51,620</u>	<u>278,859</u>	<u>330,479</u>	<u>271,509</u>
<b>Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds</b>		<u>6,974</u>	<u>(10,105)</u>	<u>(3,131)</u>	<u>18,096</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		–	19,999	19,999	1,903
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>6,974</u>	<u>9,894</u>	<u>16,868</u>	<u>19,999</u>

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

The notes on pages 10 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Statement of Financial Position

31 March 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	13	2,605	3,473
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	14	91,216	90,145
Cash at bank and in hand		11,575	–
		<u>102,791</u>	<u>90,145</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	15	<u>88,528</u>	<u>73,619</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>14,263</u>	<u>16,526</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>16,868</u>	<u>19,999</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>16,868</u>	<u>19,999</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted funds		9,894	19,999
Unrestricted funds		6,974	–
<b>Total charity funds</b>	17	<u>16,868</u>	<u>19,999</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2025 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 29 January 2026, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

*Mary McSorley*

**M McSorley**  
Director

The notes on pages 10 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2025

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#### 1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in Northern Ireland and a registered charity in Northern Ireland. The address of the registered office is Unit 5, 20 Sandholes Road, Cookstown, Co. Tyrone, BT80 9AR.

#### 2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

#### 3. Accounting policies

##### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

##### Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, 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 the financial statements.

##### Disclosure exemptions

The Charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

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

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

Year ended 31 March 2025

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

##### **Fund accounting**

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

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

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

##### **Incoming resources**

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

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2025

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

##### Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

##### Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

##### Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Fixtures and fittings                      -     25% reducing balance

##### Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2025

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

#### Impairment of fixed assets *(continued)*

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

#### Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2025

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

##### Financial instruments *(continued)*

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

##### Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

#### 4. Limited by guarantee

None of the Trustees have any beneficial interest in the company. All of the Trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

#### 5. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Facilitation	2,090	–	2,090
Social Change Initiative Fellowship Bursary	–	–	–
VCD Cost of Living Grant (DFC)	–	–	–
WICT Plenaries (DFC)	–	6,505	6,505
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	56,504	–	56,504
WRISP (DFC)	–	75,841	75,841
WRDA *UKSPF	–	141,069	141,069
Developing Health Funding (PHA)	–	–	–
ACNI REAP	–	312	312
Murlough Foundation	–	–	–
4 Nations Civil Society Bursary	–	–	–
Heritage Lottery Fund NI	–	–	–
CFNI Bursaries	–	11,020	11,020
Womens Spaces (DFAT)	–	34,007	34,007
	<u>58,594</u>	<u>268,754</u>	<u>327,348</u>

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2025

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

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Facilitation	–	3,357	3,357
Social Change Initiative Fellowship Bursary	–	1,820	1,820
VCD Cost of Living Grant (DFC)	–	1,500	1,500
WICT Plenaries (DFC)	–	7,217	7,217
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	–	56,504	56,504
WRISP (DFC)	–	57,466	57,466
WRDA *UKSPF	–	101,051	101,051
Developing Health Funding (PHA)	–	15,000	15,000
ACNI REAP	–	5,054	5,054
Murlough Foundation	–	2,700	2,700
4 Nations Civil Society Bursary	–	150	150
Heritage Lottery Fund NI	–	3,850	3,850
CFNI Bursaries	–	–	–
Womens Spaces (DFAT)	–	33,936	33,936
	–	289,605	289,605

The funding previously known as Community Renewal Funds/UKSPF (WRDA) has been renamed WRDA \*UKSPF by the funder. Comparative figures continue to relate to the original funding but are shown under the updated name for presentation purposes.

#### 6. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Support costs	51,620	278,859	330,479

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Support costs	–	271,509	271,509

#### 7. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Support costs £	Total funds 2025 £	Total fund 2024 £
Direct Charitable Expenditure (DCE)	327,894	327,894	269,588
Governance costs	2,585	2,585	1,921
	330,479	330,479	271,509

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2025

---

#### 8. Analysis of support costs

	Analysis of support costs DCE £	<b>Total 2025</b> £	Total 2024 £
Staff costs	263,438	263,438	204,553
Premises	10,018	10,018	16,742
Finance costs	1,384	1,384	1,014
Other costs	53,055	53,055	47,280
	<u>327,895</u>	<u>327,895</u>	<u>269,589</u>

#### 9. Net (expenditure)/income

Net (expenditure)/income is stated after charging/(crediting):

	<b>2025</b> £	2024 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>868</u>	<u>1,158</u>

#### 10. Independent examination fees

	<b>2025</b> £	2024 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>2,584</u>	<u>1,920</u>

#### 11. Staff costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	<b>2025</b> £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	242,265	197,276
Employer contributions to pension plans	21,173	5,489
Other employee benefits	–	1,789
	<u>263,438</u>	<u>204,554</u>

The average head count of employees during the year was 8 (2024: 8). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	<b>2025</b> No.	2024 No.
Number of staff - Full Time	4	4
Number of staff - Part Time	4	4
	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2024: Nil).

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2025

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#### 12. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No Remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

#### 13. Tangible fixed assets

	<b>Fixtures and fittings</b>
	<b>£</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
<b>At 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025</b>	<u>23,486</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2024	20,013
Charge for the year	<u>868</u>
<b>At 31 March 2025</b>	<u>20,881</u>
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
<b>At 31 March 2025</b>	<u>2,605</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>3,473</u>

#### 14. Debtors

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade debtors	<u>91,216</u>	<u>90,145</u>

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

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Bank loans and overdrafts	–	8,065
Trade creditors	3,906	1,680
Accruals and deferred income	22,117	20,165
Social security and other taxes	<u>62,505</u>	<u>43,709</u>
	<u>88,528</u>	<u>73,619</u>

#### 16. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

##### Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £21,173 (2024: £5,489).

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2025

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#### 17. Analysis of charitable funds

##### Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2025 £
General funds	–	–	(1)	(1)
Unrestricted fund	–	58,594	(51,619)	6,975
	–	58,594	(51,620)	6,974

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2024 £
General funds	–	–	–	–
Unrestricted fund	–	–	–	–
	–	–	–	–

##### Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2025 £
Restricted Fund - B/Fwd	19,999	–	–	19,999
Restricted Fund	–	268,754	(278,859)	(10,105)
	19,999	268,754	(278,859)	9,894

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2024 £
Restricted Fund - B/Fwd	1,903	–	–	1,903
Restricted Fund	–	289,605	(271,509)	18,096
	1,903	289,605	(271,509)	19,999

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# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

Year ended 31 March 2025

---

#### 18. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	2,605	2,605
Current assets	102,791	102,791
Creditors less than 1 year	(88,528)	(88,528)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>16,868</u>	<u>16,868</u>

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	3,473	3,473
Current assets	90,145	90,145
Creditors less than 1 year	(73,619)	(73,619)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>19,999</u>	<u>19,999</u>

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# **Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Management Information**

**Year ended 31 March 2025**

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

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

## Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 March 2025

---

	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Income and endowments</b>		
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Facilitation	2,090	3,357
Social Change Initiative Fellowship Bursary	–	1,820
VCD Cost of Living Grant (DFC)	–	1,500
WICT Plenaries (DFC)	6,505	7,217
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	56,504	56,504
WRISP (DFC)	75,841	57,466
WRDA *UKSPF	141,069	101,051
Developing Health Funding (PHA)	–	15,000
ACNI REAP	312	5,054
Murlough Foundation	–	2,700
4 Nations Civil Society Bursary	–	150
Heritage Lottery Fund NI	–	3,850
CFNI Bursaries	11,020	–
Womens Spaces (DFAT)	34,007	33,936
	<u>327,348</u>	<u>289,605</u>
<b>Total income</b>	<u>327,348</u>	<u>289,605</u>

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# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Detailed Statement of Financial Activities *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2025

---

	2025	2024
	£	£
<b>Expenditure</b>		
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>		
Wages and salaries	242,265	197,276
Pension costs	21,173	5,489
Other post-retirement benefits	–	1,789
Rent	6,294	9,690
Rates and water	268	255
Light and heat	1,960	3,109
Repairs and maintenance	1,200	2,609
Insurance	295	1,078
Other establishment	550	812
Other motor/travel costs	7,070	10,991
Legal and professional fees	5,620	3,550
Telephone	3,382	3,860
Other office costs	1,859	3,586
Depreciation	868	1,158
Interest on bank loans and overdrafts	1,384	1,014
Other interest payable and similar charges	7,399	4,250
Programme Costs	17,473	9,458
Advertising	–	170
Computer Costs	4,721	4,828
Room Hire & Conference Costs	6,698	6,537
	<u>330,479</u>	<u>271,509</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>330,479</u>	<u>271,509</u>
<b>Net (expenditure)/income</b>	<u>(3,131)</u>	<u>18,096</u>

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**Issuer** Kelly & O'Neill Ltd

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### Audit history log

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**Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105725

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# Accounts

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**Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Unaudited Financial Statements**  
**31 March 2024**

**DRAFT ACCOUNTS**

**KELLY & O'NEILL LTD**

Chartered accountants  
15E Molesworth Street  
Cookstown  
Co. Tyrone  
BT80 8NX

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2024

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Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	<b>8</b>
Statement of financial position	<b>9</b>
Notes to the financial statements	<b>10</b>
<b>The following pages do not form part of the financial statements</b>	
Detailed statement of financial activities	<b>20</b>

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 31 March 2024

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The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

## Reference and administrative details

**Registered charity name** Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

**Charity registration number** NIC105725

**Company registration number** NI060834

**Principal office and registered office** Unit 5  
20 Sandholes Road  
Cookstown  
Co. Tyrone  
BT80 9AR

## The trustees

P Buckley  
F Kerr  
A McVicker  
M Murphy  
M McSorley  
L Mooney (Appointed 1 October 2023)  
C Fitzpatrick (Appointed 1 October 2023)  
M Byrne (Appointed 1 October 2023)

**Independent examiner** Cathal O'Neill FCA  
15E Molesworth Street  
Cookstown  
Co. Tyrone  
BT80 8NX

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

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#### Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 29 January 1997. The company was established by a Memorandum of Association and is governed under its Articles of Association.

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

P Buckley  
F Kerr  
A McVicker  
M Murphy  
M McSorley  
L Mooney (Appointed 1 October 2023)  
C Fitzpatrick (Appointed 1 October 2023)  
M Byrne (Appointed 1 October 2023)

#### Objectives and activities

The Company is established to promote and support rural women in rural Northern Ireland (the "area of benefit") without distinction of age, sexuality, nationality, ethnic identity, disability, political or religious opinion, by associating the statutory authorities, voluntary organisations and other bodies the inhabitants and in particular:

- (i) To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of rural women's organisations and projects in the area by providing advice, information, education and training, and practical support to such organisations and projects for the benefit of the public.
- (ii) To raise awareness among the general public and provide representation to policy makers of the needs and experiences of rural women in the area of benefit.
- (iii) To promote or assist in promoting cooperation and networking between women's organisations in the area of benefit for information exchange and policy consultation.
- (iv) To promote the participation of rural women in decision making amongst public bodies in the area of benefit.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

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#### Achievements and performance

NIRWN has had a very successful year of delivery and development; our membership has continued to grow and we have delivered strategic, infrastructure support and programming for rural women across every council area in our region. We have supported new rural women's groups to our membership and we have welcomed new funders who have chosen to invest in the work of NIRWN to help us to increase and diversify what we can deliver for rural women.

NIRWN has supported our NI Executive Ministers and Departments to take account of rural need through participation in co design processes; responding to public consultations, feeding into research reports, hosting focus groups, participating in All Party Groups, making representation to Ministers and Committees and supporting rural women to meet directly with decision makers.

Our policy and representation role on behalf of rural women extends beyond the NI Executive and this year our Director made representation to Dublin, Westminster and Brussels. We worked collectively with our civic society colleagues on a UK, four nation basis to ensure the real lived experiences of women living rurally and along our border regions is communicated to those with the power to make adjustments post EU Exit. Our Director represented rural women in Cardiff at the Four Nations Civil Society Conference 'Strengthening Civil Society Impact on Westminster in the Years Ahead: sharing insights from across the UK'. We worked with our civil society colleagues in the Republic of Ireland on projects with Women's Collective Ireland, Longford Women's Link and The National Women's Council of Ireland to support rural women in our region and ensure their voices are heard in all the decision-making spaces. Our policy and representation work reflects our unique experiences across these islands and we work North-South, East-West and beyond to develop and foster relationships and communication.

An exciting highlight for this year was a study visit to Iceland. Through a Social Change Initiative Fellowship NIRWN was able to conduct a research visit to Iceland. Iceland has consistently been number one in the OECD for Gender Equality and as a small, rural isolated nation like our own we wanted to learn more about how they achieved this and more importantly, how they have maintained this. We were seeking to learn lessons that could be shared with the NI Executive and wider to improve our performance and accelerate our journey towards Gender Equality becoming a lived reality in our region. Our findings will be developed into a research report.

Our core delivery; responding to and providing membership support, through policy and research; representation; co-ordinating training for members, providing information and signposting; organising focus groups etc has continued. We are grateful for the core investment from The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust and The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs through the Department for Communities, which allows us to ensure this never wavers and permits us to be responsive to need and to look up and out to lever in additional resource and support to meet emerging need.

Collaboration is key to ensuring equitable delivery for women in rural areas and as the only regional rural women's network in Europe NIRWN has continued to lead on the rural element of a number of partnership and consortia programming to ensure access for rural women. This year saw our pilot partnership project 'Women Breaking Barriers' achieve a two-year investment through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. In real terms this was a huge investment in bespoke education, training and employment support for economically inactive women across the region. 48% of the beneficiaries will be rural women and this part of the project will be led by NIRWN and a rural team.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

---

Our 'Women's Spaces' partnership project launched last year has now developed and has delivered a variety of training and opportunities to strengthen rural women's capacity to take their rightful place as leaders in society. The programme is shaped by the women who participate and as such delivers a unique experience to develop women's role in peacebuilding in our region which is a core value of NIRWN.

NIRWN continues to work in partnership within the Women's Regional Consortium to ensure that rurally isolated women receive strategic support. We continue our partnership work on Raise Your Voice to tackle Sexual Harassment. This year has involved very intensive work by NIRWN and a co design team together with The Executive Office on a much-needed Strategic Framework to End Violence Against Women and Girls. Our role was to ensure the experiences of rural women e.g. being so much further from service support is reflected in the Framework.

As Co Design partners with The Community Foundation for NI in 'Nothing About Us Without Us', we worked with our membership and others to lobby for a Women's Health Strategy in NI through events, surveys and bringing rural women to Parliament Buildings to speak to MLAs.

We have continued to develop new work and opportunities with and for our membership. We have been piloting our 'Breathing Spaces' project with the Heritage Lottery NI; exploring how we can utilise our heritage spaces to build both community cohesion and explore the outside spaces to enhance our health and wellness.

NIRWN launched our 'Pride in Place' rural arts project through support from the Arts Council NI and The National Lottery NI REAP Project. The project aims to showcase the best of what living rurally means to our membership and supported the delivery of craft and arts skills delivered by qualified rural arts practitioners.

Through the PHA Clear Project NIRWN secured resources to deliver our 4 week 'Menopause and Me' Programme which covers topics such as symptoms and diagnosis, treatments including alternative and holistic therapies, nutrition and exercise and also coping techniques for managing symptoms and was developed in direct response to members expressing the need for this support and a clear gap in accessible provision rurally.

NIRWN was thrilled to receive a surprise investment on #GivingTuesday in November 2023. #GivingTuesday is a day of global giving created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. Over the last decade, this idea has grown into a global movement that inspires millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity. The Murlough Foundation selected NIRWN to make a donation to via Community Foundation NI. The donation was specifically to address social isolation and enhance digital skills for rural women.

This really does exemplify the success of NIRWN in ensuring rural women are visible, influential and valued that a Fund selected us as the right organisation to ensure their gift would reach the grassroots rural women they wanted it to reach and we would provide the quality delivery needed.

There have been many achievements this year and our Vision, Mission and Strategic Plan together with our annual Membership Survey provide a sound basis for ensuring we continue to grow and deliver without experiencing mission drift. As a membership organisation our activities are always informed by our members and our performance is reflected in a membership that continues to grow year on year.

# **Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

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#### **Financial review**

The company is a not for profit charitable organisation with the main purpose of providing a neutral venue to the local community and charitable organisations.

The year ended 31 March 2024 has seen a rise in income of 52%. This is due to the great support of our existing funders and establishing several new funders.

Overall activity has increased due to NIRWN leading on the rural delivery element of key regional partnership projects; resulting in an uplift in our income and increase in staff.

We would like to note that at year end there remained outstanding grant payments in 2023-2024 and associated PAYE debt accrued which is being managed. Management staff and Trustees are currently working at pace and anticipate these matters will be fully resolved.

#### **Small company provisions**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 31 January 2025 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

M McSorley  
Director

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Year ended 31 March 2024

---

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN) ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the '2008 Act') and the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act'). You are satisfied that the accounts of the company are not required by charity or company law to be audited and have chosen instead to have an independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements as carried out under section 65 of the 2008 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

#### Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 65 of the 2008 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Chartered Accountants Ireland, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

# **Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

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

Cathal O'Neill FCA  
Independent Examiner

15E Molesworth Street  
Cookstown  
Co. Tyrone  
BT80 8NX

31 January 2025

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2024

		2024		2023
	Note	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>				
Donations and legacies	5	–	–	831
Charitable activities	6	289,605	289,605	203,289
<b>Total income</b>		<u>289,605</u>	<u>289,605</u>	<u>204,120</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Expenditure on charitable activities	7,8	271,509	271,509	221,120
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>271,509</u>	<u>271,509</u>	<u>221,120</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds</b>		<u>18,096</u>	<u>18,096</u>	<u>(17,000)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		1,903	1,903	18,904
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>19,999</u>	<u>19,999</u>	<u>1,904</u>

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

The notes on pages 10 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Statement of Financial Position

31 March 2024

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	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	14	3,473	4,631
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	15	90,145	38,276
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	16	73,619	41,003
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>16,526</u>	<u>(2,727)</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>19,999</u>	<u>1,904</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>19,999</u>	<u>1,904</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted funds		19,999	1,904
<b>Total charity funds</b>	18	<u>19,999</u>	<u>1,904</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 31 January 2025, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

M McSorley  
Director

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The notes on pages 10 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2024

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#### 1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in Northern Ireland and a registered charity in Northern Ireland. The address of the registered office is Unit 5, 20 Sandholes Road, Cookstown, Co. Tyrone, BT80 9AR.

#### 2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

#### 3. Accounting policies

##### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

##### Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, 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 the financial statements.

##### Disclosure exemptions

The Charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

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

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

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

##### Fund accounting

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

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

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

##### Incoming resources

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

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

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

##### Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

##### Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

##### Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Fixtures and fittings                      -     25% reducing balance

##### Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

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

##### Impairment of fixed assets *(continued)*

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

##### Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

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

##### Financial instruments *(continued)*

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

##### Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

#### 4. Limited by guarantee

None of the Trustees have any beneficial interest in the company. All of the Trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

#### 5. Donations and legacies

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
<b>Donations</b>				
Donations	–	–	831	831

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

Year ended 31 March 2024

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#### 6. Charitable activities

	Restricted Funds £	<b>Total Funds 2024 £</b>	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Facilitation	3,357	3,357	1,206	1,206
Social Change Initiative Fellowship Bursary	1,820	1,820	3,165	3,165
VCD Cost of Living Grant (DFC)	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
WICT Plenaries (DFC)	7,217	7,217	1,985	1,985
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	56,504	56,504	58,130	58,130
WRISP (DFC)	57,466	57,466	73,405	73,405
Community Renewal Funds/UKSPF (WRDA)	101,051	101,051	34,145	34,145
Developing Health Funding (PHA)	15,000	15,000	1,000	1,000
ACNI REAP	5,054	5,054	–	–
Murlough Foundation	2,700	2,700	–	–
4 Nations Civil Society Bursary	150	150	–	–
Heritage Lottery Fund NI	3,850	3,850	–	–
Womens Spaces (DFAT)	33,936	33,936	28,753	28,753
	<u>289,605</u>	<u>289,605</u>	<u>203,289</u>	<u>203,289</u>

#### 7. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Restricted Funds £	<b>Total Funds 2024 £</b>	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Support costs	271,509	271,509	221,120	221,120

#### 8. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Support costs £	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>	Total fund 2023 £
Direct Charitable Expenditure	269,588	269,588	219,441
Governance costs	1,921	1,921	1,679
	<u>271,509</u>	<u>271,509</u>	<u>221,120</u>

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# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

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#### 9. Analysis of support costs

	Analysis of support costs activity 1 £	<b>Total 2024</b> £	Total 2023 £
Staff costs	204,553	204,553	159,298
Premises	16,742	16,742	23,433
Finance costs	1,014	1,014	496
Other costs	47,280	47,280	37,893
	<u>269,589</u>	<u>269,589</u>	<u>221,120</u>

#### 10. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	<b>2024</b> £	2023 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>1,158</u>	<u>1,544</u>

#### 11. Independent examination fees

	<b>2024</b> £	2023 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>1,920</u>	<u>1,680</u>

#### 12. Staff costs

The average head count of employees during the year was 8 (2023: 6). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	<b>2024</b> No.	2023 No.
Number of staff - Full Time	4	3
Number of staff - Part Time	4	3
	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>

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

#### 13. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No Remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

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#### 14. Tangible fixed assets

	<b>Fixtures and fittings £</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024	23,486
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2023	18,855
Charge for the year	1,158
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>	<u>20,013</u>
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
At 31 March 2024	<u>3,473</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>4,631</u>

#### 15. Debtors

	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
Trade debtors	<u>90,145</u>	<u>38,276</u>

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

	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
Bank loans and overdrafts	8,065	6,629
Trade creditors	1,680	1,815
Accruals and deferred income	20,165	4,814
Social security and other taxes	43,709	27,745
	<u>73,619</u>	<u>41,003</u>

#### 17. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

##### Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £5,489 (2023: £5,857).

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

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#### 18. Analysis of charitable funds

##### Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2024 £
Restricted Fund B/Fwd	1,903	–	–	1,903
Restricted Fund	–	289,605	(271,509)	18,096
	<u>1,903</u>	<u>289,605</u>	<u>(271,509)</u>	<u>19,999</u>

	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2023 £
Restricted Fund B/Fwd	–	–	–	–
Restricted Fund	18,904	204,120	(221,120)	1,904
	<u>18,904</u>	<u>204,120</u>	<u>(221,120)</u>	<u>1,904</u>

#### 19. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	3,473	3,473
Current assets	90,145	90,145
Creditors less than 1 year	(73,619)	(73,619)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>19,999</u>	<u>19,999</u>

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	4,631	4,631
Current assets	38,276	38,276
Creditors less than 1 year	(41,003)	(41,003)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>1,904</u>	<u>1,904</u>

# **Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Management Information**

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

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

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 March 2024

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	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Income and endowments</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations	—	831
	<u>—</u>	<u>831</u>
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Facilitation	3,357	1,206
Social Change Initiative Fellowship Bursary	1,820	3,165
VCD Cost of Living Grant (DFC)	1,500	1,500
WICT Plenaries (DFC)	7,217	1,985
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	56,504	58,130
WRISP (DFC)	57,466	73,405
Community Renewal Funds/UKSPF (WRDA)	101,051	34,145
Developing Health Funding (PHA)	15,000	1,000
ACNI REAP	5,054	—
Murlough Foundation	2,700	—
4 Nations Civil Society Bursary	150	—
Heritage Lottery Fund NI	3,850	—
Womens Spaces (DFAT)	33,936	28,753
	<u>289,605</u>	<u>203,289</u>
	<u>289,605</u>	<u>203,289</u>
<b>Total income</b>	<u>289,605</u>	<u>204,120</u>

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Detailed Statement of Financial Activities *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

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	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>Expenditure</b>		
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>		
Wages and salaries	197,276	151,652
Pension costs	5,489	5,857
Other post-retirement benefits	1,789	1,789
Rent	9,690	8,658
Rates and water	255	275
Light and heat	3,109	2,946
Repairs and maintenance	2,609	2,815
Insurance	1,078	1,051
Other establishment	812	1,199
Other motor/travel costs	10,991	6,056
Legal and professional fees	3,550	5,774
Telephone	3,860	2,300
Other office costs	3,586	5,292
Depreciation	1,158	1,544
Interest on bank loans and overdrafts	1,014	496
Other interest payable and similar charges	4,250	–
Programme Costs	9,458	7,688
Advertising	170	600
Computer Costs	4,828	9,528
Room hire & conference costs	6,537	5,600
	<u>271,509</u>	<u>221,120</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>271,509</u>	<u>221,120</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	<u>18,096</u>	<u>(17,000)</u>

**Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105725

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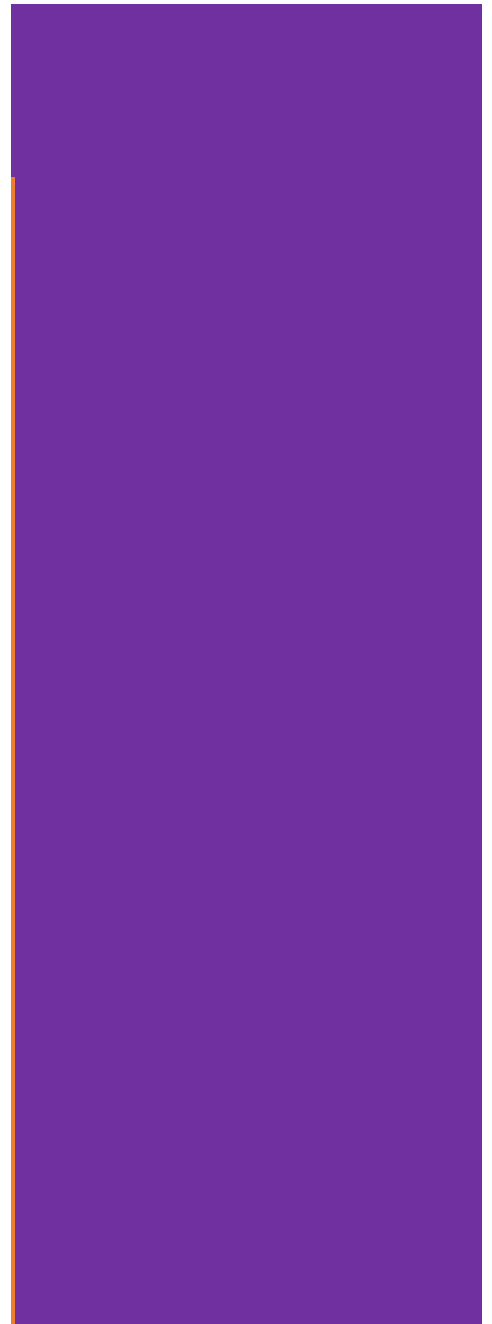
# Annual report

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# ANNUAL TRUSTEE REPORT

April 2023-March 2024



## Chairperson's Report

NIRWN has had a very successful year of delivery and development; our membership has continued to grow and we have delivered strategic, infrastructure support and programming for rural women across every council area in our region. We have supported new rural women's groups to our membership and we have welcomed new funders who have chosen to invest in the work of NIRWN to help us to increase and diversify what we can deliver for rural women.

NIRWN has supported our NI Executive Ministers and Departments to take account of rural need through participation in co design processes; responding to public consultations, feeding into research reports, hosting focus groups, participating in All Party Groups, making representation to Ministers and Committees and supporting rural women to meet directly with decision makers.

Our policy and representation role on behalf of rural women extends beyond the NI Executive and this year our Director made representation to Dublin, Westminster and Brussels. We worked collectively with our civic society colleagues on a UK, four nation basis to ensure the real lived experiences of women living rurally and along our border regions is communicated to those with the power to make adjustments post EU Exit. Our Director represented rural women in Cardiff at the Four Nations Civil Society Conference 'Strengthening Civil Society Impact on Westminster in the Years Ahead: sharing insights from across the UK'. We worked with our civic society colleagues in the Republic of Ireland on projects with Women's Collective Ireland, Longford Women's Link and The National Women's Council of Ireland to support rural women in our region and ensure their voices are heard in all the decision-making spaces. Our policy and representation work reflects our unique experiences across these islands and we work North-South, East-West and beyond to develop and foster relationships and communication.

An exciting highlight for this year was a study visit to Iceland. Through a Social Change Initiative Fellowship NIRWN was able to conduct a research visit to Iceland. Iceland has consistently been number one in the OECD (The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) for Gender Equality and as a small, rural isolated nation like our own we wanted to learn more about how they achieved this and more importantly, how they have maintained this. We were seeking to learn lessons that could be shared with the NI Executive and wider to improve our performance and accelerate our journey towards Gender Equality becoming a lived reality in our region. Our findings will be developed into a research report.

Our core delivery; responding to and providing membership support, through policy and research; representation; co-ordinating training for members, providing information and signposting; organising focus groups etc has continued. We are grateful for the core investment from The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust and The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs through the Department of Communities, which allows us to ensure this never wavers and permits us to be responsive to need and to look up and out to lever in additional resource and support to meet emerging need.

Collaboration is key to ensuring equitable delivery for women in rural areas and as the only regional rural women's network in Europe NIRWN has continued to lead on the rural element of a number of partnership and consortia programming to ensure access for rural women. This year saw our pilot partnership project '[Women Breaking Barriers](#)' achieve a two-year investment through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. In real terms this was a huge investment in bespoke education, training and employment support for economically inactive women across the region. 48% of the beneficiaries will be rural women and this part of the project will be led by NIRWN and a rural team.

Our '[Women's Spaces](#)' partnership project launched last year has now developed and has delivered a variety of training and opportunities to strengthen rural women's capacity to take their rightful place as leaders in society. The programme is shaped by the women who participate and as such delivers a unique experience to develop women's role in peacebuilding in our region which is a core value of NIRWN.

NIRWN continues to work in partnership within the [Women's Regional Consortium](#) to ensure that rurally isolated women receive strategic support. We continue our partnership work on [Raise Your Voice](#) to tackle Sexual Harassment. This year has involved very intensive work by NIRWN and a co design team together with The Executive Office on a much-needed Strategic Framework to End Violence Against Women and Girls. Our role

was to ensure the experiences of rural women e.g. being so much further from service support is reflected in the Framework.

As Co Design partners with The Community Foundation for NI in '[Nothing About Us Without Us](#)', we worked with our membership and others to lobby for a Women's Health Strategy in NI through events, surveys and bringing rural women to Parliament Buildings to speak to MLAs.

We have continued to develop new work and opportunities with and for our membership. We have been piloting our 'Breathing Spaces' project with the Heritage Lottery NI; exploring how we can utilise our heritage spaces to build both community cohesion and explore the outside spaces to enhance our health and wellness.

NIRWN launched our 'Pride in Place' rural arts project through support from the Arts Council NI and The National Lottery NI REAP Project. The project aims to showcase the best of what living rurally means to our membership and supported the delivery of craft and arts skills delivered by qualified rural arts practitioners.

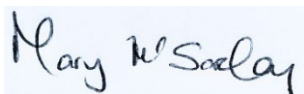
Through the PHA Clear Project NIRWN secured resources to deliver our 4 week 'Menopause and Me' Programme which covers topics such as symptoms and diagnosis, treatments including alternative and holistic therapies, nutrition and exercise and also coping techniques for managing symptoms and was developed in direct response to members expressing the need for this support and a clear gap in accessible provision rurally.

NIRWN was thrilled to receive a surprise investment on #GivingTuesday in November 2023. #GivingTuesday is a day of global giving created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. Over the last decade, this idea has grown into a global movement that inspires millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity. The Murlough Foundation selected NIRWN to make a donation to via Community Foundation NI. The donation was specifically to address social isolation and enhance digital skills for rural women.

This really does exemplify the success of NIRWN in ensuring rural women are visible, influential and valued that a Fund selected us as the right organisation to ensure their gift would reach the grassroots rural women they wanted it to reach and we would provide the quality delivery needed.

There have been many achievements this year and our Vision, Mission and Strategic Plan together with our annual Membership Survey provide a sound basis for ensuring we continue to grow and deliver without experiencing mission drift. As a membership organisation our activities are always informed by our members, and our performance is reflected in a membership that continues to grow year on year with a 34% increase since April 2022.

Mary Mc Sorley

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light blue rectangular background. The signature reads "Mary Mc Sorley" in a cursive script.

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NIRWN Chairperson

## Object 1:

To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of rural women's organisations and projects in the area by providing advice, information, education and training, and practical support to such organisations and projects for the benefit of the public

### Communication

NIRWN continues to communicate with our membership via a variety of social media channels. YouTube, TikTok, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter/X and Bluesky.

We maintain our website and in addition to our NIRWN Ezine, we input into and share a dedicated Women's Spaces Ezine and Women's Regional Consortium Ezine and Policy and Lobbying Ezine.

### International Women's Day 2024/ Women Breaking Barriers Celebration Event

We celebrated Year one participants' achievements at our International Women's Day event in the Glenavon House Hotel, Cookstown on 7th March 2024.

NIRWN has supported over 187 women through tailored education and support to overcome barriers to employment and education. As well as celebrating, those in attendance participated in facilitated workshops and development sessions and lots of craic and learning was had by all.

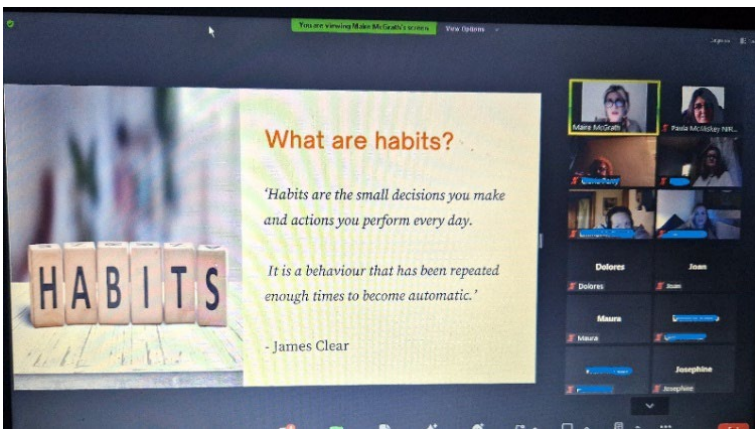
One of the key things about International Women's Day is making connections and it is a key feature of our Women Breaking Barriers NI programme.



## New Beginnings Wellbeing Workshops

In January 2024 we hosted two online workshops for our members to help kick start the new year. We know from our annual survey that our membership find this time of year particularly challenging so we designed with the facilitator; Máire McGrath from Future Spark Coaching two bespoke workshops *January Blues Buster* followed by *January Jumpstart* workshop.

The workshops were brimming with positivity and peer support, together with professional tips and practical techniques on building new habits and staying focussed on what you personally want for yourself in 2024.



One participant remarked:

*"I really enjoyed the session, so much appreciated. Feeling very motivated and just the boost I needed"*

## Digital Skills Training

It is NIRWN's role is to respond to our members' needs and we were able to source some digital skills training for some of our women's groups, particularly for our older members.

Centralisation of support services has impacted communities locally and has exacerbated social isolation. The removal of regular meeting points, the Post Office or the bank which provided both a reason to leave the house and often a structure and social occasion

Access to online services is a necessity these days and there is an assumption by decision makers that everyone is computer literate and in receipt of an internet connection....not so in rural areas.



## Women Breaking Barriers: April 2023- March 2024

Women Breaking Barriers had over 150 participants registered in its first year. We had a wide variety of training opportunities on offer with over 20 choices including GOALS, Introduction to Holistic Therapies, Mental Health Awareness and Makaton.

### Makaton Training

Our Level 1 in Makaton was very popular with demand remaining high throughout the year. Limavady Hen's Shed and Ausome Kids, Cookstown are some of our recipients of the Makaton Level 1. The feedback we received from this highlighted how important this was to women in their lives both personally and professionally.

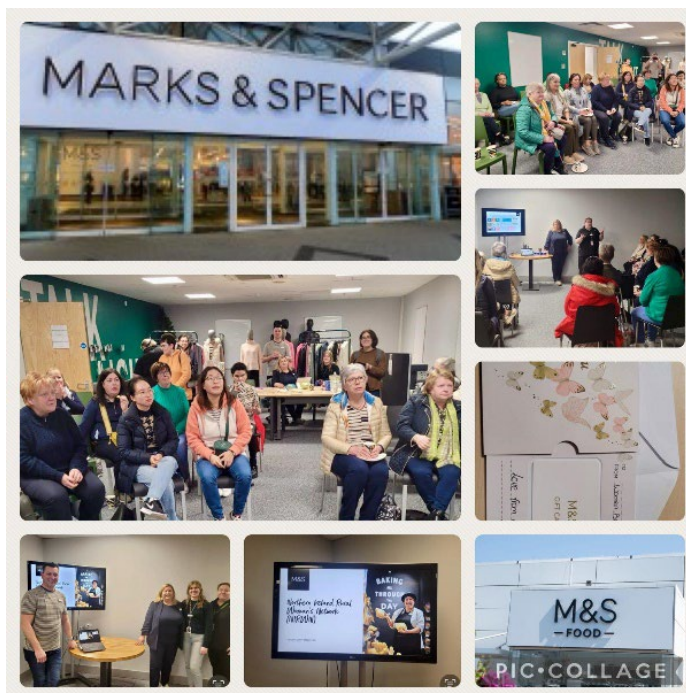


### Workplace Collaborations

Women Breaking Barriers rural team worked in collaboration with Marks and Spencer to facilitate a visit to their largest store in Northern Ireland in Sprucefield.

The women were given detailed presentations by key Marks and Spencer staff, as well as opportunities to learn about the variety of flexible options for employment with the company.

The women were given a tour of the facilities and operations also. Women who attended reported increased awareness of the flexibility that employers can provide and that they were more confident about applying for jobs and talking to employers about options.



### Wraparound Support

Women Breaking Barriers has provided holistic and tailored wraparound support to any participant who wanted it. This has included emergency support, employability support, help in accessing specialist supports, and one-to-one support. Over 80 women requested and accessed this wraparound support in the first year of our programme, with the majority accessing this several times rather than just once. The feedback we received about this support is that it has been crucial in the confidence building process for women and vital for their personal growth.

## Menopause & Me Programme

NIRWN delivered our Menopause & Me Programme to rural women in the Western, Southern and South Eastern Trust areas in Winter 23/24, with funding received from the PHA Clear Project. Our bespoke four-week programme was delivered to women both online and in their local community based settings.

Feedback from participants included: *“The course helped me to realise why I was feeling the way I did and how to cope with it”* and *“Extremely helpful programme. Should be available to all women especially in rural areas”*



## Rural Engagement Arts Programme

Sandholes Women's Group was the first beneficiary of our Rural Engagement Arts Programme.

Artist Andrea Hayes led the participants in the art of decoupage, and everyone had the opportunity to decoupage three projects; a medium and small bag and a small heated plaque.



### Bauble Making Workshop

Thanks to the Arts Council Rural Arts Engagement Programme funding, NIRWN was able to offer a localised craft making class to The Village Group, Armagh in December 2023. This activity was carried out by the wonderful artist Gwen Stevenson who taught the women the art of felting. A very enjoyable activity, which many of the women found quite therapeutic.

It was great to come together during the cold winters nights to carry out this crafting activity and all of the women brought home their baubles to hang proudly on their Christmas trees.



### Walks Programme

During the summer months a lot of our rural member groups don't meet so to address the gap we elected to offer a series of walks in some of our lovely forest parks to address social isolation.



We were lucky with 'mostly' great weather and company at the beautiful scenic venues of Lurgan Park, Drum Manor Forest, Portglenone Forest and finally Gosford Forest for our 'Women Lets Walk' series; showcasing the best of the DAERA Forestry Estate and wider. Over 80 women participated. Feedback has been very positive and for some women this was the first time they had made some time for themselves!

### Breast, Cervical and Bowel Screening Awareness Programme

Our Engagement Officer Paula has supported several of our member groups with Breast Screening awareness training in conjunction with WRDA's Breast, Cervical and Bowel Awareness screening programme.

Saval Women's group in Co Down and Sandholes Women's group in Co Tyrone were just two of our member groups who participated in this training.



## Object 2:

To raise awareness among the general public and provide representation to policymakers of the needs and experiences of rural women in the area of benefit

### 'The Big Quilt'

Our Big Quilt Rural Arts Project aims to showcase the best of what living rurally means to our membership. Textile artist Bridget Nugent guided members through the skills, supporting them to bring their ideas to life.

When complete the Big Quilt will be a resource for our member Groups to bring to parades and events such as; International Women's Day March and Pride so rural women can feel they are represented and an integral part of bigger movements. When not out and about it will be on display in our NIRWN HQ.



### Women, Unpaid Caring and Employment Report Launched

Paula and Ciara attended the launch of the Women, Unpaid Caring and Employment report on 27th February in Belfast. NIRWN hosted a rural focus group with our members and Siobhán Harding; Policy & Research Coordinator WSN which contributed to the findings in the report. #This quote contained in the report highlights the specific barriers faced by rural women:

"In rural areas you have to travel so much further to even drop things to someone or if you have to drive them in or collect them from school. There's that extra time. I find it really difficult to balance time"



### NIRWN at the Balmoral Show

We were supported by our friends at South Tyrone Empowerment Programme (STEP) to share their information tent at The Balmoral Show on Wednesday 10th May 2023.

Paula and Teresa from NIRWN and Jonna from Women's Spaces hosted an information stand and it was a great opportunity to showcase what we have to offer rural women and rural women's groups.



**Object 3:**

**To promote or assist in promoting cooperation and networking between women’s organisations in the area of benefit for information exchange and policy consultation**

**NAUWU Project**

NIRWN partnered with CFNI (Community Foundation NI) and other women’s sector organisations to work on the ‘Nothing About Us without Us, events and development of a women’s health survey during this period. Being part of the advisory group for this innovative programme was a privilege where we engaged with our partners on a number of planning days, ensuring we met the needs of rural women and our members. We assisted with the development of the women’s health survey which was distributed regionally to our members and through all our social media channels. We actively involved ourselves in the planning and rollout of a substantial event which took place in Ballymena and had over 150 people in attendance. Two of our staff members, Louise Coyle and Charmain Jones spoke at this event and post event and both were instrumental in the proofing of the final report and its dissemination again rurally to women across the region.



**Health, Wellbeing and Self-care Event**

In recognition that lobbying and policy work together with sharing your personal experiences can take a toll on you personally; we hosted a health, wellbeing and self-care event for some of our NAUWU participants’.



To support women to be vocal and visible we wish to embed a holistic approach to prevent burn out.

## Colombian Doll Making

Murlough Foundation #Giving Tuesday investment meant NIRWN was able to offer a two evening crafting workshop on Colombian Doll Making. Charmain Jones, our Women's Spacers Coordinator attended a workshop thanks to the Centre for Democracy and Peacebuilding in Belfast at Ulster University, where she met women from Colombia who taught her this process and also how it facilitates storytelling for conflict transformation.

Charmain then wanted to share that learning and worked with a group of rural women from The Village Group, Armagh to craft Colombian Dolls that reflected their lives and their stories and their communities and this hanging is now proudly displayed in the centre.

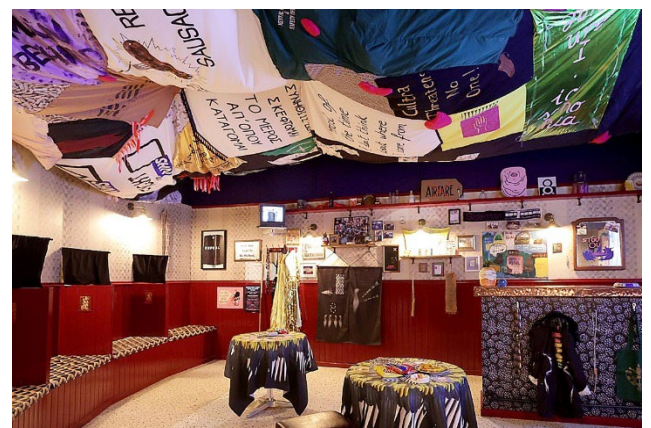
This also helped address social isolation during the winter. This is a skill she is keen to develop with others across the region.



## The Druthaib's Ball

NIRWN members had an amazing day at the Ulster Museum visiting The Druthaib's Ball, the 2021 Turner Prize winning installation by the Belfast-based artists collectively known as Array Collective.

They are the first artists from Northern Ireland to win the prestigious Turner Prize. The group of eleven artists from the north and south of Ireland, England and Italy all live and work in Belfast creating collaborative actions in response to socio-political issues affecting them and their communities.



We had the special experience of a dedicated Q&A with members of Array Collective who gave us the inspiration behind the installation. It was great to be able to organise this visit for our members as an appreciation of their support to us.

## All-Island Women's Forum

NIRWN has been a member of the All-Island Women's Forum, led by the National Women's Council of Ireland since it was set up in July 2021 and collaborative work continued through this year. Facilitated by the National Women's Council (NWC), the All-Island Women's Forum aims to address underrepresentation of women and further develop women's role in peacebuilding and civic society.

The Forum meets several times a year to support the building of sustainable North-South links, providing a space for marginalized communities and promoting better understanding and inter-community links on issues of common concern.



## Weaving All Island Connections Project

The Women's Collective Ireland (WCI) Community Grassroots Weaving All Island Connections Project was delivered in partnership with NIRWN and Shankill Women's Centre, with funding from DFAT. The purpose of the Project was to engage, connect and create opportunities for grassroots women from across the Island, rural, urban and border communities and from different social, economic and cultural backgrounds to come together to share skills, life experiences, challenge their perceptions of each other and increase their knowledge and mutual understanding.



There were six online discussion and connecting workshops which resulted in zines produced for each group pairing which were displayed at a final residential event in The Carrickdale Hotel, Dundalk.

The groups connected were from South Kerry & Portglenone, North Leitrim & Women of Clonduff (Hilltown) and Ronanstown (Dublin) & Shankill Women's Centre.

The Project was a great success and long lasting friendships and connections have been made. We hope to participate in more of these projects, with opportunities for our members to engage with groups from across the border.

## International Day of Rural Women 2023

We celebrated our International Day of Rural Women 2023 'Visible, Influential and Valued' at the Tullyglass Hotel, Ballymena on Wednesday 11th October with over 100 women in attendance.

Sincere thanks to those who attended, the Contributors on the day and those who hosted the Information Stands. "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." – Helen Keller.

The day was nothing short of inspirational and we have received great feedback from the event.



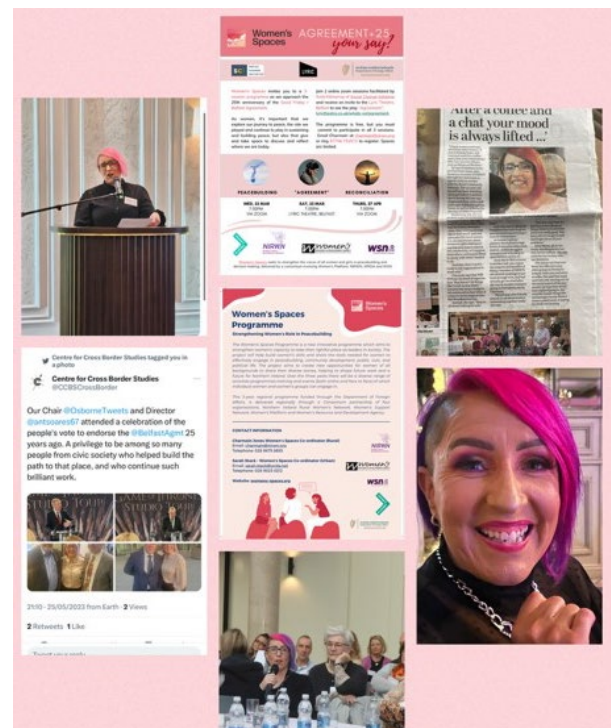
### Object 4:

To promote the participation of rural women in decision making amongst public bodies in the area of benefit

### Women's Spaces

Women in Northern Ireland continue to be sidelined in peace building. Women are also underrepresented in public life, with very limited increase in women's representation in recent years and women's views rarely included in policy and decision making. Women's Spaces is a three year project designed to begin changing these long standing challenges. Women's Spaces is an innovative programme strengthening women's capacity to take their rightful place as leaders in society. The project builds women's skills and shares tools needed to engage effectively in peacebuilding, community development and public life, and aims to create new opportunities for women of all backgrounds to share their stories to shape future work and a future Northern Ireland.

Delivery of the project is led by WRDA and NIRWN, building on extensive experience of working with grassroots women and communities. WSN assists with



identifying and engaging participants, and Women's Platform contributes to capacity building, while also acting as overall coordinator and focal point for the programme.

This dynamic and progressive team; led in NIRWN by our Women's Spaces Coordinator Charmain Jones has a long established successful proven track record in engaging with hard-to-reach women in divided and marginalised communities regionally and also has developed strong advocacy models and structures with policy and decision makers through collaboration, partnership and support of the existing women's sector infrastructure in NI. This is a [link](#) to a review of our first year of delivery.

Work this year included a focus on the Good Friday Agreement +25; Preparation and information on voting pre-election alongside core activities such as our bespoke 'Where are the Women?' workshops. The Project is supported by The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Ireland.

### Brussels Delegation

Supported by the UK Mission to the EU (part of the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office) as part of their public diplomacy plans our Director, Louise Coyle was invited to participate in a two-day event in Brussels centred on women, peacebuilding and the NI Protocol.

The event was keen to reflect on and raise the profile of women in the NI peace process (particularly in the run-up to the anniversary of the Belfast (Good Friday) Agreement) and create a forum for women to share their perspectives on the Northern Ireland Protocol with key stakeholders in Brussels.

This was coordinated in NI by our colleagues Women's Platform.



### Civic Initiative

NIRWN supported rural women to engage in The Civic Initiative. The Civic Initiative is a new participatory democracy platform launched in 2023 during the 25th anniversary year of the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement. The participatory democracy platform brings together a wide range of civic society groups, academics and community workers to create an inclusive space for deliberative discussions on key socio-economic and cultural rights with a focus on the principles and commitments outlined in the Section of the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement covering – Rights, Safeguards and Equality of Opportunity.

The platform has actioned a four-stage community-led process to examine key issues and practical solutions:  
Stage 1: Regional Forums and workshops across Northern Ireland and border areas

civic  
initiative

### Regional People's Forum

**The Civic Initiative**, in partnership with **Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network**, and **TADA Rural Support Network**, invites you to a discussion on **key issues** impacting society, including areas such as **education, healthcare, poverty, political institutions and more.**

This **citizen-led** facilitated conversation will be **guided by the framework of the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement.**

The event will last approximately three hours.  
**Refreshments** will be provided.

**Saturday, November 11th / 9:30am**  
**Armagh City Hotel**  
&  
**Wednesday, November 22nd / 5:30pm**  
**Canal Court Hotel Newry**

Participants in Co. Armagh, Co. Monaghan, Co. Louth,  
and South Down are encouraged to register.

Register via Eventbrite.

Stage 2: Submissions from experts and wider society  
Stage 3: A large-scale People's Forum of 100 randomly selected citizens

Stage 4: Recommendations from citizens

It is our view that it is vital that rural women are provided the opportunity to have their voices heard in all spaces in this post conflict environment.



### Iceland Study Visit

An exciting highlight for this year was a study visit to Iceland. Through a Social Change Initiative Fellowship NIRWN was able to conduct a research visit to Iceland. Iceland has consistently been number in in the OECD for Gender Equality and as a small, rural isolated nation like our own we wanted to learn more about how they achieved this and more importantly, how have the maintained this. We were seeking to learn lessons we could learn and apply to help make the future of NI a more equal and inclusive one. We know there is a strong correlation between gender equality and sustained peace - gender equality is a better predictor of peace than GDP.

We met with women at all levels of society in Iceland from the Prime Minister and UN Women to the university feminist society and migrant womens network to learn how gender equality is experienced, supported, maintained and developed from their perspective. We will be developing a report to be shared with the NI Executive and wider to improve our performance and accelerate our journey towards Gender Equality becoming a lived reality in our region. Our findings will be developed into a research report.



Globally, Iceland leads the way as the most gender-equal country, demonstrating what is possible when structural equality is prioritised.

### Gender Budgeting Workshop

Our Engagement Officer Paula co-ordinated the delivery of a Gender Budgeting Workshop with Ulster University and NI Women's Budget Group in June 2023 for our members to discuss the importance of Gender Budgeting and how it affects their lives.

Scrutinising budgets on how taxpayer's money is spent and the differential impacts on women and men was discussed with members in the NIRWN boardroom and also via zoom. This was an opportunity to upskill members on how budget decisions impact gender equality.



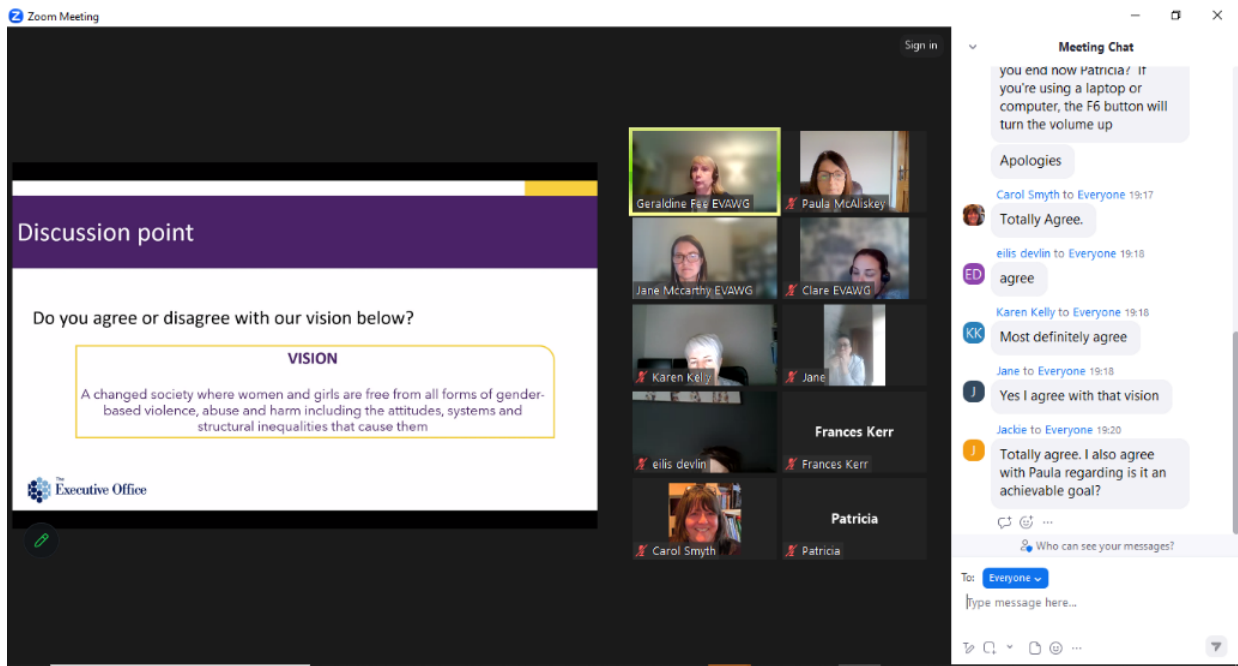
## Ending Violence Against Women & Girls Focus Group

In addition to dedicating NIRWN staff and Trustee time to The Executive Office Co Design Group on developing a new Strategic Framework to End Violence Against Women & Girls (EVAWG), NIRWN hosted an online Focus Group in September 23 for The Executive Office on the new Strategic Framework on Ending Violence Against Women & Girls (EVAWG). This draft Strategic Framework is a long-term plan to tackle this challenging and deep-rooted issue facing our society today. The Focus Group was well attended and it was a great opportunity for rural women to express their views and opinions on this important subject which does have specific rural aspects and solutions particularly due to access poverty and proximity to resources and support.

## People and Place Review

People and Place – A Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal was launched in June 2003. It was aimed at targeting those communities in Northern Ireland suffering the highest levels of deprivation by bringing together the work of all Government Departments in partnership with local people to tackle disadvantage.

NIRWN hosted a focus group in June to hear our members views on this subject. This was a hybrid event conducted both online and in our offices in Cookstown.



## Financial Statement as per Annual Accounts 2023-2024

### Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

#### Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2024

		2024		2023
	Note	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>				
Donations and legacies	5	–	–	831
Charitable activities	6	289,605	289,605	203,289
<b>Total income</b>		289,605	289,605	204,120
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Expenditure on charitable activities	7,8	271,509	271,509	221,120
<b>Total expenditure</b>		271,509	271,509	221,120
<b>Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds</b>		18,096	18,096	(17,000)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		1,903	1,903	18,904
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		19,999	19,999	1,904

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

**Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105725

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# Annual return

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**Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Unaudited Financial Statements**  
**31 March 2024**

**DRAFT ACCOUNTS**

**KELLY & O'NEILL LTD**

Chartered accountants  
15E Molesworth Street  
Cookstown  
Co. Tyrone  
BT80 8NX

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2024

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Independent examiner's report to the trustees	<b>6</b>
Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	<b>8</b>
Statement of financial position	<b>9</b>
Notes to the financial statements	<b>10</b>
<b>The following pages do not form part of the financial statements</b>	
Detailed statement of financial activities	<b>20</b>

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 31 March 2024

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The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

## Reference and administrative details

**Registered charity name** Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

**Charity registration number** NIC105725

**Company registration number** NI060834

**Principal office and registered office** Unit 5  
20 Sandholes Road  
Cookstown  
Co. Tyrone  
BT80 9AR

## The trustees

P Buckley  
F Kerr  
A McVicker  
M Murphy  
M McSorley  
L Mooney (Appointed 1 October 2023)  
C Fitzpatrick (Appointed 1 October 2023)  
M Byrne (Appointed 1 October 2023)

**Independent examiner** Cathal O'Neill FCA  
15E Molesworth Street  
Cookstown  
Co. Tyrone  
BT80 8NX

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

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#### Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 29 January 1997. The company was established by a Memorandum of Association and is governed under its Articles of Association.

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

P Buckley  
F Kerr  
A McVicker  
M Murphy  
M McSorley  
L Mooney (Appointed 1 October 2023)  
C Fitzpatrick (Appointed 1 October 2023)  
M Byrne (Appointed 1 October 2023)

#### Objectives and activities

The Company is established to promote and support rural women in rural Northern Ireland (the "area of benefit") without distinction of age, sexuality, nationality, ethnic identity, disability, political or religious opinion, by associating the statutory authorities, voluntary organisations and other bodies the inhabitants and in particular:

- (i) To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of rural women's organisations and projects in the area by providing advice, information, education and training, and practical support to such organisations and projects for the benefit of the public.
- (ii) To raise awareness among the general public and provide representation to policy makers of the needs and experiences of rural women in the area of benefit.
- (iii) To promote or assist in promoting cooperation and networking between women's organisations in the area of benefit for information exchange and policy consultation.
- (iv) To promote the participation of rural women in decision making amongst public bodies in the area of benefit.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

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#### Achievements and performance

NIRWN has had a very successful year of delivery and development; our membership has continued to grow and we have delivered strategic, infrastructure support and programming for rural women across every council area in our region. We have supported new rural women's groups to our membership and we have welcomed new funders who have chosen to invest in the work of NIRWN to help us to increase and diversify what we can deliver for rural women.

NIRWN has supported our NI Executive Ministers and Departments to take account of rural need through participation in co design processes; responding to public consultations, feeding into research reports, hosting focus groups, participating in All Party Groups, making representation to Ministers and Committees and supporting rural women to meet directly with decision makers.

Our policy and representation role on behalf of rural women extends beyond the NI Executive and this year our Director made representation to Dublin, Westminster and Brussels. We worked collectively with our civic society colleagues on a UK, four nation basis to ensure the real lived experiences of women living rurally and along our border regions is communicated to those with the power to make adjustments post EU Exit. Our Director represented rural women in Cardiff at the Four Nations Civil Society Conference 'Strengthening Civil Society Impact on Westminster in the Years Ahead: sharing insights from across the UK'. We worked with our civil society colleagues in the Republic of Ireland on projects with Women's Collective Ireland, Longford Women's Link and The National Women's Council of Ireland to support rural women in our region and ensure their voices are heard in all the decision-making spaces. Our policy and representation work reflects our unique experiences across these islands and we work North-South, East-West and beyond to develop and foster relationships and communication.

An exciting highlight for this year was a study visit to Iceland. Through a Social Change Initiative Fellowship NIRWN was able to conduct a research visit to Iceland. Iceland has consistently been number one in the OECD for Gender Equality and as a small, rural isolated nation like our own we wanted to learn more about how they achieved this and more importantly, how they have maintained this. We were seeking to learn lessons that could be shared with the NI Executive and wider to improve our performance and accelerate our journey towards Gender Equality becoming a lived reality in our region. Our findings will be developed into a research report.

Our core delivery; responding to and providing membership support, through policy and research; representation; co-ordinating training for members, providing information and signposting; organising focus groups etc has continued. We are grateful for the core investment from The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust and The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs through the Department for Communities, which allows us to ensure this never wavers and permits us to be responsive to need and to look up and out to lever in additional resource and support to meet emerging need.

Collaboration is key to ensuring equitable delivery for women in rural areas and as the only regional rural women's network in Europe NIRWN has continued to lead on the rural element of a number of partnership and consortia programming to ensure access for rural women. This year saw our pilot partnership project 'Women Breaking Barriers' achieve a two-year investment through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. In real terms this was a huge investment in bespoke education, training and employment support for economically inactive women across the region. 48% of the beneficiaries will be rural women and this part of the project will be led by NIRWN and a rural team.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

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Our 'Women's Spaces' partnership project launched last year has now developed and has delivered a variety of training and opportunities to strengthen rural women's capacity to take their rightful place as leaders in society. The programme is shaped by the women who participate and as such delivers a unique experience to develop women's role in peacebuilding in our region which is a core value of NIRWN.

NIRWN continues to work in partnership within the Women's Regional Consortium to ensure that rurally isolated women receive strategic support. We continue our partnership work on Raise Your Voice to tackle Sexual Harassment. This year has involved very intensive work by NIRWN and a co design team together with The Executive Office on a much-needed Strategic Framework to End Violence Against Women and Girls. Our role was to ensure the experiences of rural women e.g. being so much further from service support is reflected in the Framework.

As Co Design partners with The Community Foundation for NI in 'Nothing About Us Without Us', we worked with our membership and others to lobby for a Women's Health Strategy in NI through events, surveys and bringing rural women to Parliament Buildings to speak to MLAs.

We have continued to develop new work and opportunities with and for our membership. We have been piloting our 'Breathing Spaces' project with the Heritage Lottery NI; exploring how we can utilise our heritage spaces to build both community cohesion and explore the outside spaces to enhance our health and wellness.

NIRWN launched our 'Pride in Place' rural arts project through support from the Arts Council NI and The National Lottery NI REAP Project. The project aims to showcase the best of what living rurally means to our membership and supported the delivery of craft and arts skills delivered by qualified rural arts practitioners.

Through the PHA Clear Project NIRWN secured resources to deliver our 4 week 'Menopause and Me' Programme which covers topics such as symptoms and diagnosis, treatments including alternative and holistic therapies, nutrition and exercise and also coping techniques for managing symptoms and was developed in direct response to members expressing the need for this support and a clear gap in accessible provision rurally.

NIRWN was thrilled to receive a surprise investment on #GivingTuesday in November 2023. #GivingTuesday is a day of global giving created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. Over the last decade, this idea has grown into a global movement that inspires millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity. The Murlough Foundation selected NIRWN to make a donation to via Community Foundation NI. The donation was specifically to address social isolation and enhance digital skills for rural women.

This really does exemplify the success of NIRWN in ensuring rural women are visible, influential and valued that a Fund selected us as the right organisation to ensure their gift would reach the grassroots rural women they wanted it to reach and we would provide the quality delivery needed.

There have been many achievements this year and our Vision, Mission and Strategic Plan together with our annual Membership Survey provide a sound basis for ensuring we continue to grow and deliver without experiencing mission drift. As a membership organisation our activities are always informed by our members and our performance is reflected in a membership that continues to grow year on year.

# **Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

## **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

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#### **Financial review**

The company is a not for profit charitable organisation with the main purpose of providing a neutral venue to the local community and charitable organisations.

The year ended 31 March 2024 has seen a rise in income of 52%. This is due to the great support of our existing funders and establishing several new funders.

Overall activity has increased due to NIRWN leading on the rural delivery element of key regional partnership projects; resulting in an uplift in our income and increase in staff.

We would like to note that at year end there remained outstanding grant payments in 2023-2024 and associated PAYE debt accrued which is being managed. Management staff and Trustees are currently working at pace and anticipate these matters will be fully resolved.

#### **Small company provisions**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 31 January 2025 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

M McSorley  
Director

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Year ended 31 March 2024

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN) ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the '2008 Act') and the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act'). You are satisfied that the accounts of the company are not required by charity or company law to be audited and have chosen instead to have an independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements as carried out under section 65 of the 2008 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

#### Independent examiner's statement

Since the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 65 of the 2008 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Chartered Accountants Ireland, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

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

Cathal O'Neill FCA  
Independent Examiner

15E Molesworth Street  
Cookstown  
Co. Tyrone  
BT80 8NX

31 January 2025

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2024

		2024		2023
	Note	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>				
Donations and legacies	5	–	–	831
Charitable activities	6	289,605	289,605	203,289
<b>Total income</b>		<u>289,605</u>	<u>289,605</u>	<u>204,120</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Expenditure on charitable activities	7,8	271,509	271,509	221,120
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>271,509</u>	<u>271,509</u>	<u>221,120</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds</b>		<u>18,096</u>	<u>18,096</u>	<u>(17,000)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		1,903	1,903	18,904
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>19,999</u>	<u>19,999</u>	<u>1,904</u>

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

The notes on pages 10 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Statement of Financial Position

31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	14	3,473	4,631
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	15	90,145	38,276
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	16	73,619	41,003
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>16,526</u>	<u>(2,727)</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>19,999</u>	<u>1,904</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>19,999</u>	<u>1,904</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted funds		19,999	1,904
<b>Total charity funds</b>	18	<u>19,999</u>	<u>1,904</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 31 January 2025, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

M McSorley  
Director

The notes on pages 10 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2024

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#### 1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in Northern Ireland and a registered charity in Northern Ireland. The address of the registered office is Unit 5, 20 Sandholes Road, Cookstown, Co. Tyrone, BT80 9AR.

#### 2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

#### 3. Accounting policies

##### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

##### Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, 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 the financial statements.

##### Disclosure exemptions

The Charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

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

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

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

##### Fund accounting

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

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

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

##### Incoming resources

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

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

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

##### Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

##### Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

##### Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Fixtures and fittings                      -     25% reducing balance

##### Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

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

##### Impairment of fixed assets *(continued)*

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

##### Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

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

##### Financial instruments *(continued)*

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

##### Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

#### 4. Limited by guarantee

None of the Trustees have any beneficial interest in the company. All of the Trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

#### 5. Donations and legacies

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
<b>Donations</b>				
Donations	–	–	831	831

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

Year ended 31 March 2024

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#### 6. Charitable activities

	Restricted Funds £	<b>Total Funds 2024 £</b>	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Facilitation	3,357	3,357	1,206	1,206
Social Change Initiative Fellowship Bursary	1,820	1,820	3,165	3,165
VCD Cost of Living Grant (DFC)	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
WICT Plenaries (DFC)	7,217	7,217	1,985	1,985
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	56,504	56,504	58,130	58,130
WRISP (DFC)	57,466	57,466	73,405	73,405
Community Renewal Funds/UKSPF (WRDA)	101,051	101,051	34,145	34,145
Developing Health Funding (PHA)	15,000	15,000	1,000	1,000
ACNI REAP	5,054	5,054	–	–
Murlough Foundation	2,700	2,700	–	–
4 Nations Civil Society Bursary	150	150	–	–
Heritage Lottery Fund NI	3,850	3,850	–	–
Womens Spaces (DFAT)	33,936	33,936	28,753	28,753
	<u>289,605</u>	<u>289,605</u>	<u>203,289</u>	<u>203,289</u>

#### 7. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Restricted Funds £	<b>Total Funds 2024 £</b>	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Support costs	271,509	271,509	221,120	221,120

#### 8. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Support costs £	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>	Total fund 2023 £
Direct Charitable Expenditure	269,588	269,588	219,441
Governance costs	1,921	1,921	1,679
	<u>271,509</u>	<u>271,509</u>	<u>221,120</u>

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# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

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#### 9. Analysis of support costs

	Analysis of support costs activity 1 £	<b>Total 2024</b> £	Total 2023 £
Staff costs	204,553	204,553	159,298
Premises	16,742	16,742	23,433
Finance costs	1,014	1,014	496
Other costs	47,280	47,280	37,893
	<u>269,589</u>	<u>269,589</u>	<u>221,120</u>

#### 10. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	<b>2024</b> £	2023 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>1,158</u>	<u>1,544</u>

#### 11. Independent examination fees

	<b>2024</b> £	2023 £
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>1,920</u>	<u>1,680</u>

#### 12. Staff costs

The average head count of employees during the year was 8 (2023: 6). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	<b>2024</b> No.	2023 No.
Number of staff - Full Time	4	3
Number of staff - Part Time	4	3
	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>

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

#### 13. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No Remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

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#### 14. Tangible fixed assets

	<b>Fixtures and fittings £</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024	23,486
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2023	18,855
Charge for the year	1,158
<b>At 31 March 2024</b>	<u>20,013</u>
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
At 31 March 2024	<u>3,473</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>4,631</u>

#### 15. Debtors

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade debtors	<u>90,145</u>	<u>38,276</u>

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

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Bank loans and overdrafts	8,065	6,629
Trade creditors	1,680	1,815
Accruals and deferred income	20,165	4,814
Social security and other taxes	43,709	27,745
	<u>73,619</u>	<u>41,003</u>

#### 17. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

##### Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £5,489 (2023: £5,857).

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

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#### 18. Analysis of charitable funds

##### Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2024 £
Restricted Fund B/Fwd	1,903	–	–	1,903
Restricted Fund	–	289,605	(271,509)	18,096
	<u>1,903</u>	<u>289,605</u>	<u>(271,509)</u>	<u>19,999</u>

	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2023 £
Restricted Fund B/Fwd	–	–	–	–
Restricted Fund	18,904	204,120	(221,120)	1,904
	<u>18,904</u>	<u>204,120</u>	<u>(221,120)</u>	<u>1,904</u>

#### 19. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	3,473	3,473
Current assets	90,145	90,145
Creditors less than 1 year	(73,619)	(73,619)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>19,999</u>	<u>19,999</u>

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	4,631	4,631
Current assets	38,276	38,276
Creditors less than 1 year	(41,003)	(41,003)
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>1,904</u>	<u>1,904</u>

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# **Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Management Information**

**Year ended 31 March 2024**

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

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 March 2024

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	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Income and endowments</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations	—	831
	<u>—</u>	<u>831</u>
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Facilitation	3,357	1,206
Social Change Initiative Fellowship Bursary	1,820	3,165
VCD Cost of Living Grant (DFC)	1,500	1,500
WICT Plenaries (DFC)	7,217	1,985
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	56,504	58,130
WRISP (DFC)	57,466	73,405
Community Renewal Funds/UKSPF (WRDA)	101,051	34,145
Developing Health Funding (PHA)	15,000	1,000
ACNI REAP	5,054	—
Murlough Foundation	2,700	—
4 Nations Civil Society Bursary	150	—
Heritage Lottery Fund NI	3,850	—
Womens Spaces (DFAT)	33,936	28,753
	<u>289,605</u>	<u>203,289</u>
	<u>289,605</u>	<u>203,289</u>
<b>Total income</b>	<u>289,605</u>	<u>204,120</u>

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

### Detailed Statement of Financial Activities *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Expenditure</b>		
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>		
Wages and salaries	197,276	151,652
Pension costs	5,489	5,857
Other post-retirement benefits	1,789	1,789
Rent	9,690	8,658
Rates and water	255	275
Light and heat	3,109	2,946
Repairs and maintenance	2,609	2,815
Insurance	1,078	1,051
Other establishment	812	1,199
Other motor/travel costs	10,991	6,056
Legal and professional fees	3,550	5,774
Telephone	3,860	2,300
Other office costs	3,586	5,292
Depreciation	1,158	1,544
Interest on bank loans and overdrafts	1,014	496
Other interest payable and similar charges	4,250	–
Programme Costs	9,458	7,688
Advertising	170	600
Computer Costs	4,828	9,528
Room hire & conference costs	6,537	5,600
	<u>271,509</u>	<u>221,120</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>271,509</u>	<u>221,120</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	<u>18,096</u>	<u>(17,000)</u>

**Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105725

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# Accounts

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COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NI060834  
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NIC105725

**Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Unaudited Financial Statements**

**31 March 2023**

**KELLY & O'NEILL LTD**

Chartered accountants  
15E Molesworth Street  
Cookstown  
Co. Tyrone  
BT80 8NX

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2023

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# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 31 March 2023

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The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

## Reference and administrative details

**Registered charity name** Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

**Charity registration number** NIC105725

**Company registration number** NI060834

**Principal office and registered office** Unit 5  
20 Sandholes Road  
Cookstown  
Co. Tyrone  
BT80 9AR

## The trustees

P Buckley  
F Kerr  
A McVicker  
B McElroy (Resigned 7 June 2022)  
M Murphy  
M McSorley  
L Mooney (Appointed 1 October 2023)  
C Fitzpatrick (Appointed 1 October 2023)  
M Byrne (Appointed 1 October 2023)

**Independent examiner** Cathal O'Neill FCA  
15E Molesworth Street  
Cookstown  
Co. Tyrone  
BT80 8NX

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

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## Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 29 January 1997. The company was established by a Memorandum of Association and is governed under its Articles of Association.

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

P Buckley  
F Kerr  
A McVicker  
B McElroy (Resigned 7 June 2022)  
M Murphy  
M McSorley  
L Mooney (Appointed 1 October 2023)  
C Fitzpatrick (Appointed 1 October 2023)  
M Byrne (Appointed 1 October 2023)

## Objectives and activities

The Company is established to promote and support rural women in rural Northern Ireland (the "area of benefit") without distinction of age, sexuality, nationality, ethnic identity, disability, political or religious opinion, by associating the statutory authorities, voluntary organisations and other bodies the inhabitants and in particular:

- (i) To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of rural women's organisations and projects in the area by providing advice, information, education and training, and practical support to such organisations and projects for the benefit of the public.
- (ii) To raise awareness among the general public and provide representation to policy makers of the needs and experiences of rural women in the area of benefit.
- (iii) To promote or assist in promoting cooperation and networking between women's organisations in the area of benefit for information exchange and policy consultation.
- (iv) To promote the participation of rural women in decision making amongst public bodies in the area of benefit.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

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## Achievements and performance

The political landscape this year saw our local Executive at Stormont still having difficulties; and the current impacts of Covid-19, rising Income crisis and the outworkings of Brexit and the NI Protocol on our membership very real. Our Strategic Plan 2021-2024 has really supported us to ensure we are delivering to the needs of our membership and future proofing our organisation. Our work has focussed on supporting our members to have their voices heard and to provide opportunities for members to engage directly with decision makers to communicate their views and influence change in an ever-changing context.

One example of this was our work with Rural Community Network supported by CFNI where we undertook research 'Looking Back to Go Forward' to learn what we could from the LEADER approach and what was worth taking forward in a new indigenous Rural Framework post EU exit. It aimed to identify what the challenges have been and what needs to be changed to improve delivery of rural development funding. The report makes recommendations on how inclusive delivery processes, like participatory budgeting, could increase engagement of rural citizens, promote openness and accountability in decision making and begin to address the well documented under-representation of women, young people and other S75 groups as applicants to, and beneficiaries of rural development funding.

NIRWN delivered an innovative pilot programme 'Women Breaking Barriers' under the UK government Community Renewal Fund with our partners WRDA and Women's Support Network. This was a huge investment of over £300, 000 regionally. This was very successful, NIRWN led on delivery of the rural element of the pilot and 48% of participation was rural women with target numbers across the Project exceeded by 64%. Our Programme delivery on the ground with our membership increased greatly in 2023 through Women Breaking Barriers and Women's Spaces. This is not as demonstrably evident in our accounts this year as effective partnership working meant that NIRWN, instead of carrying the financial administrative burden of paying out programming costs directly to suppliers for costs such as facilitation, room hire etc. our lead partners on these programs were invoiced directly. This meant in real terms that our additional staff resource was directly engaged in supporting women and our membership received all the benefit of the monetary investment in rural women's programming without NIRWN diverting additional staff resource to financial administration.

One of the key highlights of our year is International Day of Rural Women in October and it was fantastic to have our first large event post Coronavirus pandemic and see so many of our membership together in one venue. It is worth noting that whilst it was a day of celebration and joy our theme was 'Reflect, Rebuild and Renew' as our membership had been sharing their post covid and cost of living realities with us and this was a day set aside to support them through a difficult time.

We launched our new 'Women's Spaces', women and peacebuilding project as a Strategic Partner with the Irish Government. Women in Northern Ireland continue to be sidelined in peace building. Women are also underrepresented in public life, with very limited increase in women's representation in recent years and women's views rarely included in policy and decision making. Women's Spaces is a three-year project designed to begin changing these long-standing challenges. With our partners Womens Platform, WRDA and WSN, NIRWN will lead on delivery of the rural element of the programme with our new colleague and team member Women's Spaces Coordinator Charmain Jones.

NIRWN continues to work in partnership within the Women's Regional Consortium for the benefit of

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# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

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rural women. We continue our partnership work on Raise Your Voice to tackle Sexual Harassment and we continue to seek opportunities to work collaboratively across our islands to ensure that rural women are visible, influential and valued. Our membership has increased by 24% this year which in the context within which we are working is a testament to the relevance of what we are offering members to support them. We thank our funders for continuing to invest in us and assure you that our work is making a difference to the quality of life for women in rural areas.

Trustees would like to thank NIRWN staff who continue to work to improve the lives of rural women.

## Financial review

The company is a not for profit charitable organisation whose purpose is to provide a neutral venue to local community and charitable organisations.

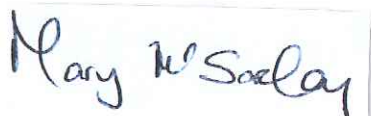
The year ended 31 March 2023 has seen a rise in income of 2%. This is due to the great support of our existing funders and establishing several new funders. Programme costs in the year have decreased in comparison to prior years, however the overall activity has increased due to lead partners having direct involvement in key projects. During the year NIRWN moved office premises, this had an impact on the repayment of the PAYE liability, management staff are currently in the process of resolving this accrued debt.

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to these.

## Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 22 December 2023 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



M McSorley  
Director

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Year ended 31 March 2023

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN) ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the '2008 Act') and the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act'). You are satisfied that the accounts of the company are not required by charity or company law to be audited and have chosen instead to have an independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements as carried out under section 65 of the 2008 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

### Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

**Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Northern Ireland Rural  
Women's Network (NIRWN) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

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



Cathal O'Neill FCA  
Independent Examiner

15E Molesworth Street  
Cookstown  
Co. Tyrone  
BT80 8NX

22 December 2023

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

## Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2023

		2023		2022
	Note	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>				
Donations and legacies	5	831	831	—
Charitable activities	6	203,289	203,289	199,461
<b>Total income</b>		<u>204,120</u>	<u>204,120</u>	<u>199,461</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Expenditure on charitable activities	7,8	221,120	221,120	200,545
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>221,120</u>	<u>221,120</u>	<u>200,545</u>
<b>Net expenditure and net movement in funds</b>		<u>(17,000)</u>	<u>(17,000)</u>	<u>(1,084)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		18,904	18,904	19,988
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>1,904</u>	<u>1,904</u>	<u>18,904</u>

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

The notes on pages 9 to 17 form part of these financial statements.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

## Statement of Financial Position

31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	14	4,631	3,318
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	15	38,276	26,552
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	16	41,003	10,966
<b>Net current liabilities</b>		<u>(2,727)</u>	<u>15,586</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>1,904</u>	<u>18,904</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>1,904</u>	<u>18,904</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted funds		1,904	18,904
<b>Total charity funds</b>	18	<u>1,904</u>	<u>18,904</u>

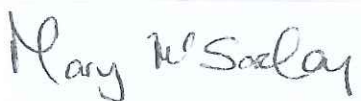
For the year ending 31 March 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 22 December 2023, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



M McSorley  
Director

The notes on pages 9 to 17 form part of these financial statements.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

## Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2023

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### 1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in Northern Ireland and a registered charity in Northern Ireland. The address of the registered office is Unit 5, 20 Sandholes Road, Cookstown, Co. Tyrone, BT80 9AR.

### 2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

### 3. Accounting policies

#### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

#### Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, 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 the financial statements.

#### Disclosure exemptions

The Charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

#### Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

---

## 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

### Fund accounting

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

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

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

### Incoming resources

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

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

---

## 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

### Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

### Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

### Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Fixtures and fittings                      -     25% reducing balance

### Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

Year ended 31 March 2023

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

##### Impairment of fixed assets *(continued)*

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

##### Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

Year ended 31 March 2023

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

##### Financial instruments *(continued)*

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

##### Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

#### 4. Limited by guarantee

None of the Trustees have any beneficial interest in the company. All of the Trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

#### 5. Donations and legacies

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Donations				
Donations	831	831	–	–

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

## 6. Charitable activities

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Facilitation	1,206	1,206	–	–
Social Change Initiative	3,165	3,165	–	–
Fermanagh Omagh District Council	–	–	250	250
VCD Cost of Living Grant (DFC)	1,500	1,500	–	–
Heritage Funds (RCN)	–	–	500	500
Mid Ulster Council (SEUPB)	–	–	29,581	29,581
WICT (DFC)	1,985	1,985	–	–
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	58,130	58,130	51,780	51,780
TWN Office (WRISP)	73,405	73,405	68,959	68,959
Community Renewal Funds (WRDA)	34,145	34,145	35,041	35,041
At One Wellbeing	–	–	8,648	8,648
Developing Health Funding (PHA)	1,000	1,000	4,000	4,000
Magherafelt Womens Group	–	–	702	702
Womens Spaces	28,753	28,753	–	–
	<u>203,289</u>	<u>203,289</u>	<u>199,461</u>	<u>199,461</u>

## 7. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Support costs	221,120	221,120	200,545	200,545

## 8. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Support costs £	Total funds 2023 £	Total fund 2022 £
Activity type 1	219,441	219,441	198,960
Governance costs	1,679	1,679	1,585
	<u>221,120</u>	<u>221,120</u>	<u>200,545</u>

## 9. Analysis of support costs

	Analysis of support costs activity 1 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Staff costs	159,298	159,298	112,211
Premises	23,433	23,433	56,831
Finance costs	496	496	486
Other costs	37,893	37,893	31,017
	<u>221,120</u>	<u>221,120</u>	<u>200,545</u>

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

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## 10. Net expenditure

Net expenditure is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>1,544</u>	<u>1,106</u>

## 11. Independent examination fees

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>1,680</u>	<u>1,584</u>

## 12. Staff costs

The average head count of employees during the year was 6 (2022: 5). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Number of staff - Full Time	3	5
Number of staff - Part Time	3	—
	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

## 13. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No Remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

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## 14. Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2022	20,629
Additions	2,857
<b>At 31 March 2023</b>	<u>23,486</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2022	17,311
Charge for the year	1,544
<b>At 31 March 2023</b>	<u>18,855</u>
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
<b>At 31 March 2023</b>	<u>4,631</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>3,318</u>

## 15. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	<u>38,276</u>	<u>26,552</u>

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Bank loans and overdrafts	6,629	478
Trade creditors	1,815	1,604
Accruals and deferred income	4,814	2,466
Social security and other taxes	27,745	6,418
	<u>41,003</u>	<u>10,966</u>

## 17. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

### Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £5,857 (2022: £5,245).

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

## 18. Analysis of charitable funds

### Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2023 £
Restricted Fund 1 - desc in a/cs	–	–	–	–
Restricted Fund	<u>18,904</u>	<u>204,120</u>	<u>(221,120)</u>	<u>1,904</u>
	<u>18,904</u>	<u>204,120</u>	<u>(221,120)</u>	<u>1,904</u>

	At 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2022 £
Restricted Fund 1 - desc in a/cs	–	250	(250)	–
Restricted Fund	<u>19,988</u>	<u>199,211</u>	<u>(200,295)</u>	<u>18,904</u>
	<u>19,988</u>	<u>199,461</u>	<u>(200,545)</u>	<u>18,904</u>

## 19. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	4,631	4,631
Current assets	38,276	38,276
Creditors less than 1 year	<u>(41,003)</u>	<u>(41,003)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>1,904</u>	<u>1,904</u>

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	3,318	3,318
Current assets	26,552	26,552
Creditors less than 1 year	<u>(10,966)</u>	<u>(10,966)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>18,904</u>	<u>18,904</u>

**Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Management Information**

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

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

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

## Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 March 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Income and endowments</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations	831	—
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Facilitation	1,206	—
Social Change Initiative	3,165	—
Fermanagh Omagh District Council	—	250
VCD Cost of Living Grant (DFC)	1,500	—
Heritage Funds (RCN)	—	500
Mid Ulster Council (SEUPB)	—	29,581
WICT (DFC)	1,985	—
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	58,130	51,780
TWN Office (WRISP)	73,405	68,959
Community Renewal Funds (WRDA)	34,145	35,041
At One Wellbeing	—	8,648
Developing Health Funding (PHA)	1,000	4,000
Magherafelt Womens Group	—	702
Womens Spaces	28,753	—
	<u>203,289</u>	<u>199,461</u>
<b>Total income</b>	<u>204,120</u>	<u>199,461</u>

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>Expenditure</b>		
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>		
Wages and salaries	151,652	105,015
Pension costs	5,857	5,245
Other post-retirement benefits	1,789	1,951
Rent	8,658	7,625
Rates and water	275	102
Light and heat	2,946	1,792
Repairs and maintenance	2,815	3,410
Insurance	1,051	1,075
Other establishment	1,199	721
Other motor/travel costs	6,056	2,616
Legal and professional fees	5,774	3,804
Telephone	2,300	1,918
Other office costs	5,292	6,276
Depreciation	1,544	1,106
Interest on bank loans and overdrafts	496	486
Programme costs	7,688	43,220
Advertising	600	600
Computer costs	9,528	8,218
Room hire & conference costs	5,600	5,365
	<u>221,120</u>	<u>200,545</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>221,120</u>	<u>200,545</u>
<b>Net expenditure</b>	<u>(17,000)</u>	<u>(1,084)</u>

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

## Notes to the Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 March 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>		
<b>Activity type 1</b>		
<b>Support costs</b>		
Wages / salaries	151,652	105,015
Pension costs	5,857	5,245
Employers childcare vouchers	1,789	1,951
Rent	8,658	7,625
Rates & water	275	102
Light & heat	2,946	1,792
Repairs & maintenance	2,815	3,410
Insurance	1,051	1,075
General expenses	1,199	721
Travel & subs	6,056	2,616
Legal and professional fees	4,095	2,219
Telephone	2,300	1,918
Printing, postage & stationery	5,292	6,276
Depreciation	1,544	1,106
Bank charges	496	486
Programme costs	7,688	43,220
Advertising	600	600
Computer costs	9,528	8,218
Room hire & conference costs	5,600	5,365
	<u>219,441</u>	<u>198,960</u>
<b>Governance costs</b>		
Accountancy fees	<u>1,679</u>	<u>1,585</u>
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>	<u>221,120</u>	<u>200,545</u>

**Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105725

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# Annual report

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# TRUSTEE ANNUAL REPORT APRIL 2022-MARCH 2023



### **NIRWN's Vision**

An equitable society where rural women are; visible, influential and valued.

### **NIRWN's Mission**

To advance the participation and recognition of rural women

Supporting-Enabling-Empowering

### **NIRWN's Purposes & Beneficiaries**

NIRWN's purpose is to promote and support rural women in rural Northern Ireland without distinction of age, sexuality, nationality, ethnic identity, disability, political or religious opinion, by associating the statutory authorities' voluntary organisations and other bodies the inhabitants and in particular:

## Chairperson's Report

In this, the 16th Annual Report for NIRWN, the Trustees of NIRWN would like to thank our members from across rural Northern Ireland for their ongoing support.

The political landscape this year saw our local Executive at Stormont still having difficulties; and the current impacts of Covid-19, rising Income crisis and the outworkings of Brexit and the NI Protocol on our membership very real. Our Strategic Plan 2021-2024 has really supported us to ensure we are delivering to the needs of our membership and future proofing our organisation. Our work has focussed on supporting our members to have their voices heard and to provide opportunities for members to engage directly with decision makers to communicate their views and influence change in an ever-changing context.

One example of this was our work with Rural Community Network supported by CFNI where we undertook research 'Looking Back to Go Looking Back to Go Forward' to learn what we could from the LEADER approach and what was worth taking forward in a new indigenous Rural Framework post EU exit. It aimed to identify what the challenges have been and what needs to be changed to improve delivery of rural development funding. The report makes recommendations on how inclusive delivery processes, like participatory budgeting, could increase engagement of rural citizens, promote openness and accountability in decision making and begin to address the well documented under-representation of women, young people and other S75 groups as applicants to, and beneficiaries of rural development funding. We completed an innovative pilot programme 'Women Breaking Barriers' under the UK government Community Renewal Fund with our partners WRDA and Women's Support Network. This was a huge investment of over £300, 000 regionally This was very successful, NIRWN led on delivery of the rural element of the pilot and 48% of participation was rural women with target numbers across the Project exceeded by 64% .

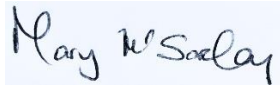
One of the key highlights of our year is International Day of Rural Women in October and it was fantastic to have our first large event post Coronavirus pandemic and see so many of our membership together in one venue. It is worth noting that whilst it was a day of celebration and joy our theme was 'Reflect, Rebuild and Renew' as our membership had been sharing their post covid and cost of living realities with us and this was a day set aside to support them through a difficult time.

We launched our new 'Women's Spaces', women and peacebuilding project as a Strategic Partner with the Irish Government. Women in Northern Ireland continue to be sidelined in peace building. Women are also underrepresented in public life, with very limited increase in women's representation in recent years and women's views rarely included in policy and decision making. Women's Spaces is a three-year project designed to begin changing these long-standing challenges. With our partners Womens Platform, WRDA and WSN. NIRWN will lead on delivery of the rural element of the programme with our new colleague and team member Women's Spaces Coordinator Charmain Jones.

NIRWN continues to work in partnership within the Women's Regional Consortium for the benefit of rural women. We continue our partnership work on Raise Your Voice to tackle Sexual Harassment and we continue to seek opportunities to work collaboratively across our islands to ensure that rural women are visible, influent and valued. We thank our funders for continuing to invest in us and assure you that our work is making a difference for the quality of life for women in rural areas.

Trustees would like to thank NIRWN staff who continue to work to improve the lives of rural women.

It would not be possible to support rural women across our region in the way we do without investment in rural women and we take this opportunity to thank all those who chose to invest in the rural women in NI through the supporting the work of NIRWN.

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light blue rectangular background. The signature reads "Mary Mc Sorley" in a cursive script.

Mary Mc Sorley

NIRWN Chairperson

### Object 1:

To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of rural women’s organisations and projects in the area by providing advice, information, education and training, and practical support to such organisations and projects for the benefit of the public

### NIRWN Membership

NIRWN membership increased by 24% from January 2022-January 2023.

All members are invited to NIRWN events; receive our regular Ezine with information and opportunities.

NIRWN’s [website](#) hosts all NIRWN specific information.

NIRWNs Social Media Platforms have grown in membership and engagement. NIRWN has an Instagram account in addition to YouTube, Facebook and Twitter. All platforms have grown exponentially.



### Women Breaking Barriers Pilot

NIRWN completed a pilot education, training and employment through Community Renewal Fund with partners WRDA, WSN and Reclaim the Agenda. NIRWN led on delivery of the rural element of the pilot and 48% of participation was rural women with target numbers across the Project exceeded by 64%

[www.womenbreakingbarriersni.com](http://www.womenbreakingbarriersni.com)



## NIRWN International Day of Rural Women 2022

NIRWN held their annual **International Day of Rural Women** event in FermanaghOmagh District Council area this year at the Mellon Country Inn where we had 100 women in attendance focused on the theme of: ‘Reflect, Renew, Rebuild’ in direct response to membership feedback on the impact of Covid 19 and the cost-of-living crisis.



## International Women’s Day 2023

NIRWN celebrated **IWD 23** by supporting our members groups to host their own events. This was a departure from our usual regional, large event and in direct response to membership feedback. Member groups shared that they were still struggling to encourage their own members back to their local groups post Covid crisis and that trying to access funding for ‘fun’ activities was increasingly difficult. We took a decision to distribute the money we would usually set aside for a big member event to support eleven of our member groups to host their own local event to celebrate IWD 23 instead. The opportunity was opened to all member groups.



## ‘Menopause & Me’

NIRWN developed and secured funding to deliver a bespoke ‘Menopause and Me’ programme for membership. This was designed to address a direct need expressed by our membership that were struggling to access local support and information in rural areas post Covid.



The poster features a stylized illustration of a woman with long purple hair, wearing a black top and purple leggings, standing on the left. The title 'menopause & me' is written in a cursive font at the top. Below the title, a question asks if the reader would like support to navigate menopause and thrive rather than survive. A purple box contains details about a 6-week online program covering topics like HRT, nutrition, and yoga. Three icons (Zoom, email, location pin) precede information about session dates, registration email, and limited spots in the Western Trust area. Logos for HSC, Clear, and NIRWN are at the bottom, along with a note about funding support.

*menopause & me*

WOULD YOU LIKE SUPPORT TO NAVIGATE THROUGH THE **MENOPAUSE** AND THRIVE RATHER THAN SURVIVE?

NIRWN is running a 6 week programme covering all aspects of the menopausal transition. Topics covered will include HRT, alternative therapies, self-care and coping techniques, nutrition, mindfulness, yoga, etc.

- Sessions will be held online via Zoom and begin week commencing **November 1st at 7pm**
- To register your interest please email **paula@nirwn.org**
- Places are limited and preference will be given to those living in the Western Trust area.

HSC Public Health Agency  
Project supported by the PHA

Clear

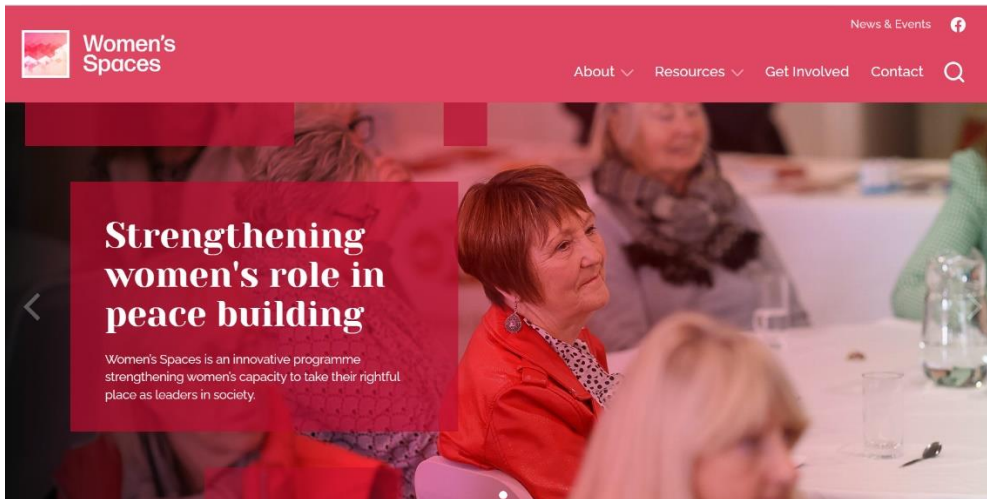
NIRWN  
Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network

This Project is supported by the Public Health Agency through the Clear Project

## Women's Spaces Launch

[Women's Spaces](#) is an innovative programme strengthening women's capacity to take their rightful place as leaders in society. The project builds women's skills and shares tools needed to engage effectively in peacebuilding, community development and public life, and aims to create new opportunities for women of all backgrounds to share their stories to shape future work and a future Northern Ireland.

Women in Northern Ireland continue to be sidelined in peace building. Women are also underrepresented in public life, with very limited increase in women's representation in recent years and women's views rarely included in policy and decision making. Women's Spaces is a three-year project designed to begin changing these long-standing challenges. With our partners; Women's Platform, WRDA and WSN we are a Strategic Partner with the Irish Government. NIRWN will lead on delivery of the rural element of the programme with our Women's Spaces Coordinator Charmain Jones.



## Object 2:

**To raise awareness among the general public and provide representation to policymakers of the needs and experiences of rural women in the area of benefit**

### Protocol Ireland/Northern Ireland

NIRWN Director was part of a small delegation of women who travelled to Brussels with FCDO to amplify the views of our membership on the impact and potential of NI protocol and the Windsor Framework and the legacy of women and the Good Friday Agreement on civic society and peacebuilding.

- As part of this work NIRWN met with: EU Commission, UK ambassador, Irish Embassy, MEPs and more in Brussels.
- We met with Steve Baker MP UK Minister for State NI.
- We met Brandon Lewis MP Secretary of State NI.

NIRWN were on the Steering Group for Women in Brexit Research commissioned by ECNI and included membership in the research focus groups.



## Looking Back to go Forward Research Report

This research was jointly commissioned by Rural Community Network and Northern Ireland Rural Womens' Network to take stock of how rural development funding has been delivered in Northern Ireland since the 1990s. We believed that it is timely to reflect on previous Rural Development Programmes as Northern Ireland prepares to deliver a new Rural Policy Framework post Brexit.

We believe this research can make a valuable contribution to DAERA's consideration.

The aims of the research were to identify what worked well with the previous LEADER approach and what is worth retaining in any future programme. It also aimed to identify what the challenges have been and what needs to be changed to improve delivery of rural development funding. The report makes recommendations on how inclusive delivery processes, like participatory budgeting, could increase engagement of rural citizens, promote openness and accountability in decision making and begin to address the well documented under-representation of women, young people and other S75 groups as applicants to, and beneficiaries of rural development funding.

The research also aimed to explore how new approaches to funding delivery can support innovation in rural communities to address the challenges and opportunities presented by climate change, Brexit and Covid recovery. The research also considers how the Framework can complement place shaping, community planning and community wealth building agendas.

Research was supported by CFNI

## DfC Developing Women in the Community

NIRWN was selected to represent rural women in a review of the Fresh Start Developing Women in the Community Programme. In addition to being a panel member, Louise Coyle, NIRWN was selected as Chair Developing Women in the Community Advisory Panel by the other panel membership.

Louise coordinated and wrote the final report and recommendations on behalf of the Panel for presentation to Minister Hargey.

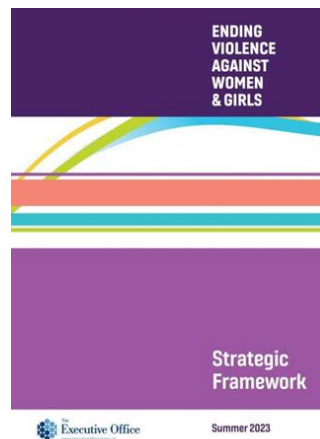


## Representation

### End Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy TEO

NI is without an EVAWG Strategy and in the year 22-23 NIRWN was heavily engaged in working with TEO (The Executive Office) to support the development of a fit for purpose strategy.

Frances Kerr our Trustee, Paula Mc Aliskey, Engagement Officer and Louise Coyle Director all participated in and attended engagement and development sessions and supported our membership to engage via focus groups sessions.



### Object 3:

**To promote or assist in promoting cooperation and networking between women's organisations in the area of benefit for information exchange and policy consultation**

### Weaving All Island Connections

NIRWN is working in partnership with Women's Collective Ireland (WCI) on a programme connecting women across Ireland called Bonding & Bridging – Weaving All Island Connections. Paula, Engagement Officer sits on the Advisory Group and NIRWN recruited a rural women's group from Portglenone and a border women's group from Hilltown to partner with groups from North Leitrim and Kerry for a 6 week programme of workshops, exploring and sharing issues and challenges and building connections with each other.



#### Object 4:

#### To promote the participation of rural women in decision making amongst public bodies in the area of benefit

NIRWN hosted a range of funders and decision makers at NIRWN HQ an example of a few of these include:

- Hosted British-Irish Secretariat at NIRWN
- NIRWN members provided with the opportunity to meet with Minister Hargey MLA (DfC) and shared their experiences of impacts of the cost-of-living crisis in rural areas.
- NIRWN met with SF Mid Ulster Team to discuss IWD Provision for women and the EVAWG Strategy



## Nothing About Us Without Us

NIRWN, working with other grassroots women's organisations and with the support of CFNI and SCI worked with our membership on developing and delivering a regional event on a theme chosen by the women of NI.

The women selected 'Health' as their focus and developed a key ask of a Women's Health Strategy for NI.

NI is the only jurisdiction across these islands with 'no plans' for a Women's Health Strategy.



**Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 105725

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# Annual return

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COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NI060834  
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NIC105725

**Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Unaudited Financial Statements**

**31 March 2023**

**KELLY & O'NEILL LTD**

Chartered accountants  
15E Molesworth Street  
Cookstown  
Co. Tyrone  
BT80 8NX

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2023

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Independent examiner's report to the trustees	5
Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)	7
Statement of financial position	8
Notes to the financial statements	9
<b>The following pages do not form part of the financial statements</b>	
Detailed statement of financial activities	19
Notes to the detailed statement of financial activities	21

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# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

Year ended 31 March 2023

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The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

## Reference and administrative details

**Registered charity name** Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

**Charity registration number** NIC105725

**Company registration number** NI060834

**Principal office and registered office** Unit 5  
20 Sandholes Road  
Cookstown  
Co. Tyrone  
BT80 9AR

## The trustees

P Buckley  
F Kerr  
A McVicker  
B McElroy (Resigned 7 June 2022)  
M Murphy  
M McSorley  
L Mooney (Appointed 1 October 2023)  
C Fitzpatrick (Appointed 1 October 2023)  
M Byrne (Appointed 1 October 2023)

**Independent examiner** Cathal O'Neill FCA  
15E Molesworth Street  
Cookstown  
Co. Tyrone  
BT80 8NX

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

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## Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 29 January 1997. The company was established by a Memorandum of Association and is governed under its Articles of Association.

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

P Buckley  
F Kerr  
A McVicker  
B McElroy (Resigned 7 June 2022)  
M Murphy  
M McSorley  
L Mooney (Appointed 1 October 2023)  
C Fitzpatrick (Appointed 1 October 2023)  
M Byrne (Appointed 1 October 2023)

## Objectives and activities

The Company is established to promote and support rural women in rural Northern Ireland (the "area of benefit") without distinction of age, sexuality, nationality, ethnic identity, disability, political or religious opinion, by associating the statutory authorities, voluntary organisations and other bodies the inhabitants and in particular:

- (i) To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of rural women's organisations and projects in the area by providing advice, information, education and training, and practical support to such organisations and projects for the benefit of the public.
- (ii) To raise awareness among the general public and provide representation to policy makers of the needs and experiences of rural women in the area of benefit.
- (iii) To promote or assist in promoting cooperation and networking between women's organisations in the area of benefit for information exchange and policy consultation.
- (iv) To promote the participation of rural women in decision making amongst public bodies in the area of benefit.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

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## Achievements and performance

The political landscape this year saw our local Executive at Stormont still having difficulties; and the current impacts of Covid-19, rising Income crisis and the outworkings of Brexit and the NI Protocol on our membership very real. Our Strategic Plan 2021-2024 has really supported us to ensure we are delivering to the needs of our membership and future proofing our organisation. Our work has focussed on supporting our members to have their voices heard and to provide opportunities for members to engage directly with decision makers to communicate their views and influence change in an ever-changing context.

One example of this was our work with Rural Community Network supported by CFNI where we undertook research 'Looking Back to Go Forward' to learn what we could from the LEADER approach and what was worth taking forward in a new indigenous Rural Framework post EU exit. It aimed to identify what the challenges have been and what needs to be changed to improve delivery of rural development funding. The report makes recommendations on how inclusive delivery processes, like participatory budgeting, could increase engagement of rural citizens, promote openness and accountability in decision making and begin to address the well documented under-representation of women, young people and other S75 groups as applicants to, and beneficiaries of rural development funding.

NIRWN delivered an innovative pilot programme 'Women Breaking Barriers' under the UK government Community Renewal Fund with our partners WRDA and Women's Support Network. This was a huge investment of over £300, 000 regionally. This was very successful, NIRWN led on delivery of the rural element of the pilot and 48% of participation was rural women with target numbers across the Project exceeded by 64%. Our Programme delivery on the ground with our membership increased greatly in 2023 through Women Breaking Barriers and Women's Spaces. This is not as demonstrably evident in our accounts this year as effective partnership working meant that NIRWN, instead of carrying the financial administrative burden of paying out programming costs directly to suppliers for costs such as facilitation, room hire etc. our lead partners on these programs were invoiced directly. This meant in real terms that our additional staff resource was directly engaged in supporting women and our membership received all the benefit of the monetary investment in rural women's programming without NIRWN diverting additional staff resource to financial administration.

One of the key highlights of our year is International Day of Rural Women in October and it was fantastic to have our first large event post Coronavirus pandemic and see so many of our membership together in one venue. It is worth noting that whilst it was a day of celebration and joy our theme was 'Reflect, Rebuild and Renew' as our membership had been sharing their post covid and cost of living realities with us and this was a day set aside to support them through a difficult time.

We launched our new 'Women's Spaces', women and peacebuilding project as a Strategic Partner with the Irish Government. Women in Northern Ireland continue to be sidelined in peace building. Women are also underrepresented in public life, with very limited increase in women's representation in recent years and women's views rarely included in policy and decision making. Women's Spaces is a three-year project designed to begin changing these long-standing challenges. With our partners Womens Platform, WRDA and WSN, NIRWN will lead on delivery of the rural element of the programme with our new colleague and team member Women's Spaces Coordinator Charmain Jones.

NIRWN continues to work in partnership within the Women's Regional Consortium for the benefit of

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# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

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rural women. We continue our partnership work on Raise Your Voice to tackle Sexual Harassment and we continue to seek opportunities to work collaboratively across our islands to ensure that rural women are visible, influential and valued. Our membership has increased by 24% this year which in the context within which we are working is a testament to the relevance of what we are offering members to support them. We thank our funders for continuing to invest in us and assure you that our work is making a difference to the quality of life for women in rural areas.

Trustees would like to thank NIRWN staff who continue to work to improve the lives of rural women.

## Financial review

The company is a not for profit charitable organisation whose purpose is to provide a neutral venue to local community and charitable organisations.

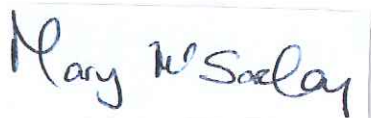
The year ended 31 March 2023 has seen a rise in income of 2%. This is due to the great support of our existing funders and establishing several new funders. Programme costs in the year have decreased in comparison to prior years, however the overall activity has increased due to lead partners having direct involvement in key projects. During the year NIRWN moved office premises, this had an impact on the repayment of the PAYE liability, management staff are currently in the process of resolving this accrued debt.

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to these.

## Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 22 December 2023 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



M McSorley  
Director

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Year ended 31 March 2023

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN) ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the '2008 Act') and the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act'). You are satisfied that the accounts of the company are not required by charity or company law to be audited and have chosen instead to have an independent examination.

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements as carried out under section 65 of the 2008 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

### Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

**Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Northern Ireland Rural  
Women's Network (NIRWN) *(continued)***

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

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



Cathal O'Neill FCA  
Independent Examiner

15E Molesworth Street  
Cookstown  
Co. Tyrone  
BT80 8NX

22 December 2023

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

## Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2023

		2023		2022
	Note	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
<b>Income and endowments</b>				
Donations and legacies	5	831	831	—
Charitable activities	6	203,289	203,289	199,461
<b>Total income</b>		<u>204,120</u>	<u>204,120</u>	<u>199,461</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Expenditure on charitable activities	7,8	221,120	221,120	200,545
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>221,120</u>	<u>221,120</u>	<u>200,545</u>
<b>Net expenditure and net movement in funds</b>		<u>(17,000)</u>	<u>(17,000)</u>	<u>(1,084)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward		18,904	18,904	19,988
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>1,904</u>	<u>1,904</u>	<u>18,904</u>

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

The notes on pages 9 to 17 form part of these financial statements.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

## Statement of Financial Position

31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	14	4,631	3,318
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	15	38,276	26,552
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	16	41,003	10,966
<b>Net current liabilities</b>		<u>(2,727)</u>	<u>15,586</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>1,904</u>	<u>18,904</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>1,904</u>	<u>18,904</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted funds		1,904	18,904
<b>Total charity funds</b>	18	<u>1,904</u>	<u>18,904</u>

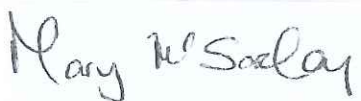
For the year ending 31 March 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 22 December 2023, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



M McSorley  
Director

The notes on pages 9 to 17 form part of these financial statements.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

## Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2023

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### 1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a private company limited by guarantee, registered in Northern Ireland and a registered charity in Northern Ireland. The address of the registered office is Unit 5, 20 Sandholes Road, Cookstown, Co. Tyrone, BT80 9AR.

### 2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Companies Act 2006.

### 3. Accounting policies

#### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity.

#### Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, 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 the financial statements.

#### Disclosure exemptions

The Charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

#### Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

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## 3. Accounting policies *(continued)*

### Fund accounting

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

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

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

### Incoming resources

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

- income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.
- legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.
- income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.
- income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted service. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

Year ended 31 March 2023

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

##### Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

##### Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, unless it reverses a charge for impairment that has previously been recognised as expenditure within the statement of financial activities. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation, is recognised in other recognised gains and losses, except to which it offsets any previous revaluation gain, in which case the loss is shown within other recognised gains and losses on the statement of financial activities.

##### Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Fixtures and fittings                      -     25% reducing balance

##### Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

Year ended 31 March 2023

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

##### Impairment of fixed assets *(continued)*

For the purposes of impairment testing, when it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

For impairment testing of goodwill, the goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the charity are assigned to those units.

##### Financial instruments

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the amount receivable or payable including any related transaction costs.

Current assets and current liabilities are subsequently measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received and not discounted.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income and expenditure. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in the statement of financial activities, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised under the appropriate heading in the statement of financial activities in which the initial gain was recognised.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2023

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

##### Financial instruments *(continued)*

Any reversals of impairment are recognised immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

##### Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as an expense in the period in which it arises.

#### 4. Limited by guarantee

None of the Trustees have any beneficial interest in the company. All of the Trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

#### 5. Donations and legacies

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Donations				
Donations	831	831	–	–

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

## 6. Charitable activities

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Facilitation	1,206	1,206	–	–
Social Change Initiative	3,165	3,165	–	–
Fermanagh Omagh District Council	–	–	250	250
VCD Cost of Living Grant (DFC)	1,500	1,500	–	–
Heritage Funds (RCN)	–	–	500	500
Mid Ulster Council (SEUPB)	–	–	29,581	29,581
WICT (DFC)	1,985	1,985	–	–
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	58,130	58,130	51,780	51,780
TWN Office (WRISP)	73,405	73,405	68,959	68,959
Community Renewal Funds (WRDA)	34,145	34,145	35,041	35,041
At One Wellbeing	–	–	8,648	8,648
Developing Health Funding (PHA)	1,000	1,000	4,000	4,000
Magherafelt Womens Group	–	–	702	702
Womens Spaces	28,753	28,753	–	–
	<u>203,289</u>	<u>203,289</u>	<u>199,461</u>	<u>199,461</u>

## 7. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Support costs	221,120	221,120	200,545	200,545

## 8. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Support costs £	Total funds 2023 £	Total fund 2022 £
Activity type 1	219,441	219,441	198,960
Governance costs	1,679	1,679	1,585
	<u>221,120</u>	<u>221,120</u>	<u>200,545</u>

## 9. Analysis of support costs

	Analysis of support costs activity 1 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Staff costs	159,298	159,298	112,211
Premises	23,433	23,433	56,831
Finance costs	496	496	486
Other costs	37,893	37,893	31,017
	<u>221,120</u>	<u>221,120</u>	<u>200,545</u>

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

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## 10. Net expenditure

Net expenditure is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<u>1,544</u>	<u>1,106</u>

## 11. Independent examination fees

	2023	2022
	£	£
Fees payable to the independent examiner for: Independent examination of the financial statements	<u>1,680</u>	<u>1,584</u>

## 12. Staff costs

The average head count of employees during the year was 6 (2022: 5). The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year is analysed as follows:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Number of staff - Full Time	3	5
Number of staff - Part Time	3	—
	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2022: Nil).

## 13. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No Remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

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## 14. Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 April 2022	20,629
Additions	2,857
<b>At 31 March 2023</b>	<u>23,486</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 April 2022	17,311
Charge for the year	1,544
<b>At 31 March 2023</b>	<u>18,855</u>
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
<b>At 31 March 2023</b>	<u>4,631</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>3,318</u>

## 15. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	<u>38,276</u>	<u>26,552</u>

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Bank loans and overdrafts	6,629	478
Trade creditors	1,815	1,604
Accruals and deferred income	4,814	2,466
Social security and other taxes	27,745	6,418
	<u>41,003</u>	<u>10,966</u>

## 17. Pensions and other post retirement benefits

### Defined contribution plans

The amount recognised in income or expenditure as an expense in relation to defined contribution plans was £5,857 (2022: £5,245).

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

## 18. Analysis of charitable funds

### Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2023 £
Restricted Fund 1 - desc in a/cs	–	–	–	–
Restricted Fund	<u>18,904</u>	<u>204,120</u>	<u>(221,120)</u>	<u>1,904</u>
	<u>18,904</u>	<u>204,120</u>	<u>(221,120)</u>	<u>1,904</u>

	At 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2022 £
Restricted Fund 1 - desc in a/cs	–	250	(250)	–
Restricted Fund	<u>19,988</u>	<u>199,211</u>	<u>(200,295)</u>	<u>18,904</u>
	<u>19,988</u>	<u>199,461</u>	<u>(200,545)</u>	<u>18,904</u>

## 19. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	4,631	4,631
Current assets	38,276	38,276
Creditors less than 1 year	<u>(41,003)</u>	<u>(41,003)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>1,904</u>	<u>1,904</u>

	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	3,318	3,318
Current assets	26,552	26,552
Creditors less than 1 year	<u>(10,966)</u>	<u>(10,966)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>	<u>18,904</u>	<u>18,904</u>

**Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)**

**Company Limited by Guarantee**

**Management Information**

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

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

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

## Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 March 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Income and endowments</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations	831	—
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Facilitation	1,206	—
Social Change Initiative	3,165	—
Fermanagh Omagh District Council	—	250
VCD Cost of Living Grant (DFC)	1,500	—
Heritage Funds (RCN)	—	500
Mid Ulster Council (SEUPB)	—	29,581
WICT (DFC)	1,985	—
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	58,130	51,780
TWN Office (WRISP)	73,405	68,959
Community Renewal Funds (WRDA)	34,145	35,041
At One Wellbeing	—	8,648
Developing Health Funding (PHA)	1,000	4,000
Magherafelt Womens Group	—	702
Womens Spaces	28,753	—
	<u>203,289</u>	<u>199,461</u>
<b>Total income</b>	<u>204,120</u>	<u>199,461</u>

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>Expenditure</b>		
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>		
Wages and salaries	151,652	105,015
Pension costs	5,857	5,245
Other post-retirement benefits	1,789	1,951
Rent	8,658	7,625
Rates and water	275	102
Light and heat	2,946	1,792
Repairs and maintenance	2,815	3,410
Insurance	1,051	1,075
Other establishment	1,199	721
Other motor/travel costs	6,056	2,616
Legal and professional fees	5,774	3,804
Telephone	2,300	1,918
Other office costs	5,292	6,276
Depreciation	1,544	1,106
Interest on bank loans and overdrafts	496	486
Programme costs	7,688	43,220
Advertising	600	600
Computer costs	9,528	8,218
Room hire & conference costs	5,600	5,365
	<u>221,120</u>	<u>200,545</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>221,120</u>	<u>200,545</u>
<b>Net expenditure</b>	<u>(17,000)</u>	<u>(1,084)</u>

# Northern Ireland Rural Women's Network (NIRWN)

Company Limited by Guarantee

## Notes to the Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 March 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>		
<b>Activity type 1</b>		
<b>Support costs</b>		
Wages / salaries	151,652	105,015
Pension costs	5,857	5,245
Employers childcare vouchers	1,789	1,951
Rent	8,658	7,625
Rates & water	275	102
Light & heat	2,946	1,792
Repairs & maintenance	2,815	3,410
Insurance	1,051	1,075
General expenses	1,199	721
Travel & subs	6,056	2,616
Legal and professional fees	4,095	2,219
Telephone	2,300	1,918
Printing, postage & stationery	5,292	6,276
Depreciation	1,544	1,106
Bank charges	496	486
Programme costs	7,688	43,220
Advertising	600	600
Computer costs	9,528	8,218
Room hire & conference costs	5,600	5,365
	<u>219,441</u>	<u>198,960</u>
<b>Governance costs</b>		
Accountancy fees	<u>1,679</u>	<u>1,585</u>
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>	<u>221,120</u>	<u>200,545</u>