

Company registration number: NI042835

Charity registration number: 106024

County Down Rural Community Network

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

KPS Chartered Accountants
Chartered Tax Advisers
Registered Auditors
35 Irish Street
Downpatrick
Co. Down
BT30 6BW

County Down Rural Community Network

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County Down Rural Community Network

Reference and Administrative Details

Secretary	Nicholas McCrickard
Charity Registration Number	106024
Company Registration Number	NI042835
Registered Office	<p>The charity is incorporated in Northern Ireland.</p> <p>Office Unit 2 Ballymote Centre 40 Killough Road Downpatrick Co Down BT30 6PY</p>
Auditor	<p>KPS Chartered Accountants Chartered Tax Advisers Registered Auditors 35 Irish Street Downpatrick Co. Down BT30 6BW</p>

County Down Rural Community Network

Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present their strategic report for the year ended 31 March 2024, in compliance with s414C of the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS102), in preparing their annual report and financial statements.

Achievements and performance

The trustees of County Down Rural Community Network (CDRCN) are pleased to report another extremely busy year across our area of benefit. Membership of the network reached an all time high with close to 400 groups choosing to join the network. This is a reflection of the dedicated work of the staff team under the guidance of our manager and board of Trustees.

As society in Northern Ireland acclimatised to the effects of BREXIT, the COVID Pandemic, collapse of Stormont and the cost of living crisis, civic society and the community and voluntary sector in general, continued to deliver a steady if cash-strapped suite of services and activities. CDRCN played its part in these efforts and distributed a variety of hardship funds to the most vulnerable local people and facilitated a series of projects to welcome and support hundreds of asylum seekers who sought refuge in our area from many troubled places around the world.

CDRCN was delighted with the return of the Stormont Executive in February 2024 and looks forward to a stabilisation of funding and clear leadership in a new Programme for Government which is expected by mid year.

Despite the extra workload and increased annual turnover, largely due to the Government funds channelled through CDRCN, the network faced its biggest annual deficit since its formation. The Trustees backed a plan to maintain as many of the staff team as possible in this leanest of years and use that capacity to invest in developing new income streams. This approach appears to be paying off as post year end, the signs are positive for a recovery plan that is reducing the deficit.

The network continued to deliver programmes of support to over 400 community groups under the generous and consistent support of DAERA and the Public Health Agency. These main funders were supplemented by service level agreements with Newry, Mourne & Down and Ards & North Down Councils and many other smaller funds and contracts. Our South East Mind Matters programme drew towards a close in this period with funds from Dept of Health via the Community Foundation for NI and over 700 people received quick access therapies and social prescribing interventions which in many cases were vital in their individual mental health journeys. Micro Grants, which had been delivered annually for 8 years were not available in this year but DAERA are taking steps to ensure these much needed small capital grants are available in 2024/2025.

The Trustees look forward to an improving financial position, but they acknowledge that the financial outlook for NI is directly affecting the fortunes of the network.

Financial review

At the end of the financial year the Charity has assets of £429,096 (2023: £540,657) and liabilities of £55,955 (2023: £18,746). The net assets of the Charity have decreased by £149,039.

County Down Rural Community Network

Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Policy on reserves

The trustees have examined the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. It has established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity should be 4 months of annual budgeted expenditure. Budgeted expenditure for 2024/25 is approximately £1.1m and therefore the target is £366,666 of general unrestricted funds. The reserves are required to meet not only the working capital requirements of the charity enabling the charity to continue with future investments and also ensure that the charity would be able to cover the costs of winding up should the worst happen and the charity need to close.

The actual reserves at 31 March 2024 amounted to £373,590 of which unrestricted reserves totalled £332,349 which is slightly less than the target figure of £366,666 for unrestricted funds. In calculating reserves the net book value of fixed assets held (£718) have been excluded. This met the target policy target of 4 months.

The Directors are aware of the events occurring within the financial year and will continue to keep under constant review. It remains the strategy of continuing to build reserves and apply resources to the charity's objectives and mission.

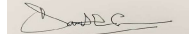
The strategic report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 23 October 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

A D Poots
25/Oct/2024 14:07:19



Alan David Poots
Trustee

D L C Baker
25/Oct/2024 14:22:31



David Lawrence Cole Baker
Trustee

County Down Rural Community Network

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

Vision

The vision of the Charity is of confident, connected communities throughout County Down and South Armagh.

Mission

The Charity's mission is to enable and motivate people to help themselves to enhance and improve lives.

Strategic themes

To achieve our vision and mission we have focused our work under four strategic themes:

1. Empowering, connecting and strengthening communities
2. Supporting and enabling a strong community voice
3. Providing services to our members
4. Developing an adaptive and sustainable organisation

Public benefit

The direct benefits which flow from the purpose includes increased levels of community engagement; increased access to services, support, guidance, information and signposting; enhanced ability to participate in decision making on policies which affect rural life; improved governance in community organisations; improved access to funding; improved quality of life for all inhabitants through directly tackling issues that cause disadvantage and poverty within rural communities. These benefits are demonstrated through the number of community organisations seeking support to implement a wide range of community activities and services; the extent of dialogue and co-operation between different interest groups; the number of activities taking place within communities, the number of participants taking part in the activities, and regular and ongoing evaluation of programmes and activities. The purposes of our charity will not lead to any harm. The beneficiaries of the charity are the rural inhabitants living in the rural areas of County Down and its hinterland. A private benefit to trustees may arise from participating in activities. Trustees may gain skills and experience which are transferable to other settings. These benefits are incidental and necessary to ensure the benefit is provided to our beneficiaries.

County Down Rural Community Network

Trustees' Report

Trustees and officers

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

Trustees:	Nicholas John Moore
	Loretta Gribben
	Helen Margaret Coulter
	Alan David Poots
	Brian John Graham
	Robin Eldred Holliday
	Kathy Graham
	Liam Devine
	Nicola Fitzsimons
	Patrick Killen
	Deborah Boden
	David Lawrence Cole Baker
	William Samuel Alexander Megraw

Secretary:	Nicholas McCrickard
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Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

County Down Rural Community Network is a charity registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland and is also registered as a company limited by guarantee.

Organisational structure

The Charity is governed by a Board of 13 Trustees who administer the Network and meet bi-monthly. Mr Nicholas McCrickard is the manager and manages the charity on a day-to-day basis.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of County Down Rural Community Network for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

County Down Rural Community Network

Trustees' Report

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Disclosure of information to auditor

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

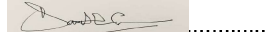
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25/Oct/2024 14:07:19



Alan David Poots
Trustee

D L C Baker
25/Oct/2024 14:22:31



David Lawrence Cole Baker
Trustee

County Down Rural Community Network

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of County Down Rural Community Network

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of County Down Rural Community Network (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

County Down Rural Community Network

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of County Down Rural Community Network

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities (set out on page 5 and 6), the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Irregularities, including fraud are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

In identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we considered the following:

- the nature of the industry, control environment and business performance
- the results of our enquiries of management about their own identification of the risk of irregularities
- any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the charity's documentation of their policies and procedures; and

County Down Rural Community Network

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of County Down Rural Community Network

- the matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud. We also discussed the potential for non-compliance with laws and regulations.

We focused on laws and regulations that could give rise to a potential material misstatement in the financial statements.

Our tests included, but were not limited to:

- Agreement of the financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation
- In response to the risk of management override of controls, identifying and testing journal entries and other adjustments, in particular any unusual account combinations and journals posted by unexpected users;
- Evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business;
- Making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged frauds;
- Considering the internal controls in place to mitigate the risk of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations; and
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their significant accounting estimates and judgements.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulations. The risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission and misrepresentation.

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

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

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

County Down Rural Community Network

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of County Down Rural Community Network

Use of our report

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

K Smyth
31/Oct/2024 08:46:17

Kyran Smyth.....

Kyran Smyth (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of KPS Chartered Accountants, Statutory Auditor

Chartered Tax Advisers
Registered Auditors
35 Irish Street
Downpatrick
Co. Down
BT30 6BW

23 October 2024

County Down Rural Community Network

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Charitable activities	3	-	1,124,966	1,124,966
Investment income	4	3,055	-	3,055
Other income		81,367	1,280	82,647
Total income		<u>84,422</u>	<u>1,126,246</u>	<u>1,210,668</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	5	<u>(165,321)</u>	<u>(1,194,386)</u>	<u>(1,359,707)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(165,321)</u>	<u>(1,194,386)</u>	<u>(1,359,707)</u>
Net expenditure		(80,899)	(68,140)	(149,039)
Transfers between funds	14	<u>37,247</u>	<u>(37,247)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		(43,652)	(105,387)	(149,039)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>376,001</u>	<u>146,628</u>	<u>522,629</u>
Total funds carried forward	14	<u><u>332,349</u></u>	<u><u>41,241</u></u>	<u><u>373,590</u></u>

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Charitable activities	3	-	1,049,861	1,049,861
Investment income	4	1,358	-	1,358
Other income		58,618	-	58,618
Total income		<u>59,976</u>	<u>1,049,861</u>	<u>1,109,837</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	5	<u>(88,126)</u>	<u>(1,052,266)</u>	<u>(1,140,392)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(88,126)</u>	<u>(1,052,266)</u>	<u>(1,140,392)</u>
Net expenditure		<u>(28,150)</u>	<u>(2,405)</u>	<u>(30,555)</u>
Net movement in funds		(28,150)	(2,405)	(30,555)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>404,151</u>	<u>149,033</u>	<u>553,184</u>
Total funds carried forward	14	<u><u>376,001</u></u>	<u><u>146,628</u></u>	<u><u>522,629</u></u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2023 is shown in note 14.

The notes on pages 14 to 23 form an integral part of these financial statements.

County Down Rural Community Network

(Registration number: NI042835)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

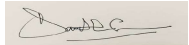
	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	449	718
Current assets			
Debtors	11	181,412	99,498
Cash at bank and in hand	12	<u>247,684</u>	<u>441,159</u>
		429,096	540,657
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(55,955)</u>	<u>(18,746)</u>
Net current assets		<u>373,141</u>	<u>521,911</u>
Net assets		<u><u>373,590</u></u>	<u><u>522,629</u></u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted Funds		41,241	146,628
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted Funds		<u>332,349</u>	<u>376,001</u>
Total funds	14	<u><u>373,590</u></u>	<u><u>522,629</u></u>

The financial statements on pages 11 to 23 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 23 October 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

A D Poots
 25/Oct/2024 14:07:19


 Alan David Poots
 Trustee

D L C Baker
 25/Oct/2024 14:22:31


 David Lawrence Cole Baker
 Trustee

The notes on pages 14 to 23 form an integral part of these financial statements.

County Down Rural Community Network

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash expenditure		(149,039)	(30,555)
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation		269	269
Investment income	4	<u>(3,055)</u>	<u>(1,358)</u>
		(151,825)	(31,644)
Working capital adjustments			
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	11	(81,914)	71,182
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	13	<u>37,209</u>	<u>(102,039)</u>
Net cash flows from operating activities		(196,530)	(62,501)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable and similar income	4	<u>3,055</u>	<u>1,358</u>
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(193,475)	(61,143)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 April		<u>441,159</u>	<u>502,302</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March		<u><u>247,684</u></u>	<u><u>441,159</u></u>

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

County Down Rural Community Network

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in Northern Ireland, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £Nil towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

Office Unit 2
Ballymote Centre
40 Killough Road
Downpatrick
Co Down
BT30 6PY

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the trustees on 23 October 2024.

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

County Down Rural Community Network meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Judgements

Estimates and judgements made in the process of preparing the financial statements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The Trustees do not consider that there are any critical judgements made in applying these charity accounting policies or that there are any critical accounting estimates or assumptions which may have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

County Down Rural Community Network

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Income and endowments

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs

Support costs are those that assist the work of the charity but do not directly represent charitable activities and include office costs, governance costs, administrative payroll costs. They are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity. Where support costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Plant and machinery	15% straight line
Fixtures and fittings	15% straight line

County Down Rural Community Network

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

County Down Rural Community Network

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

3 Income from charitable activities

	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
DAERA - Newry, Mourne & Down	168,515	168,515
DAERA - Lisburn, Castlereagh & North Down	65,058	65,058
Public Health Agency (DFC Neighbourhood Renewal)	25,000	25,000
Public Health Agency (Community Health Development)	263,041	263,041
Newry, Mourne & Down District Council	194,474	194,474
Ards & North Down District Council	10,000	10,000
DAERA - Social Prescribing	8,644	8,644
SEHSCT (Multi Disciplinary Team)	2,850	2,850
Community Development Health Network	16,600	16,600
Community Foundation NI	202,259	202,259
Health Living Centre Alliance	2,000	2,000
Confederation of Community Groups	24,854	24,854
Choice Housing Association	4,000	4,000
Clanmil Housing Association	7,540	7,540
PHA - Clear Project	5,000	5,000
DFC Capital Grants	20,903	20,903
ANDBC Hardship Fund	19,531	19,531
The Heart Project - Better Days Pain Management	3,900	3,900
Clanrye Group	17,424	17,424
SEHSCT MDT	17,880	17,880
Department of Foreign Affairs: Shared Island Civic Society Fund	22,542	22,542
Other funds	22,951	22,951
	1,124,966	1,124,966
	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
DAERA - Newry, Mourne & Down	168,515	168,515
DAERA - Lisburn, Castlereagh & North Down	65,059	65,059
Public Health Agency (DFC Neighbourhood Renewal)	28,999	28,999
Public Health Agency (Community Health Development)	255,789	255,789
Newry, Mourne & Down District Council	137,337	137,337
Ards & North Down District Council	12,933	12,933
Big Lottery - Social Prescribing	23,567	23,567
DAERA - Social Prescribing	20,383	20,383
SEHSCT (Multi Disciplinary Team)	60,135	60,135
Community Development Health Network	8,400	8,400
Community Foundation NI	133,849	133,849
Big Lottery - People & Communities	86,379	86,379
DAERA - Micro Capital Grant Scheme	14,424	14,424
Health Living Centre Alliance	5,500	5,500
Confederation of Community Groups	7,500	7,500
Choice Housing Association	2,000	2,000

County Down Rural Community Network

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Clanmil Housing Association	8,092	8,092
PHA - Clear Project	4,999	4,999
DFC Capital Grants	6,001	6,001
	<u>1,049,861</u>	<u>1,049,861</u>

4 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £
Deposit account interest	3,055	3,055
	<u>3,055</u>	<u>3,055</u>

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £
Deposit account interest	1,358	1,358
	<u>1,358</u>	<u>1,358</u>

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Allocated support costs	5,365	82,772	88,137	59,222
Direct costs	159,956	1,111,614	1,271,570	1,081,170
	<u>165,321</u>	<u>1,194,386</u>	<u>1,359,707</u>	<u>1,140,392</u>

County Down Rural Community Network

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

6 Analysis of support costs

Charitable activities expenditure

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Management	-	78,746	78,746	54,309
Finance	92	570	662	570
Other	269	-	269	269
Governance	5,004	3,456	8,460	4,074
	<u>5,365</u>	<u>82,772</u>	<u>88,137</u>	<u>59,222</u>

7 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net outgoing resources for the year include:

	2024 £	2023 £
Audit fees	8,460	4,073
Depreciation of fixed assets	<u>269</u>	<u>269</u>

8 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses from the charity during the year.

9 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	493,478	497,009
Social security costs	46,504	44,403
Pension costs	<u>55,501</u>	<u>54,333</u>
	<u>595,483</u>	<u>595,745</u>

County Down Rural Community Network

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2024 No	2023 No
Total number of staff	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>

The number of employees whose emoluments fell within the following bands was:

	2024 No	2023 No
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £	Plant and machinery £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 April 2023	<u>78,034</u>	<u>1,794</u>	<u>79,828</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>78,034</u>	<u>1,794</u>	<u>79,828</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2023	78,034	1,076	79,110
Charge for the year	<u>-</u>	<u>269</u>	<u>269</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>78,034</u>	<u>1,345</u>	<u>79,379</u>
Net book value			
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>449</u>	<u>449</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>718</u>	<u>718</u>

11 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	167,517	99,316
Accrued income	13,475	-
Other debtors	<u>420</u>	<u>182</u>
	<u>181,412</u>	<u>99,498</u>

12 Cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash at bank	<u>247,684</u>	<u>441,159</u>

County Down Rural Community Network

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	48,882	15,089
Other creditors	4,073	657
Accruals	3,000	3,000
	<u>55,955</u>	<u>18,746</u>

14 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
General					
General	376,001	84,422	(165,321)	37,247	332,349
Restricted funds					
ANDBC Hardship Fund	-	19,531	(19,190)	-	341
Ards & North Down Borough Council	2,699	10,000	(11,913)	-	786
The Heart Project - Better Days Pain Management	-	3,900	(3,900)	-	-
Big Lottery	2,666	-	(2,366)	(300)	-
Confederation of Community Groups	-	24,854	(24,854)	-	-
Community Development Health Network	-	16,600	(7,000)	-	9,600
Community Foundation NI	37,466	202,259	(239,725)	-	-
Choice Housing Association	-	4,000	(3,550)	-	450
Clanmill Housing Association	4,458	7,540	(8,490)	-	3,508
Clanrye Group	-	17,424	(17,424)	-	-
PHA - Clear Project	-	5,000	(4,993)	(7)	-
DAERA - Lisburn, Castlereagh & North Down	3,328	65,058	(68,038)	-	348
DAERA Newry, Mourne & Down	(1,994)	168,515	(155,449)	-	11,072
DAERA Social Prescribing	(160)	8,644	(7,857)	(627)	-
DFC Capital Grants	-	20,903	(14,934)	(5,970)	(1)
Healthy Living Centre Alliance	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
SEHSCT MDT	17,897	17,880	(8,875)	(26,902)	-
Newry, Mourne & Down District Council	9,456	194,474	(195,928)	(7,000)	1,002
People & Communities	68,089	-	(67,374)	(715)	-
SEHSCT (Multi Disciplinary Team)	-	2,850	(2,982)	-	(132)

County Down Rural Community Network

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Other funds	-	23,651	(14,107)	-	9,544
Public Health Agency (DFC Neighbourhood Renewal)	2,723	25,000	(25,000)	-	2,723
Department of Foreign Affairs: Shared Island Civic Society Fund	-	23,122	(27,396)	4,274	-
Public Health Agency (Community Health Development)	-	263,041	(263,041)	-	-
Total restricted funds	146,628	1,126,246	(1,194,386)	(37,247)	41,241
Total funds	522,629	1,210,668	(1,359,707)	-	373,590

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	449	-	449
Current assets	334,900	94,196	429,096
Current liabilities	(3,000)	(52,955)	(55,955)
Total net assets	332,349	41,241	373,590
	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	718	-	718
Current assets	391,874	148,783	540,657
Current liabilities	(16,590)	(2,156)	(18,746)
Total net assets	376,002	146,627	522,629

16 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	441,159	(193,474)	247,685
Net debt	441,159	(193,474)	247,685
	At 1 April 2022 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 March 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	502,302	(61,143)	441,159
Net debt	502,302	(61,143)	441,159

County Down Rural Community Network

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

17 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.