

Long Tower Youth and Community Centre Report of The Charity Trustees

The charity trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

PRINCIPLE ACTIVITY

The principal activities of the charity are to promote, without distinction of sex, race, political, religious, or other opinion, the education and personal development of young people so that they may achieve their full potential as individuals and members of society and that their life conditions may be improved.

CHARITY TRUSTEES

The charity trustees who served during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Kathleen Doherty
John McLaughlin
James McCartney
Kellie McCallion

GOVERNING DOCUMENT

The organisation is an unincorporated club with charitable status. It was established under a constitution which outlined the area of benefit and the objects of the charitable organisation and is governed by its Constitution.

OVERVIEW

Long Tower Youth and Community Centre was established in 1945 and is owned by trustees of the management committee. The building is in the grounds of the Brandywell sports complex which resides within the Moore DEA and on the edge of the Brandywell and Creggan Estate. Our key catchment areas include the three wards of:

- Diamond ward
- Brandywell ward
- Strand 1 ward

The centre manager is responsible for ensuring that youth work is focused in these targeted areas as they all reside within the top 20% of the MDM ranks for Northern Ireland. According to the 2017 NISRA Report, which reported on 890 wards, Longtower Youth Club's three wards are ranked as outlined in the table below.

	Diamond ward	Brandywell ward	Strand 1 ward
Depravation	6	13	5
Health	44	32	36
Employment	6	13	6
Education	152	98	203
Income	11	18	10
Income affecting children	145	18	6
Crime and disorder	1	50	-

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LONGTOWER YOUTH CLUB (LTYC)

(LTYC) currently employs:

- 18 full time youth workers
- 10 part time youth support workers
- 4 full time pathways placements
- 1 PT cleaner
- 1 .5 FT building supervisor
- 1 PT clerical officer and a team of 40 volunteers

Long Tower Youth and Community Centre manage the following youth services both in the main Longtower building and in satellite centres:

- Long Tower Youth and Community Centre – which is a full-time youth provision in the heart of the Brandywell.
- Bishop Street Youth Club is a satellite youth centre based on the interface area.
- Our streets is the City Centre youth provision based in the heart of the city centre.
- Engage is a bespoke intervention programme aimed as steering teenagers away from recurrent trouble.

All the work conducted within the above youth settings is done by collaboratively working to ensure co-ordination of service delivery thus ensuring young people have access to services across the community and surrounding areas. Long Tower Youth and Community Centre are currently responsible for delivering, managing, monitoring, and supporting the following sessions per week:

- 40 night-time sessions per week
- 20-day time sessions per week

Long Tower Youth and Community Centre adopts various methodologies that assist us in our delivery of high standard youth provision across the Brandywell, Bogside & Bishop Street areas these include:

- Group work.
- One to one.
- Bespoke one to one peer mentoring programmes to meet the individual needs based on the circle of courage model.
- School based youth work – closing the educational gap between the highest and lowest performers.
- Conversation - as a way of fostering the relationships and empowering both parties.
- Family work.
- Partnership working – collaboratively with key partners to offer a wraparound service to young people most in need.

The youth club is open 6 nights per week and offers:

- Generic youth programme for young people aged 5 to 25.
- Targeted youth provision for the following priority age groups, 9-13 and 14 to 18 years old.
- To address the direct impact of exclusion and marginalisation.
- Key themes of work, such as risk-taking behaviour, sectarianism, racism, dissatisfaction and to address the low levels of attainment in school.

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APRIL 2021 - MARCH 2022

During this period Long Tower Youth and Community Centre delivered a variety of programs under the following themes - Health and Wellbeing, Learning & Achieving, Inclusion, Diversity and Equality of Opportunity, Good Relations, Living in Safety & Stability & Participation which delivered on outcomes that:

- Improved health & well-being.
- enhanced personal capabilities.
- developed thinking skills.
- developed positive relationships.
- increased participation and active citizenship.

The focus of provision at Long Tower Youth and Community Centre is to improve the life chances of the participants and wider community and to align with the Department of Education vision for the youth services, stated in Priorities for Youth, that services will:

- Raise standards for all.
- Close the performance gap – increase access & equality.
- Develop the educational workforce.
- Improve the learning environment.
- Transform the governance & management of education

The aim of programming is to provide quality-learning experiences for young people that are measurable and targeted at need. Provision at this youth club seeks to close the performance gap by providing access to non-formal learning opportunities that enhance social and cognitive skills and overcome barriers to learning whilst providing a participative environment where young people are actively engaged in the design, delivery, and evaluation of programmes.

The youth work provided by Long Tower Youth and Community Centre takes place in a variety of settings including centres, schools, parks, and other areas where young people gather. Our workers offer a wide range of activities to young people aged 5-25 with particular focus on fun, social and personal development, participation, testing values and beliefs and promoting acceptance and understanding of others.

Youth work provides a safe environment for young people to socialise, have fun and address issues important to them. Using activities such as crafts, cooking, sports, music or trips, youth workers give young people the opportunity to try new things, develop skills and confidence, raise aspirations, and empower them to take part in decision making.

Due to the impact of Covid- 19 we have seen changes in our young people, and this has played a part on their adverse needs. The youth service quickly assembled together and adapted the services to meet the growing needs of our young people. Our young people valued the many opportunities we made available to them particularly this year through a variety of projects and activities facilitated by Long Tower Youth and Community Centre. We know this not because they tell us, but also because of their voluntary participation across a range of services offered from Long Tower Youth and Community Centre. This year 8,974 individual young people aged 5-25 engaged in our service in a variety of online and face to face recreational, physical fitness, creative arts, educational, personal and social development programmes, and employment opportunities that were on offer at Long Tower Youth and Community Centre in 2021-2022.

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Bespoke youth work response – 3568 young people covering – 2 elections night, and heightened community tension throughout the year.

There were 57 Family engagements on issues as outlined below:

- Suicide
- Mental health
- Behaviours
- PSNI Law
- Family support
- Community mediator

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Partnerships: Long Tower Youth and Community Centre recognises the importance of partnerships and working collaboratively with other skilled agencies. This was needed more this year due to the impact of Covid- 19 had on our services. It was key to be able to provide a wraparound service to those young people and families most vulnerable. Over the year we have developed some great professional relationships with key stakeholders such as PSNI, YJA, The Family Hub, EA Youth Services, CRJ, Social Services, Schools, Youth Engagement Services, Man's Action Network.

Parent's Advisory committee: Our Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) was impacted by covid last year and we have slowly reconnected with the group, we are continuously working with this group on the diverse needs of young people and how we can work together to tackle these issues to achieve meaningful outcomes.

Youth Matters Youth Committee: The Youth Committee like the PAC has been continuous after the brief disruption throughout the pandemic. Staff are working to build better working relationships & engage with the young people offering a safe platform for them to have meaningful conversations and address issues that they are facing daily. Throughout the year they helped co-deliver several community events online and face to face including Halloween, Bingo, and Christmas. They were also successful in gaining £800 from EA Smalls Grants fund which provided the 14+ age group an interactive health & wellbeing programme.

Local and Regional engagement: Long Tower Youth and Community Centre has representation on both the LAG and YAG and receives regular updates from the Regional Advisory Group from the Youth Work Alliance. The centre manager sits on the local community safety forum and convenes meetings of the youth subgroup which consists of professionals in both the youth and community sector across Triax.

LONG TOWER YOUTH CLUB - OUTPUTS & OUTCOMES

Generic Drop In

- Provided a generic / non targeted provision for young people aged 9–13-year-olds, 50 weeks per year - 67 young people registered.
- Provided a generic / non targeted provision for young people aged 14–18-year-olds, 50 weeks per year - 87 young people registered.
- Provided 2 weekly afternoon Sessions for 4–8-year-olds, 50 weeks per year - 64 young people registered.

Summer Programme

- We completed 6-week summer programme – over 300 young people registered - young people attended 4 sessions per week for 6 weeks.

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Stakeholder Engagement

- Held 3 stakeholder engagements throughout the year.
- 1 celebration and feedback event.

Health and Wellbeing

- We delivered well over the target of 14 health and wellbeing programmes throughout the year. These programmes had a minimum of 8 young people in each group.

Learning and Achieving

- Delivered 1 annual celebration event recognising the success of our young people.
- Delivery of 6 accredited programmes with 70 young people aged 14-18.

Good Relations

- Delivered 2 good relations programmes with 30 young people aged 9-18.

Living in Safety and Stability

- Delivered 6 programmes within the theme of living in safety and stability to 60 young people aged 9-18.

Participation

- Completed 5 social action and citizenship programmes.
- Delivered 1 voluntary programme – with 30 hours of volunteering being completed each week - 4 active volunteers.
- Delivery of a weekly outreach provision.
- Delivered 2 participative structures – junior members committee and senior members committee.

ENGAGE –OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

Engage Project Review 2021 – 2022

The Engage Project is a citywide approach and in 2021 / 2022 we mainly focused on delivering projects in Triax, Waterside and Outer North. This project is funded through the TTP programme. The programme is primarily aimed at engaging with young people who fall into any of the three categories below:

- Young people who are on the fringe of becoming involved in or exploited by paramilitaries or organised criminal gangs.
- Young people who are engaged in behaviours that place them, or the community at risk.
- Young people who bear witness to violence or substance abuse or who have suffered from direct adversity.

The young people are referred into the project through youth clubs, community safety forums, youth justice, social services, and schools. We work in partnership with all these organisations. Youth staff on the programme deliver educational and developmental programmes, one to one sessions and street work. Staff work with the young people with the main goal of helping them get back involved into youth services and signpost them to any other services required.

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Staffing Numbers

- 5 staff employed through Project Sparks during this time.

Number of sessions delivered

Each staff member is required to complete 4 evening sessions and 2-day time sessions per week. This is roughly 25 sessions per week. Staff then during the summer months help with extra sessions around the Project Sparks programme.

Number of Programs/Projects

- National Standards Cycling Level 1 – 20 young people
- National Standards Cycling Level 2 – 20 young people
- Law and Order OCN Level 2 – 10 young people
- Law and Order OCN Level 2 – 9 young people
- Law and Order OCN Level 2 – 3 young people
- Law and Order OCN Level 2 – 6 young people
- Drug and Alcohol Training – 10 young people
- Gambling and Social Gaming Training – 10 young people
- Positive Physical Health – 10 young people
- Young Men's Programme – 6 young people
- Project Spark Top of the Hill – 10 young people
- Project Spark Newbuilding's – 6 young people
- Project Spark Outer North (1) – 10 young people
- Project Spark Outer North (2) – 10 young people
- Project Spark Lincoln Courts – 10 young people
- Social Action (Graffiti) – 10 young people
- Social Action Band Container – 5 young people
- Social Action (Community Clean Up) – 10 young people
- Social Action (Key Risk Factors) – 10 young people
- Positive Relationship Programme – 10 young people
- Positive Health Programme – 6 young people
- Sexual Health Programme – 10 young people

One to One Sessions

- 24 young people

Outreach and Detached Sessions

- Outer North / Waterside / Triax
- 1,560 people engaged throughout the full year's programme (not including larger events – such as Halloween, St Patricks day)

Training Delivered

- Circle of Courage Training – Co Facilitated (Peter Nixon)
- Street Based Training – Co Facilitated (Sean Toland)
- Respect Training / Domestic Violence (Staff attended)

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OURSTREETS – OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

Brief overview of your project

Our Streets is a citywide outreach/detached youth work programme. Its aim is to engage young people who gather in identified areas or 'hot spots' of Derry City by working collaboratively with key stakeholders to positively engage with young people and reduce risk taking behaviours. We also facilitate and delivery of programmes, events and intervention in schools, youth clubs and during contentious events/times during the year.

Staffing Numbers

- 7 staff involved

Number of sessions delivered and number of programs/projects

- St Cecelia's Transition Group 1
- 5 Sessions, 17 young people
- Relationships
- Mental health
- Money management
- Self Esteem
- St Cecelia's Transition Group 3
- 5 Sessions, 14 Young People
- Relationships
- Self-esteem
- Mental health
- Team building
- Sexual health workshop
- 1 session, 10 young people
- LGBTQ+ Programme 22 young people, one-off session
- Young men's resilience, 21 young people, 9 sessions
- Young men's health, 14 young people, 7 sessions
- Young men's wellbeing, 10 young people, 6 sessions
- Youth committee, 9 young people, 3 sessions
- St Brigid's health week in conjunction with YES, 100 young People, one-off session
- 5 Steps programme in St Joseph's, 100 young people over 4 classes
- St Patricks Day- one day, approximately 800 young people
- Halloween - 4 days of interventions, approximately 1200 young people engaged
- Lundy's Day- one day, 75 young people engaged
- Summer interventions- 4 weeks of groups and individual programmes and activities
- 60 bespoke interventions including outdoor education, health and wellbeing, reducing risk taking behaviours, developing positive relationships, enhancing personal capabilities, and community initiatives, approximately 3,000 young people engaged
- Our Streets Engagements, approximately 10,500 engagement

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BISHOP STREET YOUTH CLUB

Brief overview of your project

Bishop Street Youth Club is a satellite youth centre from Long Tower Youth and Community Centre, based in one of few interface areas in the city. Here we dedicate our time to young people from Bishop Street and surrounding areas. We work closely with the families and residents in the area as well as the local schools. Our youth programme is targeted at young people aged 4-18 and is categorised into three different age groups that specifically generates 4 weekly drop-in sessions for:

- Junior members aged 4-9
- Intermediate members aged 10-13
- Senior members 14years plus

Bishop Street Youth Club offers extended and more specific work that co-insides with the needs of young people attending and their families. Here we can provide one to one work, school-based programmes, family interventions, intervention day trips, bespoke work, and community fun days.

Staffing Numbers

- 1x full time Centre Manager
- 1x full time pathways student
- 1x job start placement
- 4x part time youth staff
- 1x part time caretaker

Number of sessions delivered

- 10 - drop-in sessions per week
- 2 - school-based programmes
- 4 - community programmes

Number of programs/projects

Bishop Street Youth Club provided a number or required KPI targets:

- Delivery of 7 health and wellbeing programmes or projects
- Delivery of one annual celebration event recognising the success of members and programmes or projects
- Delivery of 3 accredited programmes or projects annually
- Delivery of programmes based on the inclusion and diversity
- Delivery of 2 good relations programmes or projects
- Delivery of 3 living in safety and stability programmes
- Provide generic/non-targeted provision for young people 9-18 years old over 4 evenings per week and 50 weeks per year
- 2 Afternoons per week generic provision provided for 4–8-year-olds
- Delivery of a 6-week summer programme over a 4-day period

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- Delivery of outreach within the area outlined in this specification to increase membership and participation of children and young people within your youth organisation
- Delivery of 1 youth volunteering programme
- Delivery of 2 social action/citizenship programmes or projects

Numbers of registered young people

- 160 young people

RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The management committee must consist of no less than six members and shall meet at least once every two months. A list of people who served on the management committee in the financial year is listed on the information page. The members of the management committee shall have the power to suspend or exclude any member whose general attitude and spirit are found to in moral judgement to the best interest of the centre and its members. At present the committee has members from a variety professional backgrounds relevant to the work of the charity.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The direct benefits which flow from this centre include the improvement of well-being and quality of life of the residents in the area enabling them to fully participate in society and preventing people from being socially excluded. This is done through the provision of activities, both indoor and outdoor, catering for a range of leisure, recreational, health and educational activities. And by providing support to all members of the area.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the association is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the association and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate the exposure to the major risks.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The principal funding sources over the relevant financial year have been the Education Authority and Public Health Agency. The financial performance is summarised in the enclosed accounts.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

The association plans to continue the activities as outlined above in the forthcoming years subject to satisfactory funding arrangements.

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102).

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- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

By order of the Charity Trustees



Trustee

Date: 26th October 2022



Trustee

Date: 26th October 2022