

## **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 2023 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 Club (LTYC) was established to ensure opportunities for children, young people and young adults to gain for themselves, knowledge, skills and experiences in order to respect and love themselves, their families and their community and so to reach their full potential. We are funded primarily by Education Authority but also draw funds from a variety of local, national, statutory, and private funds. LTYC strives to provide a safe place for young people to explore their identity, experience decision making, increase their confidence, develop interpersonal skills, and think through the consequences of their actions, which will lead to better informed choices, changes in activity and improved outcomes.

### **Key Programme Areas**

The primary goal of services at LTYC is to increase participants' chances for success in life as well as those of the larger community. These services also adhere to the Department of Education's priorities for youth, which state that they will:

- Raise standards for all
- Close the performance gap
- Increase access and equality
- Strengthen the teaching workforce
- Enhance the environment for learning
- Improve the management and control of education

The purpose of programming is to give young people access to high-quality, need-based learning opportunities. By providing access to non-formal learning opportunities that improve social and cognitive skills and remove learning barriers, the programming at this youth club aims to close the performance gap. It also creates a participatory environment where young people actively participate in the design, delivery, and evaluation of programmes.

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The youth work provided by LTYC 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. The targeted work is planned and delivered on the specific needs of the young people that attend the youth club. This ensures that young people are receiving a tailored approach to their individual needs. In turn, this guarantees maximum positive outcomes for our young people.

Youth work provides a safe environment for young people to socialise, have fun and address issues important to them. Using activities such as crafts, 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.

### **Programmes 2022-2023**

#### **Generalist Youth Work - 950 participants**

Young people have the opportunity to participate in general youth club programmes and activities that include:

- o Progresses the personal and social development of the young people
- o Embedded a culture of participation
- o Contributes to the development of the young people's empowerment to bring about change within their communities
- o Provides a broad and balanced curriculum, which matches the needs of the young people attending the provision, and attracts other potential users.

#### **Health & Wellbeing – 146 participants**

21 Developmental Programmes delivered, the programme themes were as follows:

- Drugs & Alcohol
- Positive Relationships
- Positive Mental Health
- Positive Physical Health
- Gender Specific Programmes
- Anti-bullying
- Sexual Health Education

#### **Summer Camp - 347 participants**

Summer Camp is a unique venue for growth, allowing participants to become independent and self-confident, while socialising and making new friends, challenging themselves and learn new skills.

#### **Accredited Programmes - 85 Participants**

- First Aid
- Law & Order
- Sports Leaders

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- Youth Work
- National Standards Cycling
- Child Protection

### **Inclusion - 55 Participants**

- Disability
- Gender
- LQBT
- Diversity in Society

### **Good Relations - 30 participants**

- TBUC
- Interclub Visits
- Equity, Diversity & Interdependence

### **Living in Safety & Stability - 40 participants**

- Law & Order
- Internet Safety
- CSE
- Participation

### **Digital Story Boards - 15 participants**

Two short films:

- Sanctuary

### **Youth Led Events - 222 participants**

- Young Men's Health
- International Women's Day
- One Young World Lag/ Rag Conference

### **Participative Pathways**

- Project Spark Level 1 - 10 participants
- Link Programme Level 2 - 4 participants
- Nuture Programme Level 3 - 4 participants
- Transition Level 4 - 8 participants
- Actualise - 2 participants completed postgraduates

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### **Cultural Visits**

- Peace Walls Tour - 24 participants
- Shankill Tour – 12 Participants
- Battle of the Boyne and Irish Civil War Tour - 12 participants
- Stormont visit - 12 participants

### **Essential Skills Tutoring**

- Maths - 25
- English - 25

Our Club has experienced another successful year in our new premises, and our membership is thriving. We have implemented a comprehensive and fruitful program that has effectively challenged and engaged our children and young people. Our goal is to empower them, boost their confidence, and foster their inclusion in community life. Our youth services extend beyond recreation and leisure, as we aim to promote independence, personal growth, and self-assurance through meticulously crafted and innovative programmes.

We owe the success of this invaluable work to the staff and volunteers who are working tirelessly everyday primarily through funding provided by the Education Authority. They collaborate closely with us to identify needs and develop interventions that foster community cohesion. Moreover, we have established additional partnerships with various organisations, including the council, health service, and criminal justice agencies, among others. These partnerships, both statutory and voluntary, ensure that we remain relevant and capable of meeting the needs of our members and the wider community.

With the unwavering support of our members, the community, and our partners, we are committed to building upon our achievements and delivering a service that truly serves this remarkable community.

### **BISHOP STREET YOUTH CLUB**

#### **Brief overview of your project**

Bishop Street Youth Club is a thriving centre for youth based in the heart of Bishop Street which neighbours the local Brandywell/Fountain areas. At Bishop Street YC we seek to give young people and their families a secure, welcoming environment for their personal growth. We thrive to support and empower young people's personal journeys through their young years by providing a variety of fun/educational and needs-based activities. The needs of young people are continuously developing but we hold many generational issue/s and problems that we continuously tackle through developmental group work, community projects, sporting activities, and workshops for the arts and education. Through a variety of group activities, the club promotes a feeling of community and strengthens teamwork, leadership, and social skills. Bishop Street Youth Club aims to foster confidence, resiliency, and a promising future among the young people of Bishop Street and the neighbouring communities by encouraging positive interactions and providing guidance.

#### **Key Programme Areas**

The main objective of the services provided by Bishop Street Youth Club is to improve the prospects of participants and the community's overall success in life. The Department of Education's priorities for youth, which claim that these programmes will:

- Raise standards for all



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- Close the performance gap
- Increase access and equality
- Strengthen the teaching workforce
- Enhance the environment for learning
- Improve the management and control of education

Giving young people the chance to engage in needs-based learning is the programme's main goal. By providing access to non-formal learning opportunities that improve social and cognitive skills and remove learning barriers, the programming at this youth club aims to close the achievement gap. Young people can actively take part in the planning, execution, and evaluation of programmes that encourage teamwork.

Bishop Street Youth Club offers youth work in a range of locations, predominantly within our own centre, local primary and secondary schools, and community spaces where young people congregate through a partnership with North West Youth Services. Our staff members provide young people aged 5 to 25 with a wide range of activities with a focus on enjoyment, social and personal growth, involvement, testing values and beliefs, and fostering acceptance and understanding of others.

Our youth work offers a secure setting where young people may interact, have fun, and discuss issues that are significant to them. Youth workers give young people the chance to try new things, improve skills and confidence, raise aspirations, and empower them to participate in decision-making through activities like crafts, sports, music, or travel. We empower young people through participative structure/youth committees that allow young people to feel included, wanted and valued through decision-making processes.

### **Programmes 2022-2023**

#### **Generic Youth Work - 1300 participants**

Young people are given opportunities to participate in generic/recreational youth club activities and programmes, that leads to many intentional and unintentional outcomes such as:

- Promotes young people's social and personal development. Increases self-awareness, confidence and self-esteem.
- Offers a full-fledged and well-balanced curriculum that meets the needs of the young people attending the provision and attracts other potential users, family members and peers.
- Aids young people in developing the confidence to affect change in their communities, and directly make change through social action and collaboration through community organisations and partnerships.

#### **Health & Wellbeing - 300 participants**

7 Developmental Programmes delivered; the programme themes were as follows:

- Drugs & Alcohol
- Positive Relationships
- Positive Mental Health
- Positive Physical Health
- Gender Specific Programmes

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- Anti-bullying
- Sexual Health Education

**Accredited Programmes – 50 Participants**

- First Aid
- Law & Order
- Child Protection
- Global service learning

**Inclusion - 20 Participants**

- Disability Awareness
- Culture Awareness

**Good Relations - 20 participants**

- Equity, Diversity & Interdependence

**Living in Safety & Stability - 58 participants**

- Law & Order
- Internet Safety
- CSE

**Youth Led Events - 200 participants.**

- Men's Health Week
- International Women's Day

**School based programmes 500**

- Mental health
- Positive peer relationships
- Transition programme

**Social Action projects**

- Christmas in the community
- Back-to-school stationary
- Christmas family event
- Halloween/culture Cathedral Youth Club/ Feile

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Given the increase in our membership, this year has been incredibly beneficial for us. This year, we created a successful programme based on the requirements and needs of our young people. Our main aim for our children is to make sure they experience support and challenge through regular activities and developmental group work. Through precisely designed appropriate programming, we strive to foster independence, personal growth, and self-assurance as part of our youth services that go beyond amusement and leisure. Without the outstanding efforts of our staff and volunteers, who work tirelessly every day to guarantee that our priority is fulfilled, none of this work could be completed. They work closely with us to pinpoint needs and create appropriate interventions needed.

### **OUR STREETS**

Our Streets is citywide street based youth work team who engage in a variety of outreach, detached, mobile, response and event based youth work. Our Streets aim is to engage with young people who gather in identified areas of 'hotspots' around Derry and work collaboratively with key stakeholders to positively engage young people in services and reduce risk taking behaviours. Our Streets facilitate and deliver a range of programmes, events and intervention not only on the streets but in schools, youth clubs and during contentious dates during the year.

#### **Staffing**

1x Full-Time

6x Part-Time

#### **Programmes 2022-2023**

##### **Collaborative Work**

- Feel Good Fortnight September 2022 (Collaboration with YES) 10 Young People, 4 Sessions
- Youth Awards February 2023 (Collaboration with NWYS) 300 Young People
- 5 Steps to Wellbeing July 2022 (Collaboration with ENGAGE) 100 Young People, 4 sessions
- Health Week, Model Primary School May 2022- One off session, 86 young people
- St Columb's College, November 2022, Wellbeing Week- 2 Days, 1,100 engagements

##### **Group Work**

- Our Space group work: 6 sessions, 18 young people, LGBTQ+, relationships, Drugs and Alcohol, life skills
- St. Joseph's Year 8: 12 young people, C.V Building, Consent, Self Esteem, Team Building and Resilience
- St. Joseph's Year 12: 10 young people, C.V Building, Consent, Self-Esteem, Team Building and Resilience
- Young Women's Group: 6 sessions, 12 young people, Sexual Health, Mental Health, Consent, Emotional Health, Self Esteem, Relationships
- Young Men's Health: 6 sessions, 10 Young People, Sexual Health, Mental Health, Consent, Emotional Health, Self Esteem, Relationships
- Youth Committee: 8 young people, 3 sessions
- Hub Programme: 14 Young People
- Child Sexual Exploitation: 12 Young People, 4 sessions

##### **Citywide Co-ordinated Provision**

- Halloween 4 Days: approximately 600 engagements with Young People
- Lundy's Day: One day, 45 engagements with Young People
- St Patricks Day: One Day, approximately 400 engagements with Young People
- 12<sup>th</sup> July: Mobile Response, 50 engagements
- 15<sup>th</sup> August: Mobile Response, 100-150 engagements

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### **Summer Programmes-**

- 60 bespoke interventions including outdoor educations, health and wellbeing, reducing risk taking behaviour, developing positive relationships, enhancing personal capabilities and community initiative engaging approximately 2,500-3,000 young people

### **Street Based Youth Work**

- 4 nights per week Street Based Youth Work- approximately 9,500-10,000 engagements throughout the year.

### **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 be in moral judgement to the best interest of the centre and its members. At present the committee has members from a variety of 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).
- 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.



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- 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: 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023

  
Trustee

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023