



Trustees Report – Financial Year Ended 31st March 2024

Charity Name : Lettershandoney and District Development Group

Charity Number :NIC 106081

Principal Address : 32 Lettershandoney Avenue, Lettershandoney, BT47 3HY

The Management Committee presents this report together with its financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2024

Trustees

The following individuals served as trustees during the financial year 2023/2024:

Martin McCartney (Chairperson), Oliver McGlinchey (Vice-Chairperson), Feidhlim O'Neill (Treasurer), Kat Healy (Secretary), Matthew Bradley.

The following individuals were serving trustees on the date the report was approved:

Martin McCartney (Chairperson), Feidhlim O'Neill (Treasurer), Candice McKinney (Secretary), Kerry-Anne Barr.

Public Benefit

In line with its stated objectives and aims, the trustees affirm that the charity is undertaking activities which provide benefit to those who avail of its services and have due regard for the public benefit requirement.

Objectives and Aims

Lettershandoney and District Development Group is constituted to promote the welfare and well-being of the residents of Lettershandoney and surrounding rural areas through the provision of services and resources that might otherwise be centralised in larger urban communities. It further aims to embed the principles of community development within the area and its provision.

Lettershandoney and District Development Group is governed by a constitution signed 12 February 2024 and containing the following purposes:

The association is established so as to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Lettershandoney and District (hereinafter described as 'the area') without any distinction being made for age, sex, race, political, religious or other opinions or beliefs by associating the local authorities, voluntary organisations and the inhabitants of the area in a common purpose to improve the environment, facilities and other matters in the interests of social welfare and generally to improve the standard of life for all the inhabitants within the area.

Main activities and achievements

Throughout the financial year, Lettershandoney and District Development Group continued delivery and coordination of its three-year project 'Breathe' funded by The National Lottery Community Fund. This program was centred on developing capacity and support networks within local communities and re-establishing relationships disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. It featured a range of events and activities including exercise classes, youth and early years provision, health and wellbeing events, and programming for older people. The project was further responsible for seasonal events such as Christmas, a hugely successful summer scheme, and community fun days. Through these activities the organization was able to provide vital services to residents across a wider rural area with beneficial outcomes evident in areas such as health, wellbeing, and social cohesion.

LDDG successfully managed an Irish language project funded under the Ultach fund from CFNI. This fund enabled us to deliver language classes for 10 weeks culminating in an educational visit to Anagaire in the Donegal gaeltacht where our participants attended a range of lectures on language and local culture. Following the conclusion of this project we have sustained our Irish provision with students now working towards formal accreditations.

Throughout the year we delivered a range of programming aimed at targeting food poverty and deprivation. This included 'Cook-It' healthy eating programmes, increasing vegetable production in our local allotment, and providing meals and grocery packs for young people during school holidays to help attenuate any impact from the loss of school meals.

Our partnership with YMCA Ireland has continued to flourish over the last 12 months and has seen a growth in participant numbers and benefit to local young people. This partnership has ensured weekly youth work sessions and excursions for a range of activities, building the skills, wellbeing, and confidence of our young people.

We continue to offer a range of advice services and signposting to the local community. This includes our partnership with Advice North-West which provides an essential service for rural residents.

Additional Successes throughout the year have included:

Hosting the important annual Oran Boyd Memorial Cup.

Hosting a range of Foyle Cup matches, bringing thousands of spectators into the area and facilitating important recreational events within the area.

Increasing usage of a range of our facilities including our MUGA, allotments, and increasing our proportion of self-funded programming within the community centre.

Thanks

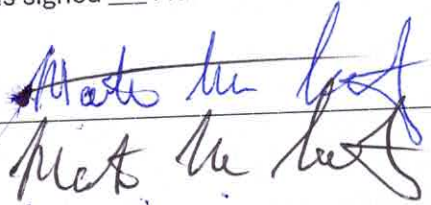
The management committee wish to offer thanks to the following partners and funders who assisted our work throughout this period:

The National Lottery; Northern Ireland Housing Executive; Derry City and Strabane District Council; Rural Area Partnership in Derry; DAERA; Department for Communities; The Education Authority; YMCA Ireland; Oran Boyd Memorial Cup; Community Foundation For Northern Ireland.

We also extend our sincere thanks to our volunteers and staff whose work was instrumental to the success of the organisation

This report was signed ___ March 2024

Chairperson



Date:

24/3/25

26/5/25