

Fermanagh Women's Aid
Company Limited by Guarantee
Financial Statements
31 March 2025

CRUDDEN DOLAN LIMITED

Chartered Accountants & statutory auditor
23-25 Darling Street
Enniskillen
Co. Fermanagh
Northern Ireland
BT74 7DP

Fermanagh Women's Aid
Company Limited by Guarantee
Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2025

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Fermanagh Women's Aid

Company Limited by Guarantee

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

Year ended 31 March 2025

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name Fermanagh Women's Aid

Charity registration number NIC106084

Company registration number NI032846

Principal office and registered office
Safe Hands Centre
19 Darling Street
Enniskillen
Co Fermanagh
BT74 7DP

The trustees

Mc A McKinney	
Ms J Kremer	(Resigned 4 July 2024)
Ms P F Lyness	(Resigned 5 July 2024)
Dr S Maguire	
Ms T J Maguire	
Ms A Flanagan	
Ms G Carson	(Appointed 24 March 2025)
Ms D Blake	
Ms C Keaney	(Appointed 28 March 2025)
Ms B Lunney	(Appointed 24 March 2025)
Ms M Feehill	(Resigned 19 February 2025)

Company secretary Ms A Flanagan

Auditor Crudden Dolan Limited
Chartered Accountants & statutory auditor
23-25 Darling Street
Enniskillen
Co. Fermanagh
Northern Ireland
BT74 7DP

Bankers Bank of Ireland Current Account
Townhall Street
Enniskillen
Co Fermanagh
BT74 7BD

Fermanagh Women's Aid

Company Limited by Guarantee

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

Year ended 31 March 2025

Cambridge & Counties Bank
Charnwood Court,
5B New Walk,
Leicester
LE1 6TE

Hampshire Trust Bank
80 Fenchurch St,
London,
EC3M 4BY

Fermanagh Women's Aid

Company Limited by Guarantee

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

Year ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees, who are also the Directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2025. The Trustees/Directors have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Structure, governance and management

Fermanagh Women's Aid is affiliated to Women's Aid Federation Northern Ireland (WAFNI). Its purpose and objects are, inter alia, to support women and children who have been subjected to Domestic Violence and Abuse. It offers sanctuary, community support and aftercare service where the practical, emotional, social and educational needs of those women and children may be met in a safe environment of empowerment and self-help.

Directors

The Board of Directors are the decision-making body of Fermanagh Women's Aid. The Board of Fermanagh Women's Aid for the year ended 31st March 2025 comprised:

NAME	APPOINTMENT	RESIGNATION	ROLE
Jane Kremer	19 th November 2021	4 th July 2024	Chairperson
Patricia Lyness	19 th November 2021	5 th July 2024	Vice-Chair
Stephanie Maguire	14 th December 2021		
Anita Flanagan	21 st June 2022		Secretary – Appointed 24 th June 2024
Martina Freehill	10 th August 2022	19 th February 2025	
Darina Blake	26 th September 2022		
Tara Maguire	20 th February 2023		Vice-Chair – Appointed 24 th June 2024
Angela Mc Kinney	22 nd May 2023		Chairperson – Appointed 24 th June 2024
Bernadette Lunney	19 th March 2025		
Gemma Carson	19 th March 2025		
Corinna Keaney	19 th March 2025		

The women who sit on the Board as trustees of the charity and Directors of the company represent a range of backgrounds and communities. They bring management skills, and financial skills, as well as extensive experience in community work and development, fundraising and volunteering. There is a structured and detailed process to recruit new Trustees/Directors that is in line with the organisation's Equal Opportunities for Staff and Volunteers Policy and the Memorandum and Articles of Association. Fermanagh Women's Aid has a process for the recruitment and induction of trustees. New trustees will have the opportunity to attend induction training, including: Safeguarding, Governance and Domestic Violence Awareness, and will be provided with Board policies for their role and an Induction Handbook. Depending on the need identified to ensure effective governance, the Board will receive support from external consultants and support personnel on issues such as organisational strategy and employment law

None of the Trustees/Directors have a financial interest in the company. Any private benefit flowing from the charity's purposes is purely incidental to the public benefit.

The Trustees/Directors receive monthly reports from the CEO of Fermanagh Women's Aid, Kerrie Flood and the day-to-day operational management of Fermanagh Women's Aid lies with the CEO.

Under the CEO, staff operate in a number of roles including: Development Manager (Role Redundant

on 27th June 2024), Finance Manager, Domestic and Sexual Violence Services Team Leader, Domestic and Sexual Violence Support Workers (Floating Support Workers), Children's and Young People's Team Leader, Children's and Young People's Support Workers, Training Coordinator (Role Redundant on 25th June 2024) and Triage Worker / Volunteer Coordinator.

In addition to its staff, Fermanagh Women's Aid relies on a core group of volunteers who provide a range of services, including Administration, Court Support, Transport, and Accompaniment to Appointments. These volunteers, are Access NI checked, required to participate in both internal and external training courses, and are supported and supervised by the Volunteer Coordinator.

Management, in consultation with staff and service users have in place a Risk Management Strategy which assesses areas of risk: Governance, Operational, Financial, Environmental/External and Compliance (law and regulation) and service provision: Floating Support Services / Refuge Accommodation, Children's and Young People's Services, and Management and Finance.

Objectives and activities

The charity bases its services around a core philosophy and ethos of self-help. Women, children and young people are provided with guidance, support and choices, and empowered and encouraged to take responsibility for their lives now and in the future. To regain their self-respect and self-esteem through exercising control of their everyday lives. We offer a safe Refuge Accommodation, support and listening service to women, children and young people who require it. Other important assistance includes a 24-hour Helpline, practical assistance and long-term support. The charity also recognises the importance of providing education to women, children and young people appropriate outside bodies and organisations on the effect of Domestic and Sexual Violence on women, children and extended family.

The core aims of Fermanagh Women's Aid are:

- To relieve distress, suffering and poverty by the provision of safe temporary accommodation for women and their children, young people and vulnerable adult dependents who are, may be, or have been, experiencing domestic, sexual or gender-based violence or abuse;
 - To relieve distress, suffering and poverty experienced by women and their children, young people and vulnerable adult dependents by providing and/or promoting a range of support services such as information, advice centres, confidential services, counselling, outreach, court support, training and advocacy;
 - To relieve those in need by the provision of information and advice for those affected by domestic, sexual or gender-based violence or abuse and referral to relevant support agencies;
 - To advance education on violence against women and girls, including trafficking and exploitation, and its effects, and to relieve those in need by promoting its prevention and the protection of those affected;
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- To advance education on domestic, sexual and gender-based violence and abuse and their effects, and to advocate for and to relieve those in need by promoting their prevention and the protection of those affected;
 - To advance women's and children's human rights and gender equality to relieve the suffering and distress caused by violence emanating from the violation, impairment or nullification of enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Fermanagh Women's Aid recognises the continued importance of raising awareness of the services that they offer and the issues relating to Domestic Violence and Abuse. It is also important that the organisation continues to provide services at the current level to meet the presenting need and in this way, meet the public benefit requirements of the Charity Commission NI.

Domestic Violence and Abuse is a crime that affects all social classes, traditions and backgrounds and the risk of Domestic Violence and Abuse, among women, does not differ by a person's background.

The organisation is specifically aimed at supporting women, children and young people who are living with or who have experienced Domestic Violence and Abuse by providing a co-ordinated approach to

meeting their needs either through safely maintaining their tenancies, safely leaving their home and accessing alternative safe accommodation. Those who require Refuge Accommodation are supported to seek new tenancies and offered resettlement support. Service users who find alternative safe accommodation will be provided further support until such time as they feel ready to move on. Many of the target group avail of the Personal Development Programmes and assistance that Fermanagh Women's Aid facilitate to improve self-esteem and self-worth.

We follow Charity Commission NI guidance on public benefit in all our objectives and activities and assert that no harm flows from any of our charitable purposes.

Key Funding and Fundraising in 2024/2025

Funder	Amount £	Terms
NIHE - Floating Support	£143,857.90	Ongoing
NIHE - Supporting People	£74,380.71	Ongoing
NIHE Supporting People - Emergency Funding	£4,116.09	In Year Non Recurring Funding
Western Health & Social Care Trust Grant Award	£63,658.59	Ongoing
BBC Children in Need	£37,630.00	3 Year Project ending 31/03/2027
Fermanagh & Omagh PCSP – PCSP Funding	£20,000.00	In Year Non Recurring Funding
Fermanagh & Omagh PCSP – TEO Funding	£38,000.00	In Year Non Recurring Funding
Henry Smith Charity	£24,000.00	Annually for 3 Years
Henry Smith Covid Support Fund	£33,700.00	Annually for 3 Years, funding ends 31st May 2025
Leathersellers Co Charitable Fund	£20,000.00	Annually for 3 Years, funding ends 31st May 2025
National Lottery Community Fund	£2,000.00	Annually for 4 Years, funding ends 31st May 2025
National Lottery - Empowering Young People	£125,000.00	Annually for 4 Years
Omagh Women's Aid	£11,877.60	In Year Non Recurring Funding
WAFNI	£26,625.00	In Year Non Recurring Funding
Business Management Activities	£140.00	
Fundraising Activities	£39,480.93	
Housing Management	£20,593.46	
Bank Interest	£625.41	
Training	£573.80	
Charles Hayward Foundation	£10,000.00	2 Year Project ending 31/03/2026

Key Statistical Performance in 2024/2025:

A full detailed Annual Report on our Impact and Monitoring is available on our website.

- 349 women and 251 children and young people were referred to the service.
- 221 referrals for women were accepted with 220 women completing their support within the reporting period.

- 140 children and young people's referrals were accepted with 149 children completing direct support in this reporting period.
- Our Refuge Accommodation accommodated 10 women and 12 children;
- Support was provided within 2,523 visits across 25180 miles.
- Volunteers engaged in 559.5 hours of volunteering activities.

Key Performances for Fermanagh Women's Aid 2024/2025:

- **BBC Children in Need Annual Fundraising:** In November 2024, we were delighted to be asked by BBC Children in Need to showcase the vital support we provide to children and young people who are being subjected to domestic abuse, at their televised annual fundraising throughout the UK. Our Children's and Young People's Team Leader shone a light on the support we provide and the positive impact it has on children's lives. We were so proud of a previous service user's courage to be interviewed as well, highlighting impact of domestic abuse on her children's lives and the support they were provided by Women's Aid.
- **Be the Change Conference (EVAWG) and Toolkit:** We were delighted to host the 'Be the Change' Conference to 150 attendees from across statutory, voluntary and general population. The focus was on announcing the 'Be the Change Toolkit', which aims to build capacity across Fermanagh and Omagh community groups and organisations, by auditing their existing approaches and practices, to better equip them with the tools to end violence against women and girls and address gender equality.

Each of these key achievements of 2024/2025 deliver public benefit as required under the Charity Commission NI guidance.

The range of services offered by Fermanagh Women's Aid are:

Refuge Accommodation

Our existing communal accommodation has 6 to 8 bed spaces. The accommodation provides a safe haven – a place of respite, safety and comfort. Women, children and young people are made to feel at home and take responsibility for its day-to-day running, doing their own cooking, cleaning and laundry, etc.

Funding for the Refuge Accommodation comes from the Northern Ireland Housing Executive's Supporting People initiative. As part of Fermanagh Women's Aid's strategic commitment to women and children fleeing domestic violence, we continue to strive for purpose-built accommodation.

Outreach services

This includes 7 Domestic and Sexual Violence Workers and 3 Children & Young People's Services Workers. Alongside a Safety and Wellbeing Women's Support Worker and Safety and Wellbeing Children's Support Worker (Safety and Wellbeing Project). Fermanagh Women's Aid provides support to women, children, and young people within the community experiencing Domestic Violence and Abuse.

In particular, outreach services help to promote awareness and support within remote rural areas. Therefore services based in the outreach communities are essential for Fermanagh Women's Aid to fully address its remit for reaching out to all potential users.

Support and information

The support and information service provided by Fermanagh Women's Aid is from 9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Thursday and 9.00am to 4.00pm on Friday;

A 24-hour On-Call Rota System ensures that a member of staff is always on call to deal with any admissions to or emergency situations to the Refuge Accommodation;

Women or statutory agencies and community/voluntary groups may call for support, guidance and information on Domestic Violence and Abuse and the services provided by Fermanagh Women's Aid;

We operate a drop-in service (walk in) which is open to all women who are currently experiencing or

have experienced Domestic Violence and Abuse at some stage, whether or not they have used the services of Fermanagh Women's Aid in the past.

Prevention work in schools

Fermanagh Women's Aid delivers Healthy Relationships Programmes in post-primary schools and Social Guardian Training to teachers in primary schools in Co. Fermanagh. This work is vitally important and highlights the difficulties children and young people face in their daily lives.

Personal Development Programmes

Fermanagh Women's Aid offers a Journey to Freedom programme to women (internally), with the aim of increasing knowledge and awareness of domestic violence, the impact on women and children and moving forward.

Service delivery

All staff, volunteers and service users are given the opportunity to contribute to and influence the development of service delivery by engaging in our annual organisational survey.

Regular house meetings at Refuge Accommodation with service users and Team Meetings with staff routinely encourage feedback and evaluation of services provided and organisational issues.

Monitoring

We routinely collect statistical information on the number of referrals, service user monitoring and weekly activities of staff and volunteers using outcomes based accountability; this information forms our Annual Report and Impact Report (available upon request). Our impact report directly informs service improvement, quality assurance and tracks emerging need. We are committed to sharing these findings to inform Policy and Legislative change. The voices of women and children, their lived experience and feedback on our services are used to inform, shape and quality assure future service delivery.

Financial review

Fermanagh Women's Aid continues to depend on a diverse range of incomes and works continuously to source and secure new income streams. Most of the funds we receive are restricted to specific objectives and the organisation continues to work to secure unrestricted income streams.

At 31st March 2025, the unrestricted reserves were £208,280 and restricted reserves were £247,035.

Reserves policy

The guidance on best practice for Charity Reserves states that "it is best practice for charities to maintain a level of reserve, sufficient to cover themselves in the face of unforeseen events and also to enable them to be able to cover the costs of winding up should the worst happen and the charity needs to close"

The Board of Directors of Fermanagh Women's Aid has examined the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. We have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible assets held by the charity should be between 3 and 6 months of the expenditure requirement.

Expenditure for 2024/25 was £577,739 and therefore the reserves target is approximately £144,500 - £289,000. The reserves are needed to meet the working capital requirements of the charity and the Trustees are confident that at this level they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of a significant drop in funding.

While overall reserves currently standing at £208,000 approximately of which a contingency of £40,000 is required. The Trustees are pleased to have met the minimum reserve target and continue to strive to increase this amount in order to safeguard sustainability.

Future plans

- Promotion
 - To raise awareness of the causes and consequences of Violence Against Women and Girls in line with The Executive Office's Strategy through the 'Be The Change Toolkit'.
 - To increase access to services and information by expanding Fermanagh Women's Aid's reach through a range of media.
 - To build and maintain partnership approaches both locally and regionally to Domestic Abuse.
 - To promote our Lottery funded Lighthouse project in partnership with Omagh Women's Aid engaging with young people across Fermanagh and Omagh to reduce Domestic Abuse.
- Direct services
 - To explore the options for Merger with our sister organisation Omagh Women's Aid in the interests of future sustainability and equity of service provision across Fermanagh and Omagh District Council area.
 - To secure 4 independent units for Refuge Accommodation.
 - To continue to develop all aspects of frontline service delivery in line with the needs of women and children, taking into particular account the rural profile of those accessing services.
- Funding
 - In 2023/24, organisational income totalled £624,346 and in 2024/25 this increased by 12 % to £696,260. We will continue our robust approach to diverse income generation in order to continue to grow our services, value our funders and adopt a sustainable approach.
 - To continue to meet reserve targets and invest reserves in the best interests of the charity..
- Staff
 - To recruit for vacancies as appropriate in order to meet service demands.
 - To provide on-going support and supervision for staff and their development.
 - To continue to value our skilled staff and volunteers across all areas of the organisation.
- BOD
 - Continue to actively recruit to the Board of Directors, as required, ensuring that we maintain a minimum of 6 Board of Directors
 - Ensure that we define clear Board of Directors roles and responsibilities, and Board of Directors are aware of such at recruitment, induction and continued appointment to the Board.
 - To diversify the voices leading our organisation, ensuring that women from a wide range of backgrounds are represented.

Thanks

We work with a wide range of organisations and receive funding from a variety of sources. We are grateful to the funders referred to in these financial statements for their support. We are grateful also to the various individuals and organisations that provide non-financial support in enabling Fermanagh Women's Aid to continue with its activities.

It is important also to thank the dedicated staff team who work to ensure that high quality services are delivered and that funding outcomes are continuously achieved.

Trustees/Directors' Responsibility Statement

Company law requires the Trustee/Director to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the company and of the surplus or deficit of

the company for that year. In preparing these the Trustees/Directors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- 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 inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The Trustees/Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

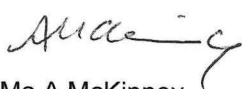
In so far as the Trustees/Directors are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information (information needed by the charity's auditors in connection with preparing this report) of which the charity's Trustees/Directors are unaware and;
- The Trustees/Director have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

Small company provisions

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

The trustees' annual report was approved on 27 October 2025 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:


Ms A McKinney
Director


Ms A Flanagan
Director