

Carrickfergus Gateway Trust
Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees present the annual report and statements of Receipts and Payments and Assets and Liabilities for Carrickfergus Gateway Trust for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Objectives and Activities

The charity's purposes ('the purposes') are to express and promote the precepts of the Christian faith through engagement with the general public and in particular with the disadvantaged, the sick, the elderly and the young by: nurturing the spiritual development of members by holding meetings for corporate worship, providing information regarding spiritual beliefs and the activities of the organisation to members and the general public, providing pastoral care to members to nurture their spiritual development, undertaking religious ceremonies such as baptisms, weddings and funerals and undertaking other activities consistent with the above.

Achievements, Performance & Public Benefit

Carrickfergus Gateway Trust, through Harbour Faith Community, utilises its Church Building to provide weekly services of public worship, open to all, which contribute to spiritual well-being of participants and the reinforcement of Christian values. Through the minister, and those who assist him, the church provides pastoral care to any who request it and undertakes religious ceremonies such as weddings and funerals. In cooperation with the other churches in the town of Carrickfergus there are a number of joint events each year for the whole community and for all ages. Its buildings are used by other community and church organisations to benefit the people of Carrickfergus.

These activities implement our charitable purposes and provide public benefit.

Financial Review

The trust is in a secure financial position at 31 March 2024 with an in year surplus and reasonable reserves to meet unforeseen liabilities. Our goal is to maintain reserves of at least 3 months expenditure which we have at the year end. At 31 March 2024 unrestricted cash funds amounted to a surplus of £10399 (31 March 2023 - £13993) and Restricted cash funds amounted to a surplus of £145 (31 March 2023 – a surplus of £145).

Going Concern

Our income and costs should be able to be maintained at or below current levels. Additional funds for capital costs will be able to be raised separately. In the light of this the trustees have reviewed the budgets for the year ahead and are satisfied that there are adequate funds in place to ensure that the Trust can continue its activities for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 can be signed off as a going concern.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document and Constitution of the Charity

The trust operates under a Trust Deed dated 21 March 2016 which superseded previous documents.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are appointed by invitation and agreement of the existing Trustees based upon the skills and experience that they can contribute to board. There are a minimum of 3 Trustees.

Meetings of the trustees are held at least twice a year.

Pay and remuneration

The minister works on a part-time basis and his salary is based upon a 2/3rds working week.

Organisational Structure

The trustees, while responsible for the overall management of the church, delegate the day to day management to the minister and the administrator.

Compliance with Public Benefit

The Trust has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities entered into during the year have helped to achieve the church's purpose and objectives, as well as providing public benefit.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the statement of receipts and payments and statement of assets and liabilities in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland with Income of less than £250,000 requires the trustees to prepare a statement of receipts and payments and a statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Trust's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the assets and liabilities of the Trust. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on Behalf of the Trustees

Trustee 1 *IVOR MITCHELL*
Ivor Mitchell
Date *12 / Nov / 24*

Trustee 2 *LUCY FORD*
Lucy Ford