

Irish FA Foundation Limited

Northern Ireland · Charity number 106229

Details

Status Received

Company number [642595](#)

Registered 2016-12-21

Register [View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register](#)

Contact

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National Football Stadium
Donegall Avenue
Belfast
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Phone 00447462608669

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Website www.irishfa.com

Activities

Purposes: 4.1. The Charity's objects (the Objects) are specifically restricted to the following: 4.1.1. the advancement of amateur football, youth football, schools football and futsal in accordance with the remit of the Irish Football Association, for the benefit of the general public in any part of Northern Ireland, by ensuring that due attention is given to the physical education of such persons and with a view to furthering that object, by providing funds and assisting in the organisation and provision of facilities which will enable and encourage such persons to participate in physical recreation and football or futsal (as appropriate) with a focus on local grassroots participation, and delivering on all strategies implemented and adopted by the Irish Football Association; 4.1.2. to advance education by providing work experience and support to educational establishments and extra-curricular educational groups (targeting young people, NEETS and areas of social need) and by developing and offering accredited education programmes which use football as a hook for education including youth coach education courses, Show Racism the Red Card Workshops and referee beginner courses; 4.1.3. in the interests of social welfare to provide funds or to organise or provide facilities for recreation in local communities across Northern Ireland for persons who by reason of their youth or social and economic circumstances have need for such funds or facilities with the object of improving the conditions of life and experiences for the persons for whom the same are provided; 4.1.4. to advance the health and wellbeing of the people of Northern Ireland by leading on the development of a Northern Ireland wide football and positive mental health campaign and veterans football plan for men and women; 4.1.5. to educate the public in relation to the heritage, history and development of football in Northern Ireland and in particular (but not exclusively) by establishing, maintaining and operating a heritage centre open to the public for the permanent exhibition and preservation of sports memorabilia and other items of educational and/or historic value or significance; and 4.1.6. the promotion of such other charitable purposes according to the laws applicable in Northern Ireland, whilst adopting an inclusive approach so that all members of the community have access to our initiatives, regardless of background, gender, religion, politics, race or sexual orientation, in support of the wider charitable objectives of the Irish Football Association. 4.2. Nothing in the articles will authorise an application of the property of the charity for purposes, which are not charitable in accordance with section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. 4.3. For the avoidance of doubt, the system of law governing the articles of association of the charity is the law of Northern Ireland.

What the charity does: The advancement of education, The advancement of health or the saving of lives, The advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science, The advancement of amateur sport, The relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage, Other charitable purposes

How the charity works: Community development, Cross-border/cross-community, Cultural, Disability, Education/training, Heritage/historical, Sport/recreation, Volunteer development, Youth development

Who the charity helps: Adult training, Asylum seekers/refugees, Children (5-13 year olds), Community safety/crime prevention, Ethnic minorities, Ex-offenders and prisoners, General public, Men, Mental health, Physical disabilities, Specific areas of deprivation, Voluntary and community sector, Volunteers, Women, Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£3,032,120	£3,027,488	£-385,158	51

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Mr Alan Willis		
Mr Allen Mckinstry		
Mr David Joseph Martin		
Mr Patrick Nelson		
Mr Ryan Adams		
Mrs Roisin Wood		

Irish FA Foundation Limited

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106229

Accounts



FOUNDATION

TWENTY

24

**ANNUAL REPORT &
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**



Irish FA Foundation Limited

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Registered number: NI642595

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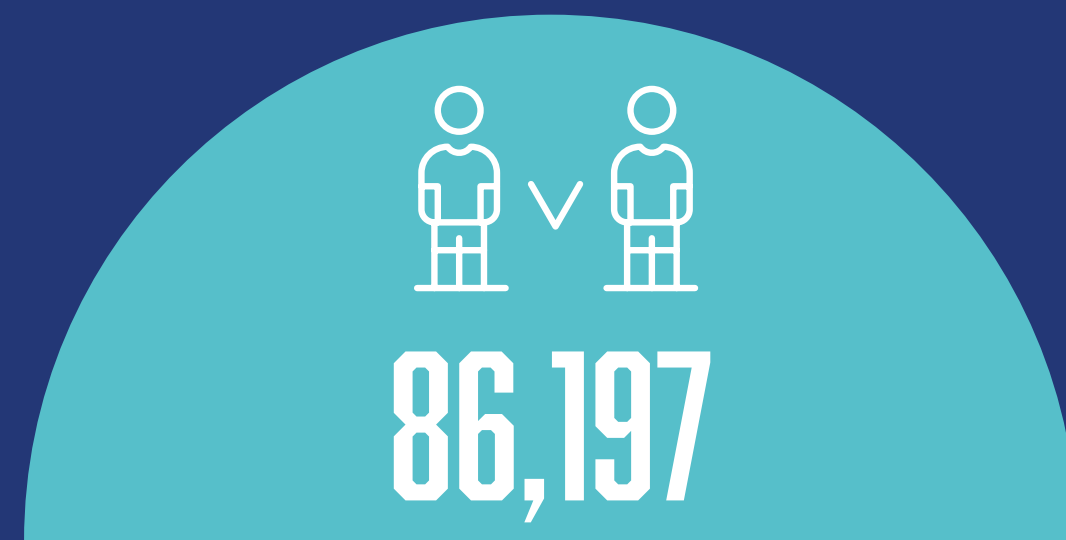
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)

ANNUAL IMPACT



REGISTERED FOOTBALL PLAYERS



YOUTH FOOTBALL PLAYERS



ADULT FOOTBALL PLAYERS



MALE PLAYERS



FEMALE PLAYERS



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PARTICIPANTS



DISABILITY CLUB MEMBERS

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

“This year the Foundation has remained steadfast in its mission to promote, foster and develop football for all, ensuring access to the game across every level of society.”

On behalf of the Board of the Irish FA Foundation Limited (“Foundation”), I am honoured to present the 2024 Annual Report and Financial Statements, reflecting a year of significant milestones, continued progress and meaningful impact across Northern Ireland.

This year the Foundation has remained steadfast in its mission to promote, foster and develop football for all, ensuring access to the game across every level of society.

The Youth Football Framework has been a major milestone for Northern Ireland football. The Framework provides a blueprint for all of youth football in Northern Ireland. The purpose is to maximise enjoyment and technical development for every child.

The development has been driven by close collaboration with schools, clubs, coaches, players and parents, ensuring that every child, regardless of ability, has the opportunity to experience football in a positive and supportive setting.

Our work with ethnic minority communities, refugee groups and those from under-represented backgrounds has expanded significantly, breaking down barriers and making football more inclusive than ever before.

The growth of women's and girls' football has been particularly inspiring, reaching more young players and expanding into adult club settings.

Similarly our disability football initiatives have continued to flourish, with increased playing opportunities for both youth and adult players, ensuring football truly remains a game for everyone.

I extend my sincere gratitude to my fellow board members for their ongoing leadership and guidance throughout the year, and to the Foundation staff for their tireless commitment to delivering our objectives.

A special thank you goes to our exceptional volunteers, whose continued commitment and generosity have positively impacted communities across Northern Ireland, ensuring football remains a powerful force for connection and inclusion.

Looking forward, we remain committed to leaving a legacy in every school, club and community, with continued focus on participation, inclusivity and community well-being.



David Martin
Trustee and Chairman
Date: 01 May 2025

“

The Youth Football Framework has been a major milestone for Northern Ireland football.

”



DIRECTOR OF FOUNDATION UPDATE



It has been a year defined by strategic growth, innovation and a strengthened focus on community impact across Northern Ireland.



As we reflect on the progress made by the Foundation throughout 2024, I am proud to present this year's annual report.

It has been a year defined by strategic growth, innovation and a strengthened focus on community impact across Northern Ireland.

Our commitment to the Foundation's mission to promote, foster and develop football for all was exemplified through the successful implementation of the Youth Football Framework, built on a purpose to maximise enjoyment and technical development for every young player across schools and clubs.

The staff restructuring initiated last year has continued to deliver results, with our five specialised departments now fully embedded. This structure has allowed us to provide more targeted support to local clubs, schools and communities, improving the efficiency and reach of our programmes.

Significant strides have also been made in women's and girls' football. The Disney Playmakers programme has expanded to clubs and continues to inspire young girls, introducing hundreds of new participants to football in a fun, creative way.

This year also marked a relaunch and wider rollout of the Ahead of the Game programme, empowering clubs with vital mental health resources and trained Mental Health Champions.

To ensure long-term sustainability and accountability, we continue to build on our Outcomes-Based Accountability framework, enabling us to measure the impact of our work more effectively and transparently.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to our dedicated staff, partners and the invaluable volunteers who form the backbone of football across Northern Ireland.

As we look forward, the Foundation remains firm in its commitment to leaving a lasting legacy in every school, club and community we serve.

James Thompson
Director of Foundation
Date: 01 May 2025

The Disney Playmakers programme has expanded to clubs and continues to inspire young girls



PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The Foundation has complied with its duty under the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

The trustees are fully aware of the requirements of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland and are operating entirely within the legislation. It is the opinion of the Trustees that this report demonstrates how the Foundation provides public benefit.

Public benefit is at the heart of all Foundation activities. As a prominent charitable organisation in Northern Ireland the Foundation is committed to advancing its charitable objectives and delivering meaningful impact to all individuals and communities across the country. Our dedication to public benefit is reflected throughout this Annual Report and is demonstrated in the programmes and activities highlighted along with the impact figures provided.

Key highlights include:

Football for All - the Foundation is committed to Football for All and continuously work to increase opportunities for all sections of the community in Northern Ireland.

Education and employment - the Foundation has continued to deliver interventions for individuals to advance their education and employment opportunities through football.

Club and community - there has been a continued focus on club and community football development, including in areas of social and economic deprivation.

Health and wellbeing - the Foundation has continued to develop and deliver a range of programmes for the health and wellbeing of communities in Northern Ireland.

Community engagement - the Foundation works with all sections of the community across Northern Ireland to deliver benefit irrespective of religious (or other) backgrounds.



FOUNDATION OVERVIEW

MISSION

To promote, foster and develop football for all in Northern Ireland

VISION

To inspire every person in Northern Ireland

VALUES

Progressive

Inclusive

Transparent

Collaborative

Healthy & Safe

Excellence

Socially Responsible

PURPOSE

Build Capacity: Leave a legacy in every school, club and community

IRISH FA CORPORATE STRATEGY 2022 - 2027



Performance



Participation



Facilities



Revenue



Engagement



Women's and Girls' Football



Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) & Sustainability

OBJECTIVES

Increase participation in flexible football formats

Advance education by providing extracurricular support, work experience and career development

Develop local clubs and community football provision

Advance health and well-being of the people of Northern Ireland

ACTIVITIES

Let Them Play

Community Football

Inclusive Football

School-Club Link

School Quality Mark

Education & Employability

League Accreditation

Club Accreditation

Girls Only

Volunteers

Ahead of the Game

Community Relations

A YEAR IN REVIEW



Translink Schools Competition Launched



Sports Inspire Awards



Football For All Event



Youth Review Continues



McDonald's Grassroots Football Awards



PSNI Officers Net Coaching Certificates



CP Team World Championships



Foundation supports UEFA Grassroots Week



Powerchair Caps Night



Lisburn Rangers International Women's Day



FIFA & Irish FA – Girls' Boost



70 Teams Enjoy George Best Community Cup



Re-Launch of Ahead of the Game



Youth Football Framework Launched

JAN

FEB

MAR

APR

MAY

JUNE

JUL

AUG

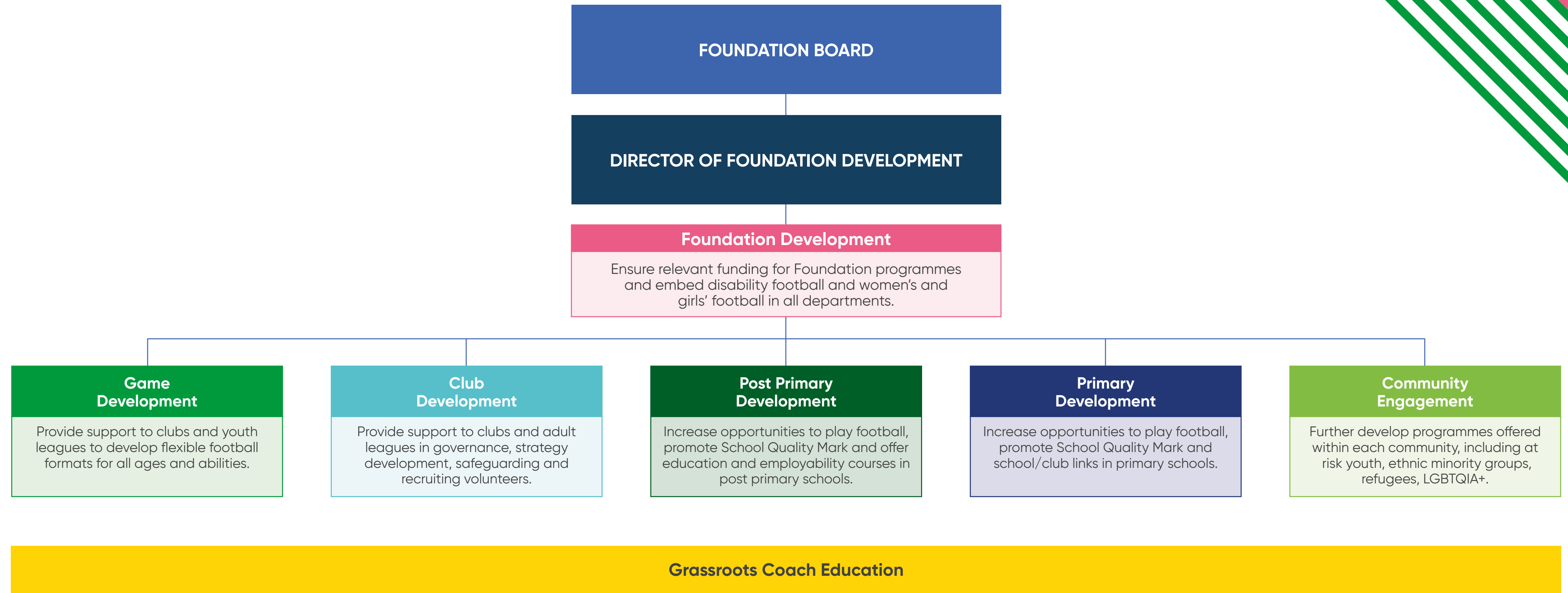
SEPT

OCT

NOV

DEC

FOUNDATION STRUCTURE



BOARD



DAVID MARTIN
Trustee and Chairman
Appointed: September 2021

David is a lifelong servant of amateur football in Northern Ireland. He has served as Treasurer of the country's largest league, the Northern Amateur League, since 1980. He became a member of the Irish Football Association ("Irish FA") Council in 1981, serving the Association committees in every area of the game before being elected to the role of Association President from 2016 to 2021.

David was elected to the FIFA Council as Vice-President representing the four British National Associations (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales) from 2021-2023.

He is the Foundation Board representative on the Association's Sustainability Committee and also acts as a Special Advisor to the UEFA Youth and Amateur Committee.

Before his retirement, David was the owner of a successful sports trophy business.



PATRICK NELSON
Trustee
Appointed: December 2016

Patrick Nelson has been CEO of the Irish FA since August 2009. As well as his position on the Foundation Board, he is also a director of the Association's subsidiary IFA Stadium Development Company Limited and of the International Football Association Board (IFAB), the organisation which sets the Laws of the Game worldwide for football. Prior to joining the Association, Patrick was CEO at both Macclesfield Town and Notts County Football Clubs.

He holds an honours degree in Business Studies from Nottingham Trent University and a master's degree in European Sports Governance from the Institute of Political Studies in Paris.

Patrick was appointed as a Visiting Professor in the School of Sport at Ulster University from February 2020.

In June 2023, Patrick was appointed as Chair of the National Trust Regional Advisory Group for Northern Ireland. Additionally in January 2024 Patrick was appointed Vice Chair of the Forever Mournes Project Board. In April 2024 Patrick was appointed by the Minister for Justice as an independent member of the Northern Ireland Policing Board.



ALLEN MCKINSTRY
Trustee
Appointed: April 2017

Allen is a retired Senior Vice Principal of RBAI. Following his retirement from teaching in August 2015, he acted as coordinator for the South Belfast Area Learning Community until 2022. Since 2017 Allen has been Senior Exams Invigilator at QUB and has been a member of the CCEA Independent Appeals Committee since 2023.

Allen was formerly Chair of the Irish FA Board, Football, Youth and Audit & Risk Committees. He was also Chair of the Licensing Committee from 2003-2023. Within schools' football, he represented Northern Ireland Schools' Football Association (NISFA) on the Irish FA Council from 1994 -2011 and was former Hon. Secretary and Chairman of the NISFA and Schools' Association Football International Board. Allen was previously a Governor of RBAI, Ballyclare High and Ballyclare Primary Schools.



RYAN ADAMS
Trustee
Appointed: July 2019

Ryan is a qualified solicitor and sports lawyer. He is currently Senior Counsel at FIFA. Prior to this he held senior legal roles at United Rugby Championship and NBC Sports Group. Alongside his non-executive directorship with the Foundation, he is a member of the Irish FA Audit & Risk Committee (ARC) and has an advisory role with the Northern Ireland Futsal Federation (NIFF).

He has amassed 15+ years experience advising and working within sport in various roles spanning disciplinary, safeguarding and ethics, including with England Boxing, International MMA Federation and the West Riding County FA.



ALAN WILLIS
Trustee
Appointed: October 2020

Alan is a retired Civil Servant. He has been involved with the grassroots/ amateur game for over 50 years both as a player and an administrator. Alan has been a member of the Mid Ulster Football Association Council for 30 years, previously acting as secretary and chairman of the Association. He is also a serving member of the Mid Ulster Football League. Prior to his appointment to the Foundation Board, Alan was a director of the Irish FA Board from 2011-2020. He is also a former member of the Association's Football Committee.

Outside of football, Alan has volunteered under the 'Time to Read Programme' which assists in helping primary school children improve their reading skills. He is also a keen cyclist and has been involved in a number of charity events, including raising funds for Northern Ireland Childrens Hospice.



RÓISÍN WOOD OBE
Trustee
Appointed: August 2023

Róisín is the Chief Executive Officer of The Community Foundation for Northern Ireland, Northern Ireland's largest independent grant making organisation. Prior to this Róisín was Chief Executive Officer of Kick It Out, English football's equality and inclusion organisation.

Róisín currently chairs the National League's Strategic Review Group and is a member of their Ethics Committee. She was also awarded an honorary Fellowship from UCBB and Global Institute of Sport.

Róisín was recently appointed as a Fellow for the Centre for Democracy and Peace Building. As an advocate for positive social change, she continues to drive initiatives that will have a lasting impact on communities and individuals across Northern Ireland.

Awarded an OBE in 2018 for services to tackling discrimination in football, in October 2020 Róisín took on a new challenge as an Inclusive Leadership Consultant, highlighting her passion and commitment towards an inclusive society.

GOVERNANCE REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

For the year ended 31 December 2024 the Foundation had a total income of £3,027k (2023: £3,274k) and total reserves at the end of the year of £1,658k (2023: £1,653k). Total unrestricted reserves at the end of the year were £1,658k (2023: £1,653k).

The charity will continue its current operations to achieve its long-term objectives. The Trustees believe the existing approach is effective and will maintain it, using lessons learned to inform ongoing resource allocation.

RESERVES POLICY

A financial target of the Foundation is to hold reserves equal to the anticipated operating expenditure for a normal six-month period. Reserves at the year end were in line with this policy.

PRINCIPAL FUNDING SOURCES

For the year ended 31 December 2024 the principal sources of funding for the Foundation were as follows:

- Sponsorship from partner organisations in the private sector, such as McDonald's and M&S
- Income from education and coaching activities
- Grant funding from partner organisations in the sporting sector including UEFA and FIFA
- Grant funding from partners in the public sector, including Department for Communities, Department for Education and Sport Northern Ireland
- Grant funding from partners in the philanthropic and charitable sectors

INVESTMENT POLICY AND OBJECTIVES

The Foundation takes a risk averse view on investment of cash reserves and as such maintains a regular current account with a major high street bank in which all funds are held.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the Foundation is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The Trustees are aware of potential internal and external risks faced by the Foundation and assess those risks on a regular basis. Additionally they undertake a formal risk management exercise annually.

The key risks at the present time relate to the health and safety of participants in the Foundation's activities and the safeguarding of children and young people that are involved in the Foundation's activities. The Foundation has appropriate policies in place to manage these identified risks and all staff receive training to embed these policies in the day-to-day activities.

Other risks and emerging risks are monitored by the Foundation and relevant controls implemented to manage these risks in line with the Foundation's risk appetite set by the Board.

Management's going concern assessment has taken into consideration the current financial position and principal risks facing the entity, and consider that there is no material uncertainty relating to going concern.

The key judgments and estimates used to arrive at this conclusion include:

- The Foundation has sufficient liquidity and cash flow availability on an ongoing basis
- Confirmed visibility from UEFA and FIFA on their financing programmes
- Support from various levels of government, including financial assistance
- Mitigating actions and processes implemented to ensure an effective control environment and availability of relevant management information on a continuing basis

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The Foundation's 'Football For All' ethos is to create an environment in which all stakeholders - staff, participants and the wider community - has equal, dignified ease of access to our organisation, services and facilities. The Foundation aims to be inclusive, supportive, fair and free from discrimination and to actively promote equality and diversity and ensure that the legislation and policy requirements within the nine protected characteristics of equality and diversity are implemented into all working practices.

EMPLOYEES WITH DISABILITIES

Applications for employment by disabled persons are always considered fully, bearing in mind the aptitudes of the applicant concerned. It is the policy of the Foundation that the training, career development and promotion of disabled people should, as far as possible, be identical to that of other employees. So, in the event that a member of staff becomes disabled, we will make every effort to ensure that their employment with the Foundation continues. This includes making any proper adjustments necessary to accommodate their disability.

Director	Feb	Apr	Jun	Aug	Oct	Dec
David Martin	●	●	●	●	●	●
Patrick Nelson	●	●	●	●	●	●
Alan Willis	○	●	●	●	●	●
Allen McKinstry	●	○	●	●	●	●
Ryan Adams	●	●	○	●	●	●
Roisin Wood	●	●	●	●	●	○

Attended ● Absent ○

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Foundation is managed and controlled by its Trustees who sit as its Board of Directors. The Board is made up of six members, three of which are appointed following public advertisement and the remaining three are nominated by the sole member (Irish Football Association Limited). In accordance with the Articles of Association the three members nominated by the Irish Football Association Limited ("Association") cannot hold a directorship at the Association at the same time as being a trustee and director of the Foundation.

The Board is responsible for the overall governance and strategic direction of the charity. The Trustees set the charity's long-term objectives and ensure that the organisation remains focused on achieving its charitable purposes in accordance with its governing document and relevant legislation.

The day-to-day management and operations of the charity are delegated to the Irish FA Senior Leadership Team ("SLT"), who are responsible for delivering the charity's objectives and managing its activities and resources effectively.

This includes overseeing programmes, staffing, and day-to-day financial management.

The SLT is made up of;

- Patrick Nelson, Chief Executive Officer
- James Thompson, Director of Foundation
- Graham Fitzgerald, Chief Operating Officer
- Niall McClean, Finance Director
- Danny Lynch, Director of Communications
- Angela Platt, Director of Women's Football
- Andy Waterworth, Director of Elite Player Development
- Aaron Hughes MBE, Technical Director

However, all strategic decisions, including any changes to the charity's business structure or staffing levels, are reserved for approval by the Board of Trustees. The Board also provides oversight through regular meetings and maintains close engagement with operational matters.

At each Board meeting, Trustees receive updates on a different operational area

The Foundation aims to be inclusive, supportive, fair and free from discrimination



GOVERNANCE REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT) CONTINUED

of the organisation to ensure comprehensive oversight over time. In addition, standing reports are presented at every meeting by key members of the senior leadership team.

INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

The Trustees receive an induction upon appointment to the Board and undertake regular training and development. The Board convenes sessions to review governance practice and enhance professional competence required for the role of trustee.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

All service by Board Trustees is on a voluntary basis, with time and expertise freely donated to the work of the Foundation. The Board continued to strengthen performance through recruitment, evaluation, and training. We thank them for their continuing input and support.

BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are planned six times per year to discuss and agree on various strategic matters. The Chairman, in conjunction with the Irish FA CEO and the Company Secretary, plans an annual programme of business prior to the start of each financial year. This ensures that essential topics are covered at appropriate times, and that space is built in to give the Board the opportunity to have in-depth discussions on key issues.

The programme of business is prepared in conjunction with the annual programme for the Senior Leadership Team meetings, to ensure consistency and fluid reporting to the Board as and when required. All Trustees are expected to attend all Board meetings and details of attendance at meetings during the year are set out in this section. Trustees who were unable to attend specific meetings reviewed the relevant papers and provided their comments to the Chairman of the Board. Any Trustee who misses a meeting will, as a matter of course, receive the minutes of that

meeting for reference.

APPROACH TO GRANT MAKING

In line with the charity's ethos, our grant-making approach is rooted in supporting and empowering the schools, clubs, and communities we serve. We aim to build meaningful relationships based on trust, flexibility, and shared goals, enabling others to thrive in ways that matter most to them.

APPROACH TO FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

During the year, the Foundation undertook fundraising activities to support its charitable objectives, including the sale of raffle tickets for prizes on match nights. These raffles were promoted as part of our community engagement efforts and provided an opportunity for supporters to contribute towards the development of grassroots football initiatives.

The Foundation worked with a professional fundraising platform, Klubfunder, which provided administrative and technical support for the management and operation of the raffles. Klubfunder did not retain any proceeds from the sale of tickets other than agreed fees for the provision of their services. Oversight and control of the fundraising activity remained with the Foundation at all times.

The Foundation ensured that all fundraising activities were conducted in accordance with relevant legal requirements, including those under the Gambling Act 2005 for small society lotteries. All raffles were carried out transparently and responsibly, with clear information provided to participants regarding the nature of the prizes, entry terms, and the charitable purpose of the funds raised.

Raffle ticket sales were restricted to attendees at match nights and were only offered in-person, ensuring that all participants were present and engaged with the event. Sales were overseen by staff and volunteers, who were briefed to

avoid selling tickets to anyone who appeared underage or vulnerable. Clear signage and verbal explanations were provided to inform participants that entry was optional and that all proceeds supported the Foundation's charitable aims. No high-pressure sales techniques were used.

No complaints were received in relation to the Foundation's fundraising activities during the reporting period.

The Foundation is committed to high standards of fundraising and supports the principles outlined in the Code of Fundraising Practice, as issued by the Fundraising Regulator. While the Foundation is not currently registered with the Fundraising Regulator, it takes all reasonable steps to ensure that fundraising activities are ethical, respectful, and compliant with applicable laws and guidance.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

In accordance with Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006, a resolution is to be proposed at the Annual General Meeting of the ultimate parent undertaking for reappointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers (Northern Ireland) LLP as auditors of the company.

SMALL COMPANIES' EXEMPTION

In preparing this report, the directors have taken advantage of the small companies' exemptions provided by Section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Board on 01 May 2025 and signed on its behalf.

David Martin
Trustee and Chairman
Date: 01 May 2025



OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES & IMPACT



Objective

01

To advance amateur football, youth football, schools' football and futsal in accordance with the remit of the Irish FA, for the benefit of the general public in any part of Northern Ireland.

Featured activities:

Let Them Play

Community Football

Inclusive Football



LET THEM PLAY



Strategy Pillars met:

PARTICIPATION

WOMEN'S AND GIRLS' FOOTBALL

ACTIVITIES & IMPACT

Aim:

Increase participation in schools by building capacity within schools to offer football.

The Let Them Play programme continues to play a pivotal role in increasing football participation across primary, post-primary and special schools.

Through targeted interventions applied to schools that do not currently play football or have a lack of provision within their school environment, the programme adapts to address key areas for each school.

Tailored support comes in many forms, including coaching certifications, equipment packs and introducing small sided games – and the programme ensures football is accessible to pupils of all abilities.

Through initiatives such as Disney Playmakers, designed to introduce younger children to football through storytelling and play, and ongoing collaboration with UEFA to support special schools, the Let Them Play programme emphasises fun, inclusion and sustainability.

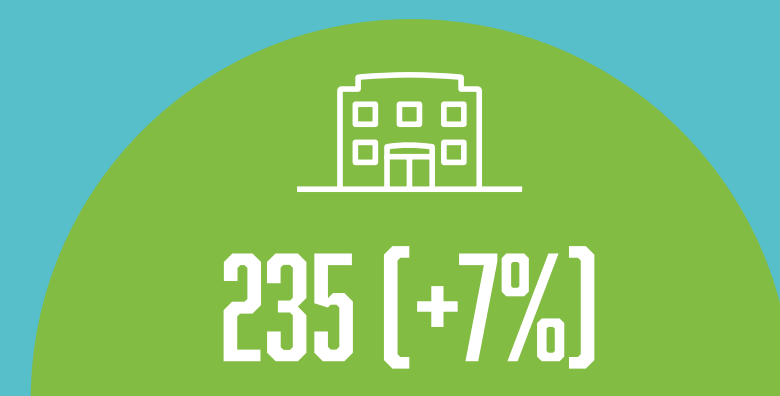


U18 Boys Schools' Cup winners Integrated College Dungannon

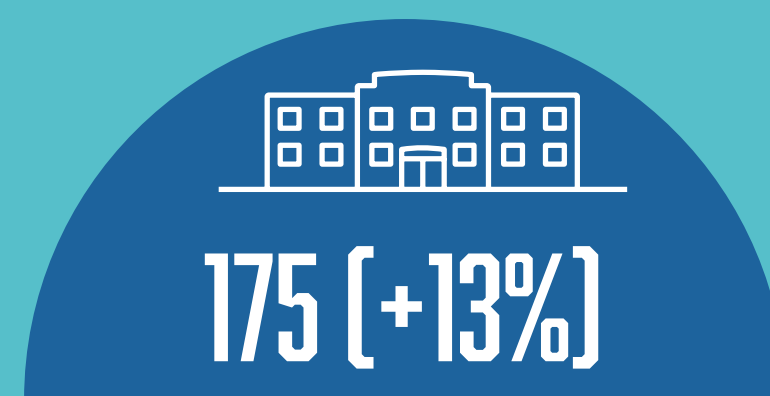


The programme adapts to address key areas for each school.

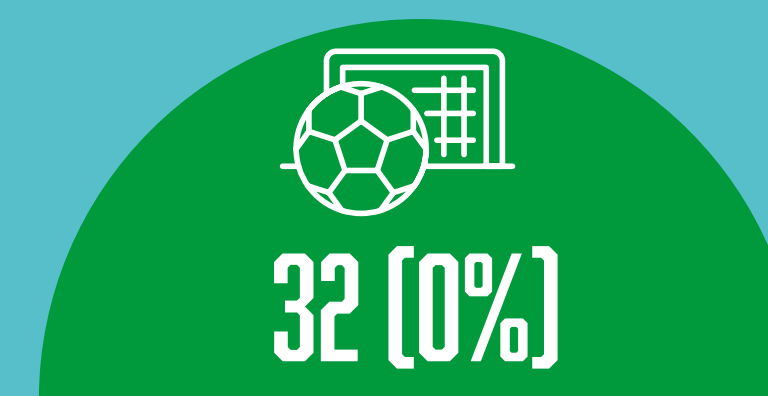
In 2024 the programme saw significant growth: (year on year changes):



PRIMARY SCHOOLS



POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS



EQUIPMENT PACKS DISTRIBUTED



SPECIAL SCHOOLS



COMMUNITY FOOTBALL



PARTICIPATION



WOMEN'S AND GIRLS' FOOTBALL



SUSTAINABILITY & CSR

Strategy Pillars met:

ACTIVITIES & IMPACT

Aim:

Increase participation across Northern Ireland by building capacity to offer flexible football formats.

The Community Football programme continues to be a cornerstone of football participation across Northern Ireland, providing flexible formats and opportunities for players of all ages and abilities.

By partnering with local councils, community organisations and key sponsors such as McDonald's, the programme ensures football remains accessible to everyone.

The Community Football programme remains committed to addressing participation trends and delivering tailored opportunities for players across Northern Ireland.

With continued focus on inclusion, fun and flexibility, the programme provides a vital pathway for players of all ages to engage with football in a way that suits their motivation.



Holiday Camps

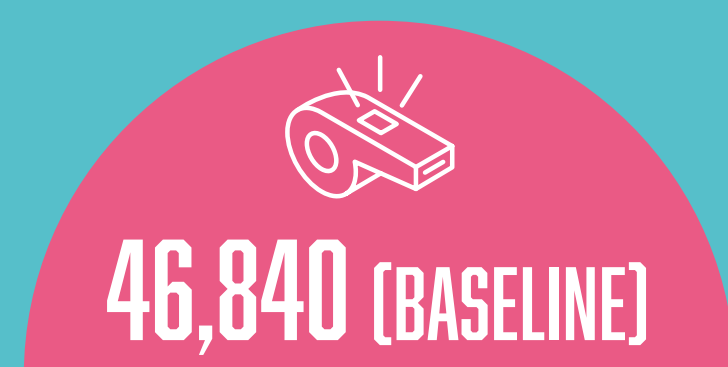


The programme ensures football remains accessible to everyone.

In 2024 the programme delivered significant impact (year on year changes):



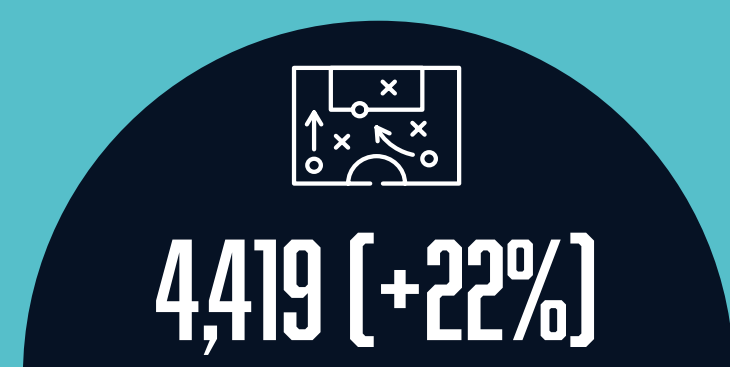
REGISTERED FOOTBALL PLAYERS



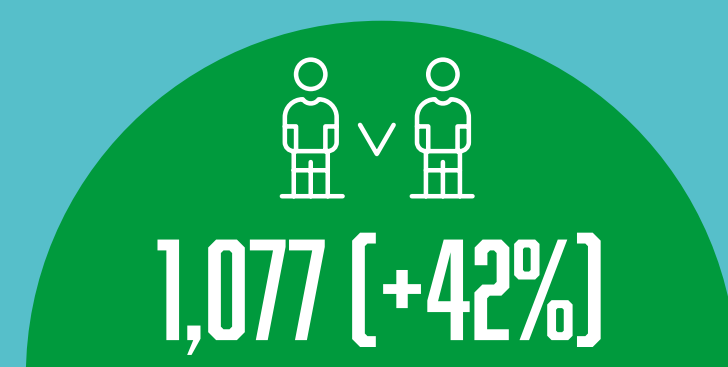
YOUTH FOOTBALL PLAYERS



ADULT FOOTBALL PLAYERS



HOLIDAY CAMP PARTICIPATION



MCDONALD'S FUN FOOTBALL



FUTSAL CLUBS

INCLUSIVE FOOTBALL



Strategy Pillars met:

PARTICIPATION

SUSTAINABILITY & CSR

ACTIVITIES & IMPACT

Aim:

Develop flexible formats to increase participation across all ability levels.



George Best Community Cup

The Inclusive Football programme is dedicated to ensuring that football is accessible to everyone, regardless of ability or background.

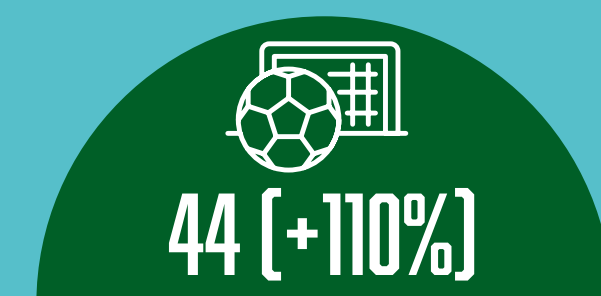
Through targeted initiatives, the programme continues to expand opportunities for players with disabilities, promoting inclusivity across Northern Ireland.

The Inclusive Football programme remains at the forefront of promoting equality and diversity, delivering tailored opportunities that allow individuals of all abilities to thrive.

As the programme continues to grow, its emphasis on collaboration with clubs and community partners ensures football remains a game for everyone.

“**Collaboration with clubs and community partners ensures football remains a game for everyone.**”

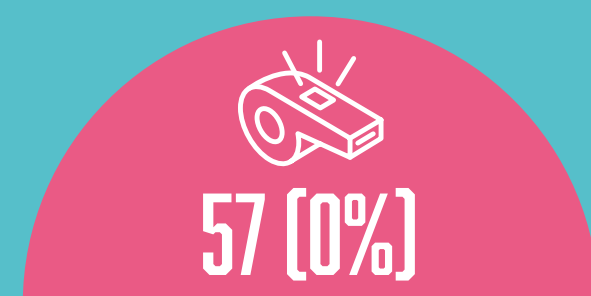
In 2024 the programme achieved significant milestones (year on year changes):



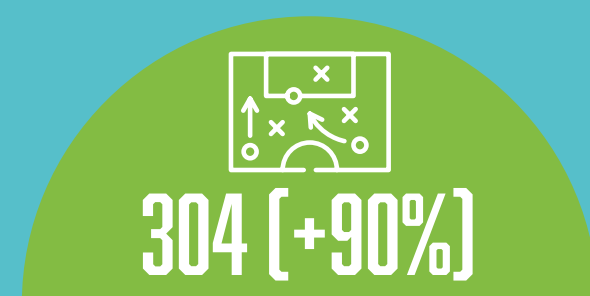
MCDONALD'S FUN FOOTBALL DISABILITY SESSIONS



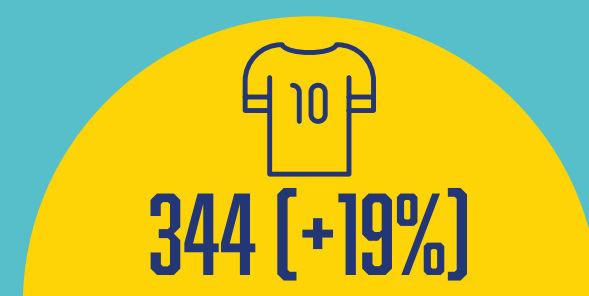
DISABILITY CLUB MEMBERS



DISABILITY CLUB SECTIONS



YOUTH LEAGUE DISABILITY PLAYERS



ADULT LEAGUE DISABILITY PLAYERS



AUTISM FRIENDLY HOLIDAY CAMPS



SPOTLIGHT FEATURE

REVOLUTIONISING YOUTH FOOTBALL



“
**A landmark day for
 the Irish Football
 Association.**”



Objective

02

To advance education by providing work experience and support to educational establishments and extra-curricular educational groups (targeting young people including those not in education or employment [NEETs] and areas of social need).

Featured activities:

School-Club Link

School Quality Mark

Education & Employability



SCHOOL-CLUB LINK



PARTICIPATION



WOMEN'S AND GIRLS' FOOTBALL



SUSTAINABILITY & CSR

Strategy Pillars met:

ACTIVITIES & IMPACT

Aim:

Develop extracurricular support in schools by establishing links with schools and accredited clubs.

School-Club Link has a collaborative approach with Post Primary, Primary and Club Development Officers. This innovative initiative fosters collaboration between our schools and local accredited football clubs. By establishing a robust network, the School-Club Link programme aims to significantly expand opportunities for young people to develop their football skills within and beyond the school environment.

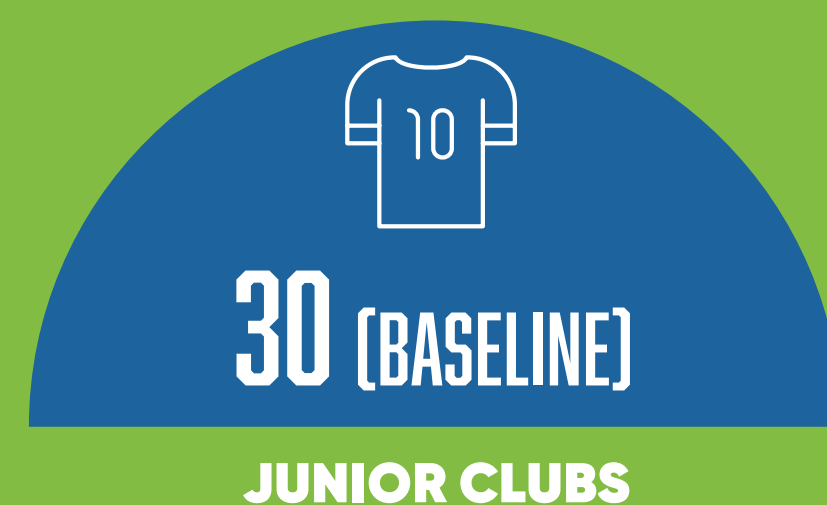
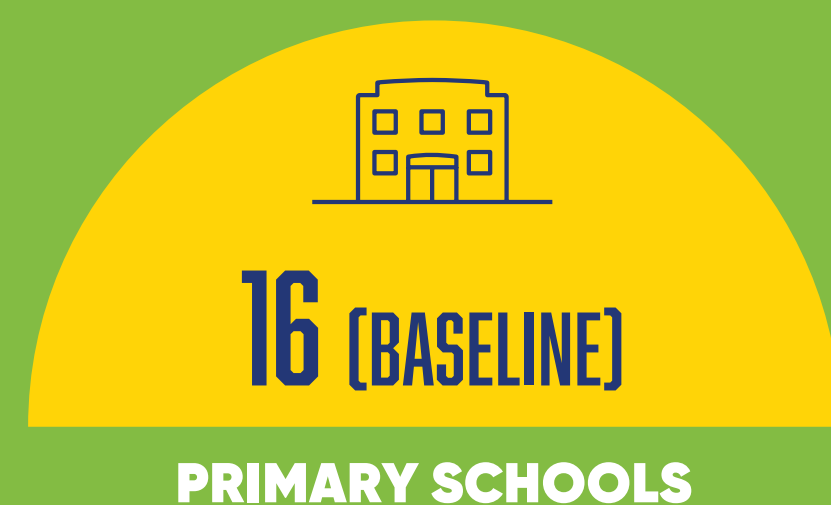
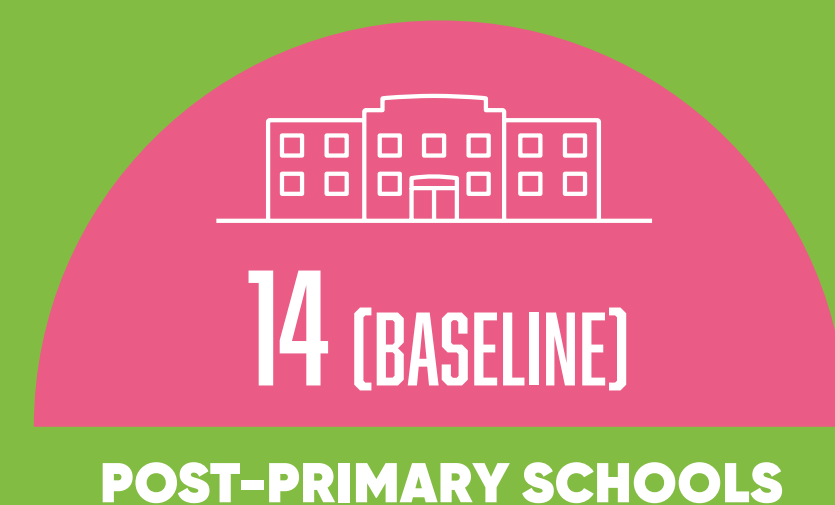
The programme serves as a bridge between the classroom and the wider footballing community. Partnering with established clubs provides students with access to diverse football experiences. Programmes can be tailored to specific needs, such as girls' only sessions, mixed teams and/or disability-inclusive training.



The benefits of the programme are far-reaching. Students can not only cultivate a lifelong love for football but also develop valuable life skills like leadership and self-esteem. Schools can expect a healthier student body and a broader range of football opportunities. Clubs will benefit from increased community visibility, potential funding opportunities and a larger pool of potential players and volunteers.

“ This innovative initiative fosters collaboration between our schools and local accredited football clubs. ”

The programme supported the following participation metrics:



SCHOOL QUALITY MARK



PARTICIPATION



WOMEN'S AND GIRLS' FOOTBALL



SUSTAINABILITY & CSR

Strategy Pillars met:

ACTIVITIES & IMPACT

Aim:

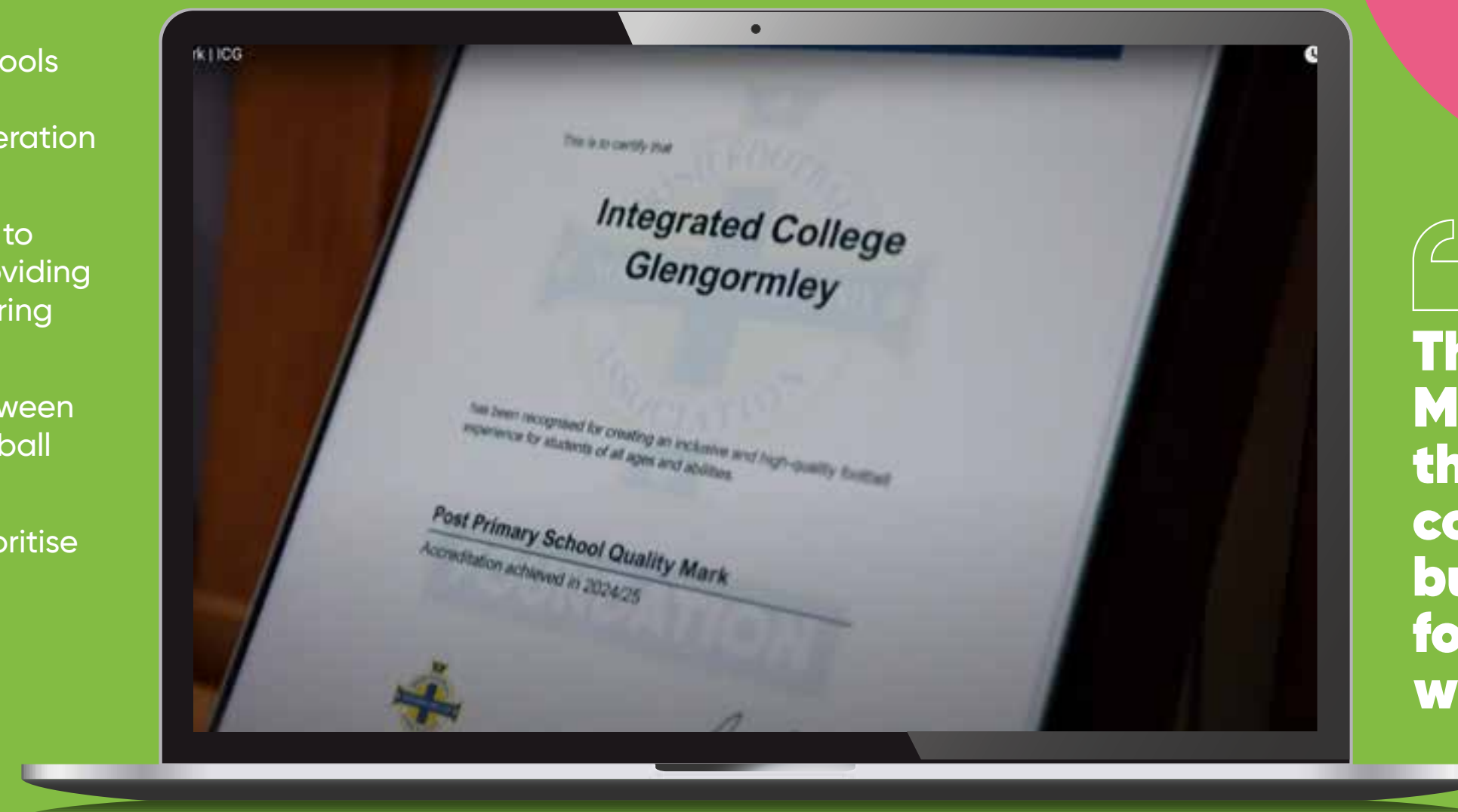
Improve the impact of extracurricular activities by improving the quality of football resources in schools.

By providing resources, training and structured accreditation, the programme ensures that schools are equipped to promote participation, create positive environments and inspire the next generation of footballers.

The School Quality Mark programme continues to focus on improving access to resources and providing tailored support to schools. This includes delivering equipment packs and coaching certifications.

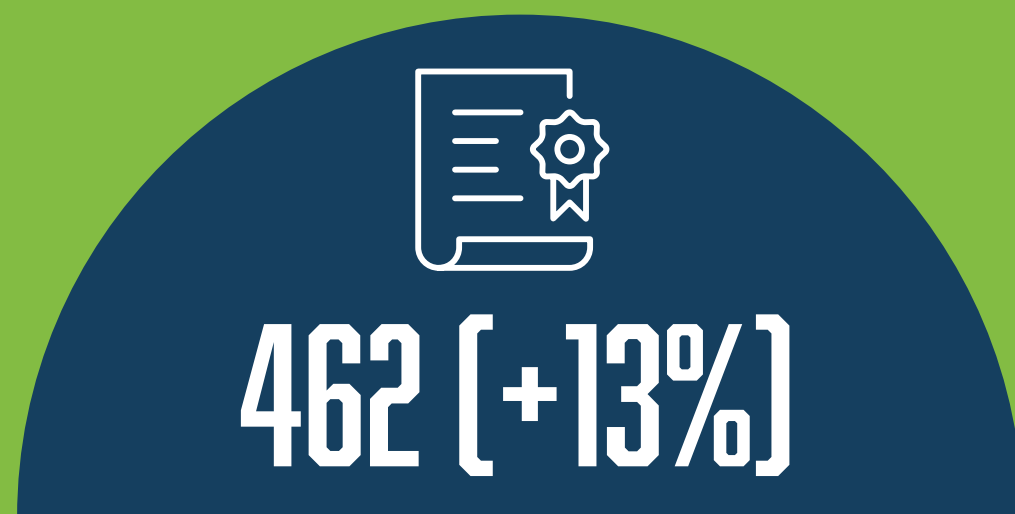
The programme has fostered collaboration between schools and the Foundation, ensuring that football provision remains sustainable and impactful.

By celebrating and supporting schools that prioritise football, the School Quality Mark reflects the Foundation's commitment to building a strong football culture within education.



“The School Quality Mark reflects the Foundation's commitment to building a strong football culture within education.”

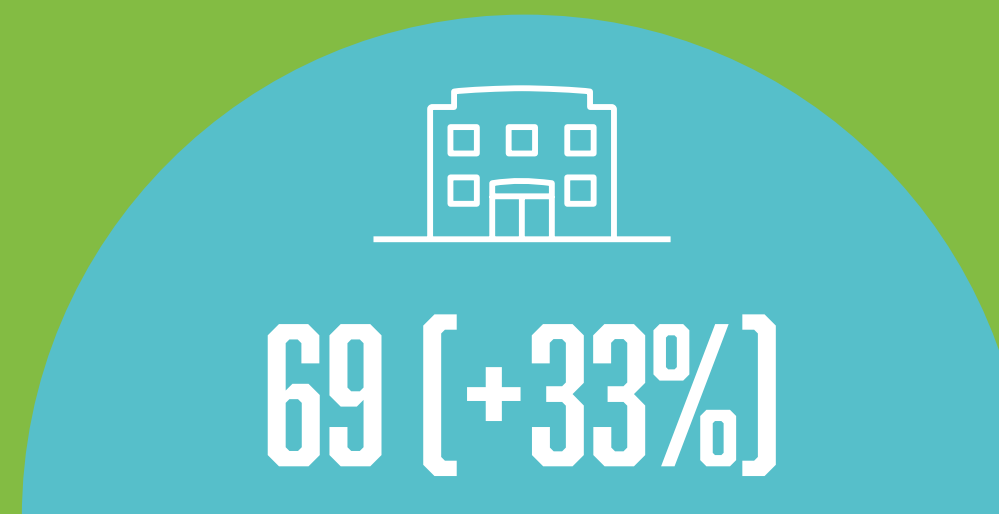
In 2024 the programme achieved the following milestones (year on year changes):



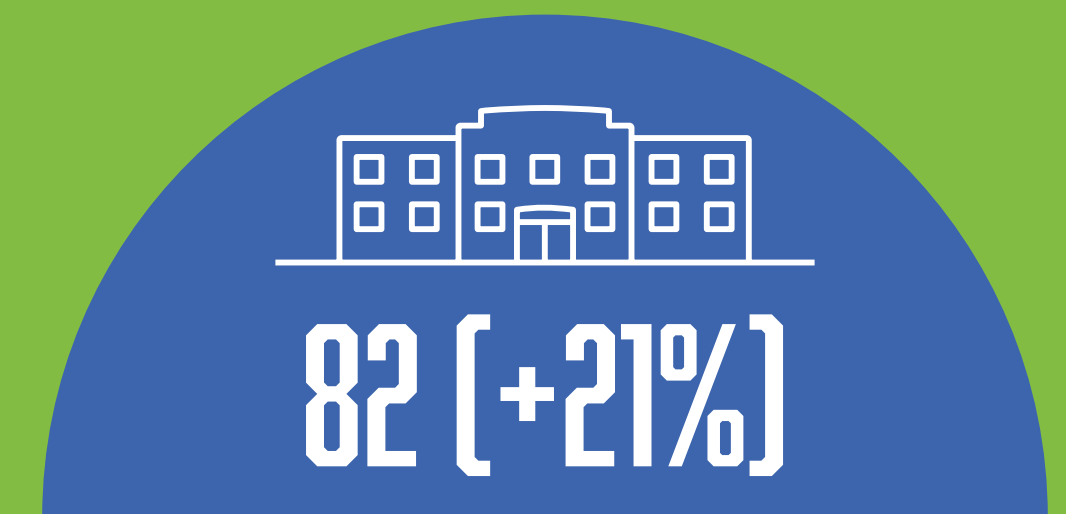
NATIONAL COACHING CERTIFICATE (NCC)-QUALIFIED TEACHERS/STUDENTS



EQUIPMENT VALUE



PRIMARY SCHOOLS



POST-PRIMARY SCHOOLS



Strategy Pillars met:

SUSTAINABILITY & CSR

EDUCATION & EMPLOYABILITY

ACTIVITIES & IMPACT

Aim:

Establish greater work experience and career development opportunities in schools through specific coaching and leisure qualifications (BTEC/A-Level).

The Education & Employability programme empowers young people by providing qualifications, coaching opportunities and hands-on experience to build future careers in football. By partnering with schools and colleges, the programme ensures that participants gain the skills, confidence and opportunities needed to thrive both on and off the pitch.

The Education & Employability programme continues to serve as a pathway for young people into football, focusing on transferable skills, community involvement and professional development.

By supporting students through education, training and real-world experience, the programme reinforces the Foundation's commitment to inspiring the next generation.

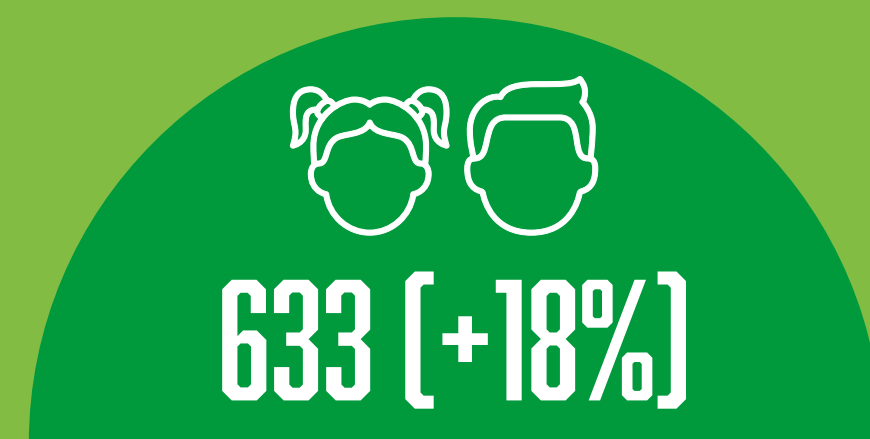


The programme reinforces the Foundation's commitment to inspiring the next generation.

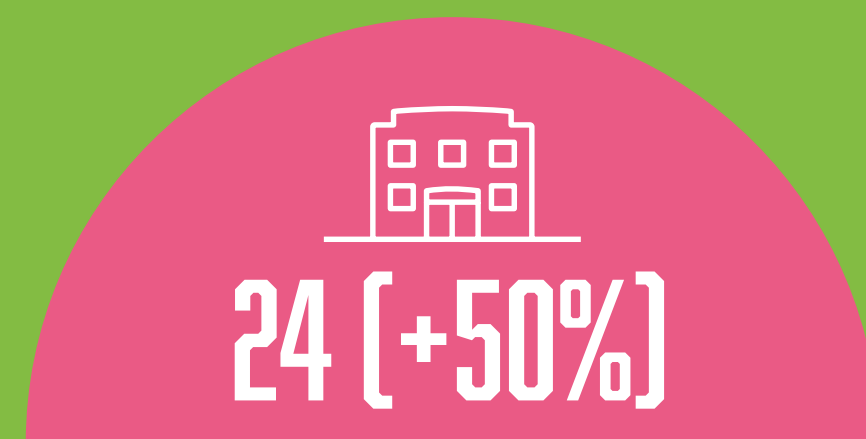


Education & Employability

In 2024 the programme achieved the following milestones (year on year changes):



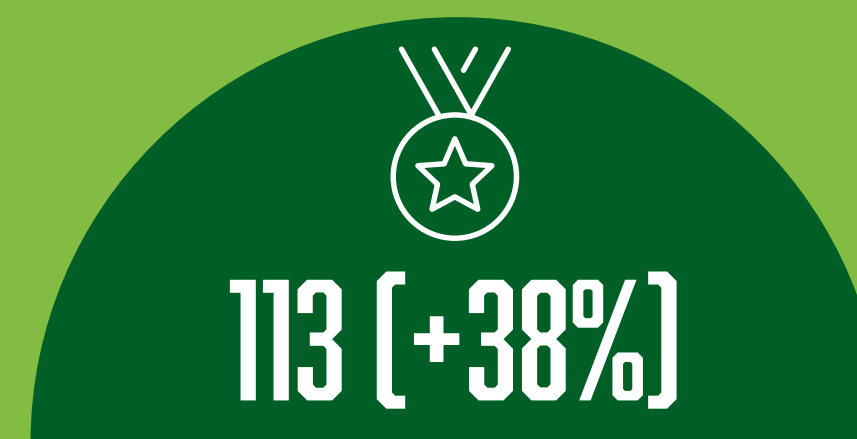
STUDENTS GRADUATED



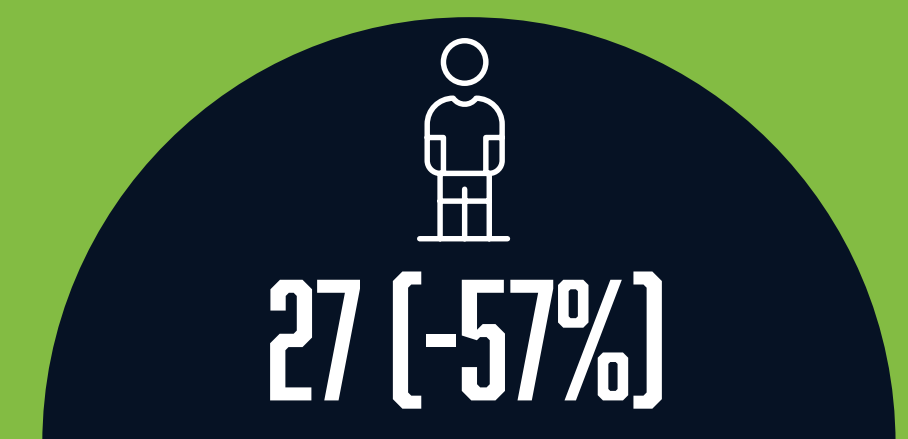
SCHOOLS



COLLEGES



STUDENTS - FOUNDATION VOLUNTEERING



STUDENTS - FOUNDATION COACHING

SPOTLIGHT FEATURE

2024 SCHOOLS' CUP FINAL



“It won't be an easy game because I know what's on the line. Big pitch, good facilities, it'll be a tough game to play.”



Objective

03

To adopt an inclusive approach so that all members of the community have access to our initiatives, regardless of background, gender, religion, politics, race or sexual orientation, in support of the wider charitable objectives of the Irish FA.

Featured activities:

League Accreditation

Club Accreditation

Girls Only



LEAGUE ACCREDITATION



Strategy Pillars met:

PARTICIPATION

SUSTAINABILITY & CSR

ACTIVITIES & IMPACT

Aim:

Improve the provision of football by building capacity within adult and youth leagues.

The League Accreditation programme is designed to enhance the operational standards of youth and adult football leagues across Northern Ireland. By focusing on governance, safeguarding and volunteer retention, the programme ensures leagues are better equipped to provide a safe, inclusive and high-quality footballing experience for all players.

These consultations have provided valuable insights into the challenges leagues face and will inform the next stages of the programme's development.

The Youth Football Framework, which will begin implementation in 2025, will serve as a key catalyst for advancing the League Accreditation programme by establishing consistent standards and supporting operational excellence across all leagues.

The Foundation remains committed to delivering a League Accreditation programme that recognises, and rewards leagues prioritising safeguarding, governance and volunteer engagement. Through collaboration and continued refinement, the programme will provide the tools and resources leagues need to grow and thrive.

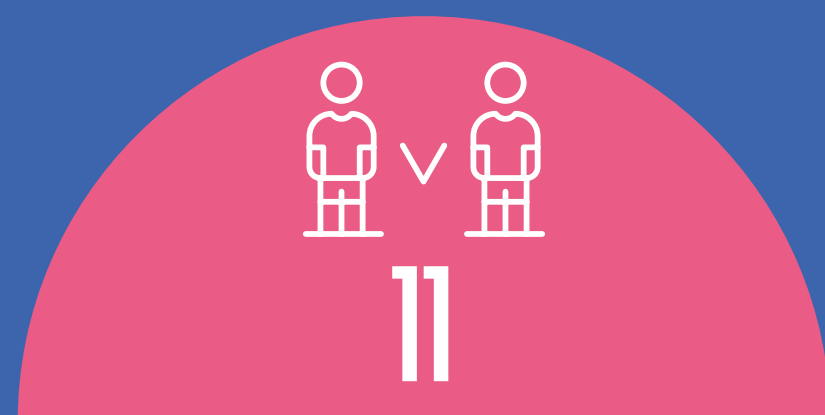
In 2024, the Foundation continued to work closely with leagues to gather feedback and refine the programme's structure.

“ **The programme will provide the tools and resources leagues need to grow and thrive.** ”

While no leagues have yet been fully accredited, significant progress was made in engaging key stakeholders:



YOUTH LEAGUES AND SMALL-SIDED GAMES COMMITTEES



ADULT LEAGUES



DISABILITY LEAGUE



FUTSAL LEAGUES



CLUB ACCREDITATION



WOMEN'S AND GIRLS' FOOTBALL



SUSTAINABILITY & CSR

Strategy Pillars met:

ACTIVITIES & IMPACT

Aim:

Improve the provision of football by building capacity within clubs.

The Club Accreditation programme is designed to support and recognise clubs that achieve excellence in governance, safeguarding and operational standards.

By providing a clear framework and tailored resources, the programme ensures clubs are equipped to deliver safe, inclusive and sustainable football experiences for their communities.

The updated process provided greater clarity on the requirements for governance and safeguarding. Clubs were also given access to expanded training opportunities for volunteers and administrators, ensuring they are better prepared to meet operational standards.

The Club Accreditation programme continues to demonstrate the Foundation's commitment to strengthening grassroots football across Northern Ireland. By recognising clubs that excel,

the programme ensures that they remain at the heart of their communities and are supported in achieving long-term sustainability.

In 2024, the programme underwent a significant change in process, with a revised structure introduced to simplify and streamline the accreditation journey for clubs. The updated framework places a stronger emphasis on supporting clubs through tailored workshops, mentorship and resources, ensuring they have the tools needed to achieve and maintain accreditation.

“By recognising clubs that excel, the programme ensures that they remain at the heart of their communities”

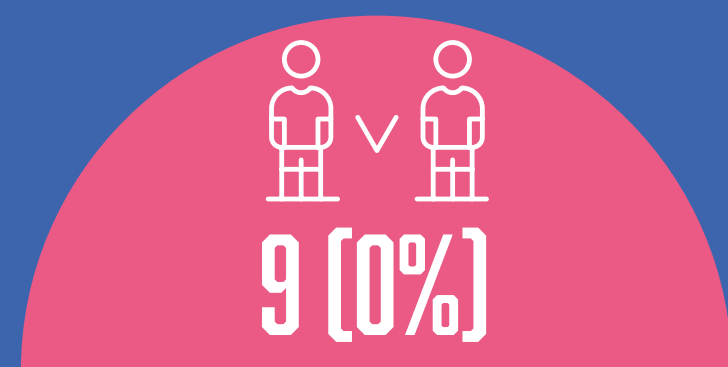


Club Accreditation celebration event

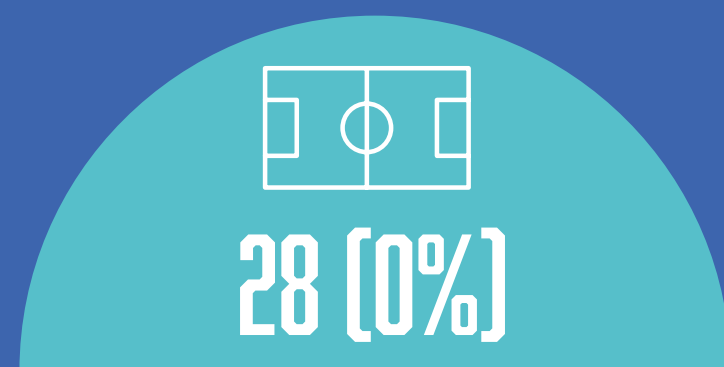
Key outcomes for 2024 include (year on year changes):



CLUBS ACCREDITED



YOUTH-ONLY CLUBS



AMATEUR CLUBS



WOMEN'S CLUBS



FUTSAL CLUB



DISABILITY CLUBS/
SECTIONS

GIRLS' ONLY



Strategy Pillars met:

PARTICIPATION

WOMEN'S AND GIRLS' FOOTBALL

ACTIVITIES & IMPACT

Aim:

Improve the provision of girls' and women's football by developing clubs and girls-only programmes.

The Girls' and Women's Football programme continues to play a vital role in increasing participation and leadership opportunities for females across Northern Ireland football.

By focusing on targeted initiatives, the programme promotes accessibility, representation and growth at every level of the game.

Despite challenges, the Girls' and Women's Football programme remains committed to creating new opportunities for coaches, administrators, players and leaders.

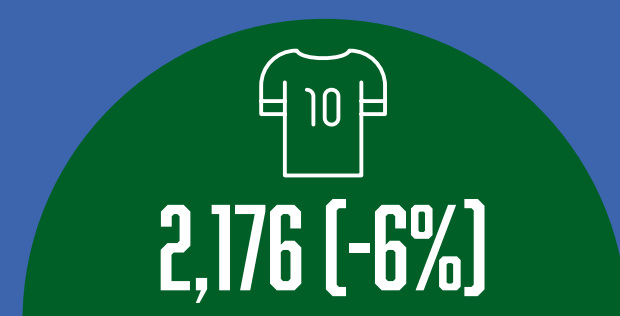
“The programme promotes accessibility, representation and growth at every level of the game”



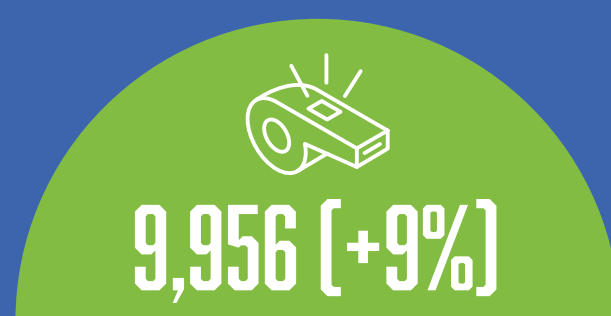
Disney Playmakers Festival



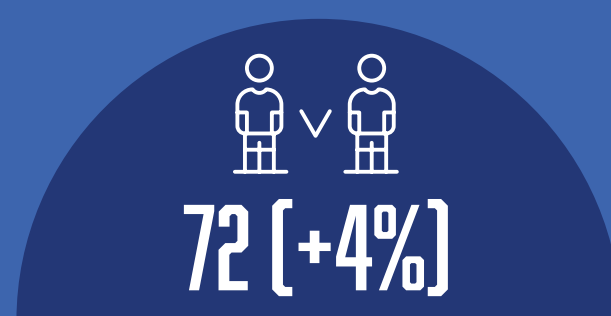
In 2024 the programme achieved the following outcomes (year on year changes):



ADULT FOOTBALL PLAYERS



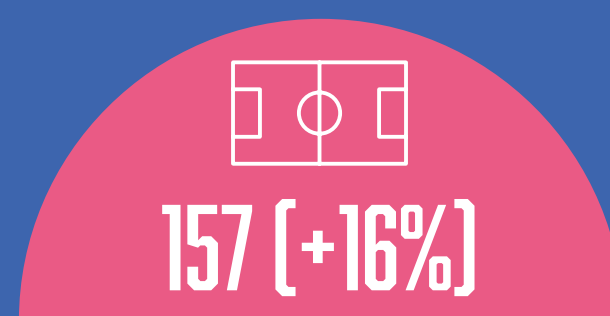
YOUTH FOOTBALL PLAYERS



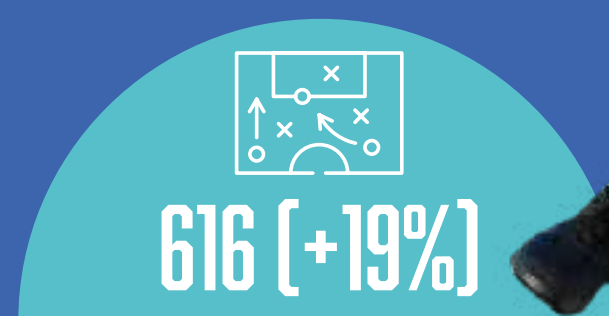
WOMEN'S CLUB TEAMS



DISNEY PLAYMAKERS PARTICIPANTS



FEMALE FOOTBALL LEADERS PARTICIPANTS



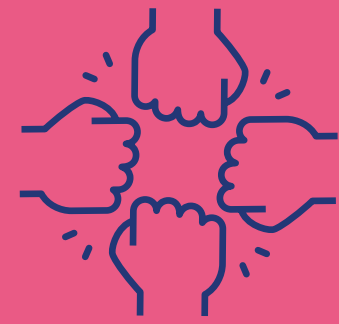
HOLIDAY CAMP PARTICIPANTS

SPOTLIGHT FEATURE

FIFA DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE



“
**Even if we lose,
 we all support
 each other.**”



Objective

04

To advance the health and wellbeing of the people of Northern Ireland by leading on the development of a Northern Ireland-wide football and positive mental health campaign for men and women.

Featured activities:

Volunteers

Ahead of the Game

Community Engagement



VOLUNTEERS



Strategy Pillars met:

SUSTAINABILITY & CSR

ACTIVITIES & IMPACT

Aim:

Provide fun and active volunteer opportunities across football for every person in Northern Ireland.

The Volunteers Programme remains a cornerstone of grassroots football in Northern Ireland, empowering individuals to contribute to their local clubs, leagues and community initiatives. By providing structured opportunities and resources, the programme aims to recruit, train and retain volunteers across all levels of football.

Through targeted recruitment efforts and collaborations with schools and clubs, the Foundation continues to strengthen its volunteer base. The programme also supports volunteers with training opportunities, mentoring and recognition for their contributions, ensuring their efforts are valued and sustained.

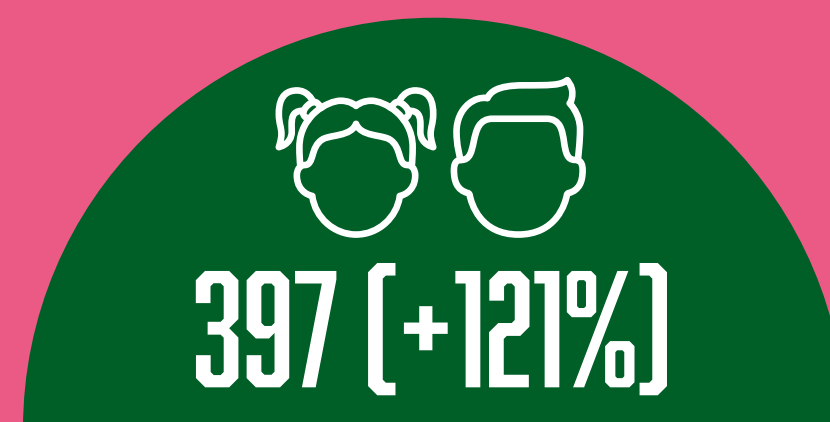
The Volunteers Programme remains essential to the success of grassroots football, creating a supportive and collaborative environment where individuals can make meaningful contributions to their communities.

“The programme aims to recruit, train and retain volunteers across all levels of football.”

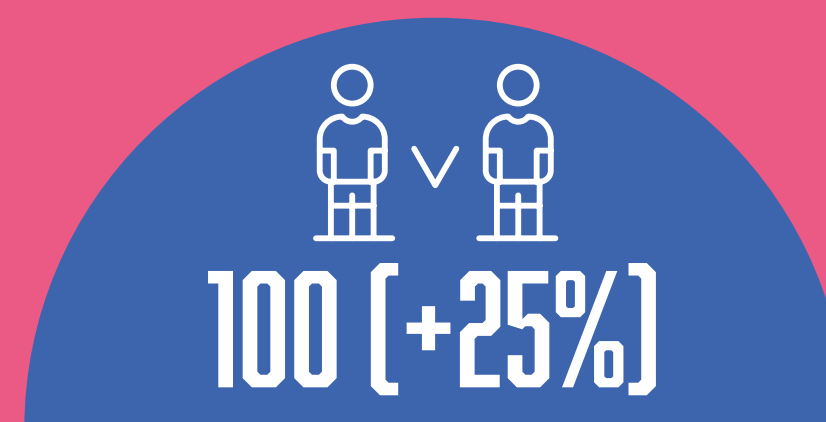


McDonald's Grassroots Football Awards 2024

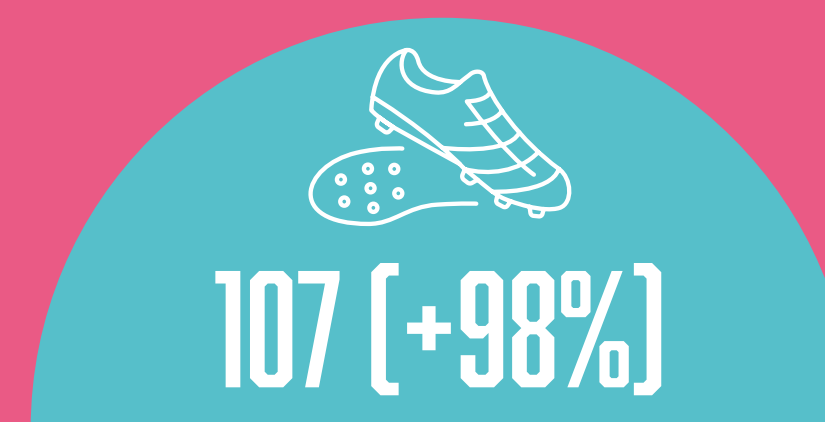
In 2024 the programme saw significant growth and achievements (year on year changes):



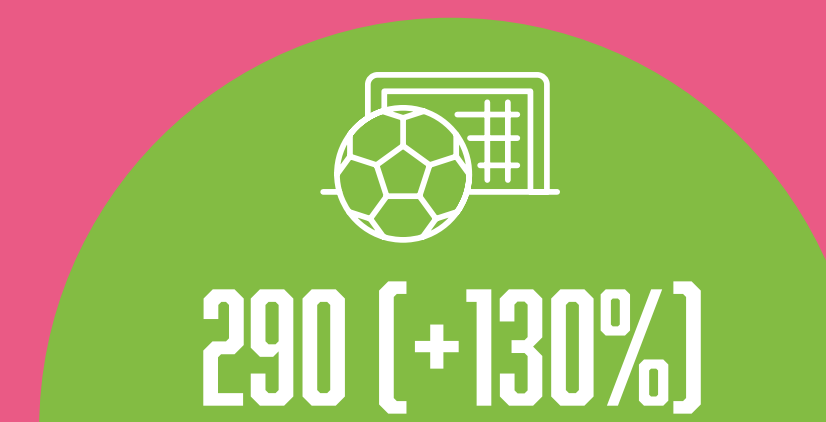
REGISTERED VOLUNTEERS



FOUNDATION AMBASSADORS



FEMALE VOLUNTEERS



MALE VOLUNTEERS



Strategy Pillars met:

SUSTAINABILITY & CSR

AHEAD OF THE GAME

ACTIVITIES & IMPACT

Aim:

Increase mental health awareness with adults and young people across Northern Ireland.

The Ahead of the Game programme is a vital initiative designed to promote mental health awareness and emotional well-being through football.

By using the sport as a platform, the programme empowers clubs, community groups and individuals with the knowledge and tools needed to tackle mental health challenges, reduce stigma and create supportive environments for all participants.

A key component of the programme is signposting, ensuring participants and organisations have access to further mental health support services when needed.

Through interactive workshops and the development of Mental Health Champions, the programme provides vital resources to clubs and community groups. By addressing emotional well-being through the lens of football, Ahead of the Game ensures mental health is prioritised and stigma is reduced, making football an inclusive space for all.

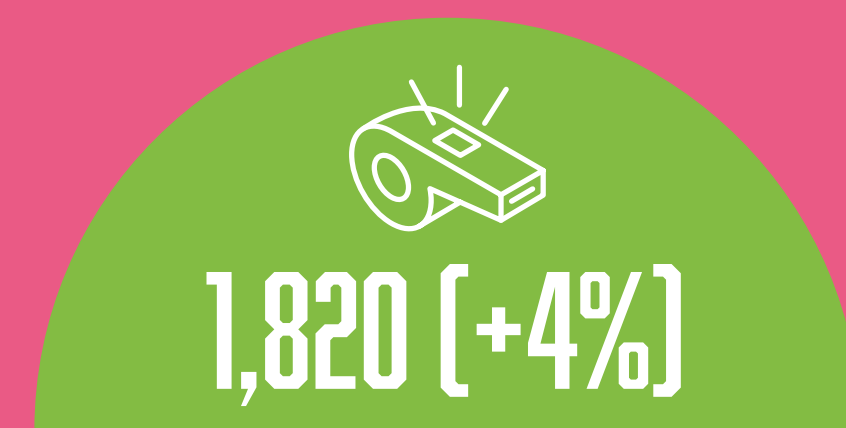


Ahead of the Game ensures mental health is prioritised and stigma is reduced, making football an inclusive space for all.

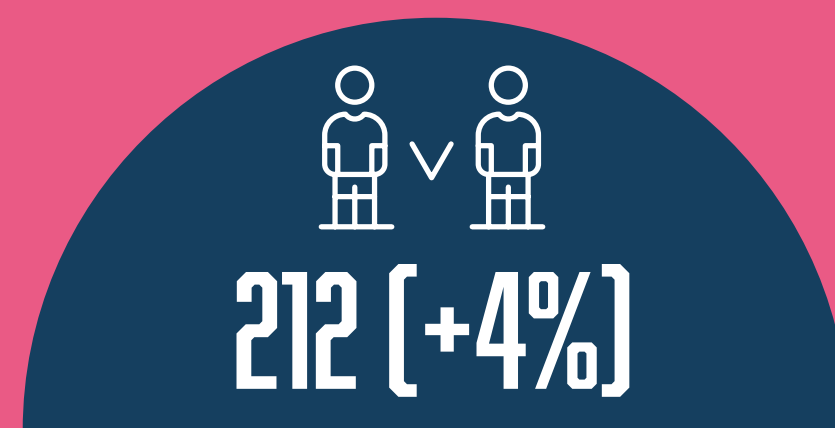


Ahead of the Game Youth Programme

In 2024 the programme achieved the following milestones (year on year changes):



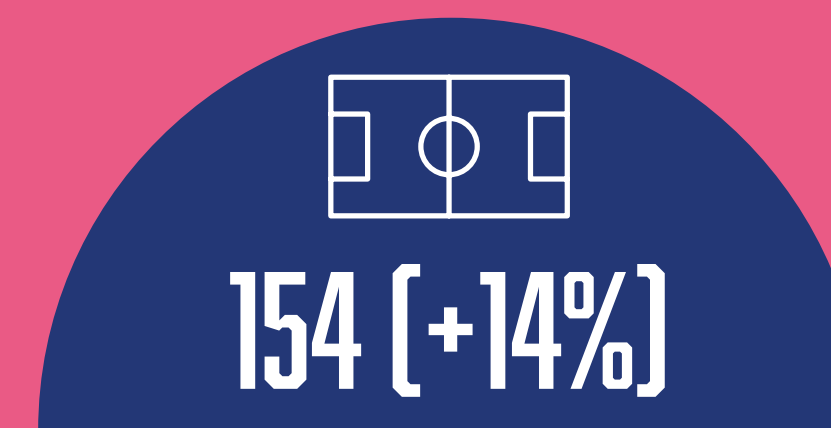
TOTAL PARTICIPANTS



CLUBS



COMMUNITY GROUPS



WORKSHOPS





Strategy Pillars met:

SUSTAINABILITY & CSR

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

ACTIVITIES & IMPACT

Aim:

Advance the health and well-being of people by bringing communities together.



Fresh Start Through Sport

The Community Engagement programme is a vital initiative aimed at using football as a tool to unite communities and foster social inclusion. By working with diverse groups, including refugees, under-represented communities and local organisations, the programme ensures that football is accessible to all, regardless of background or circumstances.

The programme focuses on creating safe spaces for all participants, providing opportunities for social interaction, physical activity and personal development.

By working closely with local community groups, charities and organisations, the Foundation ensures that football serves as a platform for connection and positive change.

The Community Engagement programme continues to play a crucial role in breaking down barriers and building stronger, more inclusive communities through football.

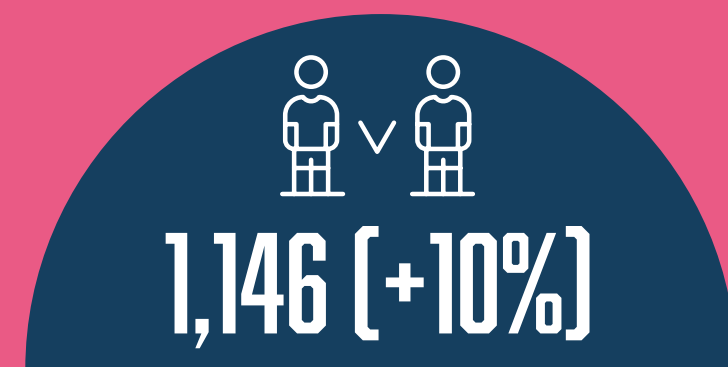


The programme ensures that football is accessible to all, regardless of background or circumstances.

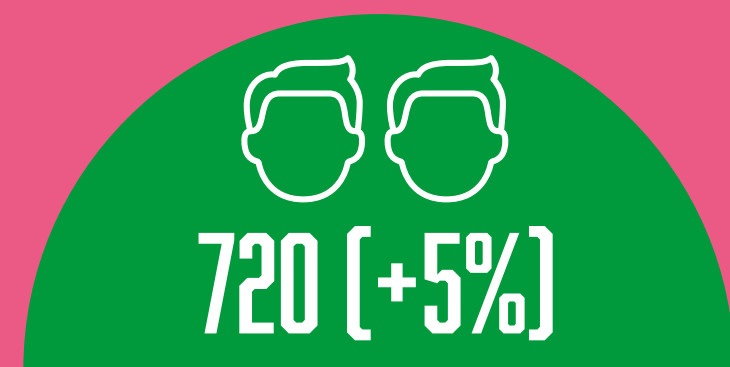
In 2024 the programme continued to expand its reach and impact (year on year changes):



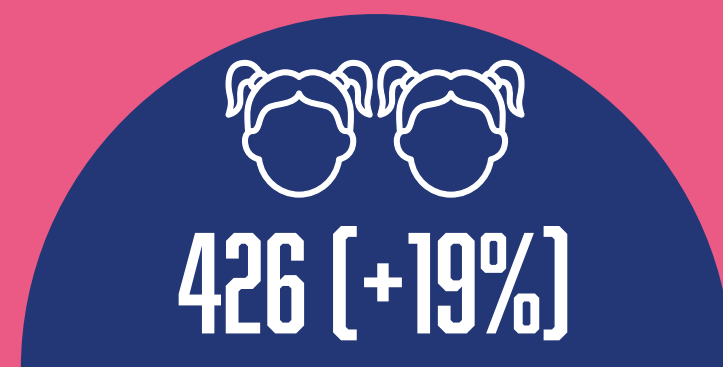
COMMUNITY GROUPS



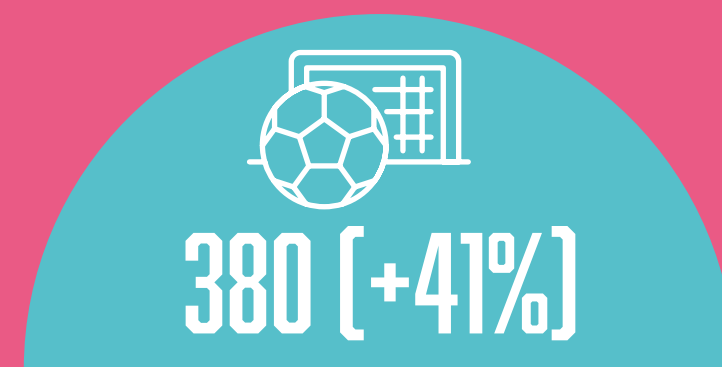
PARTICIPANTS



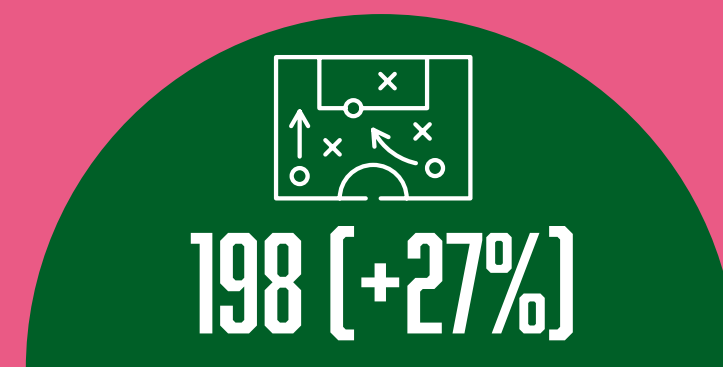
MALE PARTICIPATION



FEMALE PARTICIPATION



REFUGEE PARTICIPANTS



WORKSHOPS DELIVERED

SPOTLIGHT FEATURE

WORLD REFUGEE DAY 2024



Promote integration and inclusion of refugees within communities.



INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY SQUADS

Cerebral Palsy – World Championships, Salou, Spain

Northern Ireland's Cerebral Palsy team had to settle for silver at the CP Men's World Championships.

Northern Ireland lost in the final to Scotland, the only team to defeat them in the group stage of the competition, which was staged in Salou in Spain.

The Men's World Championships are organised by the International Federation of CP Football. They are for teams ranked 17 to 32 in the world ranking list.

Scotland were the highest ranked team in the tournament (17th) and they lived up to their ranking against Northern Ireland (20th) in the gold medal match, winning 4-0.

However, Northern Ireland left the stage with their heads held high. They won three out of four games in the round-robin group stage to secure a place in the decider.

In the group stage Northern Ireland enjoyed 5-1 win victories over both Chile (ranked 18th in the world) and South Korea (24th), and they also defeated Italy (19th) by a goal to nil. They lost 3-0 against Scotland.

The squad now look forward to the 2025 European Championships that will be held in England in August.



Northern Ireland CP squad: Paul Cassidy (GK) (Belfast), Charlie Fogarty (Birmingham), Oisín McGurk (Magherafelt), Jordan Walker (captain) (Belfast), Sean Coyle (Coleraine), Jordan Cush (Belfast), David Leavy (Castlewellan), Declan McDonnell (Belfast), Ryan Walker (Armagh), Charley Emerson (Belfast), Finn Mullan (Carrickfergus).



INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY SQUADS

Powerchair – Home Nations, Largs, Scotland

Northern Ireland's senior Powerchair team finished runners-up in the European Powerchair Football Association Home Nations Cup.

They reached the final of the competition for the first time, however England proved to be too strong for them in the decider.

SportScotland Inverclyde National Sport Training Centre in Largs was the venue for the international tournament in which Northern Ireland faced hosts Scotland and Republic of Ireland as well as England.

The Northern Ireland team featured Sean McKinney (GK), Jason Browning, Bartek Kuskowski, Patrick Cumiskey, Ethan McCabe and Scott Hilland (captain).

The event in May 2024 was the team's first competitive action since returning from the World Cup in October 2023, with McCabe joining the senior panel for the first time.

Northern Ireland faced World Cup finalists England in the opening group game. A starting side of McKinney, Hilland, Cumiskey and Kuskowski was selected.

A slow start from Northern Ireland was punished with England taking an early 2-0 lead.

Northern Ireland grew in to the game and midway through the first half they pulled a goal back through Kuskowski, who finished from close range from an excellent Cumiskey pass.

The boys in green and white had a couple of half-chances after the interval but England then produced a flurry of goals to extend their lead to 5-1.

Northern Ireland's second game was against the Scots. They took an early lead when Cumiskey teed up captain Hilland and he slotted the ball home.

They dominated proceedings and created several good opportunities, although McKinney had to repel a couple of decent efforts from Scotland. The game finished 1-0.

Northern Ireland met the Republic in the first game of day two.

Kuskowski tested the Republic keeper, while McKinney and Hilland were strong at the back as the first half fizzled out in a stalemate.

After the break Northern Ireland upped the tempo and were awarded a penalty when Hilland was fouled as he pushed forward. Cumiskey showed great composure when slotting in the spot kick.

The Republic then piled on the pressure and McKinney produced an outstanding save at the death to ensure all three points were secured by Northern Ireland. And it also meant they reached the final where they would face England once again.

Northern Ireland produced a fine defensive display to limit England's attack, although England managed to find a way through midway through the first half.

Northern Ireland had a couple of half-chances on the counter but could not find a finish.

Despite England dominating possession, Northern Ireland looked bright and created some decent openings.

As Northern Ireland pushed forward, they were undone by two goals in the final minutes and England ran out 3-0 winners.





FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also directors of the Irish FA Foundation Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulation.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have prepared the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

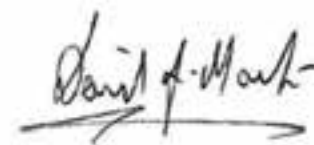
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (2019);
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

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

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

In accordance with Section 418, Trustees' reports shall include a statement, in the case of each Trustee in office at the date the Trustees' report is approved, that:

- so far as the trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and
- he has taken all the steps that he ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.



David Martin
Trustee and Chairman
Date: 01 May 2025



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF IRISH FA FOUNDATION LIMITED

Report on the audit of the financial statements

OPINION

In our opinion, Irish FA Foundation Limited's financial statements (the "financial statements"):

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, and cash flows, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", and applicable law); and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements, included within the Annual Report and Financial Statements (the "Annual Report"), which comprise: the charity balance sheet as at 31 December 2024; the statement of financial activities (including an income and expenditure account), and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended; the accounting policies; and the notes to the financial statements, which include a description of significant accounting policies.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities under ISAs (UK) are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence

We remained independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, which includes the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date on which the financial statements are authorised for issue.

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this conclusion is not a guarantee as to the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

REPORTING ON OTHER INFORMATION

The other information comprises all of the information in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report based on these responsibilities.

With respect to the Trustees' Report, we also considered whether the disclosures required by the UK Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011 have been included.

Based on our work undertaken in the course of the audit, the Companies Act 2006 requires us also to report certain opinions and matters as described below.

Trustees' Report

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit the information given in Trustees' Report for the period ended 31 December 2024 is consistent with the financial statements and has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we did not identify any material misstatements in the Trustees' Report.

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND THE AUDIT

Responsibilities of the trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable framework and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The trustees are also responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF IRISH FA FOUNDATION LIMITED

economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Based on our understanding of the charitable company and its industry/environment, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to compliance with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, Regulation (8) of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and the Charities Act 2011, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to fraudulent financial reporting and management bias in determining accounting estimates. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any journal entries posted with unusual account combinations;
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in determining their significant accounting estimates;
- Assessed management's compliance with the commitments under their restricted funds;
- Discussions with management, including consideration of actual or suspected fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;

- Reviewing legal expenses to understand the nature of the expenses incurred; and
- Reviewing relevant meeting minutes, including those of the Board of Directors/Trustees.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in financial statements. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the FRC's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditors' report.

Use of this report

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the company's members as a body in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

OTHER REQUIRED REPORTING

Companies Act 2006 exception reporting

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

- we have not obtained all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or

- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns.

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

Entitlement to exemptions

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion, the trustees were not entitled to: prepare financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime; take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the Trustees' Annual Report; and take advantage of the small companies' exemption from preparing a Strategic Report. We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

David Strachan

David Strachan (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers
(Northern Ireland) LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
Belfast
Date: 01 May 2025



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	2024			2023		
		Restricted Funds £000	Un-restricted Funds £000	Total Funds 2024 £000	Restricted Funds £000	Un-restricted Funds £000	Total Funds 2023 £000
Incoming resources							
Incoming resources from generated funds	4						
Contributions from governing bodies		1,376	-	1,376	1,482	-	1,482
Coaching, education and training		-	531	531	-	488	488
Sponsorship income		263	-	263	344	-	344
Grant funding		839	-	839	937	-	937
Income from other trading activities							
Income from other trading activities	5	-	23	23	-	23	23
Total incoming resources/income		2,478	554	3,032	2,763	511	3,274
Resources expended/expenditure							
Charitable activities	6	(2,807)	-	(2,807)	(3,004)	-	(3,004)
Support costs	7	(220)	-	(220)	(270)	-	(270)
Total resources expended/expenditure		(3,027)	-	(3,027)	(3,274)	-	(3,274)
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(549)	554	5	(511)	511	-
Transfer between funds		549	(549)	-	511	(511)	-
Net movement in funds		-	5	5	-	-	-
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		-	1,653	1,653	-	1,653	1,653
Total funds carried forward		-	1,658	1,658	-	1,653	1,653

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

CHARITY BALANCE SHEET

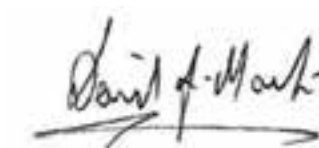
Registered No. NI642595

at 31 December 2024

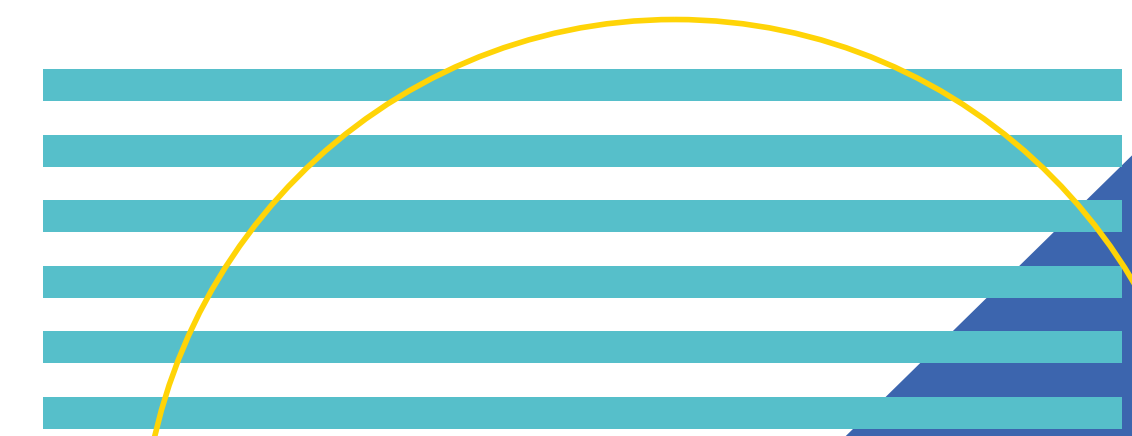
	Note	2024 £000	2023 £000
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	22	22
Intangible assets	11	35	-
		57	22
Current assets			
Debtors	12	1,955	2,066
Cash and cash equivalents		31	14
		1,986	2,080
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(385)	(449)
Net current assets		1,601	1,631
Net assets		1,658	1,653
The funds of the charity			
Unrestricted funds	17	1,658	1,653
Restricted funds	17	-	-
Total funds		1,658	1,653

The notes on pages 42 to 46 are an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 41 to 46 were approved by the trustees on 01 May 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:



David Martin
Trustee and Chairperson
Date: 01 May 2025



STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

for the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Cash from operating activities		
Net incoming resources before transfers	5	-
Depreciation of tangible assets	5	1
Movement in debtors	111	307
Movement in creditors	(64)	(393)
Cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	57	(85)
Cash flow from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible assets	(5)	(23)
Purchase of intangible assets	(35)	-
Cash outflow from investing activities	(40)	(23)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash in the year	17	(108)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	14	122
Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	31	14
	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Cash and cash equivalents consists of:		
Cash and cash equivalents	31	14
Total cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	31	14

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Irish FA Foundation Limited is a private company limited by guarantee, incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is the National Football Stadium at Windsor Park, Donegall Avenue, Belfast, BT12 6LU.

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of Preparation

The Foundation's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2015 (Charities SORP (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Irish FA Foundation Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost and transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s). The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis. Taking account of the risk review undertaken by the Trustees they do not consider there to be a risk to the going concern status of the Foundation.

b) Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Foundation has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and it is not anticipated that significant losses will be incurred over

the period of 12 months from signing the financial statements. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

c) Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the Foundation is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Foundation has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under gift aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

On receipt, donated facilities or gifts in kind are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the Foundation which is the amount the Foundation would be willing to pay to obtain services and facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market, a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the Foundation has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grant have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

d) Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is

probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the Foundation but do not directly undertake charitable activities.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Foundation in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to supply them. Support costs are allocated to their relevant activity based on the income received.

Pension Costs

The Foundation operates a defined contribution scheme for its employees. Contributions are charged to the statement of financial activities in the period to which they relate.

e) Fund accounting

The Foundation has various types of funds for which it is responsible and which require specific disclosure. A definition of the different types is as follows:

Restricted Funds

Restricted funds are to be used for specified purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of overheads and support costs.

Unrestricted Funds

Funds which are expendable at the discretion of the Foundation in furtherance of the purpose of the charity. In addition to expenditure on activities, such funds may be held in order to finance capital investment and working capital.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONTINUED for the year ended 31 December 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUED

f) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks.

g) Foreign currency

The Foundation's functional and presentation currency is sterling.

Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of transactions and from the translation at period-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Foreign exchange gains and losses that relate to borrowings and cash and cash equivalents are presented in the Statement of Financial Activities. Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the spot exchange rates at the dates of the transactions. At each period end foreign currency monetary items are translated using the closing rate.

h) Grants payable

Grants are recognised in the financial statements as liabilities after they have been approved by the trustees even if there are conditions attached to them. This is because there is a valid expectation by the recipients that they will receive the grant.

Where a grant is awarded for a period of greater than one year, future instalments of which are subject to satisfactory reports to the Foundation, the future grant instalments are included in commitments but are not recognised in the financial statements until satisfactory reports are received. This is because the terms on which these grants are awarded do not create a valid expectation of receipt until the Foundation's trustees are satisfied with the reports received on the use made of the previous year's instalments.

i) Financial instruments

The Foundation has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Foundation's balance sheet when the Foundation becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Intangible assets

Intangible assets acquired are capitalised at cost. Subsequent to initial recognition, intangible assets are stated at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment. Intangible assets are amortised on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful life. The carrying value of intangible assets is reviewed for impairment if events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable. The useful economic lives of intangible assets are as follows: Website – 4 years

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes the original purchase price, costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to its working condition for its intended use. Depreciation and residual values Depreciation on assets is calculated, using the straight-line method, to allocate the cost to their residual values over their estimated economic lives, as follows: Fixtures and fittings 20–25%

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical judgements in applying the entity's accounting policies

There are no critical judgements in applying the Foundation's accounting policies.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

There are no critical estimates and assumptions.

3. LEGAL STATUS OF THE FOUNDATION

The Foundation is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £1.

4. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM GENERATED FUNDS

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Contributions from football governing bodies	1,376	1,482
Coaching, education & training	531	488
Sponsorship income	263	344
Grant funding	839	937
Total	3,009	3,251

Grant funding includes contributions from governing bodies totalling £517k (2023: £507k). The contributions supported the delivery of our community-based programmes, volunteering programmes and grassroots football development. The charity has complied with all grant conditions.

5. INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Other income	23	23

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Wages and salaries	1,742	1,815
Events & competitions	50	365
Equipment & facilities	670	585
Grants provided (note 18)	345	239
Total	2,807	3,004

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Wages and salaries	54	107
Administration & professional fees	154	148
Fees payable to the charity's auditors	12	15
Total	220	270

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONTINUED for the year ended 31 December 2024

8. NET (OUTGOING)/INCOMING RESOURCES

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
This is stated after charging:		
Salaries	1,547	1,674
Social security costs	135	137
Other pension costs	114	111
Staff costs	1,796	1,922

9. EMPLOYEES AND DIRECTORS

Employees

The average monthly number of employees employed by the Foundation during the year was:

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Average	51	54

The number of employees whose total remuneration exceeded £60,000 during 2024 was one (2023: one).

Trustees

During the year one trustee (2023: one) received remuneration for their services to the Foundation, as Chief Executive Officer of the Irish FA. The remuneration is paid by the Irish Football Association Limited and is not recharged to the Foundation. It is not possible to make an accurate apportionment of the remuneration in respect of services to the Irish FA.

Key management compensation

The compensation paid or payable to key management for employee services is shown below

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Key management compensation	260	240

£164k of Key Management Compensation was paid, and not recharged to the Irish FA Foundation Limited, by the Irish Football Association Limited (2023: £154k)..

10. TANGIBLE ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings
	£000
Cost or valuation:	
At 1 January 2024	23
Additions	5
At 31 December 2024	28
Accumulated depreciation:	
At 1 January 2024	1
Charge for the year	5
At 31 December 2024	6
Net book value:	
At 31 December 2024	22
At 31 December 2023	22

11. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	Website
	£000
Cost or valuation:	
At 1 January 2024	-
Additions	35
At 31 December 2024	35
Accumulated depreciation:	
At 1 January 2024	-
Charge for the year	-
At 31 December 2024	-
Net book value:	
At 31 December 2024	35
At 31 December 2023	-

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONTINUED for the year ended 31 December 2024

12. DEBTORS

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Trade debtors	67	37
Amounts owed by related parties	1,030	1,358
Prepayments and accrued income	858	671
Total	1,955	2,066

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Trade creditors	58	68
Accruals and deferred income	238	329
Other taxation and social security	89	52
Total	385	449

Deferred income relates to fundraising income and contributions from governing bodies recognised over more than one financial year in accordance with the accounting policy stated in note 1.

14. DEFERRED INCOME

	At 1 January 2024	Amounts released in the year	Additional amounts recognised	At 31 December 2024
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Contributions from football governing bodies	70	(1,376)	1,306	-
Coaching, education & training	32	(531)	538	39
Sponsorship income	28	(263)	293	58
Grant funding	45	(839)	799	5
Total	175	(3,009)	2,936	102

15. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Foundation has the following financial instruments:

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Financial assets held at amortised cost		
Trade debtors	1,104	1,395
Accrued income	819	633
Total	1,923	2,028

Financial liabilities held at amortised cost

Trade creditors	58	68
Accruals	136	153
Total	194	221

16. TAXATION

The Foundation is a registered charity and, as such, is entitled to certain tax exemptions on income and profits from investments and surpluses on any trading activities carried on in furtherance of the Foundation's primary objectives, if these profits and surpluses are applied solely for charitable purposes.

17. ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS

Unrestricted Funds

	£000
At 1 January 2024	1,653
Coaching, education and training	531
Other trading activities	23
Net outgoing resources before transfers	-
Transfer to restricted funds	(549)
At 31 December 2024	1,658

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONTINUED for the year ended 31 December 2024

17. ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Restricted Funds

	£000
At 1 January 2024	-
Contributions from governing bodies	1,376
Sponsorship income	263
Grant funding	839
Net outgoing resources before transfers	(3,027)
Transfer from unrestricted funds	549
At 31 December 2024	-

A transfer between funds is performed to relocate sufficient unrestricted funds to ensure that there is no overspend on the restricted fund for the year.

18. GRANTS PROVIDED

The Irish FA Foundation Limited provides grants to support the development and delivery of grassroots football across Northern Ireland. Grants are made to a range of delivery partners to support the Foundation's charitable aims, including increasing participation, improving access, and promoting inclusivity within football.

Category of Recipient	Purpose of grant	2024 £000	2023 £000
Local Football Governing Bodies	Support for community and youth football delivery and regional coordination	112	72
Grassroots Football	Coach education grants	27	3
Disability Football	Programmes promoting access and inclusion in football	11	6
Women's Football	Development of female participation and talent pathways	102	77
Programme Delivery Partners	Collaboration on education, health, and social inclusion initiatives	93	81
Total Grants to Organisations		345	239

No support costs were allocated to grants provided.

19. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

At 31 December 2024

	2024 Restricted Funds £000	2024 Unrestricted Funds £000	2024 Total Funds £000	2023 Restricted Funds £000	2023 Unrestricted Funds £000	2023 Total Funds £000
Net assets	-	1,658	1,658	-	1,653	1,653
Total	-	1,658	1,658	-	1,653	1,653

20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS AND ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

Transactions with related parties included:

- Transactions with the Irish Football Association Limited of £1,362k (2023: £862k).
- Amounts receivable at the year-end of £1,030k (2023: £1,359k) due from the Irish Football Association Limited.
- Amounts payable at the year-end of £9k (2023: £5k) due to the IFA Stadium Development Company Limited.
- Purchases at normal market prices totalling £2k (2023: £2.7k) were made from Tri-sport Trophies Limited, who are controlled by a family member of a current trustee. The balance outstanding at 31 December 2024 was nil (2023: £0.08k).

Key management personnel include the senior management team. Total key management personnel compensation was £260k (2023: £240k).

21. LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

Irish FA Foundation Limited is a company limited by guarantee. The liability of the members is limited to an amount not exceeding £1.

22. FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

There were no financial commitments as at 31 December 2024 (31 December 2023: none).



Registered number: NI642595
Charity Commission number: NIC 106229
Inland Revenue Charity number: NI00616

Directors/Trustees

David Martin (Chairman)
Patrick Nelson
Allen McKinstry
Ryan Adams
Alan Willis
Róisín Wood OBE

Company Secretary

Rebekah Shearer

Registered Office

The National Football Stadium
at Windsor Park
Donegall Avenue
Belfast
BT12 6LU

Bankers

Ulster Bank
91-93 University Road
Belfast
BT7 1NG

Solicitors

A&L Goodbody
42-46 Fountain Street
Belfast
BT1 5EF

King & Gowdy
298 Upper Newtownards Road
Belfast
BT4 3EJ

Independent Auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers (Northern Ireland) LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
Merchant Square
20-22 Wellington Place
Belfast
BT1 6GE



Irish FA Foundation Limited

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106229

Accounts

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	2023			2022		
		Restricted Funds £000	Un-restricted Funds £000	Total Funds 2023 £000	Restricted Funds £000	Un-restricted Funds £000	Total Funds 2022 £000
Incoming resources							
Incoming resources from generated funds							
Contributions from governing bodies	4	1,482	-	1,482	1,478	-	1,478
Coaching, education and training		-	488	488	-	526	526
Sponsorship income		344	-	344	312	-	312
Grant funding		937	-	937	1,313	-	1,313
Income from other trading activities							
Income from other trading activities	5	-	23	23	-	46	46
Total incoming resources/income		2,763	511	3,274	3,103	572	3,675
Resources expended/expenditure							
Charitable activities							
Charitable activities	6	(3,004)	-	(3,004)	(3,289)	-	(3,289)
Support costs							
Support costs	7	(270)	-	(270)	(269)	-	(269)
Total resources expended/expenditure		(3,274)	-	(3,274)	(3,558)	-	(3,558)
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(511)	511	-	(455)	572	117
Transfer between funds		511	(511)	-	455	(455)	-
Net movement in funds		-	-	-	-	117	117
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		-	1,653	1,653	-	1,536	1,536
Total funds carried forward		-	1,653	1,653	-	1,653	1,653

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

CHARITY BALANCE SHEET

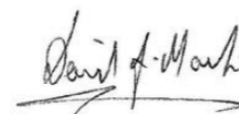
Registered No. NI642595

at 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 £000	2022 £000
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	22	-
Current assets			
Debtors	11	2,066	2,373
Cash and cash equivalents		14	122
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(449)	(842)
Net current assets		1,631	1,653
Net assets		1,653	1,653
The funds of the charity			
Unrestricted funds	16	1,653	1,653
Restricted funds	16	-	-
Total funds		1,653	1,653

The notes on pages 81 to 89 are an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 78 to 89 were approved by the trustees on 18 April 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



David Martin
Trustee and Chairman
Date: 18 April 2024

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

for the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Cash generated from operating activities		
Net outgoing/(incoming) resources before transfers	-	117
Depreciation of tangible assets	1	-
Movement in debtors	307	218
Movement in creditors	(393)	(854)
Cash outflow from operating activities	(85)	(519)
Cash flow from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible assets	(23)	-
Cash outflow from investing activities	(23)	-
Net decrease in cash in the year	(108)	(519)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	122	641
Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	14	122
	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Cash and cash equivalents consists of:		
Cash and cash equivalents	14	122
Total cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	14	122

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Irish FA Foundation Limited is a private company limited by guarantee, incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is the National Football Stadium at Windsor Park, Donegall Avenue, Belfast, BT12 6LU.

The trustees have agreed with the auditors that the auditor's liability to damages for breach of duty in relation to the audit of the charity's financial statements for the year to 31 December 2023 should be limited to the greater of £5m or 5 times the auditor's fees, and that in any event the auditor's liability for damages should be limited to that part of any loss suffered by the charity as is just and equitable having regard to the extent to which the auditor, the group and any third parties are responsible for the loss in question. The board approved this limited liability agreement, as required by the Companies Act 2006, by a resolution dated 18 April 2024.

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of Preparation

The Foundation's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2015 (Charities SORP (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Irish FA Foundation Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost and transaction

value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s). The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis. Taking account of the risk review undertaken by the Trustees they do not consider there to be a risk to the going concern status of the Foundation.

b) Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Foundation has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and it is not anticipated that significant losses will be incurred over the period of 12 months from signing the financial statements. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

c) Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the Foundation is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Foundation has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under gift aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

On receipt, donated facilities or gifts in kind are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the Foundation which is the amount the Foundation would be willing to pay to obtain services and facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market, a corresponding amount is then recognised in

expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the Foundation has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grant have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

d) Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the Foundation but do not directly undertake charitable activities.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Foundation in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to supply them. Support costs are allocated to their relevant activity based on the income received.

Pension Costs

The Foundation operates a defined contribution scheme for its employees. Contributions are charged to the statement of financial activities in the period to which they relate.

e) Fund accounting

The Foundation has various types of funds for which it is responsible and which require specific disclosure. A definition of the different types is as follows:



1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUED

Restricted Funds

Restricted funds are to be used for specified purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of overheads and support costs.

Unrestricted Funds

Funds which are expendable at the discretion of the Foundation in furtherance of the purpose of the charity. In addition to expenditure on activities, such funds may be held in order to finance capital investment and working capital.

f) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks.

g) Foreign currency

Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of transactions and from the translation at period-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Foreign exchange gains and losses that relate to borrowings and cash and cash equivalents are presented in the Statement of Financial Activities. Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the spot exchange rates at the dates of the transactions. At each period end foreign currency monetary items are translated using the closing rate.

h) Grants payable

Grants are recognised in the accounts as liabilities after they have been approved by the trustees even if there are conditions attached to them. This is because

there is a valid expectation by the recipients that they will receive the grant.

Where a grant is awarded for a period of greater than one year, future instalments of which are subject to satisfactory reports to the Foundation, the future grant instalments are included in commitments but are not recognised in the accounts until satisfactory reports are received. This is because the terms on which these grants are awarded do not create a valid expectation of receipt until the Foundation's trustees are satisfied with the reports received on the use made of the previous year's instalments.

i) Financial instruments

The Foundation has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Foundation's balance sheet when the Foundation becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest

method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical judgements in applying the entity's accounting policies.

3. LEGAL STATUS OF THE FOUNDATION

There are no critical judgements in applying the Foundation's accounting policies.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions.

There are no critical estimates and assumptions.

The Foundation is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £1.

4. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM GENERATED FUNDS

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Contributions from football governing bodies	1,482	1,478
Coaching, education & training	488	526
Sponsorship income	344	312
Grant funding	937	1,313
Total	3,251	3,629

5. INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Other income	23	46

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES EXPENDITURE

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Wages and salaries	1,815	1,607
Events & competitions	365	958
Equipment & facilities	585	526
Grants provided	239	198
Total	3,004	3,289

7. SUPPORT COSTS EXPENDITURE

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Wages and salaries	107	121
Administration & professional fees	148	136
Fees payable to the charity's auditors	15	12
Total	270	269

8. NET (OUTGOING)/INCOMING RESOURCES

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
This is stated after charging:		
Salaries	1,674	1,482
Social security costs	137	142
Other pension costs	111	104
Staff costs	1,922	1,728

9. EMPLOYEES AND DIRECTORS

Employees

The average monthly number of employees employed by the Foundation during the year was:

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Average	54	57

Trustees

During the year no trustee received any emoluments (2022: £Nil).

Key management compensation

The compensation paid or payable to key management for employee services is shown below

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Key management compensation	293	232

£208k of Key Management Compensation was paid, and the charge borne, by the Irish Football Association (2022: £155k).

10. TANGIBLE ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings
	£000
Cost or valuation:	
At 1 January 2023	-
Additions	23
At 31 December 2023	23
Accumulated depreciation:	
At 1 January 2023	-
Charge for the year	1
At 31 December 2023	1
Net book value:	
At 31 December 2023	22
At 31 December 2022	-

11. DEBTORS

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Trade debtors	1,395	2,067
Prepayments and accrued income	671	306
Total	2,066	2,373

12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Trade creditors	68	78
Accruals and deferred income	329	697
Other taxation and social security	52	67
Total	449	842

Deferred income relates to fundraising income and contributions from governing bodies recognised over more than one financial year in accordance with the accounting policy stated in note 1.

13. DEFERRED INCOME

	At 1 January 2023	Amounts released in the year	Additional amounts recognised	At 31 December 2023
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Contributions from football governing bodies	408	(1,482)	1,144	70
Coaching, education & training	27	(937)	942	32
Sponsorship income	49	(344)	323	28
Grant funding	109	(488)	424	45
Total	593	(3,251)	2,833	175

14. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Foundation has the following financial instruments:

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Financial assets held at amortised cost		
Trade debtors	1,395	2,067
Accrued income	633	165
Total	2,028	2,232

Financial liabilities held at amortised cost

Trade creditors	68	78
Accruals	153	104
Total	221	182

15. TAXATION

The Foundation is a registered charity and, as such, is entitled to certain tax exemptions on income and profits from investments and surpluses on any trading activities carried on in furtherance of the Foundation's primary objectives, if these profits and surpluses are applied solely for charitable purposes.

16. ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS

Unrestricted Funds

	£000
At 1 January 2023	1,653
Coaching, education and training	488
Other trading activities	23
Net outgoing resources before transfers	-
Transfer to restricted funds	(511)
At 31 December 2023	1,653

16. ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Restricted Funds

	£000
At 1 January 2023	-
Contributions from governing bodies	1,482
Sponsorship income	344
Grant funding	937
Net outgoing resources before transfers	(3,274)
Transfer from unrestricted funds	511
At 31 December 2023	-

A transfer between funds is performed to relocate sufficient unrestricted funds to ensure that there is no overspend on the restricted fund for the year.

17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
	£000	£000	£000
Net assets	-	1,653	1,653
Total	-	1,653	1,653

18. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS AND ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

Transactions with related parties included:

- Transactions with the Irish Football Association Limited of £862k (2022: £1,035k).
- Amounts receivable at the year-end of £1,359k (2022: £2,025k) due from the Irish Football Association Limited.
- Amounts payable at the year-end of £5k (2022: £0.4k) due to the IFA Stadium Development Company Limited.
- Purchases at normal market prices totalling £2.7k (2022: £1.4k) were made from Tri-sport Trophies Limited, who are controlled by a family member of a current trustee. The balance outstanding at 31 December 2023 was £0.08k (2022: £Nil).

19. LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

Irish Football Association Ltd is a company limited by guarantee. The liability of the members is limited to an amount not exceeding £1.

20. FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

There were no financial commitments as at 31 December 2023 (31 December 2022: none).

Irish FA Foundation Limited

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106229

Annual report



FOUNDATION

2023



Annual Report
& Financial Statements

Irish FA Foundation Limited
For the year ended 31 December 2023
Company number: NI642595





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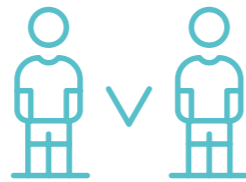


TRUSTEES' REPORT



ANNUAL IMPACT (MOVEMENT FROM PRIOR YEAR)

85,563
[+3%]



REGISTERED FOOTBALL PLAYERS

55,776
[+5%]



REGISTERED YOUTH PLAYERS

29,787
[+1%]



REGISTERED ADULT PLAYERS

74,122
[+2%]



MALE PLAYERS

11,441
[+11%]



FEMALE PLAYERS

1,650
[+1%]



DISABILITY CLUB MEMBERS

1,041
[+17%]



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PARTICIPANTS

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT



The Foundation remains committed to its role in promoting diversity and inclusion across the football community.

On behalf of the Irish FA Foundation Limited (Foundation) Board Members, it is with great pleasure that I present the Foundation Annual Report for 2023.

I extend my sincere gratitude to the Foundation Board members for their leadership and guidance, and to the Foundation staff for their tireless efforts and dedication.

One of the standout moments of the year was the unprecedented success of our Powerchair Football Team at the FIPFA Powerchair Football World Cup in Australia.

The triumph of our players on the global stage not only brought success to Northern Ireland but also served as a testament to the power of determination, resilience and inclusivity in football. We extend our thanks to the players, coaching staff and all those involved in supporting the Powerchair Team.

The Foundation remains committed to its role in promoting diversity and inclusion across the football community.

This year, our initiatives targeting Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities, as well as our work with refugee groups, have resulted in significant positive impacts. Through football, we are breaking down barriers and providing opportunities for individuals from diverse backgrounds to participate, enjoy and benefit from football.

We are also proud to report substantial progress in our efforts to advance women's and girls' football. Through various programmes and initiatives, such as Shooting Stars and Disney Playmakers, the Foundation continues to promote unique opportunities for girls.

Our objective to grow football participation across the game remains firm. Using various forms of flexible football formats, we are committed to offering football to all.

With a lot achieved during 2023 and ambitious plans for 2024, we are deeply grateful to volunteers who are the heartbeat of clubs and communities. Together we have made significant strides in schools, clubs and communities across Northern Ireland.

In closing, we look forward to the challenges and opportunities that the coming year holds. Together, we are building a legacy that extends beyond the pitch; promoting, fostering and developing football for all in Northern Ireland.

David Martin
Trustee and Chairman
Date: 18 April 2024



DIRECTOR OF FOUNDATION DEVELOPMENT UPDATE



“Moving into 2024, we have positioned ourselves to better serve schools, clubs and communities across Northern Ireland.”

As we reflect on the achievements and progress made by the Foundation over the past year, I am delighted to present our Annual Report for 2023.

It has been a year of transformative change, growth and implementation of strategic initiatives that have further solidified our commitment to promoting, fostering and developing football for all.

Foundation Restructure: Building a Stronger Foundation

The cornerstone of this year's success lies in the comprehensive staff restructuring undertaken to optimise our operations and better align with our mission, vision and purpose.

The restructuring has resulted in a more streamlined structure, enhancing our ability to respond effectively to the needs of the football community.

Our dedicated staff members have shown resilience and adaptability, ensuring a smooth transition during this period. Moving into 2024, we have positioned ourselves to better serve schools, clubs and communities across Northern Ireland.

Youth Football Review: Maximise Enjoyment & Technical Development

One of the key highlights of the year was the successful launch of our Youth Football Review. The review focused on assessing and enhancing youth football structures.

The review has allowed us to identify areas for improvement, outline best practices and develop partnerships to create a more robust and inclusive youth football environment. Through the review, we want to maximise enjoyment and technical development for every child.

We extend our appreciation to the numerous coaches, administrators and volunteers who actively participated in this review, providing valuable insights and feedback.

Outcomes-Based Accountability: Focused Impact for Legacy

To highlight our commitment to accountability and impact, the Foundation has successfully implemented an outcomes-based accountability framework. This approach ensures that our efforts translate into tangible and measurable results.

By aligning our initiatives with clear and measurable outcomes, we are better positioned to track progress, assess impact and make informed decisions for continuous improvement.

Finally, I want to express my appreciation to all stakeholders, staff members, partners, and supporters who have been instrumental in our journey over the past year. Your unwavering commitment to developing the Foundation and football has been the driving force behind our success.

We are excited about the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead and remain committed to promoting, fostering and developing football for all in Northern Ireland.

James Thompson
Director of Foundation Development
Date: 18 April 2024



PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT



PUBLIC BENEFIT IS AT THE HEART OF ALL FOUNDATION ACTIVITIES.



The Irish FA Foundation Limited (Foundation) has complied with its duty under the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

The trustees are fully aware of the requirements of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland and are operating entirely within the legislation. It is the opinion of the trustees that this report demonstrates how the Foundation provides public benefit.

Public benefit is at the heart of all Foundation activities. As a prominent charitable organisation in Northern Ireland the Foundation is committed to advancing its charitable objectives and delivering meaningful impact to all individuals and communities across the country. Our dedication to public benefit is reflected throughout this Annual Report and is demonstrated in the programmes and activities highlighted along with the impact figures provided.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

Football for All – the Foundation is committed to Football for All and continuously work to increase opportunities for all sections of the community in Northern Ireland.

Education and employment – the Foundation has continued to deliver interventions for individuals to advance their education and employment opportunities through football.

Club and community – there has been a continued focus on club and community football development, including in areas of social and economic deprivation.

Health and wellbeing – the Foundation has continued to develop and deliver a range of programmes for the health and wellbeing of communities in Northern Ireland.

Community engagement – the Foundation works with all sections of the community across Northern Ireland to deliver benefit irrespective of religious (or other) backgrounds.



FOUNDATION OVERVIEW

MISSION

To promote, foster and develop football for all in Northern Ireland

VISION

To inspire every person in Northern Ireland








VALUES

Progressive	Inclusive	Transparent	Collaborative	Healthy & Safe	Excellence	Socially Responsible
-------------	-----------	-------------	---------------	----------------	------------	----------------------

PURPOSE

Build Capacity: Leave a legacy in every school, club and community

IRISH FA CORPORATE STRATEGY 2022 - 2027

 Performance	 Participation	 Facilities	 Revenue	 Engagement	 Women's and Girls' Football	 Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) & Sustainability
--	---	---	--	---	--	---

OBJECTIVES

Increase participation in flexible football formats	Advance education by providing extracurricular support, work experience and career development	Develop local clubs and community football provision	Advance health and well-being of the people of Northern Ireland
---	--	--	---

PROGRAMMES

Let Them Play	School-Club Link	League Accreditation	Volunteers
Community Football	School Quality Mark	Club Accreditation	Ahead of the Game
Inclusive Football	Education & Employability	Girls Only	Community Relations

A YEAR IN REVIEW



Schools Cup final



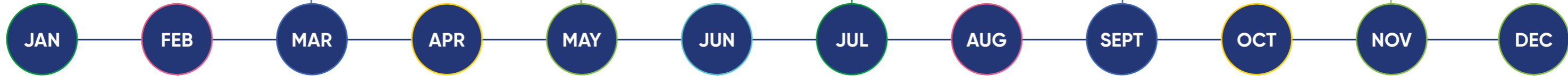
Sports Inspire Awards



Ahead of the Game - Youth



McDonald's Grassroots Awards



Fresh Start Through Sport



George Best Community Cup



Foundation restructure



Safeguarding Policy & Procedures launched



UEFA Unity Euro Cup



Youth Football Review



Disney Playmakers extension

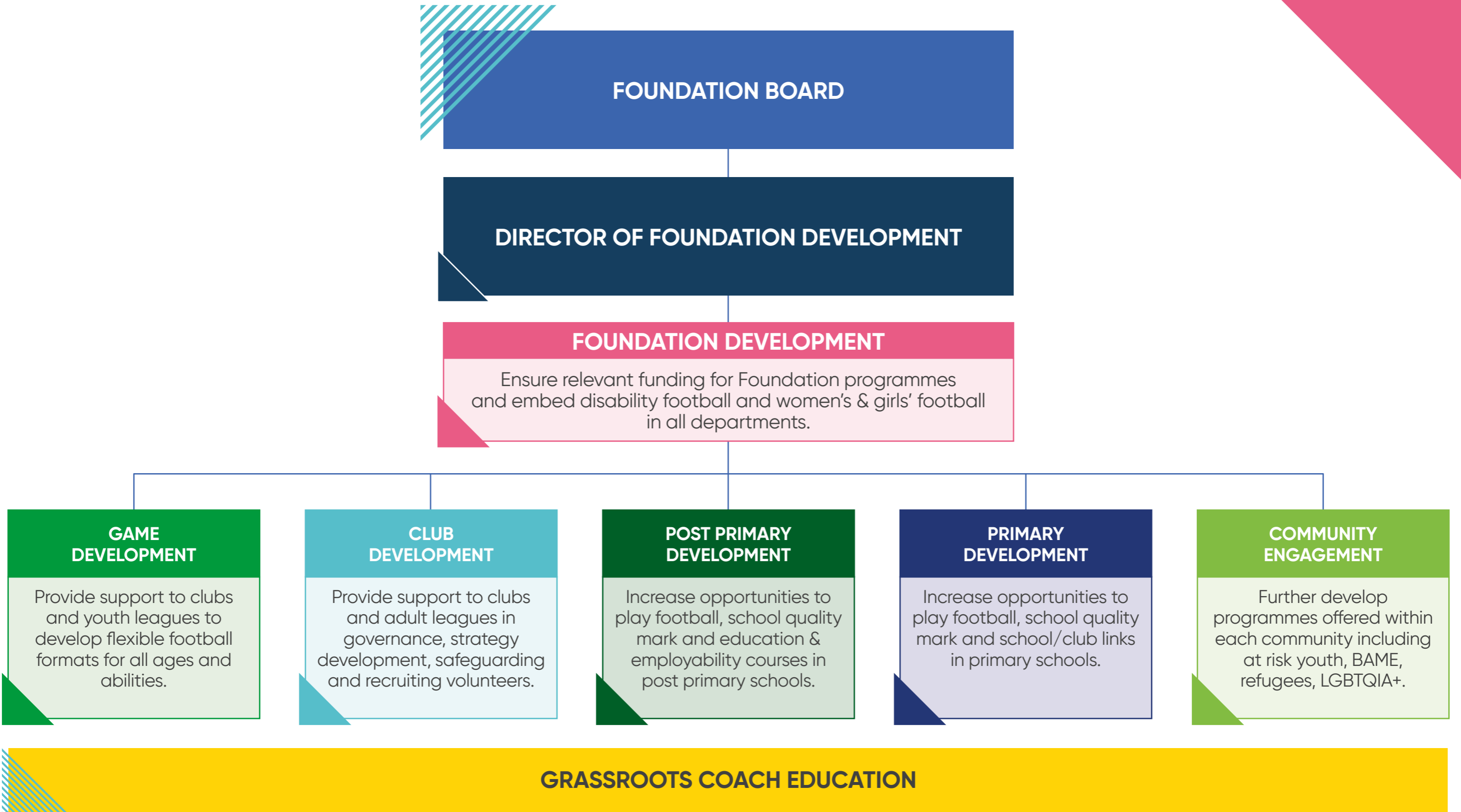


KickOff@3 tournament

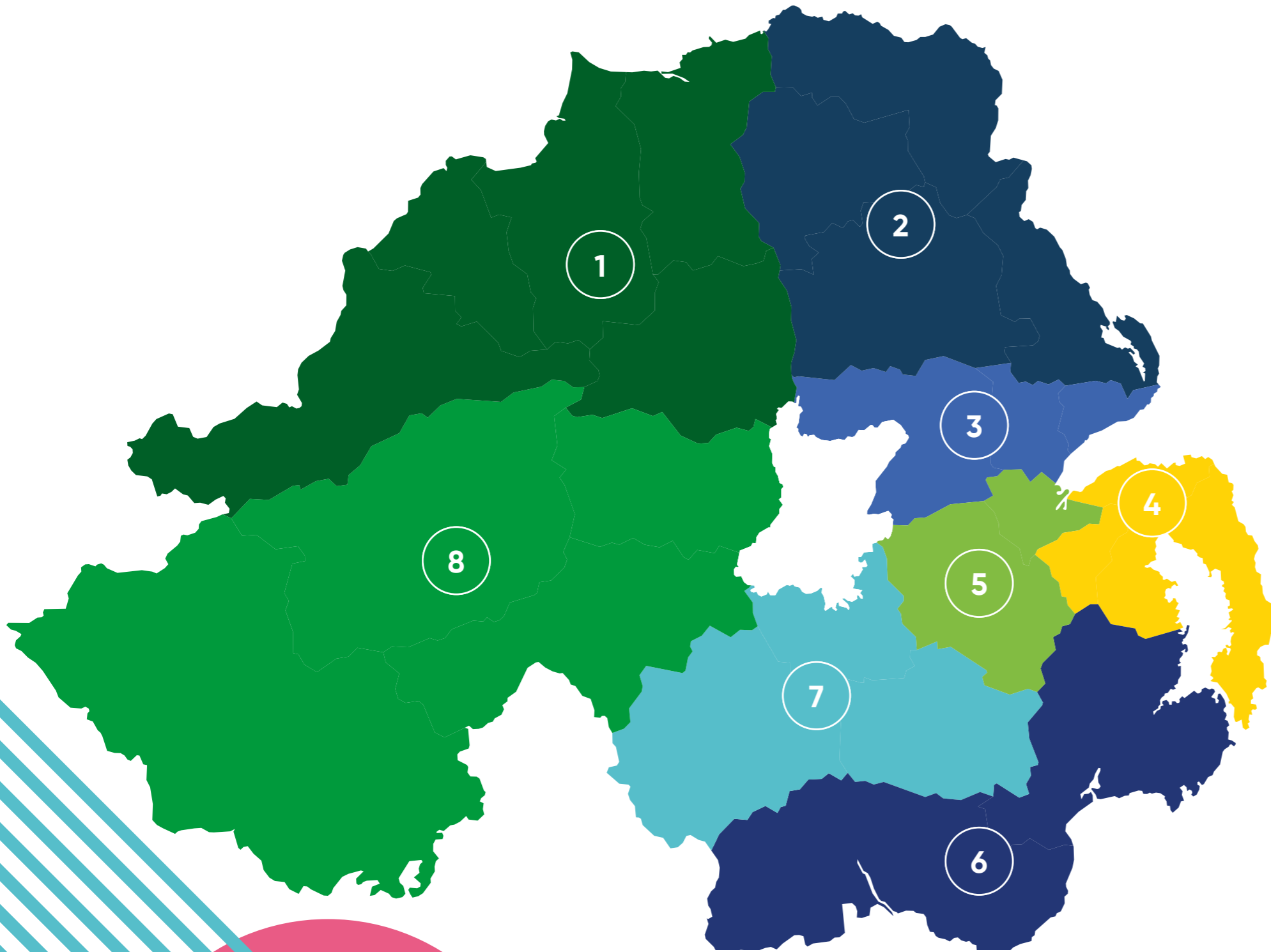


Powerchair World Cup

FOUNDATION STRUCTURE



REGIONAL MAP



- 1 NORTH WEST**
Derry/Londonderry, Limavady, Magherafelt, Strabane, Castleberg, Dungiven
- 2 NORTH EAST**
Coleraine, Ballymoney, Ballymena, Moyle, Larne, Ballycastle, Portrush
- 3 SOUTH & EAST ANTRIM**
North Belfast, Antrim, Newtownabbey, Carrickfergus
- 4 NORTH DOWN**
East Belfast, Castlereagh, Ards and North Down, Bangor, Hollywood
- 5 LAGAN**
West Belfast, South Belfast, Lisburn, Hillsborough
- 6 NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN**
- 7 ARMAGH, BANBRIDGE AND CRAIGAVON**
- 8 SOUTH WEST**
Fermanagh, Omagh, Cookstown, Dungannon, Clougher, Aghnacloy, Kesh

BOARD



DAVID MARTIN
Trustee and Chairman
Appointed: September 2021

David is a lifelong servant of amateur football in Northern Ireland. He has served as Treasurer of the country's largest league, the Northern Amateur League, since 1980. He became a member of the Irish FA Council in 1981, serving the association committees in every area of the game before being elected to the role of Association President from 2016 to 2021.

David was elected to the FIFA Council as Vice-President representing the four British National Associations (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales) from 2021-2023.

He is the Foundation Board representative on the Association's Sustainability Committee and also acts as a Special Advisor to the UEFA Youth and Amateur Committee.

Before his retirement, David was the owner of a successful sports trophy business.



ALLEN MCKINSTRY
Trustee
Appointed: April 2017

Allen is a retired Senior Vice Principal of RBAI. Following his retirement from teaching in August 2015, he acted as coordinator for the South Belfast Area Learning Community until 2022. Since 2017 Allen has been Senior Exams Invigilator at QUB and has been a member of the CCEA Independent Appeals Committee since 2023.

Allen was formerly Chair of the Irish FA Board, Football, Youth and Audit & Risk Committees. He was also Chair of the Licensing Committee from 2003-2023. Within schools' football, he represented Northern Ireland Schools' Football Association (NISFA) on the Irish FA Council from 1994 -2011 and was former Hon. Secretary and Chairman of the NISFA and Schools' Association Football International Board. Allen was previously a Governor of RBAI, Ballyclare High and Ballyclare Primary Schools.



RYAN ADAMS
Trustee
Appointed: July 2019

Ryan is a qualified solicitor and sports lawyer. He is currently Head of Legal at the United Rugby Championship, the multi-national professional rugby union league. Prior to this he was Senior Legal Counsel at NBC Sports Group, advising their international golf media and technology businesses. Alongside his non-executive directorship with the Foundation, he is a member of the Irish FA Audit & Risk Committee (ARC) and has an advisory role with the Northern Ireland Futsal Federation (NIFF).

He has amassed 15+ years experience advising and working within sport in various roles spanning disciplinary, safeguarding and ethics, including with England Boxing, International MMA Federation and the West Riding County FA.



PATRICK NELSON
Trustee
Appointed: December 2016

Patrick Nelson has been CEO of the Irish Football Association since August 2009. As well as his position on the Foundation Board, he is also a director of the Association's subsidiary stadium management company and of the International Football Association Board (IFAB), the organisation which sets the Laws of the Game worldwide for football. Prior to joining the Association, Patrick was CEO at both Macclesfield Town and Notts County Football Clubs.

He holds an honours degree in Business Studies from Nottingham Trent University and a master's degree in European Sports Governance from the Institute of Political Studies in Paris.

Patrick was appointed as a Visiting Professor in the School of Sport at Ulster University from February 2020.

In June 2023, Patrick was appointed as Chair of the National Trust Regional Advisory Group for Northern Ireland. Additionally in January 2024 Patrick was appointed Vice Chair of the Forever Mournes Project Board. Forever Mournes members are the National Trust, Northern Ireland Water, the Mourne Heritage Trust and the Woodland Trust.



ALAN WILLIS
Trustee
Appointed: October 2020

Alan is a retired Civil Servant. He has been involved with the grassroots/amateur game for over 50 years both as a player and an administrator. Alan has been a member of the Mid Ulster Football Association Council for 30 years, previously acting as secretary and chairman of the Association. He is also a serving member of the Mid Ulster Football League. Prior to his appointment to the Foundation Board, Alan was a director of the Irish Football Association Board from 2011-2020. He is also a former member of the Association's Football Committee.

Outside of football, Alan has volunteered under the 'Time to Read Programme' which assists in helping primary school children improve their reading skills. He is also a keen cyclist and has been involved in a number of charity events, including raising funds for Northern Ireland Childrens Hospice.



RÓISÍN WOOD OBE
Trustee
Appointed: August 2023

Róisín is the Chief Executive Officer of The Community Foundation for Northern Ireland, Northern Ireland's largest independent grant making organisation. Prior to this Róisín was Chief Executive Officer of Kick It Out, English football's equality and inclusion organisation.

Róisín currently chairs the National League's Strategic Review Group and is a member of their Ethics Committee. She was also awarded an honorary Fellowship from UCBB and Global Institute of Sport.

Róisín was recently appointed as a Fellow for the Centre for Democracy and Peace Building. As an advocate for positive social change, she continues to drive initiatives that will have a lasting impact on communities and individuals across Northern Ireland.

Awarded an OBE in 2018 for services to tackling discrimination in football, in October 2020 Róisín took on a new challenge as an Inclusive Leadership Consultant, highlighting her passion and commitment towards an inclusive society.

GOVERNANCE

FINANCIAL REVIEW

For the year ended 31 December 2023 the Foundation had a total income of £3,274k (2022: £3,675k) and total reserves at the end of the year of £1,653k (2022: £1,653k).

RESERVES POLICY

A financial target of the Foundation is to hold reserves equal to the anticipated operating expenditure for a normal six-month period.

PRINCIPAL FUNDING SOURCES

For the year ended 31 December 2023 the principal sources of funding for the Foundation were as follows:

- Sponsorship from partner organisations in the private sector, such as McDonald's and M&S
- Income from education and coaching activities
- Grant funding from partner organisations in the sporting sector including UEFA and FIFA
- Grant funding from partners in the public sector, including Department for Communities, Department for Education and Sport Northern Ireland
- Grant funding from partners in the philanthropic and charitable sectors

INVESTMENT POLICY AND OBJECTIVES

The Foundation takes a risk averse view on investment of cash reserves and as such maintains a regular current account with a major high street bank in which all funds are held.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the Foundation is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The trustees are aware of potential internal and external risks faced by the Foundation and assess those risks on a regular basis. Additionally they undertake a formal risk management exercise annually.

The key risks at the present time relate to the health and safety of participants in the Foundation's activities and the safeguarding of children and young people that are involved in the Foundation's activities. The Foundation has appropriate policies in place to manage these identified risks and all staff receive training to embed these policies in the day-to-day activities.

Other risks and emerging risks are monitored by the Foundation and relevant controls implemented to manage these risks in line with the Foundation's risk appetite set by the Board.

Management's going concern assessment has taken into consideration the current financial position and principal risks facing the entity, and consider that there is no material uncertainty relating to going concern.

The key judgments and estimates used to arrive at this conclusion include:

- The Foundation has sufficient liquidity and cash flow availability on an ongoing basis
- Confirmed visibility from UEFA and FIFA on their financing programmes

- Support from various levels of government, including financial assistance
- Mitigating actions and processes implemented to ensure an effective control environment and availability of relevant management information on a continuing basis

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The Foundation's 'Football For All' ethos is to create an environment in which all stakeholders - staff, participants and the wider community - has equal, dignified ease of access to our organisation, services and facilities. The Foundation aims to be inclusive, supportive, fair and free from discrimination and to actively promote equality and diversity and ensure that the legislation and policy requirements within the nine protected characteristics of equality and diversity are implemented into all working practices.

EMPLOYEES WITH DISABILITIES

Applications for employment by disabled persons are always considered fully, bearing in mind the aptitudes of the applicant concerned. It is the policy of the Foundation that the training, career development and promotion of disabled people should, as far as possible, be identical to that of other employees. So, in the event that a member of staff becomes disabled, we will make every effort to ensure that their employment with the Foundation continues. This includes making any proper adjustments necessary to accommodate their disability.

Director	Jan	Feb (extraordinary meeting)	Apr	Jun	Aug	Oct	Dec
David Martin	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Patrick Nelson	○	●	●	○	●	●	●
Alan Willis	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Allen McKinstry	●	○	●	●	●	●	●
Ryan Adams	●	●	○	○	●	○	○
Clare McAuley ¹	○	○					
Roisin Wood ²						○	●

Attended ● Absent ○

¹Resigned 14 March 2023

²Appointed 24 August 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Irish FA Foundation is managed and controlled by its trustees who sit as its Board of Directors. The Board is made up of six members, three of which are appointed following public advertisement and the remaining three are nominated by the sole member (Irish FA). In accordance with the Articles of Association the three members nominated by the Association cannot hold a directorship at the Irish FA at the same time as being a trustee and director of the Foundation.

The Irish FA Senior Leadership Team provide executive day-to-day management functions for the Foundation and the Chief Executive of the Irish FA, who is not a director of the Irish FA, sits as one of the Irish FA nominees on the Foundation Board.

The Foundation operates within the governance framework of the Charity Commission and the Irish FA. Detailed descriptions and explanations of the Irish FA corporate governance environment are available in its Annual Report and Financial Statements.

INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

The trustees receive an induction upon appointment to the Board and undertake regular training and development. The Board convenes sessions to review governance practice and enhance professional competence required for the role of trustee.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

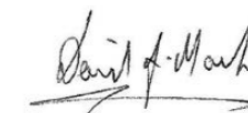
All service by Board trustees is on a voluntary basis, with time and expertise freely donated to the work of the Foundation. The Board continued to strengthen performance through recruitment, evaluation, and training. We thank them for their continuing input and support.

BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are planned six times per year to discuss and agree on various strategic matters. The Chairman, in conjunction with the Irish FA CEO and the Company Secretary, plans an annual programme of business prior to the start of each financial year. This ensures that essential topics are covered at appropriate times, and

that space is built in to give the Board the opportunity to have in-depth discussions on key issues.

The programme of business is prepared in conjunction with the annual programme for the Senior Leadership Team meetings, to ensure consistency and fluid reporting to the Board as and when required. All Trustees are expected to attend all Board meetings and details of attendance at meetings during the year are set out in this section. Trustees who were unable to attend specific meetings reviewed the relevant papers and provided their comments to the Chairman of the Board. Any Trustee who misses a meeting will, as a matter of course, receive the minutes of that meeting for reference.



David Martin
Trustee and Chairman
Date: 18 April 2024

OBJECTIVES & IMPACT





Objective

01

To advance amateur football, youth football, schools' football and futsal in accordance with the remit of the Irish Football Association, for the benefit of the general public in any part of Northern Ireland.

Featured programmes:

- Let Them Play
- Community Football
- Inclusive Football



LET THEM PLAY

Aim:

Increase participation in schools by building capacity within schools to offer football.



Guided by the [2022-2025 Schools Strategy](#), the programme was developed in 2023 to get more schools playing football.

In 2023, there were an additional eight primary schools and three post primary schools that offered football.

Over 220 primary schools participated in regional festivals while 155 post primary schools played in cups and competitions.

The Foundation works with regional school committees (primary and post primary) to identify schools that currently do not offer football. Each school identified then works with the Foundation to understand what age and flexible football format they want to develop.

In 2023, the Foundation put 52 teachers through the National Coaching Certification (NCC), bringing the total to date to 408, and provided equipment packs with an estimated total value of £16,000 to schools.

To develop initial interest for football in schools, the Foundation offer multiple programmes that combine education and football. All programmes are designed to be practical, fun and setup to engage with pupils both inside and outside of the classroom. In 2023 these included:

- [Grassroots & Football Books](#)
- [SafeFood](#)
- [Learning with a ball](#)
- [Disney Playmakers](#)
- [Education & Employability](#)

Once the school has established a football team, they would be encouraged to play games with local schools in festival formats. Post primary schools (once ready), would be encouraged to enter their regional school league and/or national cup competition.

In partnership with UEFA, in 2023 specific resource support was made available to 32 special schools to ensure that there is an opportunity to play football. In total, there were 576 coaching sessions and 32 equipment packs (£1,700 value) that were provided to special schools by the Foundation.



Total Impact (year on year change):

220 (+4%)



PRIMARY SCHOOLS

155 (+2%)



POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS

£16,000 (+28%)



EQUIPMENT PACK VALUE

32 (0%)



SPECIAL SCHOOLS

408 (+15%)



TOTAL TEACHERS NCC QUALIFIED

COMMUNITY FOOTBALL



Aim:

Increase participation within councils by building capacity to offer flexible football formats.

Working to ensure that every person in Northern Ireland can access a format of football, the Foundation works with local councils to identify specific needs and address any local or national trends.

In total, there was 85,563 registered football players in 2023.

Utilising the full range of flexible football formats, the Foundation work to ensure that every person in Northern Ireland has access to at least one or multiple forms of football within their local community.

Programmes such as [McDonald's Fun Football](#) (759 participants) and McDonald's Small Sided Games (19,221 players) offer children the opportunity to play football from 6 – 11 years old.

In the summer, a new [M&S Holiday Camp](#) model was adopted to allow for greater numbers of participants per camp with an increase of 40-50% participants per camp. Due to the ongoing Foundation restructure, the total number of camps reduced from 64 in 2022 to 18 in 2023 to allow staff members to transition.

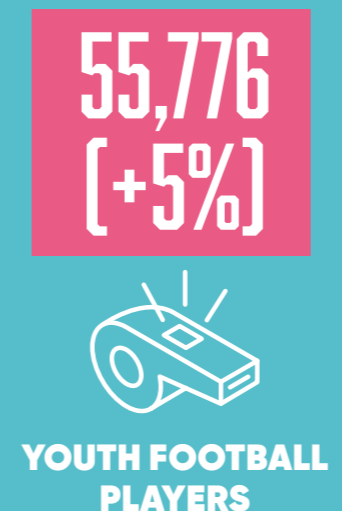
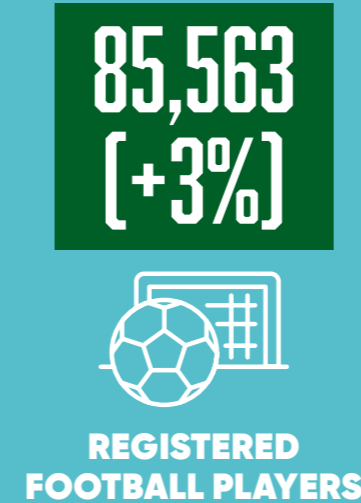
In partnership with the [Northern Ireland Youth Football Association](#) (NIYFA), youth football is growing at the fastest rate ever with now 55,776 youth players registered. Combined, the NIYFA and their 13 affiliated youth leagues facilitate over 10,000 youth games in Northern Ireland annually.

Adult football continues to grow, with 29,787 players registered in 2023. While growth has been recognised in the adult game, a 19% drop out rate was recorded from youth to adult football in 2023. The Foundation will be working to reduce this rate in 2024.

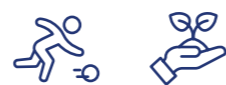
Working with Northern Ireland Futsal Federation, [Futsal](#) participation remains steady, and continues to provide an alternative to traditional football formats. In 2023, there were 25 futsal teams playing across Northern Ireland.



Total Impact (year on year change):



INCLUSIVE FOOTBALL



Strategy Pillars met: **PARTICIPATION** **SUSTAINABILITY & CSR**

Aim:

Develop flexible formats to increase participation across all ability levels.

Due to the restructure of the Foundation, disability and other formats of inclusive football are embedded in every department within the Foundation. This includes disability leagues, club development and inclusive camps.

In 2023, the [McDonald's Fun Football programme](#) expanded to include 21 children with a disability and 109 children from a black, asian and minority ethnic background.

2023 was the second year of the [M&S Autism Friendly Holiday Camps](#). With increased demand, the five camps sold out within days. In total there were 73 participants with each participant encouraged to 'bring a buddy' (a family member or friend that would help them during the camp).

During 2023, disability football continued its upward trend, with now more players than ever playing in both the adult (288 players) and youth (160 players) disability leagues. These leagues provide players the opportunity once a month to play in a round-robin format against teams across Northern Ireland.

The 2023 [George Best Community Cup](#) had a record-breaking year with 620 players from 78 teams from the UK and Ireland. The two-day tournament continues to grow and would not be possible without the support of George Best Foundation and Cash for Kids through the Mary Peters Trust.

In 2023, the Foundation staff also worked with four clubs to develop a disability section. This specifically included club provision for players with developmental and physical disabilities.



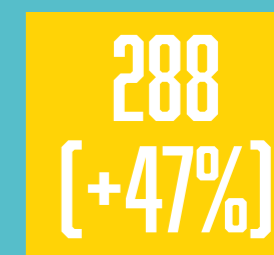
Total Impact (year on year change):



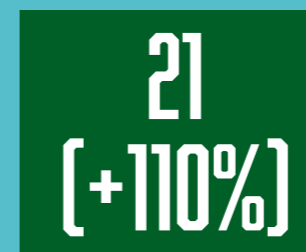
DISABILITY CLUB PLAYERS



YOUTH DISABILITY PLAYERS



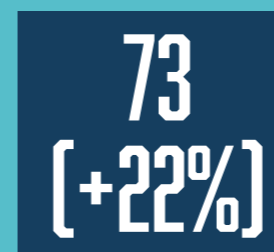
ADULT DISABILITY PLAYERS



MCDONALDS FUN FOOTBALL DISABILITY PARTICIPANTS



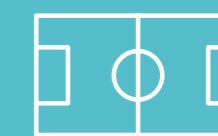
MCDONALDS FUN FOOTBALL BAME PARTICIPANTS



AUTISM FRIENDLY HOLIDAY CAMP PARTICIPANTS



DISABILITY CLUB SECTIONS



GEORGE BEST COMMUNITY CUP PARTICIPANTS

SPOTLIGHT FEATURE

OLLIE DALLAS - INCLUSIVE FOOTBALL



“
**At football
 I feel there is
 no limit and
 everyone is just
 like me**”
 Ollie Dallas





Objective

02

To advance education by providing work experience and support to educational establishments and extra-curricular educational groups (targeting young people including those not in education or employment [NEETs] and areas of social need).

Featured programmes:

School-Club Links

School Quality Mark

Education & Employability



SCHOOL-CLUB LINKS



Strategy Pillars met:

PARTICIPATION

WOMEN'S AND GIRLS' FOOTBALL

SUSTAINABILITY & CSR

Aim:

Develop extracurricular support in schools by establishing links with schools and accredited clubs.

2023 was used to develop a school-club link programme. Identified as a key strategic goal within the **2022-2025 Schools Strategy**, a school-club link acts as a critical intervention to ensure that children playing football in schools continue to play football at their local football club.

Including primary, post primary and special schools, the Foundation will link local schools and clubs together.

A school-club link establishes key roles and responsibilities for both the club and school.

Depending on the nature of the link, roles vary across areas such as resources, facilities and coaching. For example:

- School would enter competitions and festivals
- School would allow the club to use their facilities (vice-versa)
- School would send pupils to volunteer into the club
- Club would send their coaches into the school
- Club would share and use their equipment

A Foundation working group was setup in September 2023 to map out planning and development of the school-club link programme. It has been identified that there will be a clear shift in purpose of the school-club link depending on the school:

- Primary school-club will focus on making sure that children playing in school can go and play in a club
- Post primary school-club links will focus on allowing students a chance to volunteer and play in the club
- Special school-club links will ensure that (if feasible) pupils that want to play football can at their local disability club

The Foundation has setup consultation with clubs and schools to redevelop and refine the programme. Beginning in February 2024, the consultation will include: primary schools, post primary schools, special schools, junior clubs, intermediate clubs and senior clubs.

The school-club link programme will be launched in September 2024.



SCHOOL QUALITY MARK



Strategy Pillars met:

PARTICIPATION **WOMEN'S AND GIRLS' FOOTBALL** **SUSTAINABILITY & CSR**

Aim:

Improve the impact of extracurricular activities by improving the quality of football resources in schools.

Identified with the **2022-2025 School Strategy**, the strategic aim is to engage with special, primary and post primary schools to complete the school quality mark. Foundation staff work with schools that are motivated to develop their football provision.

Developed in 2016, the school quality mark applies to all school types, the components of the award vary considerably. For special and primary schools, the focus is on improving the football offer to all years, while in post primary it is about increasing the quality of football being played.

In 2023, there were two primary schools and four post primary schools that completed the school quality mark, bringing the cumulative totals to 52 primary and 68 post primary schools.

As part of this, there were 11 teachers that completed the NCC, bringing the cumulative total to 147 teachers, and the Foundation provided £3,000 worth of equipment.

Initiated by the Foundation restructure, in September 2023 the Foundation staff launched a review into the programme. The aim of the review was to critically review and to streamline the programme to maximise impact.

As part of the review process, the Foundation has carried out consultation with:

- 3 special schools
- 24 primary schools
- 18 post primary schools
- 1 x UEFA Grassroots Representative
- 2 x Football National Associations

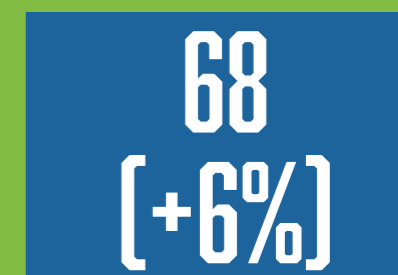
A revised school quality mark will be released in 2024.



Total Impact (year on year change):



PRIMARY SCHOOLS



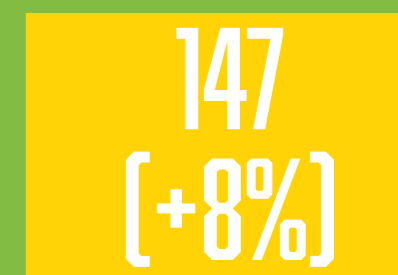
POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS



EQUIPMENT VALUE



SPECIAL SCHOOLS



TEACHERS NCC

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYABILITY



Strategy Pillars met: **SUSTAINABILITY & CSR**

Aim:

Establish greater work experience and career development opportunities in schools through specific coaching and leisure qualifications (BTEC/A-Level).

The **Education and Employability Programme** is designed to give the participants additional qualifications on top of their academic qualifications. In total 535 students have graduated since the programme began in 2021.

In 2023, the Foundation worked with 16 post primary schools and 9 colleges across Northern Ireland. While not all schools/colleges took the full programme, schools are able to create bespoke courses for their students in partnership with the Foundation. 112 students graduated from the full programme in 2023, these students complete a range of football qualifications (approximately £1,200 in value). Examples include:

- Grassroots Intro & National Coaching Certificate**
- Level 1 Futsal Coaching
- Level 1 Disability Coaching
- Refereeing Qualifications
- First Aid Qualifications
- Attend Workshops: performance analysis, football administration and event management.**

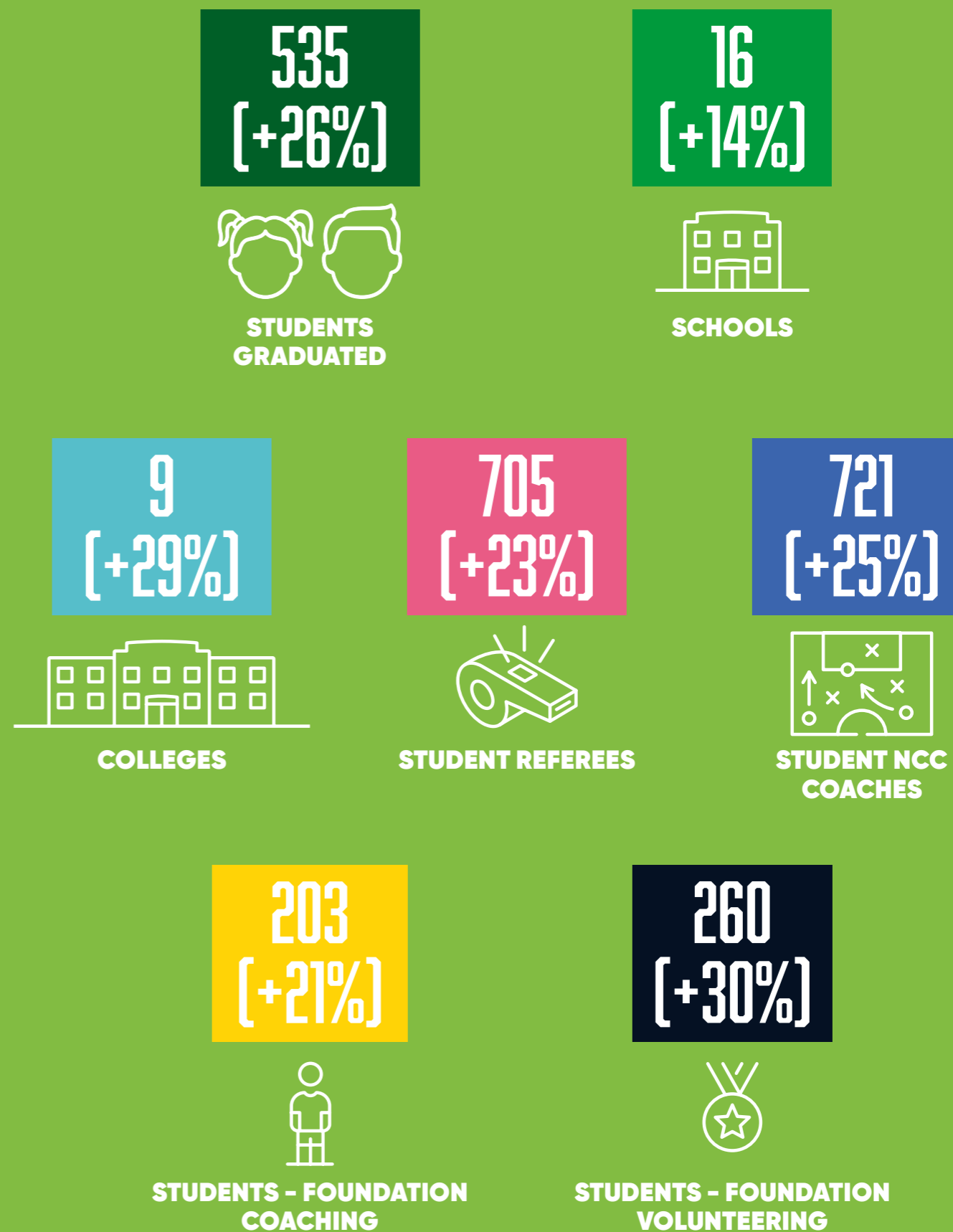
Across all the schools and colleges in 2023, 133 students qualified as a referee, bringing the total to 705, and 145 completed their NCC, bringing the total to 721. All graduating participants were invited into the National Football Stadium at Windsor Park for a tour of the stadium and to receive their certificate.

The programme provides participants with opportunities to use their qualifications and develop new skills by volunteering and/or working on Foundation programmes such as holiday camps or coaching in after-schools. During 2023, 35 students coached and 60 students volunteered within the Foundation, bringing the totals to 203 student coaches and 260 student volunteers. The programme was highlighted by **UEFA during Grassroots Week** illustrating that not only is this a unique programme within Northern Ireland but also across Europe.

As a result of the Foundation restructure, in 2023 the programme staff increased from three to seven staff members. The additional staff resources will help the Foundation to provide greater after-care to students with guidance on further education and employment.



Total Impact (year on year change):



SPOTLIGHT FEATURE

EDUCATION & EMPLOYABILITY



“
**The Irish FA
 Foundation staff
 are very important
 role models for
 our students,
 giving them great
 experience and
 transferable skills
 to take into the
 workplace.**”

Julie Alexander, Lecturer,
 Northern Regional College





Objective

03

To adopt an inclusive approach so that all members of the community have access to our initiatives, regardless of background, gender, religion, politics, race or sexual orientation, in support of the wider charitable objectives of the Irish Football Association.

Featured programmes:

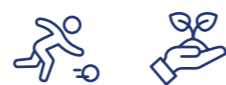
League Accreditation

Club Accreditation

Girls Only



LEAGUE ACCREDITATION



Strategy Pillars met: **PARTICIPATION** **SUSTAINABILITY & CSR**

Aim:

Improve the provision of football by building capacity within adult and youth leagues.

The league accreditation is designed to develop affiliated league administrators across Northern Ireland. This is a new programme to ensure that Foundation resources are attributed to league administrators. It includes:

- 19 Youth Leagues/Committees
- 11 Adult Leagues
- 1 Disability League
- 1 Futsal Leagues

In September 2023, a working group was formed within the Foundation to develop the league accreditation, key considerations include:

- Attracting and retaining skilled volunteers
- Establishing best practices for welfare and safeguarding
- Coach Education
- Parent and Player Education
- Fundraising & Partnership development

Between September – December 2023, Foundation staff members met with each league to better understand what the common trends and themes are. They included:

- Inconsistent approach to application of rules and regulations
- The need and desire to improve social media influence
- Importance of safeguarding and player welfare
- Volunteers access and skills

There are currently no active league accreditations. The working group will complete a pilot in March 2024 and will finish consultation in May 2024. The league accreditation will be launched during 2024.



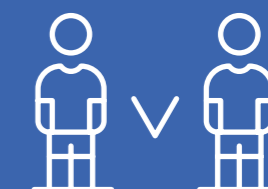
2023 Activity Summary

0



TOTAL LEAGUES ACCREDITED

11/11



ADULT LEAGUES ENGAGED

19/19



YOUTH LEAGUES/ COMMITTEES

1/1



FUTSAL LEAGUES ENGAGED

1/1



DISABILITY LEAGUES ENGAGED

CLUB ACCREDITATION

Aim:

Improve the provision of football by building capacity within clubs.

The club accreditation is designed to recognise clubs who provide their members with great experiences, have a developmental and inclusive environment, follow safeguarding guidelines and link in with their local schools and community.

To date, the Foundation has worked with a range of football clubs to guide and assist them in completing their club accreditation, it included:

- 28 amateur clubs
- 2 women's clubs
- 1 futsal club
- 9 youth clubs

There was also specific provision setup to accredit disability sections of clubs. There were nine clubs that went through this process during 2023.

To make the process as accessible as possible, clubs are granted access to the [People & Clubs Online Portal](#).

Since the development in 2021, the People & Clubs online portal has delivered 20 webinars/workshops to 520 participants, with over 1400 people completing e-learning modules.

The Foundation awarded £40,000 in 2023 to clubs that completed the club accreditation. The bursary is used by clubs to supplement club coaches for further coach education and to purchase equipment.

As a result of the restructure, in 2023, there was a significant increase to the number of Foundation staff deployed to club development, increasing from one to five staff members.

This allowed the Foundation to work with 140 clubs to complete club minimum operating standards.

While not as in-depth as the club accreditation programme, minimum operating standards provide clubs an outline of how to implement clear key principles for sustainability and future development.



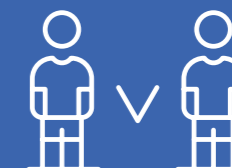
Total Impact (year on year change):

40 (+48%)



CLUBS ACCREDITED

9 (+50%)



YOUTH CLUBS ACCREDITED

28 (+40%)



AMATEUR CLUBS ACCREDITED

2 (+100%)



WOMEN'S CLUBS ACCREDITED

1 (BASELINE)



FUTSAL CLUBS ACCREDITED

9 (+80%)



DISABILITY CLUBS/ SECTIONS ACCREDITED

GIRLS' ONLY

Aim:

Improve the provision of girls' and women's football by developing clubs and girls-only programmes.



Guided by the [Growing the Game - Maximising Impact - Girls' and Women's Strategic Plan 2019 - 2024](#), the Foundation's Girls Only programme is aimed at boosting the development of girls' and women's football.

Overall, there was an 11% increase in total female player registration, the largest increase was in the McDonalds Small Sided Games (u6-u11) with a 19% increase. Youth football female players (u12-u18) also increased significantly by 18%.

Due to a change in recording process of registered adult female players, the total number of players reduced by 12%, however with an annual increase of 17% in adult teams playing, women's football has never been more popular.

The Shooting Stars programme, sponsored by Electric Ireland, looks to create opportunities for girls aged four to eleven by learning through play. In 2023 there were 1,001 Shooting Stars participants.

Also, during the year more than 1,500 girls aged five to eight were introduced to football through the Playmakers programme from [UEFA and Disney](#).

Using Disney's world-famous storytelling, the programme is centred around the positive role of storytelling in helping children to take up sport and to kickstart a lifelong love of football.

The 2023 M&S Holiday Camps provided specific provisions for 519 girls. This included girls-only camp sections and reserved booking spaces.

The Electric Ireland Female Football Leaders programme celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2023, with 135 graduates during this time. The programme has helped, and is helping, to address the low levels of women in key decision-making roles within football.

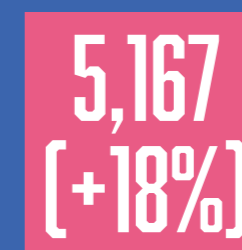
During the 10th anniversary year there were 23 graduates. This included women who are currently playing, volunteering and/or working in football across Northern Ireland.



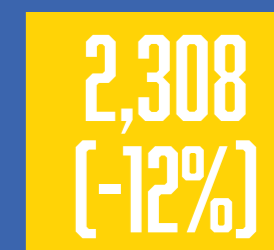
Total Impact (year on year change):



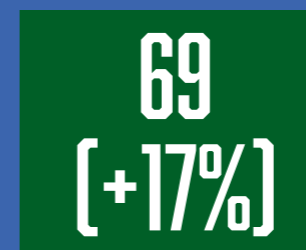
MCDONALDS SMALL SIDED GAMES PARTICIPANTS



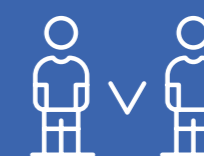
YOUTH FOOTBALL PLAYERS



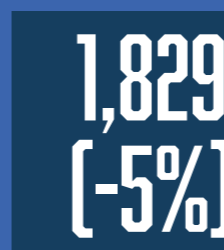
ADULT FOOTBALL PLAYERS



CLUB TEAMS



SHOOTING STARS PARTICIPANTS



DISNEY PLAYMAKERS PARTICIPANTS



HOLIDAY CAMPS PARTICIPANTS



FEMALE FOOTBALL LEADERS PARTICIPANTS

SPOTLIGHT FEATURE

GIRLS ONLY



“
We want to create opportunities throughout the country for young girls to fall in love with the game.
 ”

Marissa Callaghan
 (Northern Ireland senior women's team captain)



Objective

04

To advance the health and wellbeing of the people of Northern Ireland by leading on the development of a Northern Ireland-wide football and positive mental health campaign for men and women.

Featured programmes:

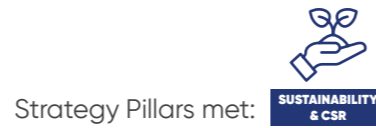
Volunteers

Ahead of the Game

Community Engagement



VOLUNTEERS



Aim:

Provide fun and active volunteer opportunities across football for every person in Northern Ireland.

The Volunteer Team was established in 2014 and is designed to provide mutually beneficial volunteer opportunities across the Northern Ireland football family.

In 2023, the Foundation established a partnership with Be Collective, who boast the biggest network of volunteers in Northern Ireland. In 2023 there were 180 volunteers registered.

All opportunities are posted on the [Irish Football Association Volunteer Team](#) group. Volunteers are provided with regular opportunities as and when they are developed. Examples include:

- International matches and events
- Ticketing
- Heritage centre
- Sensory room
- Disability events
- Local club & league opportunities

Partnering with local businesses, the Foundation provided 228 volunteer opportunities in 2023 across the Foundation programmes. The Foundation also increased the number of Foundation ambassadors to 80.

In partnership with Ulster GAA and Ulster Rugby, the Foundation also hosted the [Sports Inspire Awards](#) in March 2023.

The ceremony recognised the fantastic volunteering work that young people aged between 14 and 24 do in their schools and clubs. Participants are required to keep a record of their volunteering hours and are recognised on achieving 50, 100 or 200 volunteer hours.

A highlight every November is the [McDonald's Irish FA Grassroots Football Awards](#). The awards recognise the incredible work and commitment of football clubs and volunteers within grassroots football, who give up their time to enable the local game to flourish and grow.



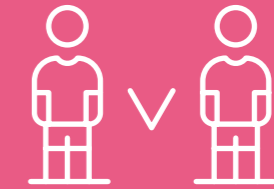
Total Impact (year on year change):

180 (BASELINE)



REGISTERED VOLUNTEERS

80 (+264%)



FOUNDATION AMBASSADORS

228 (BASELINE)



BUSINESS VOLUNTEERS IN FOUNDATION PROGRAMMES

54 (+59%)



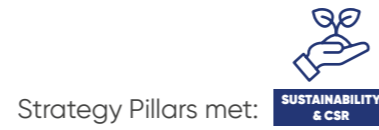
FEMALE VOLUNTEERS

126 (+85%)



MALE VOLUNTEERS

AHEAD OF THE GAME



Aim:

Increase mental health awareness with adults and young people across Northern Ireland.

Launched in 2018, the **Ahead of The Game (AOTG)** programme has been well received with 1,746 participants and 203 clubs and 13 community groups benefiting from the initiative.

Developed in partnership with TAMHI (Tackling Awareness of Mental Health Issues), Inspire, Train 2B Smart Soccer and Sports Chaplaincy UK, the AOTG programme challenges the stigma around mental health, promotes positive mental health and highlights some preventative measures.

In 2023 alone, there were 28 workshops delivered to 426 participants from 55 different clubs. The Foundation also launched an extension of the programme aimed at addressing mental health and emotional wellbeing in **youth football**.

As well as improving participants football skills, participants learn different ways to take care of themselves physically and mentally while building emotional resilience. Each enjoy a range of confidence-building activities centred around the programme's five key themes:

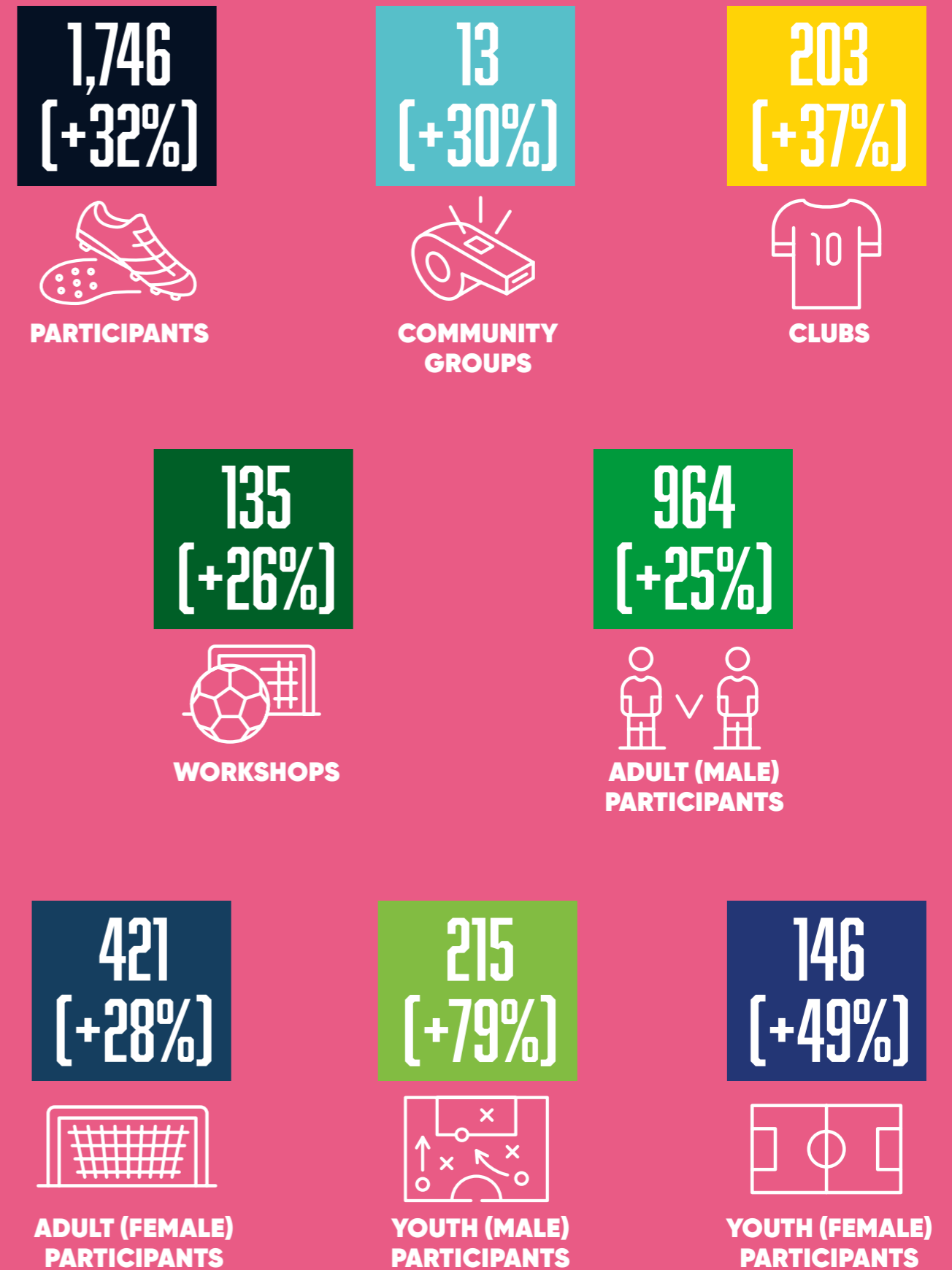
- Communication
- Confidence
- Control
- Challenge
- Commitment

As part of the AOTG, the Foundation appointed 23 volunteers as **Mental Health Champions** across Northern Ireland. The aims are to:

- Promote mental health initiatives
- Support the delivery of the Ahead of the Game programme
- Signpost football clubs to support services within their area
- Share good practice of clubs in that area promoting mental health programmes
- Equip more people in football with the tools and skills to benefit mental health



Total Impact (year on year change):



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Aim:

Advance the health and well-being of people by bringing communities together.

In 2023 there were 1,041 participants that engaged across the eight Foundation community engagement programmes. In total this included working with 50 community groups across Northern Ireland.

The Foundation's award-winning **'Stay Onside' Programme** is a series of programmes aimed at young people and young adults to divert and deter them away from offending.

Throughout 2023, the Stay Onside Programme was delivered to 84 participants across different community groups and 107 participants across custodial settings in Northern Ireland:

- Maghaberry = 45 participants**
- Magilligan = 30 participants**
- Hydebank Wood = 32 participants**

In 2023, the **Fresh-Start Through Sport programme**, a programme designed to engage with young people who are potentially at risk from becoming involved in criminality, announced an expansion.

Representatives from the other sporting bodies involved (Ulster Rugby, Belfast Giants and Ulster GAA), attended an event in May to mark the end of a successful year in which there were 100 participants.

The expansion of **Fresh Start Through Sport Ambassador programme**, aims to further engage past participants and sign post to employment or educational pathways. After gaining an Open College Network (OCN) qualification, ambassadors will begin a six-week 'Ambassadors Achieve' programme for goal setting and resilience.

In June 2023, the fifth annual KickOff@3 tournament attracted more than 100 participants. The tournament was hosted in Belfast by the Foundation in partnership with the Police Service of Northern Ireland, National Black Police Association and Rio Ferdinand Foundation.

In total the Foundation ran 156 community workshops in 2023:

- Connect**
- Everybody's Game**
- Common Ground**
- Stadium Benefits**
- Refugee Programmes**



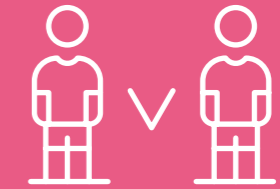
Total Impact (year on year change):

1,041 (+17%)



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PARTICIPANTS

50 (+22%)



COMMUNITY GROUPS

684 (+6%)



MALE PARTICIPANTS

357 (+10%)



FEMALE PARTICIPANTS

270 (+40%)



REFUGEE PARTICIPANTS

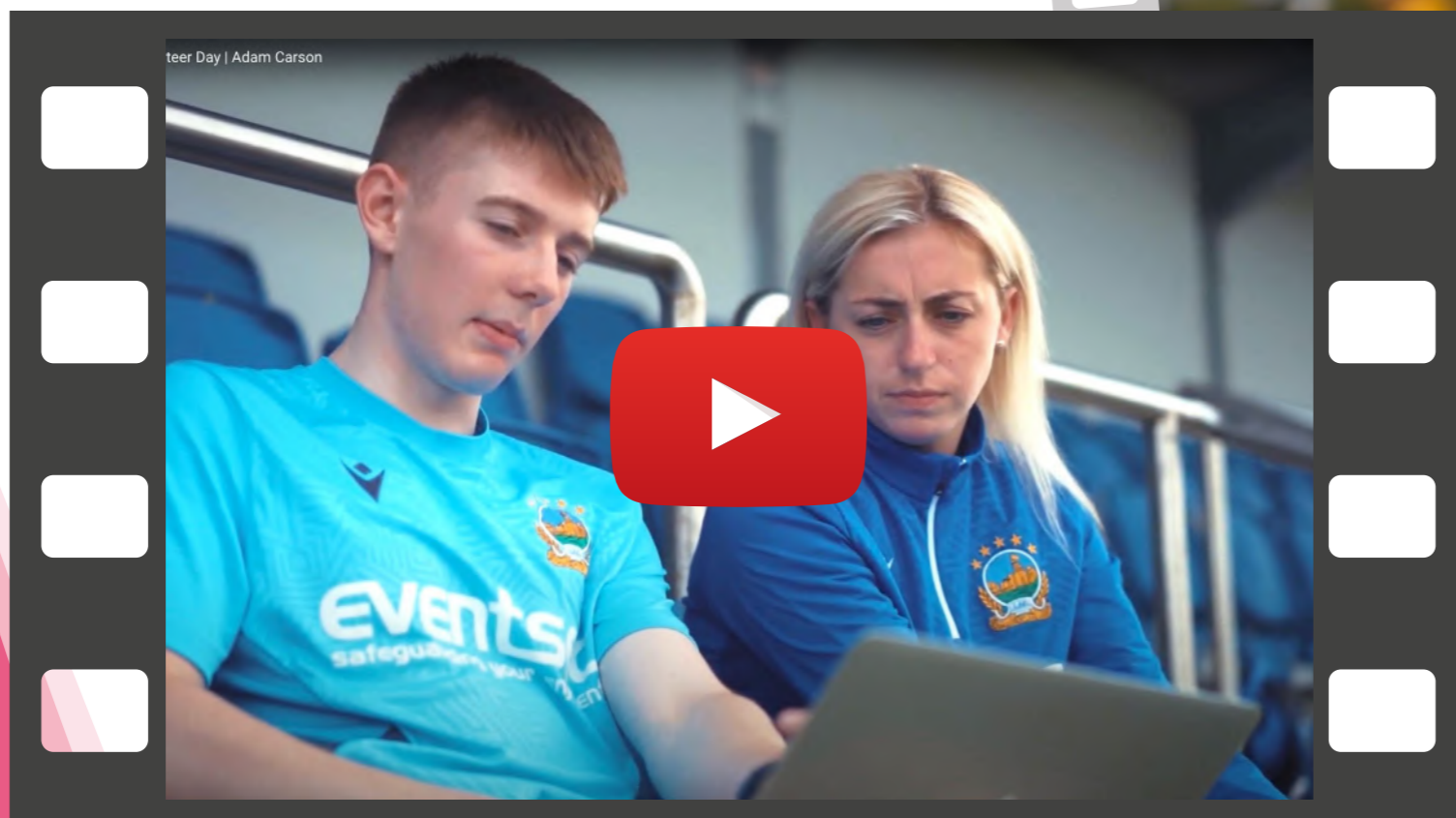
156 (+24%)



WORKSHOPS

SPOTLIGHT FEATURE

VOLUNTEERS



“
Football is all I want to do and volunteering has given me purpose and lots of opportunities.
 ”
 Adam Carson (Volunteer)



POWERCHAIR FOOTBALL

FIPFA Powerchair Football World Cup, Sydney, Australia, October 2023

The Northern Ireland Powerchair Squad finished in 9th place at their first ever FIPFA Powerchair Football World Cup which was held in Sydney, Australia in October 2023. The squad had qualified for this prestigious event through an impressive 5th place finish in the 2019 FIPFA Powerchair Football European Championships which was held in Finland.

This tournament was initially planned for 2021 but due to the coronavirus pandemic it was delayed for two years. This gave the Northern Ireland squad and their Head Coach Michael Hilland time to prepare to face the top countries in the World.

The dedication of the staff and players was evident throughout their preparation programme which included fortnightly training sessions lasting 3 hours at Ballysillan Leisure Centre, Belfast. The squad also benefitted from several weekend training camps and regular matches against top club sides from Scotland and England.

The 2023 World Cup squad was selected just prior to the 2023 Home Nations Championships that were held in Dublin in May. Northern Ireland finished in 3rd place ahead of Scotland but behind the Republic of Ireland and eventual winners England. They would have to face these two countries again at the World Cup which was to be played in a 'round-robin' format. Head Coach Michael Hilland remained loyal to the squad that had gained qualification, keeping 5 of the squad from Finland. Jamie Rogan had to withdraw from selection through medical grounds and he was replaced by Bartek Kuskowski, who would go on to be a real success in the competition.



WORLD CUP SQUAD

SQUAD	STAFF
12. Sean McKinney	Manager: Alan Crooks
2. Bartek Kuskowski	Head Coach: Michael Hilland
7. Jason Browning	Doctor: Marina Lupari
8. Scott Hilland®	Media: Stephen McVeigh
9. Patrick Cumiskey	Assistant: Keith Boylan
10. Carl Mcveigh	

On 8th October Northern Ireland met at Dublin Airport to embark on the exciting journey to Australia via Dubai. There was genuine excitement throughout the travelling party about this once in a lifetime opportunity.

This excitement was warranted when the team arrived at the accommodation in Sydney Olympic Park. The hotel and competition venue were world class. The team had five days to prepare before the first games and the squad enjoyed mixing with the other teams and taking in their surroundings.

The Quay Centre, Olympic Park, Sydney was the competition venue and after completing a few training sessions on the game courts the Northern Ireland squad were ready

to deliver the best performances they possibly could against the top Powerchair Nations in the World.

The games were completed over 6 days. On the first two days Northern Ireland performed superbly getting memorable draws against Uruguay and Argentina and losing narrowly to Denmark and the former World Cup holders USA. The third day started strongly holding 5th ranked Japan to 0-0 at half-time before running out of steam second half and going down 3-0. Next up were

eventual winners and top ranked Nation, France, and they showed their class with an 8-0 scoreline.

A new day brought a fresh challenge in the local derby against the Republic of Ireland. Northern Ireland took the lead through top scorer Patrick Cumiskey but the Republic of Ireland fought back and took the spoils 2-1 in an even game. Another great performance came against the host nation Australia but again Northern Ireland came off the court disappointed after another narrow defeat in an even game.

The last match in the group stage produced another fine performance. Northern Ireland caused England, the current European Champions, problems but they managed to claim a 2-0 victory which included the goal of the tournament.

The play-offs gave Northern Ireland the opportunity to finish on a high and finally beat the Republic of Ireland in the 9th/10th place play-off. The team had saved the best performance for the last day and won 3-0 with goals from captain Scott Hilland and a brace from young Bartek Kuskowski. It was a fitting end to a wonderful competition and a result that Head Coach Michael Hilland and the squad really deserved for all their hard work.

RESULTS		
Northern Ireland	2 – 2	Uruguay (8)
Northern Ireland	0 – 1	Denmark (9)
Northern Ireland	0 – 3	USA (2)
Northern Ireland	1 – 1	Argentina (7)
Northern Ireland	0 – 3	Japan (5)
Northern Ireland	0 – 8	France (1)
Northern Ireland	1 – 2	Republic of Ireland (6)
Northern Ireland	1 – 3	Australia (4)
Northern Ireland	0 – 2	England (3)
9th/10th Place Finish		
Northern Ireland	3 – 0	Republic of Ireland

You can watch all the games on YouTube channel FIPFA World Cup 2023



“There was genuine excitement throughout the travelling party about this once in a lifetime opportunity.”

POWERCHAIR FOOTBALL (CONTINUED)



This was Northern Ireland's first ever Powerchair World Cup and with the youngest squad competing at the tournament, averaging 19 years old, the future is bright.



Overall it was a really positive experience for all the players, parents, families and coaching staff who were thankful for the support of the Irish FA and Irish FA Foundation.

It was a top level tournament with the experience of the players a priority for the local organising committee and FIPFA.

Northern Ireland player Patrick Cumiskey earned the Rale Rasic Award for indomitable spirit and great courage and Northern Ireland won the New South Wales Government Fair Play Award for the tournament.

This was Northern Ireland's first ever Powerchair World Cup and with the youngest squad competing at the tournament, averaging 19 years old, the future is bright.



It was a top level tournament with the experience of the players a priority for the local organising committee and FIPFA.



FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

2023 could be described as a year of transition, 2024 could be described as the year of development. The Foundation is very excited about future developments that will ultimately shape the landscape of football in Northern Ireland.

Our commitment to promoting, fostering and developing football for all, is the core alignment between all programmes.

Key areas include:

1. YOUTH FOOTBALL FRAMEWORK: REVOLUTIONISING FOOTBALL

The Foundation is set to introduce a groundbreaking Youth Football Framework designed to maximise enjoyment and technical development for every child.

The framework is built upon four pillars (active game, environment, education and governance), and will be critical to attracting and retaining more players and improving players technical football ability.

2. RE-LAUNCH OF PROGRAMMES: AHEAD OF THE GAME, CLUB ACCREDITATION, SCHOOL QUALITY MARK AND SCHOOL-CLUB LINK.

A new Ahead of the Game programme will be launched in October 2024 offering an expanded menu of workshops and support around current topical issues. This will cover both the youth and adult game.

Club Accreditation will be further developed to allow for longer term and legacy support to clubs. It will also expand to include futsal clubs. Due to launch in September 2024.

An updated School Quality Mark and School-Club Link programme will be launched later in 2024. The revised programmes will be developed to better support teachers and transitioning of players and volunteers to clubs.

3. DEVELOPMENT OF LEAGUE ACCREDITATION

In tandem with the club accreditation programme, the Foundation will further develop the league accreditation programme.

There is an expectation that this will raise the overall standards of youth and adult football leagues by establishing guidelines for best practice. Due to be launched in late 2024.

Build capacity – leave a legacy in every school, club and community.

Critical to all programmes will be building capacity within our volunteer base across the Foundation and football family.

With interventions planned to target post primary school students and fully utilising the Be Collective platform, the Foundation will be investing heavily in attracting, developing and retaining volunteers.

The success of the Foundation centres on collaboration. We are looking forward to working closely with our partners to maximise the impact of all Foundation programs.



YOUTH FOOTBALL

FRAMEWORK



Let them play.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

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 Foundation and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Foundation for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102, 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 Foundation will continue in business

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

STATEMENT OF DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS

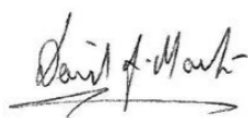
In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the Foundation's auditor is unaware
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information

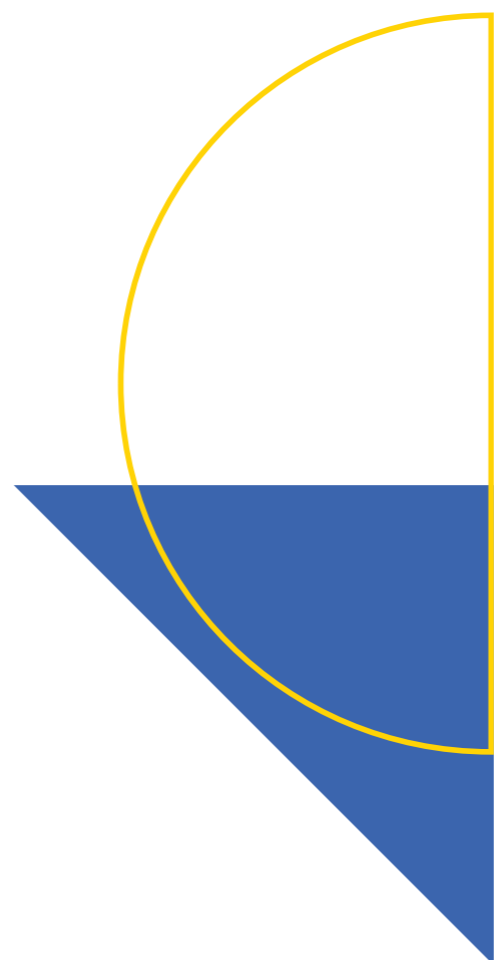
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

The auditors, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, have indicated their willingness to remain in office and a resolution for their re-election will be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf.



David Martin
Trustee and Chairman
Date: 18 April 2024



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF IRISH FA FOUNDATION LIMITED

Report on the audit of the financial statements

OPINION

In our opinion, Irish FA Foundation Limited's financial statements (the "financial statements"):

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, and cash flows, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", and applicable law); and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements, included within the Annual Report & Financial Statements (the "Annual Report"), which comprise: the Charity balance sheet as at 31 December 2023; the statement of financial activities (including an income and expenditure account), and the statement of cashflow for the year then ended; and the notes to the financial statements, which include a description of significant accounting policies/ which include a description of the significant accounting policies.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities under ISAs (UK) are

further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence

We remained independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, which includes the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date on which the financial statements are authorised for issue.

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this conclusion is not a guarantee as to the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

REPORTING ON OTHER INFORMATION

The other information comprises all of the information in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report based on these responsibilities.

With respect to the Trustees' Annual Report, we also considered whether the disclosures required by the UK Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011 have been included.

Based on our work undertaken in the course of the audit, the Companies Act 2006 requires us also to report certain opinions and matters as described below.

Trustees' Annual Report

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 is consistent with the financial statements and has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we did not identify any material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND THE AUDIT

Responsibilities of the trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable framework and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The trustees are also responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the

charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Based on our understanding of the charitable company, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations, such as Companies act 2006 and Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act (Northern Ireland)

2008 and Regulation (8) of The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015.. We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to fraudulent financial reporting and management bias in accounting estimate. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any journal entries posted with unusual account combinations or posted by unexpected users;
- Assessed management's compliance with the commitments under their restricted funds;
- Discussions with management, including consideration of known fraud or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulation; and
- Reviewing the charitable company's litigation register as far as it related to non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud.

Reviewing relevant meeting minutes, including those of the Trustees. There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in financial statements. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the FRC's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditors' report.

Use of this report

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the charity's' members as a body in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

OTHER REQUIRED REPORTING

Companies Act 2006 exception reporting

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

- we have not obtained all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns.

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

Entitlement to exemptions

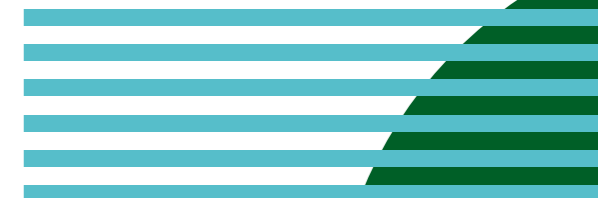
Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion, the trustees were not entitled to: prepare financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime; take advantage of the small companies'

exemption in preparing the Trustees' Annual Report; and take advantage of the small companies exemption from preparing a Strategic Report. We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.



Martin Cowie
Senior Statutory Auditor

for and on behalf of
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and
Statutory Auditors
Belfast
Date: 18 April 2024



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	2023			2022		
		Restricted Funds £000	Un-restricted Funds £000	Total Funds 2023 £000	Restricted Funds £000	Un-restricted Funds £000	Total Funds 2022 £000
Incoming resources							
Incoming resources from generated funds							
Contributions from governing bodies	4	1,482	-	1,482	1,478	-	1,478
Coaching, education and training		-	488	488	-	526	526
Sponsorship income		344	-	344	312	-	312
Grant funding		937	-	937	1,313	-	1,313
Income from other trading activities							
Income from other trading activities	5	-	23	23	-	46	46
Total incoming resources/income		2,763	511	3,274	3,103	572	3,675
Resources expended/expenditure							
Charitable activities							
Charitable activities	6	(3,004)	-	(3,004)	(3,289)	-	(3,289)
Support costs							
Support costs	7	(270)	-	(270)	(269)	-	(269)
Total resources expended/expenditure		(3,274)	-	(3,274)	(3,558)	-	(3,558)
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(511)	511	-	(455)	572	117
Transfer between funds		511	(511)	-	455	(455)	-
Net movement in funds		-	-	-	-	117	117
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		-	1,653	1,653	-	1,536	1,536
Total funds carried forward		-	1,653	1,653	-	1,653	1,653

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

CHARITY BALANCE SHEET

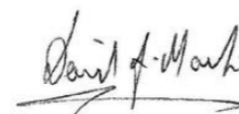
Registered No. NI642595

at 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 £000	2022 £000
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	22	-
Current assets			
Debtors	11	2,066	2,373
Cash and cash equivalents		14	122
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(449)	(842)
Net current assets		1,631	1,653
Net assets		1,653	1,653
The funds of the charity			
Unrestricted funds	16	1,653	1,653
Restricted funds	16	-	-
Total funds		1,653	1,653

The notes on pages 81 to 89 are an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 78 to 89 were approved by the trustees on 18 April 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



David Martin
Trustee and Chairman
Date: 18 April 2024

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

for the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Cash generated from operating activities		
Net outgoing/(incoming) resources before transfers	-	117
Depreciation of tangible assets	1	-
Movement in debtors	307	218
Movement in creditors	(393)	(854)
Cash outflow from operating activities	(85)	(519)
Cash flow from investing activities		
Purchase of tangible assets	(23)	-
Cash outflow from investing activities	(23)	-
Net decrease in cash in the year	(108)	(519)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	122	641
Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	14	122
	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Cash and cash equivalents consists of:		
Cash and cash equivalents	14	122
Total cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	14	122

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Irish FA Foundation Limited is a private company limited by guarantee, incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is the National Football Stadium at Windsor Park, Donegall Avenue, Belfast, BT12 6LU.

The trustees have agreed with the auditors that the auditor's liability to damages for breach of duty in relation to the audit of the charity's financial statements for the year to 31 December 2023 should be limited to the greater of £5m or 5 times the auditor's fees, and that in any event the auditor's liability for damages should be limited to that part of any loss suffered by the charity as is just and equitable having regard to the extent to which the auditor, the group and any third parties are responsible for the loss in question. The board approved this limited liability agreement, as required by the Companies Act 2006, by a resolution dated 18 April 2024.

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of Preparation

The Foundation's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2015 (Charities SORP (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Irish FA Foundation Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost and transaction

value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s). The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis. Taking account of the risk review undertaken by the Trustees they do not consider there to be a risk to the going concern status of the Foundation.

b) Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Foundation has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and it is not anticipated that significant losses will be incurred over the period of 12 months from signing the financial statements. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

c) Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the Foundation is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Foundation has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under gift aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

On receipt, donated facilities or gifts in kind are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the Foundation which is the amount the Foundation would be willing to pay to obtain services and facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market, a corresponding amount is then recognised in

expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the Foundation has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grant have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

d) Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the Foundation but do not directly undertake charitable activities.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Foundation in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to supply them. Support costs are allocated to their relevant activity based on the income received.

Pension Costs

The Foundation operates a defined contribution scheme for its employees. Contributions are charged to the statement of financial activities in the period to which they relate.

e) Fund accounting

The Foundation has various types of funds for which it is responsible and which require specific disclosure. A definition of the different types is as follows:



1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUED

Restricted Funds

Restricted funds are to be used for specified purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of overheads and support costs.

Unrestricted Funds

Funds which are expendable at the discretion of the Foundation in furtherance of the purpose of the charity. In addition to expenditure on activities, such funds may be held in order to finance capital investment and working capital.

f) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks.

g) Foreign currency

Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of transactions and from the translation at period- end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Foreign exchange gains and losses that relate to borrowings and cash and cash equivalents are presented in the Statement of Financial Activities. Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the spot exchange rates at the dates of the transactions. At each period end foreign currency monetary items are translated using the closing rate.

h) Grants payable

Grants are recognised in the accounts as liabilities after they have been approved by the trustees even if there are conditions attached to them. This is because

there is a valid expectation by the recipients that they will receive the grant.

Where a grant is awarded for a period of greater than one year, future instalments of which are subject to satisfactory reports to the Foundation, the future grant instalments are included in commitments but are not recognised in the accounts until satisfactory reports are received. This is because the terms on which these grants are awarded do not create a valid expectation of receipt until the Foundation's trustees are satisfied with the reports received on the use made of the previous year's instalments.

i) Financial instruments

The Foundation has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Foundation's balance sheet when the Foundation becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest

method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical judgements in applying the entity's accounting policies.

3. LEGAL STATUS OF THE FOUNDATION

There are no critical judgements in applying the Foundation's accounting policies.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions.

There are no critical estimates and assumptions.

The Foundation is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £1.

4. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM GENERATED FUNDS

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Contributions from football governing bodies	1,482	1,478
Coaching, education & training	488	526
Sponsorship income	344	312
Grant funding	937	1,313
Total	3,251	3,629

5. INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Other income	23	46

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES EXPENDITURE

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Wages and salaries	1,815	1,607
Events & competitions	365	958
Equipment & facilities	585	526
Grants provided	239	198
Total	3,004	3,289

7. SUPPORT COSTS EXPENDITURE

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Wages and salaries	107	121
Administration & professional fees	148	136
Fees payable to the charity's auditors	15	12
Total	270	269

8. NET (OUTGOING)/INCOMING RESOURCES

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
This is stated after charging:		
Salaries	1,674	1,482
Social security costs	137	142
Other pension costs	111	104
Staff costs	1,922	1,728

9. EMPLOYEES AND DIRECTORS

Employees

The average monthly number of employees employed by the Foundation during the year was:

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Average	54	57

Trustees

During the year no trustee received any emoluments (2022: £Nil).

Key management compensation

The compensation paid or payable to key management for employee services is shown below

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Key management compensation	293	232

£208k of Key Management Compensation was paid, and the charge borne, by the Irish Football Association (2022: £155k).

10. TANGIBLE ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings
	£000
Cost or valuation:	
At 1 January 2023	-
Additions	23
At 31 December 2023	23
Accumulated depreciation:	
At 1 January 2023	-
Charge for the year	1
At 31 December 2023	1
Net book value:	
At 31 December 2023	22
At 31 December 2022	-

11. DEBTORS

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Trade debtors	1,395	2,067
Prepayments and accrued income	671	306
Total	2,066	2,373

12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Trade creditors	68	78
Accruals and deferred income	329	697
Other taxation and social security	52	67
Total	449	842

Deferred income relates to fundraising income and contributions from governing bodies recognised over more than one financial year in accordance with the accounting policy stated in note 1.

13. DEFERRED INCOME

	At 1 January 2023	Amounts released in the year	Additional amounts recognised	At 31 December 2023
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Contributions from football governing bodies	408	(1,482)	1,144	70
Coaching, education & training	27	(937)	942	32
Sponsorship income	49	(344)	323	28
Grant funding	109	(488)	424	45
Total	593	(3,251)	2,833	175

14. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Foundation has the following financial instruments:

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Financial assets held at amortised cost		
Trade debtors	1,395	2,067
Accrued income	633	165
Total	2,028	2,232

Financial liabilities held at amortised cost

Trade creditors	68	78
Accruals	153	104
Total	221	182

15. TAXATION

The Foundation is a registered charity and, as such, is entitled to certain tax exemptions on income and profits from investments and surpluses on any trading activities carried on in furtherance of the Foundation's primary objectives, if these profits and surpluses are applied solely for charitable purposes.

16. ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS

Unrestricted Funds

	£000
At 1 January 2023	1,653
Coaching, education and training	488
Other trading activities	23
Net outgoing resources before transfers	-
Transfer to restricted funds	(511)
At 31 December 2023	1,653

16. ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Restricted Funds

	£000
At 1 January 2023	-
Contributions from governing bodies	1,482
Sponsorship income	344
Grant funding	937
Net outgoing resources before transfers	(3,274)
Transfer from unrestricted funds	511
At 31 December 2023	-

A transfer between funds is performed to relocate sufficient unrestricted funds to ensure that there is no overspend on the restricted fund for the year.

17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
	£000	£000	£000
Net assets	-	1,653	1,653
Total	-	1,653	1,653

18. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS AND ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

Transactions with related parties included:

- Transactions with the Irish Football Association Limited of £862k (2022: £1,035k).
- Amounts receivable at the year-end of £1,359k (2022: £2,025k) due from the Irish Football Association Limited.
- Amounts payable at the year-end of £5k (2022: £0.4k) due to the IFA Stadium Development Company Limited.
- Purchases at normal market prices totalling £2.7k (2022: £1.4k) were made from Tri-sport Trophies Limited, who are controlled by a family member of a current trustee. The balance outstanding at 31 December 2023 was £0.08k (2022: £Nil).

19. LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

Irish Football Association Ltd is a company limited by guarantee. The liability of the members is limited to an amount not exceeding £1.

20. FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

There were no financial commitments as at 31 December 2023 (31 December 2022: none).

Registered number: NI642595
Charity Commission number: NIC 106229
Inland Revenue Charity number: NI00616

Directors/Trustees

David Martin (Chairman)
Patrick Nelson
Allen McKinstry
Ryan Adams
Alan Willis
Clare McAuley (Resigned 14 March 2023)
Róisín Wood (Appointed 24 August 2023)

Company Secretary

Rebekah Shearer

Registered Office

The National Football Stadium at Windsor Park
Donegall Avenue
Belfast
BT12 6LU

Bankers

Ulster Bank
11-16 Donegall Square East
Belfast
BT1 5HD

Solicitors

A&L Goodbody
42-46 Fountain Street
Belfast
BT1 5EF

King & Gowdy
298 Upper Newtownards Road
Belfast
BT4 3EJ

Independent Auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
Merchant Square
20-22 Wellington Place
Belfast
BT1 6GE





FOUNDATION



Irish FA Foundation Limited

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106229

Annual return

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

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 Foundation and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Foundation for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102, 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 Foundation will continue in business

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

STATEMENT OF DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS

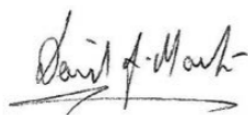
In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the Foundation's auditor is unaware
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information

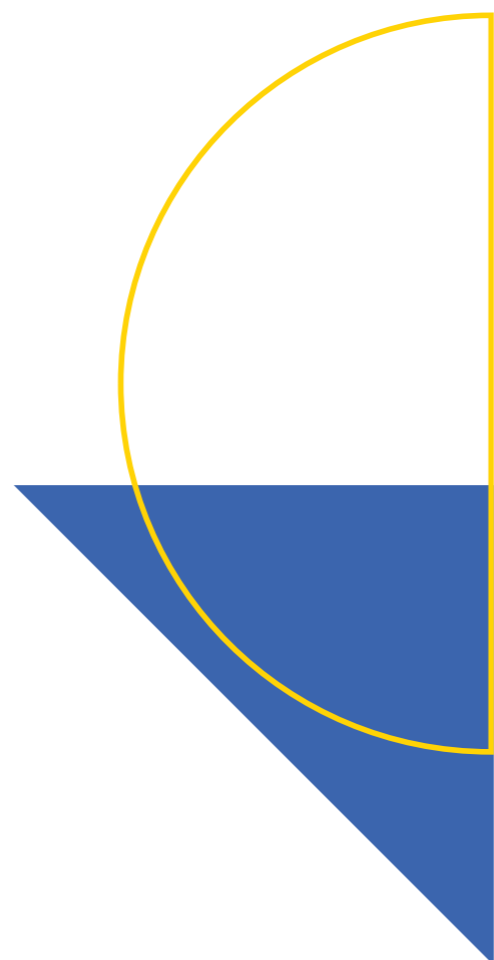
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

The auditors, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, have indicated their willingness to remain in office and a resolution for their re-election will be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf.



David Martin
Trustee and Chairman
Date: 18 April 2024



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF IRISH FA FOUNDATION LIMITED

Report on the audit of the financial statements

OPINION

In our opinion, Irish FA Foundation Limited's financial statements (the "financial statements"):

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, and cash flows, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", and applicable law); and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements, included within the Annual Report & Financial Statements (the "Annual Report"), which comprise: the Charity balance sheet as at 31 December 2023; the statement of financial activities (including an income and expenditure account), and the statement of cashflow for the year then ended; and the notes to the financial statements, which include a description of significant accounting policies/ which include a description of the significant accounting policies.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities under ISAs (UK) are

further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence

We remained independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, which includes the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date on which the financial statements are authorised for issue.

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this conclusion is not a guarantee as to the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

REPORTING ON OTHER INFORMATION

The other information comprises all of the information in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report based on these responsibilities.

With respect to the Trustees' Annual Report, we also considered whether the disclosures required by the UK Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011 have been included.

Based on our work undertaken in the course of the audit, the Companies Act 2006 requires us also to report certain opinions and matters as described below.

Trustees' Annual Report

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 is consistent with the financial statements and has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we did not identify any material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND THE AUDIT

Responsibilities of the trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable framework and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The trustees are also responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the

charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Based on our understanding of the charitable company, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations, such as Companies act 2006 and Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act (Northern Ireland)

2008 and Regulation (8) of The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015.. We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to fraudulent financial reporting and management bias in accounting estimate. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any journal entries posted with unusual account combinations or posted by unexpected users;
- Assessed management's compliance with the commitments under their restricted funds;
- Discussions with management, including consideration of known fraud or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulation; and
- Reviewing the charitable company's litigation register as far as it related to non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud.

Reviewing relevant meeting minutes, including those of the Trustees. There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in financial statements. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the FRC's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditors' report.

Use of this report

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the charity's' members as a body in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

OTHER REQUIRED REPORTING

Companies Act 2006 exception reporting

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

- we have not obtained all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns.

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

Entitlement to exemptions

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion, the trustees were not entitled to: prepare financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime; take advantage of the small companies'

exemption in preparing the Trustees' Annual Report; and take advantage of the small companies exemption from preparing a Strategic Report. We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.



Martin Cowie
Senior Statutory Auditor

for and on behalf of
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and
Statutory Auditors
Belfast
Date: 18 April 2024



Irish FA Foundation Limited

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106229

Accounts



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

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 Foundation and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Foundation for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102, 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 Foundation will continue in business

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

STATEMENT OF DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS

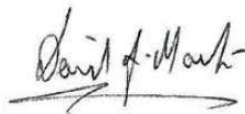
In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the Foundation's auditor is unaware
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

The auditors, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, have indicated their willingness to remain in office and a resolution for their re-election will be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf.



David Martin
Trustee and Chairman

Date: 20 April 2023

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF IRISH FA FOUNDATION LIMITED

Report on the audit of the financial statements

OPINION

In our opinion, Irish FA Foundation Limited's financial statements (the "financial statements"):

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, and cash flows, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", and applicable law); and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements, included within the Annual Report and Financial Statements (the "Annual Report"), which comprise: the Charity balance sheet as at 31 December 2022; the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account) and the statement of cash flow for the year then ended and the notes to the financial statements, which include the accounting policies.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities under ISAs (UK) are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is

sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

INDEPENDENCE

We remained independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, which includes the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date on which the financial statements are authorised for issue.

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this conclusion is not a guarantee as to the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

REPORTING ON OTHER INFORMATION

The other information comprises all of the information in the Annual Report other than the financial

statements and our auditors' report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report based on these responsibilities.

With respect to the Trustees' Annual Report, we also considered whether the disclosures required by the UK Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011 have been included.

Based on our work undertaken in the course of the audit, the Companies Act 2006 requires us also to report certain opinions and matters as described below.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 is consistent with the financial statements and has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we did not identify any material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND THE AUDIT

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable framework and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The trustees are also responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees

either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

AUDITORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Based on our understanding of the charitable company, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and Regulation (8) of The Charities (Accounts and Reports)

Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to posting inappropriate journal entries to manipulate financial results, including the recognition of incoming resources, and management bias in accounting estimates or significant judgements. Audit procedures performed included:

- Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any journal entries posted with unusual account combinations;
- Assessed management's compliance with the commitments under their restricted funds;
- Discussions with management, including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;
- Reviewing the charitable company's litigation register as far as it related to non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud; and
- Reviewing relevant meeting minutes, including those of the Trustees.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in financial statements. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the

financial statements is located on the FRC's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditors' report.

USE OF THIS REPORT

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the charity's members as a body in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

OTHER REQUIRED REPORTING

COMPANIES ACT 2006 EXCEPTION REPORTING

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

- we have not obtained all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- adequate accounting records have not been kept or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns.

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

ENTITLEMENT TO EXEMPTIONS

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion, the trustees were not entitled to: prepare financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime; take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the Trustees' Annual Report; and take advantage of the small companies exemption from preparing a Strategic Report. We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.



Martin Cowie

Senior Statutory Auditor

for and on behalf of
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory
Auditors
Belfast
31 May 2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	2022			2021		
		Restricted Funds	Un-restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022	Restricted Funds	Un-restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Incoming resources							
Incoming resources from generated funds	4						
Contributions from governing bodies		1,478	-	1,478	939	-	939
Coaching, education and training		-	526	526	-	515	515
Sponsorship income		312	-	312	218	-	218
Grant funding		1,313	-	1,313	850	-	850
Income from other trading activities							
Income from other trading activities	5	-	46	46	-	24	24
Total incoming resources/income		3,103	572	3,675	2,007	539	2,546
Resources expended/expenditure							
Charitable activities	6	(3,289)	-	(3,289)	(2,173)	-	(2,173)
Support costs	7	(269)	-	(269)	(299)	-	(299)
Total resources expended/expenditure		(3,558)	-	(3,558)	(2,472)	-	(2,472)
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(455)	572	117	(465)	539	74
Transfer between funds		455	(455)	-	465	(465)	-
Net movement in funds		-	117	117	-	74	74
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		-	1,536	1,536	-	1,462	1,462
Total funds carried forward		-	1,653	1,653	-	1,536	1,536

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

CHARITY BALANCE SHEET

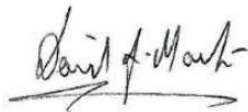
Registered No. NI642595

at 31 December 2022

		2022	2021
	Note	£000	£000
Current assets			
Debtors	10	2,373	2,591
Cash and cash equivalents		122	641
		2,495	3,232
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(842)	(1,696)
Net current assets		1,653	1,536
Net assets		1,653	1,536
The funds of the charity			
Unrestricted funds	15	1,653	1,536
Restricted funds	15	-	-
Total funds		1,653	1,536

The notes on pages 53 to 59 are an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 50 to 59 were approved by the trustees on 20 April 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:



David Martin
Trustee and Chairperson
Date: 20 April 2023

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW

for the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Cash generated from operating activities		
Net outgoing/(incoming) resources before transfers	117	74
Movement in debtors	218	(595)
Movement in creditors	(854)	851
Cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	(519)	330
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	641	311
Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	122	641

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Cash and cash equivalents consists of:		
Cash and cash equivalents	122	641
Total cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	122	641

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Irish FA Foundation Limited is a private company limited by guarantee, incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is the National Football Stadium at Windsor Park, Donegall Avenue, Belfast, BT12 6LU.

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of Preparation

The Foundation's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2015 (Charities SORP (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Irish FA Foundation Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost and transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s). The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis. Taking account of the risk review undertaken by the Trustees they do not consider there to be a risk to the going concern status of the Foundation.

b) Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Foundation has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and it is not anticipated that significant losses will be incurred over the period of 12 months from signing the financial

statements. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

c) Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the Foundation is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Foundation has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under gift aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

On receipt, donated facilities or gifts in kind are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the Foundation which is the amount the Foundation would be willing to pay to obtain services and facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market, a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the Foundation has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grant have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

d) Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Support costs are those functions

that assist the work of the Foundation but do not directly undertake charitable activities.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Foundation in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to supply them. Support costs are allocated to their relevant activity based on the income received.

Pension Costs

The Foundation operates a defined contribution scheme for its employees. Contributions are charged to the statement of financial activities in the period to which they relate.

e) Fund accounting

The Foundation has various types of funds for which it is responsible and which require specific disclosure. A definition of the different types is as follows:

Restricted Funds

Restricted funds are to be used for specified purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of overheads and support costs.

Unrestricted Funds

Funds which are expendable at the discretion of the Foundation in furtherance of the purpose of the charity. In addition to expenditure on activities, such funds may be held in order to finance capital investment and working capital.

f) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

g) Foreign currency

Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of transactions and from the translation at period-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Foreign exchange gains and losses that relate to borrowings and cash and cash equivalents are presented in the Statement of Financial Activities. Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the spot exchange rates at the dates of the transactions. At each period end foreign currency monetary items are translated using the closing rate.

h) Grants payable

Grants are recognised in the accounts as liabilities after they have been approved by the trustees even if there are conditions attached to them. This is because there is a valid expectation by the recipients that they will receive the grant.

Where a grant is awarded for a period of greater than one year, future instalments of which are subject to satisfactory reports to the Foundation, the future grant instalments are included in commitments but are not recognised in the accounts until satisfactory reports are received. This is because the terms on which these grants are awarded do not create a valid expectation of receipt until the Foundation's trustees are satisfied with the reports received on the use made of the previous year's instalments.

i) Financial instruments

The Foundation has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Foundation's balance sheet when the Foundation becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical judgements in applying the entity's accounting policies.

There are no critical judgements in applying the Foundation's accounting policies.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions.

There are no critical estimates and assumptions.

3. LEGAL STATUS OF THE FOUNDATION

The Foundation is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £1.

4. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM GENERATED FUNDS

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Contributions from football governing bodies	1,478	939
Coaching, education & training	526	515
Sponsorship income	312	218
Grant funding	1,313	850
Total	3,629	2,522

5. INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Other income	46	24

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES EXPENDITURE

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Wages and salaries	1,607	1,518
Events & competitions	958	288
Equipment & facilities	526	205
Grants provided	198	162
Total	3,289	2,173

7. SUPPORT COSTS EXPENDITURE

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Wages and salaries	121	101
Administration & professional fees	148	198
Total	269	299

8. NET (OUTGOING)/INCOMING RESOURCES

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
This is stated after charging:		
Salaries	1,482	1,410
Social security costs	142	125
Other pension costs	104	84
Staff costs	1,728	1,619

9. EMPLOYEES AND DIRECTORS

Employees

The average monthly number of employees employed by the Foundation during the year was:

	2022	2021
	Number	Number
Average	57	59

Trustees

During the year no trustee received any emoluments (2021: £Nil).

Key management compensation

The compensation paid or payable to key management for employee services is shown below

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Key management compensation	232	175

£155k of Key Management Compensation was paid, and the charge borne, by the Irish Football Association (2021: £120k).

10. DEBTORS

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Trade debtors	2,067	2,403
Prepayments and accrued income	306	188
Total	2,373	2,591

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Trade Creditors	78	166
Accruals and deferred income	697	1,498
Other taxation and social security	67	32
Total	842	1,696

Deferred income relates to fundraising income and contributions from governing bodies recognised over more than one financial year in accordance with the accounting policy stated in note 1.

12. DEFERRED INCOME

	At 1 January 2022	Amounts released in the year	Additional provisions made	At 31 December 2022
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Contributions from football governing bodies	589	(262)	81	408
Coaching, education & training	8	(8)	27	27
Sponsorship income	82	(293)	260	49
Grant funding	669	(1,251)	691	109
Total	1,348	(1,814)	1,059	593

13. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Foundation has the following financial instruments:

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Financial assets held at amortised cost		
Trade debtors	2,067	2,403
Accrued income	165	118
Total	2,232	2,521
Financial liabilities held at amortised cost		
Trade creditors	78	166
Accruals	104	150
Total	182	316

14. TAXATION

The Foundation is a registered charity and, as such, is entitled to certain tax exemptions on income and profits from investments and surpluses on any trading activities carried on in furtherance of the Foundation's primary objectives, if these profits and surpluses are applied solely for charitable purposes.

15. ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS

Unrestricted Funds

	£000
At 1 January 2022	1,536
Coaching, education and training	526
Other trading activities	46
Net outgoing resources before transfers	-
Transfer to restricted funds	(455)
At 31 December 2022	1,653

15. ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS (continued)

Restricted Funds

	£000
At 1 January 2022	-
Contributions from governing bodies	1,478
Sponsorship income	312
Grant funding	1,313
Net outgoing resources before transfers	(3,558)
Transfer from unrestricted funds	455
At 31 December 2022	-

A transfer between funds is performed to relocate sufficient unrestricted funds to ensure that there is no overspend on the restricted fund for the year.

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
	£000	£000	£000
Net current assets	-	1,653	1,653
Total	-	1,653	1,653

17. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS AND ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

Transactions with related parties included:

- Transactions with the Irish Football Association Limited of £1,035k (2021: £1,265k)
- Grant funding of £500k from Irish Football Association released in 2022, with £100k included in deferred income at year-end (2021: £600k)
- Amounts receivable at the year-end of £2,025k (2021: £1,971k) due from the Irish Football Association Limited
- Amounts payable at the year-end of £391 (2021: £Nil) due to the IFA Stadium Development Company Limited
- Purchases at normal market prices totalling £1,448 (2021: £455) were made from Tri-sport Trophies Limited, who are controlled by a family member of a current Director. The balance outstanding at 31 December 2022 was £Nil (2021: £Nil).

18. LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

Irish Football Association Ltd is a company limited by guarantee. The liability of the members is limited to an amount not exceeding £1.

19. FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

There were no financial commitments as at 31 December 2022 (31 December 2021: none).

*Registered number: NI642595
Charity Commission number: NIC 106229
Inland Revenue Charity number: NI00616*

Directors/Trustees

David Martin (Chairman)
Patrick Nelson
Allen McKinstry
Ryan Adams
Clare McAuley
Alan Willis

Company Secretary

Rebekah Shearer

Registered Office

The National Football Stadium at Windsor Park
Donegall Avenue
Belfast
BT12 6LU

Bankers

Ulster Bank
91-93 University Road
Belfast
BT7 1NG

Solicitors

A&L Goodbody
42-46 Fountain Street
Belfast
BT1 5EF

King & Gowdy
298 Upper Newtownards Road
Belfast
BT4 3EJ

Independent Auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
Merchant Square
20-22 Wellington Place
Belfast
BT1 6GE





IRISH FA FOUNDATION LIMITED



Irish FA Foundation Limited

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106229

Annual report



IRISH FA FOUNDATION LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2022
Company number: NI642595

SHAPING LIVES THROUGH FOOTBALL



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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES



THE CHARITY'S OBJECTIVES ARE:



To advance amateur football, youth football, schools' football and futsal in accordance with the remit of the Irish Football Association, for the benefit of the general public in any part of Northern Ireland.



To advance the health and wellbeing of the people of Northern Ireland by leading on the development of a Northern Ireland-wide football and positive mental health campaign for men and women.



To advance education by providing work experience and support to educational establishments and extra-curricular educational groups (targeting young people including those not in education or employment [NEETs] and areas of social need).



To adopt an inclusive approach so that all members of the community have access to our initiatives, regardless of background, gender, religion, politics, race or sexual orientation, in support of the wider charitable objectives of the Irish Football Association.



CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT/ PUBLIC BENEFIT



CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

This document displays a statement on its cover, subtly placed but with a powerful sentiment - shaping lives through football - this is something we do every single day through our work at the Foundation which touches groups and individuals right across the country, in every community.

During 2022 the last of the remaining Irish FA Foundation programmes returned following the Covid-19 pandemic, with many exceeding pre-pandemic activity levels. The appetite to play football was certainly seen throughout Northern Ireland as activity levels increased across the country.

In June the Foundation officially launched the 2022-2025 Schools Strategy, a strategy which confirms the commitment to increasing opportunities for boys and girls to play football in both primary and post-primary schools.

September marked the launch of a new People and Clubs online platform providing online learning materials to volunteers and supporting clubs through the club accreditation process.

Community relations and partnership work thrived at all levels. New engagement landmarks were achieved in many of the programmes, with a major highlight coming through the Fresh Start Through Sport programme, which was recognised by the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee at Westminster.

Sincere thanks must be paid to staff and volunteers for their continued hard work. Delivery of the many diverse programmes covered in this report would not be possible without their selfless dedication.

Guided by the Irish FA corporate strategy 'A Roadmap for Football' and the Association's mission to promote, foster and develop football for all in Northern Ireland, it has proved to be another very successful year for the Irish FA Foundation.

David Martin
Chairman

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Irish FA Foundation Limited has complied with its duty under the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

The trustees are fully aware of the requirements of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland and are operating entirely within the legislation.

It is the opinion of the trustees that this report demonstrates how the Foundation provides public benefit.



“
...A MAJOR HIGHLIGHT
COMING THROUGH
THE FRESH START
THROUGH SPORT
PROGRAMME, WHICH
WAS RECOGNISED
BY THE NORTHERN
IRELAND AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE AT
WESTMINSTER.
”

OBJECTIVE 1 ADVANCING FOOTBALL

To advance amateur football, youth football, schools' football and futsal in accordance with the remit of the Irish Football Association, for the benefit of the general public in any part of Northern Ireland.

OVERVIEW

The Irish FA Foundation charity continued to serve the community by providing footballing opportunities for people of all ages, gender, ability and ethnicity.

After the Covid-19 pandemic there was a realisation of the need to provide digital resources for clubs and volunteers.

The foundation team worked directly with thousands of people across Northern Ireland, promoting football for all and helping players, clubs and volunteers across the country to develop via the People and Clubs online platform.

People and Clubs is the Irish FA Foundation's programme which supports clubs to achieve good governance via the Irish FA Club Accreditation scheme. The platform provides a wide range of free resources, including e-learning modules, podcasts, case studies and webinars that accurately reflect the views and aspirations of clubs.

Initiatives to develop the amateur game included the launch of a successful recreational programme in partnership with the NHS which provides opportunities for students from Belfast Metropolitan College to gain experience in events organisation and the introduction of a National Coaching Certificate for adults which will provide specific knowledge and skills required by amateur football coaches to enhance the adult game.

Youth football is flourishing. The Foundation continues to deliver a small-sided games programme

(ages 6-12) in each of Northern Ireland's 11 council areas with more than 12,000 children participating every week at five, seven and nine players per side.

In partnership with Northern Ireland Boys' FA (NIBFA) the Foundation continues to provide boys' and girls' football opportunities within the National League and regional leagues from Under 12 to Under 17 age groups via leagues and cup competitions.

Supported by Department of Education funding, Foundation staff continued to work with dozens of primary schools across Northern Ireland each week by delivering a fundamentals programme for pupils and providing specialist resources to help teachers.

The Foundation delivered an extensive Employability and Education programme within post-primary schools and colleges which is designed to run alongside school/college curriculums and the subjects they offer to both GCSE and A-Level/BTEC students.

The programme is designed to give participants additional qualifications on top of their academic qualifications. It also aims to provide participants with opportunities to use their qualifications and develop new skills by volunteering and/or working on Irish FA programmes and getting involved at local clubs.

Due to the success of the programme an additional staff member was employed to cope with the demand from schools.

The Foundation also provides support to the Northern Ireland Schools' FA by delivering primary and post-primary futsal programmes along with cup competitions for 11-a-side schools' teams from Under 12 and assisting with the Northern Ireland U16 and U18 Schoolboys' international teams.

“
...PROVIDING
FOOTBALLING
OPPORTUNITIES FOR
PEOPLE OF ALL AGES,
GENDER, ABILITY AND
ETHNICITY.
”



CLUB DEVELOPMENT – PEOPLE AND CLUBS

The People and Clubs programme has continued to receive recognition from Sport NI through financial support.

Following on from the Governing Body Support Programme in 2021 to March 2022, the People and Clubs programme was supported by the Club Environment Transition Programme in 2022. The programme looked at building on and implementing initiatives that were set out in the People and Clubs Development Plan in 2019.

Online webinars were delivered during 2022 in areas such as secretary training, treasurer training, being a parent in a football club, maximising people in clubs and engaging female participation within clubs. The webinars were free of charge for clubs and across 11 topics there were more than 200 participants.

The big event during the year came in September with the launch of the People and Clubs online platform.

More than 50 clubs representing all 11 district council areas in Northern Ireland were welcomed to the National Football Stadium to hear about the new online platform available to them.

The platform currently hosts an accreditation portal, a library of club templates, a link to six free e-learning modules and a library of media resources, which include podcasts, videos and webinar recordings. The platform, which will evolve and develop over time, has boosted the Foundation's digital support for clubs.

The six e-learning modules have been a real success. The modules include club development planning, attracting and retaining

volunteers, supporting club members, chairperson training, developing club culture and positive engagement with parents at clubs. Since their launch alongside the other elements of the online platform in September there have been more than 600 enrolments across the six free courses.

People and Clubs accreditation has also been refined following consultations with clubs, leagues and relevant stakeholders. This refinement has made the accreditation more attractive and achievable for clubs and puts them in a greater position of readiness for safety, development and funding opportunities. Currently 40 clubs across Northern Ireland are working through the accreditation process.



YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAMME

The Young Leaders (YL) programme provides young people with the opportunity to volunteer in various roles and on programmes throughout the Foundation.

In 2022 most of the first group of young leaders completed their time in the YL programme.

One of those young leaders is now employed through the Irish FA Foundation, working as a Let Them Play Officer.

Another success story is a young leader who is co-ordinating the operations of his own football club in Manchester while he completes a degree in Football and Business Management.

This shows the programme has helped young people gain employment. It has also provided networking opportunities and industry-specific skills to help them develop themselves.

The YL programme provides a voice for young people in football, supports the development of

potential young leaders of the future and helps the Foundation to gain more insight into what young people want from football.

The latest cohort had their first meeting in December 2022 after a successful application, interview and recruitment process. Twelve young people aged 18-24 are involved from across Northern Ireland and have various backgrounds and involvement in football.

Recently through the programme the three sports bodies involved held a joint Youth Forum at Jungle NI allowing the young leaders to work together and hear each other's hopes and aspirations for their respective sports.

The Schools Roadshow within the programme has also gone from strength to strength. It provides individuals with the opportunity to mock interview for their desired roles in sport and to find out what volunteer work will help.

“
THE YL PROGRAMME PROVIDES A VOICE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN FOOTBALL
 ”



MENTALLY HEALTH FOOTBALL FORUM

Following on from the Heads Up legacy group, the Mentally Health Football Forum (MHFF) has been formed.

The Irish Football Association has joined a raft of other football organisations across the UK in the forum to reaffirm a commitment to highlighting the importance of good mental health.

Through the new body the Association along with The FA, Scottish FA and Football Association of Wales, plus the likes of England's Premier League, the English Football League, The National League, The Barclays FA Women's Super League, The FA Women's Championship and The FA Women's National League, have agreed to promote mental health strategies and to make awareness-raising widely available.

The new forum has highlighted the wide range of work going on across the UK around mental health and football.

The MHFF is now looking at key areas of work around research, communication and education.

“
THE NEW FORUM HAS HIGHLIGHTED THE WIDE RANGE OF WORK GOING ON ACROSS THE UK AROUND MENTAL HEALTH AND FOOTBALL.
 ”

SPORT – A HOME FOR LIFELONG VOLUNTEERING

The Department for Communities has provided another two years' worth of funding for the Sport – A Home for Lifelong Volunteering programme run by the Foundation in collaboration with Ulster Rugby and Ulster GAA.

The latest financial support - funding two full-time development officers - has allowed the Clubs Development Officer and Volunteer Development and Policies Officer to plan programmes and to develop programmes in advance.

During the year more than 40 clubs took part in webinars on subjects such as clubs going green, social media and PR.



SPORTS INSPIRE AWARDS

The Sports Inspire Awards were launched two years ago to celebrate the positive impact of volunteering.

The awards are part of the Department for Communities programme Sport - A Home for Lifelong Volunteering. They recognise young volunteers aged between 16 and 24 from each of the three sports for 50, 100 or 200 hours of volunteering at their clubs.

The second Sports Inspire Awards ceremony, where clubs have the opportunity to show their appreciation for those volunteers who have helped develop and grow their club at the grassroots level, was due to be staged at Belfast City Hall in March 2023.

VOLUNTEERING

Volunteers are an integral part of events and activities run by the Foundation.

The Foundation's large scale events rely heavily on the input of volunteers, while international match nights would not run without them.

With more and more events being staged post the Covid pandemic, the team of volunteers has grown.

There are now more opportunities to volunteer at international games and at Irish Cup semi-finals and finals (men's and women's).

At the beginning of 2023 there was a recruitment drive to make more people around the country aware of the opportunities to volunteer at the Foundation/Irish FA. It highlighted the wide range of bespoke opportunities for volunteers to engage in both football-related and community-based activities.

The Foundation is also looking to develop a new online platform which will host all volunteers, making it easier for them to find out about volunteering opportunities across the Foundation. This platform will also ensure volunteers are recognised for their volunteering efforts.

Later this year a further recruitment drive will begin to attract volunteers for the Men's Under-19 European Championships being hosted by Northern Ireland in 2024.

“ THE FOUNDATION'S LARGE SCALE EVENTS RELY HEAVILY ON THE INPUT OF VOLUNTEERS ”





SPORT – AMATEUR GAME DEVELOPMENT

The full-time position of Amateur Football Game Developer within the Foundation is focused on advancing amateur football by engaging and communicating with all stakeholders across the game. During the year the Game Developer continued to work within all aspects of the amateur game across Northern Ireland.

A number of programmes were ongoing throughout 2022 along with pilot programmes being developed and refined to meet the needs of the amateur game.

Following a successful pilot in 2021 a Summer Festival again took place at the Jordanstown campus of Ulster University and is now embedded as a regular event in the pre-season calendar.

The event partnered with Kingsbridge Private Hospital to pilot health checks for players from the eight participating teams along with spectators. Using the same format engagement has commenced with several leagues and clubs to roll health checks out on a wider scale.

An alumni membership programme pilot, aimed at retaining members within clubs, continued in 2022 with more than 1400 members from two well established clubs taking part. A review of the pilot is under way to enable the development of a standardised model for further rollout.

A pilot recreational programme, targeted at NHS staff, is seeking to provide opportunities for recreational participation in football.

“**FOUR FREE REFEREEING COURSES HAVE BEEN RUN ACROSS NORTHERN IRELAND WITH A WOMEN’S ONLY COURSE PLANNED IN THE COMING MONTHS.**”

The programme continued to develop over the year and has established a base at Colin Glen in Belfast as part of the Stadium Community Benefits Initiative.

To date the programme has had over 200 players participating and has provided opportunities for students from Belfast Metropolitan College to gain experience in events organisation. The programme was shortlisted for Project of the Year at the Sport NI SportMaker Awards 2022.

The Foundation expanded a pilot to facilitate centralised procurement of public liability insurance for clubs and personal accident insurance for amateur players. The centralised procurement has enabled clubs and players to benefit from lower insurance premiums. The expanded

pilot covers 14 leagues, 190 clubs and over 6,000 players.

A National Coaching Certificate for adult players has been developed to improve the standard of coaching within the adult amateur game. Three pilots have been successfully run and coaching resources developed through Global Coach. More than 80 candidates have been enrolled on the pilots and findings from the pilots will allow refinement for national rollout during 2023.

To meet the needs of referees in the amateur game considerable work has been done with the Irish FA’s refereeing department to address the issue of referee development.

Four free refereeing courses have been run across Northern Ireland with a women’s only course planned in the coming months.

Partnerships have been developed with external stakeholders to address the issue of a lack of referees, with plans in place to look at ex-player and youth referee recruitment along with a referee respect campaign.

In terms of partnership work and club development, to support the development of clubs a Minimum Operating Standard online resource was created and then launched in late 2022.

It has proven to be popular; it was successfully adopted by 90 clubs across Northern Ireland in early 2023.

Review is ongoing and findings from this will assist and shape support and resources being developed to support clubs.

MCDONALD'S PROGRAMMES

McDonald's Small-Sided Games (SSG) centres resumed across Northern Ireland in March 2022.

Initially they experienced a 20-30% drop in attendance compared to pre-pandemic levels, largely down to clubs adjusting to resumption of club business and to parental caution following the lifting of Covid restrictions.

However, participation numbers subsequently increased and are now nearing pre-pandemic levels.

TOTAL NUMBER OF PLAYERS DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN MCDONALD'S SSG CENTRES

11,313
 CONSISTING OF
9864 BOYS
 AND
1449 GIRLS
 COORDINATED BY
101
 REGULAR VOLUNTEERS

The recovery in participation numbers can be attributed to a shift in focus to a direct club development and assistance position by the Foundation's Regional Grassroots Development Officers and the People and Clubs development officer.

Interaction with clubs included information sharing, club visits and a series of innovative online webinars and workshops.

Girls' participation in SSG centres has increased dramatically, undoubtedly boosted by the Northern Ireland senior women's team's appearance at a first major tournament, last summer's Women's Euros in England.

At the end of 2022 the total number of players directly involved in McDonald's SSG centres was 11,313, consisting of 9864 boys and 1449 girls. The centres across Northern Ireland are co-ordinated by 101 regular volunteers.

Fun Football, a McDonald's flagship project, is also performing well across Northern Ireland.

The latest tranche of the programme, launched in May 2022, is set to deliver more than 10.5 million hours of Fun Football over a four-year period in England,

746 CHILDREN
 AGED 5-11 YEARS TOOK PART
 INCLUDING
142 GIRLS
 ACROSS
39 CENTRES

Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, making it the largest grassroots participation programme in the UK.

The aim is to provide over one million children aged 5 to 11 with the opportunity to enjoy free football coaching over the 48-month period.

In Northern Ireland sessions now include provision for disability football, while sessions are also being run for children from ethnic minorities.

The first of the new centres were delivered with a new delivery partner, Multi-Ethnic Sports and Cultures NI (MSCNI), in the autumn. A total of 746 children took part, including 142 girls, across 39 centres.

MCDONALD'S GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL AWARDS

The annual McDonald's Irish FA Grassroots Football Awards, which celebrated 22 years in Northern Ireland in 2022, recognise the unbelievable work and commitment of football clubs and volunteers who give up their time and make a long-lasting impact on young people and communities across Northern Ireland.

The 2022 awards ceremony, hosted at the National Football Stadium at Windsor Park for the first time, featured a raft of high profile ambassadors, including World Cup winner Sir Geoff Hurst, Northern Ireland great Pat Jennings and Julie Nelson, the first Northern Ireland senior women's team player to win 100 caps.

Irish FA President Conrad Kirkwood congratulated the winners and said he was thrilled to welcome them to the National Football Stadium at Windsor Park. He said: "Our mission at the Irish FA is to promote, foster and develop football for all in Northern Ireland, and the work that these volunteers do year in, year out is nothing short of incredible."

Almost 600 entries were received from across Northern Ireland - across eight awards categories.



The 2022 winners in each category were:

Football Restaurant of the Year	McDonald's Lurgan
Football for All Award	St Malachy's Old Boys Youth (Belfast)
Futsal Award	Omagh Futsal Club
Young Volunteer of the Year	Charlie Rush (Castle Juniors, Bangor)
Volunteer of the Year	Malcolm Hanna (Dromara Village, Co Down)
Wes Gregg Coach of the Year	Chris Finlay (Ballymacash Rangers, Lisburn)
Club of the Year	Lisburn Rangers Ladies
People's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Grassroots Football	Gerry Doherty (Foyle Harps, Derry/Londonderry)



PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The Foundation's Player Development Programme (PDP) focused on players within four regions across Northern Ireland: North East, South East, North West and South West.

Trials and training sessions were held over a 12-week period and culminated in a National Festival Day at Crumlin Leisure Centre.

Players were selected via Talent ID at development games (observed October 2021 to January 2022) as well as via a two-week trial process (March 2022).

The training programme was subsequently staged at various locations across Northern Ireland from April – leading to the festival event.

Further Talent ID opportunities were undertaken by National Performance Programme (NPP) scouts linking both the PDP and the NPP, which feeds in to the Irish FA JD Academy.

BACK IN THE GAME

The Foundation's Back in the Game programme, which is aimed at women aged over 30 and men aged over 35 who have previously hung up their boots to either get playing again or get involved in football in a non-playing capacity, picked up pace again post the pandemic.

Nine regional festivals were delivered during the year across Northern Ireland. A total of 394 players, across 48 teams, took part in the events, including 22 female players. Three of the festivals were staged in the Belfast area, with 14 teams participating.

The resumption of the programme, while welcome, highlighted that post pandemic the casual profile of the target market needs to be reviewed alongside the promotion of this area of football activity.

The establishment of an Emerge fortnightly league as part of the programme is gaining in popularity, while the regional festivals proved to be more attractive to players when linked with charities or community groups keen to promote their work.

THIS YEAR WE DELIVERED

9

REGIONAL FESTIVALS ACROSS NORTHERN IRELAND WITH

394

PLAYERS ACROSS

48

TEAMS WHICH INCLUDED

22

FEMALE PLAYERS



SCHOOLS' FOOTBALL

The Foundation was once again heavily involved in helping to organise football competitions for boys' and girls' teams from post primary schools across the country.

St Columb's College from Derry-Londonderry were the winners of the Translink Schools' Gold Cup in 2022, defeating Belfast school St Malachy's College on the final day.

The annual competition involves eight post-primary schools in Northern Ireland who have been awarded the Gold Schools Quality Mark accreditation by the Foundation – and matches are played at U13, U15 and U17 levels.

In the Electric Ireland Schools' Cup competitions for girls' teams Belfast's Dominican College won the Junior Cup and Holy Cross College Strabane were victorious in the Senior Cup decider.

St Paul's High School Bessbrook won the mixed nine-a-side competition and in the new Further Education Cup competition Northern Regional College (Coleraine) ran out worthy winners against Impact Training at Inver Park. NIFL (Belfast Academy) were victorious at the Further Education Futsal Finals.

The Foundation's Schools team continued to work with schools on improving internal structures to allow schools' football to flourish, with 16 primary and six post primary schools completing the qualification in 2022.





“
THE SPORTS PROGRAMME HELPS INTRODUCE CHILDREN TO NEW SPORTS AND SKILLS AND AIMS TO DEVELOP A LIFELONG LOVE OF SPORT.
 ”

SCHOOLS SPORTS PROGRAMME

The Schools Sports Programme, funded by the Department of Education, is a sports coaching programme for primary schools in Northern Ireland.

It is delivered by the Foundation's Let Them Play Officers and Ulster GAA coaches and is aimed at pupils aged 7-11. The programme is designed to provide specialist expertise to support delivery of the Key Stage 2 (KS2) PE curriculum – and it ran in approximately 150 primary schools across Northern Ireland in 2022.

On a weekly basis Let Them Play Officers deliver 240 sessions during curriculum time in the areas of athletics, dance, games and gymnastics with the aim of raising confidence, resilience, self-esteem and motivation of all pupils.

The Sports Programme helps introduce children to new sports and skills and aims to develop a lifelong love of sport. It is an exciting opportunity for schools to strengthen and deepen the delivery of the PE curriculum with support provided to teachers and school leaders. During 2022 the sessions were attended by 16,128 pupils (8086 boys and 8042 girls).

An end of programme survey asked teachers to evaluate the programme and reflect on their own development and the impact the programme had on their pupils. The overall rating of the programme was 92% excellent and 7% good, while 94% of teachers said the programme and coach added value to PE provision at KS2. In addition 88% of teachers said the programme helped them feel motivated to deliver PE.

“
THE SESSIONS FOCUSED ON INCREASED SLEEP, HYDRATION, CHILD-SIZED PORTIONS, HEALTHY FOOD CHOICES, LIMITING SCREEN TIME AND MINIMISING INTAKE OF HIGH FAT/SUGAR/SALT FOODS.
 ”

TEACHERS SAID THE SESSIONS HELPED CHILDREN TO

FEEL POSITIVE ABOUT BEING ACTIVE	GAIN CONFIDENCE	DEVELOP SELF-ESTEEM	BE HAPPY	TAKE PART IN MORE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IN SCHOOL
96%	92%	90%	97%	81%



Teachers said the sessions helped children to feel positive about being active (96%), gain confidence (92%), develop self-esteem (90%), be happy (97%), and to take part in more physical activity in school (81%).

15% of teachers said they would have delivered little or no activities if the programme support was not available.

Also, in partnership with Safefood, the Irish FA's safe and healthy eating partner, LTPOs delivered 'healthy

know-how for active kids' sessions to pupils who participate in the Sports Programme.

The sessions focused on increased sleep, hydration, child-sized portions, healthy food choices, limiting screen time and minimising intake of high fat/sugar/salt foods. Safefood content has become part of the core messages within all Sports Programme sessions. The programme was delivered to 2545 pupils (1344 boys and 1201 girls) during the year.

In addition PE sessions focusing on topics such as bullying, healthy lifestyle choices and resilience were provided specifically during relevant awareness weeks. Themed sessions were held in May for Mental Health Awareness Week and in November for Anti-Bullying Week.

GRASSROOTS AND FOOTBALL BOOKS

The project offers primary and special needs schools the opportunity to encourage pupils to read books using football as a topic to stimulate reading activity.

An advisory group was established and included professionals from education.

In addition the Foundation embarked on a series of discussions with the National Literacy Trust (NLT) and actively explored a collaborative approach to enhancing the project and supporting a significant bid to funders.

NLT are the main operators of the Premier League Primary Stars programme delivered as part of many Premier League clubs' community schemes, some of which have substantial budgets.

The discussions focused on how any partnership would work and how project outcomes would benefit the Foundation's aims.

With support from NLT, the Foundation submitted a funding bid to the Big Lottery Fund in October 2022. A decision is pending.

“
THE PROJECT OFFERS PRIMARY AND SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOOLS THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENCOURAGE PUPILS TO READ BOOKS USING FOOTBALL AS A TOPIC TO STIMULATE READING ACTIVITY.
 ”



NORTHERN IRELAND BOYS' FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

The Irish FA Foundation continues to support the Northern Ireland Boys' FA (NIBFA).

Building on the positive return to play following the Covid-19 pandemic, NIBFA programmes continue to thrive through the activity of affiliated leagues.

This is reflected in the record number of 565 teams participating in the national cup competitions and the matching membership of more than 1700 teams.

NIBFA's focus in the next three years is to help clubs stabilise and develop, with support and bursaries available across coach education, first aid and safeguarding.

The Association also undertook to supply sports safety goggles frames for young players with demand across all leagues for a total of 608 pairs.

During the year Jim Weir MBE revealed he would be stepping down as NIBFA secretary.

Jim has spent 46 years as a volunteer working tirelessly to achieve and create the best environment where young footballers could enjoy and thrive in the game.

He made an immense contribution to youth football in Northern Ireland. He was key to the establishment of the Dundonald Youth League, Northern Ireland Milk Cup (now SuperCup NI) and the NIBFA.

“
NIBFA'S FOCUS IN THE NEXT THREE YEARS IS TO HELP CLUBS STABILISE AND DEVELOP, WITH SUPPORT AND BURSARIES AVAILABLE ACROSS COACH EDUCATION, FIRST AID AND SAFEGUARDING.
 ”

OBJECTIVE 2 ADVANCING HEALTH AND WELLBEING

To advance the health and wellbeing of the people of Northern Ireland by leading on the development of a Northern Ireland-wide football and positive mental health campaign for men and women.



FRESH START THROUGH SPORT

The Fresh Start Through Sport programme was successfully delivered for a second year.

The initiative focuses on young males and females aged 16-24 in Fresh Start areas across Northern Ireland who are at risk from paramilitarism and/or organised crime.

Ulster University provided a positive evaluation of the programme, which is supported by Department for Communities, Department of Justice (Ending the Harm) and PSNI.

It is delivered by the Foundation in partnership with Ulster Rugby, Ulster GAA and the Belfast Giants.

During the year the programme was delivered to 100 young people in east Belfast, Ards, Lurgan and Derry-Londonderry.

The inclusion of an ambassador programme and Open College Network (OCN) qualification in sport and volunteering enhanced the already successful programme.

Along with Ulster University, the Foundation also made a presentation to the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee at Westminster on how sport can be used to tackle paramilitarism.

“
**DURING THE YEAR
THE PROGRAMME
WAS DELIVERED TO
100 YOUNG PEOPLE IN
EAST BELFAST, ARDS,
LURGAN AND DERRY-
LONDONDERRY.**
”

STAY ONSIDE

The Foundation's innovative Stay Onside programme, which is run in partnership with PSNI and Northern Ireland Prison Service, was delivered across all prison establishments in Northern Ireland and in the community to young people and young adults at risk of offending.

During the year Hydebank Wood College in south Belfast facilitated the delivery of the first female-only programme for inmates, and it proved to be a big success.

HMP Maghaberry and HMP Magilligan had several courses delivered, with HMP Maghaberry seeing both integrated and separated prisoners complete the programme.

Ulster University has been involved in designing the delivery of the modules, which have focused on a range of topics linked to the sociology of football.

Stay Onside community programmes continue to expand, with a wide range of programmes planned for delivery.

These programmes will help communities tackle anti-social behaviour, create safer communities and help young people into playing, coaching, refereeing and/or volunteering.



UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME

The success of both Fresh Start Through Sport and Stay Onside led to the United Nations funding the delivery of a new project which focuses on young people at risk of violent extremism.

The Foundation and the Belfast Giants delivered four programmes - in Coleraine, north Belfast, Carrickfergus and Newry - to more than 80 young people and adults.

The project was one of 10 chosen for delivery throughout the world - and endorsed the excellent work the Foundation is doing in this area.

There was a particular focus on female and ethnic minorities engagement.

As part of the initiative one of the programme ambassadors attended an event in Qatar prior to the start of FIFA World Cup 2022. She shared her story and inspired other young people.



AHEAD OF THE GAME

Ahead of the Game (AOTG) is the Irish FA's mental health programme for football clubs.

In 2022 a total of 24 workshops were delivered across the country. There were 402 participants, with 307 of them male and 95 female.

Some of the workshops were delivered virtually, but most were face-to-face. The return to in-person workshops following the pandemic was warmly welcomed by participants, according to research.

In addition a lecturer carried out research on the AOTG programme and concluded that volunteers "who had engaged in the Irish Football Association 'Ahead of the Game' programme demonstrated a significantly increased level of mental health literacy in comparison to those who had not".

Another exciting development has been ongoing work with AOTG partners to develop Ahead of the Game Youth.

It is a games-based approach to mental health for youth teams and was successfully piloted among a handful of clubs in 2022.

The Foundation is continuing to work with Tackling Awareness of Mental Health Issues (TAMHI), Inspire Wellbeing and Sports Chaplaincy UK as part of the programme.

Their insight and knowledge has helped to build the programme and create quality content so that football can be used as a vehicle to support mental health awareness, tackle mental health issues and reduce the stigma around mental health.

AOTG is funded through the UEFA HatTrick programme focusing on the strand of Football Social Responsibility (FSR).

AHEAD OF THE GAME – MENTAL HEALTH CHAMPIONS

A huge success story within the Ahead of the Game programme was the launch of the Mental Health (MH) Champions initiative.

Initially prospective champions were required to complete applications to be regional volunteers to help clubs within their areas.

The aim was to find one volunteer for each of Northern Ireland's 11 council areas.

The target was surpassed, however, due to the strength and depth of the applications and 23 eligible volunteers were selected to be MH Champions.

The launch of the initiative took place in April 2022 and the volunteers were welcomed to the National Football Stadium at Windsor Park for food and conversation - and to be provided with an overview of the vision of the initiative.



The vision is simple: to build capacity in the Foundation's Ahead of the Game programme by having regional ambassadors promoting positive mental health awareness among clubs throughout Northern Ireland.

The launch event was supported by Irish FA Chief Executive Patrick Nelson and Irish FA President Conrad Kirkwood.

Other organisations represented at the event included TAMHI, Inspire, GamCare, Sports Chaplaincy UK, Sport NI and the Mental Health Champion for Northern Ireland, Professor Siobhan O'Neill.

One of the first areas of work was the champions linking in with AOTG partner TAMHI to help support clubs running mental health awareness tournaments across Northern Ireland in aid of Mental Health Awareness Week in May.

The MH Champions have also undertaken a range of training opportunities in mental health awareness, including Mental Health First Aid and how to deliver Ahead of the Game workshops.

A number of the MH Champions will be upskilled over time, not only to promote the AOTG programme to clubs and groups but also to deliver workshops and provide follow-up sessions.

OBJECTIVE 3 ADVANCING EDUCATION

To advance education by providing work experience and support to educational establishments and extra-curricular educational groups (targeting young people including those not in education or employment [NEETs] and areas of social need).

OVERVIEW

During the year the Foundation's Education and Employability programme continued to grow. 2022 saw the introduction of two new courses to the programme, a Social Media Awareness workshop and a Performance Analysis workshop.

The Foundation's work placement programme returned following the pandemic. These placements provided placements varying between week-long, monthly and year-long, giving young people in education valuable industry experience both on and off the field.



OBJECTIVE 4 ADVANCING INCLUSIVITY

To adopt an inclusive approach so that all members of the community have access to our initiatives, regardless of background, gender, religion, politics, race or sexual orientation, in support of the wider charitable objectives of the Irish Football Association.

OVERVIEW

Disability football continues to grow rapidly with there now being more than 50 pan-disability clubs giving opportunities to those with disabilities to play the beautiful game.

Let Them Play Officers offer free coaching to every special educational needs (SEN) school in the country and there are also impairment-specific opportunities for cerebral palsy, visual impairment and wheelchair users.

The Foundation's community relations work covers a large number of areas, ranging from anti-sectarianism workshops and anti-racism awareness campaigns to homeless programmes and a partnership with UEFA engaging with refugees.

Foundation staff also participated in two Erasmus programmes looking at bringing communities together throughout Europe.

The Northern Ireland senior women's team's participation at the Women's Euros in July saw interest in women's and girls' football at an all-time high in Northern Ireland. Girls-only programmes continue to expand rapidly.

During 2022 the Foundation also focused on the development of female coaches with course timetables designed to suit candidates, mentor programmes, leadership programmes and female-only courses to encourage more female representation in all areas of the game.

The Electric Ireland Shooting Stars programme seeks to engage girls at the youngest age group and give them a lifelong love of the game. With 15 centres across the country, and an average of 25 girls at each centre, this programme will continue to encourage young girls to start their footballing journey.

The Playmakers programme in partnership with UEFA and Disney continues to be delivered in 30 primary schools throughout Northern Ireland, engaging young girls and encouraging them to play the game outside school in clubs or at a Shooting Stars centre.



32
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ENGAGED IN THE PROGRAMME

535
STUDENTS (AGED 14 - 18)

30+
TEACHERS UPSKILLED

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYABILITY PROGRAMME

The Foundation's Education and Employability Programme has been expanding and progressively changing over time.

Across Northern Ireland 32 educational institutions have participated in different aspects of the programme.

Many students received learning opportunities during 2022, with 535 students between the ages of 14 and 18 and more than 30 teachers upskilling themselves.

The students who participated also had the chance to gain experience by working on holiday camps and many other Foundation activities.

They worked in the council areas of North Down and Ards, Belfast, Causeway Coast and Glens plus Antrim and Newtownabbey.

The Education Team welcomed several new schools to the programme during what was a productive year, while new courses and projects were also created.

The Foundation is aiming to offer more possibilities to young people throughout Northern Ireland thanks to plans to collaborate with several new schools, starting in September 2023.

It also continues to work with and deliver Open College Network courses and this year delivered three

Street Soccer National Coaching Certificate courses across the country, helping several individuals to embark on coaching journeys.

Meanwhile, as a result of its affiliation with Ulster University Jordanstown and the part-time degree programme in Football Coaching and Business Management, the Foundation was able to formalise its placement programme involving students from the university.

It was agreed that third year students from the degree programme would join the organisation for a six to eight month internship in a variety of disciplines.

GIRLS' AND WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

UEFA Disney Playmakers Programme

UEFA Playmakers delivers a fun and safe introduction to football through movement, play and the magic of Disney storytelling. It is aimed at girls aged five to eight.

28 SCHOOLS | **966** PARTICIPANTS

During the year 966 new participants took part in the programme.

Focusing on developing fundamental movement, life skills and football skills, it involves girls playing out their favourite films and taking on the roles of some of the best loved characters of all time.

'Moana' is the most recent addition to the films used in the programme. The others are 'Incredibles 2' and 'Frozen II'.

The 2022 sessions were delivered across 28 new schools close to a Shooting Stars centre, helping to encourage girls to enter the Foundation's girls' and women's player pathway.

During the year the Foundation trained 14 new Playmaker deliverers to help with the rollout of the programme in schools.

Electric Ireland Shooting Stars

The Electric Ireland Shooting Stars programme gives young girls aged 4 to 11 an introduction to football.

The ethos of the programme is for girls to come along, have fun, meet new friends and learn new skills with the hope of falling in love with the game.



Foundation staff promote the programme through schools' festivals. In 2022 they staged 24 festivals which were attended by more than 3,000 participants.

24 SCHOOLS' FESTIVALS | **3,000** PARTICIPANTS

The festivals create an experience for the young players to see exactly how a Shooting Stars session would work and what to expect.

The programme is the next step for Disney Playmakers participants. Foundation staff create a friendly and fun environment for young females to gain confidence in themselves and their football.

The programme creates a clear pathway for young females from school to community. With 15 centres across the country, delivering to 578 participants during the year, the aim is to make sure every girl in Northern Ireland has the opportunity to be part of the programme.

The next step for young players in the pathway would be linking in to their local clubs. The Foundation wants to encourage lifelong participation in football and believes it is important to provide a clear pathway for girls.

Within the Shooting Stars programme the Foundation helps to upskill young coaches to gain experience in both voluntary and paid employment.

The opportunities lead to the young coaches gaining knowledge and understanding of how to coach young people. This enables them to take part in grassroots introduction awards and then move up the coaching ladder.

15 CENTRES | **578** PARTICIPANTS

Girls-Only Small Sided Games

During the year the number of girls-only Small-Sided Games (SSG) centres expanded from five to seven.

The centres are thriving and have seen a huge increase in the number of registered teams over the past few years - and 2022 was significant as 54 new teams entered the two new centres.

Almost 180 girls' teams are now playing in the Belfast City, Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough, Lisburn and Castlereagh City, Derry City and Strabane District and Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon district council areas.

That figure does not include clubs and teams playing in mixed programmes in Northern Ireland's 11 council areas.

The plan each year is to strengthen the existing centres and expand to introduce girls-only centres in more areas, making football easily accessible for clubs.

The foundation also piloted single age bands in the Antrim and Newtownabbey programme as well as in the Belfast centre.

Meanwhile, 20 women from 13 different clubs across Northern Ireland graduated from the Female Football Leadership Programme during the year.

They were presented with their graduation certificates by Irish FA President Conrad Kirkwood at a special ceremony.

The event was hosted by broadcaster Denise Watson and featured a panel discussion with Northern Ireland senior women's team captain Marissa Callaghan and defender Julie Nelson who highlighted the importance of developing and equipping women for leadership positions within football.

54 NEW TEAMS ENTERED
2 NEW SSG CENTRES
180 GIRLS' TEAMS





2
NCC COURSES
50+
PARTICIPANTS

FEMALE COACH EDUCATION

During the year two female-only National Coaching Certificate courses were delivered, taking place in Belfast and Coleraine. More than 50 females took part across both courses.

Each course provided a positive learning environment for players, coaches and those returning to the game.

They helped support them in developing an understanding of the role of a coach through both theory sessions and practical sessions on the pitch.

December 2022 saw the completion of a female-only UEFA C Licence coaching course, staged at Ulster University's Jordanstown sports complex, by 17 females.



The course format was hybrid to suit the needs of the candidates. Current players from the NIFL and NIWFA leagues were on the course along with current female international players.

The UEFA C diploma is a key participation award in the Irish FA coaching pathway. It provides candidates with the skills to provide a positive developmental experience that enhances players' enjoyment, knowledge and skill regardless of age, ability, gender or background.

WOMEN'S FULL-TIME PROGRAMME

January 2022 saw the introduction of a seven-month full-time training programme to support the women's senior team in preparation for the UEFA Women's Euros finals, held in England in July 2022.

In addition to the training programme players also carried out ambassador activity which included visiting local schools and clubs, and attending various events. This activity helped to inspire the next generation of players and create greater visibility of girls' and women's football in Northern Ireland.

DOMESTIC LEAGUES THRIVE

Cliftonville Ladies became NIFL Danske Bank Women's Premiership champions for the first time in 2022.

Glentoran Women defeated Crusaders Strikers 3-1 in the County Antrim FA Challenge Cup final at the Blanchflower Stadium.

The Electric Ireland Challenge Cup was also won by Glentoran Women for a fourth consecutive year, defeating Sion Swifts Ladies 2-1 in the decider at the National Football Stadium at Windsor Park.

Meanwhile, in the Northern Ireland Women's Football Association (NIWFA) leagues, Larne Women were triumphant in the Championship, which earned them promotion to the Premiership for 2023.

Ballymena United Women, who were runners-up in the Championship, also gained promotion to the expanded top flight, which now features 10 teams from across Northern Ireland.



The other NIWFA title winners were: Division 1 - Lisburn Rangers Ladies; Division 2 - Camlough Rovers Ladies; Division 3 - Ballymoney United Ladies; Division 4 - Craigavon City Ladies; Division 5A - Lisbellaw United Ladies; Division 5B - Draperstown Celtic Diamonds.

DISABILITY FOOTBALL

The coaching programme continues to develop in special educational needs (SEN) settings across Northern Ireland.

Free coaching blocks remain popular, with 23 schools receiving 18 hours of coaching each during the year, with more than 500 pupils benefitting thanks to the support and delivery of the Foundation's Let Them Play Officers.

The Foundation continues to support the creation of disability sections in mainstream clubs as part of the Inclusive Clubs project.

In 2022 disability sections were created at Cliftonville and Ballymena United. Support was also given to Orchardville and Destined who both now operate football teams for those with a learning disability.

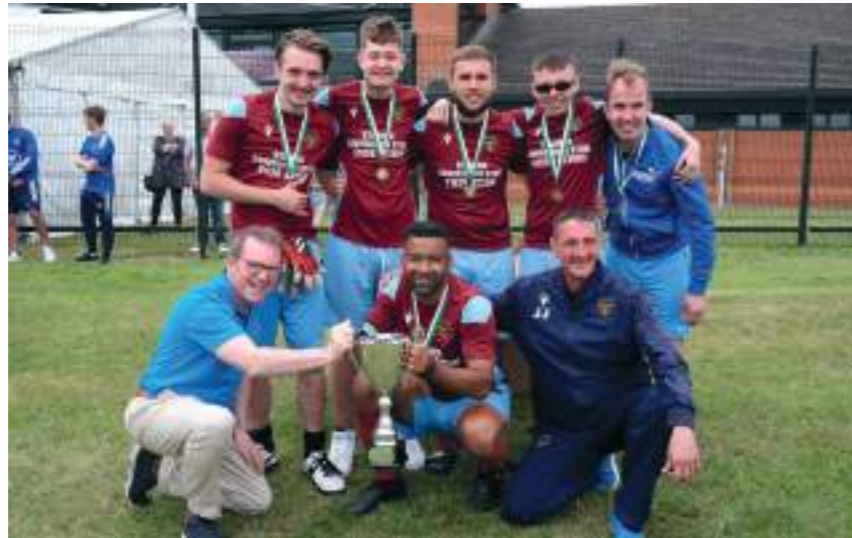
The Foundation is also currently working with Dungannon Swifts, Cookstown Youth and Moyola Park to address the lack of opportunity in the Mid Ulster region. It is hoped all three clubs will have disability provision in 2023.

There are currently 57 clubs across Northern Ireland providing regular participation opportunities for those with a disability – and the Foundation continues to run several competitions for the clubs.

During the year 23 teams competed in the Irish FA Foundation Senior Disability League across four ability bands. More than 60 games were played per monthly session between October and May.

The winners of each section were:

Premiership	Linfield
Championship	Linfield B
League 1	St James' Swifts C
League 2	CSP



The first year of the Irish FA Foundation Junior Disability League saw 14 clubs competing in two age categories, 7-10 and 11-14. There were two divisions in the 11-14 age band to suit ability levels.

The winners of each section were:

7-10	Glentoran
11-14 Premiership	Glentoran
11-14 Championship	Hanover All Stars (Portadown)

The George Best Community Cup attracted 53 teams from across the UK and Ireland. The annual five-a-side competition for adults with a disability was once again staged at the Billy Neill complex in Dundonald during the summer.

There were four ability bands (divisions) in the competition. The winners were:

Premiership	Linfield
Championship	Eaton Socon (Cambridgeshire)
League 1	Glentoran
League 2	Hillsborough Boys



The Northern Ireland Cerebral Palsy (CP) squad competed in the 2022 World Championships held in Salou in Spain during April/May.

The Junior CP development squad continues to grow with more than 20 players registered and they enjoyed competing in the Irish FA Foundation Junior Disability League in its first season.

Meanwhile, Trailblazers Powerchair Football Club (Belfast) finished in second place in the AIPF Powerchair League that involves clubs from across the island of Ireland. Lightning PFC (Lisburn) finished in fifth place with Enniskillen-based side Devenish Warriors finishing seventh.

The Northern Ireland senior and development Powerchair Football squads played in the 2022 Home Nations Championships staged in Blair Mayne Leisure Complex in Newtownards.

In the Senior Home Nations competition Northern Ireland finished third behind winners England and Republic of Ireland. Scotland were fourth.

In the Home Nations development competition England were first once again and Northern Ireland finished as runners-up. The Republic of Ireland were third and Scotland fourth.

The senior Northern Ireland team had several training sessions during 2022 as they look forward to competing in the FIPFA World Cup in October 2023 in Sydney, Australia.

Coach education remains an important supporting structure in this area of football development.

During the year six IFA Level 1 Coaching Disabled Footballers courses were delivered to 100-plus coaches.

A two-hour disability awareness module was also delivered as part of the Connect and Stay Onside programmes to eight groups, attracting over 100 participants.

The Castlereagh Glentoran Supporters' Club Ulster Disability Footballer of the Year 2022 award was won by Linfield Disability FC goalkeeper Dylan McCready.

Linfield secured the league and Community Cup double during the year and Dylan played a huge part in that. Ballymena United manager David Jeffrey was on hand to present Dylan with his richly deserved award.

IRISH FA FOUNDATION DISABILITY FOOTBALL

2022 Participation

Programme	Frequency	Details	Participation Numbers
Schools coaching (special education)	Weekly 1 hr sessions per school (minimum 6 sessions)	21 schools	251
Clubs	Weekly	57 clubs in Northern Ireland catering for various disabilities	2350
Irish FA Foundation Disability League – Seniors, ages 15+	Monthly	National League 28 teams	196
Irish FA Foundation Disability League – Juniors, ages 7-10 & 11-14	Monthly	National Leagues 18 teams	120
Special Olympics 7-a-side League	Monthly	11 teams	132
International Cerebral Palsy	Fortnightly	National Squads Junior & Senior	40
Visual Impairment	Weekly	Two clubs - Lisburn & Londonderry Junior & Senior sections	34
Powerchair Football Clubs (3)	Weekly	Three clubs - Belfast, Lisburn & Enniskillen	28
Powerchair Football International	Fortnightly	Belfast	12
Frame Football	Weekly	One club - Coleraine	8
Coach Education		6 x IFA Level 1 CDFA	118
		4 x Disability Module through Connect project	92
Walking Football	Weekly	14 groups across NI	250
Total			3631

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Despite the pandemic, the foundation's community relations work reached all corners of Northern Ireland during the year. There was plenty of online activity, and when Covid restrictions began to ease later in the year in-person events and activities returned.

EVERYBODY'S GAME

The Foundation's racism awareness and equality course, Everybody's Game, was delivered widely across Northern Ireland in 2022.

It was run in youth settings, schools, clubs, programmes for refugees and as part of the Foundation's Connect programme.

Everybody's Game workshops are continually evolving to reflect contemporary issues surrounding football.

COMMON GROUND

Common Ground, the Foundation's anti-sectarianism course supporting good relations within sport, was delivered to numerous clubs and communities during the year as part of the Connect programme.

It was also delivered as part of Fresh Start through Sport, both as a module and as a standalone workshop.

Foundation staff continue to promote good relations through the reach of the Foundation and the power of football.

CONNECT

The Connect programme offers good relations and educational modules to increase diversity and mutual understanding through football.

Working with delivery partners, the programme is often bespoke to the needs of participating groups in order to have the most impact.

Alongside a number of core modules, Everybody's Game and Common Ground workshops, topics featured under the programme cover a range of awareness pieces.

Connect, which also offers pathways into the game via volunteering, refereeing and coaching qualifications, continued to grow in 2022, with a range of groups completing the programme.

UEFA FOOTBALL AND REFUGEES

The UEFA Football and Refugees programme has allowed the Foundation to directly help refugees and asylum seekers within Northern Ireland.

Foundation staff have been running weekly sessions at several different facilities to accommodate as many groups as possible.

As part of a focus on integration, tickets to games as well as stadium tours were provided.

The Foundation also ran tournaments, while participants directly benefitted from a staff kit donation project.

In addition a Refugee National Coaching Certificate (NCC) and Connect programme for male and female refugees was delivered.

Participants were also signposted to volunteer opportunities within the Foundation and clubs.



VETERANS SUPPORT

During the year, in partnership with Andy Allen Veterans Support NI, the Foundation supported a number of projects and programmes for veterans.

One of the highlights was a Family Fun Day staged at Ardnally Outdoor Activity Centre.

A range of coach education opportunities were provided, from National Coaching Certificate courses up to UEFA A courses.

Families of veterans have been key to the partnership. Stadium tours as well as seasonal camps have been organised by veterans and their families with support from Foundation and Irish FA staff.

STADIUM COMMUNITY OUTREACH

In partnership with community groups, the Foundation continued to provide opportunities and activities for residents who live near the stadium.

During the Christmas period there was a festive ball for young people. For seniors in the area a tea dance was held at the National Football Stadium with entertainment and a Christmas dinner.

Prior to international games those living close to the stadium were invited to fan zones.

The Foundation also ran seasonal camps for children as part of its engagement work with the Irish FA's neighbours.

SPORT TOGETHER

The Foundation continued to play a key role in Sport Together, a cross-European project aimed at strengthening social inclusion in divided communities.

The project has a focus on young people and girls and to increase



participation of disadvantaged groups - in particular refugees and newly-arrived migrants and minorities - in grassroots sport.

Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union, with seven partner countries, it is aiming to tackle threats to social cohesion through training, education, awareness-raising, capacity-building of sport stakeholders and cross-community youth sport.

During 2022 - the second year of the project - the Foundation worked with various groups to develop learning and opportunities for under-represented groups in post conflict regions.

Crusaders Strikers represented Northern Ireland at a Sport Together event in Austria which focused on co-operation through football.



The Foundation also hosted partners from across Europe to exchange ideas on best practice.

The partners got the opportunity to attend the Northern Ireland v Kosovo UEFA Nations League match in September and to take a tour of Belfast to learn about the city's history.

BAME SUPPORT

The Foundation extended engagement with BAME community groups, creating new working relationships. Bespoke programmes were delivered through recreational sessions linked with a range of workshops on topics including mental health, anti-racism, anti-sectarianism, trauma support, resilience training and formal coach education.

SAFEGUARDING

Strong and robust safeguarding practice often provides the platform for children and young people to thrive and have a positive experience in youth football. It not only informs the culture that football is played in but equips those delivering the activity with the necessary skills to address any issues as they arise.

A key element to this will always be education. It is therefore vital that the Association provides appropriate training to the army of volunteers who commit their time to ensure the delivery of youth football.

The Association believes safeguarding training and education should be delivered at every level.

The Irish FA invited the NSPCC to deliver board level training to members of the Irish FA, Foundation and Stadium Development Company boards. Training covered a range of topics, including the roles and responsibilities of senior leaders and management regarding organisational safeguarding.

2022 also saw the appointment of Cheryl Lamont CBE as the Irish FA Board's Safeguarding Champion. Cheryl is a retired Chief Executive Officer of a high-profile public service organisation in Northern Ireland. She is a professionally qualified social worker, holds a master's in business administration and is a Churchill Fellow, having undertaken international research in domestic violence in the USA. Cheryl was appointed to the position of Deputy Lieutenant in the County Borough of Belfast in September 2022. Cheryl became a member of the The Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA) in February 2023 by public appointment.

The Royal Belgian FA hosted the 2022 UEFA Child and Youth Protection Summit which enabled safeguarding leads from European national associations to share experience, practices, challenges and resources in the area of child safeguarding.

The Safeguarding Team will endeavour to implement the learnings from the summit in the delivery of safeguarding work across the Association - and continue to build on the support network available from other national associations.

The Irish FA attended the European Football Development Network conference in Budapest in Hungary and was invited to participate in panel discussion groups on child online protection and what can be implemented at a club/organisational level.

This was followed up with breakout sessions, allowing the Irish FA the opportunity to highlight key areas of its work to all participants and provide examples of its good practice.

Campaigns continued across Northern Ireland throughout 2022, with the Irish FA supporting Parents in Sport Week. It aims to raise awareness of the vital role parents/guardians play in a child's participation in football and how they can address any concerns they may have that relate to their participation in football.

The Safeguarding Team engaged with the Northern Ireland Anti-Bullying Forum in the production of resources specific to football clubs to mark Anti-Bullying Week.

Castle Ladies FC demonstrated how clubs can tailor basic football training sessions to raise

awareness about issues faced by children and young people.

Ashleigh Flanigan, Irish FA Mental Health Champion and lead coach at Castle Ladies, delivered the session and follow-up work which was featured across Irish FA social media channels.

Let Them Play Officers donned 'Odd Socks' and delivered educational sessions in primary schools, demonstrating their ability to deliver not just an enjoyable activity but one that can support the physical and mental wellbeing of young people.

“
THE ASSOCIATION BELIEVES SAFEGUARDING TRAINING AND EDUCATION SHOULD BE DELIVERED AT EVERY LEVEL.
 ”

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

2023 will be headlined by the launch of a newly established Irish FA Foundation purpose document, which will be combined with new Foundation objectives and the launch of a four-year disability strategy.

Guided by the Irish FA corporate strategy 'A Roadmap for Football', operationally the Foundation will implement structural and strategy changes to maximise strategic targets.

With a Foundation purpose underpinned by a philosophy to 'build capacity and leave a legacy', it is anticipated that in 2023 the impact of the Foundation programmes will be felt more than ever before across schools, clubs and communities.

Building on the legacy of the Northern Ireland senior women's team's Euro 2022 success, now more than ever young girls and boys are interested in playing football.

The Foundation's three priority areas for 2023 are to:

- (1) increase youth football participation;
- (2) further develop girls' and women's opportunities; and
- (3) expand on corporate social responsibility impact.

Focusing on empowering more people and clubs, together with partners, the Foundation will endeavour to ensure that there is a safe, inclusive and accessible opportunity for every person in Northern Ireland to enjoy football.



“
 ...ENSURE THAT THERE IS A SAFE, INCLUSIVE AND ACCESSIBLE OPPORTUNITY FOR EVERY PERSON IN NORTHERN IRELAND TO ENJOY FOOTBALL.
 ”

GOVERNANCE

FINANCIAL REVIEW

For the year ended 31 December 2022 the Foundation had total income of £3,675k (2021: £2,546k) and total reserves at the end of the year of £1,653k (2021: £1,536k).

RESERVES POLICY

A financial target of the Foundation is to hold reserves equal to the anticipated operating expenditure for a normal six-month period.

PRINCIPAL FUNDING SOURCES

For the year ended 31 December 2022 the principal sources of funding for the Foundation were as follows:

- Sponsorship from partner organisations in the private sector, such as McDonald's and M&S
- Income from education and coaching activities
- Grant funding from partner organisations in the sporting sector including UEFA and FIFA
- Grant funding from partners in the public sector, including the European Union, Department for Communities, Department for Education and Belfast City Council
- Grant funding from partners in the philanthropic and charitable sectors

INVESTMENT POLICY AND OBJECTIVES

The Foundation takes a risk averse view on investment of cash reserves and as such maintains a regular current account with a major high street bank in which all funds are held.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the Foundation is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The trustees are aware of potential internal and external risks faced by the Foundation and assess those risks on a regular basis. Additionally they undertake a formal risk management exercise annually.

The key risks at the present time relate to the health and safety of participants in the Foundation's activities and the safeguarding of children and young people that are involved in the Foundation's activities. The Foundation has appropriate policies in place to manage these identified risks and all staff receive training to embed these policies in the day-to-day activities.

Other risks and emerging risks are monitored by the Foundation and relevant controls implemented to manage these risks in line with the Foundation's risk appetite set by the Board.

Management's going concern assessment has taken into consideration the current financial position and principal risks facing the entity, and consider that there is no material uncertainty relating to going concern.

The key judgments and estimates used to arrive at this conclusion include:

- The Foundation has sufficient liquidity and cash flow availability on an ongoing basis
- Confidence from UEFA on the growth of their HatTrick programme and confirmed growth within FIFA's Forward programmes.

- Support from various levels of government, including financial assistance
- Mitigating actions and processes implemented to ensure an effective control environment and availability of relevant management information on a continuing basis.

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The Foundation's vision is to create an environment in which everyone - staff, participants and the wider community - has equal, dignified ease of access to our organisation, services and facilities. The Foundation's aim is to be inclusive, supportive, fair and free from discrimination. The Foundation aims to actively promote equality and diversity and ensure that the legislation and policy requirements within the nine protected characteristics of equality and diversity are implemented into all working practices.

EMPLOYEES WITH DISABILITIES

Applications for employment by disabled persons are always considered fully, bearing in mind the aptitudes of the applicant concerned. It is the policy of the Foundation that the training, career development and promotion of disabled people should, as far as possible, be identical to that of other employees. So, in the event that a member of staff becomes disabled, we will make every effort to ensure that their employment with the Foundation continues. This includes making any proper adjustments necessary to accommodate their disability.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Irish FA Foundation is managed and controlled by its trustees who sit as its Board of Directors. The Board is made up of six members, three of which are appointed following public advertisement and the remaining three are nominated by the sole member (Irish FA). In accordance with the Articles of Association the three members nominated by the Association cannot hold a directorship at the Irish FA at the same time as being a trustee and director of the Foundation.

The Irish FA Senior Leadership Team provide executive day-to-day management functions for the Foundation and the Chief Executive of the Irish FA, who is not a director of the Irish FA, sits as one of the Irish FA nominees on the Foundation Board.

The Foundation operates within the governance framework of the Charity Commission and the Irish FA. Detailed descriptions and explanations of the Irish FA corporate governance environment are available in its Annual Report and Financial Statements.

INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

The trustees receive an induction upon appointment to the Board and undertake regular training and development. The Board convenes sessions to review governance practice and enhance professional competence required for the role of trustee.

Trustee	Jan	Feb	Apr	Jun	Sep	Nov
David Martin	●	●	●	●	●	●
Patrick Nelson	●	●	●	●	●	●
Allen McKinstry	●	●	○	●	●	●
Ryan Adams	○	●	●	●	○	●
Clare McAuley	●	●	●	○	●	●
Alan Willis	●	●	●	●	●	●

● Attended ○ Absent

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

All service by Board trustees is on a voluntary basis, with time and expertise freely donated to the work of the Irish FA Foundation. The Board continued to strengthen performance through recruitment, evaluation, and training. We thank them for their continuing input and support.

BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are planned six times per year to discuss and agree on various strategic matters. The Chairman, in conjunction with the CEO and the Company Secretary, plans an annual programme of business prior to the start of each financial year. This ensures that essential topics are covered at appropriate times, and that space is built in to give the Board the opportunity to have in-depth discussions on key issues.

The programme of business is prepared in conjunction with the annual programme for the Senior Leadership Team meetings, to ensure consistency and fluid reporting to the Board as and when required. All Trustees are expected to attend all Board meetings and details of attendance at meetings during the year are set out in this section. Trustees who were unable to attend specific meetings reviewed the relevant papers and provided their comments to the Chairman of the Board. Any Trustee who misses a meeting will, as a matter of course, receive the minutes of that meeting for reference.



David Martin
Trustee and Chairman
Date: 20 April 2023



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

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 Foundation and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Foundation for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102, 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 Foundation will continue in business

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

STATEMENT OF DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS

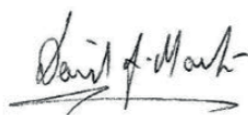
In so far as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the Foundation's auditor is unaware
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

The auditors, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, have indicated their willingness to remain in office and a resolution for their re-election will be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on their behalf.



David Martin
Trustee and Chairman

Date: 20 April 2023

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF IRISH FA FOUNDATION LIMITED

Report on the audit of the financial statements

OPINION

In our opinion, Irish FA Foundation Limited's financial statements (the "financial statements"):

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, and cash flows, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", and applicable law); and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements, included within the Annual Report and Financial Statements (the "Annual Report"), which comprise: the Charity balance sheet as at 31 December 2022; the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account) and the statement of cash flow for the year then ended and the notes to the financial statements, which include the accounting policies.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities under ISAs (UK) are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is

sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

INDEPENDENCE

We remained independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, which includes the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date on which the financial statements are authorised for issue.

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this conclusion is not a guarantee as to the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

REPORTING ON OTHER INFORMATION

The other information comprises all of the information in the Annual Report other than the financial

statements and our auditors' report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report based on these responsibilities.

With respect to the Trustees' Annual Report, we also considered whether the disclosures required by the UK Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011 have been included.

Based on our work undertaken in the course of the audit, the Companies Act 2006 requires us also to report certain opinions and matters as described below.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 is consistent with the financial statements and has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we did not identify any material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND THE AUDIT

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable framework and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The trustees are also responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees

either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

AUDITORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Based on our understanding of the charitable company, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and Regulation (8) of The Charities (Accounts and Reports)

Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to posting inappropriate journal entries to manipulate financial results, including the recognition of incoming resources, and management bias in accounting estimates or significant judgements. Audit procedures performed included:

- Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any journal entries posted with unusual account combinations;
- Assessed management's compliance with the commitments under their restricted funds;
- Discussions with management, including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;
- Reviewing the charitable company's litigation register as far as it related to non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud; and
- Reviewing relevant meeting minutes, including those of the Trustees.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in financial statements. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the

financial statements is located on the FRC's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditors' report.

USE OF THIS REPORT

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the charity's members as a body in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

OTHER REQUIRED REPORTING

COMPANIES ACT 2006 EXCEPTION REPORTING

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

- we have not obtained all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- adequate accounting records have not been kept or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns.

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

ENTITLEMENT TO EXEMPTIONS

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion, the trustees were not entitled to: prepare financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime; take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the Trustees' Annual Report; and take advantage of the small companies exemption from preparing a Strategic Report. We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.



Martin Cowie
Senior Statutory Auditor

for and on behalf of
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory
Auditors
Belfast
31 May 2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

for the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	2022			2021		
		Restricted Funds	Un-restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022	Restricted Funds	Un-restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Incoming resources							
Incoming resources from generated funds							
Contributions from governing bodies	4	1,478	-	1,478	939	-	939
Coaching, education and training		-	526	526	-	515	515
Sponsorship income		312	-	312	218	-	218
Grant funding		1,313	-	1,313	850	-	850
Income from other trading activities							
Income from other trading activities	5	-	46	46	-	24	24
Total incoming resources/income		3,103	572	3,675	2,007	539	2,546
Resources expended/expenditure							
Charitable activities							
Charitable activities	6	(3,289)	-	(3,289)	(2,173)	-	(2,173)
Support costs							
Support costs	7	(269)	-	(269)	(299)	-	(299)
Total resources expended/expenditure		(3,558)	-	(3,558)	(2,472)	-	(2,472)
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(455)	572	117	(465)	539	74
Transfer between funds		455	(455)	-	465	(465)	-
Net movement in funds		-	117	117	-	74	74
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		-	1,536	1,536	-	1,462	1,462
Total funds carried forward		-	1,653	1,653	-	1,536	1,536

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

Registered No. NI642595

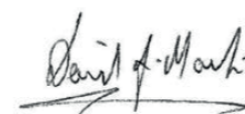
CHARITY BALANCE SHEET

at 31 December 2022

	Note	2022	2021
		£000	£000
Current assets			
Debtors	10	2,373	2,591
Cash and cash equivalents		122	641
		2,495	3,232
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
	11	(842)	(1,696)
Net current assets		1,653	1,536
Net assets		1,653	1,536
The funds of the charity			
Unrestricted funds	15	1,653	1,536
Restricted funds	15	-	-
Total funds		1,653	1,536

The notes on pages 53 to 59 are an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 50 to 59 were approved by the trustees on 20 April 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:



David Martin
Trustee and Chairperson
Date: 20 April 2023

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW

for the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Cash generated from operating activities		
Net outgoing/(incoming) resources before transfers	117	74
Movement in debtors	218	(595)
Movement in creditors	(854)	851
Cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	(519)	330
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	641	311
Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	122	641
	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Cash and cash equivalents consists of:		
Cash and cash equivalents	122	641
Total cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	122	641

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Irish FA Foundation Limited is a private company limited by guarantee, incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is the National Football Stadium at Windsor Park, Donegall Avenue, Belfast, BT12 6LU.

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of Preparation

The Foundation's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2015 (Charities SORP (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Irish FA Foundation Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost and transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s). The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis. Taking account of the risk review undertaken by the Trustees they do not consider there to be a risk to the going concern status of the Foundation.

b) Going concern

At the time of approving the accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Foundation has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and it is not anticipated that significant losses will be incurred over the period of 12 months from signing the financial

statements. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

c) Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the Foundation is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the Foundation has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under gift aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

On receipt, donated facilities or gifts in kind are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the Foundation which is the amount the Foundation would be willing to pay to obtain services and facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market, a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the Foundation has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grant have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

d) Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Support costs are those functions

that assist the work of the Foundation but do not directly undertake charitable activities.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Foundation in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to supply them. Support costs are allocated to their relevant activity based on the income received.

Pension Costs

The Foundation operates a defined contribution scheme for its employees. Contributions are charged to the statement of financial activities in the period to which they relate.

e) Fund accounting

The Foundation has various types of funds for which it is responsible and which require specific disclosure. A definition of the different types is as follows:

Restricted Funds

Restricted funds are to be used for specified purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of overheads and support costs.

Unrestricted Funds

Funds which are expendable at the discretion of the Foundation in furtherance of the purpose of the charity. In addition to expenditure on activities, such funds may be held in order to finance capital investment and working capital.

f) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

g) Foreign currency

Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of transactions and from the translation at period-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Foreign exchange gains and losses that relate to borrowings and cash and cash equivalents are presented in the Statement of Financial Activities. Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the spot exchange rates at the dates of the transactions. At each period end foreign currency monetary items are translated using the closing rate.

h) Grants payable

Grants are recognised in the accounts as liabilities after they have been approved by the trustees even if there are conditions attached to them. This is because there is a valid expectation by the recipients that they will receive the grant.

Where a grant is awarded for a period of greater than one year, future instalments of which are subject to satisfactory reports to the Foundation, the future grant instalments are included in commitments but are not recognised in the accounts until satisfactory reports are received. This is because the terms on which these grants are awarded do not create a valid expectation of receipt until the Foundation's trustees are satisfied with the reports received on the use made of the previous year's instalments.

i) Financial instruments

The Foundation has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the Foundation's balance sheet when the Foundation becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical judgements in applying the entity's accounting policies.

There are no critical judgements in applying the Foundation's accounting policies.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions.

There are no critical estimates and assumptions.

3. LEGAL STATUS OF THE FOUNDATION

The Foundation is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £1.

4. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM GENERATED FUNDS

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Contributions from football governing bodies	1,478	939
Coaching, education & training	526	515
Sponsorship income	312	218
Grant funding	1,313	850
Total	3,629	2,522

5. INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Other income	46	24

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES EXPENDITURE

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Wages and salaries	1,607	1,518
Events & competitions	958	288
Equipment & facilities	526	205
Grants provided	198	162
Total	3,289	2,173

7. SUPPORT COSTS EXPENDITURE

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Wages and salaries	121	101
Administration & professional fees	148	198
Total	269	299

8. NET (OUTGOING)/INCOMING RESOURCES

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
This is stated after charging:		
Salaries	1,482	1,410
Social security costs	142	125
Other pension costs	104	84
Staff costs	1,728	1,619

9. EMPLOYEES AND DIRECTORS**Employees**

The average monthly number of employees employed by the Foundation during the year was:

	2022	2021
	Number	Number
Average	57	59

Trustees

During the year no trustee received any emoluments (2021: £Nil).

Key management compensation

The compensation paid or payable to key management for employee services is shown below

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Key management compensation	232	175

£155k of Key Management Compensation was paid, and the charge borne, by the Irish Football Association (2021: £120k).

10. DEBTORS

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Trade debtors	2,067	2,403
Prepayments and accrued income	306	188
Total	2,373	2,591

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Trade Creditors	78	166
Accruals and deferred income	697	1,498
Other taxation and social security	67	32
Total	842	1,696

Deferred income relates to fundraising income and contributions from governing bodies recognised over more than one financial year in accordance with the accounting policy stated in note 1.

12. DEFERRED INCOME

	At 1 January 2022	Amounts released in the year	Additional provisions made	At 31 December 2022
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Contributions from football governing bodies	589	(262)	81	408
Coaching, education & training	8	(8)	27	27
Sponsorship income	82	(293)	260	49
Grant funding	669	(1,251)	691	109
Total	1,348	(1,814)	1,059	593

13. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Foundation has the following financial instruments:

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Financial assets held at amortised cost		
Trade debtors	2,067	2,403
Accrued income	165	118
Total	2,232	2,521
Financial liabilities held at amortised cost		
Trade creditors	78	166
Accruals	104	150
Total	182	316

14. TAXATION

The Foundation is a registered charity and, as such, is entitled to certain tax exemptions on income and profits from investments and surpluses on any trading activities carried on in furtherance of the Foundation's primary objectives, if these profits and surpluses are applied solely for charitable purposes.

15. ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS

Unrestricted Funds

	£000
At 1 January 2022	1,536
Coaching, education and training	526
Other trading activities	46
Net outgoing resources before transfers	-
Transfer to restricted funds	(455)
At 31 December 2022	1,653

15. ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS (continued)

Restricted Funds

	£000
At 1 January 2022	-
Contributions from governing bodies	1,478
Sponsorship income	312
Grant funding	1,313
Net outgoing resources before transfers	(3,558)
Transfer from unrestricted funds	455
At 31 December 2022	-

A transfer between funds is performed to relocate sufficient unrestricted funds to ensure that there is no overspend on the restricted fund for the year.

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
	£000	£000	£000
Net current assets	-	1,653	1,653
Total	-	1,653	1,653

17. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS AND ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

Transactions with related parties included:

- Transactions with the Irish Football Association Limited of £1,035k (2021: £1,265k)
- Grant funding of £500k from Irish Football Association released in 2022, with £100k included in deferred income at year-end (2021: £600k)
- Amounts receivable at the year-end of £2,025k (2021: £1,971k) due from the Irish Football Association Limited
- Amounts payable at the year-end of £391 (2021: £Nil) due to the IFA Stadium Development Company Limited
- Purchases at normal market prices totalling £1,448 (2021: £455) were made from Tri-sport Trophies Limited, who are controlled by a family member of a current Director. The balance outstanding at 31 December 2022 was £Nil (2021: £Nil).

18. LIABILITY OF MEMBERS

Irish Football Association Ltd is a company limited by guarantee. The liability of the members is limited to an amount not exceeding £1.

19. FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

There were no financial commitments as at 31 December 2022 (31 December 2021: none).

Registered number: NI642595
Charity Commission number: NIC 106229
Inland Revenue Charity number: NI00616

Directors/Trustees

David Martin (Chairman)
Patrick Nelson
Allen McKinstry
Ryan Adams
Clare McAuley
Alan Willis

Company Secretary

Rebekah Shearer

Registered Office

The National Football Stadium at Windsor Park
Donegall Avenue
Belfast
BT12 6LU

Bankers

Ulster Bank
91-93 University Road
Belfast
BT7 1NG

Solicitors

A&L Goodbody
42-46 Fountain Street
Belfast
BT1 5EF

King & Gowdy
298 Upper Newtownards Road
Belfast
BT4 3EJ

Independent Auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
Merchant Square
20-22 Wellington Place
Belfast
BT1 6GE





IRISH FA FOUNDATION LIMITED



Irish FA Foundation Limited

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106229

Annual return

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF IRISH FA FOUNDATION LIMITED

Report on the audit of the financial statements

OPINION

In our opinion, Irish FA Foundation Limited's financial statements (the "financial statements"):

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, and cash flows, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", and applicable law); and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements, included within the Annual Report and Financial Statements (the "Annual Report"), which comprise: the Charity balance sheet as at 31 December 2022; the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account) and the statement of cash flow for the year then ended and the notes to the financial statements, which include the accounting policies.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) ("ISAs (UK)") and applicable law. Our responsibilities under ISAs (UK) are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is

sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

INDEPENDENCE

We remained independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, which includes the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date on which the financial statements are authorised for issue.

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this conclusion is not a guarantee as to the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

REPORTING ON OTHER INFORMATION

The other information comprises all of the information in the Annual Report other than the financial

statements and our auditors' report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in this report, any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify an apparent material inconsistency or material misstatement, we are required to perform procedures to conclude whether there is a material misstatement of the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report based on these responsibilities.

With respect to the Trustees' Annual Report, we also considered whether the disclosures required by the UK Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011 have been included.

Based on our work undertaken in the course of the audit, the Companies Act 2006 requires us also to report certain opinions and matters as described below.

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 is consistent with the financial statements and has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we did not identify any material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND THE AUDIT

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable framework and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The trustees are also responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees

either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

AUDITORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Based on our understanding of the charitable company, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and Regulation (8) of The Charities (Accounts and Reports)

Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to posting inappropriate journal entries to manipulate financial results, including the recognition of incoming resources, and management bias in accounting estimates or significant judgements. Audit procedures performed included:

- Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any journal entries posted with unusual account combinations;
- Assessed management's compliance with the commitments under their restricted funds;
- Discussions with management, including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;
- Reviewing the charitable company's litigation register as far as it related to non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud; and
- Reviewing relevant meeting minutes, including those of the Trustees.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in financial statements. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the

financial statements is located on the FRC's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditors' report.

USE OF THIS REPORT

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the charity's members as a body in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

OTHER REQUIRED REPORTING

COMPANIES ACT 2006 EXCEPTION REPORTING

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

- we have not obtained all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- adequate accounting records have not been kept or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns.

We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

ENTITLEMENT TO EXEMPTIONS

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report to you if, in our opinion, the trustees were not entitled to: prepare financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime; take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the Trustees' Annual Report; and take advantage of the small companies exemption from preparing a Strategic Report. We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.



Martin Cowie

Senior Statutory Auditor

for and on behalf of
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory
Auditors
Belfast
31 May 2023