

# Craft NI

Northern Ireland · Charity number 106410

## Details

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Status Received

Company number [642349](#)

Registered 2017-04-06

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

## Contact

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Address Craft Ni  
115-119 Royal Avenue  
Belfast  
Bt1 1ff  
BT1 1FF

Phone 028 9032 9342

Email [info@craftni.org](mailto:info@craftni.org)

Website [www.craftni.org](http://www.craftni.org)

## Activities

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**Purposes:** The company's objects ("Objects") are specifically restricted to the following: To promote the development of craft, applied art and design for the benefit of the public by, in particular but not exclusively: (a) increasing public awareness, education and appreciation of craft, applied art and design through the display, exhibition, demonstration and promotion of craft, applied art and design; (b) promoting high standards of craft, applied art and design by supporting artist/designer/makers and students through educational workshops, information, events, networking, representation and by any other means as the directors shall consider appropriate.

**What the charity does:** The advancement of education, The advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science

**How the charity works:** Arts

**Who the charity helps:** Adult training, General public, Women, Youth (14-25 year olds)

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£270,249	£285,212	£-4,248	8

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Kim Mawhinney		
Mr Chris Mchugh		
Mr William Fitzpatrick		
Mrs Rachel Fitzpatrick O'neill		
Ms Olivia Stewart		
Ms Patricia Margaret Mcneill		
Patricia Flanagan		

**Craft NI**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106410

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# Accounts

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**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 March 2025**

**Company No: NI642349  
Charity No: NIC106410**

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
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Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Company Information**

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<b>Trustees</b>	Rory Shearer (Resigned 08 April 2025) James Toland (Resigned 24 March 2025) Patricia Flanagan Patricia Margaret McNeill Rachel Fitzpatrick O'Neill Kim Mawhinney Chris McHugh Olivia Stewart William Fitzpatrick (Appointed 13 June 2024)
<b>Address for correspondence</b>	115-119 Royal Avenue Belfast Northern Ireland BT1 1FF
<b>Registered Office</b>	115-119 Royal Avenue Belfast Northern Ireland BT1 1FF
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	AAB Group Accountants Limited 1-3 Arthur Street Belfast Co. Antrim BT1 4GA
<b>Registered Charity No.</b>	106410
<b>Registered Company No.</b>	NI642349
<b>Company Secretary</b>	K Davidson
<b>Bank</b>	Ulster Bank 2-8 Market Street Downpatrick County Down BT30 6BU

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Report of the Trustees** Year Ended 31 March 2025

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The Trustees presents their annual report together with the financial statements of Craft Northern Ireland for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the Trust comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, the Companies Act 2006, the Articles of Association, and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (effective 1 January 2019).

This report provides information on Craft Northern Ireland activities and financial performance and forms part of a range of public information designed to give an open account of our work.

#### **Objectives and aims**

The charity's purposes as set out in the organisations Strategic Plan of the Board are the achievement of:

#### **Our Vision**

A diverse and sustainable craft sector that makes a positive contribution to the culture, economy and wellbeing of people in Northern Ireland.

#### **Our Mission**

To contribute to an integrated, entrepreneurial and vibrant contemporary crafts sector in Northern Ireland, actively supported by regional and local stakeholders, that contributes increasingly to the creative, cultural and economic life of Northern Ireland.

#### **Our Values**

We will work in a way which:

- Is ambitious and outward-looking.
- Builds partnerships and collaborations.
- Finds opportunities to promote and advocate NI Craft.
- Is educating, enriching, inspiring and innovating.
- Promotes quality.
- Is inclusive and respectful.

#### **Top level objectives**

##### **Makers**

We want to enable makers to find training relevant to their business and to build beneficial networks in NI and beyond. We will also support makers to find professional development and learn about and test commercial approaches.

We will support makers with open access training and professional development programme opportunities. We will help people stay in touch and network through our Maker forums and newsletters. We will promote craft through our Craft NI Directory of makers and retailers, our Gallery and our promotions and marketing activities.

##### **Audiences & Markets**

We will work towards audiences and buyers being able to find more high quality craft across NI and to see high quality craft exhibitions easily. We also want to make it easier for people to find craft workshops, whether for recreation or professional development.

We will create a new marketing strategy and develop our website. We will also develop our juried exhibitions prioritising NI makers. We will grow August Craft Month and through partnerships increase audiences both in NI and across the island of Ireland and among visitors. We will build relationships in education, local government and across relevant stakeholders with an interest in a flourishing craft sector.

## Craft Northern Ireland

### Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2025

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#### Craft NI

We want makers to see Craft NI as an inspirational source of information and advice. To meet this and our other objectives we will develop our range of income streams and take care to support our staff. We will collaborate with a wider range of partners to deliver value for the craft sector.

We will run our advice and signposting service and grow the potential of our physical space as a resource for makers. We will create new plans for gallery marketing, sponsorship and fundraising, and we will develop and support our staff. We will develop relationships with partners across the islands.

#### ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

##### Progress Against Objectives

##### 1. Makers

**1.1 Signposting:** During the year Craft NI provided ongoing support for designer-makers & sector through signposting and information support, via responding to individual queries and offering one to one support to craft makers and via our Weekly Plan C newsletter - circulation list of 900 craft makers.

##### 1.2 Talks and Training

**1.3 Plan C:** Weekly Maker-focused newsletter sent by e-mail focusing on grant opportunities, training, business support and maker news. The mailing list reaches over 800 craft makers with a consistent 50%+ open rate.

**1.4** Thanks to support from Future Screens NI's Art Work programme, we were able to employ a Digital Development Officer to offer training in the following areas:

- Understanding social media.
- Creating content for social media.
- Individual one to one support reaching 43 makers.
- Training programme in using Canva.
- Training using Capcut
- Using photoshop
- Product Photography workshop

**1.5.** On behalf of Belfast City Council and Newry, Mourne & Down Council we delivered two maker CPD events under the Go Succeed programme.

**1.6.** Other talks included Anti-Copying in Design (ACID); talk from jewellery designer Shaun Leane in partnership with PILOT at Belfast School of Art; undertstangong GPSR with ACNI.

## Craft Northern Ireland

### Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2025

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## 2. Audiences and Markets

### 2.1 Accessing high quality local craft

Craft NI continues to sell work from over 60 Northern Irish makers through its Gallery at 115-119 Royal Avenue, Belfast. Makers in Northern Ireland have the opportunity to apply annually to sell through the Gallery through a juried open call-out. From time to time, guest makers are invited to sell through the Gallery to ensure a new and varied offer for customers. Guest makers are approved by the Craft NI Board Quality Group.

Craft NI continues to promote craft retailers who sell Northern Irish craft across Northern Ireland, as well as makers who sell directly to the public. We produced a monthly mail-out profiling news from the sector, events and products from retailers. We also host a retailer Directory on the Craft NI website and partner closely with these at Christmas to raise their profile on our own social channels through sharing video content and news about them, all with a view to encouraging the public to support local makers when considering gifting options.

**Outreach:** in 2024/25 we took opportunities to take craft work from NI makers outside the Gallery to venues with appropriate audiences and partners. We partnered with Garden Show Ireland to bring a Craft Village to the show with programme of demonstrations from local craft makers as well as makers selling directly to the public, to an audience approx 25,000 visitors. We also had a pop-up at the Knitting & Stitching Show (12,000 visitors). Through support from the Saudi Heritage Commission, we were able to bring work from 13 NI to Saudi International Heritage Week in Riyadh in November 2024.

### 2.2 Exhibitions:

We were able to provide a varied exhibition programme in 2024/25:

·**Makers Who Teach:** Short exhibition October 2023 to showcase some of the talent of those who are teaching in FE/HE schools and community settings as part of their craft portfolio career.

·**Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust NI showcase:** showcase of work from 17 Trust scholarship NI awardees: April & May 2024;

·**Glass Society of Ireland/Council of Irish Fashion Designers:** *The Glass Runway*. Exhibition of glass wearables showing collaboration between glass makers and fashion designers from the island of Ireland. Launch of catwalk show in the MAC.

·**Reaction: August Craft Month Exhibition 2024** – Craft NI annual showcase of Northern Irish work to mark August Craft Month; external guest juror from Bluecoats Gallery and awarding of bursaries for emerging makers;

·**Irish Woodturners' Guild:** travelling exhibition of wood to commemorate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the IWG with membership from across the island of Ireland;

·**Christmas Showcase:** Craft NI Gallery participants invited to respond to a theme to generate special one-off pieces Christmas (Nov/Dec);

### 2.3 August Craft Month 2024:

In 2024, Craft NI continues its partnership for a third year with the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland to deliver and co-promote August Craft Month across the island of Ireland, growing and sharing audiences for craft and craft maker:

In 2024

- 433 events took place across the island, with 176 in Northern Ireland.
- An estimated 1,400 makers took part in 2024 across the island.
- An estimated 75,000 people visited the all-island events in 2024.
- In 2023, we had over 16,000 visitors to the ACM website.
- 152 pieces of press coverage for makers across the island.

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Report of the Trustees** Year Ended 31 March 2025

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#### **2.4 Communications and Campaigns**

We implemented our annual Marketing Plan covering: direct mail newsletters; social media paid and organic activity and collaborations; partnerships with other promotional bodies such as Visit Belfast. To profile the sector at Christmas 2024, we had a mail drop to 12,000 homes in Belfast to promote craft gifting; a small number of outdoor ads as well as an intensified social media and direct e-mail programme.

#### **2.5 Website and Maker Directory**

In 2024/25 we continue to promote the Craft NI Maker Directory through social media promotional spotlights on Directory members and promoting online. This is with a view to building awareness of the Directory as a first point of reference for curators, audiences or customer wanting to engage with craft makers. Recruitment to the Directory continues to increase with applications assessed quarterly and currently 141 members.

### **3. Craft NI**

#### **3.1 HR and staffing**

In 2024/25 we had no changes to the staff team. James Toland and Rory Shearer resigned from the Board of Directors. William Fitzpatrick joined the Board of Trustees and was elected Treasurer.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

#### **Principal funding sources**

Aside from the income generated by service provision and commission on sales in the charity's retail gallery, the charity's principal funding source is the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. In 2024/25, Craft NI are grateful to through Belfast City Council for funding through its partnership programme and to Future Screens NI for funding the Art Work programme.

Income was also generated through partnering with Antrim & Newtownabbey Council on organising the Craft Village at Garden Show Ireland, as well as through Project Management provided for August Craft Month in Rol on behalf of the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland. We also partnered with Belfast City Council and Armagh Newry & Down Council to deliver maker CPD under the Go Succeed programme.

Investment policy and objectives:

Aside from retaining a prudent amount in reserves each year most of the charity's funds are spent in the short term so there are no funds for long term investment.

#### **Reserves policy**

The charity operates a Reserves Policy as a prudent measure to ensure the continued operation of the charity in the event of an immediate financial requirement due to unforeseen circumstances. Such circumstances might arise as a result of, although not limited to, any or a number of the following:

- A source of income not being renewed or reduced. Funds might be needed to give the trustees time to take action if income falls below expectations;
- The risk of unforeseen emergency or other unexpected need for funds, e.g. an unexpected large repair bill or finding 'seed-funding' for an urgent project;
- Covering unforeseen day-to-day operational costs, e.g. employing temporary staff to cover a long-term sickness absence;

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Report of the Trustees** Year Ended 31 March 2025

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- Planned commitments, or designations, that cannot be met by future income alone, e.g. a relocation, plans for a major asset purchase or a significant project that requires the charity to provide 'matched funding';
- The need to fund short-term deficits in a cash budget, e.g. money may need to be spent before a funding grant is received.
- The board of directors has reviewed both income and expenditure for the next year and has set aside an amount approximating to 15% of annual expenditure. For the financial year 2023/2024 this approximates to £35,000.

The Board of directors have examined the charity's requirements for reserves in the light of the main risks to the organisation and are confident that the reserves are sufficient to ensure the continued operation of the charity now and in the immediate future.

The Board of Directors will reserve the right at any point in time to draw down this reserve as might be required whilst ensuring by all reasonable means the earliest possible rebuilding of reserves in line with this policy.

#### **FUTURE PLANS**

The charity plans continuing the activities outlined above in the forthcoming years subject to satisfactory funding arrangements.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 24 November 2016 and registered as a charity on 6 April 2017. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association that established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

##### **Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

Trustees may be appointed by the current Board of Trustees and shall serve for a period of three years, which period can be extended by a further two terms of three years each by mutual agreement between the Board and the Trustee. On appointment as Trustee, the person shall become a company member of the charity.

All members of the board of directors give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits or expenses from the charity. The charity actively promotes a board of directors that includes a range of skills, experience and knowledge in keeping with the pursuance of its Objects. The traditional business skills are well represented on the board of directors. In an effort to maintain this broad skill mix, a board skills audit is carried out regularly, most recently in 2021 and in the event of particular skills being lost due to retirements, future board recruitment will give priority to the replacement of these skills.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Organisational structure**

As of 31 March 2024, the charity has a board of directors of eight members who meet bi-monthly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. There is an Audit and Risk Sub-Committee and a Nominations and Remunerations Sub-Committee. The Board's Quality Committee decides on gallery, retail and exhibition applications.

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Report of the Trustees** Year Ended 31 March 2025

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Members of the board of directors are from a variety of professional backgrounds relevant to the work of the charity. A scheme of delegation is in place and day-to-day responsibility for the provision of services rests with the staff team. The Director is responsible for ensuring that the charity delivers the services specified and that key performance indicators are met.

#### **Induction and training of new trustees**

The existing Trustees are already familiar with the practical work of the charity and are encouraged to attend any events organised by the charity. New trustees will be invited and encouraged to attend a series of short training sessions to familiarise themselves with the charity and the context within which it operates. These will be led by the Chair of the board of directors and the Chief Executive of the charity and will cover:

- The obligations of board of directors' members;
- The main documents that set out the operational framework for the charity including the Memorandum and Articles; - Resourcing and the current financial position as set out in the latest published accounts; and
- Future plans and objectives.

#### **Related parties**

In so far as it is complimentary to the charity's objects, the charity is guided by both local and national policy.

The Arts Council of Northern Ireland is the lead development agency for the arts in Northern Ireland. Their overall place the Arts at the heart of our social, economic and creative life'. Their strategic plan 'Inspire, Connect, Lead 2019 to 2024' includes:

- Creating a confident, vibrant, arts infrastructure;
- Working with local government to strengthen local arts
- Increase audiences for the arts
- Build sustainability by helping organisations diversify income

Our programme of activities therefore fits the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's strategic objectives and therefore their funding criteria. The Arts Council of Northern Ireland appoints an observer who acts as liaison officer with organisations in receipt of financial assistance.

It is a condition of financial assistance that the observer is invited to attend all board meetings including any sub-committees.

#### **Risk management**

The Board of Directors has conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and a risk register has been established that is reviewed bi-monthly at each Board meeting. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the charity faces.

The organisation is guided in 2024-25 by a one-year business plan, under the 2022-25 three year Strategic Plan.

## Craft Northern Ireland

### Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2025

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#### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees, who are also the directors of Craft Northern Ireland for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

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

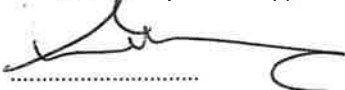
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

#### Disclosure of information to Independent Examiner

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the independent examination, but of which the independent examiner is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of such information.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:



.....  
**K Mawhinney**

Chairperson

Dated: ..... 10/12/25

## Craft Northern Ireland

### Independent Examiner's Report Year Ended 31 March 2025

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Craft Northern Ireland (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the 2008 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of Chartered Accountants Ireland, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



**Michael Farrell**

For, and on behalf of,

**AAB Group Accountants Limited**

1-3 Arthur Street

Belfast

Co. Antrim

BT1 4GA

Dated: 10/12/2025.

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**(incorporating an income and expenditure account)**  
**Year Ended 31 March 2025**

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	18,171	182,442	200,613	186,776
Other trading activities	3	69,636	-	69,636	68,296
<b>Total Income and endowments</b>		<b>87,807</b>	<b>182,442</b>	<b>270,249</b>	<b>255,072</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable Activities	5	(100,927)	(184,285)	(285,212)	(262,068)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>(100,927)</b>	<b>(184,285)</b>	<b>(285,212)</b>	<b>(262,068)</b>
<b>Net income for the year before transfers</b>		<b>(13,120)</b>	<b>(1,843)</b>	<b>(14,963)</b>	<b>(6,996)</b>
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(13,120)</b>	<b>(1,843)</b>	<b>(14,963)</b>	<b>(6,996)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		66,952	3,801	70,753	77,749
<b>Total Funds Carried Forward</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>53,832</b>	<b>1,958</b>	<b>55,790</b>	<b>70,753</b>

All income derives from continuing activities, therefore no statement of recognised gains or losses is given.

The notes on pages 13 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Balance Sheet  
as at 31 March 2025**

	Note	2024 £	2024 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible assets	7	2,657	5,098
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	8	10,165	10,194
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>47,215</u>	<u>69,580</u>
		57,380	79,774
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	9	4,248	14,119
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		53,133	65,655
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u><u>55,790</u></u>	<u><u>70,753</u></u>
Represented by:			
<b>Unrestricted Funds:</b>	10		
General		44,069	57,189
Designated		9,763	9,763
<b>Restricted Funds</b>	10	1,958	3,801
		<u><u>55,790</u></u>	<u><u>70,753</u></u>


The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 10/12/25.

  
Kim Mawhinney (Chair)  
Trustee

Company Registration Number NI642349

The notes on pages 13 - 19 form part of these financial statements.

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
as at 31 March 2025**

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**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Craft Northern Ireland meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The Charity is not required to provide a statement of cashflows as they meet the definition of small entity in accordance with paragraph 7.1b of FRS 102

**b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

**c) Fund Accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

General funds may be transferred to designated funds where Trustees wish to use these funds for a specific purpose. Such funds may be transferred back to general funds once the criteria for the designation have been met or are no longer applicable.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of restricted funds is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Restricted funds may only be transferred to general or designated funds once the criteria for restriction have been discharged or no longer apply.

**d) Income Recognition Policies**

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- The charity has entitlement to the funds;
- any performance conditions attached to the item of income has been met or are fully within the control of the charity;
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable; and
- the amount can be measured reliably.

**e) Donated services and facilities**

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of supporters is not recognised.

**f) Interest Receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

n) Taxation

The company is a registered charity and the charitable tax exemptions are therefore being claimed to the extent that income and/or gains are applicable and applied to charitable purposes only. These exemptions will remain in place as long as income and expenditure is applied to charitable purposes only.

o) Financial instruments

The Charity 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 Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, the net amounts are 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 of to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

**Basic financial assets**

Basic financial assets 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 are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instruments is measured at the present value of the future payments 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.

**Derecognition of financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

p) Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**g) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT**

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. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of supporting refugee families and activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

**h) Allocation of support costs**

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charity's programmes and activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities.

**i) Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening the deposit or similar account

**j) Tangible Fixed Assets**

Individual fixed assets are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

<b>Asset Category:</b>	<b>Annual Rate</b>
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	10% Straight Line
Computer Equipment	33% Straight Line

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment when events or circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable.

**k) Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discount due.

**l) Creditors and Provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**m) Pensions**

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the statement of financial activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
Year Ended 31 March 2025

**2 Income from donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
ACNI Annual Funding Programme	2,177	143,404	145,581	145,509
Belfast City Council	4,890	18,000	22,890	18,000
Art Work- Funder Future Screen Ni	-	21,038	21,038	21,420
Garden Show Ireland	1,666	-	1,666	1,847
August Craft Month	9,439	-	9,439	-
	<u>18,171</u>	<u>182,442</u>	<u>200,613</u>	<u>186,776</u>

The 2024 total of £186,776 was split £19,847 unrestricted and £166,929 restricted.

**3 Income from Trading Activities**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Gallery Sales	69,636	-	69,636	62,736
Other Income	-	-	-	5,560
	<u>69,636</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>69,636</u>	<u>68,296</u>

The 2024 total of £68,296 was all unrestricted.

**4 Results for the year**

The results for the year has been arrived at after charging the following:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation	2,441	2,441
	<u>2,441</u>	<u>2,441</u>

**5 Expenditure on charitable activity**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Direct Charitable	97,445	181,355	278,799	255,820
Support Costs	2,933	-	2,933	4,649
Governance Costs	550	2,930	3,480	1,599
	<u>100,927</u>	<u>184,285</u>	<u>285,212</u>	<u>262,068</u>

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)**  
Year Ended 31 March 2025

**6 Analysis of staff costs:**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Salaries and Wages	156,476	159,282
Social security costs	13,637	13,182
Other Pension Costs	8,198	7,857
	<b>178,311</b>	<b>180,321</b>

The average monthly number of employees was 8 (2024: 8) and the average monthly number of employees during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows (including casual and part time staff):

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
Charitable activities	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>

No employee has emoluments in excess of £60,000 (2024: 0).

The charity Trustees were not paid nor did they receive any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2024: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2024: £nil). No charity Trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2024: £nil).

**7 Tangible Fixed Assets**

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost:			
As at 1 April 2024	3,337	6,520	9,857
Additions	-	-	-
As at 31 March 2025	<u>3,337</u>	<u>6,520</u>	<u>9,857</u>
Depreciation:			
As at 1 April 2024	2,171	2,588	4,759
Charge for the year	334	2,107	2,441
As at 31 March 2025	<u>2,505</u>	<u>4,695</u>	<u>7,200</u>
Net Book Value			
As at 31 March 2025	<u>832</u>	<u>1,825</u>	<u>2,657</u>
As at 31 March 2024	<u>1,166</u>	<u>3,932</u>	<u>5,098</u>

**8 Debtors**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade Debtors	2,160	160
Accrued Income	7,170	9,275
Prepayments	835	759
	<u>10,165</u>	<u>10,194</u>

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)**  
Year Ended 31 March 2025

**9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade Creditors	1,357	8,239
Other Taxes and Social Security Costs	-	3,050
Accruals	1,890	1,830
Other Creditors	1,000	1,000
	<u>4,248</u>	<u>14,119</u>

**10 Analysis of Movements in Funds**

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	As at 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General funds - all funds	57,189	87,807	( 100,927)	44,069
Designated Funds	9,763	-	-	9,763
	<u>66,952</u>	<u>87,807</u>	<u>( 100,927)</u>	<u>53,832</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted funds - all funds	3,801	182,442	( 184,285)	1,958
<b>Total</b>	<u>70,753</u>	<u>270,249</u>	<u>( 285,212)</u>	<u>55,790</u>

The designated fund relates to the Guild Bursary received from the former NI Guild of Designer Craftsmen to be used for the advancement of the craft sector in Northern Ireland.

**11 Analysis of Movements in Restricted Funds**

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	As at 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£
ACNI Annual Funding Programme	-	143,404	( 143,140)	264
ACNI H&S Equipment Grant	3,801	-	( 2,107)	1,694
Art Work Funder future NI	-	21,038	( 21,038)	-
Belfast City Council Partnership Programme	-	18,000	( 18,000)	-
	<u>3,801</u>	<u>182,442</u>	<u>(184,285)</u>	<u>1,958</u>

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)  
Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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**12 Analysis of net assets between funds**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2025</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2025 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2025 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>
Tangible fixed assets	963	1,694	2,657	5,099
Current assets	57,116	264	57,380	79,774
Creditors amounts falling due within one year	(4,248)	-	(4,248)	(14,119)
	<u>53,832</u>	<u>1,958</u>	<u>55,790</u>	<u>70,754</u>

**13 Related party transactions**

There were no related party transactions during the year (2024 £Nil).

**The following pages do not form  
part of the financial statements  
which are the subject of the independent  
examiner's report on page 12**

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)**  
Year Ended 31 March 2025

**Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities:**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Wages	55,550	117,223	172,773	168,028
Pensions	8,198	-	8,198	7,857
Gallery Supplies	1,865	-	1,865	2,326
Rent and Rates	13,543	28,799	42,342	41,168
Insurance	2,168	-	2,168	1,918
Light and Heat	2,074	2,000	4,074	2,043
Telephone	1,374	-	1,374	1,269
Postage and stationery	1,133	-	1,133	756
Publicity and marketing	506	13,263	13,769	6,630
Maintenance and security	3,954	736	4,690	4,536
Exhibition costs	-	2,017	2,017	1,998
Subscriptions	1,675	-	1,675	2,793
Maker development	-	2,952	2,952	3,923
Legal and professional	1,835	-	1,835	2,203
Travel and subsistence	1,022	-	1,022	2152.53
Staff training	1,027	-	1,027	1,334
August Craft Month	-	12,258	12,258	2,345
Catering & Hospitality	1,187	-	1,187	-
Room Hire	-	-	-	100
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	334	2,107	2,441	2,441
Support costs	2,933	-	2,933	4,649
Governance costs	550	2,930	3,480	1,599
	<u>100,927</u>	<u>184,285</u>	<u>285,212</u>	<u>262,069</u>

The 2024 total of £262,069 was split £92,533 unrestricted and £169,536 restricted.

**Analysis of governance and support costs**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2025	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Bank and card transaction charges	2,933	-	2,933	4,649
Accountancy fees	550	2,930	3,480	1,599
	<u>3,483</u>	<u>2,930</u>	<u>6,413</u>	<u>6,248</u>

The 2024 total of £6,248 was split £3,318 unrestricted and £2,930 restricted.

**Craft NI**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106410

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# Accounts

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**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**Company No: NI642349  
Charity No: NIC106410**

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
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Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Company Information**

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<b>Trustees</b>	Rory Shearer James Toland Patricia Flanagan Patricia Margaret McNeill Rachel Fitzpatrick O'Neill Kim Mawhinney Chris McHugh Olivia Stewart William Fitzpatrick (appointed 13 June 2024)
<b>Address for correspondence</b>	115-119 Royal Avenue Belfast Northern Ireland BT1 1FF
<b>Registered Office</b>	115-119 Royal Avenue Belfast Northern Ireland BT1 1FF
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	AAB Group Accountants Limited 1-3 Arthur Street Belfast Co. Antrim BT1 4GA
<b>Registered Charity No.</b>	106410
<b>Registered Company No.</b>	NI642349
<b>Company Secretary</b>	K Davidson
<b>Bank</b>	Ulster Bank 2-8 Market Street Downpatrick County Down BT30 6BU

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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The Trustees presents their annual report together with the financial statements of Craft Northern Ireland for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the Trust comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, the Companies Act 2006, the Articles of Association, and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (effective 1 January 2019).

This report provides information on Craft Northern Ireland activities and financial performance and forms part of a range of public information designed to give an open account of our work.

#### **Objectives and aims**

The charity's purposes as set out in the organisations Strategic Plan of the Board are the achievement of:

#### **Our Vision**

A diverse and sustainable craft sector that makes a positive contribution to the culture, economy and wellbeing of people in Northern Ireland.

#### **Our Mission**

To contribute to an integrated, entrepreneurial and vibrant contemporary crafts sector in Northern Ireland, actively supported by regional and local stakeholders, that contributes increasingly to the creative, cultural and economic life of Northern Ireland.

#### **Our Values**

We will work in a way which:

- Is ambitious and outward-looking.
- Builds partnerships and collaborations.
- Finds opportunities to promote and advocate NI Craft.
- Is educating, enriching, inspiring and innovating.
- Promotes quality.
- Is inclusive and respectful.

#### **Top level objectives**

##### **Makers**

We want to enable makers to find training relevant to their business and to build beneficial networks in NI and beyond. We will also support makers to find professional development and learn about and test commercial approaches.

We will support makers with open access training and professional development programme opportunities. We will help people stay in touch and network through our Maker forums and newsletters. We will promote craft through our Craft NI Directory of makers and retailers, our Gallery and our promotions and marketing activities.

##### **Audiences & Markets**

We will work towards audiences and buyers being able to find more high quality craft across NI and to see high quality craft exhibitions easily. We also want to make it easier for people to find craft workshops, whether for recreation or professional development.

We will create a new marketing strategy and develop our website. We will also develop our juried exhibitions prioritising NI makers. We will grow August Craft Month and through partnerships increase audiences both in NI and across the island of Ireland and among visitors. We will build relationships in education, local government and across relevant stakeholders with an interest in a flourishing craft sector.

## Craft Northern Ireland

### Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2024

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#### Craft NI

We want makers to see Craft NI as an inspirational source of information and advice. To meet this and our other objectives we will develop our range of income streams and take care to support our staff. We will collaborate with a wider range of partners to deliver value for the craft sector.

We will run our advice and signposting service and grow the potential of our physical space as a resource for makers. We will create new plans for gallery marketing; sponsorship and fundraising, and we will develop and support our staff. We will develop relationships with partners across the islands.

#### ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

##### Progress Against Objectives

##### 1. Makers

**1.1 Signposting:** During the year Craft NI provided ongoing support for designer-makers & sector through signposting and information support, via responding to individual queries and via our Weekly Plan C newsletter

- circulation list of 800 craft makers

- Funding sources.
- Guidance for pricing work.
- Support on running a craft market.
- Weekly Plan C newsletter – circulation list of 800 craft makers.

**1.2 Talks and Training:** We also offered a series of online Talks and Training to support craft makers to increase the sustainability of their businesses, including:

- Specialist jewellery/metals talk from Bryony Knox with a specialism in repousse and chasing:
- Product photography with Simon Mills.
- Making Design Circular with Katie Treggiddan.

We ran two maker forums with artist talks – one in Belfast from Anna Gordon, Lecturer in Jewellery & Silversmithing at Glasgow School of Arts and a second in Derry/Londonderry with a maker talk from textile artist knitter Edel MacBride which attracted over 40 participants at each. We partnered with Derry City Council for the Maker Forum there and are grateful to them for sharing costs.

**1.3 Cockpit Arts:** We secured four places on a 13-week online maker development programme run by Cockpit Arts. Cockpit studios is recognised as an exemplar in incubating craft businesses through two sites in London, and the programme was run by Cockpit's Head of Business Incubation Programmes David Crump.

**1.4 Plan C:** Weekly Maker-focused newsletter sent by e-mail focusing on grant opportunities, training, business support and maker news. The mailing list reaches over 800 craft makers with a consistent 50%+ open rate.

**1.5.** Thanks to support from Future Screens NI's Art Work programme, we were able to employ a Digital Development Officer to offer training in the following areas:

- Understanding social media.
- Creating content for social media.
- Individual one to one support reaching 43 makers.
- Training programme in using Canva.

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
Year Ended 31 March 2024

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## **2. Audiences and Markets**

### **2.1 Accessing high quality local craft**

Craft NI continues to sell work from over 50 Northern Irish makers through its Gallery at 115-119 Royal Avenue, Belfast. Makers in Northern Ireland have the opportunity to apply annually to sell through the Gallery through a juried open call-out. From time to time, guest makers are invited to sell through the Gallery under a range of circumstances, for example: through being involved in an exhibition in the Gallery; due to renown in their field; because they fill a gap in the product range that cannot currently be met by a Northern Irish maker.

Guest makers are approved by the Craft NI Board Quality Group.

Craft NI continues to promote craft retailers who sell Northern Irish craft across Northern Ireland, as well as makers who sell directly to the public. We produced a monthly mail-out profiling news from the sector, events and products from retailers. We also host a retailer Directory on the Craft NI website and partner closely with these at Christmas to raise their profile on our own social channels through sharing video content and news about them, all with a view to encouraging the public to support local makers when considering gifting options.

For the first time, we partnered with Garden Show Ireland.

### **2.2 Exhibitions:**

- **Cameron & Breen Trunk Show:** month long show of full collection of this jewellery business with opportunity for them to meet clients in Craft NI Gallery.
- **Spring Collectors' Showcase:** showcase of work for international visitors on a craft tour organised by Flow Gallery, London.
- **Pathways:** August Craft Month exhibition with prizes from funds donated by the Guild of Master Craft Makers.
- **Makers Who Teach:** showcase to celebrate Northern Ireland's talented makers who also teach crafts, in classrooms workshops and communities.
- **Journeys in Silver & Gold:** Christmas selling show themed in allusion to precious metals across the range of disciplines.
- **QEST:** work of NI makers who have received awards from the Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust.

### **2.3 August Craft Month 2024:**

In 2024, Craft NI continues its partnership with the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland and Cork Craft & Design to deliver and co-promote August Craft Month across the island of Ireland. This was with a view to growing audiences for craft as well as enabling NI makers to reach new audiences island-wide. We were able to secure coverage: across the island:

- 122 pieces of coverage.
- 54 pieces of NI coverage.
- 68 pieces of ROI coverage.
- 13 Broadcast pieces of coverage.
- 31% of coverage included social media engagement.
- 75% of coverage included a link to the August Craft Month website.

In 2024

- **421** events took place across the island, with at least one event in every county.
- **163** events took place across Northern Ireland.
- An estimated **1,200 to 1,600** makers took part in 2024 across the island.
- An estimated **30,000 to 60,000** people visited the all-island events in 2024.
- Our online audience increased by 66% from 2023 with over 15,000 visitors to the ACM website in 2024.
- All-island ACM Facebook reach of over **478,000**.

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
Year Ended 31 March 2024

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#### **2.4 Communications and Campaigns**

Monthly sector-wide newsletter aimed at craft consumers covering work for sale across all NI craft retailers maker news and achievements; highlights of workshops and things to do; exhibitions. Buy, See, Make.

Craft NI Gallery e-mail newsletter monthly focusing on work in Gallery.

We continue to prioritise awareness-raising through social media platforms across Craft NI and Craft NI Gallery whose combined accounts reach over 30,000 followers.

#### **2.5 Website and Maker Directory**

In 2024, we continue to promote the Craft NI Maker Directory through social media promotional spotlights on Directory members as promoting online. This is with a view to building awareness of the Directory as a first point of reference for curators, audiences or customer wanting to engage with craft makers. Recruitment to the Directory continues to increase with applications assessed quarterly and currently 126 members.

### **3. Craft NI**

#### **3.1 HR and staffing**

In 2023/24 we had no changes to the staff team. There were no resignations from the Craft NI Board nor were there any new appointments.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

#### **Principal funding sources**

Aside from the income generated by service provision and commission on sales in the charity's retail gallery, the charity's principal funding source is the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. In 2023/24, Craft NI are grateful to through Belfast City Council for funding through its partnership programme and to Future Screens NI for funding the Art Work programme.

Income was also generated through partnering with Antrim & Newtownabbey Council on organising the Craft Village at Garden Show Ireland, as well as through Project Management provided for August Craft Month in Rol.

Investment policy and objectives:

Aside from retaining a prudent amount in reserves each year most of the charity's funds are spent in the short term so there are no funds for long term investment.

#### **Reserves policy**

The charity operates a Reserves Policy as a prudent measure to ensure the continued operation of the charity in the event of an immediate financial requirement due to unforeseen circumstances. Such circumstances might arise as a result of, although not limited to, any or a number of the following:

- A source of income not being renewed or reduced. Funds might be needed to give the trustees time to take action if income falls below expectations;
- The risk of unforeseen emergency or other unexpected need for funds, e.g. an unexpected large repair bill or finding 'seed-funding' for an urgent project;
- Covering unforeseen day-to-day operational costs, e.g. employing temporary staff to cover a long-term sickness absence;

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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- Planned commitments, or designations, that cannot be met by future income alone, e.g. a relocation, plans for a major asset purchase or a significant project that requires the charity to provide 'matched funding'; and
- The need to fund short-term deficits in a cash budget, e.g. money may need to be spent before a funding grant is received.

The Board of directors have examined the charity's requirements for reserves in the light of the main risks to the to the organisation and are confident that the reserves are sufficient to ensure the continued operation of the charity now and in the immediate future.

The Board of Directors will reserve the right at any point in time to draw down this reserve as might be required whilst ensuring by all reasonable means the earliest possible rebuilding of reserves in line with this policy.

#### **FUTURE PLANS**

The charity plans continuing the activities outlined above in the forthcoming years subject to satisfactory funding arrangements.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 24 November 2016 and registered as a charity on 6 April 2017. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association that established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

##### **Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

Trustees may be appointed by the current Board of Trustees and shall serve for a period of three years, which period can be extended by a further two terms of three years each by mutual agreement between the Board and the Trustee. On appointment as Trustee, the person shall become a company member of the charity.

All members of the board of directors give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits or expenses from the charity. The charity actively promotes a board of directors that includes a range of skills, experience and knowledge in keeping with the pursuance of its Objects. The traditional business skills are well represented on the board of directors. In an effort to maintain this broad skill mix, a board skills audit is carried out regularly, most recently in 2021 and in the event of particular skills being lost due to retirements, future board recruitment will give priority to the replacement of these skills.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Organisational structure**

As of 31 March 2024, the charity has a board of directors of eight members who meet bi-monthly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. There is an Audit and Risk Sub-Committee and a Nominations and Remunerations Sub-Committee. The Board's Quality Committee decides on gallery, retail and exhibition applications.

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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Members of the board of directors are from a variety of professional backgrounds relevant to the work of the charity. A scheme of delegation is in place and day-to-day responsibility for the provision of services rests with the staff team. The Director is responsible for ensuring that the charity delivers the services specified and that key performance indicators are met.

**Induction and training of new trustees**

The existing Trustees are already familiar with the practical work of the charity and are encouraged to attend any events organised by the charity. New trustees will be invited and encouraged to attend a series of short training sessions to familiarise themselves with the charity and the context within which it operates. These will be led by the Chair of the board of directors and the Chief Executive of the charity and will cover:

- The obligations of board of directors' members;
- The main documents that set out the operational framework for the charity including the Memorandum and Articles; - Resourcing and the current financial position as set out in the latest published accounts; and
- Future plans and objectives.

**Related parties**

In so far as it is complimentary to the charity's objects, the charity is guided by both local and national policy.

The Arts Council of Northern Ireland is the lead development agency for the arts in Northern Ireland. Their overall place the Arts at the heart of our social, economic and creative life'. Their strategic plan 'Inspire, Connect, Lead 2019 to 2024' includes:

- Creating a confident, vibrant, arts infrastructure;
- Working with local government to strengthen local arts
- Increase audiences for the arts
- Build sustainability by helping organisations diversify income

Our programme of activities therefore fits the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's strategic objectives and therefore their funding criteria. The Arts Council of Northern Ireland appoints an observer who acts as liaison officer with organisations in receipt of financial assistance.

It is a condition of financial assistance that the observer is invited to attend all board meetings including any sub-committees.

**Risk management**

The Board of Directors has conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and a risk register has been established that is reviewed bi-monthly at each Board meeting. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the charity faces.

The organisation is guided in 2023-24 by a one-year business plan, under the 2022-25 three year Strategic Plan.

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

The trustees, who are also the directors of Craft Northern Ireland for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

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

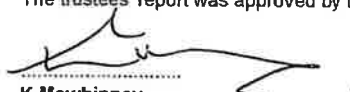
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

**Disclosure of information to independent Examiner**

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the independent examination, but of which the independent examiner is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of such information.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
**K Mawhinney**  
Chairperson  
Dated: ..... 5/12/24 .....

**Craft Northern Ireland**

**Independent Examiner's Report  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

---

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Craft Northern Ireland (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the 2008 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

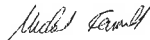
**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of Chartered Accountants Ireland, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



**Michael Farrell**  
For, and on behalf of,  
**AAB Group Accountants Limited**  
1-3 Arthur Street  
Belfast  
Co. Antrim  
BT1 4GA

Dated: 12/12/2024

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Statement of Financial Activities  
(incorporating an income and expenditure account)  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	19,847	166,929	186,776	219,526
Other trading activities	3	68,296	-	68,296	62,247
<b>Total Income and endowments</b>		<b>88,143</b>	<b>166,929</b>	<b>255,072</b>	<b>281,773</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable Activities	5	(92,532)	(169,536)	(262,068)	(271,239)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>(92,532)</b>	<b>(169,536)</b>	<b>(262,068)</b>	<b>(271,239)</b>
<b>Net income for the year before transfers</b>		<b>(4,389)</b>	<b>(2,607)</b>	<b>(6,996)</b>	<b>10,534</b>
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(4,389)</b>	<b>(2,607)</b>	<b>(6,996)</b>	<b>10,534</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		71,341	6,408	77,749	67,215
<b>Total Funds Carried Forward</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>66,952</b>	<b>3,801</b>	<b>70,753</b>	<b>77,749</b>

All income derives from continuing activities, therefore no statement of recognised gains or losses is given.

The notes on pages 13 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Balance Sheet  
as at 31 March 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible assets	7	5,098	7,539
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	8	10,194	19,341
Cash at bank and in hand		69,580	59,690
		<u>79,774</u>	<u>79,031</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14,119</b>	<b>8,821</b>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>65,655</b>	<b>70,210</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b><u>70,753</u></b>	<b><u>77,749</u></b>
Represented by:			
<b>Unrestricted Funds:</b>			
<b>General</b>	<b>10</b>	57,189	61,578
<b>Designated</b>		9,763	9,763
<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>10</b>	3,801	6,408
		<b><u>70,753</u></b>	<b><u>77,749</u></b>

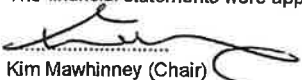
The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on .....

  
Kim Mawhinney (Chair)  
Trustee

5/12/24

**Company Registration Number NI642349**

The notes on pages 13 - 19 form part of these financial statements.

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
as at 31 March 2024**

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**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Craft Northern Ireland meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

**b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

**c) Fund Accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

General funds may be transferred to designated funds where Trustees wish to use these funds for a specific purpose. Such funds may be transferred back to general funds once the criteria for the designation have been met or are no longer applicable.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of restricted funds is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Restricted funds may only be transferred to general or designated funds once the criteria for restriction have been discharged or no longer apply.

**d) Income Recognition Policies**

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- The charity has entitlement to the funds;
- any performance conditions attached to the item of income has been met or are fully within the control of the charity;
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable; and
- the amount can be measured reliably.

**e) Donated services and facilities**

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of supporters is not recognised.

**f) Interest Receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**g) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT**

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. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of supporting refugee families and activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

**h) Allocation of support costs**

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charity's programmes and activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities.

**i) Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening the deposit or similar account

**j) Tangible Fixed Assets**

Individual fixed assets are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

<b>Asset Category:</b>	<b>Annual Rate</b>
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	10% Straight Line
Computer Equipment	33% Straight Line

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment when events or circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable.

**k) Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discount due.

**l) Creditors and Provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**m) Pensions**

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the statement of financial activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**n) Taxation**

The company is a registered charity and the charitable tax exemptions are therefore being claimed to the extent that income and/or gains are applicable and applied to charitable purposes only. These exemptions will remain in place as long as income and expenditure is applied to charitable purposes only.

**o) Financial instruments**

The Charity 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 Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, the net amounts are 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 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 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 payments 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.

**Derecognition of financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

**p) Critical accounting estimates and judgements**

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
Year Ended 31 March 2024

**2 Income from donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds	Total Funds
			2024 £	2023 £
ACNI Annual Funding Programme	-	145,509	145,509	143,404
ACNI H&S Equip 2022/23	-	-	-	6,255
Design & Crafts Council of Ireland	-	-	-	26,448
Belfast City Council	18,000	-	18,000	18,000
Ulster University - Artwork Employability	-	-	-	21,919
The British Council	-	-	-	3,500
Art Work- Funder Future Screen Ni	-	21,420	21,420	-
Garden Show Ireland	1,847	-	1,847	-
	<u>19,847</u>	<u>166,929</u>	<u>186,776</u>	<u>219,526</u>

The 2023 total of £219,526 was split £44,448 unrestricted and £175,078 restricted.

**3 Income from Trading Activities**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds	Total Funds
			2024 £	2023 £
Gallery Sales	62,736	-	62,736	62,247
Other Income	5,560	-	5,560	-
	<u>68,296</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>68,296</u>	<u>62,247</u>

The 2023 total of £62,247 was all unrestricted.

**4 Results for the year**

The results for the year has been arrived at after charging the following:

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation	2,441	681
	<u>2,441</u>	<u>681</u>

**5 Expenditure on charitable activity**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds	Total Funds
			2024 £	2023 £
Direct Charitable	89,214	166,606	255,820	283,476
Support Costs	1,719	2,930	4,649	5,217
Governance Costs	1,599	-	1,599	2,546
	<u>92,532</u>	<u>169,536</u>	<u>262,068</u>	<u>271,239</u>

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**6 Analysis of staff costs:**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries and Wages	159,282	147,990
Social security costs	8,746	9,558
Other Pension Costs	7,857	7,104
	<u>175,885</u>	<u>164,652</u>

The average monthly number of employees was 8 (2023: 8) and the average monthly number of employees during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows (including casual and part time staff):

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Charitable activities	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>

No employee has emoluments in excess of £60,000. (2023: 0)

The charity Trustees were not paid nor did they receive any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2023: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2023: £nil). No charity Trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2023: £nil).

**7 Tangible Fixed Assets**

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost:			
As at 1 April 2023	3,337	6,520	9,857
Additions	-	-	-
As at 31 March 2024	<u>3,337</u>	<u>6,520</u>	<u>9,857</u>
Depreciation:			
As at 1 April 2023	1,837	481	2,318
Charge for the year	334	2,107	2,441
As at 31 March 2024	<u>2,171</u>	<u>2,588</u>	<u>4,759</u>
Net Book Value			
As at 31 March 2024	<u>1,166</u>	<u>3,932</u>	<u>5,098</u>
As at 31 March 2023	<u>1,500</u>	<u>6,039</u>	<u>7,539</u>

**8 Debtors**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade Debtors	160	7,000
Accrued Income	9,275	11,670
Prepayments	759	671
	<u>10,194</u>	<u>19,341</u>

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)**  
**Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade Creditors	8,239	2,563
Other Taxes and Social Security Costs	3,050	3,428
Accruals	1,830	1,830
ACNI Grant to be Refunded	1,000	1,000
Rounding	-	-
	<u>14,119</u>	<u>8,821</u>

**10 Analysis of Movements in Funds**

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	As at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>		£	£	£
General funds - all funds	61,578	88,143	( 92,532)	57,189
Designated Funds	9,763	-	-	9,763
	<u>71,341</u>	<u>88,143</u>	<u>( 92,532)</u>	<u>66,952</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted funds - all funds	6,408	166,929	( 169,536)	3,801
<b>Total</b>	<u>77,749</u>	<u>255,072</u>	<u>( 262,068)</u>	<u>70,753</u>

The designated fund relates to the Guild Bursary received from the former NI Guild of Designer Craftsmen to be used for the advancement of the craft sector in Northern Ireland.

**11 Analysis of Movements in Restricted Funds**

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	As at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
ACNI Annual Funding Programme	500	145,509	( 146,009)	-
ACNI H&S Equipment Grant	5,908	-	( 2,107)	3,801
Art Work Funder future NI	-	21,420	( 21,420)	-
	<u>6,408</u>	<u>166,929</u>	<u>(169,536)</u>	<u>3,801</u>

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**12 Analysis of net assets between funds**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2024</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2024</b>	<b>Total funds 2024</b>	<b>Total funds 2023</b>
		£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,298	3,801	5,099	7,539
Current assets	79,774	-	79,774	79,031
Creditors amounts falling due within one year	(14,119)	-	(14,119)	(8,821)
	<b>66,953</b>	<b>3,801</b>	<b>70,754</b>	<b>77,749</b>

**The following pages do not form  
part of the financial statements  
which are the subject of the independent  
examiner's report on page 12**

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)**  
**Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities:**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Wages	50,423	117,605	168,028	157,548
Pensions	7,857	-	7,857	7,104
Gallery Supplies	2,326	-	2,326	3,882
Rent and Rates	6,609	34,559	41,168	38,712
Insurance	1,918	-	1,918	1,732
Light and Heat	43	2,000	2,043	3,896
Telephone	1,269	-	1,269	1,251
Postage and stationery	756	-	756	629
Publicity and marketing	3,576	3,054	6,630	4,623
Miscellaneous expenses	-	-	-	1,005
Maintenance and security	4,536	-	4,536	2,360
Exhibition costs	998	1,000	1,998	3,989
Christmas Campaign	-	-	-	4,258
Subscriptions	2,793	-	2,793	1,565
Maker development	1,923	2,000	3,923	3,013
Legal and professional	2,203	-	2,203	960
Travel and subsistence	217	1,936	2,153	4383.27
Staff training	1,334	-	1,334	1,219
Other Programming	-	-	-	345
August Craft Month	-	2,345	2,345	20,121
Launchpad	-	-	-	200
Room Hire	100	-	100	-
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	334	2,107	2,441	681
Support costs	1,719	2,930	4,649	5,217
Governance costs	1,599	-	1,599	2,546
	<b>92,533</b>	<b>169,536</b>	<b>262,069</b>	<b>271,239</b>

The 2023 total of £271,239 was split £102,569 unrestricted and £168,670 restricted.

**Analysis of governance and support costs**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Bank and card transaction charges	1,719	2,930	4,649	5,217
Accountancy fees	1,599	-	1,599	2,546
	<b>3,318</b>	<b>2,930</b>	<b>6,248</b>	<b>7,763</b>

The 2023 total of £7,763 was split £4,833 unrestricted and £2,930 restricted.

**Craft NI**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106410

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# Annual report

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**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**Company No: NI642349  
Charity No: NIC106410**

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
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Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Company Information**

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<b>Trustees</b>	Rory Shearer James Toland Patricia Flanagan Patricia Margaret McNeill Rachel Fitzpatrick O'Neill Kim Mawhinney Chris McHugh Olivia Stewart William Fitzpatrick (appointed 13 June 2024)
<b>Address for correspondence</b>	115-119 Royal Avenue Belfast Northern Ireland BT1 1FF
<b>Registered Office</b>	115-119 Royal Avenue Belfast Northern Ireland BT1 1FF
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	AAB Group Accountants Limited 1-3 Arthur Street Belfast Co. Antrim BT1 4GA
<b>Registered Charity No.</b>	106410
<b>Registered Company No.</b>	NI642349
<b>Company Secretary</b>	K Davidson
<b>Bank</b>	Ulster Bank 2-8 Market Street Downpatrick County Down BT30 6BU

## Craft Northern Ireland

### Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2024

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The Trustees presents their annual report together with the financial statements of Craft Northern Ireland for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the Trust comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, the Companies Act 2006, the Articles of Association, and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (effective 1 January 2019).

This report provides information on Craft Northern Ireland activities and financial performance and forms part of a range of public information designed to give an open account of our work.

#### Objectives and aims

The charity's purposes as set out in the organisations Strategic Plan of the Board are the achievement of:

#### Our Vision

A diverse and sustainable craft sector that makes a positive contribution to the culture, economy and wellbeing of people in Northern Ireland.

#### Our Mission

To contribute to an integrated, entrepreneurial and vibrant contemporary crafts sector in Northern Ireland, actively supported by regional and local stakeholders, that contributes increasingly to the creative, cultural and economic life of Northern Ireland.

#### Our Values

We will work in a way which:

- Is ambitious and outward-looking.
- Builds partnerships and collaborations.
- Finds opportunities to promote and advocate NI Craft.
- Is educating, enriching, inspiring and innovating.
- Promotes quality.
- Is inclusive and respectful.

#### Top level objectives

##### Makers

We want to enable makers to find training relevant to their business and to build beneficial networks in NI and beyond. We will also support makers to find professional development and learn about and test commercial approaches.

We will support makers with open access training and professional development programme opportunities. We will help people stay in touch and network through our Maker forums and newsletters. We will promote craft through our Craft NI Directory of makers and retailers, our Gallery and our promotions and marketing activities.

##### Audiences & Markets

We will work towards audiences and buyers being able to find more high quality craft across NI and to see high quality craft exhibitions easily. We also want to make it easier for people to find craft workshops, whether for recreation or professional development.

We will create a new marketing strategy and develop our website. We will also develop our juried exhibitions prioritising NI makers. We will grow August Craft Month and through partnerships increase audiences both in NI and across the island of Ireland and among visitors. We will build relationships in education, local government and across relevant stakeholders with an interest in a flourishing craft sector.

## Craft Northern Ireland

### Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2024

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#### Craft NI

We want makers to see Craft NI as an inspirational source of information and advice. To meet this and our other objectives we will develop our range of income streams and take care to support our staff. We will collaborate with a wider range of partners to deliver value for the craft sector.

We will run our advice and signposting service and grow the potential of our physical space as a resource for makers. We will create new plans for gallery marketing; sponsorship and fundraising, and we will develop and support our staff. We will develop relationships with partners across the islands.

#### ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

##### Progress Against Objectives

##### 1. Makers

**1.1 Signposting:** During the year Craft NI provided ongoing support for designer-makers & sector through signposting and information support, via responding to individual queries and via our Weekly Plan C newsletter

- circulation list of 800 craft makers

- Funding sources.
- Guidance for pricing work.
- Support on running a craft market.
- Weekly Plan C newsletter – circulation list of 800 craft makers.

**1.2 Talks and Training:** We also offered a series of online Talks and Training to support craft makers to increase the sustainability of their businesses, including:

- Specialist jewellery/metals talk from Bryony Knox with a specialism in repousse and chasing:
- Product photography with Simon Mills.
- Making Design Circular with Katie Treggiddan.

We ran two maker forums with artist talks – one in Belfast from Anna Gordon, Lecturer in Jewellery & Silversmithing at Glasgow School of Arts and a second in Derry/Londonderry with a maker talk from textile artist knitter Edel MacBride which attracted over 40 participants at each. We partnered with Derry City Council for the Maker Forum there and are grateful to them for sharing costs.

**1.3 Cockpit Arts:** We secured four places on a 13-week online maker development programme run by Cockpit Arts. Cockpit studios is recognised as an exemplar in incubating craft businesses through two sites in London, and the programme was run by Cockpit's Head of Business Incubation Programmes David Crump.

**1.4 Plan C:** Weekly Maker-focused newsletter sent by e-mail focusing on grant opportunities, training, business support and maker news. The mailing list reaches over 800 craft makers with a consistent 50%+ open rate.

**1.5.** Thanks to support from Future Screens NI's Art Work programme, we were able to employ a Digital Development Officer to offer training in the following areas:

- Understanding social media.
- Creating content for social media.
- Individual one to one support reaching 43 makers.
- Training programme in using Canva.

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
Year Ended 31 March 2024

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## **2. Audiences and Markets**

### **2.1 Accessing high quality local craft**

Craft NI continues to sell work from over 50 Northern Irish makers through its Gallery at 115-119 Royal Avenue, Belfast. Makers in Northern Ireland have the opportunity to apply annually to sell through the Gallery through a juried open call-out. From time to time, guest makers are invited to sell through the Gallery under a range of circumstances, for example: through being involved in an exhibition in the Gallery; due to renown in their field; because they fill a gap in the product range that cannot currently be met by a Northern Irish maker.

Guest makers are approved by the Craft NI Board Quality Group.

Craft NI continues to promote craft retailers who sell Northern Irish craft across Northern Ireland, as well as makers who sell directly to the public. We produced a monthly mail-out profiling news from the sector, events and products from retailers. We also host a retailer Directory on the Craft NI website and partner closely with these at Christmas to raise their profile on our own social channels through sharing video content and news about them, all with a view to encouraging the public to support local makers when considering gifting options.

For the first time, we partnered with Garden Show Ireland.

### **2.2 Exhibitions:**

- **Cameron & Breen Trunk Show:** month long show of full collection of this jewellery business with opportunity for them to meet clients in Craft NI Gallery.
- **Spring Collectors' Showcase:** showcase of work for international visitors on a craft tour organised by Flow Gallery, London.
- **Pathways:** August Craft Month exhibition with prizes from funds donated by the Guild of Master Craft Makers.
- **Makers Who Teach:** showcase to celebrate Northern Ireland's talented makers who also teach crafts, in classrooms workshops and communities.
- **Journeys in Silver & Gold:** Christmas selling show themed in allusion to precious metals across the range of disciplines.
- **QEST:** work of NI makers who have received awards from the Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust.

### **2.3 August Craft Month 2024:**

In 2024, Craft NI continues its partnership with the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland and Cork Craft & Design to deliver and co-promote August Craft Month across the island of Ireland. This was with a view to growing audiences for craft as well as enabling NI makers to reach new audiences island-wide. We were able to secure coverage: across the island:

- 122 pieces of coverage.
- 54 pieces of NI coverage.
- 68 pieces of ROI coverage.
- 13 Broadcast pieces of coverage.
- 31% of coverage included social media engagement.
- 75% of coverage included a link to the August Craft Month website.

In 2024

- **421** events took place across the island, with at least one event in every county.
- **163** events took place across Northern Ireland.
- An estimated **1,200 to 1,600** makers took part in 2024 across the island.
- An estimated **30,000 to 60,000** people visited the all-island events in 2024.
- Our online audience increased by 66% from 2023 with over 15,000 visitors to the ACM website in 2024.
- All-island ACM Facebook reach of over **478,000**.

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
Year Ended 31 March 2024

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#### **2.4 Communications and Campaigns**

Monthly sector-wide newsletter aimed at craft consumers covering work for sale across all NI craft retailers maker news and achievements; highlights of workshops and things to do; exhibitions. Buy, See, Make.

Craft NI Gallery e-mail newsletter monthly focusing on work in Gallery.

We continue to prioritise awareness-raising through social media platforms across Craft NI and Craft NI Gallery whose combined accounts reach over 30,000 followers.

#### **2.5 Website and Maker Directory**

In 2024, we continue to promote the Craft NI Maker Directory through social media promotional spotlights on Directory members as promoting online. This is with a view to building awareness of the Directory as a first point of reference for curators, audiences or customer wanting to engage with craft makers. Recruitment to the Directory continues to increase with applications assessed quarterly and currently 126 members.

### **3. Craft NI**

#### **3.1 HR and staffing**

In 2023/24 we had no changes to the staff team. There were no resignations from the Craft NI Board nor were there any new appointments.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

#### **Principal funding sources**

Aside from the income generated by service provision and commission on sales in the charity's retail gallery, the charity's principal funding source is the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. In 2023/24, Craft NI are grateful to through Belfast City Council for funding through its partnership programme and to Future Screens NI for funding the Art Work programme.

Income was also generated through partnering with Antrim & Newtownabbey Council on organising the Craft Village at Garden Show Ireland, as well as through Project Management provided for August Craft Month in Rol.

Investment policy and objectives:

Aside from retaining a prudent amount in reserves each year most of the charity's funds are spent in the short term so there are no funds for long term investment.

#### **Reserves policy**

The charity operates a Reserves Policy as a prudent measure to ensure the continued operation of the charity in the event of an immediate financial requirement due to unforeseen circumstances. Such circumstances might arise as a result of, although not limited to, any or a number of the following:

- A source of income not being renewed or reduced. Funds might be needed to give the trustees time to take action if income falls below expectations;
- The risk of unforeseen emergency or other unexpected need for funds, e.g. an unexpected large repair bill or finding 'seed-funding' for an urgent project;
- Covering unforeseen day-to-day operational costs, e.g. employing temporary staff to cover a long-term sickness absence;

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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- Planned commitments, or designations, that cannot be met by future income alone, e.g. a relocation, plans for a major asset purchase or a significant project that requires the charity to provide 'matched funding'; and
- The need to fund short-term deficits in a cash budget, e.g. money may need to be spent before a funding grant is received.

The Board of directors have examined the charity's requirements for reserves in the light of the main risks to the to the organisation and are confident that the reserves are sufficient to ensure the continued operation of the charity now and in the immediate future.

The Board of Directors will reserve the right at any point in time to draw down this reserve as might be required whilst ensuring by all reasonable means the earliest possible rebuilding of reserves in line with this policy.

#### **FUTURE PLANS**

The charity plans continuing the activities outlined above in the forthcoming years subject to satisfactory funding arrangements.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 24 November 2016 and registered as a charity on 6 April 2017. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association that established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

##### **Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

Trustees may be appointed by the current Board of Trustees and shall serve for a period of three years, which period can be extended by a further two terms of three years each by mutual agreement between the Board and the Trustee. On appointment as Trustee, the person shall become a company member of the charity.

All members of the board of directors give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits or expenses from the charity. The charity actively promotes a board of directors that includes a range of skills, experience and knowledge in keeping with the pursuance of its Objects. The traditional business skills are well represented on the board of directors. In an effort to maintain this broad skill mix, a board skills audit is carried out regularly, most recently in 2021 and in the event of particular skills being lost due to retirements, future board recruitment will give priority to the replacement of these skills.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Organisational structure**

As of 31 March 2024, the charity has a board of directors of eight members who meet bi-monthly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. There is an Audit and Risk Sub-Committee and a Nominations and Remunerations Sub-Committee. The Board's Quality Committee decides on gallery, retail and exhibition applications.

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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Members of the board of directors are from a variety of professional backgrounds relevant to the work of the charity. A scheme of delegation is in place and day-to-day responsibility for the provision of services rests with the staff team. The Director is responsible for ensuring that the charity delivers the services specified and that key performance indicators are met.

**Induction and training of new trustees**

The existing Trustees are already familiar with the practical work of the charity and are encouraged to attend any events organised by the charity. New trustees will be invited and encouraged to attend a series of short training sessions to familiarise themselves with the charity and the context within which it operates. These will be led by the Chair of the board of directors and the Chief Executive of the charity and will cover:

- The obligations of board of directors' members;
- The main documents that set out the operational framework for the charity including the Memorandum and Articles; - Resourcing and the current financial position as set out in the latest published accounts; and
- Future plans and objectives.

**Related parties**

In so far as it is complimentary to the charity's objects, the charity is guided by both local and national policy.

The Arts Council of Northern Ireland is the lead development agency for the arts in Northern Ireland. Their overall place the Arts at the heart of our social, economic and creative life'. Their strategic plan 'Inspire, Connect, Lead 2019 to 2024' includes:

- Creating a confident, vibrant, arts infrastructure;
- Working with local government to strengthen local arts
- Increase audiences for the arts
- Build sustainability by helping organisations diversify income

Our programme of activities therefore fits the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's strategic objectives and therefore their funding criteria. The Arts Council of Northern Ireland appoints an observer who acts as liaison officer with organisations in receipt of financial assistance.

It is a condition of financial assistance that the observer is invited to attend all board meetings including any sub-committees.

**Risk management**

The Board of Directors has conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and a risk register has been established that is reviewed bi-monthly at each Board meeting. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the charity faces.

The organisation is guided in 2023-24 by a one-year business plan, under the 2022-25 three year Strategic Plan.

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

The trustees, who are also the directors of Craft Northern Ireland for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

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

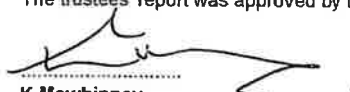
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

**Disclosure of information to independent Examiner**

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the independent examination, but of which the independent examiner is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of such information.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:

  
K Mawhinney  
Chairperson  
Dated: 5/12/24

**Craft Northern Ireland**

**Independent Examiner's Report  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Craft Northern Ireland (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the 2008 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

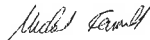
**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of Chartered Accountants Ireland, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



**Michael Farrell**  
For, and on behalf of,  
**AAB Group Accountants Limited**  
1-3 Arthur Street  
Belfast  
Co. Antrim  
BT1 4GA

Dated: 12/12/2024

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Statement of Financial Activities  
(incorporating an income and expenditure account)  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	19,847	166,929	186,776	219,526
Other trading activities	3	68,296	-	68,296	62,247
<b>Total Income and endowments</b>		<b>88,143</b>	<b>166,929</b>	<b>255,072</b>	<b>281,773</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable Activities	5	(92,532)	(169,536)	(262,068)	(271,239)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>(92,532)</b>	<b>(169,536)</b>	<b>(262,068)</b>	<b>(271,239)</b>
<b>Net income for the year before transfers</b>		<b>(4,389)</b>	<b>(2,607)</b>	<b>(6,996)</b>	<b>10,534</b>
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(4,389)</b>	<b>(2,607)</b>	<b>(6,996)</b>	<b>10,534</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		71,341	6,408	77,749	67,215
<b>Total Funds Carried Forward</b>	10	<b>66,952</b>	<b>3,801</b>	<b>70,753</b>	<b>77,749</b>

All income derives from continuing activities, therefore no statement of recognised gains or losses is given.

The notes on pages 13 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Balance Sheet  
as at 31 March 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible assets	7	5,098	7,539
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	8	10,194	19,341
Cash at bank and in hand		69,580	59,690
		<u>79,774</u>	<u>79,031</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14,119</b>	<b>8,821</b>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>65,655</b>	<b>70,210</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b><u>70,753</u></b>	<b><u>77,749</u></b>
Represented by:			
<b>Unrestricted Funds:</b>			
<b>General</b>	<b>10</b>	57,189	61,578
<b>Designated</b>		9,763	9,763
<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>10</b>	3,801	6,408
		<b><u>70,753</u></b>	<b><u>77,749</u></b>

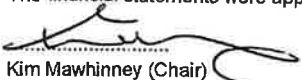
The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on .....

  
Kim Mawhinney (Chair)  
Trustee

5/12/24

**Company Registration Number NI642349**

The notes on pages 13 - 19 form part of these financial statements.

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
as at 31 March 2024**

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**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Craft Northern Ireland meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

**b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

**c) Fund Accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

General funds may be transferred to designated funds where Trustees wish to use these funds for a specific purpose. Such funds may be transferred back to general funds once the criteria for the designation have been met or are no longer applicable.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of restricted funds is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Restricted funds may only be transferred to general or designated funds once the criteria for restriction have been discharged or no longer apply.

**d) Income Recognition Policies**

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- The charity has entitlement to the funds;
- any performance conditions attached to the item of income has been met or are fully within the control of the charity;
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable; and
- the amount can be measured reliably.

**e) Donated services and facilities**

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of supporters is not recognised.

**f) Interest Receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**g) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT**

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. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of supporting refugee families and activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

**h) Allocation of support costs**

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charity's programmes and activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities.

**i) Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening the deposit or similar account

**j) Tangible Fixed Assets**

Individual fixed assets are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

<b>Asset Category:</b>	<b>Annual Rate</b>
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	10% Straight Line
Computer Equipment	33% Straight Line

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment when events or circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable.

**k) Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discount due.

**l) Creditors and Provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**m) Pensions**

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the statement of financial activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**n) Taxation**

The company is a registered charity and the charitable tax exemptions are therefore being claimed to the extent that income and/or gains are applicable and applied to charitable purposes only. These exemptions will remain in place as long as income and expenditure is applied to charitable purposes only.

**o) Financial instruments**

The Charity 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 Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, the net amounts are 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 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 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 payments 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.

**Derecognition of financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

**p) Critical accounting estimates and judgements**

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
Year Ended 31 March 2024

**2 Income from donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds	Total Funds
			2024 £	2023 £
ACNI Annual Funding Programme	-	145,509	145,509	143,404
ACNI H&S Equip 2022/23	-	-	-	6,255
Design & Crafts Council of Ireland	-	-	-	26,448
Belfast City Council	18,000	-	18,000	18,000
Ulster University - Artwork Employability	-	-	-	21,919
The British Council	-	-	-	3,500
Art Work- Funder Future Screen Ni	-	21,420	21,420	-
Garden Show Ireland	1,847	-	1,847	-
	<b>19,847</b>	<b>166,929</b>	<b>186,776</b>	<b>219,526</b>

The 2023 total of £219,526 was split £44,448 unrestricted and £175,078 restricted.

**3 Income from Trading Activities**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds	Total Funds
			2024 £	2023 £
Gallery Sales	62,736	-	62,736	62,247
Other Income	5,560	-	5,560	-
	<b>68,296</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>68,296</b>	<b>62,247</b>

The 2023 total of £62,247 was all unrestricted.

**4 Results for the year**

The results for the year has been arrived at after charging the following:

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation	2,441	681
	<b>2,441</b>	<b>681</b>

**5 Expenditure on charitable activity**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds	Total Funds
			2024 £	2023 £
Direct Charitable	89,214	166,606	255,820	283,476
Support Costs	1,719	2,930	4,649	5,217
Governance Costs	1,599	-	1,599	2,546
	<b>92,532</b>	<b>169,536</b>	<b>262,068</b>	<b>271,239</b>

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**6 Analysis of staff costs:**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries and Wages	159,282	147,990
Social security costs	8,746	9,558
Other Pension Costs	7,857	7,104
	<u>175,885</u>	<u>164,652</u>

The average monthly number of employees was 8 (2023: 8) and the average monthly number of employees during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows (including casual and part time staff):

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Charitable activities	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>

No employee has emoluments in excess of £60,000. (2023: 0)

The charity Trustees were not paid nor did they receive any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2023: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2023: £nil). No charity Trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2023: £nil).

**7 Tangible Fixed Assets**

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost:			
As at 1 April 2023	3,337	6,520	9,857
Additions	-	-	-
As at 31 March 2024	<u>3,337</u>	<u>6,520</u>	<u>9,857</u>
Depreciation:			
As at 1 April 2023	1,837	481	2,318
Charge for the year	334	2,107	2,441
As at 31 March 2024	<u>2,171</u>	<u>2,588</u>	<u>4,759</u>
Net Book Value			
As at 31 March 2024	<u>1,166</u>	<u>3,932</u>	<u>5,098</u>
As at 31 March 2023	<u>1,500</u>	<u>6,039</u>	<u>7,539</u>

**8 Debtors**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade Debtors	160	7,000
Accrued Income	9,275	11,670
Prepayments	759	671
	<u>10,194</u>	<u>19,341</u>

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)**  
**Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade Creditors	8,239	2,563
Other Taxes and Social Security Costs	3,050	3,428
Accruals	1,830	1,830
ACNI Grant to be Refunded	1,000	1,000
Rounding	-	-
	<u>14,119</u>	<u>8,821</u>

**10 Analysis of Movements in Funds**

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	As at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>		£	£	£
General funds - all funds	61,578	88,143	( 92,532)	57,189
Designated Funds	9,763	-	-	9,763
	<u>71,341</u>	<u>88,143</u>	<u>( 92,532)</u>	<u>66,952</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted funds - all funds	6,408	166,929	( 169,536)	3,801
<b>Total</b>	<u>77,749</u>	<u>255,072</u>	<u>( 262,068)</u>	<u>70,753</u>

The designated fund relates to the Guild Bursary received from the former NI Guild of Designer Craftsmen to be used for the advancement of the craft sector in Northern Ireland.

**11 Analysis of Movements in Restricted Funds**

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	As at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
ACNI Annual Funding Programme	500	145,509	( 146,009)	-
ACNI H&S Equipment Grant	5,908	-	( 2,107)	3,801
Art Work Funder future NI	-	21,420	( 21,420)	-
	<u>6,408</u>	<u>166,929</u>	<u>(169,536)</u>	<u>3,801</u>

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**12 Analysis of net assets between funds**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2024</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2024</b>	<b>Total funds 2024</b>	<b>Total funds 2023</b>
		£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,298	3,801	5,099	7,539
Current assets	79,774	-	79,774	79,031
Creditors amounts falling due within one year	(14,119)	-	(14,119)	(8,821)
	<u>66,953</u>	<u>3,801</u>	<u>70,754</u>	<u>77,749</u>

**The following pages do not form  
part of the financial statements  
which are the subject of the independent  
examiner's report on page 12**

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)**  
**Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities:**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Wages	50,423	117,605	168,028	157,548
Pensions	7,857	-	7,857	7,104
Gallery Supplies	2,326	-	2,326	3,882
Rent and Rates	6,609	34,559	41,168	38,712
Insurance	1,918	-	1,918	1,732
Light and Heat	43	2,000	2,043	3,896
Telephone	1,269	-	1,269	1,251
Postage and stationery	756	-	756	629
Publicity and marketing	3,576	3,054	6,630	4,623
Miscellaneous expenses	-	-	-	1,005
Maintenance and security	4,536	-	4,536	2,360
Exhibition costs	998	1,000	1,998	3,989
Christmas Campaign	-	-	-	4,258
Subscriptions	2,793	-	2,793	1,565
Maker development	1,923	2,000	3,923	3,013
Legal and professional	2,203	-	2,203	960
Travel and subsistence	217	1,936	2,153	4383.27
Staff training	1,334	-	1,334	1,219
Other Programming	-	-	-	345
August Craft Month	-	2,345	2,345	20,121
Launchpad	-	-	-	200
Room Hire	100	-	100	-
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	334	2,107	2,441	681
Support costs	1,719	2,930	4,649	5,217
Governance costs	1,599	-	1,599	2,546
	<b>92,533</b>	<b>169,536</b>	<b>262,069</b>	<b>271,239</b>

The 2023 total of £271,239 was split £102,569 unrestricted and £168,670 restricted.

**Analysis of governance and support costs**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Bank and card transaction charges	1,719	2,930	4,649	5,217
Accountancy fees	1,599	-	1,599	2,546
	<b>3,318</b>	<b>2,930</b>	<b>6,248</b>	<b>7,763</b>

The 2023 total of £7,763 was split £4,833 unrestricted and £2,930 restricted.

**Craft NI**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106410

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# Annual return

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**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**Company No: NI642349  
Charity No: NIC106410**

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
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Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Company Information**

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<b>Trustees</b>	Rory Shearer James Toland Patricia Flanagan Patricia Margaret McNeill Rachel Fitzpatrick O'Neill Kim Mawhinney Chris McHugh Olivia Stewart William Fitzpatrick (appointed 13 June 2024)
<b>Address for correspondence</b>	115-119 Royal Avenue Belfast Northern Ireland BT1 1FF
<b>Registered Office</b>	115-119 Royal Avenue Belfast Northern Ireland BT1 1FF
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	AAB Group Accountants Limited 1-3 Arthur Street Belfast Co. Antrim BT1 4GA
<b>Registered Charity No.</b>	106410
<b>Registered Company No.</b>	NI642349
<b>Company Secretary</b>	K Davidson
<b>Bank</b>	Ulster Bank 2-8 Market Street Downpatrick County Down BT30 6BU

## Craft Northern Ireland

### Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2024

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The Trustees presents their annual report together with the financial statements of Craft Northern Ireland for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the Trust comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, the Companies Act 2006, the Articles of Association, and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (effective 1 January 2019).

This report provides information on Craft Northern Ireland activities and financial performance and forms part of a range of public information designed to give an open account of our work.

#### Objectives and aims

The charity's purposes as set out in the organisations Strategic Plan of the Board are the achievement of:

#### Our Vision

A diverse and sustainable craft sector that makes a positive contribution to the culture, economy and wellbeing of people in Northern Ireland.

#### Our Mission

To contribute to an integrated, entrepreneurial and vibrant contemporary crafts sector in Northern Ireland, actively supported by regional and local stakeholders, that contributes increasingly to the creative, cultural and economic life of Northern Ireland.

#### Our Values

We will work in a way which:

- Is ambitious and outward-looking.
- Builds partnerships and collaborations.
- Finds opportunities to promote and advocate NI Craft.
- Is educating, enriching, inspiring and innovating.
- Promotes quality.
- Is inclusive and respectful.

#### Top level objectives

##### Makers

We want to enable makers to find training relevant to their business and to build beneficial networks in NI and beyond. We will also support makers to find professional development and learn about and test commercial approaches.

We will support makers with open access training and professional development programme opportunities. We will help people stay in touch and network through our Maker forums and newsletters. We will promote craft through our Craft NI Directory of makers and retailers, our Gallery and our promotions and marketing activities.

##### Audiences & Markets

We will work towards audiences and buyers being able to find more high quality craft across NI and to see high quality craft exhibitions easily. We also want to make it easier for people to find craft workshops, whether for recreation or professional development.

We will create a new marketing strategy and develop our website. We will also develop our juried exhibitions prioritising NI makers. We will grow August Craft Month and through partnerships increase audiences both in NI and across the island of Ireland and among visitors. We will build relationships in education, local government and across relevant stakeholders with an interest in a flourishing craft sector.

## Craft Northern Ireland

### Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2024

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#### Craft NI

We want makers to see Craft NI as an inspirational source of information and advice. To meet this and our other objectives we will develop our range of income streams and take care to support our staff. We will collaborate with a wider range of partners to deliver value for the craft sector.

We will run our advice and signposting service and grow the potential of our physical space as a resource for makers. We will create new plans for gallery marketing; sponsorship and fundraising, and we will develop and support our staff. We will develop relationships with partners across the islands.

#### ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

##### Progress Against Objectives

##### 1. Makers

**1.1 Signposting:** During the year Craft NI provided ongoing support for designer-makers & sector through signposting and information support, via responding to individual queries and via our Weekly Plan C newsletter

- circulation list of 800 craft makers

- Funding sources.
- Guidance for pricing work.
- Support on running a craft market.
- Weekly Plan C newsletter – circulation list of 800 craft makers.

**1.2 Talks and Training:** We also offered a series of online Talks and Training to support craft makers to increase the sustainability of their businesses, including:

- Specialist jewellery/metals talk from Bryony Knox with a specialism in repousse and chasing:
- Product photography with Simon Mills.
- Making Design Circular with Katie Treggiddan.

We ran two maker forums with artist talks – one in Belfast from Anna Gordon, Lecturer in Jewellery & Silversmithing at Glasgow School of Arts and a second in Derry/Londonderry with a maker talk from textile artist knitter Edel MacBride which attracted over 40 participants at each. We partnered with Derry City Council for the Maker Forum there and are grateful to them for sharing costs.

**1.3 Cockpit Arts:** We secured four places on a 13-week online maker development programme run by Cockpit Arts. Cockpit studios is recognised as an exemplar in incubating craft businesses through two sites in London, and the programme was run by Cockpit's Head of Business Incubation Programmes David Crump.

**1.4 Plan C:** Weekly Maker-focused newsletter sent by e-mail focusing on grant opportunities, training, business support and maker news. The mailing list reaches over 800 craft makers with a consistent 50%+ open rate.

**1.5.** Thanks to support from Future Screens NI's Art Work programme, we were able to employ a Digital Development Officer to offer training in the following areas:

- Understanding social media.
- Creating content for social media.
- Individual one to one support reaching 43 makers.
- Training programme in using Canva.

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
Year Ended 31 March 2024

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## **2. Audiences and Markets**

### **2.1 Accessing high quality local craft**

Craft NI continues to sell work from over 50 Northern Irish makers through its Gallery at 115-119 Royal Avenue, Belfast. Makers in Northern Ireland have the opportunity to apply annually to sell through the Gallery through a juried open call-out. From time to time, guest makers are invited to sell through the Gallery under a range of circumstances, for example: through being involved in an exhibition in the Gallery; due to renown in their field; because they fill a gap in the product range that cannot currently be met by a Northern Irish maker.

Guest makers are approved by the Craft NI Board Quality Group.

Craft NI continues to promote craft retailers who sell Northern Irish craft across Northern Ireland, as well as makers who sell directly to the public. We produced a monthly mail-out profiling news from the sector, events and products from retailers. We also host a retailer Directory on the Craft NI website and partner closely with these at Christmas to raise their profile on our own social channels through sharing video content and news about them, all with a view to encouraging the public to support local makers when considering gifting options.

For the first time, we partnered with Garden Show Ireland.

### **2.2 Exhibitions:**

- **Cameron & Breen Trunk Show:** month long show of full collection of this jewellery business with opportunity for them to meet clients in Craft NI Gallery.
- **Spring Collectors' Showcase:** showcase of work for international visitors on a craft tour organised by Flow Gallery, London.
- **Pathways:** August Craft Month exhibition with prizes from funds donated by the Guild of Master Craft Makers.
- **Makers Who Teach:** showcase to celebrate Northern Ireland's talented makers who also teach crafts, in classrooms workshops and communities.
- **Journeys in Silver & Gold:** Christmas selling show themed in allusion to precious metals across the range of disciplines.
- **QEST:** work of NI makers who have received awards from the Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust.

### **2.3 August Craft Month 2024:**

In 2024, Craft NI continues its partnership with the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland and Cork Craft & Design to deliver and co-promote August Craft Month across the island of Ireland. This was with a view to growing audiences for craft as well as enabling NI makers to reach new audiences island-wide. We were able to secure coverage: across the island:

- 122 pieces of coverage.
- 54 pieces of NI coverage.
- 68 pieces of ROI coverage.
- 13 Broadcast pieces of coverage.
- 31% of coverage included social media engagement.
- 75% of coverage included a link to the August Craft Month website.

In 2024

- **421** events took place across the island, with at least one event in every county.
- **163** events took place across Northern Ireland.
- An estimated **1,200 to 1,600** makers took part in 2024 across the island.
- An estimated **30,000 to 60,000** people visited the all-island events in 2024.
- Our online audience increased by 66% from 2023 with over 15,000 visitors to the ACM website in 2024.
- All-island ACM Facebook reach of over **478,000**.

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
Year Ended 31 March 2024

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#### **2.4 Communications and Campaigns**

Monthly sector-wide newsletter aimed at craft consumers covering work for sale across all NI craft retailers maker news and achievements; highlights of workshops and things to do; exhibitions. Buy, See, Make.

Craft NI Gallery e-mail newsletter monthly focusing on work in Gallery.

We continue to prioritise awareness-raising through social media platforms across Craft NI and Craft NI Gallery whose combined accounts reach over 30,000 followers.

#### **2.5 Website and Maker Directory**

In 2024, we continue to promote the Craft NI Maker Directory through social media promotional spotlights on Directory members as promoting online. This is with a view to building awareness of the Directory as a first point of reference for curators, audiences or customer wanting to engage with craft makers. Recruitment to the Directory continues to increase with applications assessed quarterly and currently 126 members.

### **3. Craft NI**

#### **3.1 HR and staffing**

In 2023/24 we had no changes to the staff team. There were no resignations from the Craft NI Board nor were there any new appointments.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

#### **Principal funding sources**

Aside from the income generated by service provision and commission on sales in the charity's retail gallery, the charity's principal funding source is the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. In 2023/24, Craft NI are grateful to through Belfast City Council for funding through its partnership programme and to Future Screens NI for funding the Art Work programme.

Income was also generated through partnering with Antrim & Newtownabbey Council on organising the Craft Village at Garden Show Ireland, as well as through Project Management provided for August Craft Month in Rol.

Investment policy and objectives:

Aside from retaining a prudent amount in reserves each year most of the charity's funds are spent in the short term so there are no funds for long term investment.

#### **Reserves policy**

The charity operates a Reserves Policy as a prudent measure to ensure the continued operation of the charity in the event of an immediate financial requirement due to unforeseen circumstances. Such circumstances might arise as a result of, although not limited to, any or a number of the following:

- A source of income not being renewed or reduced. Funds might be needed to give the trustees time to take action if income falls below expectations;
- The risk of unforeseen emergency or other unexpected need for funds, e.g. an unexpected large repair bill or finding 'seed-funding' for an urgent project;
- Covering unforeseen day-to-day operational costs, e.g. employing temporary staff to cover a long-term sickness absence;

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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- Planned commitments, or designations, that cannot be met by future income alone, e.g. a relocation, plans for a major asset purchase or a significant project that requires the charity to provide 'matched funding'; and
- The need to fund short-term deficits in a cash budget, e.g. money may need to be spent before a funding grant is received.

The Board of directors have examined the charity's requirements for reserves in the light of the main risks to the to the organisation and are confident that the reserves are sufficient to ensure the continued operation of the charity now and in the immediate future.

The Board of Directors will reserve the right at any point in time to draw down this reserve as might be required whilst ensuring by all reasonable means the earliest possible rebuilding of reserves in line with this policy.

#### **FUTURE PLANS**

The charity plans continuing the activities outlined above in the forthcoming years subject to satisfactory funding arrangements.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 24 November 2016 and registered as a charity on 6 April 2017. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association that established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

##### **Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

Trustees may be appointed by the current Board of Trustees and shall serve for a period of three years, which period can be extended by a further two terms of three years each by mutual agreement between the Board and the Trustee. On appointment as Trustee, the person shall become a company member of the charity.

All members of the board of directors give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits or expenses from the charity. The charity actively promotes a board of directors that includes a range of skills, experience and knowledge in keeping with the pursuance of its Objects. The traditional business skills are well represented on the board of directors. In an effort to maintain this broad skill mix, a board skills audit is carried out regularly, most recently in 2021 and in the event of particular skills being lost due to retirements, future board recruitment will give priority to the replacement of these skills.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Organisational structure**

As of 31 March 2024, the charity has a board of directors of eight members who meet bi-monthly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. There is an Audit and Risk Sub-Committee and a Nominations and Remunerations Sub-Committee. The Board's Quality Committee decides on gallery, retail and exhibition applications.

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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Members of the board of directors are from a variety of professional backgrounds relevant to the work of the charity. A scheme of delegation is in place and day-to-day responsibility for the provision of services rests with the staff team. The Director is responsible for ensuring that the charity delivers the services specified and that key performance indicators are met.

**Induction and training of new trustees**

The existing Trustees are already familiar with the practical work of the charity and are encouraged to attend any events organised by the charity. New trustees will be invited and encouraged to attend a series of short training sessions to familiarise themselves with the charity and the context within which it operates. These will be led by the Chair of the board of directors and the Chief Executive of the charity and will cover:

- The obligations of board of directors' members;
- The main documents that set out the operational framework for the charity including the Memorandum and Articles; - Resourcing and the current financial position as set out in the latest published accounts; and
- Future plans and objectives.

**Related parties**

In so far as it is complimentary to the charity's objects, the charity is guided by both local and national policy.

The Arts Council of Northern Ireland is the lead development agency for the arts in Northern Ireland. Their overall place the Arts at the heart of our social, economic and creative life'. Their strategic plan 'Inspire, Connect, Lead 2019 to 2024' includes:

- Creating a confident, vibrant, arts infrastructure;
- Working with local government to strengthen local arts
- Increase audiences for the arts
- Build sustainability by helping organisations diversify income

Our programme of activities therefore fits the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's strategic objectives and therefore their funding criteria. The Arts Council of Northern Ireland appoints an observer who acts as liaison officer with organisations in receipt of financial assistance.

It is a condition of financial assistance that the observer is invited to attend all board meetings including any sub-committees.

**Risk management**

The Board of Directors has conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and a risk register has been established that is reviewed bi-monthly at each Board meeting. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the charity faces.

The organisation is guided in 2023-24 by a one-year business plan, under the 2022-25 three year Strategic Plan.

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

The trustees, who are also the directors of Craft Northern Ireland for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

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

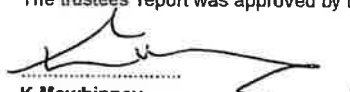
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

**Disclosure of information to independent Examiner**

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the independent examination, but of which the independent examiner is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of such information.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
**K Mawhinney**  
Chairperson  
Dated: ..... 5/12/24 .....

**Craft Northern Ireland**

**Independent Examiner's Report  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

---

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Craft Northern Ireland (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the 2008 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

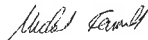
**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of Chartered Accountants Ireland, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



**Michael Farrell**  
For, and on behalf of,  
**AAB Group Accountants Limited**  
1-3 Arthur Street  
Belfast  
Co. Antrim  
BT1 4GA

Dated: 12/12/2024

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Statement of Financial Activities  
(incorporating an income and expenditure account)  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	19,847	166,929	186,776	219,526
Other trading activities	3	68,296	-	68,296	62,247
<b>Total Income and endowments</b>		<b>88,143</b>	<b>166,929</b>	<b>255,072</b>	<b>281,773</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable Activities	5	(92,532)	(169,536)	(262,068)	(271,239)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>(92,532)</b>	<b>(169,536)</b>	<b>(262,068)</b>	<b>(271,239)</b>
<b>Net income for the year before transfers</b>		<b>(4,389)</b>	<b>(2,607)</b>	<b>(6,996)</b>	<b>10,534</b>
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(4,389)</b>	<b>(2,607)</b>	<b>(6,996)</b>	<b>10,534</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		71,341	6,408	77,749	67,215
<b>Total Funds Carried Forward</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>66,952</b>	<b>3,801</b>	<b>70,753</b>	<b>77,749</b>

All income derives from continuing activities, therefore no statement of recognised gains or losses is given.

The notes on pages 13 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Balance Sheet  
as at 31 March 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible assets	7	5,098	7,539
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	8	10,194	19,341
Cash at bank and in hand		69,580	59,690
		<u>79,774</u>	<u>79,031</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14,119</b>	<b>8,821</b>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>65,655</b>	<b>70,210</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b><u>70,753</u></b>	<b><u>77,749</u></b>
Represented by:			
<b>Unrestricted Funds:</b>			
<b>General</b>	<b>10</b>	57,189	61,578
<b>Designated</b>		9,763	9,763
<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>10</b>	3,801	6,408
		<b><u>70,753</u></b>	<b><u>77,749</u></b>

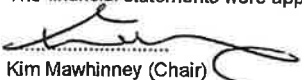
The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on .....

  
Kim Mawhinney (Chair)  
Trustee

5/12/24

**Company Registration Number NI642349**

The notes on pages 13 - 19 form part of these financial statements.

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
as at 31 March 2024**

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**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Craft Northern Ireland meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

**b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

**c) Fund Accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

General funds may be transferred to designated funds where Trustees wish to use these funds for a specific purpose. Such funds may be transferred back to general funds once the criteria for the designation have been met or are no longer applicable.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of restricted funds is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Restricted funds may only be transferred to general or designated funds once the criteria for restriction have been discharged or no longer apply.

**d) Income Recognition Policies**

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- The charity has entitlement to the funds;
- any performance conditions attached to the item of income has been met or are fully within the control of the charity;
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable; and
- the amount can be measured reliably.

**e) Donated services and facilities**

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of supporters is not recognised.

**f) Interest Receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**g) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT**

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. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of supporting refugee families and activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

**h) Allocation of support costs**

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charity's programmes and activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities.

**i) Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening the deposit or similar account

**j) Tangible Fixed Assets**

Individual fixed assets are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

<b>Asset Category:</b>	<b>Annual Rate</b>
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	10% Straight Line
Computer Equipment	33% Straight Line

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment when events or circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable.

**k) Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discount due.

**l) Creditors and Provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**m) Pensions**

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the statement of financial activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

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**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**n) Taxation**

The company is a registered charity and the charitable tax exemptions are therefore being claimed to the extent that income and/or gains are applicable and applied to charitable purposes only. These exemptions will remain in place as long as income and expenditure is applied to charitable purposes only.

**o) Financial instruments**

The Charity 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 Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, the net amounts are 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 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 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 payments 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.

**Derecognition of financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

**p) Critical accounting estimates and judgements**

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
Year Ended 31 March 2024

**2 Income from donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds	Total Funds
			2024 £	2023 £
ACNI Annual Funding Programme	-	145,509	145,509	143,404
ACNI H&S Equip 2022/23	-	-	-	6,255
Design & Crafts Council of Ireland	-	-	-	26,448
Belfast City Council	18,000	-	18,000	18,000
Ulster University - Artwork Employability	-	-	-	21,919
The British Council	-	-	-	3,500
Art Work- Funder Future Screen Ni	-	21,420	21,420	-
Garden Show Ireland	1,847	-	1,847	-
	<b>19,847</b>	<b>166,929</b>	<b>186,776</b>	<b>219,526</b>

The 2023 total of £219,526 was split £44,448 unrestricted and £175,078 restricted.

**3 Income from Trading Activities**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds	Total Funds
			2024 £	2023 £
Gallery Sales	62,736	-	62,736	62,247
Other Income	5,560	-	5,560	-
	<b>68,296</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>68,296</b>	<b>62,247</b>

The 2023 total of £62,247 was all unrestricted.

**4 Results for the year**

The results for the year has been arrived at after charging the following:

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation	2,441	681
	<b>2,441</b>	<b>681</b>

**5 Expenditure on charitable activity**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds	Total Funds
			2024 £	2023 £
Direct Charitable	89,214	166,606	255,820	283,476
Support Costs	1,719	2,930	4,649	5,217
Governance Costs	1,599	-	1,599	2,546
	<b>92,532</b>	<b>169,536</b>	<b>262,068</b>	<b>271,239</b>

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**6 Analysis of staff costs:**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries and Wages	159,282	147,990
Social security costs	8,746	9,558
Other Pension Costs	7,857	7,104
	<u>175,885</u>	<u>164,652</u>

The average monthly number of employees was 8 (2023: 8) and the average monthly number of employees during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows (including casual and part time staff):

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Charitable activities	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>

No employee has emoluments in excess of £60,000. (2023: 0)

The charity Trustees were not paid nor did they receive any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2023: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2023: £nil). No charity Trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2023: £nil).

**7 Tangible Fixed Assets**

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost:			
As at 1 April 2023	3,337	6,520	9,857
Additions	-	-	-
As at 31 March 2024	<u>3,337</u>	<u>6,520</u>	<u>9,857</u>
Depreciation:			
As at 1 April 2023	1,837	481	2,318
Charge for the year	334	2,107	2,441
As at 31 March 2024	<u>2,171</u>	<u>2,588</u>	<u>4,759</u>
Net Book Value			
As at 31 March 2024	<u>1,166</u>	<u>3,932</u>	<u>5,098</u>
As at 31 March 2023	<u>1,500</u>	<u>6,039</u>	<u>7,539</u>

**8 Debtors**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade Debtors	160	7,000
Accrued Income	9,275	11,670
Prepayments	759	671
	<u>10,194</u>	<u>19,341</u>

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)**  
**Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade Creditors	8,239	2,563
Other Taxes and Social Security Costs	3,050	3,428
Accruals	1,830	1,830
ACNI Grant to be Refunded	1,000	1,000
Rounding	-	-
	<u>14,119</u>	<u>8,821</u>

**10 Analysis of Movements in Funds**

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	As at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>		£	£	£
General funds - all funds	61,578	88,143	( 92,532)	57,189
Designated Funds	9,763	-	-	9,763
	<u>71,341</u>	<u>88,143</u>	<u>( 92,532)</u>	<u>66,952</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted funds - all funds	6,408	166,929	( 169,536)	3,801
<b>Total</b>	<u>77,749</u>	<u>255,072</u>	<u>( 262,068)</u>	<u>70,753</u>

The designated fund relates to the Guild Bursary received from the former NI Guild of Designer Craftsmen to be used for the advancement of the craft sector in Northern Ireland.

**11 Analysis of Movements in Restricted Funds**

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	As at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
ACNI Annual Funding Programme	500	145,509	( 146,009)	-
ACNI H&S Equipment Grant	5,908	-	( 2,107)	3,801
Art Work Funder future NI	-	21,420	( 21,420)	-
	<u>6,408</u>	<u>166,929</u>	<u>(169,536)</u>	<u>3,801</u>

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)  
Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**12 Analysis of net assets between funds**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2024</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2024</b>	<b>Total funds 2024</b>	<b>Total funds 2023</b>
		£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	1,298	3,801	5,099	7,539
Current assets	79,774	-	79,774	79,031
Creditors amounts falling due within one year	(14,119)	-	(14,119)	(8,821)
	<b>66,953</b>	<b>3,801</b>	<b>70,754</b>	<b>77,749</b>

**The following pages do not form  
part of the financial statements  
which are the subject of the independent  
examiner's report on page 12**

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)**  
**Year Ended 31 March 2024**

**Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities:**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Wages	50,423	117,605	168,028	157,548
Pensions	7,857	-	7,857	7,104
Gallery Supplies	2,326	-	2,326	3,882
Rent and Rates	6,609	34,559	41,168	38,712
Insurance	1,918	-	1,918	1,732
Light and Heat	43	2,000	2,043	3,896
Telephone	1,269	-	1,269	1,251
Postage and stationery	756	-	756	629
Publicity and marketing	3,576	3,054	6,630	4,623
Miscellaneous expenses	-	-	-	1,005
Maintenance and security	4,536	-	4,536	2,360
Exhibition costs	998	1,000	1,998	3,989
Christmas Campaign	-	-	-	4,258
Subscriptions	2,793	-	2,793	1,565
Maker development	1,923	2,000	3,923	3,013
Legal and professional	2,203	-	2,203	960
Travel and subsistence	217	1,936	2,153	4383.27
Staff training	1,334	-	1,334	1,219
Other Programming	-	-	-	345
August Craft Month	-	2,345	2,345	20,121
Launchpad	-	-	-	200
Room Hire	100	-	100	-
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	334	2,107	2,441	681
Support costs	1,719	2,930	4,649	5,217
Governance costs	1,599	-	1,599	2,546
	<u>92,533</u>	<u>169,536</u>	<u>262,069</u>	<u>271,239</u>

The 2023 total of £271,239 was split £102,569 unrestricted and £168,670 restricted.

**Analysis of governance and support costs**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Bank and card transaction charges	1,719	2,930	4,649	5,217
Accountancy fees	1,599	-	1,599	2,546
	<u>3,318</u>	<u>2,930</u>	<u>6,248</u>	<u>7,763</u>

The 2023 total of £7,763 was split £4,833 unrestricted and £2,930 restricted.

**Craft NI**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106410

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# Accounts

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**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**Company No: NI642349  
Charity No: NIC106410**

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
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Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Company Information**

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**Trustees**                      Rory Shearer  
   James Toland  
   Patricia Flanagan  
   Patricia Margaret McNeill  
   Rachel Fitzpatrick O'Neill  
   Kim Mawhinney  
   Gail Wright  
   Chris Mchugh  
   Olivia Stewart

**Address for correspondence**    115-119 Royal Avenue  
   Belfast  
   Northern Ireland  
   BT1 1FF

**Registered Office**                115-119 Royal Avenue  
   Belfast  
   Northern Ireland  
   BT1 1FF

**Independent Examiner**        FPM Accountants Ltd  
   Chartered Accountants  
   1-3 Arthur Street  
   Belfast  
   BT1 4GA

**Registered Charity No.**        106410  
**Registered Company No.**      NI642349

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Report of the Trustees** Year Ended 31 March 2023

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The Trustees presents their annual report together with the financial statement of Craft Northern Ireland for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The Trustees confirms that the Annual report and financial statements of the Trust comply with the Charities Act 2008, the Companies Act 2006, the Articles of Association, and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (effective 1 January 2019).

This report provides information on Craft Northern Ireland activities and financial performance and forms part of a range of public information designed to give an open account of our work.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

##### **Objectives and aims**

The charity's purposes as set out in the organisations Strategic Plan of the Bord are the achievement of:

##### **Our Vision**

A diverse and sustainable craft sector that makes a positive contribution to the culture, economy and wellbeing of people in Northern Ireland.

##### **Our Mission**

To contribute to an integrated, entrepreneurial and vibrant contemporary crafts sector in Northern Ireland, actively supported by regional and local stakeholders, that contributes increasingly to the creative, cultural and economic life of Northern Ireland.

##### **Our Values**

We will work in a way which:

- Is ambitious and outward-looking
- Builds partnerships and collaborations
- Finds opportunities to promote and advocate NI Craft
- Is educating, enriching, inspiring and innovating
- Promotes quality
- Is inclusive and respectful

##### **Top level objectives**

##### **Makers**

We want to enable makers to find training relevant to their business and to build beneficial networks in NI and beyond. We will also support makers to find professional development and learn about and test commercial approaches.

We will support makers with open access training and professional development programme opportunities. We will help people stay in touch and network through our Maker forums and newsletters. We will promote craft through our Craft NI Directory of makers and retailers, our Gallery and our promotions and marketing activities.

##### **Audiences & Markets**

We will work towards audiences and buyers being able to find more high quality craft across NI and to see high quality craft exhibitions easily. We also want to make it easier for people to find craft workshops, whether for recreation or professional development.

We will create a new marketing strategy and develop our website. We will also develop our juried exhibitions prioritising NI makers. We will grow August Craft Month and through partnerships increase audiences both in NI and across the island of Ireland and among visitors. We will build relationships in education, local government and across relevant stakeholders with an interest in a flourishing craft sector.

## Craft Northern Ireland

### Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2023

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#### Craft NI

We want makers to see Craft NI as an inspirational source of information and advice. To meet this and our other objectives we will develop our range of income streams and take care to support our staff. We will collaborate with a wider range of partners to deliver value for the craft sector.

We will run our advice and signposting service and grow the potential of our physical space as a resource for makers. We will create new plans for Gallery marketing, sponsorship and fundraising, and we will develop and support our staff. We will develop relationships with partners across the islands.

#### ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

##### Progress Against Objectives

#### 1. Makers

**1.1 Signposting:** During the year Craft NI provided ongoing support for designer-makers & sector through signposting and information support. Some examples of individual support include:

- Funding sources
- Guidance for pricing work
- Support on running a craft market
- Weekly Plan C newsletter – circulation list of 800 craft makers

**1.2 Talks and Training:** We also offered a series of online Talks and Training to support craft makers to increase the sustainability of their businesses, including:

- Craft in a circular economy with Katie Treggiden
- How to be a Responsible Business with Sophie Rochester, helping craft businesses grow sustainably;
- How to improve your maker practices to be more sustainable with Sophie Rochester, helping makers become more environmentally conscious in their craft practice through more sustainable alternatives.
  - Online Accounting with FPM
  - Product Photography for Beginners with Simon Mills
  - Advanced Product Photography with Simon Mills
  - Intellectual Property Basics with Simon Sellars from Anti Copying in Design (ACID)

**1.3 Plan C:** Weekly Maker-focused newsletter sent by e-mail focusing on grant opportunities, training, business support and maker news.

#### 2. Audiences and Markets

##### 2.1 Accessing high quality local craft

Craft NI continues to sell work from over 50 Northern Irish makers through its Gallery at 115-119 Royal Avenue, Belfast. Makers in Northern Ireland have the opportunity to apply annually to sell through the Gallery through a juried open call-out. From time to time, guest makers are invited to sell through the Gallery under a range of circumstances, for example: through being involved in an exhibition in the Gallery; due to renown in their field; because they fill a gap in the product range that cannot currently be met by a Northern Irish maker. Guest makers are approved by the Craft NI Board Quality Group.

Craft NI continues to promote craft retailers who sell Northern Irish craft across Northern Ireland as well as makers who sell directly to the public. In 2021/22 we produced a monthly mail-out profiling news from the sector, events and products from retailers. We also host a retailer Directory on the Craft NI website and during Christmas we run a promotional campaign, encouraging the public to support local makers when considering gifting options. We partnered with three local councils to promote makers, retailers, fairs and markets through radio and social media advertising gift guides organic social media and PR.

## Craft Northern Ireland

### Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2023

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#### 2.2 Exhibitions:

- Peter Meanley- New Works: new works by renowned salt glaze potter Peter Meanley, who has won international acclaim for his abstract spouted pouring vessels and his mastery of the salt glazing technique
- Wool Works: an exhibition of contemporary textile design, featured innovative work from Welsh, Finnish and Northern Ireland textile artists, who have been working together since 2001.
- **Angus Craft Month Showcase:** this annual exhibition, is a highlight of August Craft month, a unique event which features some of the best contemporary Northern Irish craft.
- Paper Magic: Through their artful mastery of skills such as cutting, pulping, folding, oiling and collaging, five talented makers revealed the magical properties of paper in this unique group show.
- **Shuttles and Shafts – Oct – Nov 2020:** capsule exhibition relating to historical cataloguing of plates from Ewart-Liddell Linen Mill. Capsule exhibition will now be on permanent display in Lisburn Linen Museum
- **Curiosities & Collectibles:** For this exhibition, the Association of Contemporary Jewellers and Silversmiths NI brought together 18 contemporary jewellers and silversmiths from all over the world. Each piece related to the theme "Collectibles and Curiosities" representing a wide range of narratives and cultures.

#### 2.3 August Craft Month:

In 2022, Craft NI entered into a partnership with the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland and Cork Craft & Design to deliver and co-promote August Craft Month across the island of Ireland. This was with a view to growing audiences for craft as well as enabling NI makers to reach new audiences island-wide.

In 2022, 265 events took place across the island with an event in every county. Participants and audiences surveyed in the evaluation listed that they felt:

- Makers participating demonstrated a high level of skill
- They would attend a similar event again
- They had learnt something new about craft
- Their understanding and appreciation of crafts had increased

#### Makers told us that they had found participating in August Craft Month useful for:

- Promoting events
- Increasing activity
- Attracting new visitors

One maker in Co. Down commented: *"I was delighted that my workshops reached a much wider audience and participants travelled from the South of Ireland and much further afield as a result. 9 people booked accommodation on 2 nights to attend."*

#### 2.4 Communications and Campaigns

Monthly sector-wide newsletter aimed at craft consumers covering work for sale across all NI craft retailers; maker news and achievements; highlights of workshops and things to do; exhibitions. Buy, See, Make.

Craft NI Gallery e-mail newsletter monthly focusing on work in Gallery.

We continue to prioritise awareness-raising through social media platforms across Craft NI and Craft NI Gallery whose combined accounts reach approximately 27,000 followers.

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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#### **Christmas Promotional Campaign:**

Q3 activities focused on Christmas Promotional Campaign '*Buy for Christmas, Keep Forever*' for the craft sector in the lead up to Christmas 2021, encouraging the public to consider a NI designer-maker or craft retailer when choosing gifts. Two local Councils contributed funds towards the regional campaign for particular promotions within their boroughs aimed at their local makers. We're grateful to the following Councils for their support:

Ards and North Down Borough Council  
Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council

Activities included:

- Gift guides for social media; digital media and direct mail
- Radio ads during December on two stations to ensure coverage across NI and border counties
- Social media news and posts

#### **2.5 Website and Maker Directory**

In 2022, we continue to promote the Craft NI Maker Directory through social media promotional spotlights on Directory members as promoting online. This is with a view to building awareness of the Directory as a first point of reference for curators, audiences or customer wanting to engage with craft makers. Recruitment to the Directory continues with applications assessed quarterly.

### **3. Craft NI**

#### **3.1 HR and staffing**

In 2022/23, we were successful in our application to secure a paid post under the NI Future Screens Art Work programme. This enabled us to recruit a Digital Development Officer whose role is to provide training, advice, how-tos and one to one support to craft makers who wish to improve the online aspects of their routes to market and to build an improved online presence which can help their businesses and craft practices. The Development Officer started in September 2022.

One Craft NI Board member, Gal Wright, stood down in 2022/23.

## Craft Northern Ireland

### Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2023

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#### FINANCIAL REVIEW

##### Principal funding sources

Aside from the income generated by service provision and commission on sales in the charity's retail gallery, the charity's principal funding source is the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. In 2022/23, Craft NI are grateful to Belfast City Council for funding through its partnership programme.

Funds were also secured from the British Council to fund a scoping visit to Vietnam to establish arts partnerships. Some income was also generated through partnering with Antrim & Newtownabbey Council to organise the Craft Village at Garden Show Ireland, as well as through Project Management provided for August Craft Month in Rol.

##### Investment policy and objectives

Aside from retaining a prudent amount in reserves each year most of the charity's funds are spent in the short term so there are no funds for long term investment.

##### Reserves policy

The charity operates a Reserves Policy as a prudent measure to ensure the continued operation of the charity in the event of an immediate financial requirement due to unforeseen circumstances. Such circumstances might arise as a result of, although not limited to, any or a number of the following:

- A source of income not being renewed or reduced. Funds might be needed to give the trustees time to take action if income falls below expectations;
- The risk of unforeseen emergency or other unexpected need for funds, e.g. an unexpected large repair bill or finding 'seed-funding' for an urgent project;
- Covering unforeseen day-to-day operational costs, e.g. employing temporary staff to cover a long-term sickness absence;

Planned commitments, or designations, that cannot be met by future income alone, e.g. a relocation, plans for a major asset purchase or a significant project that requires the charity to provide 'matched funding';

- The need to fund short-term deficits in a cash budget, e.g. money may need to be spent before a funding grant is received.

- The board of directors has reviewed both income and expenditure for the next year and has set aside an amount approximating to 15% of annual expenditure. For the financial year 2023/2024 this approximates to £35,000.

The Board of directors have examined the charity's requirements for reserves in the light of the main risks to the organisation and are confident that the reserves are sufficient to ensure the continued operation of the charity now and in the immediate future.

The Board of Directors will reserve the right at any point in time to draw down this reserve as might be required whilst ensuring by all reasonable means the earliest possible rebuilding of reserves in line with this policy.

#### FUTURE PLANS

The charity plans continuing the activities outlined above in the forthcoming years subject to satisfactory funding arrangements.

#### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

##### Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 24 November 2016 and registered as a charity on 6 April 2017. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association that established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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#### **Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

Trustees may be appointed by the current Board of Trustees and shall serve for a period of three years, which period can be extended by a further two terms of three years each by mutual agreement between the Board and the Trustee. On appointment as Trustee, the person shall become a company member of the charity.

All members of the board of directors give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits or expenses from the charity. The charity actively promotes a board of directors that includes a range of skills, experience and knowledge in keeping with the pursuance of its Objects. The traditional business skills are well represented on the board of directors. In an effort to maintain this broad skill mix, a board skills audit is carried out regularly, most recently in 2021 and in the event of particular skills being lost due to retirements, future board recruitment will give priority to the replacement of these skills.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Organisational structure**

As of 31 March 2022, the charity has a board of directors of nine members who meet bi-monthly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. There is an Audit and Risk Sub-Committee and a Nominations and Remunerations Sub-Committee. The Board's Quality Committee decides on gallery, retail and exhibition applications.

Members of the board of directors are from a variety of professional backgrounds relevant to the work of the charity. A scheme of delegation is in place and day-to-day responsibility for the provision of services rests with the staff team. The Director is responsible for ensuring that the charity delivers the services specified and that key performance indicators are met.

##### **Induction and training of new trustees**

The existing Trustees are already familiar with the practical work of the charity and are encouraged to attend any events organised by the charity. New trustees will be invited and encouraged to attend a series of short training sessions to familiarise themselves with the charity and the context within which it operates. These will be led by the Chair of the board of directors and the Chief Executive of the charity and will cover:

- The obligations of board of directors' members;
- The main documents that set out the operational framework for the charity including the Memorandum and Articles; - Resourcing and the current financial position as set out in the latest published accounts;
- Future plans and objectives.

##### **Related parties**

In so far as it is complimentary to the charity's objects, the charity is guided by both local and national policy. The Arts Council of Northern Ireland is the lead development agency for the arts in Northern Ireland. Their overall place the Arts at the heart of our social, economic and creative life'. Their strategic plan 'Inspire, Connect, Lead 2019 to 2024' includes:

- Creating a confident, vibrant, arts infrastructure;
- Working with local government to strengthen local arts
- Increase audiences for the arts
- Build sustainability by helping organisations diversify income

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Report of the Trustees** Year Ended 31 March 2023

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Our programme of activities therefore fits the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's strategic objectives and therefore their funding criteria. The Arts Council of Northern Ireland appoints an observer who acts as liaison officer with organisations in receipt of financial assistance.

It is a condition of financial assistance that the observer is invited to attend all board meetings including any sub-committees.

#### **Risk management**

The Board of Directors has conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and a risk register has been established that is reviewed bi-monthly at each Board meeting. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the charity faces.

The organisation is guided in 2022-23 by a one year business plan. Under the 2022-25 three year Strategic Plan.

#### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

##### **Registered Company number**

NI642349 (Northern Ireland)

##### **Registered Charity number**

106410

##### **Registered office**

115-119 Royal Avenue  
Belfast  
Antrim  
BT1 1FF

##### **Trustees**

Dr Christopher McHugh University Lecturer  
R L Fitzpatrick-O'Neill Self Employed  
P M Flanagan Self-employed  
K Mawhinney Museum Manager (Chair)  
P M McNeill Business Park Manager  
R Shearer Self-Employed  
Olivia Stewart Marketing Manager  
J Toland Managing Director (Treasurer)  
Gail Wright HR Manager (Resigned)

##### **Company Secretary**

K Davidson

##### **Independent Examiner**

FPM Accountants  
1-3 Arthur Street  
Belfast  
BT1 4GA

#### **EVENTS SINCE THE END OF THE YEAR**

Information relating to events since the end of the year is given in the notes to the financial statements.

**Craft Northern Ireland**

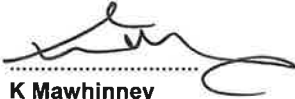
**Report of the Trustees**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

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**Disclosure of information to Independent Examiner**

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the independent examination, but of which the independent examiner is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of such information.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:



**K Mawhinney**

Chairperson

Dated: 7/12/23

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities** Year Ended 31 March 2023

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The trustees, who are also the directors of Craft Northern Ireland for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

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 judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

## Craft Northern Ireland

Independent Examiner's Report  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Craft Northern Ireland (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the 2008 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



**Lowry Grant FCCA**  
For, and on behalf of,  
**FPM Accountants Limited**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
1-3 Arthur Street  
Belfast  
Co. Antrim  
BT1 4GA

Dated: 11.12.2023

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**(incorporating an income and expenditure account)**  
**Year Ended 31 March 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	44,448	175,078	219,526	158,228
Other trading activities	3	62,247	-	62,247	58,111
<b>Total Income and endowments</b>		<b>106,695</b>	<b>175,078</b>	<b>281,773</b>	<b>216,339</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable Activities	5	(102,569)	(168,670)	(271,239)	(199,248)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>(102,569)</b>	<b>(168,670)</b>	<b>(271,239)</b>	<b>(199,248)</b>
<b>Net income for the year before transfers</b>		<b>4,126</b>	<b>6,408</b>	<b>10,534</b>	<b>17,091</b>
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>4,126</b>	<b>6,408</b>	<b>10,534</b>	<b>17,091</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		67,215	-	67,215	50,124
<b>Total Funds Carried Forward</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>71,341</b>	<b>6,408</b>	<b>77,749</b>	<b>67,215</b>

All income derives from continuing activities, therefore no statement of recognised gains or losses is given.

The notes on pages 15 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Balance Sheet  
as at 31 March 2023**

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible assets	7	7,539	1,834
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	8	19,341	9,236
Cash at bank and in hand		59,690	71,716
		<u>79,031</u>	<u>80,952</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	9	8,821	15,571
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		70,210	65,381
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u><u>77,749</u></u>	<u><u>67,215</u></u>
Represented by:			
<b>Unrestricted Funds:</b>			
<b>General</b>	10	61,578	55,952
<b>Designated</b>		9,763	11,263
<b>Restricted Funds</b>	10	6,408	-
		<u><u>77,749</u></u>	<u><u>67,215</u></u>

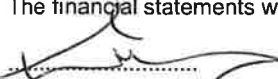
The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 7 Dec 2023.

  
Kim Mawhinney (Chair)  
Trustee

**Company Registration Number NI642349**

The notes on pages 15 - 21 form part of these financial statements.

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
as at 31 March 2023**

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**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Craft Northern Ireland meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

**b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

**c) Fund Accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

General funds may be transferred to designated funds where Trustees wish to use these funds for a specific purpose. Such funds may be transferred back to general funds once the criteria for the designation have been met or are no longer applicable.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of restricted funds is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Restricted funds may only be transferred to general or designated funds once the criteria for restriction have been discharged or no longer apply.

**d) Income Recognition Policies**

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- The charity has entitlement to the funds;
- any performance conditions attached to the item of income has been met or are fully within the control of the charity;
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable; and
- the amount can be measured reliably.

**e) Donated services and facilities**

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of supporters is not recognised.

**f) Interest Receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

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**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

g) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of supporting refugee families and activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

h) Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charity's programmes and activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities.

i) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening the deposit or similar account

j) Tangible Fixed Assets

Individual fixed assets are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

<b>Asset Category:</b>	<b>Annual Rate</b>
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	10% Straight Line
Computer Equipment	33% Straight Line

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment when events or circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable

k) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discount due.

l) Creditors and Provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

m) Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the statement of financial activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

n) Taxation

The company is a registered charity and the charitable tax exemptions are therefore being claimed to the extent that income and/or gains are applicable and applied to charitable purposes only. These exemptions will remain in place as long as income and expenditure is applied to charitable purposes only.

o) Financial instruments

The Charity 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 Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, the net amounts are 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 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 are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instruments is measured at the present value of the future payments 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.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

p) Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

**2 Income from donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
ACNI Annual Funding Programme	-	143,404	143,404	142,404
ACNI H&S Equip 2022/23	-	6,255	6,255	-
Design & Crafts Council of Ireland	26,448	-	26,448	-
Belfast City Council	18,000	-	18,000	-
Ulster University - Artwork Employability	-	21,919	21,919	-
The British Council	-	3,500	-	-
DOF Emergency Grant for Retailer	-	-	-	2,561
Bursary from NI Guild	-	-	-	13,263
	<b>44,448</b>	<b>175,078</b>	<b>216,026</b>	<b>158,228</b>

The 2022 total of £158,228 was split £15,824 unrestricted and £142,404 restricted

**3 Income from Trading Activities**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Gallery Sales	62,247	-	62,247	58,111
	<b>62,247</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>62,247</b>	<b>58,111</b>

The 2022 total of £58,111 was all unrestricted.

**4 Results for the year**

The results for the year has been arrived at after charging the following:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation	681	334
	<b>681</b>	<b>334</b>

**5 Expenditure on charitable activity**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Direct Charitable	97,736	165,740	263,476	192,374
Support Costs	2,287	2,930	5,217	3,534
Governance Costs	2,546	-	2,546	3,340
	<b>102,569</b>	<b>168,670</b>	<b>271,239</b>	<b>199,248</b>

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

**6 Analysis of staff costs:**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries and Wages	147,990	90,778
Social security costs	9,558	7,289
Other Pension Costs	7,104	4,973
	<u>164,652</u>	<u>103,040</u>

The average monthly number of employees was 8 (2022: 7) and the average monthly number of employees during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows (including casual and part time staff):

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Charitable activities	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>

No employee has emoluments in excess of £60,000. (2022: 0)

The charity Trustees were not paid nor did they receive any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2022: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2022: £nil). No charity Trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2022: £nil)

**7 Tangible Fixed Assets**

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost:			
As at 1 April 2022	3,337	134	3,471
Additions	-	6,386	6,386
As at 31 March 2023	<u>3,337</u>	<u>6,520</u>	<u>9,857</u>
Depreciation:			
As at 1 April 2022	1,503	134	1,637
Charge for the year	334	347	681
As at 31 March 2023	<u>1,837</u>	<u>481</u>	<u>2,318</u>
Net Book Value			
As at 31 March 2022	1,834	-	1,834
<b>As at 31 March 2023</b>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>6,039</u>	<u>7,539</u>

**8 Debtors**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade Debtors	7,000	1,450
Accrued Income	11,670	7,171
Prepayments	671	615
	<u>19,341</u>	<u>9,236</u>

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

**9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade Creditors	2,563	10,268
Other Taxes and Social Security Costs	3,428	2,473
Accruals	1,830	1,830
ACNI Grant to be Refunded	1,000	1,000
	<u>8,821</u>	<u>15,571</u>

**10 Analysis of Movements in Funds**

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	As at 31 March 2023
		£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General funds - all funds	55,952	106,695	( 101,069)	61,578
Designated Funds	11,263	-	( 1,500)	9,763
	<u>67,215</u>	<u>106,695</u>	<u>( 102,569)</u>	<u>71,341</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted funds - all funds	-	175,078	( 168,670)	6,408
<b>Total</b>	<u>67,215</u>	<u>281,773</u>	<u>( 271,239)</u>	<u>77,749</u>

The designated fund relates to the Guild Bursary received from the former NI Guild of Designer Craftsmen to be used for the advancement of the craft sector in Northern Ireland.

**11 Analysis of Movements in Restricted Funds**

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	As at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
ACNI Annual Funding Programme	-	143,404	( 142,904)	500
ACNI H&S Equipment Grant	-	6,255	( 347)	5,908
Ulster University Artwork Employability	-	21,919	( 21,919)	-
The British Council - Vietnam	-	3,500	( 3,500)	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>175,078</u>	<u>(168,670)</u>	<u>6,408</u>

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

**12 Analysis of net assets between funds**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2023</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2023</b>	<b>Total funds 2023</b>	<b>Total funds 2022</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Tangible fixed assets	1,500	6,039	7,539	1,834
Current assets	78,662	369	79,031	80,952
Creditors amounts falling due within one year	(8,821)	-	(8,821)	(15,571)
	<u>71,341</u>	<u>6,408</u>	<u>77,749</u>	<u>67,215</u>

**The following pages do not form  
part of the financial statements  
which are the subject of the independent  
examiner's report on page 12**

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

**Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities:**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Wages	39,444	118,104	157,548	98,067
Pensions	7,104	-	7,104	4,973
Subcontractors	-	-	-	18,409
Gallery Supplies	3,882	-	3,882	-
Rent and Rates	9,913	28,799	38,712	28,955
Insurance	1,732	-	1,732	957
Light and Heat	1,896	2,000	3,896	2,839
Telephone	1,251	-	1,251	4,009
Postage and stationery	629	-	629	578
Publicity and marketing	1,569	3,054	4,623	7,053
Miscellaneous expenses	1,005	-	1,005	2,242
Maintenance and security	2,360	-	2,360	1,525
Exhibition costs	2,053	1,936	3,989	2,602
Christmas Campaign	4,258	-	4,258	-
Subscriptions	1,565	-	1,565	2,604
Storage of existing equipment	-	-	-	1,360
IT support	-	-	-	965
Maker development	1,013	2,000	3,013	1,935
Legal and professional	960	-	960	5,422
Travel and subsistence	383	4,000	4,383	807
Staff training	1,219	-	1,219	150
ACNI Organisations Emergency	-	-	-	(49)
Other Programming	345	-	345	-
August Craft Month	14,621	5,500	20,121	6,345
Launchpad	200	-	200	-
Room Hire	-	-	-	192
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	334	347	681	334
Bad debt	-	-	-	100
Support costs	2,287	2,930	5,217	3,534
Governance costs	2,546	-	2,546	3,340
	<u>102,569</u>	<u>168,670</u>	<u>271,239</u>	<u>199,248</u>

The 2022 total of £199,248 was split £56,844 unrestricted and £142,404 restricted.

**Analysis of governance and support costs**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Bank and card transaction charges	2,287	2,930	5,217	3,534
Accountancy fees	2,546	-	2,546	3,340
	<u>4,833</u>	<u>2,930</u>	<u>7,763</u>	<u>6,874</u>

The 2022 total of £6,874 was unrestricted.

**Craft NI**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106410

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# Annual report

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**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**Company No: NI642349  
Charity No: NIC106410**

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
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Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Report of the Trustees** Year Ended 31 March 2023

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The Trustees presents their annual report together with the financial statement of Craft Northern Ireland for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The Trustees confirms that the Annual report and financial statements of the Trust comply with the Charities Act 2008, the Companies Act 2006, the Articles of Association, and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (effective 1 January 2019).

This report provides information on Craft Northern Ireland activities and financial performance and forms part of a range of public information designed to give an open account of our work.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

##### **Objectives and aims**

The charity's purposes as set out in the organisations Strategic Plan of the Bord are the achievement of:

##### **Our Vision**

A diverse and sustainable craft sector that makes a positive contribution to the culture, economy and wellbeing of people in Northern Ireland.

##### **Our Mission**

To contribute to an integrated, entrepreneurial and vibrant contemporary crafts sector in Northern Ireland, actively supported by regional and local stakeholders, that contributes increasingly to the creative, cultural and economic life of Northern Ireland.

##### **Our Values**

We will work in a way which:

- Is ambitious and outward-looking
- Builds partnerships and collaborations
- Finds opportunities to promote and advocate NI Craft
- Is educating, enriching, inspiring and innovating
- Promotes quality
- Is inclusive and respectful

##### **Top level objectives**

##### **Makers**

We want to enable makers to find training relevant to their business and to build beneficial networks in NI and beyond. We will also support makers to find professional development and learn about and test commercial approaches.

We will support makers with open access training and professional development programme opportunities. We will help people stay in touch and network through our Maker forums and newsletters. We will promote craft through our Craft NI Directory of makers and retailers, our Gallery and our promotions and marketing activities.

##### **Audiences & Markets**

We will work towards audiences and buyers being able to find more high quality craft across NI and to see high quality craft exhibitions easily. We also want to make it easier for people to find craft workshops, whether for recreation or professional development.

We will create a new marketing strategy and develop our website. We will also develop our juried exhibitions prioritising NI makers. We will grow August Craft Month and through partnerships increase audiences both in NI and across the island of Ireland and among visitors. We will build relationships in education, local government and across relevant stakeholders with an interest in a flourishing craft sector.

## Craft Northern Ireland

### Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2023

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#### Craft NI

We want makers to see Craft NI as an inspirational source of information and advice. To meet this and our other objectives we will develop our range of income streams and take care to support our staff. We will collaborate with a wider range of partners to deliver value for the craft sector.

We will run our advice and signposting service and grow the potential of our physical space as a resource for makers. We will create new plans for Gallery marketing, sponsorship and fundraising, and we will develop and support our staff. We will develop relationships with partners across the islands.

#### ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

##### Progress Against Objectives

#### 1. Makers

**1.1 Signposting:** During the year Craft NI provided ongoing support for designer-makers & sector through signposting and information support. Some examples of individual support include:

- Funding sources
- Guidance for pricing work
- Support on running a craft market
- Weekly Plan C newsletter – circulation list of 800 craft makers

**1.2 Talks and Training:** We also offered a series of online Talks and Training to support craft makers to increase the sustainability of their businesses, including:

- Craft in a circular economy with Katie Treggiden
- How to be a Responsible Business with Sophie Rochester, helping craft businesses grow sustainably;
- How to improve your maker practices to be more sustainable with Sophie Rochester, helping makers become more environmentally conscious in their craft practice through more sustainable alternatives.
  - Online Accounting with FPM
  - Product Photography for Beginners with Simon Mills
  - Advanced Product Photography with Simon Mills
  - Intellectual Property Basics with Simon Sellars from Anti Copying in Design (ACID)

**1.3 Plan C:** Weekly Maker-focused newsletter sent by e-mail focusing on grant opportunities, training, business support and maker news.

#### 2. Audiences and Markets

##### 2.1 Accessing high quality local craft

Craft NI continues to sell work from over 50 Northern Irish makers through its Gallery at 115-119 Royal Avenue, Belfast. Makers in Northern Ireland have the opportunity to apply annually to sell through the Gallery through a juried open call-out. From time to time, guest makers are invited to sell through the Gallery under a range of circumstances, for example: through being involved in an exhibition in the Gallery; due to renown in their field; because they fill a gap in the product range that cannot currently be met by a Northern Irish maker. Guest makers are approved by the Craft NI Board Quality Group.

Craft NI continues to promote craft retailers who sell Northern Irish craft across Northern Ireland as well as makers who sell directly to the public. In 2021/22 we produced a monthly mail-out profiling news from the sector, events and products from retailers. We also host a retailer Directory on the Craft NI website and during Christmas we run a promotional campaign, encouraging the public to support local makers when considering gifting options. We partnered with three local councils to promote makers, retailers, fairs and markets through radio and social media advertising gift guides organic social media and PR.

## Craft Northern Ireland

### Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2023

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#### 2.2 Exhibitions:

- Peter Meanley- New Works: new works by renowned salt glaze potter Peter Meanley, who has won international acclaim for his abstract spouted pouring vessels and his mastery of the salt glazing technique
- Wool Works: an exhibition of contemporary textile design, featured innovative work from Welsh, Finnish and Northern Ireland textile artists, who have been working together since 2001.
- **Angus Craft Month Showcase:** this annual exhibition, is a highlight of August Craft month, a unique event which features some of the best contemporary Northern Irish craft.
- Paper Magic: Through their artful mastery of skills such as cutting, pulping, folding, oiling and collaging, five talented makers revealed the magical properties of paper in this unique group show.
- **Shuttles and Shafts – Oct – Nov 2020:** capsule exhibition relating to historical cataloguing of plates from Ewart-Liddell Linen Mill. Capsule exhibition will now be on permanent display in Lisburn Linen Museum
- **Curiosities & Collectibles:** For this exhibition, the Association of Contemporary Jewellers and Silversmiths NI brought together 18 contemporary jewellers and silversmiths from all over the world. Each piece related to the theme "Collectibles and Curiosities" representing a wide range of narratives and cultures.

#### 2.3 August Craft Month:

In 2022, Craft NI entered into a partnership with the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland and Cork Craft & Design to deliver and co-promote August Craft Month across the island of Ireland. This was with a view to growing audiences for craft as well as enabling NI makers to reach new audiences island-wide.

In 2022, 265 events took place across the island with an event in every county. Participants and audiences surveyed in the evaluation listed that they felt:

- Makers participating demonstrated a high level of skill
- They would attend a similar event again
- They had learnt something new about craft
- Their understanding and appreciation of crafts had increased

#### Makers told us that they had found participating in August Craft Month useful for:

- Promoting events
- Increasing activity
- Attracting new visitors

One maker in Co. Down commented: *"I was delighted that my workshops reached a much wider audience and participants travelled from the South of Ireland and much further afield as a result. 9 people booked accommodation on 2 nights to attend."*

#### 2.4 Communications and Campaigns

Monthly sector-wide newsletter aimed at craft consumers covering work for sale across all NI craft retailers; maker news and achievements; highlights of workshops and things to do; exhibitions. Buy, See, Make.

Craft NI Gallery e-mail newsletter monthly focusing on work in Gallery.

We continue to prioritise awareness-raising through social media platforms across Craft NI and Craft NI Gallery whose combined accounts reach approximately 27,000 followers.

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

**Report of the Trustees**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

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### **Christmas Promotional Campaign:**

Q3 activities focused on Christmas Promotional Campaign '*Buy for Christmas, Keep Forever*' for the craft sector in the lead up to Christmas 2021, encouraging the public to consider a NI designer-maker or craft retailer when choosing gifts. Two local Councils contributed funds towards the regional campaign for particular promotions within their boroughs aimed at their local makers. We're grateful to the following Councils for their support:

Ards and North Down Borough Council  
Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council

Activities included:

- Gift guides for social media; digital media and direct mail
- Radio ads during December on two stations to ensure coverage across NI and border counties
- Social media news and posts

### **2.5 Website and Maker Directory**

In 2022, we continue to promote the Craft NI Maker Directory through social media promotional spotlights on Directory members as promoting online. This is with a view to building awareness of the Directory as a first point of reference for curators, audiences or customer wanting to engage with craft makers. Recruitment to the Directory continues with applications assessed quarterly.

### **3. Craft NI** **3.1 HR and staffing**

In 2022/23, we were successful in our application to secure a paid post under the NI Future Screens Art Work programme. This enabled us to recruit a Digital Development Officer whose role is to provide training, advice, how-tos and one to one support to craft makers who wish to improve the online aspects of their routes to market and to build an improved online presence which can help their businesses and craft practices. The Development Officer started in September 2022.

One Craft NI Board member, Gal Wright, stood down in 2022/23.

## Craft Northern Ireland

### Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2023

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#### FINANCIAL REVIEW

##### Principal funding sources

Aside from the income generated by service provision and commission on sales in the charity's retail gallery, the charity's principal funding source is the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. In 2022/23, Craft NI are grateful to Belfast City Council for funding through its partnership programme.

Funds were also secured from the British Council to fund a scoping visit to Vietnam to establish arts partnerships. Some income was also generated through partnering with Antrim & Newtownabbey Council to organise the Craft Village at Garden Show Ireland, as well as through Project Management provided for August Craft Month in Rol.

##### Investment policy and objectives

Aside from retaining a prudent amount in reserves each year most of the charity's funds are spent in the short term so there are no funds for long term investment.

##### Reserves policy

The charity operates a Reserves Policy as a prudent measure to ensure the continued operation of the charity in the event of an immediate financial requirement due to unforeseen circumstances. Such circumstances might arise as a result of, although not limited to, any or a number of the following:

- A source of income not being renewed or reduced. Funds might be needed to give the trustees time to take action if income falls below expectations;
- The risk of unforeseen emergency or other unexpected need for funds, e.g. an unexpected large repair bill or finding 'seed-funding' for an urgent project;
- Covering unforeseen day-to-day operational costs, e.g. employing temporary staff to cover a long-term sickness absence;

Planned commitments, or designations, that cannot be met by future income alone, e.g. a relocation, plans for a major asset purchase or a significant project that requires the charity to provide 'matched funding';

- The need to fund short-term deficits in a cash budget, e.g. money may need to be spent before a funding grant is received.
- The board of directors has reviewed both income and expenditure for the next year and has set aside an amount approximating to 15% of annual expenditure. For the financial year 2023/2024 this approximates to £35,000.

The Board of directors have examined the charity's requirements for reserves in the light of the main risks to the organisation and are confident that the reserves are sufficient to ensure the continued operation of the charity now and in the immediate future.

The Board of Directors will reserve the right at any point in time to draw down this reserve as might be required whilst ensuring by all reasonable means the earliest possible rebuilding of reserves in line with this policy.

#### FUTURE PLANS

The charity plans continuing the activities outlined above in the forthcoming years subject to satisfactory funding arrangements.

#### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

##### Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 24 November 2016 and registered as a charity on 6 April 2017. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association that established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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#### **Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

Trustees may be appointed by the current Board of Trustees and shall serve for a period of three years, which period can be extended by a further two terms of three years each by mutual agreement between the Board and the Trustee. On appointment as Trustee, the person shall become a company member of the charity.

All members of the board of directors give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits or expenses from the charity. The charity actively promotes a board of directors that includes a range of skills, experience and knowledge in keeping with the pursuance of its Objects. The traditional business skills are well represented on the board of directors. In an effort to maintain this broad skill mix, a board skills audit is carried out regularly, most recently in 2021 and in the event of particular skills being lost due to retirements, future board recruitment will give priority to the replacement of these skills.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Organisational structure**

As of 31 March 2022, the charity has a board of directors of nine members who meet bi-monthly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. There is an Audit and Risk Sub-Committee and a Nominations and Remunerations Sub-Committee. The Board's Quality Committee decides on gallery, retail and exhibition applications.

Members of the board of directors are from a variety of professional backgrounds relevant to the work of the charity. A scheme of delegation is in place and day-to-day responsibility for the provision of services rests with the staff team. The Director is responsible for ensuring that the charity delivers the services specified and that key performance indicators are met.

##### **Induction and training of new trustees**

The existing Trustees are already familiar with the practical work of the charity and are encouraged to attend any events organised by the charity. New trustees will be invited and encouraged to attend a series of short training sessions to familiarise themselves with the charity and the context within which it operates. These will be led by the Chair of the board of directors and the Chief Executive of the charity and will cover:

- The obligations of board of directors' members;
- The main documents that set out the operational framework for the charity including the Memorandum and Articles; - Resourcing and the current financial position as set out in the latest published accounts;
- Future plans and objectives.

##### **Related parties**

In so far as it is complimentary to the charity's objects, the charity is guided by both local and national policy. The Arts Council of Northern Ireland is the lead development agency for the arts in Northern Ireland. Their overall place the Arts at the heart of our social, economic and creative life'. Their strategic plan 'Inspire, Connect, Lead 2019 to 2024' includes:

- Creating a confident, vibrant, arts infrastructure;
- Working with local government to strengthen local arts
- Increase audiences for the arts
- Build sustainability by helping organisations diversify income

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Report of the Trustees** Year Ended 31 March 2023

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Our programme of activities therefore fits the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's strategic objectives and therefore their funding criteria. The Arts Council of Northern Ireland appoints an observer who acts as liaison officer with organisations in receipt of financial assistance.

It is a condition of financial assistance that the observer is invited to attend all board meetings including any sub-committees.

#### **Risk management**

The Board of Directors has conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and a risk register has been established that is reviewed bi-monthly at each Board meeting. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the charity faces.

The organisation is guided in 2022-23 by a one year business plan. Under the 2022-25 three year Strategic Plan.

#### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

##### **Registered Company number**

NI642349 (Northern Ireland)

##### **Registered Charity number**

106410

##### **Registered office**

115-119 Royal Avenue  
Belfast  
Antrim  
BT1 1FF

##### **Trustees**

Dr Christopher McHugh University Lecturer  
R L Fitzpatrick-O'Neill Self Employed  
P M Flanagan Self-employed  
K Mawhinney Museum Manager (Chair)  
P M McNeill Business Park Manager  
R Shearer Self-Employed  
Olivia Stewart Marketing Manager  
J Toland Managing Director (Treasurer)  
Gail Wright HR Manager (Resigned)

##### **Company Secretary**

K Davidson

##### **Independent Examiner**

FPM Accountants  
1-3 Arthur Street  
Belfast  
BT1 4GA

#### **EVENTS SINCE THE END OF THE YEAR**

Information relating to events since the end of the year is given in the notes to the financial statements.

**Craft Northern Ireland**

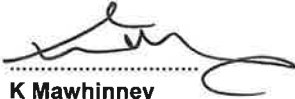
**Report of the Trustees**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

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**Disclosure of information to Independent Examiner**

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the independent examination, but of which the independent examiner is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of such information.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:



**K Mawhinney**

Chairperson

Dated: 7/12/23

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities** Year Ended 31 March 2023

---

The trustees, who are also the directors of Craft Northern Ireland for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

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 judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

## Craft Northern Ireland

Independent Examiner's Report  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Craft Northern Ireland (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the 2008 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



**Lowry Grant FCCA**  
For, and on behalf of,  
**FPM Accountants Limited**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
1-3 Arthur Street  
Belfast  
Co. Antrim  
BT1 4GA

Dated: 11.12.2023

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**(incorporating an income and expenditure account)**  
**Year Ended 31 March 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	44,448	175,078	219,526	158,228
Other trading activities	3	62,247	-	62,247	58,111
<b>Total Income and endowments</b>		<b>106,695</b>	<b>175,078</b>	<b>281,773</b>	216,339
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable Activities	5	(102,569)	(168,670)	(271,239)	(199,248)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>(102,569)</b>	<b>(168,670)</b>	<b>(271,239)</b>	(199,248)
<b>Net income for the year before transfers</b>		<b>4,126</b>	<b>6,408</b>	<b>10,534</b>	17,091
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>4,126</b>	<b>6,408</b>	<b>10,534</b>	17,091
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		67,215	-	67,215	50,124
<b>Total Funds Carried Forward</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>71,341</b>	<b>6,408</b>	<b>77,749</b>	67,215

All income derives from continuing activities, therefore no statement of recognised gains or losses is given.

The notes on pages 15 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Balance Sheet  
as at 31 March 2023**

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible assets	7	7,539	1,834
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	8	19,341	9,236
Cash at bank and in hand		59,690	71,716
		<u>79,031</u>	<u>80,952</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	9	8,821	15,571
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		70,210	65,381
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u><u>77,749</u></u>	<u><u>67,215</u></u>
Represented by:			
<b>Unrestricted Funds:</b>			
<b>General</b>	10	61,578	55,952
<b>Designated</b>		9,763	11,263
<b>Restricted Funds</b>	10	6,408	-
		<u><u>77,749</u></u>	<u><u>67,215</u></u>

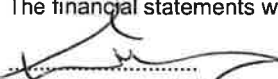
The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 7 Dec 2023.

  
Kim Mawhinney (Chair)  
Trustee

**Company Registration Number NI642349**

The notes on pages 15 - 21 form part of these financial statements.

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
as at 31 March 2023**

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**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Craft Northern Ireland meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

**b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

**c) Fund Accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

General funds may be transferred to designated funds where Trustees wish to use these funds for a specific purpose. Such funds may be transferred back to general funds once the criteria for the designation have been met or are no longer applicable.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of restricted funds is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Restricted funds may only be transferred to general or designated funds once the criteria for restriction have been discharged or no longer apply.

**d) Income Recognition Policies**

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- The charity has entitlement to the funds;
- any performance conditions attached to the item of income has been met or are fully within the control of the charity;
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable; and
- the amount can be measured reliably.

**e) Donated services and facilities**

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of supporters is not recognised.

**f) Interest Receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

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**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

g) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of supporting refugee families and activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

h) Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charity's programmes and activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities.

i) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening the deposit or similar account

j) Tangible Fixed Assets

Individual fixed assets are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

<b>Asset Category:</b>	<b>Annual Rate</b>
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	10% Straight Line
Computer Equipment	33% Straight Line

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment when events or circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable

k) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discount due.

l) Creditors and Provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

m) Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the statement of financial activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

n) Taxation

The company is a registered charity and the charitable tax exemptions are therefore being claimed to the extent that income and/or gains are applicable and applied to charitable purposes only. These exemptions will remain in place as long as income and expenditure is applied to charitable purposes only.

o) Financial instruments

The Charity 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 Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, the net amounts are 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 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 are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instruments is measured at the present value of the future payments 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.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

p) Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

**2 Income from donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
ACNI Annual Funding Programme	-	143,404	143,404	142,404
ACNI H&S Equip 2022/23	-	6,255	6,255	-
Design & Crafts Council of Ireland	26,448	-	26,448	-
Belfast City Council	18,000	-	18,000	-
Ulster University - Artwork Employability	-	21,919	21,919	-
The British Council	-	3,500	-	-
DOF Emergency Grant for Retailer	-	-	-	2,561
Bursary from NI Guild	-	-	-	13,263
	<b>44,448</b>	<b>175,078</b>	<b>216,026</b>	<b>158,228</b>

The 2022 total of £158,228 was split £15,824 unrestricted and £142,404 restricted

**3 Income from Trading Activities**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Gallery Sales	62,247	-	62,247	58,111
	<b>62,247</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>62,247</b>	<b>58,111</b>

The 2022 total of £58,111 was all unrestricted.

**4 Results for the year**

The results for the year has been arrived at after charging the following:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation	681	334
	<b>681</b>	<b>334</b>

**5 Expenditure on charitable activity**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Direct Charitable	97,736	165,740	263,476	192,374
Support Costs	2,287	2,930	5,217	3,534
Governance Costs	2,546	-	2,546	3,340
	<b>102,569</b>	<b>168,670</b>	<b>271,239</b>	<b>199,248</b>

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

**6 Analysis of staff costs:**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries and Wages	147,990	90,778
Social security costs	9,558	7,289
Other Pension Costs	7,104	4,973
	<u>164,652</u>	<u>103,040</u>

The average monthly number of employees was 8 (2022: 7) and the average monthly number of employees during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows (including casual and part time staff):

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Charitable activities	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>

No employee has emoluments in excess of £60,000. (2022: 0)

The charity Trustees were not paid nor did they receive any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2022: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2022: £nil). No charity Trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2022: £nil)

**7 Tangible Fixed Assets**

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost:			
As at 1 April 2022	3,337	134	3,471
Additions	-	6,386	6,386
As at 31 March 2023	<u>3,337</u>	<u>6,520</u>	<u>9,857</u>
Depreciation:			
As at 1 April 2022	1,503	134	1,637
Charge for the year	334	347	681
As at 31 March 2023	<u>1,837</u>	<u>481</u>	<u>2,318</u>
Net Book Value			
As at 31 March 2022	1,834	-	1,834
<b>As at 31 March 2023</b>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>6,039</u>	<u>7,539</u>

**8 Debtors**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade Debtors	7,000	1,450
Accrued Income	11,670	7,171
Prepayments	671	615
	<u>19,341</u>	<u>9,236</u>

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

**9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade Creditors	2,563	10,268
Other Taxes and Social Security Costs	3,428	2,473
Accruals	1,830	1,830
ACNI Grant to be Refunded	1,000	1,000
	<u>8,821</u>	<u>15,571</u>

**10 Analysis of Movements in Funds**

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	As at 31 March 2023
		£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General funds - all funds	55,952	106,695	( 101,069)	61,578
Designated Funds	11,263	-	( 1,500)	9,763
	<u>67,215</u>	<u>106,695</u>	<u>( 102,569)</u>	<u>71,341</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted funds - all funds	-	175,078	( 168,670)	6,408
<b>Total</b>	<u>67,215</u>	<u>281,773</u>	<u>( 271,239)</u>	<u>77,749</u>

The designated fund relates to the Guild Bursary received from the former NI Guild of Designer Craftsmen to be used for the advancement of the craft sector in Northern Ireland.

**11 Analysis of Movements in Restricted Funds**

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	As at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
ACNI Annual Funding Programme	-	143,404	( 142,904)	500
ACNI H&S Equipment Grant	-	6,255	( 347)	5,908
Ulster University Artwork Employability	-	21,919	( 21,919)	-
The British Council - Vietnam	-	3,500	( 3,500)	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>175,078</u>	<u>(168,670)</u>	<u>6,408</u>

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

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**12 Analysis of net assets between funds**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2023</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2023</b>	<b>Total funds 2023</b>	<b>Total funds 2022</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Tangible fixed assets	1,500	6,039	7,539	1,834
Current assets	78,662	369	79,031	80,952
Creditors amounts falling due within one year	(8,821)	-	(8,821)	(15,571)
	<u>71,341</u>	<u>6,408</u>	<u>77,749</u>	<u>67,215</u>

**The following pages do not form  
part of the financial statements  
which are the subject of the independent  
examiner's report on page 12**

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

**Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities:**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Wages	39,444	118,104	157,548	98,067
Pensions	7,104	-	7,104	4,973
Subcontractors	-	-	-	18,409
Gallery Supplies	3,882	-	3,882	-
Rent and Rates	9,913	28,799	38,712	28,955
Insurance	1,732	-	1,732	957
Light and Heat	1,896	2,000	3,896	2,839
Telephone	1,251	-	1,251	4,009
Postage and stationery	629	-	629	578
Publicity and marketing	1,569	3,054	4,623	7,053
Miscellaneous expenses	1,005	-	1,005	2,242
Maintenance and security	2,360	-	2,360	1,525
Exhibition costs	2,053	1,936	3,989	2,602
Christmas Campaign	4,258	-	4,258	-
Subscriptions	1,565	-	1,565	2,604
Storage of existing equipment	-	-	-	1,360
IT support	-	-	-	965
Maker development	1,013	2,000	3,013	1,935
Legal and professional	960	-	960	5,422
Travel and subsistence	383	4,000	4,383	807
Staff training	1,219	-	1,219	150
ACNI Organisations Emergency	-	-	-	(49)
Other Programming	345	-	345	-
August Craft Month	14,621	5,500	20,121	6,345
Launchpad	200	-	200	-
Room Hire	-	-	-	192
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	334	347	681	334
Bad debt	-	-	-	100
Support costs	2,287	2,930	5,217	3,534
Governance costs	2,546	-	2,546	3,340
	<u>102,569</u>	<u>168,670</u>	<u>271,239</u>	<u>199,248</u>

The 2022 total of £199,248 was split £56,844 unrestricted and £142,404 restricted.

**Analysis of governance and support costs**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Bank and card transaction charges	2,287	2,930	5,217	3,534
Accountancy fees	2,546	-	2,546	3,340
	<u>4,833</u>	<u>2,930</u>	<u>7,763</u>	<u>6,874</u>

The 2022 total of £6,874 was unrestricted.

**Craft NI**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106410

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# Annual return

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**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**Company No: NI642349  
Charity No: NIC106410**

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
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Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Company Information**

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**Trustees**                      Rory Shearer  
   James Toland  
   Patricia Flanagan  
   Patricia Margaret McNeill  
   Rachel Fitzpatrick O'Neill  
   Kim Mawhinney  
   Gail Wright  
   Chris Mchugh  
   Olivia Stewart

**Address for correspondence**    115-119 Royal Avenue  
   Belfast  
   Northern Ireland  
   BT1 1FF

**Registered Office**                115-119 Royal Avenue  
   Belfast  
   Northern Ireland  
   BT1 1FF

**Independent Examiner**        FPM Accountants Ltd  
   Chartered Accountants  
   1-3 Arthur Street  
   Belfast  
   BT1 4GA

**Registered Charity No.**        106410  
**Registered Company No.**      NI642349

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Report of the Trustees** Year Ended 31 March 2023

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The Trustees presents their annual report together with the financial statement of Craft Northern Ireland for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The Trustees confirms that the Annual report and financial statements of the Trust comply with the Charities Act 2008, the Companies Act 2006, the Articles of Association, and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (effective 1 January 2019).

This report provides information on Craft Northern Ireland activities and financial performance and forms part of a range of public information designed to give an open account of our work.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

##### **Objectives and aims**

The charity's purposes as set out in the organisations Strategic Plan of the Bord are the achievement of:

##### **Our Vision**

A diverse and sustainable craft sector that makes a positive contribution to the culture, economy and wellbeing of people in Northern Ireland.

##### **Our Mission**

To contribute to an integrated, entrepreneurial and vibrant contemporary crafts sector in Northern Ireland, actively supported by regional and local stakeholders, that contributes increasingly to the creative, cultural and economic life of Northern Ireland.

##### **Our Values**

We will work in a way which:

- Is ambitious and outward-looking
- Builds partnerships and collaborations
- Finds opportunities to promote and advocate NI Craft
- Is educating, enriching, inspiring and innovating
- Promotes quality
- Is inclusive and respectful

##### **Top level objectives**

##### **Makers**

We want to enable makers to find training relevant to their business and to build beneficial networks in NI and beyond. We will also support makers to find professional development and learn about and test commercial approaches.

We will support makers with open access training and professional development programme opportunities. We will help people stay in touch and network through our Maker forums and newsletters. We will promote craft through our Craft NI Directory of makers and retailers, our Gallery and our promotions and marketing activities.

##### **Audiences & Markets**

We will work towards audiences and buyers being able to find more high quality craft across NI and to see high quality craft exhibitions easily. We also want to make it easier for people to find craft workshops, whether for recreation or professional development.

We will create a new marketing strategy and develop our website. We will also develop our juried exhibitions prioritising NI makers. We will grow August Craft Month and through partnerships increase audiences both in NI and across the island of Ireland and among visitors. We will build relationships in education, local government and across relevant stakeholders with an interest in a flourishing craft sector.

## Craft Northern Ireland

### Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2023

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#### Craft NI

We want makers to see Craft NI as an inspirational source of information and advice. To meet this and our other objectives we will develop our range of income streams and take care to support our staff. We will collaborate with a wider range of partners to deliver value for the craft sector.

We will run our advice and signposting service and grow the potential of our physical space as a resource for makers. We will create new plans for Gallery marketing, sponsorship and fundraising, and we will develop and support our staff. We will develop relationships with partners across the islands.

#### ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

##### Progress Against Objectives

#### 1. Makers

**1.1 Signposting:** During the year Craft NI provided ongoing support for designer-makers & sector through signposting and information support. Some examples of individual support include:

- Funding sources
- Guidance for pricing work
- Support on running a craft market
- Weekly Plan C newsletter – circulation list of 800 craft makers

**1.2 Talks and Training:** We also offered a series of online Talks and Training to support craft makers to increase the sustainability of their businesses, including:

- Craft in a circular economy with Katie Treggiden
- How to be a Responsible Business with Sophie Rochester, helping craft businesses grow sustainably;
- How to improve your maker practices to be more sustainable with Sophie Rochester, helping makers become more environmentally conscious in their craft practice through more sustainable alternatives.
  - Online Accounting with FPM
  - Product Photography for Beginners with Simon Mills
  - Advanced Product Photography with Simon Mills
  - Intellectual Property Basics with Simon Sellars from Anti Copying in Design (ACID)

**1.3 Plan C:** Weekly Maker-focused newsletter sent by e-mail focusing on grant opportunities, training, business support and maker news.

#### 2. Audiences and Markets

##### 2.1 Accessing high quality local craft

Craft NI continues to sell work from over 50 Northern Irish makers through its Gallery at 115-119 Royal Avenue, Belfast. Makers in Northern Ireland have the opportunity to apply annually to sell through the Gallery through a juried open call-out. From time to time, guest makers are invited to sell through the Gallery under a range of circumstances, for example: through being involved in an exhibition in the Gallery; due to renown in their field; because they fill a gap in the product range that cannot currently be met by a Northern Irish maker. Guest makers are approved by the Craft NI Board Quality Group.

Craft NI continues to promote craft retailers who sell Northern Irish craft across Northern Ireland as well as makers who sell directly to the public. In 2021/22 we produced a monthly mail-out profiling news from the sector, events and products from retailers. We also host a retailer Directory on the Craft NI website and during Christmas we run a promotional campaign, encouraging the public to support local makers when considering gifting options. We partnered with three local councils to promote makers, retailers, fairs and markets through radio and social media advertising gift guides organic social media and PR.

## Craft Northern Ireland

### Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2023

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#### 2.2 Exhibitions:

- Peter Meanley- New Works: new works by renowned salt glaze potter Peter Meanley, who has won international acclaim for his abstract spouted pouring vessels and his mastery of the salt glazing technique
- Wool Works: an exhibition of contemporary textile design, featured innovative work from Welsh, Finnish and Northern Ireland textile artists, who have been working together since 2001.
- **Angus Craft Month Showcase:** this annual exhibition, is a highlight of August Craft month, a unique event which features some of the best contemporary Northern Irish craft.
- Paper Magic: Through their artful mastery of skills such as cutting, pulping, folding, oiling and collaging, five talented makers revealed the magical properties of paper in this unique group show.
- **Shuttles and Shafts – Oct – Nov 2020:** capsule exhibition relating to historical cataloguing of plates from Ewart-Liddell Linen Mill. Capsule exhibition will now be on permanent display in Lisburn Linen Museum
- **Curiosities & Collectibles:** For this exhibition, the Association of Contemporary Jewellers and Silversmiths NI brought together 18 contemporary jewellers and silversmiths from all over the world. Each piece related to the theme "Collectibles and Curiosities" representing a wide range of narratives and cultures.

#### 2.3 August Craft Month:

In 2022, Craft NI entered into a partnership with the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland and Cork Craft & Design to deliver and co-promote August Craft Month across the island of Ireland. This was with a view to growing audiences for craft as well as enabling NI makers to reach new audiences island-wide.

In 2022, 265 events took place across the island with an event in every county. Participants and audiences surveyed in the evaluation listed that they felt:

- Makers participating demonstrated a high level of skill
- They would attend a similar event again
- They had learnt something new about craft
- Their understanding and appreciation of crafts had increased

#### Makers told us that they had found participating in August Craft Month useful for:

- Promoting events
- Increasing activity
- Attracting new visitors

One maker in Co. Down commented: *"I was delighted that my workshops reached a much wider audience and participants travelled from the South of Ireland and much further afield as a result. 9 people booked accommodation on 2 nights to attend."*

#### 2.4 Communications and Campaigns

Monthly sector-wide newsletter aimed at craft consumers covering work for sale across all NI craft retailers; maker news and achievements; highlights of workshops and things to do; exhibitions. Buy, See, Make.

Craft NI Gallery e-mail newsletter monthly focusing on work in Gallery.

We continue to prioritise awareness-raising through social media platforms across Craft NI and Craft NI Gallery whose combined accounts reach approximately 27,000 followers.

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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#### **Christmas Promotional Campaign:**

Q3 activities focused on Christmas Promotional Campaign '*Buy for Christmas, Keep Forever*' for the craft sector in the lead up to Christmas 2021, encouraging the public to consider a NI designer-maker or craft retailer when choosing gifts. Two local Councils contributed funds towards the regional campaign for particular promotions within their boroughs aimed at their local makers. We're grateful to the following Councils for their support:

Ards and North Down Borough Council  
Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council

Activities included:

- Gift guides for social media; digital media and direct mail
- Radio ads during December on two stations to ensure coverage across NI and border counties
- Social media news and posts

#### **2.5 Website and Maker Directory**

In 2022, we continue to promote the Craft NI Maker Directory through social media promotional spotlights on Directory members as promoting online. This is with a view to building awareness of the Directory as a first point of reference for curators, audiences or customer wanting to engage with craft makers. Recruitment to the Directory continues with applications assessed quarterly.

### **3. Craft NI**

#### **3.1 HR and staffing**

In 2022/23, we were successful in our application to secure a paid post under the NI Future Screens Art Work programme. This enabled us to recruit a Digital Development Officer whose role is to provide training, advice, how-tos and one to one support to craft makers who wish to improve the online aspects of their routes to market and to build an improved online presence which can help their businesses and craft practices. The Development Officer started in September 2022.

One Craft NI Board member, Gal Wright, stood down in 2022/23.

## Craft Northern Ireland

### Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2023

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#### FINANCIAL REVIEW

##### Principal funding sources

Aside from the income generated by service provision and commission on sales in the charity's retail gallery, the charity's principal funding source is the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. In 2022/23, Craft NI are grateful to Belfast City Council for funding through its partnership programme.

Funds were also secured from the British Council to fund a scoping visit to Vietnam to establish arts partnerships. Some income was also generated through partnering with Antrim & Newtownabbey Council to organise the Craft Village at Garden Show Ireland, as well as through Project Management provided for August Craft Month in Rol.

##### Investment policy and objectives

Aside from retaining a prudent amount in reserves each year most of the charity's funds are spent in the short term so there are no funds for long term investment.

##### Reserves policy

The charity operates a Reserves Policy as a prudent measure to ensure the continued operation of the charity in the event of an immediate financial requirement due to unforeseen circumstances. Such circumstances might arise as a result of, although not limited to, any or a number of the following:

- A source of income not being renewed or reduced. Funds might be needed to give the trustees time to take action if income falls below expectations;
- The risk of unforeseen emergency or other unexpected need for funds, e.g. an unexpected large repair bill or finding 'seed-funding' for an urgent project;
- Covering unforeseen day-to-day operational costs, e.g. employing temporary staff to cover a long-term sickness absence;

Planned commitments, or designations, that cannot be met by future income alone, e.g. a relocation, plans for a major asset purchase or a significant project that requires the charity to provide 'matched funding';

- The need to fund short-term deficits in a cash budget, e.g. money may need to be spent before a funding grant is received.
- The board of directors has reviewed both income and expenditure for the next year and has set aside an amount approximating to 15% of annual expenditure. For the financial year 2023/2024 this approximates to £35,000.

The Board of directors have examined the charity's requirements for reserves in the light of the main risks to the organisation and are confident that the reserves are sufficient to ensure the continued operation of the charity now and in the immediate future.

The Board of Directors will reserve the right at any point in time to draw down this reserve as might be required whilst ensuring by all reasonable means the earliest possible rebuilding of reserves in line with this policy.

#### FUTURE PLANS

The charity plans continuing the activities outlined above in the forthcoming years subject to satisfactory funding arrangements.

#### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

##### Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 24 November 2016 and registered as a charity on 6 April 2017. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association that established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Report of the Trustees Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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#### **Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

Trustees may be appointed by the current Board of Trustees and shall serve for a period of three years, which period can be extended by a further two terms of three years each by mutual agreement between the Board and the Trustee. On appointment as Trustee, the person shall become a company member of the charity.

All members of the board of directors give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits or expenses from the charity. The charity actively promotes a board of directors that includes a range of skills, experience and knowledge in keeping with the pursuance of its Objects. The traditional business skills are well represented on the board of directors. In an effort to maintain this broad skill mix, a board skills audit is carried out regularly, most recently in 2021 and in the event of particular skills being lost due to retirements, future board recruitment will give priority to the replacement of these skills.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Organisational structure**

As of 31 March 2022, the charity has a board of directors of nine members who meet bi-monthly and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. There is an Audit and Risk Sub-Committee and a Nominations and Remunerations Sub-Committee. The Board's Quality Committee decides on gallery, retail and exhibition applications.

Members of the board of directors are from a variety of professional backgrounds relevant to the work of the charity. A scheme of delegation is in place and day-to-day responsibility for the provision of services rests with the staff team. The Director is responsible for ensuring that the charity delivers the services specified and that key performance indicators are met.

##### **Induction and training of new trustees**

The existing Trustees are already familiar with the practical work of the charity and are encouraged to attend any events organised by the charity. New trustees will be invited and encouraged to attend a series of short training sessions to familiarise themselves with the charity and the context within which it operates. These will be led by the Chair of the board of directors and the Chief Executive of the charity and will cover:

- The obligations of board of directors' members;
- The main documents that set out the operational framework for the charity including the Memorandum and Articles; - Resourcing and the current financial position as set out in the latest published accounts;
- Future plans and objectives.

##### **Related parties**

In so far as it is complimentary to the charity's objects, the charity is guided by both local and national policy. The Arts Council of Northern Ireland is the lead development agency for the arts in Northern Ireland. Their overall place the Arts at the heart of our social, economic and creative life'. Their strategic plan 'Inspire, Connect, Lead 2019 to 2024' includes:

- Creating a confident, vibrant, arts infrastructure;
- Working with local government to strengthen local arts
- Increase audiences for the arts
- Build sustainability by helping organisations diversify income

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Report of the Trustees** Year Ended 31 March 2023

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Our programme of activities therefore fits the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's strategic objectives and therefore their funding criteria. The Arts Council of Northern Ireland appoints an observer who acts as liaison officer with organisations in receipt of financial assistance.

It is a condition of financial assistance that the observer is invited to attend all board meetings including any sub-committees.

#### **Risk management**

The Board of Directors has conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and a risk register has been established that is reviewed bi-monthly at each Board meeting. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the charity faces.

The organisation is guided in 2022-23 by a one year business plan. Under the 2022-25 three year Strategic Plan.

#### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

##### **Registered Company number**

NI642349 (Northern Ireland)

##### **Registered Charity number**

106410

##### **Registered office**

115-119 Royal Avenue  
Belfast  
Antrim  
BT1 1FF

##### **Trustees**

Dr Christopher McHugh University Lecturer  
R L Fitzpatrick-O'Neill Self Employed  
P M Flanagan Self-employed  
K Mawhinney Museum Manager (Chair)  
P M McNeill Business Park Manager  
R Shearer Self-Employed  
Olivia Stewart Marketing Manager  
J Toland Managing Director (Treasurer)  
Gail Wright HR Manager (Resigned)

##### **Company Secretary**

K Davidson

##### **Independent Examiner**

FPM Accountants  
1-3 Arthur Street  
Belfast  
BT1 4GA

#### **EVENTS SINCE THE END OF THE YEAR**

Information relating to events since the end of the year is given in the notes to the financial statements.

**Craft Northern Ireland**

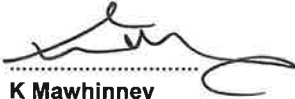
**Report of the Trustees**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

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**Disclosure of information to Independent Examiner**

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the independent examination, but of which the independent examiner is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of such information.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:



**K Mawhinney**

Chairperson

Dated: 7/12/23

## **Craft Northern Ireland**

### **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities** Year Ended 31 March 2023

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The trustees, who are also the directors of Craft Northern Ireland for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

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 judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

## Craft Northern Ireland

Independent Examiner's Report  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Craft Northern Ireland (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (the 2008 Act) . In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the 2008 Act.

### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



**Lowry Grant FCCA**  
For, and on behalf of,  
**FPM Accountants Limited**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
1-3 Arthur Street  
Belfast  
Co. Antrim  
BT1 4GA

Dated: 11.12.2023

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**(incorporating an income and expenditure account)**  
**Year Ended 31 March 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	44,448	175,078	219,526	158,228
Other trading activities	3	62,247	-	62,247	58,111
<b>Total Income and endowments</b>		<b>106,695</b>	<b>175,078</b>	<b>281,773</b>	<b>216,339</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable Activities	5	(102,569)	(168,670)	(271,239)	(199,248)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>(102,569)</b>	<b>(168,670)</b>	<b>(271,239)</b>	<b>(199,248)</b>
<b>Net income for the year before transfers</b>		<b>4,126</b>	<b>6,408</b>	<b>10,534</b>	<b>17,091</b>
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>4,126</b>	<b>6,408</b>	<b>10,534</b>	<b>17,091</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		67,215	-	67,215	50,124
<b>Total Funds Carried Forward</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>71,341</b>	<b>6,408</b>	<b>77,749</b>	<b>67,215</b>

All income derives from continuing activities, therefore no statement of recognised gains or losses is given.

The notes on pages 15 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Balance Sheet  
as at 31 March 2023**

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible assets	7	7,539	1,834
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	8	19,341	9,236
Cash at bank and in hand		59,690	71,716
		<u>79,031</u>	<u>80,952</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	9	8,821	15,571
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		70,210	65,381
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u><u>77,749</u></u>	<u><u>67,215</u></u>
Represented by:			
<b>Unrestricted Funds:</b>			
<b>General</b>	10	61,578	55,952
<b>Designated</b>		9,763	11,263
<b>Restricted Funds</b>	10	6,408	-
		<u><u>77,749</u></u>	<u><u>67,215</u></u>

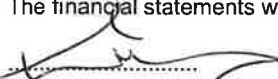
The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 7 Dec 2023.

  
Kim Mawhinney (Chair)  
Trustee

**Company Registration Number NI642349**

The notes on pages 15 - 21 form part of these financial statements.

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
as at 31 March 2023**

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**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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 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 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Craft Northern Ireland meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

**b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

**c) Fund Accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

General funds may be transferred to designated funds where Trustees wish to use these funds for a specific purpose. Such funds may be transferred back to general funds once the criteria for the designation have been met or are no longer applicable.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of restricted funds is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Restricted funds may only be transferred to general or designated funds once the criteria for restriction have been discharged or no longer apply.

**d) Income Recognition Policies**

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- The charity has entitlement to the funds;
- any performance conditions attached to the item of income has been met or are fully within the control of the charity;
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable; and
- the amount can be measured reliably.

**e) Donated services and facilities**

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of supporters is not recognised.

**f) Interest Receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

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**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

g) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

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. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of supporting refugee families and activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

h) Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the charity's programmes and activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities.

i) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening the deposit or similar account

j) Tangible Fixed Assets

Individual fixed assets are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on a straight line basis as follows:

<b>Asset Category:</b>	<b>Annual Rate</b>
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	10% Straight Line
Computer Equipment	33% Straight Line

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment when events or circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable

k) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discount due.

l) Creditors and Provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

m) Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the statement of financial activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

**Craft Northern Ireland  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

n) Taxation

The company is a registered charity and the charitable tax exemptions are therefore being claimed to the extent that income and/or gains are applicable and applied to charitable purposes only. These exemptions will remain in place as long as income and expenditure is applied to charitable purposes only.

o) Financial instruments

The Charity 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 Charity's balance sheet when the Charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, the net amounts are 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 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 are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instruments is measured at the present value of the future payments 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.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the Charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

p) Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

**2 Income from donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
ACNI Annual Funding Programme	-	143,404	143,404	142,404
ACNI H&S Equip 2022/23	-	6,255	6,255	-
Design & Crafts Council of Ireland	26,448	-	26,448	-
Belfast City Council	18,000	-	18,000	-
Ulster University - Artwork Employability	-	21,919	21,919	-
The British Council	-	3,500	-	-
DOF Emergency Grant for Retailer	-	-	-	2,561
Bursary from NI Guild	-	-	-	13,263
	<b>44,448</b>	<b>175,078</b>	<b>216,026</b>	<b>158,228</b>

The 2022 total of £158,228 was split £15,824 unrestricted and £142,404 restricted

**3 Income from Trading Activities**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Gallery Sales	62,247	-	62,247	58,111
	<b>62,247</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>62,247</b>	<b>58,111</b>

The 2022 total of £58,111 was all unrestricted.

**4 Results for the year**

The results for the year has been arrived at after charging the following:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation	681	334
	<b>681</b>	<b>334</b>

**5 Expenditure on charitable activity**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Direct Charitable	97,736	165,740	263,476	192,374
Support Costs	2,287	2,930	5,217	3,534
Governance Costs	2,546	-	2,546	3,340
	<b>102,569</b>	<b>168,670</b>	<b>271,239</b>	<b>199,248</b>

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

**6 Analysis of staff costs:**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries and Wages	147,990	90,778
Social security costs	9,558	7,289
Other Pension Costs	7,104	4,973
	<u>164,652</u>	<u>103,040</u>

The average monthly number of employees was 8 (2022: 7) and the average monthly number of employees during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows (including casual and part time staff):

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Charitable activities	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>

No employee has emoluments in excess of £60,000. (2022: 0)

The charity Trustees were not paid nor did they receive any other benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2022: £nil) neither were they reimbursed expenses during the year (2022: £nil). No charity Trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2022: £nil)

**7 Tangible Fixed Assets**

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost:			
As at 1 April 2022	3,337	134	3,471
Additions	-	6,386	6,386
As at 31 March 2023	<u>3,337</u>	<u>6,520</u>	<u>9,857</u>
Depreciation:			
As at 1 April 2022	1,503	134	1,637
Charge for the year	334	347	681
As at 31 March 2023	<u>1,837</u>	<u>481</u>	<u>2,318</u>
Net Book Value			
As at 31 March 2022	1,834	-	1,834
<b>As at 31 March 2023</b>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>6,039</u>	<u>7,539</u>

**8 Debtors**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade Debtors	7,000	1,450
Accrued Income	11,670	7,171
Prepayments	671	615
	<u>19,341</u>	<u>9,236</u>

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

**9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade Creditors	2,563	10,268
Other Taxes and Social Security Costs	3,428	2,473
Accruals	1,830	1,830
ACNI Grant to be Refunded	1,000	1,000
	<u>8,821</u>	<u>15,571</u>

**10 Analysis of Movements in Funds**

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	As at 31 March 2023
		£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General funds - all funds	55,952	106,695	( 101,069)	61,578
Designated Funds	11,263	-	( 1,500)	9,763
	<u>67,215</u>	<u>106,695</u>	<u>( 102,569)</u>	<u>71,341</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted funds - all funds	-	175,078	( 168,670)	6,408
<b>Total</b>	<u>67,215</u>	<u>281,773</u>	<u>( 271,239)</u>	<u>77,749</u>

The designated fund relates to the Guild Bursary received from the former NI Guild of Designer Craftsmen to be used for the advancement of the craft sector in Northern Ireland.

**11 Analysis of Movements in Restricted Funds**

	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	As at 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£
ACNI Annual Funding Programme	-	143,404	( 142,904)	500
ACNI H&S Equipment Grant	-	6,255	( 347)	5,908
Ulster University Artwork Employability	-	21,919	( 21,919)	-
The British Council - Vietnam	-	3,500	( 3,500)	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>175,078</u>	<u>(168,670)</u>	<u>6,408</u>

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

**12 Analysis of net assets between funds**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2023</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2023</b>	<b>Total funds 2023</b>	<b>Total funds 2022</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Tangible fixed assets	1,500	6,039	7,539	1,834
Current assets	78,662	369	79,031	80,952
Creditors amounts falling due within one year	(8,821)	-	(8,821)	(15,571)
	<u>71,341</u>	<u>6,408</u>	<u>77,749</u>	<u>67,215</u>

**The following pages do not form  
part of the financial statements  
which are the subject of the independent  
examiner's report on page 12**

**Craft Northern Ireland**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements (cont)**  
Year Ended 31 March 2023

**Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities:**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Wages	39,444	118,104	157,548	98,067
Pensions	7,104	-	7,104	4,973
Subcontractors	-	-	-	18,409
Gallery Supplies	3,882	-	3,882	-
Rent and Rates	9,913	28,799	38,712	28,955
Insurance	1,732	-	1,732	957
Light and Heat	1,896	2,000	3,896	2,839
Telephone	1,251	-	1,251	4,009
Postage and stationery	629	-	629	578
Publicity and marketing	1,569	3,054	4,623	7,053
Miscellaneous expenses	1,005	-	1,005	2,242
Maintenance and security	2,360	-	2,360	1,525
Exhibition costs	2,053	1,936	3,989	2,602
Christmas Campaign	4,258	-	4,258	-
Subscriptions	1,565	-	1,565	2,604
Storage of existing equipment	-	-	-	1,360
IT support	-	-	-	965
Maker development	1,013	2,000	3,013	1,935
Legal and professional	960	-	960	5,422
Travel and subsistence	383	4,000	4,383	807
Staff training	1,219	-	1,219	150
ACNI Organisations Emergency	-	-	-	(49)
Other Programming	345	-	345	-
August Craft Month	14,621	5,500	20,121	6,345
Launchpad	200	-	200	-
Room Hire	-	-	-	192
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	334	347	681	334
Bad debt	-	-	-	100
Support costs	2,287	2,930	5,217	3,534
Governance costs	2,546	-	2,546	3,340
	<u>102,569</u>	<u>168,670</u>	<u>271,239</u>	<u>199,248</u>

The 2022 total of £199,248 was split £56,844 unrestricted and £142,404 restricted.

**Analysis of governance and support costs**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Bank and card transaction charges	2,287	2,930	5,217	3,534
Accountancy fees	2,546	-	2,546	3,340
	<u>4,833</u>	<u>2,930</u>	<u>7,763</u>	<u>6,874</u>

The 2022 total of £6,874 was unrestricted.