

The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ending 31 October 2022.

Objectives and Activities

The Charity's objectives are specifically restricted to the following:

Via Wings was established in 2009 to relieve poverty and to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Dromore and its environs of County Down without distinction of age, gender, disability, sexual orientation, nationality, ethnic identity, political or religious opinion, by associating the statutory authorities, community and voluntary organisations and the inhabitants in a common effort to advance education, to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure-time occupation, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants and in particular:

- a) To maintain and manage a centre or centres in the area of benefit for activities promoted by the Charity;
- b) The provision of programmes in order to advance education and promote the benefit of the beneficiaries, in particular mothers with children;
- c) The provision of practical help for the beneficiaries who require such assistance as a result of their economic circumstances.

Achievements, Performance & Public Benefit

During 2021-2022 Via Wings provided the following for those people within the greater community of Dromore, Co. Down who had specific needs:

- Fortnightly food parcels to families in need.
- Social supermarket.
- Practical help for those in crisis situations by distributing donated furniture and household items to create homes for families in poverty.
- Pastoral support for those isolated or lonely.
- Provided counselling and social support services to those in need, with mental health, grief, addiction and family breakdown situations.
- Education programmes for school age children and young people with additional needs.
- Training of clients to prepare them for the general workplace.
- Worked to train and encourage volunteers.
- Distribution of food and toys at Christmas.
- Provided safe location for social gathering.
- Developed programmes for personal wellbeing and mental health support.
- Preloved clothing shop providing affordable clothing to the community.

Community Services

Via Wings continued to develop existing projects and services for the benefit of the community during 2021/22. With a staff team of 18, and many volunteers, projects and services were provided from the charity's premises in the centre of Dromore. They seek to meet physical needs of those in poverty through the Dare2Care project and Social Supermarket, which provide clients with food and material items for house and home as well as advice and support for those affected by poverty. In partnership with local food stores, agencies and government bodies, Via Wings provides an accessible place for the community to select surplus food items that may otherwise have been wasted. Preloved clothing is sold through the social enterprise 'Wing's 'N' Things' providing affordable clothing to the community as well as funds for the charity.

Families are further supported through the Mini Wings project which provides afterschool educational programmes for children from the two local primary schools in Dromore. Young adults, some of whom had additional needs, received training and mentoring to prepare them for employment through the Learning 360 project. During 2021/22 an increase in demand for counselling services highlighted the importance and need for expansion of counselling and mentoring services at Via Wings as we seek to support not only the physical but the mental needs people may have to help break the chains of poverty.

VIA WINGS

Trustees' Annual Report (including Directors' Report)

For the year ended 31 October 2022

Property and Premises

The Via Wings premises diversified and were maintained to meet changing needs of the community and charity.

- Work commenced on phase 3 of the premises with the conversion of the previously unrestored outbuildings into the Wellbeing Centre which would create spaces specific to the support of wellbeing and mental health through therapies, counselling and courses.
- A cool room and new storage facilities for food products to benefit the Dare 2 Care project.
- Kitchen improvements to enable regular meals to be made for older members of the community.
- New doors and windows to improve security and heating efficiency.

Financial Review

The results for the year are set out in the statement of financial activities on page 8 of the financial statements. The Charity recorded net income for the year ended 31 October 2022 of £46,203 (2021: £141,738). This was added to reserves brought forward of £481,514 to leave total reserves of £527,717 at 31 October 2022.

Grants received during the year 2021/22 of substantial size, that were £25K or over, were:

- DoH Mental Health grant of £33,986.
- £25,460 from BBC Children in Need for the Mini Wings project.
- £56,600 from Henry Smith Charity for running costs, training, catering and salaries.
- £27,160 from Trusthouse Charitable Foundation for Dare 2 Care.
- £25,000 from Garfield Weston for the Wellbeing Centre renovations.

Income was also generated through the Wings 'N' Things shop, donations for FareShare food and fundraising activities arranged by staff and volunteers. An increase in demand for the work of Via Wings has resulted in a gradual increase in staff numbers and employee costs: £182,801 (2021: £171,688).

Trade creditors of £6,875 (2021: £10,771) include a list of supplier invoices which were invoiced within the financial year ending 31 October 2022, but payment for these did not occur until the new financial year.

Reserves

It is the policy of the Board of Trustees to maintain sufficient free reserves as are consistent with the ongoing financial requirements of the Charity.

Going Concern

The trustees are of the opinion that the Charity has sufficient reserves to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date of signing the financial statements. As a result, they believe that it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis.

Whilst we are a not-for-profit organisation, the net income established again this year is as a result of funds allowed to accumulate from fundraising or grants for the specific purpose of refurbishing and further developments to the premises, such as the Wellbeing Centre, and projects to be continued to the term of their funding.

Recruitment and appointment of the trustees

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association unless otherwise determined by the company in a General Meeting the number of trustees shall not be less than three and is not subject to any maximum. Trustees are elected to serve only until the next Annual General Meeting, at which they shall then be eligible for re-election.

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Governing Document and Constitution of the Charity

The Charity is governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 28 October 2016. The Board of Trustees meets on a monthly basis and at least ten times per year.

Compliance with Public Benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities for the year the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities have helped to achieve the Charity's purposes and provide a benefit to the beneficiaries. The charity trustees have complied with the duty to have due regard to the guidance issued by the Commission under section 4(b) of the Charities Act (the public benefit requirement statutory guidance). Details of how the main activities undertaken by the Charity to further its charitable purposes for the public benefit have been detailed in 'Achievements, Performance and Public Benefit' on page 3.

Directors (who are also trustees)

R. McKnight
E. Atchison
A. Patience (resigned 28 September 2022)
R. Beasley (appointed 28 September 2022)

Reference and Administrative Information

The Charity's reference and administrative details are outlined on page 2.

The trustees serving as at the date of the Trustees' Annual Report are outlined on page 2. Members of the Charity are also listed on page 2. No other individual, other than those listed, served as a trustee of the Charity during the financial year.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees (who are also directors of Via Wings for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

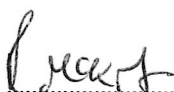
Company law requires the trustees prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing the 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 (FRS102);
- 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 charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

Approved by the trustees on 7 June 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



Mrs R. McKnight
Trustee and Board Secretary



Mrs R. Beasley
Trustee and Board Chairperson