



**BELFAST AND LISBURN
COMMUNITY PROJECT**

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Belfast And Lisburn Community Project (NIC 107561)

****Annual Report of Trustees for the Belfast and Lisburn Community Project (2022–2023)****

Purpose of the Charity

to relieve poverty linked to homelessness or those at risk of becoming homeless. To work to prevent homelessness, need and distress among those in Belfast and Lisburn and surrounding areas.

Further to this objective:

To provide activities within our community which are to enhance skills and raise self-confidence as a first step towards changing their lives. Overcoming that by meeting people where they are in their lives and showing them skills that are relevant to them and creating workshops by the provision of conferences, training, information, advice and other facilities, services or support. Bring together people who have a common interest of the public benefits in our community and facilitate their sharing and networking, so they know they are not alone.

To promote the needs of homeless and marginalised people locally by means of high quality PR, thereby helping to reduce discrimination towards them and influencing the local community to become more supportive and less judgemental.

To provide information, support and practical help that will empower people to make and act on informed choices arrived at by themselves, in particular for people who are homeless and those vulnerable to becoming homeless, who are lacking the necessities of life, and to advance education on issues associated with homelessness for the public benefit.

Providing safe shelter, accommodation, food and health counselling, emergency assistance to families or individuals affected by poverty or dispossession. Provide material and support to families to meet their family objectives.

Promoting good relations between persons of different racial groups for the public benefit.

The promotion of waste reduction, re-use reclamation, recycling, use of recycled products and the use of surplus which helps to protect our environment and reduces the amount of waste sent to landfills and incinerators.

Reusing valuable resources ensures a greener future which provide benefits to both our environment and economy, helping people improve their health and wellbeing and for the generations beyond.

Chairperson's Message

1. Introduction

The Trustees present their annual report on the activities of the Belfast and Lisburn Community Project for the financial year 3rd July 2022 to 2nd July 2023. This year has been one of the most challenging in the Project's history, defined by a significant setback but also by the resilience and dedication of our volunteers and supporters.

2. Principal Activities and Review of the Year

The principal activity of the Project continues to be the operation of a food bank, supporting the homeless and the provision of support to those in need within the Belfast and Lisburn communities.

The year under review was dominated by a major flood at our premises, caused by a water leakage. This incident had severe and immediate consequences for our operations:

* **Premises Closure:** The Project's base was rendered unusable and was forced to close for a period of six months to facilitate repairs and recovery.

* **Substantial Damage:** The majority of the charity's contents, including storage, equipment, and supplies, were damaged by the floodwater.

* **Insurance Dispute:** Regrettably, our insurance provider has refused to accept responsibility for the damage. Consequently, the Project has had to bear the full burden of the recovery efforts, relying on our own resources and the goodwill of our community.

Despite these overwhelming challenges, our core mission was maintained. Through the incredible efforts of our volunteers, we were able to continue the distribution of food parcels to those in need, operating from temporary arrangements.

3. Current Status and Future Outlook

The damage to the premises and the ensuing closure has made it unviable for the Project to continue operating from its previous location.

* **Relocation:** As a direct result of the flood, the Trustees took the difficult decision to vacate the premises permanently.

* **Future Premises:** A key strategic priority for the Trustees is securing a new, permanent home for the charity. We are actively seeking a suitable new premise and are hopeful that we will be able to secure and occupy a new facility during the 2024 calendar year. This will allow us to restore our full range of services and build a more resilient and secure future for the Project.

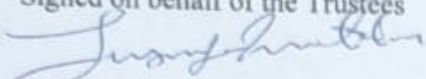
4. Acknowledgements

The Trustees wish to record their profound gratitude to our volunteers, whose unwavering commitment ensured that our vital food bank service, homeless outreach service, advice and accomodation continued without interruption during this period of crisis. We also extend our sincere thanks to the community for their continued support and understanding.

We adhere to strict budgetary controls and transparent reporting practices and to minimised expenses.
no one in our communities faces homelessness alone.

This report was approved by the Trustees on behalf of the Belfast and Lisburn Community Project.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



18/08/2025

Jennifer Wootton
Chairperson, Belfast and Lisburn Community Project

****Trustees****

Jennifer Wootton
Gloria Hughes
Perla Kotlkarova
Gold Imoukhuede

This report reflects the period from 3rd of July 2022 to 2nd of July 2023. Data is based on internal records and reports.