

Aspire NI

Northern Ireland · Charity number 107570

Details

Status	Received
Company number	639811
Registered	2020-07-06
Register	View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register

Contact

Address 43 Union Street
Lurgan
BT66 8dy
BT66 8DY

Phone 02838155888

Email mark@aspireni.org

Website www.aspireni.org

Activities

Purposes: The prevention or relief of poverty. The Advancement of education. Providing facilitators to run education based programmes for children in poverty (Free school meal eligible pupils). Running free activity sessions for children in poverty. The outcomes we set out to achieve will be prevention or relief of poverty and the advancement of education for children and young people in Northern Ireland. We will achieve these outcomes through counselling/support, providing free education and training by working with schools. The benefits will be improved literacy and numeracy of young people from low-income backgrounds.

What the charity does: The prevention or relief of poverty, The advancement of education

How the charity works: Education/training, Relief of poverty, Religious activities, Youth development

Who the charity helps: Children (5-13 year olds), Volunteers, Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£244,429	£260,146	£0	8

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Miss Noeleen Floyd		
Mr Mark Hand		
Mr Steven Allaway		
Mrs Gemma Managh		
Mrs Maria Maguire		
Mrs Megan Collins		

Aspire NI

Northern Ireland - Charity number 107570

Accounts

Company Registration Number: NI639811
Charity Number: 107570



Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements

for the financial year ended 31 August 2025

Daly Park & Company Ltd
Chartered Accountants
4 Carnegie Street
Lurgan
Northern Ireland
BT66 6AS

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

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Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' AND OTHER INFORMATION

Trustees	Carol Little (Resigned 18 February 2025) David McBride (Resigned 18 February 2025) David Wylie (Resigned 18 February 2025) Ian Bingham (Resigned 18 February 2025) Leonard Adamson (Resigned 10 September 2025) Megan Collins Steven Allaway (Appointed 18 February 2025) Noeleen Floyd (Appointed 18 February 2025) Mark Hand (Appointed 18 February 2025) Maria Maguire (Appointed 18 February 2025) Gemma Managh (Appointed 18 February 2025)
Charity Number in Northern Ireland	107570
Company Registration Number	NI639811
Registered Office and Principal Address	23a Castle Lane Lurgan Craigavon Co. Armagh BT67 9BD Northern Ireland
Independent Examiner	Daly Park & Company Ltd Chartered Accountants 4 Carnegie Street Lurgan Northern Ireland BT66 6AS United Kingdom
Principal Bankers	AIB 18-20 Scotch Street Dungannon Co Tyrone BT70 1AZ Northern Ireland

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 August 2025

The trustees present their Trustees' Annual Report, combining the Directors' Report and Trustees' Report, and the unaudited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 August 2025.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Trustees' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Trustees' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines. The trustees of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's constitution are known as members of the board of trustees.

In this report the trustees of Aspire (N.I.) present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 August 2025.

The charity is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and, although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102, the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

Principal Activity

Aspire exists to aid children in need and help to help close the educational gap between the rich and poor in Northern Ireland.

Mission, Objectives and Strategy

Mission Statement

Aspire (NI) exists to deliver on its principal activity to work with children in Northern Ireland in poverty to help close the educational gap between the rich and poor. We are a faith driven charity based in Craigavon, Northern Ireland that work with local youth workers and churches to provide free services for children from lower income families to support and equip them in education. Our work with schools and relevant agencies ensures that we aim to:

1. Provide relationships that enable young people to recognise their skills and full potential.
2. Provide facilitators to encourage young people in education and help them to take ownership of their own education.
3. Help those from lower income families by providing free tuition services
4. Help young people to learn outside of the classroom by providing fun based educational activities outside of school hours
5. Give young people the opportunity to explore faith.

Aspire Sessions

These offer a place for young people to work in a supervised and supportive environment after school. We provide facilitators who encourage the young people and provide them with support. The facilitators are youth workers from local churches or organisations. Our young people are provided with laptops, resources, and refreshments.

Aspire Tuition

For young people who take part in our after-school sessions who are struggling with any subjects, Aspire will endeavour to link this young person to a suitable tutor from our bank of volunteers who are qualified in this subject and provide a period of free tuition.

Aspire Activities

Education is not just what happens in the classroom but can be fun too. Aspire activities are monthly activities for young people run by local churches and youth groups where learning is combined with leisure such as sport or music lessons.

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 August 2025

Structure, Governance and Management

Structure

Aspire (NI) is a company limited by guarantee and registered with Companies House under the reference NI 639811. The organisation is also a Registered Charity under the reference NIC107570 with The Charity Commission of Northern Ireland. Aspire (NI) is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association and controlled by its Trustees. The day-to-day management of the charity on behalf of the Trustees is undertaken by Mark Knox. Trustees are appointed and retire in accordance with the charity's governing document with all new Trustees undergo an induction and initial training on their role and responsibilities.

Review of Achievements and Performance



2024/25 has been another exciting year for Aspire. We continue to grow and expand our reach, building on the success of previous years. Aspire now works in twenty-nine schools, providing vital support to young people across Craigavon, Belfast, and beyond. This year, we ran numerous academies, covering areas such as art, business, youth work, music production, and more. These academies provided essential training and inspiration for secondary-age children while also engaging primary-age children in foundational programs.

We held our largest-ever cross-community camp, bringing together almost fifty young people at the Crawfordsburn Scout Centre. The camp featured a rich program of activities, including sports, workshops, and leadership development, all focused on fostering understanding and connection across different backgrounds.



"The best camp ever..."

That's how Aspire leaders summed up this year's Camp Aspire at the end of the summer.

Camp is always a significant moment in our year. For both leaders and young people, it's a chance to build relationships in ways that just don't happen in the classroom. In school, leaders are often the ones pushing young people to get work done. At camp, those same leaders are helping build rafts, cheering them on at activities and sharing laughs around a fire.

This year felt extra special. We had the biggest number of young people ever attend, an amazing staff team, a full programme of activities and sunshine the whole week!

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 August 2025



The Programme

For many young people on the Aspire Programme, summer holidays are out of reach. Trips, sports camps and summer schemes are often too expensive once you add up fees, clothing and equipment. The NI Executive's Children and Young People's Strategy says that "social disadvantage has the greatest single impact on educational attainment." That's exactly why events like Camp Aspire matter. When young people are given opportunities to learn, explore and build new friendships, it has a lasting effect on their confidence and success back in school.

This year's programme included archery, climbing, axe throwing and team challenges during the day. Evenings were packed with activities designed to build social skills, open minds to other communities and encourage young people to accept one another. Educational sessions followed the theme of "So High School." Just like the characters in classic teen movies who learn to unite despite their differences, our young people discovered that they aren't defined by labels and that real friendships cross those divides.

Stories of Change

One boy who joined Aspire at Easter came to camp struggling with social anxiety. At first, he was quiet and unsure, but by the end of the week he was out of his shell, making friends, joining in activities and most importantly, having fun. The change in his confidence was clear for everyone to see.

Cross-community connections were another highlight. At the start of the week, some arrived saying, "I don't like them," simply because the others were from a different community. By the end of camp, those same young people were laughing together, hanging out and building friendships that will last well beyond the summer.

Sarah, one of our leaders, put it perfectly:

"Camp Aspire had so many lasting memories but the last night really stood out to me. I loved seeing everyone around the campfire singing and chatting about their favourite memories of the week with their new friendships. That moment really captured what camp was all about."

Keeping Connections Alive

Later this year we'll host our annual Camp Aspire Reunion. It's a chance for everyone to reconnect with friends they may not see often, reflect on their favourite memories, and strengthen the relationships built over the summer.

Fuelling Local Impact

We're proud to announce our new partnership with FUEL, a community-focused tech company committed to supporting local education. FUEL is backing our in-school work with young people who need it most.

We are pleased to announce our latest corporate partnership with FUEL, a community-focused technology company based in Portadown. Behind the scenes, FUEL has been giving back locally for years, particularly through education and support initiatives. FUEL chose to partner with Aspire because of our direct, in-school work with young people across the community who need support. They were particularly struck by the stark reality that fewer than 50% of students eligible for Free School Meals achieve five GCSEs at grade C or above, a figure that's 24% lower than their more advantaged peers.

"Aspire NI's mission aligns closely with our values, and we're excited to support their incredible work, from mentoring programmes to after-school support for students who need it most." Paul Trouton | CEO | FUEL

What this partnership means

Currently, we work with over 350 young people across twenty-nine schools each week. Partnerships like this one enable us to better plan our finances and grow strategically.

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 August 2025

The maths behind our model is simple: each staff member, with the support of volunteers, can work with 10–15 young people per school, and cover up to five schools per week. To grow our impact, we simply need more staff members working in more schools, supported by more volunteers. FUEL is committed to helping us do just that, reaching more young people who urgently need support.

With over 103,000 children living in relative poverty in Northern Ireland, the need is great. These children face significantly lower chances of academic success compared to their better-off peers. But with the backing of local businesses, we can continue expanding our reach and give more young people across Northern Ireland a fair and equal chance at success.

"Businesses hold a significant place in our communities. They have a unique ability to support work like ours and create real, lasting impact. We're delighted to be partnering with FUEL to reach and support even more young people."

The Results

We have the data to back up our impact, young people on the Aspire programme achieve GCSE results at a rate of 87%, compared to the national average of just 49% for students eligible for Free School Meals. It's a clear sign that, together with our partners, we are helping to close the educational attainment gap.

Aspire's uniform exchange program and back-to-school events remain key parts of our outreach, providing practical support to families in need across Craigavon and Belfast.

We have also continued to develop other meaningful partnerships with businesses, working alongside various organisations detailed below. These partnerships allow us to further our mission and provide greater opportunities for the young people we support.

Partners

"...We are delighted to continue partnering with charities such as Aspire NI in breaking down the barriers that prevent equal access to education for young people."



Allison Reid, Partner
Gateley legal NI

Gateley / LEGAL



A&O SHEARMAN



EMTEK



We are grateful for the ongoing financial support from all our funders detailed in these financial statements.

We are proud of the success of our young people, with 86% of GCSE-age participants achieving 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C—an improvement that reflects the hard work and dedication of both our team and the young people themselves.

Aspire has once again proven that with the right support, young people can thrive in school, in their communities, and beyond.

Financial Review

The financial results for the current year are detailed in the Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet. The organisation has been able to secure additional funding in the 2025 financial year from various sources, which has helped it expand its operations and take on more staff and expand operations into Belfast. Total income for the year was £244,429 up 20% on the 2024 income figure of £204,532. Total expenditure increased 28% in the year to £260,146 (2024 approx. £203,770). An overall deficit of £15,717 is reported this year (2024 surplus £762) because of these changes.

Financial Results

At the end of the financial year the charity has assets of £36,365 (2024 - £49,915) and liabilities of £4,000 (2024 - £1,833). The net assets of the charity have decreased by £(15,717).

Aspire (N.I.)

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TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 August 2025

Reserves Position and Policy

Reserves Policy

From incorporation Aspire has been successful at raising sufficient funds to support its running costs. The purpose of Aspire is not to be a profit-making company, however it must remain sustainable to function and continue to aid the Children in need. The aim is to achieve a level of unrestricted free reserves equivalent to six months running costs, which the trustees believe is essential to maintain the stability of the organisation and continue to meet its aims and objectives.

Reference and Administrative details

Public Benefit

The Charity has considered the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities entered into during the year have helped to achieve the organisation's objectives and activities, as well as providing public benefit. The direct benefits which flow from our purposes include improvement in the wellbeing, self-esteem and opportunities for children from a lower income background. These benefits are demonstrated through our feedback from the children and their educational results. These purposes do not lead to harm. The charity's beneficiaries are the children from lower income families.

Trustees

The current trustees are as set out on page 3

Carol Little (Resigned 18 February 2025)
David McBride (Resigned 18 February 2025)
David Wylie (Resigned 18 February 2025)
Ian Bingham (Resigned 18 February 2025) Leonard
Adamson (Resigned 10 September 2025)
Megan Collins
Steven Allaway (Appointed 18 February 2025)
Noeleen Floyd (Appointed 18 February 2025)
Mark Hand (Appointed 18 February 2025)
Maria Maguire (Appointed 18 February 2025)
Gemma Managh (Appointed 18 February 2025)


In accordance with the Articles of Association, the trustees retire by rotation and being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards

The charity engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. Aspire (N.I.) subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2006
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 6/3/26 and signed on its behalf by:



Megan Collins



Steven Allaway

Aspire (N.I.)

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STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

for the financial year ended 31 August 2025

The trustees, who are also directors of Aspire (N.I.) for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees as the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law) including FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the net income or expenditure of the charity for that period.


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

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; 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 confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and 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.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 6/3/26 and signed on its behalf by:



Megan Collins



Steven Allaway

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF ASPIRE (N.I.)

We have examined the financial statements of the charity for the financial year ended 31 August 2025, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this financial year under Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and that an independent examination is required.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down by the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

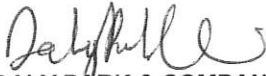
We have examined your charity financial statements as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and our examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention which gives us cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
- the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records
- the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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 (FRS102)
- there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

We 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.



DALY PARK & COMPANY LTD

Chartered Accountants

4 Carnegie Street

Lurgan

Northern Ireland

BT66 6AS

United Kingdom

Date:6/3/26.....

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the financial year ended 31 August 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Incoming Resources							
Voluntary Income	4.1	145,303	85,152	230,455	100,315	90,258	190,573
Activities for generating funds	4.2	13,974	-	13,974	13,959	-	13,959
Total incoming resources		159,277	85,152	244,429	114,274	90,258	204,532
Resources Expended							
Charitable activities	5.1	152,465	107,681	260,146	129,266	74,504	203,770
Net incoming/outgoing resources before transfers		6,812	(22,529)	(15,717)	(14,992)	15,754	762
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds for the financial year		6,812	(22,529)	(15,717)	(14,992)	15,754	762
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds beginning of the year	13	960	47,122	48,082	15,952	31,368	47,320
Total funds at the end of the year		7,772	24,593	32,365	960	47,122	48,082

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the financial year.
All income and expenditure relate to continuing activities.

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Company Number: NI639811

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 August 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	8	775	-
Current Assets			
Stocks	9	500	1,577
Debtors	10	7,976	5,724
Cash at bank and in hand		27,114	42,614
		35,590	49,915
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	(4,000)	(1,833)
Net Current Assets		31,590	48,082
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		32,365	48,082
Funds			
Restricted trust funds		24,593	47,122
General fund (unrestricted)		7,772	960
Total funds	13	32,365	48,082

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

For the financial year ended 31 August 2025 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006; and no notice has been deposited under section 476.

The trustees confirm that the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the financial year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of its profit and loss 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 charity.

Approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 6/3/26 and signed on its behalf by


Megan Collins


Steven Allaway

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the financial year ended 31 August 2025

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Aspire (N.I.) is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office of the company is 23a Castle Lane, Lurgan, Craigavon, Co. Armagh, BT67 9BD, Northern Ireland which is also the principal place of business of the company. The financial statements have been presented in Pound (£) which is also the functional currency of the company.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charity's financial statements.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102".

As permitted by the Companies Act 2006, the charity has varied the standard formats in that act for the Statement of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet. Departures from the standard formats are to comply with the requirements of the Charities SORP and are in compliance with section 4.7, 10.6 and 15.2 of that SORP.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements of the charity for the financial year ended 31 August 2025 have been prepared on the going concern basis and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102".

Cash flow statement

The charity has availed of the exemption in FRS 102 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement because it is classified as a small charity.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income or capital is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to it, its financial value can be quantified with reasonable certainty and there is reasonable certainty of its ultimate receipt. Entitlement to legacies is considered established when the charity has been notified of a distribution to be made by the executors. Income received in advance of due performance under a contract is accounted for as deferred income until earned. Grants for activities are recognised as income when the related conditions for legal entitlement have been met. All other income is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Resources Expended

All resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis. Charitable activities include costs of services and grants, support costs and depreciation on related assets. Costs of generating funds similarly include fundraising activities. Non-staff costs not attributed to one category of activity are allocated or apportioned pro-rata to the staffing of the relevant service. Finance, HR, IT and administrative staff costs are directly attributable to individual activities by objective. Governance costs are those associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Reserves policy

Aspire NI will aim to hold up to 6 months running expenses at year end to have a reserve if incoming resources fall for any unsuspected reason.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or at valuation, less accumulated depreciation. The charge to depreciation is calculated to write off the original cost or valuation of tangible fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment

15% Straight line

Aspire (N.I.)

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the financial year ended 31 August 2025

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due. Income recognised by the charity from government agencies and other co-funders, but not yet received at year end, is included in debtors.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand comprises cash on deposit at banks requiring less than three months' notice of withdrawal.

Taxation and deferred taxation

No current or deferred taxation arises as the charity has been granted charitable exemption. Irrecoverable valued added tax is expensed as incurred.

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date where transactions or events have occurred at that date that will result in an obligation to pay more tax in the future, or a right to pay less tax in the future. Timing differences are temporary differences between the company's taxable income and its results as stated in the financial statements.

Deferred tax is measured on an undiscounted basis at the tax rates that are anticipated to apply in the periods in which the timing differences are expected to reverse, based on tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

3. PERIOD OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The comparative figures relate to the month period ended 31 August 2024.

4. INCOME

4.1	DONATIONS AND LEGACIES		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025	2024
			£	£	£	£
	Voluntary Income		<u>145,303</u>	<u>85,152</u>	<u>230,455</u>	<u>190,573</u>
4.2	OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025	2024
			£	£	£	£
	Activities to Generate Funds		<u>13,974</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,974</u>	<u>13,959</u>
5.	EXPENDITURE					
5.1	CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Direct Costs	Other Costs	Support Costs	2025	2024
		£	£	£	£	£
	Cost of Charitable Activities	<u>258,293</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,853</u>	<u>260,146</u>	<u>203,770</u>
5.2	SUPPORT COSTS			Charitable Activities	2025	2024
				£	£	£
	Bank Fees			949	949	969
	Depreciation			124	124	780
	Governance Costs 5			780	780	-
				<u>1,853</u>	<u>1,853</u>	<u>1,749</u>
6.	NET INCOMING RESOURCES				2025	2024
					£	£
	Net Incoming Resources are stated after charging/(crediting):					
	Depreciation of tangible assets				<u>124</u>	<u>-</u>

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the financial year ended 31 August 2025

7. EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION

The staff costs comprise:	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	185,410	161,035
Pension costs	3,423	3,169
	<u>188,833</u>	<u>164,204</u>

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Total £
Cost		
Additions	899	899
At 31 August 2025	<u>899</u>	<u>899</u>
Depreciation		
Charge for the financial year	124	124
At 31 August 2025	<u>124</u>	<u>124</u>
Net book value		
At 31 August 2025	<u>775</u>	<u>775</u>

9. STOCKS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Finished goods and goods for resale	500	1,577
	<u>500</u>	<u>1,577</u>

10. DEBTORS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other debtors	7,976	5,724
	<u>7,976</u>	<u>5,724</u>

11. CREDITORS

Amounts falling due within one year	2025	2024
	£	£
Bank overdrafts	718	166
Taxation and social security costs	2,504	637
Accruals and deferred income	778	1,030
	<u>4,000</u>	<u>1,833</u>

12. RESERVES

	2025	2024
	£	£
At the beginning of the year	48,082	47,320
(Deficit)/Surplus for the financial year	(15,717)	762
At the end of the year	<u>32,365</u>	<u>48,082</u>

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the financial year ended 31 August 2025

13. FUNDS**13.1 RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
At 1 September 2024	15,952	31,368	47,320
Movement during the financial year	(14,992)	15,754	762
At 31 August 2024	960	47,122	48,082
Movement during the financial year	(10,188)	(5,529)	(15,717)
At 31 August 2025	(9,228)	41,593	32,365

13.2 ANALYSIS OF MOVEMENTS ON FUNDS

	Balance 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	Balance 31 August 2025 £
Restricted funds					
Community Foundation NI	-	2,311	2,311	-	-
Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council	-	730	730	-	-
Halifax Foundation	4,000	-	4,000	-	-
Education Authority	17,000	-	17,000	-	-
LFT Foundation	-	6,930	5,950	-	980
KFC Foundation	-	3,000	-	-	3,000
Allen & Overy Foundation	-	10,000	10,000	-	-
Dormant Accounts NI The National Lottery Community Fund	6,881	21,840	28,721	-	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	969	15,000	15,969	-	-
The Angus Lawson Memorial Trust	18,272	-	18,272	-	-
Bauer Media Cash for Kids	-	3,958	3,828	-	130
The Hedley Foundation	-	1,000	300	-	700
John Wilson Trust	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
The James Kane Foundation	-	8,703	-	-	8,703
National Lottery - Belfast ACA	-	1,080	-	-	1,080
Henry Smith	-	600	600	-	-
	<u>47,122</u>	<u>85,152</u>	<u>107,681</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>24,593</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General Unrestricted Fund	960	159,277	152,465	-	7,772
Total funds	<u>48,082</u>	<u>244,429</u>	<u>260,146</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>32,365</u>

14. STATUS

The charity is limited by guarantee not having a share capital.

The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of its being wound up while they are members, or within one year thereafter, for the payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before they ceased to be members, and the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £ 1.

15. POST-BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

There have been no significant events affecting the Charity since the financial year-end.

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

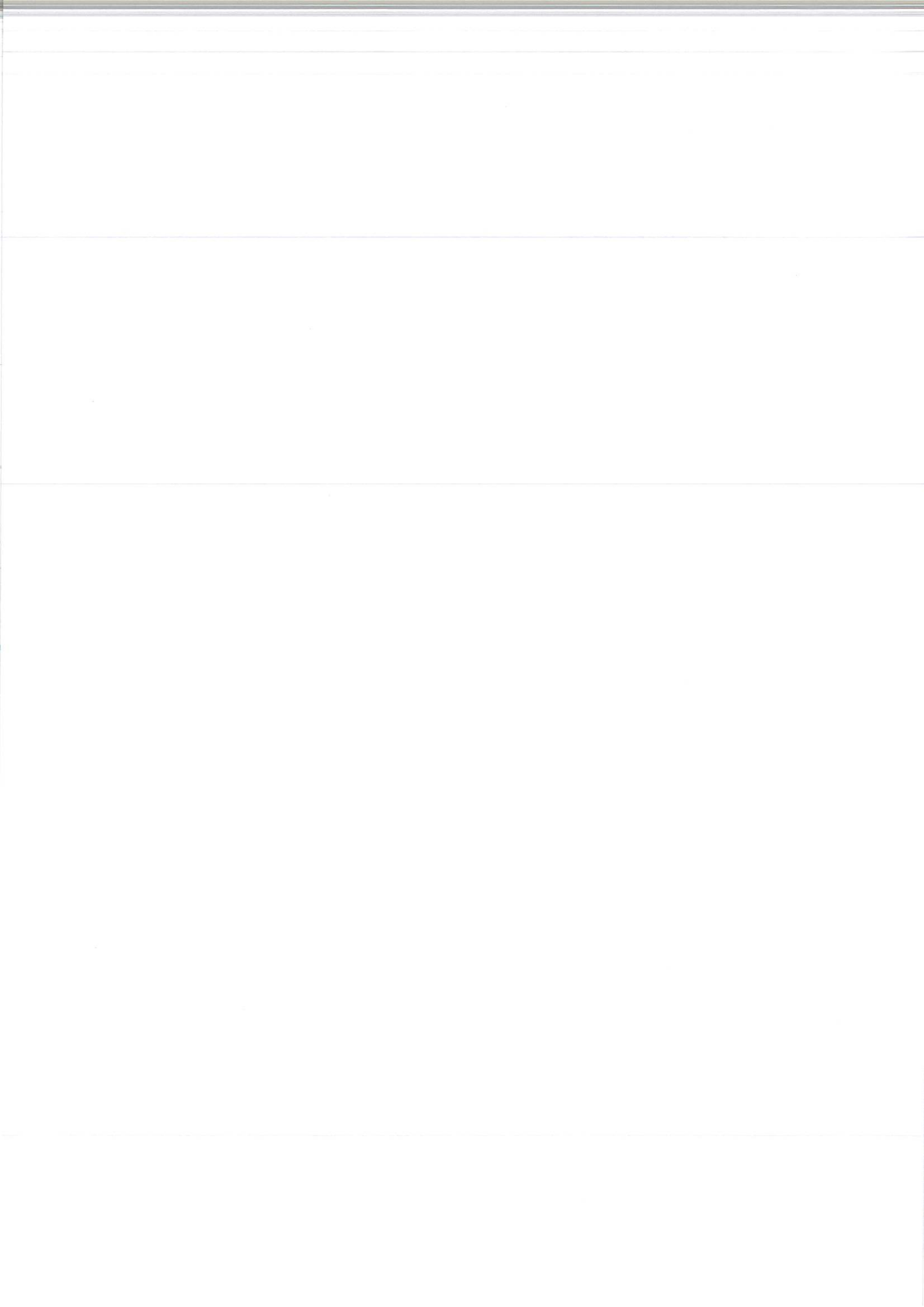
for the financial year ended 31 August 2025

16. TRUSTEE REMUNERATION

None of the Trustees received nor waived any kind of remuneration for their services as Trustees during the current or previous financial year.

17. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER FEES

The Independent Examiner was paid a fee of £780 in relation to their work for the 2025 financial year (2024 £600).

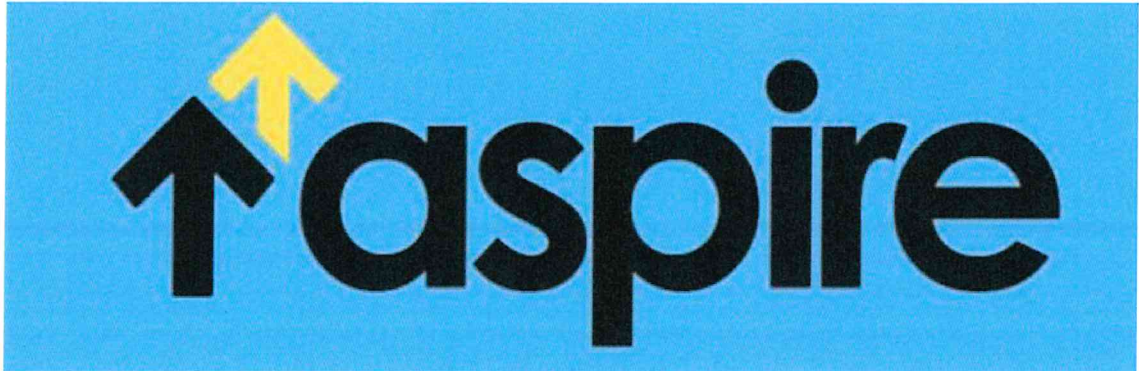


Aspire NI

Northern Ireland - Charity number 107570

Accounts

Company Registration Number: NI639811
Charity Number: 107570



Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements

for the financial year ended 31 August 2024

Daly Park & Company Ltd
Chartered Accountants
4 Carnegie Street
Lurgan
Northern Ireland
BT66 6AS
United Kingdom

Aspire (N.I.)
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
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Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

DIRECTORS' AND OTHER INFORMATION

Directors	Carol Little David McBride David Wylie Ian Bingham Leonard Adamson Megan Collins Jamie Curran (Resigned 31 October 2023)
Charity Number in Northern Ireland	107570
Company Registration Number	NI639811
Registered Office and Principal Address	23a Castle Lane Lurgan Craigavon Co. Armagh BT67 9BD Northern Ireland
Independent Examiner	Daly Park & Company Ltd Chartered Accountants 4 Carnegie Street Lurgan Northern Ireland BT66 6AS United Kingdom
Principal Bankers	AIB 18-20 Scotch Street Dungannon Co Tyrone BT70 1AZ Northern Ireland

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 August 2024

The directors present their Directors' Annual Report, combining the Directors' Report and Trustees' Report, and the unaudited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 August 2024.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Directors' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Directors' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines. The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's constitution are known as members of the board of trustees.

In this report the directors of Aspire (N.I.) present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 August 2024.

The company is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and, although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102, the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

Mission, Objectives and Strategy

Mission Statement

Aspire (NI) exists to deliver on its principal activity to work with children in Northern Ireland in poverty to help close the educational gap between the rich and poor. We are a faith driven charity based in Craigavon, Northern Ireland that work with local youth workers and churches to provide free services for children from lower income families to support and equip them in education. Our work with schools and relevant agencies ensure that we aim to:

1. Provide relationships that enable young people to recognise their skills and full potential.
2. Provide facilitators to encourage young people in education and help them to take ownership of their own education.
3. Help those from lower income families by providing free tuition services
4. Help young people to learn outside of the classroom by providing fun based educational activities outside of school hours
5. Give young people the opportunity to explore faith.

Aspire Sessions

These offer a place for young people to work in a supervised and supportive environment after school. We provide facilitators who encourage the young people and provide them with support. The facilitators are youth workers from local churches or organisations. Our young people are provided with laptops, resources, and refreshments.

Aspire Tuition

For young people who take part in our after-school sessions who are struggling with any subjects, Aspire will endeavour to link this young person to a suitable tutor from our bank of volunteers who are qualified in this subject and provide a period of free tuition.

Aspire Activities

Education is not just what happens in the classroom but can be fun too. Aspire activities are monthly activities for young people run by local churches and youth groups where learning is combined with leisure such as sport or music lessons.

Structure, Governance and Management

Structure

Aspire (NI) is a company limited by guarantee and registered with Companies House under the reference NI 639811. The organisation is also a Registered Charity under the reference NIC107570 with The Charity Commission of Northern Ireland. Aspire (NI) is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association and controlled by its Trustees. The day to day management of the charity on behalf of the Trustees is undertaken by Mark Knox. Trustees are appointed and retire in accordance with the charity's governing document with all new Trustees undergo an induction and initial training on their role and responsibilities.

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 August 2024

Review of Activities, Achievements and Performance

2023/2024 has been another exciting year for Aspire. We continue to grow and expand our reach, building on the success of previous years. Aspire now works in 27 schools, providing vital support to young people across Craigavon, Belfast, and beyond. This year, we ran 10 academies, covering areas such as art, business, youth work, music production, and more. These academies provided essential training and inspiration for secondary-age children while also engaging primary-age children in foundational programs.

We held our largest-ever cross-community camp, bringing together almost 50 young people at the Crawfordsburn Scout Centre. The camp featured a rich program of activities, including sports, workshops, and leadership development, all focused on fostering understanding and connection across different backgrounds.



Aspire's uniform exchange program and back-to-school events remain key parts of our outreach, providing practical support to families in need across Craigavon and Belfast.

We have also continued to develop meaningful partnerships with businesses, working alongside organizations such as Gatley Legal and Allen & Overy Sherman. These partnerships allow us to further our mission and provide greater opportunities for the young people we support.

We are grateful for the ongoing financial support from KFC, LFT Trust, and others, including dormant account funding that remains a cornerstone of our

work.

We are proud of the success of our young people, with 87% of GCSE-age participants achieving 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C—an improvement that reflects the hard work and dedication of both our team and the young people themselves.



Aspire has once again proven that with the right support, young people can thrive in school, in their communities, and beyond.

Financial Review

The financial results for the current year are detailed in the Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet. The organisation has been able to secure additional funding in the 2024 financial year from various sources, which has helped it expand its operations and take on more staff. Total income for the year was in excess of £200,000, an increase of almost 25%. Total expenditure also increased accordingly in the year to approximately £197,000 (2023 approx £145,000). An overall surplus of £762 is shown for the year.

Financial Results

At the end of the financial year the company has assets of £49,915 (2023 - £48,086) and liabilities of £1,833 (2023 - £766). The net assets of the company have increased by £762.

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 August 2024

Reserves Position and Policy

From incorporation Aspire has been successful at raising sufficient funds to support its running costs. The purpose of Aspire is not to be a profit making company, however it must remain sustainable in order to function and continue to aid the Children in need. The aim is to achieve a level of unrestricted free reserves equivalent to six months running costs, which the trustees believe is essential to maintain the stability of the organisation and continue to meet its aims and objectives.

Reference and Administrative details

Public Benefit

The Charity has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities entered into during the year have helped to achieve the organisation's objectives and activities, as well as providing public benefit. The direct benefits which flow from our purposes include improvement in the wellbeing, self-esteem and opportunities for children from a lower income background. These benefits are demonstrated through our feedback from the children and their educational results. These purposes does not lead to harm. The charity's beneficiaries are the children from lower income families.

Directors

The current directors are as set out on page 3

Carol Little
David McBride
David Wylie
Ian Bingham
Leonard Adamson
Megan Collins
Jamie Curran (Resigned 31 October 2023)

In accordance with the Articles of Association, the directors retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards

The company engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. Aspire (N.I.) subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2006
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

Approved by the Board of Directors on 28 Jan 25 and signed on its behalf by:



Leonard Adamson
Director

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

for the financial year ended 31 August 2024

The directors are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law) including FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the net income or expenditure of the company for that period.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in operation.

The directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

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

Approved by the Board of Directors on 28 Jan 25 and signed on its behalf by:


Leonard Adamson
Director

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ASPIRE (N.I.)

We have examined the financial statements of the company for the financial year ended 31 August 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of directors and examiner

The company's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. The company's directors consider that an audit is not required for this financial year under Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and that an independent examination is required.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down by the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

We have examined your company financial statements as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and our examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the company and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from the directors concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention which gives us cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
- the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records
- the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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 (FRS102)
- there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

We 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.


DALRY PARK & COMPANY LTD
Chartered Accountants
4 Carnegie Street
Lurgan
Northern Ireland
BT66 6AS
United Kingdom

Date: 20 January 2025

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)

for the financial year ended 31 August 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Incoming Resources							
Voluntary Income	4.1	100,315	90,258	190,573	102,043	47,400	149,443
Activities for generating funds	4.2	13,959	-	13,959	11,266	-	11,266
Total incoming resources		114,274	90,258	204,532	113,309	47,400	160,709
Resources Expended							
Charitable activities	5.1	129,266	74,504	203,770	119,136	27,660	146,796
Net incoming/outgoing resources before transfers		(14,992)	15,754	762	(5,827)	19,740	13,913
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds for the financial year		(14,992)	15,754	762	(5,827)	19,740	13,913
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds beginning of the year	12	15,952	31,368	47,320	21,779	11,628	33,407
Total funds at the end of the year		960	47,122	48,082	15,952	31,368	47,320

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the financial year. All income and expenditure relate to continuing activities.

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Company Number: NI639811

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 August 2024

		2024	2023
	Notes	£	£
Current Assets			
Stocks	8	1,577	877
Debtors	9	5,724	5,963
Cash at bank and in hand		42,614	41,246
		<u>49,915</u>	<u>48,086</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(1,833)</u>	<u>(766)</u>
Net Current Assets		<u>48,082</u>	<u>47,320</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<u>48,082</u>	<u>47,320</u>
Funds			
Restricted trust funds		47,122	31,368
General fund (unrestricted)		960	15,952
Total funds	12	<u>48,082</u>	<u>47,320</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

For the financial year ended 31 August 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006; and no notice has been deposited under section 476.

The directors confirm that the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the financial year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 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 profit and loss 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.

Approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 28 Jan 25 and signed on its behalf by


Leonard Adamson
Director

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the financial year ended 31 August 2024

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Aspire (N.I.) is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office of the company is 23a Castle Lane, Lurgan, Craigavon, Co. Armagh, BT67 9BD, Northern Ireland which is also the principal place of business of the company. The financial statements have been presented in Pound (£) which is also the functional currency of the company.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charity's financial statements.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102".

As permitted by the Companies Act 2006, the company has varied the standard formats in that act for the Statement of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet. Departures from the standard formats are to comply with the requirements of the Charities SORP and are in compliance with section 4.7, 10.6 and 15.2 of that SORP.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements of the company for the financial year ended 31 December 2017 have been prepared on the going concern basis and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102".

Cash flow statement

The company has availed of the exemption in FRS 102 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement because it is classified as a small company.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income or capital is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the company is legally entitled to it, its financial value can be quantified with reasonable certainty and there is reasonable certainty of its ultimate receipt. Entitlement to legacies is considered established when the company has been notified of a distribution to be made by the executors. Income received in advance of due performance under a contract is accounted for as deferred income until earned. Grants for activities are recognised as income when the related conditions for legal entitlement have been met. All other income is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Resources Expended

All resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis. Charitable activities include costs of services and grants, support costs and depreciation on related assets. Costs of generating funds similarly include fundraising activities. Non-staff costs not attributed to one category of activity are allocated or apportioned pro-rata to the staffing of the relevant service. Finance, HR, IT and administrative staff costs are directly attributable to individual activities by objective. Governance costs are those associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Reserves policy

Aspire NI will aim to hold up to 6 months running expenses at year end in order to have a reserve if incoming resources fall for any unsuspected reason.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due. Income recognised by the company from government agencies and other co-funders, but not yet received at year end, is included in debtors.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand comprises cash on deposit at banks requiring less than three months notice of withdrawal.

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the financial year ended 31 August 2024

Taxation and deferred taxation

No current or deferred taxation arises as the company has been granted charitable exemption. Irrecoverable valued added tax is expensed as incurred.

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date where transactions or events have occurred at that date that will result in an obligation to pay more tax in the future, or a right to pay less tax in the future. Timing differences are temporary differences between the company's taxable income and its results as stated in the financial statements.

Deferred tax is measured on an undiscounted basis at the tax rates that are anticipated to apply in the periods in which the timing differences are expected to reverse, based on tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

3. PERIOD OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The comparative figures relate to the 12 month period ended 31 August 2023.

4. INCOME**4.1 DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
Voluntary Income	100,315	90,258	190,573	149,443

4.2 OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
Activities to Generate Funds	13,959	-	13,959	11,266

**5. EXPENDITURE
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	Direct Costs £	Support Costs £	2024 £	2023 £
Cost of Charitable Activities	202,021	1,749	203,770	146,796

6. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Bank Fees	969	858
Accountancy Fees	780	700
	<u>1,749</u>	<u>1,558</u>

7. EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION

The staff costs comprise:

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	161,035	112,037
Pension costs	3,169	2,084
	<u>164,204</u>	<u>114,121</u>

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the financial year ended 31 August 2024

8. STOCKS		2024	2023
		£	£
Finished goods and goods for resale		<u>1,577</u>	<u>877</u>
9. DEBTORS		2024	2023
		£	£
Other debtors		5,724	5,223
Prepayments and accrued income		-	740
		<u>5,724</u>	<u>5,963</u>
10. CREDITORS		2024	2023
Amounts falling due within one year		£	£
Bank overdrafts		166	-
Trade creditors		-	(500)
Taxation and social security costs		637	443
Accruals and deferred income		1,030	823
		<u>1,833</u>	<u>766</u>
11. RESERVES		2024	2023
		£	£
At the beginning of the year		47,320	33,406
Surplus for the financial year		762	13,914
At the end of the year		<u>48,082</u>	<u>47,320</u>
12. FUNDS			
12.1 RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		Unrestricted	Restricted
		Funds	Funds
		£	£
At 1 September 2022		21,779	11,628
Movement during the financial year		(5,827)	19,740
At 31 August 2023		15,952	31,368
Movement during the financial year		(14,992)	15,754
At 31 August 2024		<u>960</u>	<u>47,122</u>
			<u>48,082</u>

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the financial year ended 31 August 2024

12.2 ANALYSIS OF MOVEMENTS ON FUNDS

	Balance 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	Balance 31 August 2024 £
Restricted funds					
Halifax Foundation	-	5,000	1,000	-	4,000
Education Authority	16,897	17,000	16,897	-	17,000
The Ireland Funds	5,000	-	5,000	-	-
LFT Foundation	-	4,638	4,638	-	-
KFC Foundation	1,950	2,700	4,650	-	-
Bentley	480	-	480	-	-
Allen & Overy Foundation	5,334	-	5,334	-	-
Gateley PLC	1,707	-	1,707	-	-
Dormant Accounts NI The National Lottery Community Fund	-	25,333	18,452	-	6,881
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	15,000	14,031	-	969
The Victoria Homes Trust	-	2,315	2,315	-	-
The Angus Lawson Memorial Trust	-	18,272	-	-	18,272
	<u>31,368</u>	<u>90,258</u>	<u>74,504</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>47,122</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General Unrestricted Fund	15,952	114,274	129,266	-	960
Total funds	<u>47,320</u>	<u>204,532</u>	<u>203,770</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>48,082</u>

13. STATUS

The company is limited by guarantee not having a share capital.

The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of its being wound up while they are members, or within one year thereafter, for the payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before they ceased to be members, and the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £ 1.

14. POST-BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

There have been no significant events affecting the Charity since the financial year-end.

15. TRUSTEE REMUNERATION

None of the Trustees received nor waived any kind of remuneration for their services as Trustees during the current or previous financial year.

16. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER FEES

The Independent Examiner was paid a fee of £780 in relation to their work for the 2024 financial year (2023 £600).

Aspire NI

Northern Ireland - Charity number 107570

Annual report

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 August 2024

The directors present their Directors' Annual Report, combining the Directors' Report and Trustees' Report, and the unaudited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 August 2024.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Directors' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Directors' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines. The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's constitution are known as members of the board of trustees.

In this report the directors of Aspire (N.I.) present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 August 2024.

The company is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and, although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102, the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

Mission, Objectives and Strategy

Mission Statement

Aspire (NI) exists to deliver on its principal activity to work with children in Northern Ireland in poverty to help close the educational gap between the rich and poor. We are a faith driven charity based in Craigavon, Northern Ireland that work with local youth workers and churches to provide free services for children from lower income families to support and equip them in education. Our work with schools and relevant agencies ensure that we aim to:

1. Provide relationships that enable young people to recognise their skills and full potential.
2. Provide facilitators to encourage young people in education and help them to take ownership of their own education.
3. Help those from lower income families by providing free tuition services
4. Help young people to learn outside of the classroom by providing fun based educational activities outside of school hours
5. Give young people the opportunity to explore faith.

Aspire Sessions

These offer a place for young people to work in a supervised and supportive environment after school. We provide facilitators who encourage the young people and provide them with support. The facilitators are youth workers from local churches or organisations. Our young people are provided with laptops, resources, and refreshments.

Aspire Tuition

For young people who take part in our after-school sessions who are struggling with any subjects, Aspire will endeavour to link this young person to a suitable tutor from our bank of volunteers who are qualified in this subject and provide a period of free tuition.

Aspire Activities

Education is not just what happens in the classroom but can be fun too. Aspire activities are monthly activities for young people run by local churches and youth groups where learning is combined with leisure such as sport or music lessons.

Structure, Governance and Management

Structure

Aspire (NI) is a company limited by guarantee and registered with Companies House under the reference NI 639811. The organisation is also a Registered Charity under the reference NIC107570 with The Charity Commission of Northern Ireland. Aspire (NI) is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association and controlled by its Trustees. The day to day management of the charity on behalf of the Trustees is undertaken by Mark Knox. Trustees are appointed and retire in accordance with the charity's governing document with all new Trustees undergo an induction and initial training on their role and responsibilities.

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 August 2024

Review of Activities, Achievements and Performance

2023/2024 has been another exciting year for Aspire. We continue to grow and expand our reach, building on the success of previous years. Aspire now works in 27 schools, providing vital support to young people across Craigavon, Belfast, and beyond. This year, we ran 10 academies, covering areas such as art, business, youth work, music production, and more. These academies provided essential training and inspiration for secondary-age children while also engaging primary-age children in foundational programs.

We held our largest-ever cross-community camp, bringing together almost 50 young people at the Crawfordsburn Scout Centre. The camp featured a rich program of activities, including sports, workshops, and leadership development, all focused on fostering understanding and connection across different backgrounds.



Aspire's uniform exchange program and back-to-school events remain key parts of our outreach, providing practical support to families in need across Craigavon and Belfast.

We have also continued to develop meaningful partnerships with businesses, working alongside organizations such as Gatley Legal and Allen & Overy Sherman. These partnerships allow us to further our mission and provide greater opportunities for the young people we support.

We are grateful for the ongoing financial support from KFC, LFT Trust, and others, including dormant account funding that remains a cornerstone of our

work.

We are proud of the success of our young people, with 87% of GCSE-age participants achieving 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C—an improvement that reflects the hard work and dedication of both our team and the young people themselves.



Aspire has once again proven that with the right support, young people can thrive in school, in their communities, and beyond.

Financial Review

The financial results for the current year are detailed in the Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet. The organisation has been able to secure additional funding in the 2024 financial year from various sources, which has helped it expand its operations and take on more staff. Total income for the year was in excess of £200,000, an increase of almost 25%. Total expenditure also increased accordingly in the year to approximately £197,000 (2023 approx £145,000). An overall surplus of £762 is shown for the year.

Financial Results

At the end of the financial year the company has assets of £49,915 (2023 - £48,086) and liabilities of £1,833 (2023 - £766). The net assets of the company have increased by £762.

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 August 2024

Reserves Position and Policy

From incorporation Aspire has been successful at raising sufficient funds to support its running costs. The purpose of Aspire is not to be a profit making company, however it must remain sustainable in order to function and continue to aid the Children in need. The aim is to achieve a level of unrestricted free reserves equivalent to six months running costs, which the trustees believe is essential to maintain the stability of the organisation and continue to meet its aims and objectives.

Reference and Administrative details

Public Benefit

The Charity has given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that the activities entered into during the year have helped to achieve the organisation's objectives and activities, as well as providing public benefit. The direct benefits which flow from our purposes include improvement in the wellbeing, self-esteem and opportunities for children from a lower income background. These benefits are demonstrated through our feedback from the children and their educational results. These purposes does not lead to harm. The charity's beneficiaries are the children from lower income families.

Directors

The current directors are as set out on page 3

Carol Little
David McBride
David Wylie
Ian Bingham
Leonard Adamson
Megan Collins
Jamie Curran (Resigned 31 October 2023)

In accordance with the Articles of Association, the directors retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards

The company engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. Aspire (N.I.) subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2006
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

Approved by the Board of Directors on 28 Jan 25 and signed on its behalf by:



Leonard Adamson
Director

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

for the financial year ended 31 August 2024

The directors are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law) including FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the net income or expenditure of the company for that period.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in operation.

The directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

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

Approved by the Board of Directors on 28 Jan 25 and signed on its behalf by:


Leonard Adamson
Director

Aspire NI

Northern Ireland - Charity number 107570

Annual return

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ASPIRE (N.I.)

We have examined the financial statements of the company for the financial year ended 31 August 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of directors and examiner

The company's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. The company's directors consider that an audit is not required for this financial year under Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and that an independent examination is required.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down by the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

We have examined your company financial statements as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and our examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the company and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from the directors concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention which gives us cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
- the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records
- the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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 (FRS102)
- there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

We 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.


DALRY PARK & COMPANY LTD
Chartered Accountants
4 Carnegie Street
Lurgan
Northern Ireland
BT66 6AS
United Kingdom

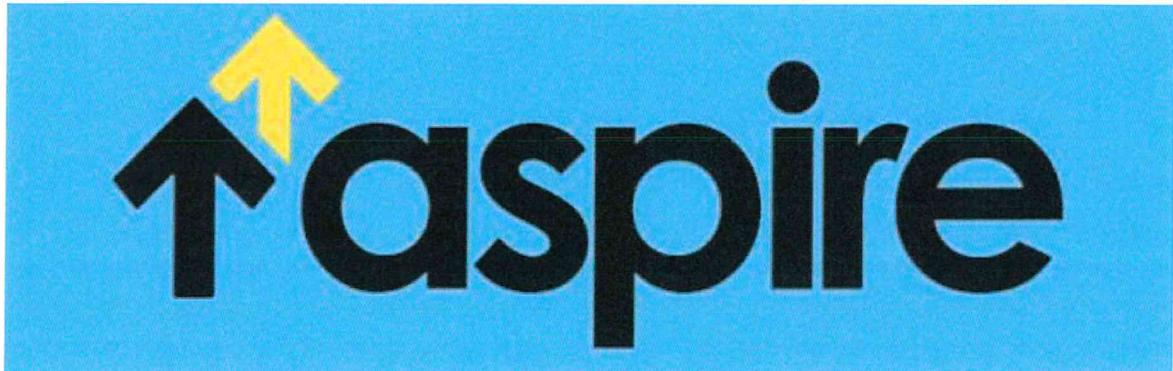
Date: 20 January 2025

Aspire NI

Northern Ireland - Charity number 107570

Accounts

Company Number: NI639811
Charity Number: 107570



Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements

for the financial year ended 31 August 2023

Daly Park & Company Ltd
Chartered Accountants
4 Carnegie Street
Lurgan
Armagh
BT66 6AS

Aspire (N.I.)
(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)
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Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

DIRECTORS' AND OTHER INFORMATION

Directors	Carol Little David McBride David Wylie Ian Bingham Leonard Adamson Megan Collins Jamie Curran
Charity Number in Northern Ireland	107570
Company Number	NI639811
Registered Office and Principal Address	23a Castle Lane Lurgan Craigavon Co. Armagh BT67 9BD Northern Ireland
Independent Examiner	Daly Park & Company Ltd Chartered Accountants 4 Carnegie Street Lurgan Armagh BT66 6AS
Bankers	AIB 18-20 Scotch Street Dungannon Co Tyrone BT70 1AZ Northern Ireland

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 August 2023

The directors present their Directors' Annual Report, combining the Directors' Report and Trustees' Report, and the unaudited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 August 2023.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Directors' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Directors' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines. The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's constitution are known as members of the board of trustees.

In this report the directors of Aspire (N.I.) present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 August 2023.

The company is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and, although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102, the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

Objectives and Activities

Aspire (NI) exists to deliver on its principal activity to work with children in Northern Ireland in poverty to help close the educational gap between the rich and poor. We are a faith driven charity based in Craigavon, Northern Ireland that work with local youth workers and churches to provide free services for children from lower income families to support and equip them in education.

Objectives

Aspire (NI) has been established to help close the educational attainment gap by partnering with schools and relevant agencies to:

1. Provide relationships that enable young people to recognise their skills and full potential.
2. Provide facilitators to encourage young people in education and help them to take ownership of their own education.
3. Help those from lower income families by providing free tuition services
4. Help young people to learn outside of the classroom by providing fun based educational activities outside of school hours
5. Give young people the opportunity to explore faith.

Activities

Aspire Sessions

These offer a place for young people to work in a supervised and supportive environment after school. We provide facilitators who encourage the young people and provide them with support. The facilitators are youth workers from local churches or organisations. Our young people are provided with laptops, resources, and refreshments.

Aspire Tuition

For young people who take part in our after-school sessions who are struggling with any subjects, Aspire will endeavour to link this young person to a suitable tutor from our bank of volunteers who are qualified in this subject and provide a period of free tuition.

Aspire Activities

Education is not just what happens in the classroom but can be fun too. Aspire activities are monthly activities for young people run by local churches and youth groups where learning is combined with leisure such as sport or music lessons.

Achievements and performance

The outcomes we set out to achieve with Aspire are the prevention or relief of poverty and the advancement of education for children and young people in Northern Ireland. We achieve these outcomes through counselling/support, providing free education and training by working with schools. The benefits are improved literacy and numeracy of young people from low-income backgrounds. These benefits of Aspire extend to schools, families and communities in areas of deprivation.

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 August 2023

2022/2023 has been a great year for Aspire. We expanded our work in Belfast, ran a cross community camp and 8 academies. We have worked in 25 schools this term. We also ran a uniform exchange, a back to school day in Belfast and a kids summer scheme in Craigavon.

Aspire has had another year of growth in 2022/23, expanding our reach in Belfast and running more academies across Craigavon and Belfast. Running homework clubs in 25 schools and running summer schemes, camp and parents nights.

We ran our Aspire Academy in 2022/23 across Craigavon providing training in art, business, youth work, music production, wellbeing and barista for secondary age children and art, music and gaming for primary age children. In Belfast we ran football, art and music academies for secondary age children.

Our young people have been performing well in school and we have been able to track their success in education, behaviour and attendance. We saw 89% of our young people achieve 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C. This was a 5% increase on last year.

We were able to run a cross community camp programme and brought 34 young people from different backgrounds away to Crawfordsburn Scout Centre. The young people were able to take part in different sporting activities and we ran a programme looking at the history of Northern Ireland. The young people then planned a future town based on what they have learnt. We had special guests from education, youth work and faith backgrounds.

Many people have continued to bless and support Aspire financially. We have increased our monthly giving this year and ran fundraisers. We have held a pub quiz, took part in the marathon, ran a charity football match, a comedy show and a dance challenge.

We have received grants this year from UK Youth, LFT Trust, KFC, Bentley, Allen & Overy Foundation and the Education Authority.

We feel like we are now finally back to working to our full strength after the pandemic and are set to continue to grow and expand in 2023/24.



Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 August 2023

Financial Review

From incorporation Aspire has been successful at raising enough funds to cover its running costs. The purpose of Aspire is not to be a profit-making company, however it must remain sustainable in order to function and continue to aid the Children in need.

Reserves policy – the aim is to achieve a level of unrestricted free reserves equivalent to six months running costs, which the trustees believe is essential to the ongoing work of the charity.

Financial Results

At the end of the financial year the company has assets of £48,086 (2022 - £39,070) and liabilities of £766 (2022 - £5,664). The net assets of the company have increased by £13,914.

Public Benefit

The direct benefits which flow from our purposes include improvement in the wellbeing, self-esteem and opportunities for children from a lower income background.

These benefits are demonstrated through our feedback from the children and their educational results. These purposes does not lead to harm.

The charity's beneficiaries are the children from lower income families.

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

Directors

The current directors are as set out on page 3 and below

Carol Little
David McBride
David Wylie
Ian Bingham
Leonard Adamson
Megan Collins
Jamie Curran – resigned 31st October 2023

In accordance with the Articles of Association, the directors retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards

The company engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. Aspire (N.I.) subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2006
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

Approved by the Board of Directors on 13th December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Leonard Adamson
Director

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

for the financial year ended 31 August 2023

The directors are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law) including FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the net income or expenditure of the company for that period.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in operation.

The directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

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

Approved by the Board of Directors on 13th December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Leonard Adamson
Director

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ASPIRE (N.I.)

We have examined the financial statements of the company for the financial year ended 31 August 2023, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of directors and examiner

The company's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. The company's directors consider that an audit is not required for this financial year under Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and that an independent examination is required.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down by the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

We have examined your company financial statements as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and our examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the company and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from the directors concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention which gives us cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
- the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records
- the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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 (FRS102)
- there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

We 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.


Ruairi Maginn
DALY PARK & COMPANY LTD
Chartered Accountants
4 Carnegie Street
Lurgan
Armagh
BT66 6AS

Date: 13th December 2023

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the financial year ended 31 August 2023

		Unrestricted Funds 2023	Restricted Funds 2023	Total 2023	Unrestricted Funds 2022	Restricted Funds 2022	Total 2022
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources							
Voluntary Income	4.1	102,043	47,400	149,443	96,299	18,155	114,454
Activities for generating funds	4.2	11,266	-	11,266	23,384	-	23,384
Total incoming resources		113,309	47,400	160,709	119,683	18,155	137,838
Resources Expended							
Charitable activities	5	119,136	27,660	146,796	104,545	15,744	120,289
Net incoming/outgoing resources before transfers		(5,827)	19,740	13,913	15,138	2,411	17,549
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds for the financial year		(5,827)	19,740	13,913	15,138	2,411	17,549
Reconciliation of funds							
Balances brought forward at 1 September 2022	12	21,779	11,628	33,407	6,641	9,217	15,858
Balances carried forward at 31 August 2023		15,952	31,368	47,320	21,779	11,628	33,407

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the financial year.
All income and expenditure relate to continuing activities.

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

Company Number: NI639811

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 August 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Current Assets			
Stocks	8	877	1,264
Debtors	9	5,963	4,472
Cash at bank and in hand		41,246	33,334
		<u>48,086</u>	<u>39,070</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(766)</u>	<u>(5,663)</u>
Net Current Assets		<u>47,320</u>	<u>33,407</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<u>47,320</u>	<u>33,407</u>
Funds			
Restricted trust funds		31,368	11,628
General fund (unrestricted)		15,952	21,779
Total funds	12	<u>47,320</u>	<u>33,407</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

For the financial year ended 31 August 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006; and no notice has been deposited under section 476.

The directors confirm that the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the financial year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 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 profit and loss 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 financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", applying Section 1A of that Standard.

Approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 13th December 2023 and signed on its behalf by



Leonard Adamson
Director

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the financial year ended 31 August 2023

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Aspire (N.I.) is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office of the company is 23a Castle Lane, Lurgan, Craigavon, Co. Armagh, BT67 9BD, Northern Ireland which is also the principal place of business of the company. The financial statements have been presented in Pound Sterling (£) which is also the functional currency of the company.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charity's financial statements.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102".

As permitted by the Companies Act 2006, the company has varied the standard formats in that act for the Statement of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet. Departures from the standard formats are to comply with the requirements of the Charities SORP and are in compliance with section 4.7, 10.6 and 15.2 of that SORP.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements of the company for the financial year ended 31 December 2017 have been prepared on the going concern basis and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102".

Cash flow statement

The company has availed of the exemption in FRS 102 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement because it is classified as a small company.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income or capital is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the company is legally entitled to it, its financial value can be quantified with reasonable certainty and there is reasonable certainty of its ultimate receipt. Entitlement to legacies is considered established when the company has been notified of a distribution to be made by the executors. Income received in advance of due performance under a contract is accounted for as deferred income until earned. Grants for activities are recognised as income when the related conditions for legal entitlement have been met. All other income is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Resources Expended

All resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis. Charitable activities include costs of services and grants, support costs and depreciation on related assets. Costs of generating funds similarly include fundraising activities. Non-staff costs not attributed to one category of activity are allocated or apportioned pro-rata to the staffing of the relevant service. Finance, HR, IT and administrative staff costs are directly attributable to individual activities by objective. Governance costs are those associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Reserves policy

Aspire NI will aim to hold up to 6 months running expenses at year end in order to have a reserve if incoming resources fall for any unsuspected reason.

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

continued

for the financial year ended 31 August 2023

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due. Income recognised by the company from government agencies and other co-funders, but not yet received at year end, is included in debtors.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand comprises cash on deposit at banks requiring less than three months notice of withdrawal.

Taxation and deferred taxation

No current or deferred taxation arises as the company has been granted charitable exemption. Irrecoverable valued added tax is expensed as incurred.

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date where transactions or events have occurred at that date that will result in an obligation to pay more tax in the future, or a right to pay less tax in the future. Timing differences are temporary differences between the company's taxable income and its results as stated in the financial statements.

Deferred tax is measured on an undiscounted basis at the tax rates that are anticipated to apply in the periods in which the timing differences are expected to reverse, based on tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

3. PERIOD OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The comparative figures relate to the year ended 31 August 2022.

4. INCOME

4.1 DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 £	2022 £
Voluntary Income	102,043	47,400	149,443	114,454

4.2 OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 £	2022 £
Activities to Generate Funds	11,266	-	11,266	23,384

5. EXPENDITURE

5.1 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Direct Costs £	Other Costs £	Support Costs £	2023 £	2022 £
Cost of Charitable Activities	145,238	-	1,558	146,796	120,289

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

continued

for the financial year ended 31 August 2023

6. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS	2023	2022
	£	£
Bank Fees	858	852
Legal & Professional	700	648
	<u>1,558</u>	<u>1,500</u>
7. EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION		
The staff costs comprise:	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	112,037	83,489
Pension costs	2,084	1,592
	<u>114,121</u>	<u>85,081</u>
8. STOCKS	2023	2022
	£	£
Finished goods and goods for resale	877	1,264
9. DEBTORS	2023	2022
	£	£
Other debtors – Gift Aid	5,223	3,815
Prepayments and accrued income	740	657
	<u>5,963</u>	<u>4,472</u>
10. CREDITORS	2023	2022
Amounts falling due within one year	£	£
Trade creditors	(500)	-
Taxation and social security costs	443	-
Accruals and deferred income	823	5,664
	<u>766</u>	<u>5,664</u>
11. RESERVES	2023	2022
	£	£
At 1 September 2022	33,407	15,858
Surplus for the financial year	13,913	17,549
	<u>47,320</u>	<u>33,407</u>

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

continued

for the financial year ended 31 August 2023

12. FUNDS**12.1 RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
At 1 September 2022	6,640	9,217	15,857
Movement during the financial year	17,633	(84)	17,549
At 31 August 2022	21,779	11,628	33,407
Movement during the financial year	(5,827)	19,740	13,913
At 31 August 2023	<u>15,952</u>	<u>31,368</u>	<u>47,320</u>

12.2 ANALYSIS OF MOVEMENTS ON FUNDS

	Balance 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	Balance 31 August 2023 £
Restricted funds					
T-Buc Grant	5,177	-	5,177	-	-
Community Foundation NI	951	-	951	-	-
All Churches Trust	3,000	-	3,000	-	-
Education Authority	-	28,897	12,000	-	16,897
The Ireland Funds	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Take500+	-	1,000	1,000	-	-
LFT Foundation	-	4,639	4,639	-	-
KFC Foundation	-	2,050	100	-	1,950
Bentley	-	480	-	-	480
Allen & Overy Foundation	-	5,334	-	-	5,334
Gateley PLC	2,500	-	793	-	1,707
	<u>11,628</u>	<u>47,400</u>	<u>27,660</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,368</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General Unrestricted Fund	21,779	113,309	119,136	-	15,952
Total funds	<u>33,407</u>	<u>160,709</u>	<u>146,796</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>47,320</u>

13. STATUS

The company is limited by guarantee not having a share capital.

The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of its being wound up while they are members, or within one year thereafter, for the payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before they ceased to be members, and the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £ 1.

14. POST-BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

There have been no significant events affecting the Charity since the financial year-end.

15. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REMUNERATION

The independent examiner's remuneration amounts to an independent examination fee of £600 (2022 - £600).

Aspire NI

Northern Ireland - Charity number 107570

Annual report

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 August 2023

The directors present their Directors' Annual Report, combining the Directors' Report and Trustees' Report, and the unaudited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 August 2023.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Directors' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Directors' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines. The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's constitution are known as members of the board of trustees.

In this report the directors of Aspire (N.I.) present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 August 2023.

The company is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and, although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102, the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

Objectives and Activities

Aspire (NI) exists to deliver on its principal activity to work with children in Northern Ireland in poverty to help close the educational gap between the rich and poor. We are a faith driven charity based in Craigavon, Northern Ireland that work with local youth workers and churches to provide free services for children from lower income families to support and equip them in education.

Objectives

Aspire (NI) has been established to help close the educational attainment gap by partnering with schools and relevant agencies to:

1. Provide relationships that enable young people to recognise their skills and full potential.
2. Provide facilitators to encourage young people in education and help them to take ownership of their own education.
3. Help those from lower income families by providing free tuition services
4. Help young people to learn outside of the classroom by providing fun based educational activities outside of school hours
5. Give young people the opportunity to explore faith.

Activities

Aspire Sessions

These offer a place for young people to work in a supervised and supportive environment after school. We provide facilitators who encourage the young people and provide them with support. The facilitators are youth workers from local churches or organisations. Our young people are provided with laptops, resources, and refreshments.

Aspire Tuition

For young people who take part in our after-school sessions who are struggling with any subjects, Aspire will endeavour to link this young person to a suitable tutor from our bank of volunteers who are qualified in this subject and provide a period of free tuition.

Aspire Activities

Education is not just what happens in the classroom but can be fun too. Aspire activities are monthly activities for young people run by local churches and youth groups where learning is combined with leisure such as sport or music lessons.

Achievements and performance

The outcomes we set out to achieve with Aspire are the prevention or relief of poverty and the advancement of education for children and young people in Northern Ireland. We achieve these outcomes through counselling/support, providing free education and training by working with schools. The benefits are improved literacy and numeracy of young people from low-income backgrounds. These benefits of Aspire extend to schools, families and communities in areas of deprivation.

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 August 2023

2022/2023 has been a great year for Aspire. We expanded our work in Belfast, ran a cross community camp and 8 academies. We have worked in 25 schools this term. We also ran a uniform exchange, a back to school day in Belfast and a kids summer scheme in Craigavon.

Aspire has had another year of growth in 2022/23, expanding our reach in Belfast and running more academies across Craigavon and Belfast. Running homework clubs in 25 schools and running summer schemes, camp and parents nights.

We ran our Aspire Academy in 2022/23 across Craigavon providing training in art, business, youth work, music production, wellbeing and barista for secondary age children and art, music and gaming for primary age children. In Belfast we ran football, art and music academies for secondary age children.

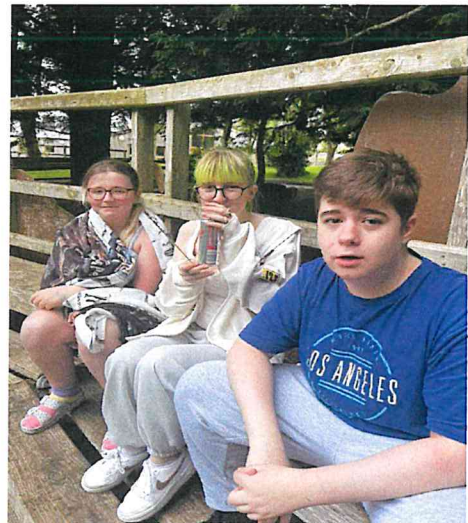
Our young people have been performing well in school and we have been able to track their success in education, behaviour and attendance. We saw 89% of our young people achieve 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C. This was a 5% increase on last year.

We were able to run a cross community camp programme and brought 34 young people from different backgrounds away to Crawfordsburn Scout Centre. The young people were able to take part in different sporting activities and we ran a programme looking at the history of Northern Ireland. The young people then planned a future town based on what they have learnt. We had special guests from education, youth work and faith backgrounds.

Many people have continued to bless and support Aspire financially. We have increased our monthly giving this year and ran fundraisers. We have held a pub quiz, took part in the marathon, ran a charity football match, a comedy show and a dance challenge.

We have received grants this year from UK Youth, LFT Trust, KFC, Bentley, Allen & Overy Foundation and the Education Authority.

We feel like we are now finally back to working to our full strength after the pandemic and are set to continue to grow and expand in 2023/24.



Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 August 2023

Financial Review

From incorporation Aspire has been successful at raising enough funds to cover its running costs. The purpose of Aspire is not to be a profit-making company, however it must remain sustainable in order to function and continue to aid the Children in need.

Reserves policy – the aim is to achieve a level of unrestricted free reserves equivalent to six months running costs, which the trustees believe is essential to the ongoing work of the charity.

Financial Results

At the end of the financial year the company has assets of £48,086 (2022 - £39,070) and liabilities of £766 (2022 - £5,664). The net assets of the company have increased by £13,914.

Public Benefit

The direct benefits which flow from our purposes include improvement in the wellbeing, self-esteem and opportunities for children from a lower income background.

These benefits are demonstrated through our feedback from the children and their educational results. These purposes does not lead to harm.

The charity's beneficiaries are the children from lower income families.

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

Directors

The current directors are as set out on page 3 and below

Carol Little

David McBride

David Wylie

Ian Bingham

Leonard Adamson

Megan Collins

Jamie Curran – resigned 31st October 2023

In accordance with the Articles of Association, the directors retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards

The company engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. Aspire (N.I.) subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2006
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

Approved by the Board of Directors on 13th December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Leonard Adamson

Director

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

for the financial year ended 31 August 2023

The directors are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law) including FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the net income or expenditure of the company for that period.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in operation.

The directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

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

Approved by the Board of Directors on 13th December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Leonard Adamson
Director

Aspire NI

Northern Ireland - Charity number 107570

Annual return

Aspire (N.I.)

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ASPIRE (N.I.)

We have examined the financial statements of the company for the financial year ended 31 August 2023, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of directors and examiner

The company's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. The company's directors consider that an audit is not required for this financial year under Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and that an independent examination is required.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down by the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

We have examined your company financial statements as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and our examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the company and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from the directors concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention which gives us cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
- the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records
- the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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 (FRS102)
- there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

We 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.


Ruairi Maginn
DALY PARK & COMPANY LTD
Chartered Accountants
4 Carnegie Street
Lurgan
Armagh
BT66 6AS

Date: 13th December 2023