

# Starling Collective

Northern Ireland · Charity number 108613

## Details

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**Status** Received

**Registered** 2022-04-07

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

## Contact

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## Activities

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**Purposes:** The purposes of the Charity are: 1. Through our work we will empower, support, and involve people principally but not exclusively from the asylum seeker/ refugee community. Liaising and collaborating with a range of organisations and groups to work towards the best outcomes for our participants through a wide range of community support and development programs, which will be flexible, with the ability to change depending on need. 2. We will ensure that our work is driven by the participants with whom we work, in order to research, plan, and implement the services they need and desire. 3. We will provide a safe space for those who are marginalised by society; principally but not exclusively from the asylum seeker/ refugee community. A safe space of welcome, patience, compassion, understanding, and a willingness to learn from and develop each other mutually. A space which honours and celebrates diversity of culture and heritage. 4. We will recognise the many skills and talents that our participants hold, and encourage the practice and development of these skills. This is in order not only to help participants integrate into society, but to thrive. 5. We will work to advance the education of the public in general about the issues facing those who are on the edges of society, whilst supporting participants to work together to advocate and campaign on social justice and human rights issues that directly affect them and their communities.

**What the charity does:** The advancement of education, The advancement of citizenship or community development, The advancement of human rights, conflict resolution or reconciliation or the promotion of religious or racial harmony or equality and diversity, The relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage

**How the charity works:** Advice/advocacy/information, Community development

**Who the charity helps:** Asylum seekers/refugees,Ethnic minorities,Homelessness,Mental health

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£176,900	£170,434	£0	3

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Mr Gift Dube		
Mrs Denise Bradley		
Ms Harriet Anne Long		
Ms Mary Catherine Mcnama		

**Starling Collective**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108613

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# Accounts

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## Starling Collective

### Statement of Financial Activities For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Total Funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	10,050	-	10,050	13,677
Grants and Other Income		-	166,850	166,850	98,103
<b>Total</b>		10,050	166,850	176,900	111,780
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Direct		7,890	162,544	170,434	177,614
Other		-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		7,890	162,544	170,434	177,614
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	<b>3</b>	2,160	4,306	6,466	(65,834)
Transfer between funds		8,312	(8,312)	-	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		10,472	(4,006)	6,466	(65,834)
Total funds brought forward		16,296	4,006	20,302	86,137
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		26,768	0	26,768	20,303

## Starling Collective

### Balance sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31.03.2025 Total Funds £	31.03.2024 Total Funds £
<b><u>FIXED ASSETS</u></b>					
Tangible assets	6	262	-	262	680
<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>					
Cash at bank		33,033	36,461	69,494	28,629
Debtors	7	240	-	240	240
Accrued Income			2,321	2,321	19,510
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>33,273</b>	<b>38,782</b>	<b>72,055</b>	<b>48,379</b>
<b><u>CREDITORS</u></b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(6,767)	(38,782)	(45,549)	(28,758)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>26,506</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26,506</b>	<b>19,622</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>26,768</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26,768</b>	<b>20,302</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>26,768</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26,768</b>	<b>20,302</b>
<b><u>FUNDS</u></b>					
Unrestricted Funds	9			26,768	16,296
Restricted Funds				(0)	4,006
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				<b>26,768</b>	<b>20,302</b>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for :

- (a) Ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) Preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each 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 the financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

**Starling Collective**

**Balance sheet as at  
31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 continued**

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board of trustees on 22/7/25 and were signed on its behalf by

Name of Trustee: Mary Catherine McNama

Date: 24/7/25

Signed: 

Treasurer

## Starling Collective

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

##### Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statement of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, has been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102)' Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)' Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland Companies Act 2006." The Financial statements have been prepared using the historical cost convention.

##### Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has an entitlement to the funds, the income will probably be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

##### Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, a transfer of economic benefits will probably be required in settlement and the amount of obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs relating to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

##### Tangible Fixed Assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life

Computer Equipment	33.3%
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##### Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

##### Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when the funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature of and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

## Starling Collective

### Notes to the financial statements ...continued For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

#### 2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.03.2025	31.03.2024
	Total	Total
	£	£
Donations	10,050	13,677
Grants	166,850	98,103
<b>Total</b>	<b>176,900</b>	<b>111,780</b>

#### 3. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

	31.03.2025	31.03.2024
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting)		
Depreciation- owned assets	697	787

#### 4. TRUSTEE'S RENUMBERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustee's remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2024

#### Trustee Expenses

There were no trustee's expenses paid for the year ended 31st March 2025

#### 5. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows

	31.03.2025
Administration	3

No employees received enoluments in excess of £60,000

Starling Collective

Notes to the financial statements ...continued  
For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

**6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Computer Equipment	Totals
	£	£
<b>COST</b>		
At 1 April 2024	2,409	2,409
Additions	279	279
Disposals	-	-
At 31st March 2025	2,688	2,688
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>		
At 1 April 2024	(1,729)	(1,729)
Charge for the year	(697)	(697)
Disposals	-	-
At 31st March 2025	(2,426)	(2,426)
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>		
At 31st March 2025	262	262
At 31st March 2024	680	680

**7. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31.03.2025	31.03.2024
	£	£
Prepayments	240	240
Accrued Income	2,321	19,510
	2,561	19,750

**8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31.03.2025	31.03.2024
	£	£
Accrued Expenses	5,408	-
Deferred Income	38,782	26,700
Payroll Creditors	1,359	2,058
<b>Total Creditors : Amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>45,549</b>	<b>28,758</b>

## Starling Collective

### Notes to the financial statements ...continued For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

#### 9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 01.04.2024 £	Internal Transfers	Net Movement in funds £	At 31.03.2025 £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
General Fund	16,296	8,312	2,160	26,768
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
Albert Hunt Trust	-	-	-	-
Awards for All	-	(421)	421	0
Belfast City Council	-	67	(67)	0
Community Foundation NI - Capacity Building	-	1	(1)	0
Community Foundation NI - Destitution (Men)	-	122	(122)	-
Community Foundation NI - Emergency Accommodation	-	-	-	-
Community Foundation NI - Trauma	2,062	(4,291)	2,229	0
Halifax	-	(228)	228	(0)
Hosford	-	-	-	-
NACCOM	-	(646)	646	0
National Lottery	-	(2,691)	2,691	(0)
Oak Emergency	-	386	(386)	0
Oak Housing and Homeless Innovation	-	(700)	700	0
Society of The Holy Child of Jesus	1,944	295	(2,239)	(0)
The American Fund Ireland	-	(228)	228	(0)
Ulster Garden Villages	-	22	(22)	(0)
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>4,006</b>	<b>(8,312)</b>	<b>4,307</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>20,302</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,466</b>	<b>26,768</b>
	<b>Incoming resources £</b>		<b>Resources Expended £</b>	<b>Movement in funds £</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
General Fund	10,050		(7,890)	2,160
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
Albert Hunt Trust	4,000		(4,000)	-
Awards for All	6,100		(5,679)	421
Belfast City Council	-		(67)	(67)
Community Foundation NI - Capacity Building	7,502		(7,503)	(1)
Community Foundation NI - Destitution (Men)	-		(122)	(122)
Community Foundation NI - Emergency Accommodation	9,000		(9,000)	-
Community Foundation NI - Trauma	7,632		(5,403)	2,229
Halifax	3,100		(2,872)	228
Hosford	2,321		(2,321)	-
NACCOM	11,900		(11,254)	646
National Lottery	88,883		(86,193)	2,691
Oak Emergency	4,787		(5,173)	(386)
Oak Housing and Homeless Innovation	18,000		(17,300)	700
Society of The Holy Child of Jesus	-		(2,239)	(2,239)
The American Fund Ireland	1,600		(1,372)	228
Ulster Garden Villages	2,025		(2,047)	(22)
<b>Total Restricted funds</b>	<b>166,850</b>		<b>(162,544)</b>	<b>4,307</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>176,901</b>		<b>(170,434)</b>	<b>6,466</b>

**Starling Collective**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108613

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# Accounts

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## Starling Collective

### Statement of Financial Activities For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31.03.2024 Total Funds £	31.03.2023 Total Funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	13,677	-	13,677	11,157
Grants and Other Income		-	98,103	98,103	159,473
<b>Total</b>		13,677	98,103	111,780	170,630
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Direct		7,002	170,612	177,614	163,102
Other		-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		7,002	170,612	177,614	163,102
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	<b>3</b>	6,675	(72,509)	(65,834)	7,528
Transfer between funds		458	(458)	-	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		7,133	(72,967)	(65,834)	7,528
Total funds brought forward		9,163	76,974	86,137	78,608
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		16,296	4,007	20,303	86,136

## Starling Collective

### Balance sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31.03.2024 Total Funds £	31.03.2023 Total Funds £
<b><u>FIXED ASSETS</u></b>					
Tangible assets	6	680	-	680	1,467
<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>					
Cash at bank		17,433	11,196	28,629	41,705
Debtors	7	240	-	240	49,234
Accrued Income			19,510	19,510	-
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		17,673	30,706	48,379	90,939
<b><u>CREDITORS</u></b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(2,057)	(26,700)	(28,758)	(6,270)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		15,616	4,006	19,622	84,669
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		16,296	4,006	20,302	86,136
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		16,296	4,006	20,302	86,136
<b><u>FUNDS</u></b>					
Unrestricted Funds	9			16,296	9,163
Restricted Funds				4,007	76,974
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				20,303	86,137

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.


The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for :

- (a) Ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) Preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each 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 the financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

**Starling Collective**  
**Balance sheet as at**  
**31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 continued**

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

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board of trustees on 29.1.25 and were signed on its behalf by

Name of Trustee	DENISE BRADLEY	Date	29. 1. 2025
Position	CHAIRPERSON		
Signature			

## Starling Collective

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

##### Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statement of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, has been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102)' Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)' Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland Companies Act 2006." The Financial statements have been prepared using the historical cost convention.

##### Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has an entitlement to the funds, the income will probably be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

##### Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, a transfer of economic benefits will probably be required in settlement and the amount of obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs relating to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

##### Tangible Fixed Assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life

Computer Equipment	33.3%
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##### Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

##### Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when the funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature of and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

## Starling Collective

### Notes to the financial statements ...continued For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

#### 2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	Total	Total
	£	£
Donations	13,677	11,157
Grants	98,103	159,473
<b>Total</b>	<b>111,781</b>	<b>170,630</b>

#### 3. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

	31.03.2024	31.03.2023
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting)		
Depreciation- owned assets	787	758

#### 4. TRUSTEE'S RENUMBERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustee's remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2024

#### Trustee Expenses

There were no trustee's expenses paid for the year ended 31st March 2024

#### 5. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows

	31.03.2024
Administration	3

No employees received enoluments in excess of £60,000

**Starling Collective**

**Notes to the financial statements ...continued  
For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

**6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	<b>Computer Equipment</b>	<b>Totals</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>COST</b>		
At 1 April 2023	2,409	2,409
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
At 31st March 2024	2,409	2,409
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>		
At 1 April 2023	(942)	(942)
Charge for the year	(787)	(787)
Disposals	-	-
At 31st March 2024	(1,729)	(1,729)
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>		
At 31st March 2024	680	680
At 31st March 2023	1,467	1,467

**7. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	<b>31.03.2024</b>	<b>31.03.2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Prepayments	240	240
Accrued Income	19,510	48,994
	19,750	49,234

**8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	<b>31.03.2024</b>	<b>31.03.2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Accrued Expenses	-	-
Deferred Income	26,700	-
Payroll Creditors	2,058	6,270
<b>Total Creditors : Amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>28,758</b>	<b>6,270</b>

## Starling Collective

### Notes to the financial statements ...continued For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

#### 9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 01.04.2023 £	Prior Year Transfers	Net Movement in funds £	At 31.03.2024 £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
General Fund	9,163	458	6,676	16,296
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
Albert Hunt Trust	-		-	-
Awards for All	(108)	83	25	(0)
Belfast City Council	2,224	(2,124)	(100)	(0)
Community Foundation NI - Destitution (Men)	3,994	3,875	(7,869)	0
Community Foundation NI - Comic Relief	(2,023)	(3,842)	5,865	0
Community Foundation NI - Oak (Women Desitution )	4,770	1,568	(6,338)	0
Community Foundation NI - Red Cross	12,682	328	(13,010)	(0)
Community Foundation NI - Trauma	40,045	-	(37,982)	2,062
Halifax	213	(216)	3	(0)
Northern Ireland Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (NIACRO)	0	-		0
Oak Emergency	-	-	0	0
Oak Housing and Homeless Innovation	-	50	(50)	(0)
The American Fund Ireland	-	(3)	3	0
Trustees of LFT	264	(264)	-	(0)
Society of The Holy Child of Jesus	15,000	-	(13,057)	1,944
Quaker	(84)	84	-	(0)
Queens University Belfast	(3)	3	-	0
Ulster Garden Villages	-	-		-
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>76,974</b>	<b>(458)</b>	<b>(72,509)</b>	<b>4,006</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>86,136</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(65,834)</b>	<b>20,303</b>

	Incoming resources £	Resources Expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>			
General Fund	13,677	(7,002)	6,676
<b>Restricted Funds</b>			
Albert Hunt Trust	-	-	-
Awards for All	3,900	(3,875)	25
Belfast City Council	-	(100)	(100)
Community Foundation NI	150	(150)	-
Community Foundation NI - Destitution (Men)	3,125	(10,994)	(7,869)
Community Foundation NI - Comic Relief	6,000	(135)	5,865
Community Foundation NI - Oak (Women Desitution )	714	(7,052)	(6,338)
Community Foundation NI - Red Cross	3,170	(16,180)	(13,010)
Community Foundation NI - Trauma	31,436	(69,418)	(37,982)
Halifax	3,400	(3,397)	3
Oak Emergency	25,213	(25,213)	0
Oak Housing and Homeless Innovation	5,000	(5,050)	(50)
The American Fund Ireland	3,400	(3,397)	3
Trustees of LFT	-	-	-
Society of The Holy Child of Jesus	-	(13,057)	(13,057)
Quaker	-	-	-
Queens University Belfast	-	-	-
Ulster Garden Villages	12,595	(12,595)	0
<b>Total Restricted funds</b>	<b>98,103</b>	<b>(170,613)</b>	<b>(72,509)</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>111,781</b>	<b>(177,614)</b>	<b>(65,834)</b>

**Starling Collective**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108613

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# Annual report

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**Starling Collective**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

**Objectives and Activities**

**Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document**

**The purposes of the Charity are:**

1. Through our work we will empower, support, and involve people principally but not exclusively from the asylum seeker/ refugee community. Liaising and collaborating with a range of organisations and groups to work towards the best outcomes for our participants through a wide range of community support and development programs, which will be flexible, with the ability to change depending on need. The direct benefits which flow from purpose 1 are improved equality of service provision, and improved health and wellbeing.
2. We will ensure that our work is driven by the participants with whom we work, in order to research, plan, and implement the services they need and desire. The direct benefits which flow from purpose 2 are increased participation, representation and belonging.
3. We will provide a safe space for those who are marginalised by society; principally but not exclusively from the asylum seeker/ refugee community. A safe space of welcome, patience, compassion, understanding, and a willingness to learn from and develop each other mutually. A space which honours and celebrates diversity of culture and heritage. The direct benefits which flow from purpose 3 are increased integration, sense of security, and improved wellbeing.
4. We will recognise the many skills and talents that our participants hold and encourage the practice and development of these skills. This is in order not only to help participants integrate into society, but to thrive. The direct benefits which flow from purpose 4 are improved resilience, wellbeing, and empowerment.
5. We will work to advance the education of the public in general about the issues facing those who are on the edges of society, whilst supporting participants to work together to advocate and campaign on social justice and human rights issues that directly affect them and their communities. Starling Collective supports and empowers refugees and asylum seekers (but not exclusively).  
The direct benefits which flow from purpose 5 are being actively involved and believe they can influence what happens in their community, improved self-esteem and wellbeing.

For purpose 1, 2, 3 and 4 these benefits are evidenced through feedback and surveys from participants, reports and evaluation of our services. For purpose 5 these benefits are also evidenced through awareness raising through social media, website, talks, reports and evaluation of our services.

**Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.**

- Destitution projects for males and females
- Trauma informed mental health project with lead partner Corrymeela Community
- Support, advice and advocacy service which works with the refugee /asylum community and builds capacity for volunteers to develop skills enabling them to support their own community.

Starling Collective supports and empowers refugees and asylum seekers (but not exclusively). We have a steering group of asylum seekers and refugees who helps decide, design, and deliver the services that we provide. The work is

**Starling Collective**  
**Report of the Trustees continued**  
**For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

volunteer, and community based, offering support, advice and opportunity through services including: a holistic person-centred advice and support service for refugees and asylum seekers that is delivered by volunteers with lived experience, help with accessing volunteering, education, training and employment, welfare support, trauma and mental health support. Accommodation, financial, practical, and emotional support for destitute people from the refugee and asylum community.

**Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit**

The charity trustees have read and understood the statutory guidance on public benefit.

**Contribution made by volunteers**

Over the period 39 volunteers have been involved with the work of Starling Collective. Volunteers have been provided with on-the-job training in e.g. administrative skills, advice and advocacy skills, gardening, interpretation and organising events. They have also attended training courses including Safeguarding, Mental health resilience, Trauma Informed Approach, and Legal support for domestic violence.

Volunteers have contributed interpretation, advocating for people seeking asylum and those granted refuge. They have invited and encouraged people to access mental health support, worked with destitute asylum seekers, and given crisis support to people struggling, researched, and maintained our IT system. They have also supported background work for the project such as form filling, expenses, receipts, keeping records on progress with each case etc.

Through the input of our Steering Group during the formation of Starling Collective, we were advised of the need within the community for improved access to training, education, volunteering and employment opportunities. By offering the opportunity to volunteer and train with Starling Collective, we have continued to address that need. The volunteers then worked with community members in regard to:

- Accessing English classes
- Researching and applying for funding for college/university
- Applying for funding for education support and resources
- Referring to Volunteer Now and other volunteer related organisations for volunteer opportunities
- Job searches
- Accessing courses and funding for courses
- Registering people with employment and training agencies
- Helping people write /update CVs
- Accessing programmes and services offered by external agencies

**Volunteer:**

- Administration volunteers e.g., correspondence/organising systems/ data input/research.
- Women's Group
- Computer/database volunteers e.g., transferring data to new database,
- Gardening and maintenance volunteers e.g., planting. painting, weeding, harvesting, tidying etc.
- Social media volunteer
- Research and support for legal cases
- Organising and implementing trips and events
- Starling Collective Board of Trustees

**Starling Collective**  
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- Volunteer IT Consultant
- Steering Group
- Committee

### **Achievements and Performance**

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.

Main achievements of the charity in this period:

- Gained charity status.
- Supported 70 people living with destitution, ranging from one-off support to regular or ongoing accommodation and/or financial support. We also developed strong partnerships with CFC Church and Hosford House expanding destitution project and securing a property for accommodating people accessing the starling Collective destitution service.
- Maintained a strong partnership with Corrymeela Community for our ground-breaking Trauma Informed Support Programme for Refugees and Asylum Seekers.
- In the Trauma Informed Support Programme for Refugees and Asylum Seekers we continued to provide trips and events for the refugee and asylum community and to manage a cohort of six Service Delivery Partners. During this period, our partnership provided mental health support services to 1,781 beneficiaries
- Benefitted more than 313 people through our support, advice, and advocacy programme.
- Involved/ trained/mentored 39 volunteers to support various areas of our work throughout the charity.

### **Financial Review**

The results for the year 2023/2024 are set out on page 8 to 14 and the trustees consider these results to be satisfactory. Starling Collectives total incoming resources for the year were £111,780 ( of which £98,103 is restricted income). Net movement of funds for the year amounted to an decrease of £65,834.

Total funds carried forward as set out on page 9 are £20,303 (Restricted - £4,007) and ( Unrestricted - £16,296)

### **Starling Collective would like to thank our funders, without whom we could not provide services**

CFNI  
National Lottery  
Halifax  
Society of the Holy Child Jesus  
DoH Department of Health  
Oak Foundation  
Comic Relief  
Ireland Funds  
Awards for All  
Christian Fellowship Church

Albert Hunt  
Donors via Local Giving  
Donors via Esther Giving Platform  
Fundraising campaigns online  
Cooke Church  
Embrace  
Promethean  
Ormeau Credit Union

**Starling Collective**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108613

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# Annual return

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## Starling Collective

### Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, which are set out on pages 8 to 14.

#### Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees (and also the director for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of Companies Act 2006.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination it is my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention

#### Basis of the independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my 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. The examination included a review of the accounting records by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006.
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

#### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concern in respect of matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Janet Jensen, ACMA CGMA  
Ekstra Accounting Solutions



29<sup>th</sup> January 2025