

Colin Neighbourhood Partnership

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

Under review of the Colin Neighbourhood Action Plans priorities were identified and agreed, they are:

Health

Early Intervention

Education

Physical Developments/Improvements/Major Capital Projects

Community Development: Arts/Culture

Community Safety

Environment

Youth (Inclusion)

Men

Older residents

Children & Families

It should be noted that Colin Neighbourhood Partnership and Subgroups have all signed up to and abide by the Neighbourhood Renewal Code of Practice and Guiding Principles and subsequent Subgroup Terms of Reference.

DfC support has been and remains key to the success of the Colin Neighbourhood Partnership. DfC funding has demonstrated confidence in our organisation's ability to deliver against objectives and in our governance. This has helped in securing funds from other sources to support a range of social, economic and capital projects in the Colin Area.

Principle funding sources

Department for Communities

Belfast City Council

Public Health Agency

SEHSCT

Education Authority

TEO - Urban Villages

N.I.H.E.

The National Lottery Community Fund

Community Foundation N. I.

Federation of Family Practices

SEUPB

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Colin Neighbourhood Partnership continues to provide an annual calendar of events for all in the community, provide training in capacity building, provide opportunities for volunteering, improve community relations, family support, provide support for local community and voluntary groups, and provide projects and activities that promote healthy eating and physical activity in our major shared space resource at Colin Allotments site. It is also important to note that CNP very often must react to address issues that emerge, for example the establishment of drug and alcohol and suicide prevention task groups which brings all statutory, voluntary and community organizations together to focus on the issue and address immediate and emerging need to ensure those that need support are offered it as a matter of urgency. This approach helps to address a sense of fear and panic in the local area when such occurrences take place.

All of this enables us to sustain the real sense of community spirit and pride in this area.

Colin Neighbourhood Partnership sees community renewal as an action that helps people to develop their own ability and help build resilience to address problems and their needs. We try to achieve this in many ways by offering programmes, activities, and training for parents of young children, parents of adolescents, children, young people, men, women, and older residents to help improve the quality of life for all our residents.

This is an opportunity to establish strong communities and gives a voice to communities to decide the best use of assets, it strengthens the capacity of people to become active citizens and provides opportunities for community, statutory and other sectors to work in collaboration to develop social, economic, environmental, and other themes to ensure better positive outcomes.

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

Colin Neighbourhood Partnership aims to reduce social and economic inequalities which characterise this area. It does so by making a long-term commitment to communities to work in partnership with them to identify and prioritise needs and co-ordinate interventions designed to address the underlying causes of poverty. Colin Neighbourhood Partnership is an established representative body of local community interests together with appropriate Government Departments, public sector agencies, private sector interest and local elected representatives.

The partnership established in 2004 has active participation from community representatives, public sector organisations, political representatives, voluntary organisations, and the private sector that have an interest in the area's development. The organisation promotes a holistic approach to addressing economic and social inequality closing the gap between neighbourhood renewal areas and those that are not included in neighbourhood renewal. CNP board meets on a bi-monthly basis, holds an annual AGM, and produces annual audited accounts.

Administration and other services are provided through a Partnership Manager, Finance and Office Manager, and a Development Network consisting of, Good Morning Colin Manager, Early Intervention Manager, Allotment Manager, Development Officers with specific remits i.e., Arts & Culture, Community Safety, Men, Youth, Capacity Building and Volunteering, Environmental, Early Intervention Services, and a Marketing Officer.

The Partnership comprises 16 members which include representatives from local communities, voluntary organisations, elected representatives, private sector, and local statutory organisations. The Partnership has several subgroups and task groups engaging approx. 200 individuals in task specific remits. The subgroups and task groups assist in the identification, development and where appropriate; the delivery of projects which aim to address Neighbourhood Renewal's four strategic objectives of: Community Renewal, Social Renewal, Economic Renewal and Physical Renewal. Each subgroup has developed its own action plan working in partnership with all the relevant organisations: DfC, SEHSCT, E.A., CCMS, PSNI, PCSP, BCC, NIHE, TEO, DfC, CYPSPB, PHA, Urban Villages as well as all local community and voluntary organisations.

Public benefit

In line with its stated aims and objectives, as noted above, the trustees are confident that the charity is undertaking activities which provide public benefit to those who avail of its services.

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ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The cost-of-living crisis continued throughout this year impacting on many more people. This included many more working families because of the high rates of Child Care services. Many of these families had to choose between work and staying at home, most of which wanted to be able to continue working.

Between March - December 2023 we supported close to 500 families with food and meat parcels, meat vouchers and vouchers for gas and electricity, all enabled because of the support from Urban Villages, BCC, Glenwood Business Centre, The Conway Group, Silo Tank and many generous individuals.

In the run-up to Christmas, with the support of Cash for Kids, REAL LIFE Gym, and donations from local individuals, CNP were able to distribute over 1200 Christmas gifts for children to ensure they had a visit from Santa.

During the period January - March 2024 142 families were supported with vouchers for food gas and electricity, all with the support from BCC and SEHSCT.

Thankfully we managed to support all those that were referred from various organisations, which included Schools, Social Services, Family Support groups and others.

With the support of James Brown Funeral Directors, the local Credit Union and MACS Food, the Good Morning Colin, Service, provided 106 Christmas Hampers to older and vulnerable residents as well as providing their annual Christmas dinner for over 100 clients and Carers.

Colin Town Centre Masterplan

CNP made a bid to SEUPB under their Investment Area 1.4: PEACEPLUS Re-imagining Communities in September 2023. This £13.2m proposal would see the delivery of another element of the Town Centre Master Plan. A Community Hub that will enable a range of local services to become more accessible and effective developing vital services.

The Community Hub will be a high profile, accessible shared space with a high quality design creating 4221m² of shared space across three floors including: - 200 seater auditorium, Staff offices to allow increased reach of services for CNP including Good Morning Colin - 7 office facilities tailored for statutory and community led services with tenant organisations agreed providing: SureStart services, Library, Counselling, NI Housing Executive, Education Authority Youth Services, Learning Disability support and skills and employability services. Approximately 50% of the £13.2m will be secured from the N.I. Executive Office (Urban Villages) and Department for Communities (DfC). We will not know of the outcome of SEUPB proposal until August/September 2024.

As mentioned in our previous Trustees report the delay in securing support from DoH and SEHSCT to replace the current health centre, we did manage to convince the DfC to provide funding to improve the exterior of the current health with replacement fencing, additional street lighting, signage and landscaping.

Good Morning Colin

GMC continues to deliver a 7 day a week morning call service, 52 weeks throughout the year, the clientele has now reached a massive 430+ clients.

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With the support of 34 dedicated volunteers, they continue to deliver the annual calendar of events throughout the year including, Valentines Ball, St. Patrick's celebrations, May Ball, many trips and outings through the summer months as well as local events during the West Belfast Festival in August, celebration of World Mental Health Day and of course the major Christmas Dinner.

The service continues to support the Carers group on a weekly basis offering many activities throughout the year and a weekend at Corry Meela Retreat, Ballycastle, a June day out at the beautiful surroundings of Mary Catherines Cottage, Newry for both Carers and clients.

The "Warms Space" initiative a weekly event which runs from September to the end of March, (approx.38 weeks) providing a hot meal and film show for 35 older residents established in September 2022, has now become an important feature within the GMC yearly calendar, provides clients with an opportunity to connect with others they may not otherwise see during the winter months.

Men's Shed

This service continues to grow from strength, these men are extremely keen to remain active by getting out and about, learning new skills, becoming involved in all sorts of activities as well as assisting the local area by their involvement in volunteering, engaging with primary school pupils in relation to environmental projects as well as helping with CNP's major community public events.

One of the highlights this year was their involvement in a photography project with the renowned photographer Jim Corr. Jim worked with Colin Men's Shed teaching the basics of photography, such as composition, lighting, and exposure. He also encouraged them to experiment with different techniques and styles. As a result, 16 amazing photographs were produced that anyone would be extremely proud of.

Another major achievement was when they decided to learn to play the Ukulele with the help of former Principal of St. Kieran's Primary School, Brian McAlea. Known as CUBS they have entertained many residents in several Care Homes throughout Belfast and have entertained the Good Morning Clients at all their large social events throughout the year. CUBS are now in demand throughout the city. They also attended several of the NVTV show "Conversations with Gerry Kelly" two members auditioned to step into Gerry's shoes, seems sometimes they're getting ahead of themselves, but you never know, at least they're full of confidence and happy.

Allotments

Many groups continue to use this site in relation to cookery sessions, growing produce, tips for healthy eating, Bird Ringing, physical activity, talking therapies, and schools to highlight the dangers of sugar and energy drinks as well as highlighting the dangers of vaping. Many corporate organizations are also keen to support the site by allowing their employees to volunteer at the site during their staff days out.

The site is also very much used to support organisations in respect of mental health programmes, i.e. Victims & Survivors, Carers, and those supporting people with leaning disabilities.

The Men's Shed, Colin Carers and Volunteers make good use of this site in learning to cook on a budget. The Colin Allotment holders were extremely generous during this period in that they decided to grow produce on their own space to donate to food banks and other organisations that were supporting those in need due to the Cost-of-Living crisis.

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Youth Inclusion

Supported by CNP's Youth Inclusion worker, this project consists of 3 separate elements, Colin Autism advice and support, Colin Autism Parents lobbying group and Colin Youth Inclusion project. Autism advice and support group consisting of 30 parents who continue to meet 3 times per week, 2 morning sessions and 1 evening session.

These parents have been lobbying extremely hard throughout the year to highlight the uncertainty of services for children with Autism and other developmental conditions.

These parents help to advise and educate parents on advocating for autistic children, provide support and information on how to request an evaluation, schools are legally obligated to assess students for special education services.

Establish open communication with teachers, special education coordinators, and other school personnel. Collaborate with the school team to create a supportive environment.

Advice is also available in relation to benefits and how to apply.

This enables members of this group to provide up to date information to many other families not involved in the group. With the help of our Inclusion worker, they organize various activities throughout the year, especially day trips during summer months and mid-term breaks to provide respite for families.

Young people are involved in various activities 4 times per week at Cloona House. Programmes of day trips during October 23 and February 2024 during school midterm breaks which included visits to various locations involving many physical activity programmes. Also, many activities during the Christmas holiday period.

Most of these young people fall into the category of SENs, i.e., ADHD, ASD etc. Many parents of these children assist during these events. The project depends on the availability of volunteers of which we have a core of 4 volunteers to assist with the larger events.

Capacity Building/Volunteering/Environment

A total of 422 individuals took part in capacity building training sessions including several sessions delivered by Parenting N.I. which included Assertiveness, Building Resilience and Managing Emotions. It is great to see that many parents in the community are recognizing that rearing children is not easy, and any assistance offered will not only benefit their children but also help them to ensure their children can get the best start in life. Not surprisingly, there was a continued demand for Mental Health and Well-being information i.e., Living Life to the Full, Heal Your Life, ASIST, Mental Health Awareness and Writing for Well-being.

Other hands-on training included a 6-week Sign Language course, AED and CPR training as well as many environmental workshops, Oral History, and Committee Skills for those who are considering volunteering in the Community.

Volunteering

318 people were involved in volunteering throughout this period. This included those involved in Environmental Projects at Colin Allotments, Old Colin Wood, Belle Steele Garden, CNP events as well as the Youth Inclusion Project and Good Morning Colin.

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Community Safety

Cross Community

Ongoing dialogue with Colin/Dunmurry and Suffolk (PUL) communities via the Dunmurry Positive Relations Partnership to ensure positive outcomes in relation to contentious parades. This partnership continues to be extremely important especially around the marching season, mainly July and August. This work has proved to be successful as we haven't experienced any serious issues over the past few years. Invited members of the PUL community from Blacks Road and Dunmurry to CNP's Santa comes to Colin Event, many turned up and had a great time.

Road Safety Initiatives

There are major concerns in relation to young people involved in illegal usage of Scramblers. Young people between the ages of 14-17 ride these powerful scramblers around the areas resulting in ongoing community safety concerns.

We, along with the PSNI developed an information leaflet which was delivered to around 15,000 homes. PSNI, NIHE, CNP, Safer neighbourhoods Project and other housing providers were involved in the delivery of the leaflets which provided information highlighting E-Scooter usage and the Law, 15,000 homes targeted for this information.

We will keep chipping away at this issue in partnership with the PSNI.

Halloween Safety Initiative

Needed to ensure the Halloween period was free from illegal fireworks, worked with PSNI and local shops to ensure no illegal selling of fireworks in this community, as a result a quantity of illegal fireworks were seized in the local area and no major issues occurred.

Also needed to ensure Halloween Night was free from on street drinking and drug abuse. Contacted all local off licenses reminding them of their responsibility in relation to selling alcohol to those under 18 years.

Litter Picking involving local Youth Centres and Primary Schools.

All our local schools and youth centre participants along with our Community Safety Officer were also involved in litter picking throughout the area, this is about fostering a clean and safe environment among our young people. This helps to instill a sense of responsibility and environmental awareness.

Bonfires

As work continues with our following partners, PSNI, BCC, NIHE, PCSP, Conservation Volunteers and Safer Neighbourhoods Project, thankfully for the second year there were no bonfires in the area in August 2023.

Older residents.

Several face-to-face sessions with older residents in respect of scams and home safety.

Good Morning clients received free home safety equipment which included window locks, doorstep and handheld alarms.

Community Safety subgroup.

CNP Community Safety subgroup includes participation from representatives of PSNI, Colin Safer Neighbourhoods, BCC Police & Community Safety Partnership, Housing Providers, Dunlewey, ASCERT, Translink and representatives from our Youth Strategy subgroup as well as many other community representatives.

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Colin Heritage Project

We facilitated a field trip for La Salle school pupils and teachers.

This event explored the vibrant period, the late 18th century which witnessed the rise of the United Irishmen, formed in Belfast in 1791 by Dublin Protestant lawyer Wolfe Tone and his Presbyterian friends including Samuel Neilson and Henry Joy McCracken. Also highlighted was the role Cloona House played in the history of the area and famous people and families associated with the Colin area.

Another event, a public tour, included the story of the United Irishmen to the recent history of troubles and peace. Famous families such as the Teelings, Jaffa's and Grimshaw's to DeLorean and Bobby Sands, the history of Cloona House from the Linen Industry, role of the British Military, to the Catholic Church, facilitating the housing of nursery schools and community building. These tours highlighting all this amazing history of the Colin area are extremely popular, not only among local residents but lots of interest from others throughout Belfast. Check out our Colin Heritage website and learn about the unique history of Colin www.colinheritage.com

Events Programmes.

The annual calendar of community events continues to be extremely popular with our community resulting in thousands of residents attending throughout the year. The calendar continues to deliver the major events around March, Creativity Month which includes many arts, culture, training events, ending up with the "Give it a Go" day. The Summer Festival programme keeps growing each year with the thousands of residents and visitors attending. The highlights, Carnival Fun Day, Teddy Bears Picnic, outdoor Movie Shows, Heritage Tours, day trips, overnight camping at the allotment site and much more. We used the Carnival Fun Day event as an opportunity to consult with the community in relation to our plans for the major community hub, (bid to SEUPB), over 700 positive responses clocked up.

Crescendo

This partnership continues to grow from strength, involving Colin Neighbourhood Partnership, Shankill Children's Zone, Ulster Orchestra and the Centre for Evidence and Social Innovation at Queen's University to deliver musicianship and instrumental workshops to 1,153 children across four Belfast schools - Good Shepherd, Malvern, Holy Evangelists', and Wheatfield all of which lie within areas of marked social deprivation. The project provides pupils with access to high-quality music education throughout their primary school careers.

This year's end of year performance in June at the Ulster Hall, witnessed the very first cohort of Primary 7 pupils, 104 completing their 7-year journey with Crescendo involving all four primary schools playing along with the Ulster Orchestra, the audience of 200+ included the children's parents, grandparents and many visitors.

Primary 1 and Primary 2 pupils from Holy Evangelists and Good Shepherd displayed their singing and beat talents at the Colin Town Square singing along with the live music from the Ulster Orchestra performers, again large numbers of parents and grandparents attending.

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Early Intervention

Successful delivery of the Colin Primary Schools Counselling Service continued throughout the year in the area's six primary schools. A total of 740 counselling sessions were delivered to 76 children, along with 213 support sessions to parents and 421 liaison and reporting meetings with teachers. Colin Early Intervention identified an additional amount of unrestricted funding to increase the level of counselling provision to one of the schools - Scoil na Fuiseoige - on a one-off basis. There was a reduction in clinical stress levels for 96% of children, because of counselling, along with 47% improved behaviour and 61% improved social skills. 88% of parents and teachers reported that there were improvements in family communication because of the service, and 94% of parents and teachers said that the counselling service had given them a better understanding of the counselled child's behaviour. This took place against the background of the starkly increasing complexity of children's emotional health needs right across the North of Ireland (a post-Covid phenomenon) and severely increasing school absenteeism by children (characterised as 'emotionally related school refusal').

Despite this clear evidence of the growing need for counselling support for primary school children, the Colin service faced two major challenges towards the end of the year. Firstly, the loss of its major funder Urban Villages (whose time-limited involvement in Colin sadly but not unexpectedly came to an end), but secondly, also, and this time very unexpectedly, the decision by Barnardo's to wind up its regional Time4Me counselling service from June 2024. While thankfully, due to some funds being able to be carried forward, as well as our being able to identify an alternative counselling service provider, neither of these challenges will prevent the service being delivered in 2024-25, it almost certainly will mean that unless the long-talked-about statutory provision of primary school-age counselling materialises soon, we may be close to the end - after nearly 20 years - of this vital service in Colin's schools.

The Colin Primary Schools Speech & Language Therapy Service, delivered in partnership by the SE Trust and Colin Early Intervention, continued to be recognised as a critical support service by Colin's primary schools. It worked with 171 P1 and P2 pupils over the course of the 2023-24 year including 59 new referrals and 63 children who were either discharged at the end of therapy or transferred to community or specialist support services. The caseload at any one time is maintained at about 100. One of the challenges faced by the service, due to its precarious funding (primarily slippage money) is maintaining consistent staffing and an undue reliance on agency staffing. We began to have some initial discussions towards the end of this year about the feasibility of increasing the weekly hours for the Speech & Language Therapy Assistant (from 24 to 30) as an incentive for retention, as well as of employing a part time Community S&L Champion to promote S&L messages in local early years settings. We will hopefully take a decision on this in 2024-25.

The Colin Early Parenting Programme continues to operate in a challenging and increasingly complex environment. Several attempts during the year to recruit for the vacant Early Intervention Support Worker post were unsuccessful (a recruitment challenge increasingly common for community sector posts where year-on-year funding is not assured), and this was compounded when the second EISW post became vacant in December 2023 and the project's Health Visitor moved to another post in the SE Trust in January.

We were able to secure a new Health Visitor in February, but EISW posts remained vacant as we moved into 2024-25. Overall, this meant that although the core Health Visitor programme work with 27 new mothers and babies was largely unaffected, the number of home visits to additional families was significantly reduced to 101 visits benefiting 24 families. The project's work included 76 responsive feeding support sessions, 66 weaning support sessions, 54 families receiving support on maintaining smoke-free homes and cars, 20 mothers and babies being coached in baby massage, and 33 parents getting support from the Community Resilience Model. 12 parents completed Mellow Parenting programmes and a further 10 mothers and their babies took part in our Tree Babies (forest bathing) programme.

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Planning activity for a proposed neurodevelopmental support pathway programme, with our cross-border partners Archways and Dundalk Institute of Technology, was a major work focus throughout the year. From April 2023 it looked as though this would involve a joint partnership bid with the CAWT statutory consortium, who had tabled a concept proposal for ASD support in early 2023 - with both ourselves and CAWT being encouraged by SEUPB to collaborate - and a full process of joint planning was undertaken throughout the year; but in January 2024, shortly before the application 'window' opened, CAWT withdrew, leaving our Changing Lives partnership to rapidly develop and submit an ambitious €8.6 million bid on its own. We remain optimistic and excited about the prospects for this EU funding bid, the outcome of which is expected by August 2024.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The company had net incoming resources for the year of £126,448 (2023: net incoming resources of £37,397), which reflected the increase in trading activities during the year. Unrestricted funds increased by £33,233, while restricted funds increased by £93,215.

Reserves policy

In line with similar organisations, it would appear prudent for Colin Neighbourhood Partnership to set aside reserves up to a level of approximately six months of unrestricted expenditure on charitable activities.

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STRATEGIC PLAN FOR COLIN NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP 2024 - 2025

Colin Neighbourhood Partnership secured funding from Dormant Accounts to embark on an ambitious strategic planning exercise to identify needs and priorities that will inform strategic direction and focus for the Partnership over the next five years. CNP see this as more than just an exercise in organisational strategic planning, but one which engages the whole community in a collective effort to generate the right information to make the best decisions to address the future needs of our community.

Looking ahead CNP and its community will face even greater challenges in the context of an ongoing 'Cost of Living' crisis coupled with an imminent squeeze on public funding. CNP needs to respond and position itself strategically to deal with these challenges. CNP has established its credentials as a trusted intermediary between the community and the state, for example, during the Covid crisis. Also, CNP has played a crucial role in facilitating collaboration between groups - essential to addressing competition for scarcer resources and maximising utility of what is available.

The very first plan produced by the Partnership back in 2004/5 was based on a wide-ranging community consultation process. The Partnership can now repeat this exercise after securing the resources from Dormant Accounts. We will

- (i) Provide evidence identifying the future needs and priorities for Colin area.
- (ii) Ensure that future planning decisions are rooted in identified needs and priorities endorsed by community.
- (iii) Provide opportunity for 'moments of community connection and reflection' on identifying issues and addressing concerns.
- (iv) Inform production of new five-year strategic plan for Colin Partnership to advocate for better planning and improved service provision for Colin.
- (v) Develop enhanced capacity to generate resources and ensure sustainability.
- (vi) Develop and document a Transferable model for community consultation and planning.

Aim and outcomes of the Strategic Review.

The Partnership will have a clearer understanding of their environment, be more confident about their ability to adapt to future challenges and be more resilient and prepared for the future.

The Partnership will be better placed to advocate for better planning and improved service provision for Colin

The Partnership will have developed and documented a model for community consultation and planning which can be readily transferable. The Partnership will have enhanced their capacity to generate resources and ensure sustainability

Colin Neighbourhood Partnership will continue to work in partnership alongside Dept. for Communities, Dept. of Health, Dept. of Education, and Dept. for Infrastructure, South Eastern Health Trust, C.C.M.S., B.C.C. and Urban Villages (TEO) to help deliver on the Colin Town Centre Project and the Programme for Government.

CNP and its partner organisations will continue to work collaboratively to deliver quality services across the Colin area and to work together to further develop areas of partnership to increase and improve services for all the residents of Colin.

Visit us at <http://www.newcolin.com> for further details on the activities and programmes at CNP supported through Neighbourhood Renewal and others.

Colin Neighbourhood Partnership

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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

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

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Appointment of Trustees:

The Trustees of the company are also charity trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as members of the Management Committee. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected to serve for a period from one Annual General meeting to the next.

Trustee Induction and Training:

New trustees are invited to an induction meeting to familiarise themselves with the charity and the context within which it operates. These are facilitated by Development Staff and Management Committee, they cover:

- The obligations of the Board of Trustees.
- The content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association.
- The Committee and decision making processes.
- Current financial position.
- Future plans and objectives.

Potential Trustees are encouraged to attend a series of business committee meetings as a trail period to familiarise themselves with the work before committing themselves to the role, if this is agreed as appropriate. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate training events in-house and external, where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

Organisational structure

Colin Neighbourhood Partnership has been registered with the Charities Commission since March 2014. CNP board members consist of representatives from DfC, SEHSCT, E.A., CCMS, NIHE, Political and Community representatives as well as representatives from each of our sub groups.

CNP established an audit committee to support the Board in its responsibilities for issues of risk, control and governance by reviewing the comprehensiveness of assurances being provided in meeting the Board's assurance needs as a collective 'Accounting Officer' and also reviewing the reliability and integrity of these assurances. The Committee is an advisory body and has no executive powers.

Dept. for Communities and TEO, have allocated a "Robust" status in relation to the "Organisation's" Financial Systems and Controls Rating"

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

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

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STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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


In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

AUDITORS

The auditors, Lynn Drake & Co Ltd, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 11 September 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



B J Moane - Trustee

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees and Members of
Colin Neighbourhood Partnership**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Colin Neighbourhood Partnership (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees and Members of
Colin Neighbourhood Partnership**

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Trustees.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.