

Short Strand Community Forum
Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements
for the financial year ended 31 May 2023

Quarter
Chartered Accountants
St Anne's House
15 Church Street
Cathedral Quarter
Belfast
BT1 1PG

Charity Number: 100217

Short Strand Community Forum

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 May 2023

The trustees present their Trustees' Report and the unaudited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 May 2023.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, 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 Short Strand Community Forum present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 May 2023.

The charity is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 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

Objectives

Short Strand Community Forum's main objective is to operate a 'cradle to grave' approach of providing services and facilities to local residents. Community development is to the forefront of our work. We engage directly with the community making sense of the issues which affect their lives, setting goals for improvement and taking action through empowerment and participative processes.

We work in partnership with local people and organisations: in conjunction with a number of voluntary, statutory and community organisations. We work to collectively bring about social change and improve the quality of life. Training and education is a big need within the community and we aim to provide assistance to local people to enable them to apply for, and obtain suitable employment through a number of training initiatives.

Our local job club operates every Monday and we provide training and advice for those deemed economically active as well as providing help with application forms and interview techniques. We also provide training and apprenticeships for young people aged between 16-24. Within the community centre, there are various groups aimed at providing care and support for the children in the local area. We also operate both a pre-school and after-school club, computer drop-in centre for 16-25 year olds and a very active senior citizens group which includes a weekly lunch club. A women's group provide services such as social training, aromatherapy, crafts, computer training, keep fit, essential skills and well as a number of other training initiatives.

Structure, Governance and Management

Structure

Key Staff and personnel:

Chairperson -- Paul McGrory
Senior Developments Worker - Bernie McConnell

The Forum holds regular monthly board meetings which have a good attendance record. All meetings of the Forum or of the committee shall be presided over by a Chairperson or Vice-chairperson, if elected. If either the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson are present, those present may elect one of the aforementioned to take the chair of the meeting. The committee may make such regulations as they consider appropriate for the efficient conduct of the business of the committee and the Forum. They also appoint such staff as they consider necessary on such terms and conditions as they determine.

Board minutes are taken at all official board meetings in the Forum.

An AGM is held every year to discuss the accounts for the Forum and must be held within 15 months of the last AGM.

Review of Activities, Achievements and Performance

This year we have undertaken more partnership roles in terms of delivery of projects, these have been mainly with organisations such as Training for Women's Network and Belfast Interface Project. Further extensions of funding has also been offered through the Education Authority.

Our role in delivering the Education SIF Project has expanded our profile within East Belfast.

Short Strand Community Forum TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 May 2023

Financial Review

The impact of Covid-19 has brought many operational challenges for Short Strand Community Forum, like many other organisations we are endeavouring to build up our resources and services to resume a full programme of events.

Results and Dividends

At the end of the financial year the charity has assets of £26,325 (2022 - £55,613) and liabilities of £73,955 (2022 - £71,632). The net liabilities of the charity have increased by £(31,611).

In accordance with the Constitution, 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. Short Strand Community Forum subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 8 September 2023 and signed on its behalf by:


Paul McCrory
Trustee

Short Strand Community Forum

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

for the financial year ended 31 May 2023

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

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the charity as at the financial year end date and of the surplus or deficit of the charity and otherwise comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- 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.

As explained in note 3, state whether the applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102 has been followed;

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 Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. 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 8 September 2023 and signed on its behalf by:


Paul McCrory
Trustee

Short Strand Community Forum

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SHORT STRAND COMMUNITY FORUM

We have examined the financial statements of the charity for the financial year ended 31 May 2023, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. Our work has been undertaken so that we might compile the financial statements that we have been engaged to compile, report to the Board of Trustees that we have done so, and state those matters that we have agreed to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's members, as a body, for our work, or for this report.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this financial year under the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 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

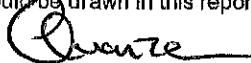
We have examined your charity financial statements as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and our examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. An examination includes 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 63 of the Charities Act
- the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records
- the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with 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.



QUARTER
Chartered Accountants
St Anne's House
15 Church Street
Cathedral Quarter
Belfast
BT1 1PG

Date: 8 September 2023

Short Strand Community Forum

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the financial year ended 31 May 2023

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Short Strand Community Forum is a charity incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office of the company is Short Strand Community Forum, 26a Beechfield Street, Belfast, Antrim, BT5 4EQ 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", applying Section 1A of that Standard.

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 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", applying Section 1A of that Standard.

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.

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% Reducing Balance
Motor vehicles	-	25% Straight line

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.

Short Strand Community Forum
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

continued

for the financial year ended 31 May 2023

3. GOING CONCERN

Short Strand Community Forum has a deficient balance sheet of £47,630.

The deficient balance sheet in Short Strand Community Forum is due to loans made to other Short Strand community groups within the Forum, we have been informed that these amounts are not repayable. Therefore, the continuation of this charity is reliable on the support of these groups.

Short Strand Community Forum have overspent the unrestricted they have received during the financial period.

4. INCOME

4.1 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 £	2022 £
Income from charitable activities	1,703	146,518	148,221	156,475

4.2 OTHER INCOME

4.2 OTHER INCOME	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 £	2022 £
Other income	-	-	-	7,263

5. EXPENDITURE

5.1 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Direct Costs £	Other Costs £	Support Costs £	2023 £	2022 £
Costs of Charitable activities	76,285	-	103,547	179,832	144,485

5.2 SUPPORT COSTS

5.2 SUPPORT COSTS	Charitable Activities £	2023 £	2022 £
Support Costs	101,987	101,987	94,009
Accountancy services	1,560	1,560	1,500
	<u>103,547</u>	<u>103,547</u>	<u>95,509</u>

6. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

6. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS	2023 £	2022 £
Support Costs	101,987	94,009
Accountancy services	1,560	1,500
	<u>103,547</u>	<u>95,509</u>

7. NET INCOMING RESOURCES

7. NET INCOMING RESOURCES	2023 £	2022 £
Net Incoming Resources are stated after charging/(crediting):		
Depreciation of tangible assets	6,026	7,532
Grants receivable received	-	(7,263)
	<u>6,026</u>	<u>(7,263)</u>

8. INVESTMENT AND OTHER INCOME

8. INVESTMENT AND OTHER INCOME	2023 £	2022 £
Revenue grants received	-	7,263

Short Strand Community Forum
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

continued

for the financial year ended 31 May 2023

9. EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION

Number of employees

The average number of persons employed (including executive trustees) during the financial year was as follows:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Average Employees	5	7

The staff costs comprise:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	84,323	78,003
Social security costs	6,001	6,112
	<u>90,324</u>	<u>84,115</u>

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost			
At 31 May 2023	44,645	59,100	103,745
Depreciation			
At 1 June 2022	14,518	59,100	73,618
Charge for the financial year	6,026	-	6,026
At 31 May 2023	20,544	59,100	79,644
Net book value			
At 31 May 2023	<u>24,101</u>	-	<u>24,101</u>
At 31 May 2022	<u>30,127</u>	-	<u>30,127</u>

11. DEBTORS

	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts owed by connected parties (Note 16)	-	5,423
Amounts owed by related parties	-	1,580
	<u>-</u>	<u>7,003</u>

12. CREDITORS

	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	-	2,760
Amounts owed to connected parties (Note 16)	62,311	59,996
Taxation and social security costs (Note 13)	10,144	7,376
Accruals and deferred income	1,500	1,500
	<u>73,955</u>	<u>71,632</u>

Short Strand Community Forum
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

continued

for the financial year ended 31 May 2023

13. TAXATION AND SOCIAL SECURITY		2023	2022
		£	£
Creditors:			
PAYE / NI		10,144	7,376
14. RESERVES		2023	2022
		£	£
At 1 June 2022		(16,019)	(35,272)
(Deficit)/Surplus for the financial year		(31,611)	19,253
At 31 May 2023		(47,630)	(16,019)
15. FUNDS			
15.1 RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
		£	£
			Total Funds
			£
At 1 June 2021		(35,272)	-
Movement during the financial year		(3,595)	22,848
At 31 May 2022		(38,867)	22,848
Movement during the financial year		(8,771)	(22,840)
At 31 May 2023		(47,638)	8
15.2 ANALYSIS OF MOVEMENTS ON FUNDS			
	Balance	Income	Expenditure
	1 June		
	2022		
	£	£	£
Restricted funds			
DSD	-	23,838	23,838
Belfast City Council	-	4,000	4,000
Training Womens Network	-	42,420	42,420
Education Authority	-	2,200	2,200
Other Restricted Income	22,848	70,340	93,180
Community Foundation	-	3,720	3,720
	22,848	146,518	169,358
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted General	(38,867)	1,703	10,474
Total funds	(16,019)	148,221	179,832
15.3 ANALYSIS OF NET LIABILITIES BY FUND			
		Fixed assets	Current assets
		- charity use	Current liabilities
		£	£
			£
Restricted trust funds		-	(3,992)
Unrestricted general funds		24,101	(73,955)
		24,101	(77,947)

Short Strand Community Forum
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

continued

for the financial year ended 31 May 2023

16. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The charity had transactions with other connected parties. The following amounts are receivable at the financial year end:

	Balance 2023	Movement in financial year	Balance 2022	Maximum in financial year
	£	£	£	£
Womens Project	-	(5,423)	5,423	5,423

The following amounts are due to other connected parties:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Short Strand Community Centre	50,473	43,163
Playcare Project	11,838	10,278
Short Strand Community Forum No3	-	6,555
	<u>62,311</u>	<u>59,996</u>

Net balances with other connected parties:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Short Strand Community Centre	(50,473)	(43,163)
Womens Project	-	5,423
Playcare Project	(11,838)	(10,278)
Short Strand Community Forum No3	-	(6,555)
	<u>(82,311)</u>	<u>(54,573)</u>

In the opinion of the trustees these amounts arise in the ordinary course of business and the terms of the amounts due are in accordance with the terms ordinarily offered by the charity.

17. POST-BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

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

SHORT STRAND COMMUNITY FORUM
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
RELATING TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

Short Strand Community Forum

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION RELATING TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Operating Statement

for the financial year ended 31 May 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Income	148,221	156,475
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Expenses		
Wages and salaries	84,323	78,003
Social security costs	6,001	6,112
Repairs and maintenance	-	1,240
Project Costs	80,285	48,976
Printing, postage and stationery	242	-
Telephone	549	507
Accountancy	1,560	1,500
Bank charges	398	615
Bad debts	448	-
Depreciation	6,026	7,532
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	179,832	144,485
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Miscellaneous income		
Revenue grants received	-	7,263
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Net (deficit)/surplus	(31,611)	19,253
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