

Community Focus Learning

known as CFL

Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2017

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present their strategic report for the year ended 31 December 2017, in compliance with s414C of the Companies Act 2006.

The strategic report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 6 August 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

Sandra Millar

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Mrs Sandra Millar
Trustee

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Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 December 2017.

Trustees

Mr Fergal Curran

Mrs Sandra Millar

Mrs Tess Corry

Mrs Mary McDermot

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

Community Focus Learning's objects ("Objects") are specifically restricted to the following:

- (1) To advance education and training for the benefit of the public without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, age race ethnicity, disability or political, religious or other opinion by associating with statutory authorities, voluntary organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to advance education , the arts, culture, heritage, personal development, training and employment skills, and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for members of the public.
- (2) To advance health by the provision of education and health promotional programmes

Community Focus Learning is established to provide training and development opportunities to people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities in particular those with disability, to improve the quality of their lives and enhance self-esteem and confidence; to encourage people to develop skills to support health and wellbeing and in particular mental health.

CFL bring education to the community, sourcing opportunities and funding to ensure vulnerable people are not restricted from participating. CFL are about encouraging those at the margins to participate in community activity by building capacity to empower individuals through a range of programmes addressing issues around health and well-being, rural isolation, loneliness and access to basic services.

Programmes are based on individual needs:

Promote education and training in informal environments where learning is for everyone

Target areas of disadvantage and encourage participation by those identified as 'hard to reach'

Develop skills and increase knowledge, self-esteem/confidence

Encourage progression to employment opportunities and accredited qualifications

Develop networks and create a multiagency approach, delivering innovative holistic programmes impacting positively on health and well-being

Challenge the statutory sector to support community, creating publicity opportunities and promoting the idea 'getting to know your local councillors'

Support development work on the ground that will help to create opportunities to access education where it is needed, to meet the challenges faced by those who live in isolation and who are excluded through lack of support, lack of knowledge, lack of Income, lack of Social integration, lack of family and build capacity helping to engage the community to share

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Trustees' Report

Public benefit

- 2 The advancement of Education
- 3 The advancement of Health or the saving of lives
- 4 The advancement of citizenship or community development
- 5 The relief of those in need by reason of youth, age ill health, disability financial hardship or other disadvantage.

The benefit that flows from purpose 3 is increased access to training programmes addressing disability awareness, health related issues in particular mental health. Increased project funding addressing issues around mental health, information sessions creating awareness of programmes

Evidenced by: registers of participants at various programmes, numbers of people gaining employment and numbers moving to other programmes, monitoring forms identifying make up of participants.

The benefit that flows from purpose 2 and 3 include improved access to training opportunities in informal environments in both urban and rural areas. The benefits will be evidenced by improved knowledge and skills, improved opportunities to access qualifications, improved access to employment and improved health and wellbeing

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 4 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

Community Focus Learning set up in 2001, is a company limited by guarantee constituted under the Companies Act 2006 and is a registered Charity (Charity no NIC 100428) and Tax number XR 56584., it is governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The trustees (who are also the directors of Community Focus Learning for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustee's Annual Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Trustees are:

Mr Fergal Curran
Mrs Sandra Millar
Mrs Tess Corry

Secretary :

Mrs Mary Mc Dermot

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Trustees' Report

Financial instruments

Objectives and policies

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

Credit risk

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, trade and other receivables, and investments. The charity's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade receivables. The amounts presented in the balance sheet are net of allowances for doubtful receivables. An allowance for impairment is made where there is an identified loss event which, based on previous experience, is evidence of a reduction in the recoverability of the cash flows. The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited because the counterparties are banks with high credit-ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies. The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a large number of counterparties and customers.

Liquidity risk

In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the charity uses a mixture of long-term and short-term debt finance. Further details regarding liquidity risk can be found in the Statement of accounting policies in the financial statements.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 6 August 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

Sandra Millar

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Mrs Sandra Millar
Trustee

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Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Community Focus Learning for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. 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 applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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 adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 6 August 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

Sandra Millar

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Mrs Sandra Millar
Trustee