

## ELY CENTRE-THE

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the Year Ended 31 MARCH 2023

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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 2023. 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**

The Ely Centre is a registered charity that provides support services to civilians, ex security force personnel and their families who have suffered as a result of the troubles. The Ely Centre was formed by the families of those bereaved and injured in the 1987 Enniskillen Poppy Day bomb.

The Ely Centre also aims to advance the education of the wider community on the effects of the troubles and especially the effects of terrorism on victims, their children and the impact of trans (inter) generational trauma on families effected by the troubles.

##### **Significant activities**

The charity provides evidenced based treatment, prevention and support services that address issues of declining psychological, physical health, social and financial difficulties

Over the past year, from our centres we have delivered funded programmes of Health and Well Being services, Social Support activities, Welfare and Benefits advice, a listening ear and drop in centre. Open daily offering a space for victims and survivors to come together, a family support project and a community befriending network to support isolated and vulnerable victims and survivors. The services have achieved all estimated uptake amongst service users. These services are delivered by Ely Centre staff, outsourced providers and volunteers. These projects are supported financially from multiple funders.

The Ely Centre also developed an innovative veteran's support programme during this current year addressing veterans' physical and psychological wellbeing through military scale model making workshops and educational outreach programmes.

The charity aims to continue to provide the same level of services to its users and grants have been secured to enable this. In April 2023 The Castlehill Foundation reached the decision to merge their services with The Ely Centre, leading to the sustainability of services within the upper bann area for victims and survivors. All previous funding directed to The Castlehill Foundation is now being directed to The Ely Centre.

##### **Public benefit**

The Trustees seek to ensure that the Public Benefit requirement is considered and The Ely Centre facilitates the support of victims having due regard to the Charities Commission Northern for Ireland guidance on public benefit.

The main public benefits which the charity aims to achieve are as follows:

- The improved physical and mental health wellbeing. This is achieved through our support programmes including professional counselling, complementary therapies and respite trips. The recipients of these therapies benefit from lower levels of stress and anxiety and will also feel less isolated and lonely.
- The advancement of community development. This is achieved through services and programmes offered within the wider community to promote tolerance and positive cross-community relations. The public benefit is a strong community spirit and the empowerment of victims/survivors.
- The easement of financial difficulties. This is achieved through offering skills-based training programmes and support with essential outgoings. Advice and assistance is given in relation to benefits available and securing entitlement to same.

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### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES** **for the Year Ended 31 MARCH 2023**

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#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

##### **Financial position**

The results for the year ended March 2023 are set out on pages 7 and 8 of the financial statements.

Income consists of grants and donations and amounted to £683,057 for the year ended 31 March 2023. (2022 £523,142).

After deducting expenditure of £679,267 (2022 535,631) a surplus of £3,790 arose for the year (2022 deficit £12,489)

At 31 March 2023 the total funds of the charity amounted to £13,022 (2022 £9,232).

##### **Reserves policy**

It is the policy of the Charity that reserves that have not been designated for a specific purpose should be maintained at a level equivalent to between 1-2 months expenditure. The Charity considers that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue some activities however this would be on a greatly reduced scale. The Charity aims to achieve these levels of reserves in the following financial years.

##### **Going Concern**

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in accounting policies.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Governing document**

The charity is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee and was set up by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The company is registered with the Charity Commission NI under charity reference 101144.

The management of the charity is led by Lee McDowell.

New trustees are nominated for consideration to the Board based on background, interests and experience. New trustees receive an inhouse induction and there is ongoing training for existing trustees.

#### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

##### **Registered Company number**

NI043785 (Northern Ireland)

##### **Registered Charity number**

101144

##### **Registered office**

52 Forthill Street  
Enniskillen  
Fermanagh  
BT74 6AJ

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**for the Year Ended 31 MARCH 2023**

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**Trustees**

Mr W J Dixon  
Mrs A Dixon  
Mr A Coulter  
Mrs E Lappin  
Mrs R Barton  
Mr J Mullan  
Mrs M Black  
Mr R E Crawford  
Ms S E Porter (appointed 29.4.22) (resigned 31.10.22)  
Mr A G McCrum (appointed 29.4.22)  
Ms V Craig (appointed 1.4.23)  
Mr Gracey (appointed 1.4.23)

**Company Secretary**

Mrs M Black

**Auditors**

Patton Rainey Stenson Limited  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
6 East Bridge Street  
Enniskillen  
Co. Fermanagh  
BT74 7BT

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees (who are also the directors of Ely Centre-The 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).

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, Patton Rainey Stenson Limited, will be re-appointed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

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**for the Year Ended 31 MARCH 2023**

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Approved by order of the board of trustees on 14 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R E Crawford', written in a cursive style.

Mr R E Crawford - Trustee