

Company registration number: NI032592

Charity registration number: 101173

Northern Area Community Network Limited

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Northern Area Community Network Limited

Contents

Reference and Administrative Details	1
Trustees' Report	2 to 4
Independent Examiner's Report	5
Statement of Financial Activities	6
Balance Sheet	7
Notes to the Financial Statements	8 to 14

Northern Area Community Network Limited

Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman	James McKay
Trustees	James McKay Mary Gilmore Robert McIlroy Lexie Scott William Colvin James Mulholland
Secretary	Mary Gilmore
Charity Registration Number	101173
Company Registration Number	NI032592
Registered Office	The charity is incorporated in Northern Ireland. Old School House 25 Mill Street Cushendall Ballymena Co. Antrim BT44 0RR
Independent Examiner	D T Carson & Co Chartered Accountants 51-53 Thomas Street Ballymena Co. Antrim BT43 6AZ
Bankers	Danske Bank 1-2 Broadway Avenue Ballymena Co Antrim BT43 7AA

Northern Area Community Network Limited

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 March 2024.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The principal activity of the charity is to promote community development and networking services to groups in the catchment area.

Objectives, strategies and activities

The primary aims of Northern Area Community Network Limited are to offer a community development service to its member groups and to focus on the practice of networking to allow community groups themselves to share knowledge and experience. The charity aims to provide an opportunity for rural communities to have a voice and an influence, without compelling members to lose their chosen identity, adherence and different interests.

Northern Area Community Network Limited provides community development support to communities throughout the Northern Area. The charity does this by determining and responding to the key issues impacting on the lives of rural people, and tackling poverty and social isolation. The charity is committed to other programmes such as rural development support for the community and voluntary sector, promoting mental health and suicide prevention and health and social wellbeing.

The trustees do not expect the activities to change significantly during the incoming year.

Public benefit

Northern Area Community Network Limited undertakes work with local communities helping them address local health and well being needs and linking groups to various statutory and voluntary organisations that can support them to tackle the wider determinants of health.

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

Financial review

The trustees can report an overall decrease in incoming resources of the charity for the current year of £490,350 (2023 : £567,259), as a result of reduced grant income. Total resources expended have also decreased from the previous year at £573,359 (2023 : £635,169), due mainly to a reduction in project costs. This resulted in an overall net deficit in funds of £83,009, compared to a net deficit in the previous year of £67,910. Total funds of the charity are now £164,624 and are allocated to restricted funds of £10,147 and unrestricted funds of £154,477.

Policy on reserves

In calculating the required level of reserves the charity takes into account the risks of income and expenditure being different from that budgeted, planned activity levels and development opportunities arising in the near future. The trustees feel it is beneficial to hold an amount in unrestricted funds to cover running costs for a period of nine months to enable the company to continue at its current level of activity.

Principal funding sources

Principal funding is received from the Public Health Agency and DAERA (Rural Community Development Support Programme).

Northern Area Community Network Limited

Trustees' Report

Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:

- James McKay
- Mary Gilmore
- Robert McIlroy
- Lexie Scott
- William Colvin
- James Mulholland

Chairman: James McKay

Secretary: Mary Gilmore

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

Northern Area Community Network Limited is a company limited by guarantee and is also a recognised charity. For the purposes of Charity Law, the directors are also trustees of the company.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Northern Area Community Network Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

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 the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company 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 accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 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 proper accounting records that can 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 and Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. 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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Northern Area Community Network Limited

Trustees' Report

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 16 September 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Mary Gilmore
Company Secretary and Trustee

Northern Area Community Network Limited

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Northern Area Community Network Limited ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of Northern Area Community Network Limited (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of Northern Area Community Network Limited are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Northern Area Community Network Limited as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

I 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 accounts to be reached.



James Wallace
Chartered Accountants
Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland

51-53 Thomas Street
Ballymena
Co. Antrim
BT43 6AZ

16 September 2024

Northern Area Community Network Limited

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2024 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Charitable activities	3	-	459,443	459,443
Other income		<u>6,878</u>	<u>24,029</u>	<u>30,907</u>
Total income		<u>6,878</u>	<u>483,472</u>	<u>490,350</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	4	<u>(77,299)</u>	<u>(496,060)</u>	<u>(573,359)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(77,299)</u>	<u>(496,060)</u>	<u>(573,359)</u>
Net expenditure		<u>(70,421)</u>	<u>(12,588)</u>	<u>(83,009)</u>
Net movement in funds		(70,421)	(12,588)	(83,009)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>224,898</u>	<u>22,735</u>	<u>247,633</u>
Total funds carried forward	15	<u>154,477</u>	<u>10,147</u>	<u>164,624</u>
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Charitable activities	3	-	556,221	556,221
Other income		<u>4,056</u>	<u>6,982</u>	<u>11,038</u>
Total income		<u>4,056</u>	<u>563,203</u>	<u>567,259</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	4	<u>(23,759)</u>	<u>(611,410)</u>	<u>(635,169)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(23,759)</u>	<u>(611,410)</u>	<u>(635,169)</u>
Net expenditure		<u>(19,703)</u>	<u>(48,207)</u>	<u>(67,910)</u>
Net movement in funds		(19,703)	(48,207)	(67,910)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>244,601</u>	<u>70,942</u>	<u>315,543</u>
Total funds carried forward	15	<u>224,898</u>	<u>22,735</u>	<u>247,633</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2023 is shown in note 15.

The notes on pages 8 to 14 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Northern Area Community Network Limited

(Registration number: NI032592)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

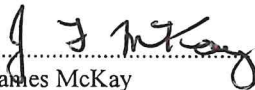
	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	6,782	5,960
Current assets			
Debtors	12	18,636	11,359
Cash at bank and in hand	13	<u>150,823</u>	<u>241,278</u>
		169,459	252,637
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(11,617)</u>	<u>(10,964)</u>
Net current assets		<u>157,842</u>	<u>241,673</u>
Net assets		<u>164,624</u>	<u>247,633</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted		10,147	22,735
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted		<u>154,477</u>	<u>224,898</u>
Total funds	15	<u>164,624</u>	<u>247,633</u>


For the financial year ending 31 March 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages 6 to 14 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 16 September 2024 and signed on their behalf by:


James McKay
Chairman and Trustee


Mary Gilmore
Company Secretary and Trustee

The notes on pages 8 to 14 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Northern Area Community Network Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in Northern Ireland, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

Old School House
25 Mill Street
Cushendall
Ballymena
Co. Antrim
BT44 0RR

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the trustees on 16 September 2024.

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

Northern Area Community Network Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity. The trustees have considered both the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements, taking into consideration all relevant factors.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Northern Area Community Network Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Income

Income from charitable activities includes income recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided) under contract or where entitlement to grant funding is subject to specific performance conditions. Grant income included in this category provides funding to support programme activity and is recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amounts can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Equipment	20% reducing balance

Northern Area Community Network Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from funding bodies and customers for services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at cost less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Grant income	-	459,443	459,443	556,221
Sundry income	6,878	24,029	30,907	11,038
	<u>6,878</u>	<u>483,472</u>	<u>490,350</u>	<u>567,259</u>

Northern Area Community Network Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

4 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Project costs	-	164,618	164,618	225,161
Wages and salaries	64,602	235,855	300,457	300,127
Staff NIC (Employers)	-	23,391	23,391	24,933
Staff Pensions	-	16,447	16,447	17,219
Training and recruitment	-	2,842	2,842	2,612
Rent and rates	-	11,183	11,183	11,154
Heat, light and power	-	4,714	4,714	6,859
Insurance	-	4,968	4,968	4,801
Repairs	-	1,492	1,492	1,206
Telephone	-	4,483	4,483	4,351
Computer software and expenses	-	9,071	9,071	8,568
Postage, stationery and advertising	-	9,694	9,694	10,719
Sundry expenses	-	1,920	1,920	1,411
Legal and professional fees	5,627	-	5,627	4,774
Travel and subsistence	-	5,382	5,382	4,167
Bank fees	200	-	200	199
Depreciation	1,695	-	1,695	1,489
	<u>72,124</u>	<u>496,060</u>	<u>568,184</u>	<u>629,750</u>

In addition to the expenditure analysed above, there are also governance costs of £5,175 (2023 - £5,419) which relate directly to charitable activities. See note 5 for further details.

5 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Independent examiner fees		
Examination of the financial statements	1,920	1,920
Legal and professional fees	3,255	3,255
Total for 2024	<u>5,175</u>	<u>5,175</u>
Total for 2023	<u>5,419</u>	<u>5,419</u>

Northern Area Community Network Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

6 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net outgoing resources for the year include:

	2024 £	2023 £
Audit fees	-	2,484
Other non-audit services	1,920	-
Depreciation of fixed assets	<u>1,695</u>	<u>1,489</u>

7 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	300,457	300,127
Social security costs	23,391	24,933
Pension costs	<u>16,447</u>	<u>17,219</u>
	<u>340,295</u>	<u>342,279</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2024 No	2023 No
Staff	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>

10 (2023 - 10) of the above employees participated in the Defined Contribution Pension Schemes.

Contributions to the employee pension schemes for the year totalled £16,447 (2023 - £17,219).

8 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2024 £
Examination of the financial statements	<u>1,920</u>

9 Auditors' remuneration

	2023 £
Audit of the financial statements	<u>2,484</u>

Northern Area Community Network Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

10 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2023	120,236	120,236
Additions	2,517	2,517
At 31 March 2024	122,753	122,753
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2023	114,276	114,276
Charge for the year	1,695	1,695
At 31 March 2024	115,971	115,971
Net book value		
At 31 March 2024	6,782	6,782
At 31 March 2023	5,960	5,960

12 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	18,636	11,359

13 Cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash on hand	39	131
Cash at bank	150,784	241,147
	150,823	241,278

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals	11,617	10,964

Northern Area Community Network Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

15 Funds

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted				
<i>Unrestricted general funds</i>				
General Funds	224,898	6,878	(77,299)	154,477
Restricted Funds	<u>22,735</u>	<u>483,472</u>	<u>(496,060)</u>	<u>10,147</u>
Total funds	<u><u>247,633</u></u>	<u><u>490,350</u></u>	<u><u>(573,359)</u></u>	<u><u>164,624</u></u>
	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted				
<i>Unrestricted general funds</i>				
General Funds	244,601	4,056	(23,759)	224,898
Restricted Funds	<u>70,942</u>	<u>563,203</u>	<u>(611,410)</u>	<u>22,735</u>
Total funds	<u><u>315,543</u></u>	<u><u>567,259</u></u>	<u><u>(635,169)</u></u>	<u><u>247,633</u></u>

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 March 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	6,782	-	6,782
Current assets	159,312	10,147	169,459
Current liabilities	<u>(11,617)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(11,617)</u>
Total net assets	<u><u>154,477</u></u>	<u><u>10,147</u></u>	<u><u>164,624</u></u>