

PIPS Hope & Support Ltd

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

The directors present their Directors' Annual Report, combining the Directors' Report and Trustees' Report, and the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, 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 Directors' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Directors' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines. The directors 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 directors of PIPS Hope & Support Ltd present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 March 2023.

The company is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and, although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Smaller Entities (the FRSSE) (effective 1 January 2015), the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

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Review of Activities, Achievements and Performance

Good evening everyone and thank you for your attendance this evening at the AGM. As you already know, this is the 20th anniversary of PIPS Hope & Support, formerly PIPS Newry & Mourne. Consequently, you'll forgive me if this address is somewhat reflective in nature. But before I begin, I'd like to thank Deirdre Magill for her continued support, not just in annually chairing the AGM, but in her continued commitment and loyalty to the organisation. Deirdre, you truly are invaluable. What would we do without you.

I would also like to thank our funders, the PHA which has been a strong supporter of our service both financially and in terms of critical evaluation, the SHSCT for their past funding and for the intellectual support provided through close collaborative working arrangements between their staff and ours. I'm delighted to be in the enviable position of recognising and thanking a new funder, the Big Lottery Fund under the auspices of the Mental Health Support Fund and finally CDHN for providing funding through their BCCP funding.

I do also want to recognise the contribution to PIPS organisation from a range of voluntary and statutory sector partners, but in particular, Action Mental Health. It would be remiss of me not to include the local communities of Newry & Mourne and the ABC council area for their continued support through a variety of imaginative fundraising initiatives including, local business and benefactors. I also wish to thank Daly Park Associates for the excellent support they offer in providing the annual accounts. You are all amazing. Finally, I want to acknowledge the hard work, passion and commitment of Seamus and his staff and the board of directors for their advice and expertise.

Update on ongoing developments

Seamus will provide a more in-depth briefing in his presentation but I wanted to take this opportunity to mention a few things that have been highlighted in previous AGMs. Firstly, the WELL-Bean Cafe has bedded in and continues to provide a safe welcoming refuge for people in emotional distress, especially at weekends. We are finalising discussions with the PSNI and NIAS regarding onward referral/signposting for those people they interact with, whose needs might be best met within the WELL-Bean cafe environment. We are continuing to develop our services within the Upper Bann area via our office in Lurgan. The need within that area is evident and we anticipate further service developments to meet growing demand.

You will recall last year that I mentioned ongoing work in relation to restructuring the organisation to ensure it remains viable in terms of appropriate staffing, finances and, importantly, good governance arrangements. We have concluded that process via the appointment of a number of in-house counsellors who will meet almost 100% of the organisations needs re that service. We have also completed our strategic plan for the organisation which includes systems for monitoring progress against stated objectives over the next few years.

New Initiatives

You can never accuse PIPS Hope & Support of resting on its laurels. We are currently developing a business plan re the creation of a social enterprise development utilising the Well-Bean Cafe premises during the days that it is not in use as the crisis cafe. Our hope is to open it as a commercial cafe for use by the public. We plan to work in partnership with a local mental health organisation to provide apprenticeships for people with enduring mental health issues enabling them to re-enter the workplace. It is also intended that the cafe will go some way towards generating income to offset the costs of the crisis cafe.

As mentioned already we foresee, at some point, developing services within the ABC council area and are actively exploring ways to replicate the crisis cafe model close to the CAH site. Here's hoping.

I am stepping down in the role of chair this year, making way for new blood. I want to say how privileged I have been to have held the office for the past number of years. I'm quite sure my successor will come to the role with fresh enthusiasm and energy. Thank you to all of you who have supported me as chair of PIPS. I'm most grateful. Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for attending our AGM and again Deirdre Magill, for chairing this evening's proceedings. Deirdre remains a great friend and advocate for PIPS Hope and Support.

Financial Review

The financial statements are presented in the standard format required by the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities SORP. The Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) shows the gross income from all sources.

Financial Results

At the end of the financial year the company has assets of £725,065 (2022 - £787,953) and liabilities of £70,434 (2022 - £70,915). The net assets of the company have decreased by £(62,407).

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Reserves Position and Policy

It is the policy of the charity that liquid unrestricted reserves which have not been designated for a particular purpose should be maintained at a level to ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, we will be able to sustain the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. It is a strategic objective of the charity to hold a minimum unrestricted liquid reserves fund amounting to 6 months of running costs, which would enable the charity to sustain in challenging times and continue to operate without other sources of income.

The Trustees regularly review the level of liquid reserves held by the charity and consider opportunities to apply them in line with, and in furtherance of, its charitable objectives.

Reference and Administrative details

Secretary Eoin Duffy
Chairperson Patricia Trainor
Treasurer Louise Campbell

Directors

The directors who served throughout the financial year, except as noted, were as follows:

Patricia Trainor
Eoin Duffy
Barney McNeany
Louise Mary Campbell
Malcolm Robert Knox
Tracey Tookey
Geraldine McIntyre (Appointed 23 December 2022)
Aoife Jennings (Resigned 15 June 2022)

In accordance with the Constitution, the directors retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The secretary who served during the financial year was:

Eoin Duffy

Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards

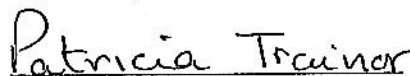
The company engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. PIPS Hope & Support Ltd subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2006

Auditors

Daly Park & Company Ltd, (Chartered Accountants), were appointed auditors by the directors to fill the casual vacancy and they have expressed their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 20 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Patricia Trainor
Director



Eoin Duffy
Director