

# **Drumgor Detached Youth Work Project**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

The trustees present their Trustees' Report and the unaudited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 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 charity are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the charity's constitution are known as members of the board of trustees.

In this report the trustees of Drumgor Detached Youth Work Project present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 March 2023.

The charity is a registered charity 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**

Our Project focus' on three Priority areas :

1. Engagement with those young people who are marginalised or 'at risk' and to re-integrate them back into their communities
2. Engagement with communities to increase their capacity and willingness to support their young people
3. Work strategically to influence policy and practice in our local area.

We do this by:

- Offering a pro-active and re-active supported detached youth work service " Addressing the needs and wants of young people.
- Responding to local community needs.
- Combating social exclusion.
- Promoting and developing good relations.
- Giving young people the skills, knowledge, self-esteem and opportunity to 'Give Back' through community based projects.
- Giving young people a voice We have built on meeting the needs of the young people through various means of Partnership working that has become one of the most effective developmental strategies we effectively utilise to underpin all of our work.

We now have working partnerships with many relevant agencies and funding bodies to enhance and progress the ever-demanding need of our unique service and the programmes we deliver.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

#### **Structure**

Drumgor Detached Youth Work Project is an unincorporated charity and is governed by its Constitution. The day to day activities are overseen by the Trustees of the charity.

# Drumgor Detached Youth Work Project

## TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

### Trustees

The trustees who served during the year were as follows :

Barry McCrory  
Donal O'Hagan  
Lisa Hogg  
Edel Foy  
John Fox

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

### Review of Activities, Achievements and Performance

Throughout the 2022-23 year, we focused on reaching more young people and we were delighted that we had our highest level of participation ever. We directly supported hundreds of young people, partnered with a range of youth providers, statutory and voluntary organisations. What an impactful year it's been!

In April we were delighted to have been awarded a grant from the Coca Cola Thank You Fund, this grant was to support and inspire a group of young people to work towards completing a OCN L1 in Youth Work qualification. There were a total of 16 senior members who actively participated and successfully completed this OCN L1. The vast majority of these young people are aiming to pursue a career within the youth work sector, a number of the young people have already gained a voluntary position within a youth work setting.

A number of the young people who completed their OCN L1 in Youth Work are active members of the youth committee, they are at the forefront of the planning and delivery of our effective service. In April 2022 we held a strategic planning residential in Ballintoy for all of our Youth Committee members as well as staff. This was an opportunity for the young people to express their views and opinions around the upcoming programmes, funding applications and an overall insight into the upcoming months ahead. We also had a large number of young people gain other OCN qualifications throughout the year, such as OCN L1 Health & Fitness, OCN L2 in Restorative Practices, OCN L1 in Choices & Consequences, to name a few.

Our schools' intervention programmes continued to be operational throughout the year (excluding summer months) within St. Ronan's College and Lismore College. These non-formal intervention programmes offered a number of students the opportunity to participate in a 1-1 mentoring support session or small group work sessions to address local issues.



The Youth Justice Agency supported our diversionary programme which was mainly focused on reducing the anti-social behaviour within the Mark Court and Taghnevan geographical areas. This programme had 30 active participants who met on a weekly basis and participated in a range of issue based workshops, including mental health awareness, drugs and alcohol misuse and community safety awareness. This programme was proven to be very successful, which saw a huge reduction of anti-social behaviour within the named areas.

## Drumgor Detached Youth Work Project TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

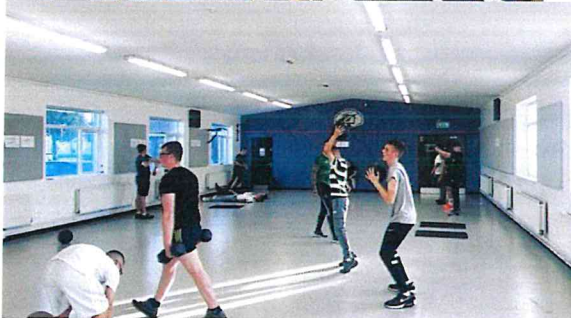
Through our working partnership with Youth Action NI, we were delighted to facilitate a free CSR training course for 14 young males aged 16-19 years old, who were not in education, employment or training. Following on from this we facilitated a number of employment sessions, which supported 12 young people to gain either part-time or full-time employment. These sessions included researching jobs, CV writing, filling out application forms and preparation for their interviews.

July saw a very well needed and highly successful event which we hosted in partnership with the local PSNI neighbourhood teams Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon PCSP and Northern Ireland Ambulance Service. This event was open to the public and seen attendance from a large number of young people, parents and community and voluntary workers. Due to the knife crime issues arising within the Craigavon and Lurgan geographical areas, this event was very much welcomed from all members of the community.

The summer of 2022 saw a new and innovative 8-week summer intervention programme, which was supported by the Youth Justice Agency. We devised a structured summer plan of educational and team buildings activities to provide the young men with opportunities tailored to their needs and interests. This summer diversionary programme was implemented to steer the young people away from risk-taking behaviours and to provide them with positive opportunities. The participants of the programme worked very hard throughout the summer planning a social action project for their peers and other young people from the Lurgan and Craigavon areas. The young men came up with the idea to facilitate a fun filled day which included a 5-a-side football tournament and a BBQ. This youth-led event seen over 120 young people in attendance and was a fantastic day all around, the programme participants received fantastic feedback from the local community for their exceptional social action project event.



August seen the start of our new Neighbourhood Renewal programme, which was focused around health and well-being. This group was facilitated in North Lurgan Community Centre and operated one evening a week for a total of 16 weeks, with over 30 young people aged 13-15 years old actively participating on a weekly basis. This programme included a range of workshops and fitness sessions focused around improving their overall health and well-being. The feedback from the young people who were involved in this group has been very positive, the young people expressed they thoroughly enjoyed all the sessions and felt that their physical and mental health overall had been improved.



We were also successful in receiving Neighbourhood Renewal funding to facilitate an issue based programmed with the Brownlow area. This programme was tailored to the needs of the group and they were at the forefront in the planning of all the workshops, some of the issues that were raised throughout group discussions were gambling addiction, drugs and alcohol misuse, mental health awareness and water safety, just to name a few. Following on from the group discussions the young people planned an event focused on addiction, gambling and the overall impact this can have on our mental health. The young people organised for GAA All Ireland Winner Oisín McConville to come along as a guest speaker and speak very openly about his struggles and battles with gambling and addiction and how he overcame these battles. This event was open to all members off the community, with over 80 people in attendance.



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December saw the beginning of our teenage girl's self-defence 8-week programme, which was supported by CiT & CRJI. This programme was focused around exploring tips, techniques and strategies young girls can put in place to ensure they are staying safe, whether it's when they are out walking alone or out socialising with friends. The young girls who participated in this very positive programme developed many skills, while also enhancing their knowledge about self-defence and self-awareness and how to become more vigilant and aware within their communities.



## Detached Youth Work Service

Our very popular detached youth work service continued to be very effective and successful throughout the year, with our teams engaging up to 200 young people throughout one session. Through our detached youth work approach, we were able to engage with young people in their own environment rather than a formal setting. This service involved building relationships on the streets, bridges, parks and other places where young people are known to gather. Our goal throughout the year was to connect with them, understand their needs, provide support and often address issues like social inclusion, education, or personal development in a more informal and accessible manner.

## Children in Need – Youth Development Officer

This was an extremely busy but influential year for our Youth Development Officer!

The youth development officer throughout the year oversaw all of our programmes, mentoring support sessions as well as overseen our detached youth work service. Throughout the year the Youth Development Officer supported a large number of young people with gaining employment, through CV writing, filling out application forms and prepping and preparing for interviews. The youth development officer engaged with young people to support their personal, social and educational development. Throughout the year, they planned and organised activities, offered guidance, addressed challenges and created a positive environment for the children and young people to grow and thrive.

The youth development officer continued to attend meetings, sub groups and conferences to build rapport with other agencies to ensure the staff team was continuing to deliver an effective service and to assess the evolving needs of the young people. They continued to engage with young people who were isolated and created positive opportunities for them to participate in to gain life skills.

On a regular basis the youth development officer received referrals from a range of agencies and schools to support young people who were deemed at risk of entering the criminal justice system and or misusing alcohol and drugs. This was supported through our 1-1 mentoring programme.

The afterschool's project was also devised and facilitated by our youth development officer, these sessions operated on a weekly basis and provided a warm, safe place for young people to come along avail of homework or school support.



A huge thank you to all our valued funders, partners and supporters for your help and support throughout the year. No matter how big or small, your support and funds help us make a real difference in the lives of the children and young people and the experiences we can offer them. We provide a safe and brave space for children and young people to feel accepted, explore and challenge the things that may hold them back. Your commitment and generosity have played a pivotal role in our youth work delivery, and we are thrilled to share the positive impact it has had on our organisation.

# Drumgor Detached Youth Work Project

## TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2023

### Financial Review

The results for the financial year are set out on page 8 and additional notes are provided showing income and expenditure in greater detail.

### Results and Dividends

At the end of the financial year the charity has assets of £58,619 (2022 - £26,632) and liabilities of £11,766 (2022 - £11,042). The net assets of the charity have increased by £31,263 (2022 (£2,027)).

### Reserves Position and Policy

#### Reserves Policy

The charity's policy is to achieve a level of resources which matches the needs of the organisation both at the current time and in the foreseeable future. The free reserves required should be sufficient to cover at least six months running costs. The trustees feel that these levels of reserves are essential to enable the charity to continue to provide its activities for the foreseeable future. The reserves policy is an integral part of the charity's planning, budget and forecasts.

### Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards

The charity engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. Drumgor Detached Youth Work Project subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

### Public Benefit

DDYWP will provide a Detached Youth Work provision to young people aged 10-18yrs in the Brownlow area. This provision will offer pro active and reactive support service to the marginalised or 'at risk' young people and to try to re-integrate these young people back into their communities. The Direct Benefit of this is the young people talk and interact with the Detached Team and are involved from the start, ensuring that any pro active or reactive provision is in response to the issues that the young people have. Staff complete nightly reports and attend regular team meetings, to help highlight and plan interventions in relation to the issues that the young people have identified. Private Benefit to Trustees is the opportunity for family members to engage with the Detached Provision, this is incidental.

DDYWP provides social and personal development programmes, classes, workshops, events etc. to young people aged 10 - 18yrs from the Brownlow Area. The Direct Benefit of this is the educational engagement with the beneficiaries increasing and improving their knowledge and skill base to make better life choices. This will be monitored with pre and post baselines and evaluated on an ongoing basis. The Private Benefit to Trustees is the ability to refer family members to these needs led programmes.

DDYWP also liaise and engage with Stakeholders within the Brownlow Area. The Direct Benefit of this is to increase the capacity and willingness, within the local community, to support the local young people. Giving everyone a sense of belonging and promote the participation of young people within their community. The Private Benefit to Trustees is the opportunity to identify and highlight areas for engagement within the local area, as all Trustees reside and/or have a personal interest within the Brownlow Area.

DDYWP works strategically to influence policy and practice within the local area. DDYWP staff and young people attend and are members of a number of forums/groups and work in partnership with number of statutory, community and voluntary groups. The Direct Benefit is ensuring that the young people have their voice heard at all levels inclusive of Statutory, Community and Voluntary. Working together, to help improve the services and provisions available to young people, giving young people a sense of citizenship and help to enhance community development.

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The Private Benefit to Trustees is the opportunities to self-refer themselves or family members to partners and agencies

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

**Barry McCrory**  
Trustee

**Donal O'Hagan**  
Trustee

Barry McCrory

D O'Hagan

## **Drumgor Detached Youth Work Project**

# **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

for the financial year ended 31 March 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 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

**Barry McCrory**  
Trustee

Barry McCrory

**Donal O'Hagan**  
Trustee



Donal O'Hagan (Jan 25, 2024 12:32 GMT)