

# **Drumgor Detached Youth Work Project**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees present their Trustees' Report and the unaudited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2024.

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 2024.

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 and to
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.

#### **Review of Activities, Achievements and Performance**

Drumgor Detached Youth Work Project is committed to empowering young people, creating positive community relationships, and addressing the complex challenges faced by young people within the Craigavon and Lurgan geographical areas. Over the past year, we have continued to engage with young people in their own spaces, offering support, guidance, and opportunities for growth in a way that is both accessible and meaningful.

Our work focuses on building trust, addressing issues such as anti-social behaviour, mental health, and education, while creating a safe space for young people to express themselves and make positive choices. Through outreach sessions, group work, and individual interventions, we have not only strengthened connections with the young people but also partnered with families, schools, and local services to provide holistic support.

This report reflects the progress we have made over the past year, showcasing our activities, achievements, and the positive impact on the young people we serve. It also highlights the dedication of our staff, volunteers, and partners who make this work possible.

# Drumgor Detached Youth Work Project

## TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

As we look ahead, we remain focused on expanding our reach and continuing to deliver impactful youth work that transforms lives and strengthens our community.

### Social action projects

Throughout the year, the young people involved in Drumgor Detached Youth Work Project participated in a number of social action initiatives, all of which were conceived and planned by them. One such project was a community clean-up in North Lurgan, where young people aged 13-16 conducted a litter pick within the Kilwilkie and Lurgan Tarry estates. Another impactful project was a graffiti initiative, where the young people designed a positive quote and spray-painted it onto a wall, bringing vibrant and uplifting art to their community. They also organised and hosted a coffee morning at the North Lurgan Community Centre, raising funds for the PIPs charity. Finally, they planned and supervised a highly successful community fun day, which saw over 700 members of the local community in attendance. Each of these social action projects was met with enthusiasm and appreciation from the communities involved, showcasing the creativity, dedication, and leadership of the young people.



### Detached Youth Work Service

Our highly popular detached youth work service remained impactful and successful throughout the year, with our teams engaging with up to 280 young people in a single session. This approach allowed us to meet young people in their own environments on streets, bridges, parks, and other locations where they naturally gather rather than in formal settings. By building relationships in these spaces, we aimed to connect with them, understand their needs, and offer support. This often involved addressing issues such as social inclusion, education, and personal development in a way that was informal, accessible, and relevant to their everyday lives.



### Training programmes

Throughout the year, Drumgor Detached Youth Work Project successfully enrolled large numbers of young people onto a variety of accredited and non-accredited training courses, helping them develop valuable skills and qualifications. Among these achievements, 25 young people completed a Basic First Aid Awareness course, equipping them with essential life-saving knowledge.

Additionally, 40 young people participated in a water safety event facilitated by Lough Neagh Rescue Service, the Coastguard, and the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service. This event was highly beneficial, providing crucial safety education and practical skills.

## **Drumgor Detached Youth Work Project TRUSTEES' REPORT**

for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

We also supported 50 young people in enrolling and successfully obtaining their Food Hygiene Level 2 certificate, enhancing their employability and awareness of safe food practices.

We also had 35 young people successfully complete the Mindset Programme, which focused on raising awareness around mental and emotional health and well-being. This programme provided participants with valuable tools and knowledge to better understand and manage their mental health, fostering resilience and self-awareness.

In partnership with Youth Action, 14 young people enrolled in and successfully completed their CSR (Construction Skills Register) qualification. This achievement equips them with essential skills and certification, enhancing their employability within the construction industry.

We had 14 young males aged 16-19 years old participate in a 'Mind Yer Mate' programme, which included a series of training and awareness sessions designed to enhance their skills and knowledge. As part of the programme, a session facilitated by Street Doctors provided practical guidance on how to respond if a friend or peer became unwell due to substance misuse. This initiative empowered participants to support one another in critical situations, promoting awareness and peer safety.



### **Programmes**

#### **North Lurgan Young Mens Programme**

As part of our North Lurgan Young Men's Programme, we had over 50 young people aged 13-17 years old participate in a diverse range of group work sessions, social action projects, and team-building activities designed to support their personal and social development. The group work sessions were tailored to meet the specific needs of the young men and included self-defence classes, community safety workshops, mental health workshops, and sexual health workshops. These sessions provided a safe and supportive environment for the participants to build essential life skills, increase their awareness of key issues, and develop positive connections within their community. The Lord Mayor of Craigavon extended a special invitation to the North Lurgan Young Men's Group for a reception at the Civic Centre to celebrate their outstanding success in organising a highly successful fun day in North Lurgan. This event was a testament to the group's hard work, dedication, and commitment to their community, and the reception provided an opportunity to acknowledge and commend their efforts in creating a positive and engaging event for local residents and young people.

#### **Girls Group**

As part of our Young Girls Group, participants explored a variety of topics, including community safety and health and well-being, through engaging and interactive sessions. A highlight of the programme was their initiative to host a coffee morning for senior residents of Lurgan, fostering intergenerational connections and community spirit. During the event, the young girls presented the residents with thoughtful care packs, which they had carefully designed and assembled themselves. This meaningful activity allowed the group to demonstrate their creativity, compassion, and commitment to supporting their local community.

#### **Youth Justice Young Mens Programme**

We were delighted to receive funding from the Youth Justice Agency to deliver a targeted programme for a group of young men aged 15-18 years old in partnership with Tullygally Youth Centre. The programme aimed to provide diversional activities to steer participants away from anti-social behaviour and create positive opportunities for their growth and development. It featured a series of workshops and educational visits, including a thought-provoking trip to Crumlin Road Gaol and sessions focused on exploring choices and consequences. Through these activities, the young men gained valuable insights and skills to make more informed and constructive decisions about their futures.

# **Drumgor Detached Youth Work Project**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

### **North Lurgan Senior Men's Programme**

Our Senior Men's Programme successfully engaged 12 active participants aged 15-19 years old throughout the year. The programme offered a diverse range of sessions that focused on key topics such as mental health, drugs and alcohol awareness, and overall health and well-being. As part of this initiative, participants also took part in

workshops designed to develop essential life skills, equipping them with the tools and knowledge needed to navigate challenges and make positive choices in their lives.

### **Brownlow Neighbourhood Renewal Programme**

Through our Neighbourhood Renewal funding, we were able to engage 14 young males from the Brownlow area, aged 11-13 years old in a programme focused on health and well-being. These participants were relatively new to youth services and took part in a variety of sessions centred on good relations, health and well-being, and staying active. The programme proved to be highly successful, providing a positive introduction to youth service activities. As a result, these young people are now continuing their engagement with our wider youth service delivery, building on the skills and connections they developed during the programme.

### **Fulla Beanz Youth Café**

With funding from the Public Health Agency (PHA), we facilitated a youth café at North Lurgan Community Centre for young people aged 11-13 years old. The youth café, named "Fulla Beanz," was highly successful, attracting over 40 registered participants. This initiative provided a welcoming space for young people to engage in baking and cooking activities while also participating in interactive and enjoyable sessions. The café created a unique opportunity for the participants to develop new skills, build friendships, and connect in a positive and supportive environment.

### **Mentoring Programme**

As part of our mentoring programme, we delivered weekly one-to-one sessions to over 12 pupils per week across Lismore College and St. Ronan's College. These sessions were carefully tailored to meet the individual needs of each young person, providing them with personalised support and guidance. The primary focus of the mentoring sessions was on promoting health and well-being, helping the students to build resilience, develop coping strategies, and achieve their personal goals in a supportive and nurturing environment.

### **Health and Well-Being Programmes**

As part of our health and well-being initiatives funded through Communities in Transitions, we successfully delivered two comprehensive programmes during the year one at Tullygally Youth Centre and another at North Lurgan Community Centre. These programmes aimed to enhance the overall well-being of young people through a variety of engaging and educational activities. Sessions included the opportunity to earn a Level 2 Food Hygiene qualification, a range of interactive workshops, cooking sessions, and team-building activities. Over 80 young people participated in these programmes, benefiting from the valuable skills and experiences provided, while developing personal growth and a sense of community.

### **After School Programme**

We facilitated an after-school programme on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons at Mount Zion House from 3:30 to 5:00 pm for Year 11-12 students. This programme provided young people with a safe and welcoming environment where they could receive homework support and guidance. Light refreshments were also provided, creating a comfortable space for learning and engagement. The initiative was highly successful, with an average of 14 young people attending each session, benefiting from the tailored academic support and positive atmosphere.

### **Youth Engagement Programme**

As part of our youth engagement programme in partnership with ABC Council throughout the summer, we successfully engaged 20 young people in a variety of exciting and educational activities. The programme offered a range of hands-on experiences, including bushcraft, interactive workshops, water safety, and fire safety. These activities provided the participants with valuable skills and knowledge, while also promoting teamwork, personal development, and a greater sense of community engagement. The summer programme was a great success, creating both fun and learning for the young people involved.

### **Good Relations Programme**

As part of our Good Relations Programme, funded by the NIHE, we had a total of 16 young people participate, with 8 participants from the Travelling Community and 8 from the North Lurgan area. This programme proved to be a great initiative, with all the young people actively engaging in every session. The programme included team-building days where participants took part in water sports activities, ropes courses, and other outdoor challenges. The group work sessions focused on key good relations topics, helping to enhance the young people's understanding of community

# Drumgor Detached Youth Work Project

## TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the financial year ended 31 March 2024  
cohesion, respect, and positive intergroup relations.

### Acknowledgments

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our valued funders, partners, and supporters for your incredible help and encouragement throughout the year. Every contribution, no matter the size, has enabled us to make a meaningful difference in the lives of the children and young people we work with and in the experiences, we can provide for them. Through your support, we have been able to create a safe and empowering space where young people feel accepted and can explore and overcome the challenges they face. Your unwavering commitment and generosity have been instrumental in driving our youth work forward, and we are excited to share the positive impact your support has had on our organisation.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Children's Commissioner for taking the time to visit our young people and engage with them, showing their support and commitment to the issues that matter most to our community.



### **Financial Review**

The results for the financial year are set out on page 10 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 £90,165 (2023 - £58,619) and liabilities of £7,835 (2023 - £11,766). The net assets of the charity have increased by £35,477.

### **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. In addition, the Trustees have set aside an amount of £40,000 into a contingency reserve to cover unexpected costs in the event that funding isn't available for specific projects and for other items like redundancy 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.

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

### **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)

# **Drumgor Detached Youth Work Project**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

### **Trustees**

The trustees who served during the year were as follows :

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

### **Public Benefit**

DDYWP will provide a Detached Youth Work provision to young people aged 10-18yrs in the Brownlow area. This provision will offer proactive 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 proactive 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.

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 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

**Barry McCrory**  
Trustee

**Donal O'Hagan**  
Trustee

## **Drumgor Detached Youth Work Project**

# **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

for the financial year ended 31 March 2024

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 accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, 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 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

**Barry McCrory**  
Trustee

**Donal O'Hagan**  
Trustee