

## Tiny Tots Community Playgroup

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

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 August 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).

#### **INCORPORATION**

The charitable company was incorporated on 10 December 2002 and commenced trading on the same date.

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

##### **Objectives and aims**

The company's charitable objectives are to enhance the development and education of children under statutory school age in areas of social and economic deprivation and in particular the Strathfoyle, Maydown, and Eglinton areas of Derry and their environs by encouraging parents/guardians to understand and provide for the needs of their children by: (a) Offering appropriate play facilities, with the right of parents/carers to take responsibility for and to become involved in the activities of the group, ensuring that the group offers opportunities for all children, regardless of religion, culture, race or means; (b) Encouraging the study of the needs of such children and their families and promoting public interest in and recognition of such needs of such children and their families in the local areas. (c) Instigating and adhering to and furthering the aims of Early Years The Organisation for Young Children.

##### **Activities**

The group provided a safe and satisfying programme of play to advance the educational, personal and social development of the young children attending the group, including those with special needs, and continued to support the parents and carers of those children. The health, safety and welfare of the children is paramount within the setting and all activities were fully supervised by trained vetted staff with minimal risk. Parents and carers were encouraged to participate in the playgroup's programme and a variety of training programmes were run covering parenting and communication skills to equip parents and carers with the skills and confidence to make a fuller and more positive contribution to their children's development. The company operates from its own premises and provides all necessary equipment for its day to day activities. The group received grant assistance from the various contributors as listed on "Incoming Resources" and also received fees and raised funds for the benefit of the children.

## Tiny Tots Community Playgroup

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

#### **ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

For this financial year, through the playgroup sessions, the charity fulfilled its objectives providing a safe and satisfying programme advancing the early education, personal and social development of many young children.

The charity has also been able to replace/renew an outdoor shelter's canopy and upgrade the garden area this year thanks to funding secured from Daera and additional funding from Small Pockets of Deprivation Fund.

Through the continued support from The Pathway Fund and Small Pockets of Deprivation Fund (SPOD) and The RTE Toy Show Appeal (received in June 2022), the charity has been able to sustain salaries for three staff members and to run programmes for the children such as Joe Jingles, Kidz Playtime, Arts & Crafts and various outings throughout 2023.

John Moores Foundation (received July 2022) helped towards running costs in 2023 and Department of Health - HSC/CPP - Childcare Regional Small Grants helped towards heating fuel, burner service and new water boiler.

SPOD - Cost of Living grant helped towards insurance and another grant helped towards kitchen utilities, upgrade of equipment and accountancy fees.

A further grant from SPOD helped our group develop a memorial garden for our late chairperson who founded our playgroup in 1996 which we called our buddies bench area where children can sit together and enjoy the lovely surroundings.

Fundraising Charity Nights, sponsored walk, £20 a line fundraiser and donations from local businesses all provided much needed support to cover the shortfall in salaries and running costs for the school year ended 31 August 2023.

#### **GOING CONCERN**

Due to the level of reserves and funding secured from The Pathways Fund for 16 children and funding from the Small Pockets of Deprivation Fund together with smaller amounts from various funders, the Trustees are satisfied that the financial statements should be prepared on the going concern basis.

## Tiny Tots Community Playgroup

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The results for the financial year are set out in the Statement of Financial Activities. During the year ended 31 August 2023 the charity is showing a deficit of £11,664.73 on the restricted funds column of Statement of Financial Activities. Please note that this deficit has arisen due to grants being recognised in year of receipt with no Income being deferred in 2022 in order to keep the accounts in line with the Charities SORP (FRS102) - please refer to Accounting Policies - note 1 - Income. A total of £13,053.00 was recognised in the August 2022 accounts and then used up by March 2023 in this year's accounts. At 31 August 2023 the charity held £10,967.00 of unrestricted reserves and £7,553.00 of restricted reserves

There were two main funders for the year ended 31 August 2023 - The Pathway Fund and Small Pockets of Deprivation Fund (SPOD) and the charity has been successful in their funding applications for 2023/2024 securing £14,964.00 from Pathways and £22,160.00 from SPOD. On top of The Pathway/SPOD funding secured for the operation of the playgroup, the charity was also able to secure funding from Daera (RAPID) for a new canopy for the outdoor shelter, funding from HSC - Childcare Partnerships towards running costs and additional funding from SPOD to help towards running costs and upgrading the garden area for the year ended 31 August 2023.

The charity was also successful in fundraising this year with a total of £7,562.00 being raised between charity nights and donations

No significant events have occurred since the date of the Balance Sheet which affect the organisation or which materially affect these financial statements.

#### **Risk Management**

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Charity, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate the exposure to the major risks.

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

##### **Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

##### **Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

Tiny Tots Community Playgroup is currently governed by a Board of seven trustees and a Company Secretary.

The board can co-opt new trustees as and when required. The charity's chair is elected from the members on an annual basis and is ratified at the Annual General Meeting.

There are currently 7 members on the Management Committee together with the Company Secretary and there have been no new appointments over year.

##### **Organisational structure**

Day to day running of the company is managed by the Project Manager and operational management of the project is managed by the management committee.

##### **Induction and training of new trustees**

New directors are briefed on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Articles of Association, the committee and decision-making process, and recent financial performance of the charity.

## Tiny Tots Community Playgroup

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

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

##### **Related parties**

None of the members receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the charity. Any connection between a member or senior manager of the charity with a contracted supplier must be disclosed to the full Management Committee in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. In the current year no such related party transactions were reported.

#### **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees (who are also the directors of Tiny Tots Community Playgroup 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 information of which the charitable company's independent examiner is unaware; and
- the Management Committee have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of that information.

#### **Small Company Provisions**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

Tiny Tots Community Playgroup

Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 9 May 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

*Brian Mc Laughlin*

Brian Mc Laughlin - Trustee