

REDBURN LOUGHVIEW COMMUNITY FORUM

Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objectives of the charity set out in its governing document

The prevention or relief of poverty

The advancement of citizenship or community development

The relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objectives

Community development

Cultural

Environmental/sustainable development/conservation

Relief of poverty

Volunteer development

Youth development

Achievements and Performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The Redburn Loughview Community Forum (RLCF) was set up in Holywood, Co. Down by concerned local older resident volunteers who looked to devise solutions to problems due to socio-economic disadvantage prevalent in their area. The area includes predominantly of social housing with low-income families with a distinct lack of facilities and services. Since its start over 20 years ago, RLCF has fought to develop the capacity, skills and potential of its community and meet identified needs. The RLCF is a voluntary organization, for local groups consisting of Men, Women, Young People and Children, in the Redburn Loughview area including other voluntary and statutory agencies.

The organisation uses its constitution in all its work; however, it adopts a community development approach to all its work and has the following key values Equality and Anti-discrimination, Social Justice, Collective Action, Community Empowerment. (In line with RLCF constitution).

"Community development is work with people in neighbourhoods and communities to increase levels of self-help, support and collective action. It aims to give people greater control over their individual situations and their communities". (Thomas N, 1980).

Redburn Loughview Community Forum's ethos is to build the ability of the most vulnerable members of Redburn/Loughview Social Housing area including the wider environs to become empowered to meet their own needs. To provide and support a forum where member groups and statutory and community organisations can join for mutual support, to exchange views and share common issues and information. We wish to create a collective voice and work in partnership with statutory agencies and authorities.

REDBURN LOUGHVIEW COMMUNITY FORUM

Financial Review

Principal funding sources

Our principal source of funds this year has been grant funding from International Fund Ireland and NIHE.

We rely on the local community and our local council for their continuing support and goodwill.

Trustees and Officers

Trustees:	Mr Robert Buchanan	
	Mr Tommy Briscoe	
	Mr John Catherwood	
	Mr Michael Topping	
	Miss Lynn McAuley	Resigned 07/10/2025
	Ms Susan Johnston	Appointed 07/10/2025
	Mr Stanley Chapman	Appointed 03/12/2024
	Mr John Herron	Appointed 03/12/2024
	Mr Stanley Chapman (Jnr)	Appointed 03/12/2024

Access To

Resource centre with facilities and skills to support groups and residents. All completed in line with **Government Legislations and Policies**.

Governance

Bimonthly Meetings – attended by volunteers

Interagency meeting four times a year with all statutory Bodies such as Policing Board for Northern Ireland (PSNI) Housing Executive, Supporting Communities NI, Policing Community Safety (PCSP) Partnership, Clanmil Housing, Habinteg, Ards and North Down Borough Council Officers, Community Development, Good Relations, PSCP Officers, Councillors, Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA), Department of Regional Development (DRD), Department for Infrastructure (DFI).

Housing Association meetings with Northern Ireland Housing Executive

Debt advice and support for residents

Policing Service Northern Ireland (PSNI) weekly/monthly

Local Councillors/MLA's

Work with local schools

Community Activities/Forum

Road Safety Traffic Issues

We have listed an overview of the work and volunteering we do from consultations and meetings to short and long term projects, including training and development of our volunteers. The following are resident issues reported to the agencies at meetings and estate walkabouts 2023/24.

REDBURN LOUGHVIEW COMMUNITY FORUM

Long Term Project

Helping residents and wider community with Traffic Safety issues that impact all the community. Residents blocked in their homes, emergency services reduced or no access, parents and vulnerable residents walking on roads as paths blocked. Through the interagency work and continuous lobbying with all the statutory agencies concerned.

Working in Partnership – Community Planning
Policing Service Northern Ireland
Policing Community Safety Partnership
Ards and North Down Road Safety Partnership
Local MLA Local School
Local Councillors
Local School
Residents

Food Pantry @ Redburn Loughview

We offer food in the form of a food pantry we support weekly/monthly/yearly for perishable and non-perishable food, delivered by volunteers. Including support from local businesses such as Henderson's Spar/Henderson's Spar Torgrange/Churches and Food Storehouse. We also offer hygiene products when available.

Shared Community Garden

We offer access to a shared community garden that residents can take part in from meeting – networking/training/planting and growing vegetables and plants and all residents have access to free apples/cooking apples/pears and herbs.

Projects throughout the Year

Celebrations, the King's Birthday, May Day, Christmas switch on, for all ages starting at 6 months old to 100 years old, living in the Redburn Loughview area, working with the community and statutory bodies and volunteers ensuring safe, enjoyable events.

Family activities – Bonding

"A parent is their child's first teacher and should remain their best teacher throughout life" going to activities together.

We work on young people's projects – working with young people at key times, weekends and nights putting in place divisionary programmes with the CFNI, PSNI, PCSP, ie., Archery, W5, Cinema, Let's Go Hydro, Bowling Activities, Teambuilding.

Sharing skills for the younger participants is important in the community, like attending educational sessions and helping with the community garden. Passing on life skills.

REDBURN LOUGHVIEW COMMUNITY FORUM

Training Supplied

Onus Safe Place Training – all levels (digital)

Level 2 Health and Safety at Work

Housing Training

Interagency Training

Computer Skills

Gardening

Safe Awareness Training

Safe Place for Community

We continue -- Zero Tolerance to Domestic Violence

Redburn Loughview membership stays high, the forum looks forward to delivering further projects and work with its volunteers, residents and community in the next coming year.

Bin the Drugs – Rapid Box

Remove unused unwanted prescription drugs from the community.

REDBURN LOUGHVIEW COMMUNITY FORUM

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under charity 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 charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards 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 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 charitable company 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 trustees of the charity on 16 February 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

Susan Johnston

Susan Johnston (Feb 24, 2026 16:00:08 GMT)

Ms Susan Johnston

Trustee