

Registration number NI068528

**North Belfast Interface Network
Company limited by guarantee
Charity no: NIC 103324
Directors' report and financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

**North Belfast Interface Network
Company limited by guarantee**

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**North Belfast Interface Network
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**Directors' report
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "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 published in October 2019.

Structure, governance and management

The Company is a company limited by guarantee.

Directors

The directors who served during the year were as follows

C Heron (Secretary)

A Kerr

M Maguire

J McAlea

L Morgan

K Murphy

L Wiggins

Introduction

NBIN aim to achieve these through consultation, local representation, work with community representatives across sectarian divides and interagency work. As a result of this engagement process NBIN plan activities that enable local people to address issues that have that have a negative impact on community relations. NBIN develop initiatives that seek to transform the nature of conflict and act as a catalyst for the development of community collaborations that have the potential to bring about positive social and physical change in the area. The primary vehicle for the delivery of this work has been through the programming of the Twaddell Ardoyne Shankill Communities in Transition (TASCIT) programme, of which NBIN is the lead partner.

The creation of North Belfast Interface Network has been a response to intra communal violence and the threat to the physical and social structures of community life posed by ongoing conflict and communal segregation.

North Belfast Interface Network was formed in 2002. Its primary focus is now on developing relations and trust between the two communities and to help create the conditions for the regeneration of interface communities.

Objectives and activities

Objectives & Activities for the Public Benefit

The Vision of The North Belfast Interface Network is of,

"A safe, confident and prosperous community at peace with itself and its neighbours".

The NBIN Mission statement is,

"Working to create understanding, respect and positive relations within and between North Belfast Communities

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NBIN have three have three key strategic aims which are:

To minimise the potential for violent conflict and support positive intervention in North Belfast

To build and maintain positive working relationships within and between communities

To play an active role in creating positive physical transformation of interface communities in North Belfast

2023-2024

This year 2023 marks the 25th anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement and it also mark an important phase in the development of the North Belfast Interface Networks (NBIN) future strategic objectives. As NBIN enters its 21st year of serving the community it has undertaken a review of its role in delivering positive change throughout Upper North Belfast. Although NBINs primary strategic objectives remain the same;

- To minimise the potential for violent conflict and support positive intervention in North Belfast
 - To build and maintain positive working relationships within and between communities
 - To play an active role in creating positive physical transformation of interface communities in North Belfast
- the amount of effort that is required in the pursuance of each objective has changed considerably. Over the past year we have witnessed a steady decline in the number of interface incidents that NBIN and its Twaddell Ardoyne Shankill Communities in Transition (TASCIT) partners have had to respond to.

Throughout the summer months there were no reported incidents of any significance in relation to cross interface conflict and even though NBIN NBIN and its partners continue to maintain an intervention capacity; primarily in relation to arranged fights and problems associated with transient youth, this is much reduced in relation to historical levels of conflict previously witnessed in the Ardoyne, Woodvale and Twaddell areas.

Whereas levels of conflict has decreased NBINs work with TASCIT, its community partners, in increasing engagement between local residents in its catchment area continues to grow. . During the 2023- 2024 period the Promoting Positive Change programme has engaged over 1000 residents in Level 1 activity by delivering its second Meet the Neighbours event and a Cross Community Christmas Fun day with over 500 residents participating in each event. 120 residents have also taken part in Level 2 engagement workshops and craft classes, and a further 60 residents completed tranche 12,13 and 14 of the Level 3, Challenging Conversations, 9 week course. This brings the number of residents who have participated in Challenging Conversations to 280 and for tranche 13 and 14 all participants were recruited through word of mouth from other residents who have completed the course. This year the First and Deputy First Junior Ministers alongside the Belfast Lord Mayor presented the Certificate of Completion Certificates to those participants who completed the course this year. Twenty residents 10PUL and 10CNR also participated in a 4 week programme What Lies Ahead that sought to engage residents on the subject of constitutional change and included site visits to Newtownhamilton and Dail Eireann.

In September coming we will also celebrate the 10 anniversary of NBINs role as the lead partner in the Twaddell Ardoyne Shankill Communities in Transition (TASCIT) partnership. The TASCIT partnership set out to create the conditions that would enable residents to begin the process of residential de-segregation by transforming interface structures, removing segregation walls and opening gates that have closed for over 30 yrs.

Since 2013 TASCIT have supported residents on the Crumlin Rd with the removal of the first Northern Ireland Housing Executive wall to come down in 40 yrs. This year we have witnessed the removal of two barriers in Flax Street that have kept the road closed for over 30 years and later in the year the Colombia Street pedestrian gate which has also been closed for over 30 years will open.

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In relation to the TASCIT Peace Barriers Programme, of which NBIN is the lead partner, the NBIN coordinator continues to be responsible for overseeing and implementation of all activities related to its strategic plan. This year a further 3 of the barriers identified in that strategic plan, Colombia St Ardoyne Rd and Velsheda Way have been brought to completion. This leaves only one barrier for which no community consent for change has yet been achieved.

Finally applications have been submitted by the NBIN coordinator to the Northern Ireland Community Relations Council and the International Fund for Ireland for continued support for both NBIN and TASCIT for 2024/ 2026.

Achievements and performance

As outlined above, the company believes it achieved its goals of promoting good community relations throughout the North Belfast interface area.

Reserve Policy

In order to carry out our work it is necessary to hold financial resources in reserve. The trustees have agreed a policy that requires financial i.e. unrestricted reserves to be maintained at a level sufficient to sustain 3 months' core activity during a period of unforeseen difficulty.

To operate as a successful community organisation, we require financial reserves for the following purposes:

- Strategic- acquiring and replacing assets to benefit the community
- Accountability - complying with legal and statutory obligations e.g. redundancy payments
- Operational - to cover running costs not included in grant income, sustaining staff in gap funding periods etc.

Financial review

The results are set out in full in the financial statements. The directors have obtained funding for the near future.

This report was approved by the Board on 29 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by

**M Maguire
Director**



Manus Maguire (Dec 11, 2024 11:40 GMT)

**Independent examiner's Report to the Members of
North Belfast Interface Network**

I report on the accounts of the for the for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on the pages that follow.

Respective responsibilities of and examiner

As the charity trustees (and also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



MTS (Dec 2, 2024 12:59 GMT)

Richard McClay FCA

For and on behalf of McCreery Turkington Stockman LTD

**1 Lanyon Quay
Belfast**

29 November 2024

**North Belfast Interface Network
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**Statement of Financial Activities (Including Summary Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
		2024	2024	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources	Notes				
<i>Activities to further the charity's objectives:</i>					
Grant received and events	3	1,384	273,774	275,158	290,350
Total incoming resources		<u>1,384</u>	<u>273,774</u>	<u>275,158</u>	<u>290,350</u>
Charitable expenditure					
Management and administration	4	(413)	(287,685)	(288,098)	(281,808)
Total resources expended		<u>(413)</u>	<u>(287,685)</u>	<u>(288,098)</u>	<u>8,542</u>
Net income before transfers		<u>971</u>	<u>(13,911)</u>	<u>(12,940)</u>	<u>8,542</u>
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Net incoming resources		<u>971</u>	<u>(13,911)</u>	<u>(12,940)</u>	<u>8,542</u>
Fund balances brought forward		48,835	23,240	72,075	63,533
Fund balances carried forward		<u>49,806</u>	<u>9,329</u>	<u>59,135</u>	<u>72,075</u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. All gains and losses recognised in the year are included above.

The notes on pages 9 to 13 form an integral part of these financial statements.

**North Belfast Interface Network
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**Balance sheet
as at 31 March 2024**

		2024		2023	
Notes	£	£	£	£	
Current assets					
Debtors	8	55,263		15,176	
Cash at bank and in hand		3,872		61,800	
		59,135		76,976	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	-		(4,901)	
Net current assets			59,135		72,075
Net assets			59,135		72,075
Capital and reserves					
Restricted funds	10		9,329		23,240
Unrestricted funds	10		49,806		48,835
General funds			59,135		72,075

The notes on pages 9 to 13 form an integral part of these financial statements.

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Balance sheet (continued)

for the year ended 31 March 2024

For the year ended 31 March 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

(a) The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476;

(b) The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 29 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by

**M Maguire
Director**


Manus Maguire (Dec 11, 2024 11:40 GMT)

Registration number NI068528

The notes on pages 9 to 13 form an integral part of these financial statements.

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**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

..... continued

1. Accounting policies

Company information

North Belfast Interface Network is a Company limited by guarantee, registered in Northern Ireland. The address of the registered office is 123 Cliftonville Road, Belfast, Co Antrim, BT14 6JR.

1.1. Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "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 published in October 2019". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2. Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the directors for particular purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal

1.3. Resources

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Donations are included as income when they are received. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs relating to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

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**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

2. Employees

Number of employees	2024	2023
The average monthly numbers of employees (including the directors) during the year were:		
Employed	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
 Employment costs	 2024	 2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>118,281</u>	<u>109,854</u>

There were no employees earning over £60,000 in the two years ended 31 March 2024.

3. Income from charitable activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Grants and donations				
International Fund For Ireland	-	229,759	229,759	197,557
The Executive Office	-	15,806	15,806	17,565
General Income	1,384	-	1,384	2,043
NI Community Relations Council	-	28,209	28,209	30,193
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Reconciliation Funds	-	-	-	11,502
St Stephens Green Trust	-	-	-	20,000
Belfast City Council	-	-	-	11,490
	<u>1,384</u>	<u>273,774</u>	<u>275,158</u>	<u>290,350</u>

In 2023 of the charitable income £288,307 was attributable to restricted income funds with the balance £2,043 adding to unrestricted income.

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**Notes to the financial statements
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..... continued

	2024	2023
	£	£
4. Total resources expended		
Wages and pension costs	118,281	109,854
Rent and room hire	15,080	13,780
Insurance	1,733	2,250
Project workers, activities and facilitation	141,165	143,413
Light and heat	3,213	3,432
Cleaning	1,900	1,700
Underspend	717	-
Printing, postage and stationery	1,607	1,664
Telephone	2,892	2,474
Independent examination	1,050	1,008
Bank charges	460	424
General expenses	-	1,809
	<u>288,098</u>	<u>281,808</u>

In 2023 of the charitable expenditure £280,984 was attributable to restricted funds with the balance £824 relating to unrestricted funds.

5. Taxation

No liability to UK corporation tax arises on ordinary activities for the year. The company is a registered charity .

6. Incorporation

North Belfast Interface Network is a company limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. The liability of the members is limited to an amount not exceeding £1 per member.

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**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

..... continued

7. Tangible fixed assets	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 April 2023	6,342	6,342
At 31 March 2024	<u>6,342</u>	<u>6,342</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April 2023	6,342	6,342
At 31 March 2024	<u>6,342</u>	<u>6,342</u>
8. Debtors	2024	2023
	£	£
Grants due	<u>55,263</u>	<u>15,176</u>
9. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	<u>-</u>	<u>4,901</u>

**North Belfast Interface Network
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**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

..... continued

10. Statement of funds	Restricted reserve £	Unrestricted reserve £	Total £
Total reserves at 1 April 2023	23,240	48,835	72,075
Total income for the year	273,774	1,384	275,158
Total expenditure for the year	(287,685)	(413)	(288,098)
Total reserves at 31 March 2024	<u>9,329</u>	<u>49,806</u>	<u>59,135</u>

The restricted reserve represents monies that are subject to restriction on their expenditure imposed by the donor. These funds are not available for general charity expenses and must be spent on expenditure stipulated by the funder.

The unrestricted reserve represents the free funds of the charity which are not designated for particular purposes.

11. Analysis of net assets between funds	Restricted reserve £	Unrestricted reserve £	Total £
Fund Balances at 31 March 2024 represented by:			
Current assets	9,329	49,806	59,135
Current liabilities	-	-	-
Total net assets	<u>9,329</u>	<u>49,806</u>	<u>59,135</u>

The restricted reserve represents monies that are subject to restriction on their expenditure imposed by the donor. These funds are not available for general charity expenses and must be spent on expenditure stipulated by the funder.

The unrestricted reserve represents the free funds of the charity which are not designated for particular purposes.