

Rasharkin Womens Group - Trustees Annual Report for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for Rasharkin Womens Group for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees of Rasharkin Womens Group confirm that they have had due regard for the guidance on Public Benefit by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland and are pleased to report that during the period the group continued to provide the Public Benefits through the programmes and services we offer. In particular, the Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

Public Benefit

The direct benefits which flow from our purpose include enhanced health and wellbeing and access to services and facilities, increased skills and opportunities for rurally isolated women and older people and therefore reduction in social isolation, relief of poverty through provision of affordable and accessible childcare to allow women to seek employment, improved linking and collaboration with other organisations for the benefit of the women of Rasharkin and surrounding area.

The Charity's beneficiaries are women and older people living in the Rasharkin and surrounding area. Any private benefit is incidental in terms of enhanced health and wellbeing, enhanced skills and knowledge and access to services and facilities to relieve poverty and rural isolation.

Achievements and Performance

During the year Rasharkin Women's Group continued to operate the Registered After Schools Club each week day for a maximum of 16 children. The Club maintained a full capacity for the whole year with a waiting list of additional children to attend. The Group also caters for the Club during the summer holidays and wish to recognise the support from NHST Early Years Team and funding from HSCB, Playboard, each year and from Community Foundation NI/Long Mountain Community Benefit Fund in 2023-24.

The Luncheon Club continues to operate weekly providing a two course lunch for 25 to 30 people. The Club also invites a range of health and wellbeing speakers for sessions including physical activities, health awareness, Tai Chi dancing and Bingo. This has been a lifeline for our elderly population who often feel isolated from the community.

Building on the DAERA funding in 2023, our sewing classes continued utilising the 10 sewing machines helping people cope with the cost of living crisis and enabling participants to sew and mend.

Rasharkin Women's Group is a non-profit making organisation. Total income for the year amounted to £41,050 (2023: £36,702). Income derived from donations and legacies amounted to £28,411 (2023: £30,203) and other income from grant bodies and charitable activities amounted to £12,639 (2023: £6,499).

Total expenditure for the year amounted to £39,278 (2023: £44,467).

The net income for the year amounted to £1,772, (2023: (£7,765)) with net assets of £23,471 (2023: £21,699) at 31 March 2024. The Trustees consider that the Association is in a satisfactory position to carry on its charitable activities.

Veronica McKinley

Ms Veronica McKinley
Trustee