

Lilac Cancer Support Ltd

Report of the trustees for the year ending 31 January 2023

(Presented by the Chairperson Mrs Ann Walsh for the trustees)

Registered Company Number NI605880

Registered Charity Number 103605

Registered Address

2nd Floor Loy Buildings

18 Loy Street

Cookstown

Co Tyrone

BT80 8PE

Trustees

Mrs Bernie Morgan

Mr Eamon Morgan

Mrs Julie Ann Mc Alister

Mrs Ann Walsh

Mr Daniel O Hagan

Mrs Cordelia Carragher

Independent Examiners

O Hagan, Mc Glinchey & Co.

32-34 Dungannon Road

Coalisland

County Tyrone

BT71 4 HP

Covid 2020/21 had a devastating impact on the delivery of Lilac services and our financial income. However 2022/23 saw Lilac services fully operational again with an evaluation carried out on how to protect the charity into the future. (see risk management).

Our many thanks to our volunteers, staff, funders, health professionals and community groups who have helped Lilac and The Mid Ulster Community to live healthier, happier lives. We the trustees and our volunteers are often asked why we volunteer, many of us long after retiring and the answer is 'if we didn't volunteer how would we meet such amazing people that enrich our life'.

Lilac Services

Over 22 years of service delivery Lilac supports :-

1 people impacted by cancer

Our services include complementary therapy, transport to hospital appointments, provision of recliner chairs, bra fitting service counselling, bereavement support workshops, support groups, art therapy and horticultural therapy etc.

2 people living in The Mid Ulster Area to live healthy, happy lives

Lilac client base is from within The Mid Ulster Area impacted by 2 health boards -the Southern Health Board and The Northern Health Board causing some complications when delivering services that are funded by government departments. Lilac has reduced the impact of this by having an actual community hub in Coalisland and in Cookstown

The community Wellbeing Centre in Coalisland was an old unused building that we are slowly bring back to life, based within the neighbourhood renewal area of Coalisland and Dungannon Lilac has secured funding from The Big Lottery , Screwfix Foundation, and Pebbles to carry out repairs and from The Department for Communities and The Department of Health to meet facilitation costs in delivery of services. The premises are also available to other community groups to use also.

3 Coalisland & Lough shore Men's Shed

The membership continues to expand and there is now a Women's Activity Group using the extensive premise. The location of the shed premises allows us to deliver excellent outdoor programmes and continue Department for Community NRA programmes. Lilac has invested heavily in this health and wellbeing initiative with polytunnels, steel insulated sheds, portacabin tearoom, therapy room and a large range of tools, art materials and sports equipment to attract members.

Volunteering with Lilac

Lilac is a volunteer led charity with opportunities to volunteer in administration, driving clients to hospital appointments, organizing and helping at fundraising activities, becoming a trustee, providing a specialised service e.g. health and safety inspections and hygiene and looking after our shops. Lilac works with The Mid Ulster Volunteer Centre and Volunteer Now to support our volunteers; we also work with the local colleges to provide placements.

Lilac Charity Shops

Lilac shops are always deserving of acknowledgement as lilacs main funder, we just would not exist without the hard work and devotion of our shop volunteers. The shop volunteers all come with their life story many who have faced many difficulties, but their strength and resilience inspire the community (plus they are very competitive in their sales).

Financial Report

At the end of 2023 Lilac saw a modest increase in reserves of £3000. Reserves are £121 762 which includes a restricted reserve of £21 000

Reserves Policy

Trustees continue to examine the charity requirements for reserves considering the main identified risk and future uncertainties. It remains the policy that the unrestricted funds not committed or restricted by the provider (restricted funds) should be separated from general funds with the latter ideally representing a minimum of 6 months annual expenditure.

Risk Management

Systems remain in place to minimize risk by policies and procedures been put in place and all staff, volunteers and members of the public complies with these. Where necessary training is provided, and trustees oversees specific activities of the charity with any major risk resolved.

As a result of the devastating impact of Covid in the world and on Lilac , we the Trustees ensure that Lilac finances are sufficient to meet short term and long-term needs of the charity , we have built sufficient reserves to secure financial sustainability and planning and protecting the charity against future uncertainties by being proactive in securing new streams of funding. In the past we were proud of our self sufficiency and independence as a result of our stream of finance from shop takings but pride can suffer a fall and we have come out fighting.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees of Lilac Cancer Support Ltd



Date

25/11/24.