

TEMPLEMORE AVENUE SCHOOL TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The trustees have taken cognisance of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit as defined in the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. Templemore Avenue School Trust ('The Trust') operates an East Belfast Network Centre and the objects of The Trust are specifically restricted to the following:-

To promote the benefit of the inhabitants of East Belfast (the "area of benefit") without distinction of age, sex, race or political, religious or other opinions by all or any of the following means:

- The advancement of community development by providing resources, facilities and amenities for community and voluntary groups and organisations.
- The provision of public amenities.
- The conversion, retention and preservation of a listed building known as Templemore Avenue School, being a place of historical and architectural interest.
- The promotion of such other charitable purposes as may from time to time be determined.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Achievements and performance

During the year the Trust carried out the following functions:

- Continued to have full occupation status.
- Continued to review a number of M&E items in the building, as the building has now been functional for 11 years.
- Continued with the core function of providing quality office accommodation aimed at the community and voluntary sector in East Belfast and those statutory organisations providing a service in East Belfast.
- Provided meeting, seminar and conference facilities for the community and voluntary sector in East Belfast and for other organisations delivering their work for the benefit of East Belfast. During this period we provided meeting space for 362 meetings, conferences, seminars and training events for 8,947 people.

Financial review

The Trust is a non-profit making organisation. The results for the year are set out in detail on page 10. The Trust returned net outgoing resources for the year of £51,060 (2023 – £58,004). The deficit is primarily attributed to the large depreciation charge of £82,267 in relation to the property and related fixtures and equipment held by the charity within its restricted funds.

At 31 March 2024, the total funds of the charity amounted to £2,804,677 (2023 - £2,855,737), comprising restricted funds of £2,620,961 (2023 - £2,695,514) and unrestricted funds of £183,716 (2023 – £160,223).

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Reserves Policy

The directors' policy on reserves is to retain a sufficient amount to ensure that any unforeseen costs can be met. The unrestricted reserves of The Trust at 31 March 2024 amounted to £183,716 which included free reserves of £142,047.

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Plans for Future Periods

The directors have no significant plans to alter the activities of the charity in future periods.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee.

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Samuel Douglas
Mervyn Gibson
Maire Hendron
Joseph O'Donnell
Catherine Purdy
Beverley Brown
Gareth Wright

(Appointed 20 October 2023)

None of the trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

Organisational Structure

The Trust was established under a Memorandum of Understanding which established the objects and powers of the company and is governed under its Articles of Association. The Trust is governed by the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees consists of the Chairperson of East Belfast Community Development Agency (the parent company), three current trustees of the parent company and other persons appointed by ordinary resolution. A trustee appointed by a resolution of the other trustees must retire at the next Annual General Meeting, but is eligible for re-election. New trustees are briefed on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the committee and decision making process, the business plan and recent performance of The Trust. They are free to discuss any issue with other trustees.

Michael Briggs is appointed to supervise the day to day operations of the company. There is no remuneration paid to Michael Briggs by The Trust in relation to this role.

Risk Management

The trustees have reviewed the key risks facing The Trust and have established procedures to manage those risks.

The Trust does not have significant liabilities or financial commitments and the trustees have prepared projections that indicate that the impact on the charity will not be significant.

TEMPLEMORE AVENUE SCHOOL TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees, who are also the directors of Templemore Avenue School Trust for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that 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 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.

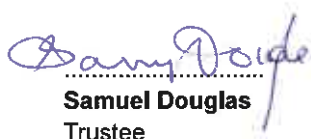
Auditor

In accordance with the company's articles, a resolution proposing that GMcG BELFAST be reappointed as auditor of the company will be put at a General Meeting.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

The Trustees' Report was approved by the Board of Trustees.


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Samuel Douglas
Trustee

Dated: 5th December 2024