

BUILDING COMMUNITIES RESOURCE CENTRE LTD

(Private company limited by guarantee without share capital)

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a Memorandum and Articles of Association, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006. The company was incorporated on 2 December 2008 and registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland on 11 May 2016.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Building Communities Resource Centre Ltd

Registered Company number

NI071172

Registered Charity number

NIC104953

Registered office

Acorn The Business Centre
2 Riada Avenue
Ballymoney
Antrim
BT53 7LH

CHAIRPERSON

Mrs Mary Elizabeth Hedley

TRUSTEES & DIRECTORS

Mrs Margaret Anne Brown
Mr Keith Beattie
Mrs Mary Elizabeth Hedley
Ms Lorraine Purcell
Ms Sonya Anne Carruthers
Mr Jim Wilkins

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Tony Clarke

53 Andersonstown Road
Belfast
BT11 9AG

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report)

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

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 of the financial statements 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 (FRS 102)' (effective 1st January 2019).

Objectives and Activities

Our charity's purposes are as set out in the objects clause contained in the company's Memorandum of Association.

To promote any charitable purpose for the benefit of the North East ('the area of benefit') without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or political, religious or other opinions, by the advancement of education, the advancement of health, the relief of the disabled and the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants and in particular:

To promote efficiency and effectiveness among the community and voluntary organisations or projects in the area of the benefit by providing advice, education and training, and practical support to such organisations or projects for the benefit of the public;

To maintain and manage or co-operate with any local authority in the maintenance of a Community Centre for activities promoted by the company.

Objectives and Activities

Our aims, objectives and activities are reviewed, monitored and assessed through monthly meetings of company directors. The directors ensure adherence to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's general guidance on public health benefit in assessing compliance with stated aims and objectives and in programming future activities. The board is made up of individuals within the statutory, business, voluntary and community sectors.

How our charity activities deliver public benefit

Who use and benefit from our services?

Our objects and funding focus the services we provide to the community and voluntary sector of the Causeway Coast and Glens District and the surrounding areas.

The main areas of charitable activity are in the promotion and support of local community development groups and activities, community cohesion and peace building, ethnic communities support programme, connecting older people through the community Navigator and the disability development programme. The directors have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Director's Report) (continued)

Delivering Public Benefit

Building Communities: Networking and Development

The Department for Communities (DFC) supports BCRC with core funding enabling employment of two full time core staff positions: the Manager and the Finance / Admin Officer as well as core revenue costs through the Community Investment Fund (CIF). The themes of the Community Investment Fund are as follows: An Active Community, A Learning Community, An Inclusive Community, and An Influential Community. During this reporting period BCRC staff co-ordinated activities and funding relating to all core themes providing assistance to communities through networking, partnerships, training, lobbying, project development support, Access NI, funding support and sourcing funding, administration for groups and general advice sessions.

Community Outreach Support

BCRC Community Outreach worker used a community development approach to build relationships within and between communities and this enables peace and reconciliation between and within rural and urban interfaces. This project funded one staff person, was core funded by CRCNI, and DFA. The Lifting Horizons 2 developed an existing DFAT pilot project with North Antrim Five Villages Forum. This project Lifting Horizons 2 sustained a community development approach to address some of these shared social needs and to provide a platform where these communities can build relationships, explore cultures, improve understanding and work together to move their communities forward. This project provided training and opportunities for rural villages to build on their volunteer capacities to enable them to feel empowered and have the skills to raise their voices and be heard in addressing issues in their communities and views on reconciliation and ultimately ease tensions in a community where paramilitaries are saying community development is not working. The project encouraged dialogue, reached marginalised groups and built understanding and a collective voice between different communities. Participants explored shared history and single identity history learning from the past and lessons from history through Cultural Institution Workshops which deepened understanding and promoted respect and tolerance between different groups and traditions and explored issues around identity in ways that promoted understanding, tolerance and inclusivity. Due to staff resigning, Board Members changing, difficulties in recruitment, this project was halted and DFA/CRCNI were informed.

Ethnic Communities Support

In this reporting period BRC employed 3 members of staff (two Polish Bi-Lingual). There was core funding from the Executive Office (TEO) Minority Ethnic Fund with additional investment from smaller trusts and grants to deliver in project outcomes. The Connection Café (connecting people and maintaining contact with ethnic communities and creating engagement with wider community), Diverse Women's Circle (well being gatherings for women), Equality Diversity & Inclusion awareness training, various engagement and well being events. Delivery of personal wellbeing surf therapy for children on the North Coast. The facilitation of Creative Cultures in partnership with NI Libraries. Design and Delivery of Cultural Ambassadors Training.

Ethnic Communities Support continued...

On going signposting, one-one outreach advocacy and emotional support, Delivery of Globetrotters Diversity Summer Scheme, ESOL classes, and establishment of an Anti-Hate Crime Forum for the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council area.

Causeway Locality Community Navigator for Older People

With funding from the PHA and Northern Health and Social Services Trust, BCRC provided this vital service to older people in the community with one full time member of staff who triaged referrals and signposted to services for the benefit of older people over 50 years. This project provided one point of contact and helped link people into vital services and social activities to aid their physical and mental health and improve their wellbeing. This project ended in July 2023, due to the staff person resigning and ongoing recruitment issues.

The Disability Development Programme

The Disability programme ran with one staff person for a set period of time, the Rock School and Creative Space for activities was funded by Children in Need, this was a great success. This project ended in June 2023.

Structure, Governance and Trustees

Building Communities Resource Centre Ltd which is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee in Northern Ireland, registration number NI071172, with the objective of undertaking charitable activities for the benefit of the inhabitants of Northern Ireland.

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

Financial Review

The results for the year ended 31 March 2024 are set out on pages 8 and 9 of the financial statements.

The total income for the year ended 31 March 2024 amounted to £206,289 (2023: £341,321). The total expenditure was £267,603 (2023: £316,687)

The Trustees consider that the unrestricted funds of the charity is sufficient and adequate to fulfil their obligations. The charity held £256,769 in reserves at the year end (2023: £289,785).

Reserves Policy

The income of the Company is considered adequate and the risks associated with any significant reduction in income is regarded as unlikely. The Trustees are satisfied with the current level of reserves at the present time. The Trustees are reviewing the Reserves Policy in the current year.

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Trustees' responsibilities statement

The Trustees (who are also directors of Building Communities Resource Centre Ltd for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standard (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice)

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company 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 charitable company and of the income resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. 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 judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transaction and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and the enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2019. 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.

This report was approved by the Trustees, on 4th Dec. 24 and signed on behalf by:



Mrs Mary Elizabeth Hedley
Director