

REACT (Reconciliation, Education and Community Training)

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Trustees report for the year ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out of page 11.

Constitution

REACT is a non-incorporated body and is an accepted charity by HM Revenue and Customs. REACT was registered as a charity by the Charity Commission Northern Ireland on the 12 May 2016 under number 104972.

Organisation

The Trustees who have served during the year are detailed out on page 3.

Who are REACT

REACT first opened in Armagh in February 1999. The organisation, known originally as EPIC Mid Ulster, was established to work with ex-prisoners and their families. Due to the changes in local need the organisation became REACT, (Reconciliation, Education and Community Training) in 2002. The organisation has successfully evolved from working with a single identity group to working cross community with groups and individuals from all backgrounds, religions, or cultures.

REACT operates primarily in the County Armagh, Mourne and Tyrone areas, and is registered as a charity under The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

REACT has 25 years experience of successfully delivering a range of community support, development and relations projects. REACT currently delivers a range of support services to victims and survivors of the Northern Ireland Troubles and to children and young people primarily identified as at risk, vulnerable or disadvantaged.

The organisation adheres to the Code of Good Governance as set out by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland. The Management Committee have the ultimate responsibility for ensuring the successful delivery of all REACT services, exercising appropriate controls and ensuring accountability.

REACT recognises that addressing all the needs of victims and survivors, children and young people is not easily or effectively achieved by working alone, and that by working in partnership and collaboration with a range of statutory and community agencies we can better meet the needs of service users and our community.

Service user engagement is core to our ethos. Communicating with and involving our service users at every stage of service development, delivery and evaluation is fundamental. REACT's Victims and Survivors Steering Group, Youth Committee and Youth Mentoring Working Group provide platforms for service users to have their voices heard and influence the direction and development of the organisation.

Most importantly, REACT continues to rise to the challenge of dealing with developing needs within the community, promoting empowerment and peace, and being mindful of how best to provide accessible and responsive services that support and transform the lives of those most in need, vulnerable and disadvantaged.

Statement of Public Benefit

The Trustees believe that both our purposes and the activities undertaken in this last financial year clearly satisfy elements of the public benefit requirement.

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Victims and Survivors Project

The REACT Victims and Survivors Project, funded through the VSS Victims Support Programme, supports victims and survivors of the Northern Ireland Troubles from across the community. The aim of the service is to offer a holistic support service which:

1. Improves mental and physical health outcomes, social outcomes and learning opportunities for victims and survivors
2. Reduces the level of trauma for victims and survivors
3. Promotes engagement and relationships on a cross community level
4. Supports victims and survivors to engage in legacy issues

The REACT Victims and Survivors Project delivers a range of support services including:

- Counselling and complementary therapy services
- An Outreach Support Service
- Respite
- Gardening and Allotment Programme
- Social support events
- Craft and skills development programmes
- Mental health and personal development programmes
- Physical wellbeing programmes
- Volunteer Scheme
- Intergenerational programmes
- Online virtual support hub

Youth Service

The Service is funded through National Lottery and Children in Need, supports disadvantaged, hard to reach and at risk young people age 10 to 18 years old living in the Armagh Family Support Hub area. The service supports young people in the community, home and school and offers young people a tailored holistic pathway of support both one to one and in group settings. The aim of the service is to:

1. Improve mental and physical health, and social outcomes for young people
2. Support young people to develop communication and life skills, and build resilience
3. Support young person to develop positive coping strategies, confidence and self-worth

The REACT Youth Project delivers a range of support services including:

- One to one community and home based mentoring service
- Mental health and personal development programmes
- Volunteer Scheme
- Intergenerational programmes
- Youth Summer Scheme
- Citizenship programmes

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Plans for the future

REACT plans to maintain the high standard of services provided and continue with the various courses and programmes on each project and will continue to seek the necessary funding to do so.

Financial review and Investment Policy


During the year ended 31 March 2019, the charity received funding of £336,684, and donations, fundraising and other income of £1,635, which yielded a surplus of £19.

No investments are carried on by the charity.

Risk Management

The Trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to reduce these risks.

By order of the Trustees



Trustee

10/12/24

Date

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the Financial Statements in accordance with the applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees have prepared the financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in the United Kingdom (accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council in the UK, including Charities SORP (FRS 102). Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statements of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and promulgated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in the United Kingdom and United Kingdom Law). Under that 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 the affairs of the charity and of the statement of financial activities of the charity 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 judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the application of accounting standards has 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 proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charities website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Statement as to disclosure to our Independent Examiner


In so far as the trustees are aware at the time of approving our trustees' annual report:

- there is no relevant information of which the charitable company's Independent Examiner is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the company's Independent Examiner is aware of that information.

Reporting Accountants

A resolution to re-appoint Noel Conn & Company, will be proposed at the annual general meeting.
By Order of the board

By order of the Trustees


Trustee

10/12/24
Date