

**Trustees' Annual Report**

Financial year 6<sup>th</sup> April 2023 to 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Purposes of the charity

The Objects are to promote and achieve –

- a. on an ongoing basis the preservation, retention and enhancement of the Down Hospitals and Community services in the Area of Benefit, and
- b. as the case may be, the renewal, extension, refurbishment, upgrading, equipping and replacement of the Down Hospitals.

Main activities of the charity

In connection with the furtherance or attainment of the Objects, the Society may do and exercise all or any of the following powers:

- i). publish or contribute to the publication of news items for newspapers, documents or other media and to take part in or contribute to television and radio programmes, films and videos;
- ii). hold conferences, meetings, lectures, exhibitions, consultations and discussions;
- iii). take such action, including legal action, as is necessary to ensure that the public case for the preservation, retention and enhancement of the Down Hospitals and Community services in the Area of Benefit are effectively promoted and protected;
- iv). give and exchange information and advice and to promote education, knowledge and understanding in and of any and all aspects of or matters relating to the Society;
- v). raise Funds and invite and receive contributions; and
- vi). place any moneys of the Society which are not immediately required in an interest bearing account.

Main achievements in the year

We have continued to maintain the high profile of the campaign in support of local health services.

We have continued to engage with politicians and public health administrators at the highest levels to influence service provision in the area, especially as regards the need to restore 24 hour emergency department services at the Downe Hospital.

### Public Benefit requirement

During the year, the Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's Public Benefit requirement statutory guidance.

### Financial Position

The financial position is outlined in the charity's financial statements for the year. The deficit for the year was £423 (2023 deficit £772). Reserves at 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024 were £3,580 (2023 £4,775). The Trustees were satisfied with the progress made during the year.

### Reserves Policy

Reserves will continue to be used to further the Society's objects, primarily in meeting the costs of promotion and advertising. Cash reserves will continue to be placed in an interest bearing account.

### How the charity is constituted

The Society is governed by its constitution which was updated in July 2016.

### Address

c/o 4-6 Market Lane, Downpatrick, Co Down BT30 6TH

### Trustees

Eamonn McGrady (Chairperson)	Colin McGrath MLA
Macartan Digney	Aidan Harris
Carrie-Ann Rogan	Micheal Rowan
Ann Trainor	John Trainor

Signed on behalf of the Trustees of Down Community Health Committee



Eamonn McGrady (Chairperson)

Date: 27/1/25