

WHITEROCK CHILDRENS 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 21 October 1996 and registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland on 3 May 2016.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Whiterock Childrens Centre Ltd (also known as Whiterock Creche Association)

Registered Company number

NI031453

Registered Charity number

NIC105179

Registered office

91 Whiterock Road

Belfast

County Antrim

BT12 7PG

CHAIRPERSON

Katheen Laverty

TRUSTEES & DIRECTORS

Anette Conlon - Resigned 9th January 2024

Kevin Morrison

Kathleen Laverty

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Tony Clarke

53 Andersonstown Road

Belfast

BT11 9AG

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Chairperson's Report

This past year has been more significant than most in recent memory for Whiterock. The team have delivered amidst political uncertainty, short term funding, policy changes in childcare provision, and the community consultation on the new housing development around us. I want to thank Deirdre and the team especially for their work in prioritising our children and families through all of this, ensuring we remain the pinnacle of family support and childcare in the Greater Belfast area.

Our critical location cannot be undermined. That the building needs development is without question, but, lacking investment, Deirdre has led the team in creative efficient and effective solutions to create a welcoming, well cared for space in which children can thrive, families can grow, and people can heal. However, we continue to strive forward with the ultimate objective of a new purpose-built modern building. With the support of the local community, staff, volunteers, our users, and the weight of our political representatives behind us, we remain hopeful that the immediate future will see some positive developments.

I attend our board meetings and always feel we're on the cusp of possibilities – for growth of service; increased delivery; improved facilities; new initiatives; stronger partnerships – and all of these possibilities are made increasingly real with each meeting thanks to my fellow trustees, our funders, our brilliant team – including our finance support at Clarke and Co. and contracted therapists, but mostly, to our Director. Deirdre has been a personal inspiration throughout my time in community development. Her efforts in navigating a maelstrom of difficulties with grace and compassion, always championing the rights of children, families and the Whiterock community, assure me we're in safe hands.

I also want to thank our families. Thank you for trusting us with the welfare of your children. Thank you for supporting us in every funding drive we do. Thank you for attending our classes, our therapies, our consultations. Thank you for bringing fresh ideas and strong insights to the team – these ensure we remain community led in our delivery.

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

Structure, Governance and Trustees

Whiterock Childrens 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 NI31453, 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 7 and 8 of the financial statements.

The total income for the year ended 31 March 2024 amounted to £482,643 (2023: £443,578).

The total expenditure was £480,758 (2023: £448,137)

The Trustees consider that the unrestricted funds of the charity is sufficient and adequate to fulfil their obligations. The charity held £175,303 in reserves at the year end (2023: £176,879).

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

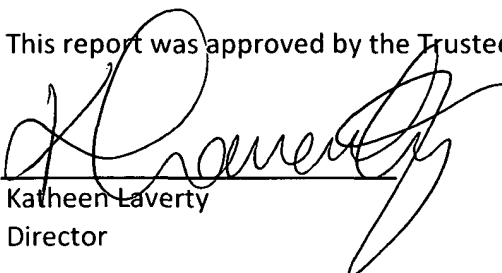
The Trustees (who are also directors of Whiterock Childrens Centre Ltd for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standard (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting 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 26/6/24 and signed on behalf by:


Kathleen Lavery
Director