

**Northern Ireland Network of Child Contact Centres  
Company limited by guarantee**

**Trustees' Annual Report  
Year ended 31 July 2023**

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statements of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

**Objectives and activities**

The purposes of Northern Ireland Network of Child Contact Centres, as set out in the Company's Memorandum of Association, are as follows:

To relieve the needs of children through the promotion of the efficiency and effectiveness of child contact centres in Northern Ireland, in particular, but not exclusively, by:

- a) the provision of support, information, funding training, services, and to encourage the development of best practice and by such other charitable means as the Charity may from time to time determine to enable the child contact centres to meet their charitable purposes
- b) advancing the education of the public and stakeholders by promoting awareness of the services provided by child contact centres in the area of benefit.

**Purpose and public benefit**

The promoting and publicising the concept of Child Contact Centres and the importance of continued contact between children and their families after separation and divorce through educating the public, by engagement with other agencies involved in separation and divorce including potential referrers, courts, legal professionals, Health and Social Services Trusts and other relevant voluntary and community organisations.

The direct benefits which flow from this purpose are improved public and key stakeholder awareness of Contact Centres resulting in more families using the service, improving ease of access to Contact Centre services for families by the support of existing and developing of new centres in areas of need within the area of benefit and through developing more efficient processes and procedures with key stakeholders. These benefits are evidenced by annual statistics produced by the Network measuring the use and outcomes of the service for families. There is no risk of harm from the activities of the Network.

The provision of opportunities for constructive discussion of issues around policy, development and research into best practice through the provision of sharing of education, resource material, publications and delivering of training to Contact Centre Coordinators in the area of benefit.

The direct benefits which flow from this purpose are the delivery of a consistent and safe service to families through establishing a sound knowledge base for Contact Centre Coordinators providing up to date knowledge in terms of legislation and best practice, thus ensuring consistency of delivery of service to all families using Contact Centres throughout Northern Ireland.

Assisting with fundraising and engagement with funders on behalf of Contact Centres. The benefit of this purpose is the ensuring of ongoing sustainability of Contact Centres and availability of contact services to families across Northern Ireland. The measure of this benefit is the availability of Contact Centres in Northern Ireland. There is no risk of harm from these activities.

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Providing a common forum for sharing of best practice, funding training and mutual support for Contact Centres in Northern Ireland. Provides a forum by which common interests in regard to the delivery of Child Contact Services can be progressed and resolved with stakeholders and funders of service. Provides a channel for engaging with agencies involved in separation or divorce including potential referrers, courts, legal professionals, Health and Social Services Trusts and relevant community and voluntary organisations.

**Risk management**

The board of directors has examined and assessed the major risks to which the organisation is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances, and are satisfied that adequate systems are in place to mitigate any exposure.

**Achievements and performance**

- Ongoing online meetings with stakeholder groups
- Provision of zoom facilities to support centres / practitioners
- Regular practitioner and NINCCC executive meetings facilitated providing training, standardisation of practice and procedures
- Ongoing delivery of centres accreditations

**Financial review**

The financial results are set out on pages 9 to 13 of the accounts. The charity's main source of income is through membership fees. Total income for 2023 was £2,065 (2022 - £2,977) and expenditure totalled £2,296 (2022 - £3,055).

The directors gratefully acknowledge the donations and support from the following:

- Armagh Child Contact Centre
- Arc Irvinestown Child Contact Centre
- Ballymena Child Contact Centre
- Ballynahinch Child Contact Centre
- Carrick Child Contact Centre
- Craigavon Child Contact Centre
- Cloona Child Contact Centre
- Coleraine Child Contact Centre
- Foyle Child Contact Centre
- Knock Child Contact Centre
- Mid Ulster Child Contact Centre
- Newtownbreda Child Contact Centre
- Newtownards Child Contact Centre
- Newry Child Contact Centre
- Omagh Child Contact Centre

**Plans for future periods**

Any future developments are monitored and approved by the Board of directors. These include:

- Engaging public representatives to gain support for a strategic review.
- Ensure strategy is in place to provide long-term sustainability of Contact Centres.
- Ensuring the board of directors continues to have the appropriate skills to manage the organisation.

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- Liaising with stakeholder groups to ensure agreed standards in policy, procedure and practice.
- Continuing to work in partnership with the Department of Health, Health Trusts and stakeholders in provision of Child Contact Centre Services in Northern Ireland.
- Continuing to work with Judiciary, CCO's, Solicitors and Health professionals to ensure and improve cross organisation working for the purpose of improving services to users.
- Monitoring and development as required, of accreditation processes to deliver ongoing improvement to the practice of Child Contact Centres.

**Structure, governance and management**

Northern Ireland Network of Child Contact Centres is a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 17 July 2008 and as such does not have share capital. The governing instruments are the Memorandum and Articles of Association, which state the objects of the company and detail the rules by which it will operate.

**Key management**

The key management of the charity comprise the Trustees. The Trustees do not receive remuneration.

**Trustees' responsibilities statement**

The Trustees who are directors for the purpose of company law are responsible for preparing the trustees' report.

The directors are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

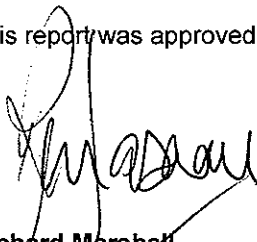
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

**Small company provisions**

The accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

This report was approved by the Board on 10 October 2023 and signed on behalf of the Board by :-



**Richard Marshall**  
Trustee