

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NI631937  
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: NIC105452

**Leukaemia and Lymphoma NI**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Financial Statements**  
**31 March 2024**

Finegan Gibson Ltd  
Chartered accountants & statutory auditor  
Causeway Tower  
9 James Street South  
Belfast  
BT2 8DN

# Leukaemia and Lymphoma NI

Company Limited by Guarantee

## Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2024

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# Leukaemia and Lymphoma NI

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

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The trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

#### Reference and administrative details

<b>Registered charity name</b>	Leukaemia and Lymphoma NI
<b>Charity registration number</b>	105452
<b>Company registration number</b>	NI631937
<b>Principal office and registered office</b>	Patrick G Johnston Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology 97 Lisburn Road Belfast BT9 7AE

#### The trustees

Mr R Buchanan	
Mr M Cafolla	(Appointed 9 August 2023)
Ms L Cascone	
Mr R Cascone	
Mr G Coulter	
Ms A Kearney	(Appointed 8 August 2023)
Professor T Lappin	
Dr D Montgomery	
Professor T Morris	
Ms B Napier	
Mr B Garland	(Appointed 29 January 2024)
Ms A Greenfield	(Appointed 29 January 2024)

<b>Auditor</b>	Finegan Gibson Ltd Chartered accountants & statutory auditor Causeway Tower 9 James Street South Belfast BT2 8DN
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<b>Bankers</b>	Danske Bank PO Box 183 Donegall Square West Belfast BT1 6JS
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<b>Solicitors</b>	Edwards & Co 28 Hill Street Belfast BT1 2LA
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# Leukaemia and Lymphoma NI

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

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#### **Structure, governance and management**

The directors have pleasure in submitting their annual report together with the audited financial statements of LLNI for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The directors have adopted the provisions of the Charities SORP (FRS 102) in preparing their annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Legal and administrative information on page 1 forms part of this report.

The Charity is governed by a board of 12 directors. Their task, in conjunction with senior management and company secretary, is to oversee the administration of the Charity, safeguard its assets and resources to ensure that they are used solely in the furtherance of the objectives of the charity, and to act in the best interests of the charity at all times. Board meetings typically take place every 6 weeks, with extraordinary meetings held when necessary.

All Trustees give of their time freely and none received remuneration or expenses. No staff are employed directly by the charity instead LLNI pays grants to Queen's University covering the salaries of employees working for LLNI.

#### Risk management

The major risks to which LLNI would be exposed are centred around the following areas:

- i. Misuse and misappropriation of funds coupled with poor financial controls. The funds to support research are carefully controlled by the Board of LLNI, which received a financial report by the honorary treasurer at each meeting of the Board which meets several times a year under the Chairmanship of Mr Richard Buchanan.
- ii. Lack of proper public liability insurance to cover fund raising activities by members and the possibility of legal action against members.

Members' fundraising activities are covered for public liability by LLNI's insurance brokers. Members have been circularised that any activity which has the slightest element of risk must have the approval of the insurers before proceeding. High risk activities are not permitted.

#### **Objectives and activities**

Our main objective is to raise money to finance appropriate research into the causes and possible cures for leukaemia, lymphoma, myeloma and other associated blood cancers with the aim to improve outcomes and quality of life for this patient group. We fund this research with charitable activities, legacy income, corporate support and external grants, all of which are detailed in the report below. Our research is controlled, supervised and vetted by LLNI's Scientific and Medical Advisory Committee (SMAC) under the Chairmanship of Dr Aaron Niblock, assisted by a group of eminent academics. Research projects are carefully scrutinised and "peer reviewed" by the SMAC before any recommendations are made within the budgetary confines of LLNI.

#### **Strategic report**

The following sections for achievements and performance and financial review form the strategic report of the charity.

# Leukaemia and Lymphoma NI

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

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#### Achievements and performance

1. This has been a very positive year for the charity where we have seen considerable growth in income which has exceeded pre covid levels. Our overall income has increased to £933,620 thus allowing us to maintain funding for vital blood cancer research here in Belfast at the Patrick G Johnston Centre for Cancer Research (PGJCCR). The operating environment remains challenging with so many of our supporters under increased financial pressure from the wider economic situation. We continue our attempts to expand our network and think of innovative ways of raising funds, and seek to keep building our overall supporter base.

2. LLNI is fully committed to its core mission of raising money to fund blood cancer research, to improve survival rates and quality of life for blood cancer patients. We are the only charity in Northern Ireland solely focused on this. We do this by supporting clinicians, scientists and students researching these cancers in Northern Ireland. This takes place under the oversight of the LLNI directors, who make up our board and who do it on a voluntary (non-remunerated) basis. We meet every six to eight weeks to review all areas of business, with particular focus on finance, fundraising, progress with the science and an overview of the governance of the charity. During the past year we have been able to return to meeting face to face, with a virtual option, which is a positive development. The board remains particularly focused on ensuring that we are complying fully with relevant legislation and guidance from the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland. Good governance is key to the smooth and effective running of any charity, and we are no exception.

3. The board relies on the Scientific and Medical Advisory Committee (SMAC), chaired by Dr Aaron Niblock to advise on which research applications should be supported, and thus optimise decision making. We will always consider alternative or joint means of funding, in a constant drive to make best use of our funds.

4. Our income this year was significantly boosted by a grant we received from the Medical Research Council through the Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRC). A total of £146,063 was received to support a number of ongoing projects that the charity has been funding. We were eligible for this funding due to the high volume of posts we create for early career scientists, this money will ensure that we can continue to create more important opportunities for scientists at this level. It is really pleasing to receive this funding which increases the number of young scientists involved with blood cancer research locally, most of whom we hope will continue in the field for a full career.

5. We are a highly efficient charity, with a very large proportion of money raised being spent directly on the science. Our relationship with Queen's University is immensely valuable to LLNI, and also, we believe to Queen's. We have a small office in the PGJCCR, which enables LLNI to maintain a very strong relationship with the university and our team of dedicated scientists. We are extremely grateful to the management team at the PGJCCR for their ongoing support for LLNI and its fundraising for blood cancer research.

6. The day to day running of the charity is looked after by Operations Manager Joanne Badger, her maternity cover Tanya Mayne and the support team of Claire Gilmore and Collette McMorro. All of the team do an outstanding job both in the office, through raising awareness and support on social media and supporting in person around the country at events and with supporters. It makes a real difference to have our office based in the same building where much of our funded research is taking place, allowing us to easily demonstrate to supporters exactly where the money raised is going and to introduce the scientists we fund.

# Leukaemia and Lymphoma NI

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

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7. Our fundraisers are key to what we do and have been brilliant during the last year. To mention but a few we have had quizzes, craft fairs, rugby tournaments, abseils, family celebrations, golf tournaments, coffee mornings, concerts, tractor runs, beach walks and one group taking on the mammoth walk from Poyntzpass to Dublin.

Many fundraisers made use of social media to either raise money directly or to publicise their own events, often with our support. Social media is of course key to fundraising and our income via online platforms continues to increase.

8. Ken Reid, formerly of UTV and a very well-known figure in the Northern Irish media has continued to be our Patron and has really helped us with publicity around our activities, and in sharing our content on social media. We are so grateful he sees the power in sharing his personal experience with a chronic leukaemia and being part of a clinical trial and the vital role that research plays for patients. It's brilliant to have him with us, and we're really grateful to him for sparing the time.

9. Overall, Leukaemia and Lymphoma NI is in good shape thanks to the office team and to the input and expertise from our board. Of course we could not fund anything without our wonderful fundraisers, and a huge thank you to them too. We know times are tough for so many at present, so thank you all for your continued support, as we keep supporting the scientists working to make blood cancer history.

10. We look forward to the continued growth of both LLNI and the Blood Cancer Research Group in the future and we have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aim and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees and our team consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

#### **Financial review**

Details of the results for the period are set out in the statement of financial activities on page 12 and in the related notes on pages 15 to 24.

#### Investment policy and returns

LLNI's investments are managed by Evelyn & Co Stockbrokers Belfast and were valued at £714,620 as at 31 March 2024.

During the past financial period, we have received dividend income from these investments totalling £19,716.

#### Reserves

The Directors have reviewed the resources of LLNI taking into consideration the variable natures of its income and the need to fulfil the fixed commitment of grants to Queen's University as formalised and confirmed to the University for the period 1 October to 30 September in each year. General reserves at 31st March were £335,926 which represent over 10 months core expenditure. The Board are committed to retaining a minimum level of general reserves to cover for six months of day to day running costs of the charity.

# Leukaemia and Lymphoma NI

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

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##### Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees, who are also directors 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 Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, 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 applicable 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 charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. 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 charity trustees (who are also the directors of Replay Productions Ltd for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare accounts 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 charity and the income and expenditure of the charity for that period.

In preparing these accounts, 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 accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
  - state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
  - prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.
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# Leukaemia and Lymphoma NI

## Company Limited by Guarantee

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

#### Year ended 31 March 2024

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The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. 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 charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

#### **Auditor**

Each of the persons who is a trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as each trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware; and
- each trustee has taken all steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

#### **Small company provisions**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 3 September 2024 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Mr R Buchanan  
Trustee