

## **Holywell Trust**

### **Independent auditor's report to the trustees of Holywell Trust**

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Holywell Trust for the year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the cashflow statement and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31st March 2023, and of its incoming resources and expenditure of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

#### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

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### **Other information**

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 require us to report if, in our opinion;

- we have not received all the information and explanations that we require for our audit; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- the charity has not kept adequate records; or
- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report.

### **Responsibilities of the trustees**

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 3, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

We have been appointed as auditor under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 66 of that Act.

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Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

### **Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud;**

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

#### **Identifying and assessing potential risks related to irregularities**

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we considered the following:

- the nature of the industry, sector and the specific control environment which it operates in
- the charities own assessment of the risks that irregularities may occur, either as a result of fraud or error;
- representations and results from our enquiries with management and the trustees regarding their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- enquiries of management relating to accounting estimates measurements, recognition criteria and justification of such amounts;
- any matters we have identified having obtained and reviewed the charities policies and procedures relating to;
  - \* identifying and assessing if laws and regulations are compliant and whether they are aware of any instances of non-compliance;
  - \* detection and response to the risk of fraud and whether they are aware of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud instances;
  - \* the internal controls designed to mitigate risks or fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations, and to minimise risk of management overrides of such controls.
- all matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud could occur and the potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charity for fraud. The audit included assessing the procedures and evaluating the measurement of estimations. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

We also required an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks applicable to the charity and considered that the most significant are SORP 2019 (FRS 102) and Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

#### **Audit responses to risks identified**

Our procedures to respond to risks identified included the following:

- reviewing the financial statement disclosures, testing the relevant documentation to assess compliance with the significant laws and regulations - those described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- enquiring with management and obtaining third party confirmation from the charity's solicitors regarding any actual or potential litigation and claims;

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- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- reading minutes of board and management meetings, examine forecasting material in line with actual performance, identifying any potential fraud indicators or instances;
- reviewing Charity Commission Northern Ireland correspondence, identify any late submissions or omissions of mandatory information;
- in addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of data entries and adjustments; assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of the charities objectives.

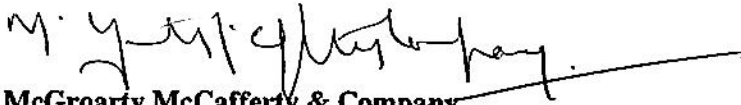
We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or noncompliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the charity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

**Holywell Trust**



**McGroarty McCafferty & Company**

**Statutory Auditor**

**2 Carlisle Terrace**

**Derry**

**BT48 6JX**

**Date: 16 January 2024**

McGroarty McCafferty & Company is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.