

Charity registration number NIC106365

Company registration number NI035317 (Northern Ireland)

YOUTHACTION NORTHERN IRELAND LIMITED
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024



YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

President	The Honourable Shane O'Neill
Patrons	The Lord O'Neill Lady Mary Peters CH DBE Mr Ciaran Hinds Mr Eric Fisher Mr Dean McCullough
Trustees	Mr Cathal Maneely - Treasurer Mr Liam Hannaway - Honorary Secretary Ms Pamela Ballantine - Chairperson Ms Alex Barnett Mr JJ Hannaway (Appointed 1 May 2025) Ms Gillian Shields Ms Crystal Campbell (Appointed 1 May 2025) Prof Dirk Schubotz (Appointed 1 May 2025) Ms Saoria White (Appointed 1 May 2025)
Secretary	Mr Liam Hannaway
Chief Executive	Mr Martin McMullan
Assistant Chief Executive Officers	Ms Maire Campbell Mr Michael McKenna
Charity number	NIC106365
Company number	NI035317
Registered office	14 College Square North Belfast BT1 6AS
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YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited ('YouthAction NI') is a membership-based learning organisation that is outward and forward looking to best meet the changing needs of young people through youth work and youth arts. The organisation has nearly 80 years' experience in inspiring young people, tackling inequalities, investing in communities and transforming the lives of young people.

Throughout 2024, our charitable vision was to support young people to create, participate and benefit from a more fair and inclusive society.

Through such intention and purpose we set out to:

1. improve their life chances;
2. inspire them as activists;
3. grow inclusive and outward looking communities; and
4. build a peaceful and shared society.

External environment:

The charity sector is deeply affected by a challenging environment. This sector is vulnerable as it continues to experience significant challenges including:

- There are decreased monies and greater competition with an expectation for the charity sector to deliver more with less resources.
- The workforce is exhausted with many leaving the sector due to uncertainties, poor terms and conditions which results in losing staff with specific knowledge, experience and skills set, further leading to significant challenges for recruitment.
- Charities have been deeply affected by increased running costs. While income is not going up, many funders are paying only for programme delivery rather than contributing to running costs.
- Charities are dipping into financial reserves and working at risk.
- The lack of government, delays in funding and changes in funding delivery models have made it very difficult for charities to plan.
- Charities are constantly having to deal with cliff-edge funding.
- The charity sector is constantly fire-fighting and looking for glimmers of hope.

There are also some key opportunities for the charity sector:

- Continue working together in a united way to lobby, campaign and influence, recognising that this all takes time and effort. This includes working with umbrella bodies across GB/UK.
- Highlight the social return impact of charitable inputs, efforts and outcomes to government and others.
- Demonstrate how we contribute to the new Programme for Government and how we make an economic contribution and deliver value for money.
- Maintain resilience, steadiness and a sense of certainty/control in this state of flux.

Through ongoing effective collaboration across the voluntary and community and especially across the Voluntary Youth Work Sector, we aspire to build confidence and assurance for investment across the sector to deliver on outcomes aligned to children and young people. By securing developmental funds through the Dormant Assets Fund (The National Lottery Community Fund) we have been collectively repairing and rebuilding while shaping a

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

transformational roadmap for the way forward. Collectively working alongside sectoral partners, NICVA and Ulster University we have consulted with the sector and produced two strategic reports that provide key recommendations' moving forward:

- The voluntary youth work sector must collaboratively co-design the system that can secure the future of the sector (recognition, collective vision etc.).
- Strategic investment for the voluntary youth work sector in Northern Ireland should be prioritised (workforce development, promote and share good practice models, strategic funding).
- The voluntary youth work sector should focus on supporting ongoing and sustained collaboration that will be key to transformation (networking, convening, coming together).
- There is an overwhelming need for the development of infrastructure support for the sustainability and development of the Voluntary Youth Work Sector.
- Relationships need to be restored and rebuilt. What is required is the building and re-building of relationships and trust across all youth work providers in Northern Ireland.

The reports highlight an appetite among the Voluntary Youth Work Sector for ongoing sectoral convening, creative sharing and collective influencing. With the anticipated policy change across the youth sector, a robust and galvanised Voluntary Youth Work Sector can provide young people with access to high-quality youth services and that also ensures the sector's futureproofing.

Strategic goals:

The new YouthAction NI 2023-2027 Strategic Plan sets out 9 high level strategic goals over 5 years.

What we said we would do:

- Strive for a sustainable and robust financial base for our work, raising 2 million pounds each year to achieve high quality youth work and value for money outcomes.
- Invest in 250 communities each year to embed quality youth work to support young people's development.
- Improve the health, well-being, aspirations and opportunities of 10,000 young people aged 10-25 years each year.
- Increase the skills, qualifications and employability of 1,000 young leaders each year.
- Demonstrate the highest levels of governance and operational excellence within a clear constitutional and legal framework.
- Inspire, build and nurture an effective, supportive and healthy leadership team at YouthAction NI and through our membership network.
- Build local and strategic partnerships with charities, business sector, academia, government and civic society across the UK, Ireland and Internationally.
- Work with sectoral representatives as courageous change makers to transform how charities are recognised, valued and supported.
- Raise quality standards in youth work through partnerships, research, training, resource development and impact demonstration.

Summary of achievements (what we did):

The achievements of the charity against the nine high level goals of the Strategic Plan (2023-2027) are commendable this year, considering the challenges presented earlier. The achievements for 2024 are summarised as follows:

1. We raised £1,782,675 to achieve high quality youth work/youth arts and value for money outcomes. This included:

- UK Shared Prosperity Fund: YouthStart project at £6m over 2 years
- Peace Plus: 3.2 Youth Call -an €8.1m application as lead with 6 other partners (4 year project April 24-March 28) €1,640,423.76 YANI allocation.
- Peace Plus: 3.1 Shared Learning Together (non-formal) Call -a €3.4m application proposal as lead with 9 other partners (4 year project April 24-March 28) €596,845 YANI allocation.
- EA Regional Strategic: £150,000 per year.
- EA regional development: £97,000 YANI lead with partners Youth Link and Bytes.
- Department of Foreign Affairs: €93,960 per year.
- Derry City and Strabane Council PEACEPLUS £119,000 for Let's Talk Youth over 2 years.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

- National Lottery 'Access to Resilience £150,000 for 3yrs (rural, under-represented groups)
- Peace Plus 2.2. 'Cyber Quest' (Cyber Security) €422,000 for 3.5 years. Led by Bytes.
- Belfast City Council: £29,700 per annum.
- Arts Council: £39,500 per year for 2yrs
- Various sources of smaller and significant income have included Hume Foundation, Linbury Trust, AE Harvey Trust, Enkalon Foundation, Ireland Funds, Hope for Youth IEF, TBUC and Dept. of the Taoiseach (NYCI)
- Our Development Manager / Fund Raiser Anne Mc Taggart retired in December 2023 and we appointed Grace O' Neill to this role from February 2024. This role has added value by creating a winter appeal and Christmas/Winter appeal and supporting our **80th year** 'Around the year in 80 events' ongoing with various regional fund-raisers including an 80's night in June 2024.

2. Investing in Local Communities

We invested in 252 communities to embed quality youth work/youth arts to support young people's development.

- Membership Development Senior Leader Sheila Morris worked alongside our Co-Ordinator of Service Shirley Moore (retired June 2024) and Donna Salt (appointed July 2024) to maintain and grow our membership base and services; 180 members were supported directly throughout 2024.
- The Membership Senior Leader and team proactively supporting local groups to register with EA Youth Service. 76 eligible groups/ organisations nominated YouthAction as their designated Regional Voluntary Youth Work Organisation equating to an award of £150,000 per year to YouthAction playing this support role. This is 24 more local community groups than 2023.
- Membership support includes:
 - Quality Assurance and Reporting
 - Safeguarding
 - HR support
 - Finance support
 - Workforce/Volunteer training
 - Curriculum and programme support
 - Governance and governance health checks
 - Insurance services
 - Representation and advocacy
 - Communication
 - Connection and networking
- The CEO and Senior Leader Sheila Morris developed and launched a Governance Support resource for local and regional groups/organisations. This was launched at the membership connections and celebration event alongside AGM on Thursday 28th Nov 2024.
- The EA moderation of membership support noted: standards were exceeded in two areas (engagement and of service) and met in one area (impact). EA financial verification for April 23-March 24 took place successfully on 11th Sept 2024. An EA monitoring on Tuesday 19th Nov 2024 also confirmed that we 'meet expectations.'

Feedback from the report stated,

"The level of strategic support for the group is commendable...All registered members receive regular correspondence regarding the benefits they can avail of from the regional service along with many opportunities on offer... the regional service keeps in touch with their members and the many opportunities they have received."

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Members have received small grants through Coca-Cola Thank you awards (IYF): €74,000 investment to local groups:

- Monkstown Boxing Club
- BCT NI C.I.C
- St Patrick's Youth Club Keady
- Diverse Youth NI
- Kilkeel Parish Bridge Association Limited
- Willowfield Parish Community Association
- R.E.A.C.H Across
- NI Youth Forum

Irish Youth Foundation (UK) support local members and community groups with small grants investment of up to £6,000 each.

- 9th Antrim Scout Group
- Aisling Centre
- Artillery Youth Centre
- Ballysillan Youth for Christ
- Drumgor Detached Youth Work Project
- Fóram na nÓg
- Holy Trinity Youth Centre
- Kingdom Youth Club
- Manor Street Cliftonville Community Group
- Patrician Youth Centre
- REACH Across
- St Peter's Immaculata Youth Centre
- Willowfield Parish Community Association

3. Improve Health, wellbeing and aspirations

Improved the health, wellbeing, aspirations and opportunities of 5,463 young people aged 10-25yrs.

- 5,463 young people have benefitted from youth work and youth arts programming that has improved their health and well-being.
- A young women's conference was held in October with 210+ young women at Ulster University and a practitioners' conference in YouthAction (Nov 2024).
- We partnered with YouthLink and Bytes EA regional specification – an accredited youth work training focus.
- Critical Thinking workshops included: The Nested Model of Youth Work (10th May 2024); Transgender awareness (19th April 2024), Cost of Living impact on students (8th April 2024); NEXUS model of intervention to address sexual abuse and World Aids Day with Positive Life.
- Under our well-being thematic pillar, we secured funding from Dormant Assets 'Access to Resilience' focussing on local groups on the periphery in rural communities.
- Under our well-being thematic pillar, we partnered with Ulster University on 3 initiatives
 - LifeMaps evidence impact pilot and research/practice proposal with the NI Youth Forum.
 - Work with girls and young women conference and research/practice proposal
 - Actively represented on the UU Taking Boys 2 Seriously initiative addressing young male underachievement.
- Dissemination and training of the 'Altruism through youth work' resource.

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4. Increase skills, qualifications and employability

Increased the skills, qualifications and employability of 325 leaders.

- 37 leaders were trained through the Certificate in Community Youth Studies level 4 (UU young partnership) in Belfast and Magee.
- We relaunched our new Youth Achievement Awards aligned to credit points, outcomes for learners and new digital formats.
- We supported Interns through the JobStart scheme: Communications Intern (Dormant Accounts Fund for the Voluntary Youth Work Sector has been extended to November, Sustainable Development, and Data Visualizer). We also provided an intern opportunity for PR/Comms in YouthAction.
- We supported 9 placement students and volunteers to experience and learn from youth work interventions.
- YouthStart (addressing economic inactivity) funded through UK Shared Prosperity Funds (see targets in practice outcomes section). YouthAction have enrolled 324 young people:
 - 197 young people completed the project.
 - 179 young people gained qualifications.
 - 99 progressed into employment.
 - 71 progressed into further education / training.

We were one of two NI projects involved in the UKSPF 'People and Skills' evaluation through Frontier Economics and BMG research.

Representatives of YouthStart consortium met with MP Claire Hanna on 11th April 2024

We presented to Rotarians in March 2024 involving two young people.

- PEACEPLUS CyberQuest (Cyber Security and other digital skills development to support young people's employment pathways). Successful in PEACEPLUS CyberQuest (led by Bytes): Cyber Security and other digital skills development to support young people's employment pathways in growth industries. Partners include REIM training, CJH network, Advanced manufacturing, Talent Sensus, Youth Work Ireland and the Bytes project.

In 2024 we offered a suite of 14 qualifications. 296 people registered for courses and 294 learners completed a qualification. 38 courses in total were registered in 2024 and 47 courses were claimed in 2024.

26 groups registered for OCN levels 1-3 in youth work and 31 groups completing with 192 young leaders gaining accreditation.

- 27 groups registered for OCN levels 1-3 in youth work with 33 groups completing with 209 young leaders gaining accreditation.

5. Highest level of governance

We maintained the highest levels of governance and operational excellence, including: self-evaluation and quality improvement planning at all levels of the organisation from young people, staff and the board of directors.

- The Audited accounts/ report were submitted to Charities Commission for YouthAction and Hampton Trust.
- Our AGM was held on 28th November 2024 with nomination for new trustee Professor Dirk Schubotz. The AGM also witnessed the retirement of our chairperson Professor Ann Marie Gray.
- The organisational Articles of Association are under review (last updated 1998) and will be completed in 2025.
- Board meetings and additional subgroups to oversee and maintain good governance were held regularly, including an input from the CEO of NICVA in relation to the 'state of the charity sector.'
- Meetings between the Treasurer, Chair, CEO and Finance Manager were held throughout 2024 to address the 2023 financial deficit.
- A Risk Register and report on strategic and practice outcomes aligned to the 5-year strategy/plan are shared in advance of each Board meeting.
- As requested by the Board, the CEO developed a new 'governing and leading with purpose' review document for Board including succession planning considerations.
- We have developed a new induction pack in place to support new trustees through their journey on the YouthAction Board of Directors.
- A Good Governance resource was published and launched at the Members event on 28th Nov 2024.
- Clear roles and expectations ARE defined for patrons and ambassadors of the charity.
- Harbinson Mulholland audited YouthStart (UKSPF) across all consortia partners every 6 months.

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6. Investing in leadership

Investing in growing a healthy leadership team at YouthAction NI and through our membership network.

- The organisation was awarded a Silver Standard Investors in People Award (IIP) in 2023 with the report stating *"People display a high level of dedication to their work, feel empowered and want to do a good job. They have a clear understanding of their own role and know how they contribute to the bigger picture through defined objectives, tasks and priorities. Harnessing this passion and expertise is key to making the right decisions and co-creating plans for the future, aiming to continually improve and innovate to meet young people's evolving needs."*
"Teams share a collaborative spirit. Everyone has clarity about how they need to work together and have the right level of responsibility, freedom and autonomy to work effectively. They are proud of what they do and believe that they really make a difference to the lives of young people."
In 2024 we embedded our IIP plan with a new pulse survey to ascertain staff feelings and motivations.
- Investment to develop and grow the Senior Leadership Team included a Peer support system provided by CEO for new Senior Leaders, Manabu Learning Training and Support and leadership raining with Springvale Learning or Training for Women's Network.
- New progress review system piloted with Senior Leadership Team individually. Senior Leaders will embed with staff across the organisation.
- New LIFEMAPS (for work) reflection cards that can be used for team reviews (motivation, purpose, learning etc.).
- In service calendar training for 2024 including growth mindsets, policy updates, disability awareness and a nurture day.
- Development of a video demonstrating expected behaviours and living the values of YouthAction,
- Senior Leadership businesses and youth work meetings.
- A new 'leadership listening round' approach took place with CEO and Louise Malone: regional visits to listen and share alongside staff.

7. Building Partnerships

We built and nurtured various local and strategic partnerships including:

- CROSS-NATIONS strategy: YouthAction, UK Youth, Youth CYMRU, Youth Scotland and Youth Work Ireland and a cross nations leadership retreat with senior and middle leaders/managers.
- CROSS BORDER: partnership with National Youth Council Ireland aligned to the Dept. of the Taoiseach Shared Island Unit: Shared Island Youth Forum.
- Lead YOUTHSTART: Consortium of 7 youth work charities: YouthAction, Include Youth, Springboard Opps, Start 360, Bytes, Prince's Trust and Northern Ireland Youth Forum.
- Lead PEACE PLUS 3.2 'AMPLIFY': Partnership of 7 youth work charities: YouthAction, Youth Work Ireland, Foróige, Patrician YC, NIYF, Prince's Trust and Community Sports Network.
- Lead PEACE PLUS 3.1 'SHARED AGENDA FOR PEACE': Partnership of 11 youth work charities: YouthAction, Youth Work Ireland, Corrymeela Community, Bytes, Integrated Education Fund, YouthLink, YMCA Ireland, Fighting Words Ireland, Community Dialogue, YouthBank International and Peace Players.
- Partner for PEACE PLUS 3.3 MENTAL HEALTH ('Our Generation' partnership led by Action Mental Health).
- Partner for PEACE PLUS 2.3 Cyber Quest (cyber security call, led by Bytes).
- Education Authority Youth Service 'LifeSkills': partnership with Bytes and YouthLink.
- BUSINESS: Belfast Rotary Club.
- Queens University Belfast: British Science Association Ideas Fund 'youth altruism' project.
- Ulster University: Certificate in Community Youth Studies partnership and Taking Boys Seriously 2 advisory group.
- ARTS: Collaboration with Capella Caeciliana to support front of house at Crumlin Road Gaol.
- WOMENS SECTOR: hosting a meeting with Training for Women's Network and Shankill Women's Centre to explore possibilities for our 80th year. New relationships with NEXUS (sexual abuse to young girls/men). Potential for a young women's conference as part of 80th year involving Girl Guiding Ulster and Catholic Girl Guides.
- PEACE SECTOR: IFI funded Youth Peace Summit in Magee -Hume Foundation, UU, Holywell Trust, NI Youth Forum, Community Dialogue and Integrated Education Fund.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

- UK youth work sector: Regional Impact and National Impact Network Leaders.
- Irish Youth Foundation (UK): small grant promotion and assessment for local groups working with young people in NI.
- Other partnerships with Integrated Education Fund, CoOperation Ireland (TBUC), Hume Foundation, Safeguarding NI, IFA.

8. Working collectively and strategically

We work collectively with other sectoral representatives as courageous change makers in:

- Growing the Voluntary Youth Work Sector. Dormant Accounts Fund funding £50,096 enabled the appointment of NICVA to convene strategic meetings and consultations as well as a communications intern. A series of 6 regional consultations (150 practitioners/managers) took place in Feb/March 2024. The Co-ordinating committee for Voluntary Youth Work held influencing meetings with EA YS programme Board, Cross Departmental Group and presented at the NICVA AGM.
- Leading, managing and championing the UKSPF YouthStart 7 partner consortium (improving the economic activity of young people).
- Leading and partnering in a variety of PEACEPLUS consortiums/partnerships.
- Participating in sectoral meetings with EA/DE as a full youth work sector.
- Coordinating local members youth work services through the ACCORD partnership.
- Supporting Network Youth NI through Paul Hamlyn Foundation investment.

9. Raise Quality Standards

We raised quality standards in youth work/ youth arts through partnerships, research, training, resource development and impact demonstration.

- Quality Assurance Senior Leader Maria Perkins supports CEO in quarterly reporting to Board on outcomes and preparing the annual Trustees report.
- Standards across the youth work team are reviewed identifying areas for improvement in line with the new ETI framework 'empowering improvement.' The Senior Leader for QA hosts sample inspection visits across the youth work staff/region.
- QA framework support to local members and new good governance resource launched at the member's event on 28th November 2024.
- Staff meetings held highlight quality standards including an Annual Youth Work Review.
- EA moderation took place with members and EA moderation feedback on membership event indicated that standards were met and exceeded.
- Represented on North South Educations Training Standards (youth work).
- Senior Leaders supported to create collaborative advantage through consortia partnerships using creative methodologies.
- Critical Youth Research Hub and Critical Thinking workshops for the sector.
- Securing EA Regional Specification for youth work training (quality training and standards).
- NI regional Youth Impact Network (YMCA George Williams).
- Established and co-ordinate YouthStart employability partnership.
- Nurturing PEACEPLUS 3.1 'SHARED AGENDA FOR PEACE' and 3.2 'AMPLIFY' partnerships.
- Resource development including: Building altruism through youth work, Altruism young people's journal and the development of a governance resource.
- Presenting at DfE Quality Improvement conference on 7th March 2024

Outcomes for children and young people - what we said we would do

Through youth work and youth art methodologies, young people will active the following outcomes:

1. Build and improve their health and well-being.
2. Increase their creative expression.
3. Improve their life and work skills.
4. Demonstrate leadership, activism and peace building.

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Summary of achievements by theme (what we did):

1. **Build and improve young people's health and well-being.**

In 2024, a total of **112** Health and Wellbeing Programmes were delivered to support young people across our network.

Project 1: The Ideas Fund

By December 2024, *The Ideas Fund*—a collaborative initiative between YouthAction and Queen's University Belfast—engaged **574** young people, **90%** of whom were from local member groups. This innovative project explored the relationship between altruism and wellbeing, with a key outcome being the co-creation and distribution of the *Altruism Journal for Teens*, a resource designed by and for young people.

A total of **701** young people aged 13–18 participated in various strands of the research, including questionnaires, focus groups, and creative activities such as developing the ALT app, designing T-shirts, and producing dice games—all centred on the theme of altruism.

In addition, **35** parents contributed through dedicated focus groups, and **49** individuals aged 50+ participated in an intergenerational workshop focused on altruism and values transmission.

Key Findings:

- Parents believe peers are the primary influence on young people, while young people themselves see parents as key role models in shaping values.
- Young people express a strong desire for respect and trust from adults, which includes setting clear boundaries and maintaining a non-judgemental approach.
- Girls are more likely than boys to engage in altruistic behaviours.

Top Five Altruistic Acts as Identified by Young People:

- Being kind to others
- Spending time with family
- Supporting someone who is being bullied
- Raising money for charity
- Sharing a smile with others

Project 2: Our Generation

The *Our Generation* project commenced in October 2024, with the primary aim of promoting peacebuilding through the development of emotional resilience among young people in post-conflict Ireland. The project delivers a variety of supports, including one-to-one mentoring, group-based activities, and accredited training opportunities for young participants.

Participation and Engagement:

By December 2024, a total of **88** young people had enrolled in the programme. Key interventions and engagement milestones include:

- **5 young people** received intensive one-to-one mentoring and support.
- **15 young people** from Holywood Youth Club successfully completed *LIFEMAPS* training, designed to foster positive mental health.
- **12 young people** from Muckamore and Rathenraw also completed *LIFEMAPS* training. This represented a significant milestone in cross-community engagement, as these areas had not participated in joint initiatives for over 30 years.

Outcomes and Impact:

The outcomes of the *LIFEMAPS* programme were measured across several indicators, with all 12 participants from Muckamore and Rathenraw reporting positive change:

- **100%** reported learning something new about themselves, their identities, and their attitudes toward others.
- **100%** indicated that trying something new helped them become more open to learning and change.
- **100%** expressed increased empathy toward others, with 4 participants demonstrating a 40% improvement in empathic understanding.
- **100%** felt more confident in meeting new people, with one participant reporting an 80% increase in confidence.

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These outcomes highlight the programme's effectiveness in fostering emotional growth, mutual understanding, and community cohesion among young people from historically divided backgrounds.

Project 3: Don't Bottle it up – Youth Mental Health Campaign

Project Overview:

The *Peace of Youth Minds* group launched a new youth-led mental health initiative titled “**Don't Bottle It Up.**” This campaign was developed in direct response to the growing mental health challenges faced by young people and aims to raise awareness, reduce stigma, and advocate for improved access to mental health services.

Campaign Objectives:

The campaign is driven by three key aims:

- **To challenge and reduce the stigma** surrounding mental health and emotional wellbeing.
- **To identify and remove barriers** that prevent young people from accessing mental health support.
- **To advocate for improved funding and access** to mental health services tailored to the needs of young people.

Youth Perspective:

The campaign is firmly rooted in the lived experiences of young people. A statement from the group reflects the urgency and motivation behind the initiative:

“Young people face a lot of challenges when trying to access mental health support – including confusing language, long waiting lists, and a lack of funding. Through this campaign, we aim to break the stigma, correct misunderstandings about mental health, and promote the development of responsive, community-based services.”

Impact:

This initiative represents a significant step forward in empowering young people to become advocates for their own wellbeing and to influence the systems that serve them. The campaign continues to raise awareness at both community and policy levels, with young voices at the forefront of shaping a more inclusive and accessible mental health landscape.

2. Increase young people's creative expression:

In 2024, YouthAction NI, in partnership with The Rainbow School of Performing Arts, delivered **78 programmes** aimed at developing and amplifying young people's creative voices across Northern Ireland. These programmes focused on a wide range of artistic disciplines including performance, dance, music, technical production, digital animation, and creative advocacy.

YOUTH ARTS – RAINBOW SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

The Rainbow School of Performing Arts continued to deliver high-quality youth arts and youth work programmes in 2024. A total of **2,336 young people** participated in weekly classes across three terms at the Youth Hub in College Square North, Belfast.

Key achievements included:

- **Mini Musicals Showcases:** All participants performed in term-end showcases, ensuring every young person had the opportunity to present their work on stage.
- **Technical Training:** 40 young people completed the *Techie School Curriculum*, gaining hands-on skills in stage management, lighting, and sound engineering.
- **Music & Dance Development:** 80 young people engaged in vocal development through music studio sessions, while 90 took part in advanced dance training.

Inclusive Outreach:

- 50 young people from ethnic minority backgrounds attended weekly classes in Ballymena.
- 40 young people with disabilities took part in weekly sessions in Belfast.

Front of House Training: 40 young people received professional Front of House training and actively supported performances.

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Productions and Performances:

• **Summer Productions:**

- *Somewhere Over the Rainbow* – 80 junior cast members
 - *Everybody's Talking About Jamie* – 55 senior cast members
- Supported by 25 trained young technicians.

• **Annual Pantomime – *Rapunzel*:**

- Featured 135 young people across two casts.
- Delivered 10 performances, supported by 10 technicians and 20 Front of House volunteers.

• **Audience Reach:** Total audience numbers in 2024 reached **3,567**.

Testimonials:

"It was so fun being on stage the whole time. I've done other shows and only been on stage for one song—this was way better."

"I've really struggled to make friends and had to move school due to bullying. I've found a place where I can be myself, and people like me. I love Rainbow Factory."

Audience member: *"I couldn't think of a better way to spend my July holidays than at this show. Given what's happened on our streets—this is the Belfast I know, love, and want to live in."*

Fundraising & Community Engagement:

To mark the organisation's **80th anniversary**, the "Stars in Your Eyes" fundraiser was held, featuring:

- 47 acts across Junior and Senior shows.
- 115 participants.
- Over **£12,545 raised** to support ongoing youth arts programmes.

ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF CREATIVE EXPRESSION

PRIDE FEVER ACROSS THE REGION

Young people expressed their identity and solidarity through active participation in Pride events:

- **24 young people** travelled to participate in the Belfast Pride Parade (27 July 2024).
- **37 young people** joined Foyle Pride in Derry-Londonderry (15 August 2024) under the theme "*Community: Local and Global*."
- YouthAction NI also took part in the inaugural **Enniskillen Pride**.

Despite initial fears of being visibly 'out' in their local areas, young people demonstrated courage and pride:

"It's different walking in Belfast compared to your own city. I felt proud, but also nervous about who might see me and what they'd think."

OCNNI LEVEL 2 QUALIFICATION IN ANIMATION

In collaboration with **Northern Ireland Screen**, YouthAction NI co-developed and piloted a new *OCNNI Level 2 Qualification in Animation*. This initiative targets young people with limited social interaction or experience in group settings.

Key outcomes:

- **7 young people** completed the pilot.
- Intensive 1:1 support helped participants prepare for collaborative learning environments.
- Animation software was installed on each participant's preferred device.
- One participant successfully produced a full animated short film.
- As a group, they developed a **digital advert on youth homelessness**, commissioned by the Homeless Council for Northern Ireland.

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

"I spend all my weekends working on this now. It's given me something to do and I love showing my work every Monday. Matthew [tutor] says I could have a career in animation."

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY – YOUNG WOMEN'S ART TRIP TO LONDON

To mark **International Women's Day 2024**, **7 young women** from *Footprints Women's Centre* visited the **Irish Cultural and Heritage Centre in London**.

- They attended an exhibition by Irish female artists exploring themes of feminism, migration, and women's rights.
- In preparation, the young women created their own artworks exploring **motherhood, gender identity, and poverty**.

This cultural exchange helped broaden awareness of intersectional feminist issues and gave participants a powerful platform for self-expression.

3. Improve young people's life and work skills.

Commitment to Tackling Youth Unemployment

YouthAction Northern Ireland remains dedicated to reducing youth unemployment through strategic investment in young people. We deliver tailored employability programmes, accredited qualifications, structured work placements, and volunteering opportunities, all of which contribute to measurable and lasting impact. Job creation and career readiness for young people continues to be a priority for our Board of Directors.

In 2024, we successfully delivered **93 life and work skills programmes** across Northern Ireland.

YOUTHSTART PROGRAMME:

Funded through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and led by YouthAction NI in partnership with six organisations, YouthStart supports economically inactive young people to develop skills, raise aspirations, and progress towards employment.

Consortium Performance (as of December 2024, with three months remaining):

- **96%** of overall targets achieved (2,182 young people engaged against a target of 2,278)
- **75%** of employment outcomes met (248 young people into employment against a target of 329)
- **113%** of education/training outcomes achieved (812 progressed to further education/training against a target of 718)

Our delivery approach prioritises those often underrepresented in youth work, including young refugees and asylum seekers, young mothers, and trans young people.

Case Study – North West Young Mothers' Group

Weekly sessions provided skills training, peer support, and on-site childcare. The group enabled young mothers to reconnect socially while working towards personal and group goals.

"I felt isolated after my son was born... Joining the group helped me realise I'm not alone. I've now started working in childcare — an unexpected but perfect opportunity."

YouthAction NI Targets and Achievements (as of December 2024):

- **324** young people enrolled (target 278 over two years, five months ahead of schedule)
- **197** completed the programme
- **179** achieved qualifications
- **99** progressed into employment
- **71** progressed into further education or training

"I never thought I could join a group, let alone complete a qualification. Thanks for all the support." – YouthStart participant, Fermanagh

OCNNI QUALIFICATIONS

In 2024, YouthAction NI expanded its accredited qualifications portfolio with four new courses:

- OCNNI Level 2 in Animation
- OCNNI Level 2 in Gaming
- OCNNI Level 2 in Community Relations
- OCNNI Level 2 in Community Development

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

We retained our *low risk* centre status and secured **£97,000** from the Education Authority to deliver seven OCNNI Level 3 Certificate in Youth Work courses. This funding removed financial barriers for learners and organisations, upskilled **66 young leaders** from 44 youth organisations, and produced measurable outcomes:

- **+34%** average increase in confidence as a youth worker
- **+15%** increase in knowledge
- **+19%** increase in practical skills

"Without courses such as these, our service would not be sustainable. YouthAction's staff have been patient, supportive, and of the highest quality." – Partner organisation.

INTERNSHIPS AND PAID PLACEMENTS:

In 2024, we facilitated **4 paid internships** in high-growth sectors — PR/communications, technical theatre, and event management — through the Job Start scheme and in partnership with Ulster University. These placements provided participants with industry-specific skills, networks, and enhanced employability.

4. Demonstrate leadership, activism and peace building.

YouthAction Northern Ireland continues to embed peacebuilding, activism, and leadership at the core of all youth work programmes, supported through strategic investment from **PEACEPLUS 3.2 Youth Call** and **3.1 Shared Learning (non-formal education)**

AMPLIFY PROJECT (3.2)

Launched in March 2024, the AMPLIFY programme is led by YouthAction NI in Armagh, Kilkeel, Enniskillen, and the North West. The initiative delivers intensive **16-week programmes** (three days per week) aimed at equipping young people with peacebuilding and leadership skills.

In 2024:

- **74 young people** participated in AMPLIFY
- All participants took part in the *Festival of Peace* held at The Junction, Dungannon
- Young people contributed to Ulster University and Hume Foundation research on the "12 Asks" of young people for peace, identifying **seven key priorities**:
 1. Update the Peace Agreement (End to Violent Organisations)
 2. Engage young people in government
 3. Improve relationships between communities
 4. Invest in the wellbeing of society
 5. Establish a strong and stable government
 6. Create an inclusive peace plan (no sectarianism or racism)
 7. Invest in Integrated Education

Young people expressed both frustration at the persistence of division and hope for a peaceful future:

"We've become numb to violence as we see it every day."

"We need to move on... We just want to live in peace, get good jobs and socialise where we want."

Other activities included:

- **Hunger for Peace Games Roadshow** (74 participants to date, held in Kilkeel and Armagh, with Enniskillen planned).
- Cross-community groupwork with Keady, Lincoln Courts, Foyle Down Syndrome Trust, and Kingdom Youth Club (Kilkeel), covering Ulster Scots culture, empowerment, and leadership skills.
- Youth-led social action project in Keady: where young leaders organised a Halloween disco for **150 children and young people**.

GIRLS ALLOWED YOUNG WOMENS CONFERENCE:

In 2024, **210 young women** from diverse backgrounds attended the *Girls Allowed Young Women's Event* at Ulster University. The event was designed and hosted by **14 young women** from New Lodge Youth Club and addressed topics including menstrual health, relationships, fitness, and contraception.

Inclusion was central, with leadership opportunities actively offered to young women with disabilities (via Mencap) and from minority ethnic backgrounds.

"Being a young woman is magical... but also lonely, exhausting, and overwhelming at times. Inequalities start from birth, but working together we can change anything."

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The event inspired a follow-up “**Light the Fire – Youth Work with Young Women**” Conference for youth workers in November 2024, equipping them to address:

- Sexual health and consent
- Women and peacebuilding
- Gender-conscious practice
- Coercion and healthy relationships

LEADERSHIP TRAINING AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT:

YouthAction NI remains committed to strengthening the youth work sector by delivering accredited qualifications from Level 1 to Level 4 (including Ulster University provision).

In 2024:

- **325 youth work qualifications** were achieved through face-to-face delivery
- **25 groups** registered for OCN Levels 1–3 Youth Work training
- **22 groups completed**, with **166 young leaders** gaining accreditation

Learner feedback highlights the impact:

“The OCN has helped me adapt my methods for different learning styles. Collaboration with other youth workers was my highlight. The course pushed me out of my comfort zone.” – Learner, Belfast

LEVEL 4 CERTIFICATE IN YOUTH STUDIES (Ulster University Partnership)

YouthAction NI continues to be the sole provider of the Level 4 Certificate in Youth Studies, a widening access vocational course for non-traditional learners.

In 2024:

- 2 cohorts (Belfast and Magee) with **16 graduates** (72% completion rate)
3 additional students will graduate in January 2025
- Progression routes included:
- 4 to full-time BA in Community Youth Work
 - 1 to study BSc in Social Work
 - 1 set up a new business.
 - 3 progressed into new to youth work employment

For the 2024/25 academic year, **100%** of Belfast-based students completed Module 1 by December 2024.

Locations

The charity maintained the regional offices in Armagh, Enniskillen, Kilkeel, Newry and Derry/ Londonderry. College Square North continues to be developed as the leading youth venue, creating a shared space for a shared future in the heart of Belfast. In 2024, we had increased usage from The Now Group, with young people with autism and additional needs using the building daily. It connects communities, young people and organisations to the city and has become a centre of excellence for youth work, youth democracy and youth arts.

College Square North

The charitable company plans to maximise the resources at College Square North to more effectively meet the changing needs of young people and contribute to the development of the youth work and arts sectors in Northern Ireland, following the impact of COVID-19. In 2024 our Youth Café “Beans and Dreams” operated mainly as a training space for young people who wanted to achieve an OCNNI in Barista Skills.

Since the building is an asset of the charitable company, the expenditure against this appears on the balance sheet. It should be noted that the income used to fund this expenditure is no longer available to the charitable company, as it has been spent on College Square North.

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Financial Review

The financial statements are presented in the standard format required by the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" as stated in March 2015 and covers the activities of YouthAction NI. The statement of financial activities (SOFA) shows the gross income from all sources.

Results

The charitable company had net outgoing resources for the year, before transfers of £207,963 (2023: £417,197).

The charity had total funds of £3,353,359 (2023: £3,561,322).

The charity continues to work tirelessly to secure income from private trusts, donations and public sources to finance its ongoing activities with young people. A strategic fundraising plan is continually implemented and updated, alongside annual budgets of income and expenditure to address the challenges in the current financial climate.

The main sources of funding are grants received from various bodies as disclosed in note 6 in the financial statements. YouthAction NI sincerely thanks all donors and ensures effective and efficient use of resources.

Key Performance Indicators The charity's key performance indicators are as follows:

	2024	2023
Total Incoming Resources	1,782,675	2,848,956
Employee Numbers	42	39

The charities achievements against its charitable objectives are set out within the "Achievements and performance" section above, and is their key measurement of success.

1. Financial risk management

The charity's operations expose it to a variety of financial risks that include the effects of changes in liquidity risk and interest rate cash flow risk. The charitable company has in place a risk management programme that seeks to limit the adverse effects on the financial performance of the company by monitoring levels of cash and maintaining no debt. The policies set by the Board of Directors are implemented by the charity's Senior Leadership Team. Specific meetings between the CEO and Chair also take place to assess risk. A high level Trustee Risk Register is in place to mitigate against the risks to the charity (Finance; Reputation; Governance and Management) and a report is presented in advance of each board meeting. In late 2023, the Senior Leadership Team recognised the impact of delayed funding contracts on income for 2023 and how this will affect the accounts. A specific and purposeful review was planned alongside the Treasure in early 2024.

2. Reserves

At 31 December 2024, the charity had total reserves of £3,353,359. Of these reserves, £689,168 were restricted by donors for specific purposes. The charity had general reserves of £2,664,191 of which the Board have designated £2,475,834.

The charitable company's policy is to retain a level of reserves which matches the needs of the charitable company both at the current time and in the foreseeable future. This also allows the charity to plan for future developments. This is estimated at a reserve level of £900,000 and general reserves are currently below this level. The reserves policy is reviewed annually. Free reserves are those unrestricted reserves not designated for, nor invested in fixed assets and which are available for general use and can be designated for future developments. The Trustees intend to designate a portion of reserves for College Square North future developments. The Trustees are striving to secure reserves (which include restricted and unrestricted funds) in the future sufficient to meet committed expenditure and the running costs for a period equivalent to 6 months annual expenditure. The Trustees believe that the period of 6 months is necessary in order that there is continuity of service and will continue to work towards the implementation of this policy.

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

3. Going concern audit

For the year 2024, the company reported a deficit of £207k. Despite this deficit, the company still has reserves of £3,353,359 with strong restricted and unrestricted reserves.

Going forward, the company is reporting an improving picture. For the 2025, year, the company is expected to break even and in the year 2025, it has secured a number of large long term projects.

In year 2024, the company has secured a 4 year, a 3 ½ year programme and a 3 year project from SEUPB PEACEPLUS worth €1,640,425, €1,349,001 and €1,060,778 respectively.

With these projects, the company will be able to secure the long term future of their staff to be able to continue to carry out their much needed work with young people.

The company has also strong bank balances with the main trading account sitting above £500,000 and it has kept paying off its suppliers on a timely basis and there are no long outstanding debts with any of its suppliers.

It is also up to date with all its statutory creditors e.g. HMRC, pensions and all liabilities are current and no long term outstanding liabilities.

The company has taken the necessary actions required to address the deficit in 2024 and it is in a much stronger position as of 2025 and can continue to improve the picture in the forthcoming years.

The company does not envisage any going concern issues and is able to continue as a business into the future.

4. Taxation status

The charitable company is a registered charity, and as such is entitled to certain tax exemptions on income and profits from investments, and surpluses on any trading activities carried on in furtherance of the charitable company's primary objectives, if these profits and surpluses are applied solely for charitable purposes. The charitable company is not registered for VAT and accordingly, all their expenditure is recorded inclusive of any VAT incurred.

5. Risk management

The Trustees have actively reviewed the major risks to which the charitable company is exposed and have implemented systems to mitigate those risks. Internal financial risks are minimised by procedures outlined in the Financial Policy and Procedures document (reviewed Jan 2021) which authorises all transactions. These controls are reviewed regularly to ensure that they still meet the needs of the charitable company. A risk management strategy is in place which is aligned with the operational plans. This includes targets for working with young people, finance and governance. A review of the strategic plan takes place against an analysis of the external environment, potential sources of income and risks faced by the charitable company. A Risk Register is in place and a summary reported in advance of each Executive Committee meeting.

YouthAction NI has held the Investors in People quality standard award since 2004 and operates a comprehensive HR Policy and procedures (reviewed annually). A comprehensive review of the organisation's "Protecting children, young people and young adults (including Adults at Risk)" ~ policy and procedures including good practice guidelines" has been carried, fully implemented and reviewed in April 2022 by the Board of Directors. The Board is advised of all child protection training, vetting and reporting at each meeting, through the Risk Register. As a regional voluntary youth organisation, YouthAction NI also continues to provide Access NI vetting and Child Protection training to local groups across Northern Ireland, to assist in keeping young people safe in youth, arts and community environments. We have 3 designated officers (including a Board member) and 5 Keeping Safe trainers. In 2024 we vetted 369 youth leaders, through Access NI and trained 161 in Safeguarding, to protect children and young people in our local member groups.

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Plans for future periods

The charity is in year 2 of its 5 year Strategic Plan for 2023-2027 and it remains a challenging environment. Performance and achievements are monitored and reported against the goals of the charity. Each year the Board of Directors hold a youth governance annual review to share achievements with young people and plan ahead.

YouthAction NI is recognised by the Department of Education as a regional voluntary youth organisation and a charity; and by the Arts Council for NI as a high quality youth arts charity.

To meet these functions YouthAction NI will continue to:

- Deliver direct front line services to improve the life chances of young people.
- Provide training and support to local groups to improve their services for young people.
- Maintain, support and grow our local membership services.
- Contribute to the strategic development of youth work and youth arts through publications; curriculum materials; strategic messaging; partnership working and through shared learning events.

Our 5 year strategic plan for 2023-2027 aims to support "young people leading change for a fair and inclusive world."

The 4 outcomes (thematic pillars) to be achieved for young people, through a wide portfolio of programmes, are:

- Build and improve their health well-being;
- Increase their creative expression;
- Improve their life and work skills; and
- Demonstrate leadership, activism and peace-building.

Organisational / Strategic Goals for 2023-2027

- Strive for a sustainable and robust financial base for our work, **raising 2 million pounds** each year to achieve high quality youth work/youth arts and value for money outcomes.
- Invest in **250 communities** each year to embed quality youth work/youth arts to support young people's development.
- Improve the health, wellbeing and aspirations of **10,000 young people** aged 10-25 each year.
- Increase the skills, qualifications and employability of **1,000 young leaders** each year.
- Demonstrate the highest levels of governance and operational excellence within a clear constitutional and legal framework.
- Inspire, build and nurture an effective supportive and healthy leadership team at YouthAction NI and through our membership network.
- Build local and strategic partnerships with charities, business sector, academia, government and civic society across the UK, Ireland and Internationally.
- Work with sectoral representatives as courageous change makers to transform how charities are recognised, valued and supported.
- Raise quality standards in youth work through partnerships, research, training, resource development and impact demonstration.

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The priorities for 2025 are:

- To lead and co-ordinate a range of cross border PEACEPLUS consortia to further include young people in building peace and reconciliation.
- To lead, manage, implement the YouthStart employability consortium of 7 leading youth work charities currently through the UK Government Shared Prosperity Fund and to influence strategic development and funding moving forward into 2025.
- To conclude and celebrate the 80th year 'Around the year in 80 events' with a showcase event.
- To work alongside inter-sector allies to support young people who experience multiple barriers in their lives such as young neurodiverse people, rural young people, young LGBTQI+ and young people from asylum seeker and refugee families.
- To actively contribute to and shape wider youth work sector policy and strategy developments including strategic funding for the transformation of the voluntary youth work sector.
- To develop a more sustainable approach to our venue at College Square North (Belfast) and to our overall practices across the region.
- To grow our fund-raising potential through a clear strategy and investment in human resources.
- To confidently respond to meeting the needs of our local membership support services in efficient and effective manner.
- Continue to invest in our people at YouthAction, improve policy support and to demonstrate the benefits of working at YouthAction.

Public benefit

The Trustees believe that the charitable company provides a public benefit in a number of ways to complement the twelve descriptions of charitable purposes as laid down in the Charities Act (NI) 2008(13). This includes the advancement of youth; education; citizenship and community development; the arts; reconciliation; equality and diversity; and relief of poverty. This is achieved through helping to provide support, guidance and educational opportunities to the young people of Northern Ireland and those who work with them. The Trustees are fully aware of the requirements of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland and are operating entirely within the legislation. YouthAction NI registered with the NI Charities Commission on 16 May 2017 (Charity Number NIC106365). Alongside the wider youth work sector, we will undertake research that promotes the economic value of youth work, demonstrating the social return on investment.

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Structure, governance and management

YouthAction NI is a charitable company limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. It is governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association and the liability of each member is limited to an amount not exceeding £1. The charitable company, which is governed by a Board of Directors, is recognised as a charity by the HM Revenue and Customs. The Chief Executive drives the strategic direction of the charitable company and carries out the day to day management with the assistance of the Senior Management Team. The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mr Cathal Maneely – Treasurer

Mr Liam Hannaway - Honorary Secretary

Ms Pamela Ballantine

Ms Alex Barnett

Mr JJ Hannaway

Ms Gillian Shields

Ms Crystal Campbell

Prof Dirk Schubotz

Ms Saorla White

The Trustees who are also Directors of the charitable company as at 31 December 2024 and have been members for the whole year then ended, unless otherwise noted, are as outlined on page 1.

The appointment of Trustees/Directors is laid out in the constitution of the charitable company. The Human Resources Policy (reviewed annually) contains a volunteering policy and a conflict of interest policy; which apply to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors meet at least four times per year. Upon election each Trustee is introduced to the legal and operational aspects of the charitable company to ensure they have an understanding of the nature of charity trusteeship, the responsibilities and duties that go with this position and to see the role of Trustee in action.

Collectively we commit to self-evaluation and continuous improvement throughout all areas of the organisation.

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also Directors of YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Annual report in accordance with applicable law and regulation.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Trustees have prepared the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). 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 the affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements.

Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (2015);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards, comprising FRS 102, 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 charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company 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 charitable company 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 charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. In accordance with Section 418, Directors' reports shall include a statement, in the case of each Director in office at the date the Directors' report is approved, that:

So far as the Trustees' are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a Trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditor

The auditors, Harbinson Mullholand, have indicated their willingness to continue in office, and a resolution concerning their reappointment will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.


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Mr Cathal Maneely - Treasurer

Trustee

Date: 30 October 2025 .

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF YOUTHACTION NORTHERN IRELAND LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the statement of financial position, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2024 and of its incoming resources and application 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 Companies Act 2006.

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.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. 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 course of 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF YOUTHACTION NORTHERN IRELAND LIMITED

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for the purpose of company law, 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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

HM Chartered Accountants is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 2011 of the Companies act 2006.

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.

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.

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF YOUTHACTION NORTHERN IRELAND LIMITED

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and/or senior management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the sector;

We focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including Charities Act (NI) 2008, taxation legislation, data protection, anti-bribery, employment, environmental and health and safety legislation

- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations;

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in Note 2 were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions;

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC and the company's legal advisors;

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.


YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF YOUTHACTION NORTHERN IRELAND LIMITED

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with section 65 of the Charities Act (NI) 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members 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 members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Angela Craigan (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of HM Chartered Accountants

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

6th Floor East Tower
24 Ormeau Avenue
Belfast
Co. Antrim

BT1 3LP

30/10/2025
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HM Chartered Accountants is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

YOUTHACTION NORTHERN IRELAND LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	-	1,571,955	1,571,955	-	2,630,314	2,630,314
Other trading activities	4	127,040	83,680	210,720	129,058	89,584	218,642
Total income		127,040	1,655,635	1,782,675	129,058	2,719,898	2,848,956
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	5	241,422	1,749,216	1,990,638	218,320	3,047,833	3,266,153
Total expenditure		241,422	1,749,216	1,990,638	218,320	3,047,833	3,266,153
Net expenditure		(114,382)	(93,581)	(207,963)	(89,262)	(327,935)	(417,197)
Transfers between funds		(403,479)	403,479	-	(291,879)	291,879	-
Net movement in funds	7	(517,861)	309,898	(207,963)	(381,141)	(36,056)	(417,197)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 January 2024		3,182,052	379,270	3,561,322	3,563,193	415,326	3,978,519
Fund balances at 31 December 2024		2,664,191	689,168	3,353,359	3,182,052	379,270	3,561,322

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

YOUTHACTION NORTHERN IRELAND LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		2,475,834		2,490,194
Current assets					
Stocks	12	279		279	
Debtors	13	153,071		729,644	
Cash at bank and in hand		2,751,746		550,058	
			2,905,096		1,279,981
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(2,027,571)		(208,853)	
Net current assets			877,525		1,071,128
Total assets less current liabilities			3,353,359		3,561,322
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	16		689,168		379,270
Unrestricted funds	17		2,664,191		3,182,052
			3,353,359		3,561,322

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 December 2024.

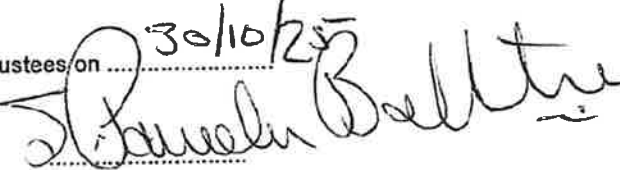
The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 30/10/25


 Mr Cathal Maneely - Treasurer
 Trustee


 Ms Pamela Ballantine - Chairperson
 Trustee

Company registration number NI035317 (Northern Ireland)

YOUTHACTION NORTHERN IRELAND LIMITED

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	20		2,242,004		(569,899)
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(40,316)		(16,556)	
Net cash used in investing activities			(40,316)		(16,556)
Net cash generated from financing activities			-		-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			2,201,688		(586,455)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			550,058		1,136,513
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			<u>2,751,746</u>		<u>550,058</u>

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is 14 College Square North, Belfast, BT1 6AS.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

General funds

Unrestricted funds are expendable at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the objectives of the charitable company. In addition to expenditure on programmes and other activities, such funds may be held in order to finance capital investment and working capital.

Designated funds

Designated funds are amounts set aside from unrestricted funds which have been 'earmarked' for particular projects.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds are those given to the charitable company which are to be expended for the specific objects specified by the donor.

1.4 Income

Grants

Grants receivable are credited to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are received or when they are receivable, unless they relate to a specified future period in which case they are deferred. Capital grants are transferred from restricted funds to designated funds on purchase of assets and then released to general funds over the assets useful life upon commencement of depreciation.

Voluntary income and other incoming resources

Membership fees, course fees, donations and other income are included in full in the SOFA when receivable.

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

Charitable activities

There include the salaries, direct expenditure and overhead costs of running the various projects and programmes of the charitable company for the benefit of the young people involved.

Governance costs

Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of its assets and are associated with constitutional, statutory and strategic requirements.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	2% reducing balance
Fixtures and fittings	12.5-50% reducing balance

Freehold land is not depreciated. The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost comprises direct materials and, where applicable, direct labour costs and those overheads that have been incurred in bringing the stocks to their present location and condition. Items held for distribution at no or nominal consideration are measured the lower of replacement cost and cost.

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price less all estimated costs of completion and costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.10 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.12 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

There are no critical accounting estimates and or judgements.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2023 £
Grants	1,571,955	2,630,314
Grants		
Education Authority (Infrastructure)	155,250	124,661
Others	1,416,705	2,505,653
	<u>1,571,955</u>	<u>2,630,314</u>

4 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Donations and events	8,074	18,343	26,417	40,812	15,116	55,928
Membership Fees	-	4,821	4,821	-	6,086	6,086
College Square North	59,994	-	59,994	38,286	-	38,286
Training and Accrediation	53,232	-	53,232	37,994	-	37,994
Other Income	5,740	60,516	66,256	11,966	68,382	80,348
Other trading activities	<u>127,040</u>	<u>83,680</u>	<u>210,720</u>	<u>129,058</u>	<u>89,584</u>	<u>218,642</u>

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Charitable activities 2024 £	Charitable activities 2023 £
Direct costs		
Staff costs	1,459,941	1,448,319
Depreciation and impairment	54,676	68,526
Other	476,021	1,749,308
	<u>1,990,638</u>	<u>3,266,153</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	241,422	218,320
Restricted funds	1,749,216	3,047,833
	<u>1,990,638</u>	<u>3,266,153</u>

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

6 Analysis of grant income

	Deferred at start of year £	Income Received £	Deferred Income £	2024 £	2023 £
Restricted funds					
Infrastructure grant					
Education Authority – Infrastructure/Regional Strategic Funding	-	192,750	(37,500)	155,250	124,661
Total general grant income	-	192,750	(37,500)	155,250	124,661
Restricted funds					
Youth work project grants					
Awards for All	-	2,589	-	2,589	10,000
Phoneix Natural Gas	-	-	-	-	3,000
The Theatre's Trust	-	4,623	-	4,623	-
Valero Energy Ltd (Texaco)	-	-	-	-	4,000
Belfast City Council (BCC) - Multi Annual Funding	-	29,700	-	29,700	29,700
Arts Council for NI – National Lottery/Stability & Renewal Grant/small capital equipment	-	41,000	-	41,000	41,384
Ulster University Art Works	-	21,038	(10,519)	10,519	21,125
EA Multiply Programme	-	250,000	(227,663)	22,337	-
UKSPF Shared Prosperity	-	572,566	-	572,566	1,613,469
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	-	-	-	30,000
Youth Empowered Coca-Cola HBC	-	-	-	-	10,000
Cine NI Screen	-	18,040	-	18,040	-
Department for the Economy (ESF) 2018 - 2022 Project 219435	-	-	-	-	120,873
EA Development Funding	-	77,345	(46,178)	31,167	-
Fermanagh and Omagh District Council	8,400	-	-	8,400	8,400
Newry Mourne & Down District Council	-	-	-	-	10,000
OCCNI	-	-	-	-	3,000
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Anti Sectarian fund)	59,903	77,602	(59,903)	77,602	73,999
Shared Island	-	4,746	-	4,746	140
Shared Island Civic Society Fund	-	20,648	(20,648)	-	-
Heart of the Community	-	15,000	-	15,000	-
Co-Op Foundation	-	-	-	-	34,500
Triangle Housing	-	2,060	-	2,060	-
Cyberquest	-	6,992	-	6,992	-
Armagh, Banbridge Craigavon Council	-	-	-	-	5,704
Action Mental Health (ESF)	-	-	-	-	2,595
Neighbourhood Renewal	-	7,058	-	7,058	-
EA Life Skills	-	8,500	-	8,500	19,509
Peace IV 4.2 Regional PIV4182	-	-	-	-	251,185
Peace 3.3 Action Mental Health	-	175,091	(102,416)	72,675	-
Integrated Education Fund	-	9,750	-	9,750	-
YMCA George Williams College	-	4,425	-	4,425	-

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

6 Analysis of grant income					(Continued)	
Dormant Accounts		50,095	(2,040)	48,055	-	
Paul Hamlyn Foundation	-	36,000	-	36,000	54,000	
Pease Plus Shared Learning	-	32,516	-	32,516	-	
Peace IV 2.1 C&YP PIV4016	-	-	-	-	5,292	
Peace Plus Amplify	-	270,975	(66,542)	204,433	-	
EA Regional Development Funding	-	-	-	-	21,203	
Cara Friend	-	-	-	-	(8,770)	
Derry Council Let's Talk	-	11,814	-	11,814	-	
UK Youth Inspire	-	-	-	-	31,773	
Peace Summit	-	16,689	-	16,689	-	
The Ireland Funds	-	-	-	-	-	
British Science Foundation	7,181	60,268	-	67,449	59,572	
Other	-	50,000	-	50,000	50,000	
Total youth work grants	75,484	1,877,130	(535,909)	1,416,705	2,505,653	
Total restricted income	75,484	2,069,880	(573,409)	1,571,955	2,630,314	
7 Net movement in funds					2024	2023
				£	£	
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):						
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets				54,676	68,526	

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Full time youth work staff (incl managers and youth workers)	31	28
Part time youth workers/ Interns	2	2
Administrative staff	9	9
Total	<u>42</u>	<u>39</u>

Employment costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,270,442	1,265,109
Social security costs	128,024	124,718
Other pension costs	61,475	58,492
	<u>1,459,941</u>	<u>1,448,319</u>

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel in the period was £628,314 (2023: £623,358). The key management personnel of the Company comprises 10 members of staff (2023: 10); the CEO, two Assistant Directors, Project Manager, Programme Manager, Nurturing Leadership Manager, Membership Development Manager, QA Development Manager, Finance Manager and Fundraising Manager.

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was more than £80,000 is as follows:

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
£60,000 - £70,000	1	2
£70,000 - £80,000	2	2
£80,000 - £90,000	1	1
	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>

10 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

11 Tangible fixed assets	Freehold land and buildings £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 January 2024	3,242,207	514,114	3,756,321
Additions	-	40,316	40,316
At 31 December 2024	<u>3,242,207</u>	<u>554,430</u>	<u>3,796,637</u>
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 January 2024	813,841	452,286	1,266,127
Depreciation charged in the year	39,525	15,151	54,676
At 31 December 2024	<u>853,366</u>	<u>467,437</u>	<u>1,320,803</u>
Carrying amount			
At 31 December 2024	<u>2,388,841</u>	<u>86,993</u>	<u>2,475,834</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>2,428,366</u>	<u>61,828</u>	<u>2,490,194</u>
12 Stocks		2024	2023
		£	£
Finished goods and goods for resale		279	279
		<u>279</u>	<u>279</u>
13 Debtors		2024	2023
		£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:			
Other debtors		148,207	726,612
Prepayments and accrued income		4,864	3,032
		<u>153,071</u>	<u>729,644</u>
14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		2024	2023
		£	£
Accruals and deferred income		2,027,571	208,853
		<u>2,027,571</u>	<u>208,853</u>

Included in accruals and deferred income is are amounts due to consortium partners of £1,430,575. Total funds received on behalf of the consortium during the year amounted to £3,007,118 during the year.

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

15 Retirement benefit schemes

	2024	2023
	£	£
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	61,475	58,492

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

16 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 January 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Central Services	-	5,482	(267,051)	261,569	-
Youth Arts	-	162,120	(304,030)	141,910	-
Youth Works	379,270	1,488,033	(1,178,135)	-	689,168
	<u>379,270</u>	<u>1,655,635</u>	<u>(1,749,216)</u>	<u>403,479</u>	<u>689,168</u>
	<u><u>379,270</u></u>	<u><u>1,655,635</u></u>	<u><u>(1,749,216)</u></u>	<u><u>403,479</u></u>	<u><u>689,168</u></u>
Previous year:	At 1 January 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
	-	-	-	-	-
Central Services	-	37,991	(223,103)	185,112	-
Youth Arts	402	169,428	(276,596)	106,767	-
Youth Works	414,924	2,512,479	(2,548,133)	-	379,270
	<u>415,326</u>	<u>2,719,898</u>	<u>(3,047,833)</u>	<u>291,879</u>	<u>379,270</u>
	<u><u>415,326</u></u>	<u><u>2,719,898</u></u>	<u><u>(3,047,833)</u></u>	<u><u>291,879</u></u>	<u><u>379,270</u></u>

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

16 Restricted funds

(Continued)

Central Services: provision of the infrastructure support to youth work and information and insurance services to members. Transfers represent the general fund contribution to central services.

Youth Arts: performance and artistic opportunities for young people, underpinned by youth work.

Youth Work:

The 4 outcomes (thematic pillars) to be achieved for young people, through a wide portfolio of programmes, are:

1. Build and improve their health well-being;
2. Increase their creative expression;
3. Improve their life and work skills; and
4. Demonstrate leadership, activism and peace-building.

Unspent restricted reserves relate to timing, with receipts in advance of project expenditure - all funds are used in line with funders agreement.

17 Designated funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	Movement in funds				Balance at 31 December 2024 £
	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	
General	691,858	127,040	(241,422)	(389,119)	188,357
Designated	2,490,194	-	-	(14,360)	2,475,834
	<u>3,182,052</u>	<u>127,040</u>	<u>(241,422)</u>	<u>(403,479)</u>	<u>2,664,191</u>

Designated funds represent grants and funding received for fixed assets, primarily representing the youth resource facility at College Square North. These funds are released in line with depreciation over the life of the building. Transfers represent general funds used to acquire tangible assets.

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
At 31 December 2024:			
Tangible assets	2,475,834	-	2,475,834
Current assets/(liabilities)	188,357	689,168	877,525
	<u>2,664,191</u>	<u>689,168</u>	<u>3,353,359</u>

YouthAction Northern Ireland Limited

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
At 31 December 2023:			
Tangible assets	2,490,194	-	2,490,194
Current assets/(liabilities)	691,858	379,270	1,071,128
	<u>3,182,052</u>	<u>379,270</u>	<u>3,561,322</u>

19 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none).

20 Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations

	2024 £	2023 £
Deficit for the year	(207,963)	(417,197)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	54,676	68,526
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease in debtors	576,573	416,754
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	1,818,718	(637,982)
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	<u>2,242,004</u>	<u>(569,899)</u>