

Londonderry Bands Forum
Financial Statements and Trustees Report
For the Year ended 31st March 2023

Trustees Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2023

The Trustees of The Londonderry Bands Forum are pleased to present their report for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Purposes and Activities of the Charity

The Forum is established “to challenge and communicate at all levels” To forward our aims is still relevant in the ongoing peace process and our partnerships with others has expanded our remit outside Londonderry. This is evident in our monthly Board reports and the Quarterly reports to funders.

Chairs report

The past year has been eventful for the Londonderry Bands Forum, it has seen us continue to engage with our member bands and musicians, fostering a strong sense of community. We continued to hold regular meetings and training courses to help share information and up skill our members.

We have actively engaged with local authorities around a number of issues including parading funding and support and continue to advoke for increased support for music education and preservation.

Covid is still causing issues and it is taking longer to get people back to practices and events. Budget restraints and a lack of government are not helping when applying for funding. We are fortunate to be in the first year of a 2-year commitment of funding from CRC. We are looking forward to strengthening our partnerships with other cultural groups and to continue to enhance our youth involvement through outreach programmes.

Main Achievements in the year

We ran a child protection training course which was well attended and important for the bands involved to maintain their governance. As part of CRC Good relations week, we again ran a number of podcasts looking at cross community work bands have engaged in the last 10 years. We counite to share a lot of the good work and event bands are engaged with. Christmas saw the Britannia Concert band play in the city centre which was support by CCI. This was received well by the local shoppers around the town. Our Co-ordinator completed his level 5 in leadership, thanks to NICVA who facilitated the course.

Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees of The Londonderry Bands Forum confirm that they have complied with their duty under section 17 (5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have regard to the Charity Commission’s guidance on public benefit and that the public benefit requirement has informed the activities of the Society in the year to 31 March 2023.

Review of Financial position as at 31 March 2023

The Charity had surplus receipts over payments for the year to 31 March 2023 of £14,001 (2022: deficit £6,409).

As at 31 March 2023 the Charity had no funds in material deficit

No funds are held by the charity as a custodian trustee

Trustee Selection and Management

The Charity is managed by an Executive Committee which consists of all the appointed trustees, and the selection of any new Trustees is dealt with by that Committee.

The following served as Trustees and Committee Members of the Charity throughout the year to 31 March 2023, and were also Trustees and Committee Members as at the date of approval of this Report

Trustees

Kenneth McFarland

Ryan Simpson

Joanne Smyth Evans

Darren Milligan

Committee members

Tim Cairns

David Campbell

Gordon Porter

Brian Dougherty

This Report was approved on 15 May 2024 and signed on behalf of the Trustees by

Kenneth McFarland, Chairperson

The Londonderry Bands Forum

Principal Address and Registered Office Address:

New Gate Arts & Culture Centre, 20-22
Hawkin Street, Londonderry, BT48 6RE

Northern Ireland Charity Number: 108021

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of The Londonderry Bands Forum

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 1 to 6.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Keith McElhinney
Chartered Accountant
42a Clooney Terrace
Waterside
Londonderry
BT47 6AP

15 May 2024

Londonderry Bands Forum
Receipts & Payments Account
Year ended 31 March 2023

	<u>Restricted</u> <u>Funds</u> £	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>Funds</u> £	<u>Total</u> <u>2023</u> £	<u>2022</u> £	
<u>Receipts</u>					
<u>Grants</u>					
Community Relations Council Core Funding	57,750	0	57,750	8,516	
DC & SDC Peace IV	0	0	0	9,643	
DC & SDC Good Relations Grant Aid	4,000	0	4,000	4,200	
HMRC JRS Grant	0	0	0	11,728	
Northern Ireland Office	30,000	0	30,000	0	
DC & SDC Cultural Quarter	1,225	0	1,225	0	
City Centre Initiative	500	0	500	0	
<u>Other</u>					
External Project Funds	0	0	0	43,821	
Ukraine Fundraising	0	560	560	0	
	93,476	560	94,036	77,908	
<u>Payments</u>					
Salaries & Pension costs	62,568	1,939	64,507	72,438	
Programme & Project costs	3,481	1,236	4,717	10,192	
Property costs	0	0	0	273	
Administration costs	3,515	0	3,515	414	
Bank Charges	0	120	120	0	
Accountancy fees	990	342	1,332	1,000	
Donations	0	560	560	0	
Rent	5,000	0	5,000	0	
Insurance	283	0	283	0	
	75,837	4,197	80,035	84,317	
Surplus receipts over payments	17,639	-3,637	14,001	-6,409	
<u>Reconciliation</u>					
Cash at Bank and on Hand	31/03/2022	-1,458	12,989	11,531	17,939
Surplus / (Deficit) this year		17,639	-3,637	14,001	-6,409
Cash at Bank and on Hand	31/03/2023	16,181	9,352	25,532	11,530

Kenneth McFarland (Chairperson)
Londonderry Bands Forum

15/05/2024

Londonderry Bands Forum
Statement of Assets & Liabilities
As at 31 March 2023

	<u>Restricted</u> <u>Funds</u> <u>£</u>	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>Funds</u> <u>£</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>2023</u> <u>£</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>2022</u> <u>£</u>
Funds Reconciliation				
Cash at Bank & in Hand 31 03 22	-1,458	12,989	11,531	17,939
Surplus / (deficit) this year end	17,639	-3,637	14,001	-6,409
Cash at Bank & in Hand 31 03 23	16,181	9,352	25,532	11,530
Debtors				
DC & SDC	709	0	709	
Amounts due from Funders	709	0	709	12,489
Bank & Cash Balances				
HSBC Bank Main Account			23,104	11,236
HSBC No. 2 Account			2,428	295
			25,532	11,531
Other Assets (Restricted Fund)				
Music Equipment (Estimated valuation)			2,945	3,465
Computer Equipment (Estimated valuation)			365	429
Fixtures & Fittings (Estimated valuation)			296	348
			3,606	4,242
Liabilities				
Underspend to be repaid to Community Relations Council	2,689	0	0	0
	2,689	0	0	0

Approved by the Trustees on 15 May 2024 and signed on their behalf by

Kenneth McFarland (Chairperson)

15-May-24