

Chairman's Foreword

On behalf of the Board and staff of Simon Community NI, I am delighted to endorse our 2018-2019 Trustees' Report and Financial Statements.

This has been a productive and challenging year for Simon Community NI. Productive in that we have managed, despite considerable public funding pressures, to sustain vital and often life-saving services. We have supported thousands of people through our emergency and temporary accommodation services; our Floating Support and Flexible Outreach Services to those in our community struggling to keep their own homes; through our specialist alcohol and substance misuse services as well as our homelessness prevention work to try to keep people from ending up without having a home.

The year has been challenging for many reasons and most significantly in respect of service demand and reductions to Supporting People funding. Demand for our services continues to grow. More and more people are becoming homeless. Not only that, many of those who become homeless also have a variety of very difficult and complex support needs, including issues with mental health and addiction.

Cuts of public funding to our services are likely to have a profound effect on the organisation's services. Like other colleagues who work to help those who are homeless, we experienced a 5% 'top slice' of funding this year. In real terms, this cut removed £326,000 from our charity's budget. Our struggle in the year was not only to protect and sustain our services, but also to find other sources of income to make up this massive shortfall.

Whilst we have managed to cope with the shortfall this year, my fear is that plugging gaps in public funding with charitable giving and donations is not sustainable in the medium to longer term.

My ask and that of my fellow Directors, from government and its agents is to recognise that we are in homelessness crisis and to resource homelessness services properly.

Please take some time to read the report. I hope that it gives you a good sense of the great work which this remarkable organisation does to help those people who are homeless. I hope that you find it interesting and informative. If you would like to support the organisation in any way please contact us on 02890232882 or info@simoncommunity.org

I want to extend my thanks and that of the Board to all of our colleagues and growing volunteer network for their dedication and passion for helping those who most need our services.

With best wishes

Iggy O'Doherty, Chairman

**SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

31 MARCH 2019

**Company Registration Number NI017466
Charity Number NIC102724**

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2019

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**SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE****Members of the board and professional advisers**

Registered charity name	Simon Community Northern Ireland
Charity number	NIC102724
Company registration number	NI 017466
Registered office	25-27 Franklin Street Belfast BT2 8DS
Trustees	Ignatius O'Doherty (Chairperson) Kathryn Thomson (Honorary Treasurer) Elizabeth Torrans Jason Johnston Joe O'Neill Colm Donaghy Andrew Freeburn Rodney Morton Mark O'Kane
Chief Executive	Jim Dennison
Company Secretary	Jason Johnston
Statutory Auditor	GMcG BELFAST Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor 19 Alfred Street Belfast BT2 8EQ
Internal Auditor	ASM 20 Rosemary Street Belfast BT1 1QD
Bankers	Danske Bank Donegall Square West Belfast BT1 6JS
Solicitors	Agnew, Andress, Higgins & Co 92 High Street Belfast BT1 2BG

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report

Year ended 31 March 2019

The Trustees, who are also the directors under the provisions of the Companies Act 2006, submit their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2019. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of 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 2015) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Reference and administrative details

Details of the registered office, Trustees, independent advisers and other information are given on page 1.

Principal activity

Simon Community Northern Ireland was established in 1971 to provide relief of poverty, suffering and distress and to establish, within Northern Ireland, houses and residential accommodation to give shelter and care for people who are homeless being in necessitous circumstances.

The principal activity of Simon Community Northern Ireland is to strengthen communities by leading the way in addressing homelessness. This is achieved through the provision of support services that aim to prevent homelessness, respond to the crisis of homelessness, respond to causes of homelessness (addictions, mental health conditions), and support individuals and families – all with the aim of moving individuals out of homelessness to sustained tenancies.

The Trustees

The Trustees who served the Charity during the year were as follows:

Ignatius O'Doherty	Chairperson
Jason Johnston	Company Secretary
Kathryn Thomson	Honorary Treasurer
Elizabeth Torrans	
Joe O'Neill	
Colm Donaghy	
Andrew Freeburn	
Rodney Morton	
Mark O'Kane	

Senior Management Team

Jim Dennison CIHCM	Chief Executive
Siobhan Laverty FCA	Director of Finance & Business Support
Robin Arbuthnot	Director of HR & Organisational Development
Kevin Bailey	Director of Homelessness Services (resigned 1 August 2019)

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2019

Structure, governance and management

Simon Community Northern Ireland is a 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 company is a registered charity with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, registration number, NIC102724.

Simon Community Northern Ireland has an induction programme for new Trustees as part of which they:

- receive a copy of the Trustees' Handbook;
- are advised of their legal responsibilities and requirements in regard to the code of conduct and declaration of interests; and
- receive briefings from the Executive Team on strategic and operational challenges and priorities.

The Trustees have ultimate legal and financial responsibility for the affairs of Simon Community Northern Ireland, although the management of the organisation is delegated to the staff, through the Chief Executive.

The Trustees of the company at 31 March 2019, all of whom have been Trustees for the whole of the year ended on that date, unless otherwise stated, are listed on page 1. Trustees appointed to the Board of Directors may serve for a maximum of 3 consecutive fixed terms, and on the expiry of the third fixed term shall not be eligible for re-election. All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from Simon Community Northern Ireland.

New Trustees are recruited to the Board of Directors by identification of skills needed. The recruitment of new Trustees is the responsibility of the Board of Directors who meet at least 4 times a year as appropriate. New Trustees receive an induction programme delivered by the Chief Executive and Senior Management Team to familiarise themselves with the Charity's work.

There are three sub-Committees of the Board of Directors. The Committees report on progress of delivering the strategic and operational plans and make recommendations relating to them to the Board of Directors.

Audit and Risk Committee

The purpose of the Audit and Risk Committee is to assist the Board of Directors to: establish effective risk management processes for all aspects of the organisation's undertakings; identify significant gaps in controls/assurance in relation to the delivery of the organisation's strategic plan; oversee legal and contractual compliance; review the internal and external audit functions; and to support the Board of Directors, and CEO on all aspects of governance in the organisation. The Audit and Risk Committee met on 5 occasions during 2018-2019. Membership consists of the Company Secretary and 3 other Board Members. Joe O'Neill is the Chair of this Committee.

Strategy and Sustainability Committee

The purpose of the Strategy and Sustainability Committee is to work with the Senior Management Team to prepare and review strategic issues concerning the delivery of the Strategic Plan of the organisation in advance of the meetings of the Board of Directors. The Strategy & Sustainability Committee met on 3 occasions during 2018-19. Membership consists of the Board Chair and 5 other Board Members. Kathryn Thomson, Treasurer, is the Chair of this Committee.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2019

Quality Assurance and Improvement Committee

The purpose of the Quality Assurance and Improvement Committee is to work with the Executive to enhance quality of client services (including engagement) as well as staff care and development. The Quality Assurance & Improvement Committee met on 4 occasions during 2018-2019. Membership consists of the Board Chair, the Company Secretary and 2 other Board members. Jason Johnston, Company Secretary, is the Chair of this Committee.

Objectives and Activities

The Charities (Northern Ireland) Act 2008 requires organisations to meet two criteria i.e. 'Charitable Purposes' and 'Public Benefit'. In relation to 'Charitable Purposes', the Memorandum of Association of the Simon Community Northern Ireland states that the organisation meets two of the charitable purposes as set out in the Act i.e. 'the prevention or relief of poverty' and 'the relief of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage (including relief given by the provision of accommodation or care)'.

An examination of the Act and the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's draft guidance on the public benefit test indicates that Simon Community Northern Ireland meets the public benefit test, as the organisation provides services, which can be accessed by members of the public who are in need of such services.

Simon Community Northern Ireland seeks to end homelessness in Northern Ireland. The charity actively responds to the needs of homeless people through initiatives aimed at prevention, provision and progression to independent living.

Equal Opportunities

It is Simon Community Northern Ireland's policy to provide employment equality to all, irrespective of:

- Gender, including gender identity
- Marital or civil partnership status
- Having or not having dependents
- Religious belief or political opinion
- Race (including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origins, being an Irish Traveller)
- Disability
- Sexual orientation
- Age

Simon Community Northern Ireland is opposed to all forms of unlawful and unfair discrimination. All full time and part time employees, Board Members, volunteers, students and job applicants (actual or potential) will be treated fairly and selection for employment, promotion, training or any other benefit will be on the basis of aptitude and ability only.

Simon Community Northern Ireland recognises that the provision of equal opportunities in the workplace is not only good management practice; it also makes sound business sense. This policy will help all those who work for us to develop their full potential and the talents and resources of the workforce will be utilised fully to maximise our efficiency.

Employees with Disabilities

It is our policy that people with disabilities should have full and fair consideration for all vacancies and to retain employees in the workplace if they become disabled during their employment. We will actively retrain and make adjustments where possible to allow them to maximise their potential.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2019

Objectives and Activities *(continued)*

Remuneration of Key Management and Personnel

All staff remuneration is matched to the appropriate grade on Simon Community Northern Ireland's pay scale in advance of employment. Simon Community Northern Ireland had historically used the National Joint Council (NJC) scale for setting pay and remuneration, however, in recent years it has been impossible to continue to match the annual increments agreed by NJC and Simon Community Northern Ireland were either unable to award an annual increment or awarded a lower percentage within available financial resources. Simon Community periodically benchmarks its remuneration of posts against similar roles in the sector and wider labour market. Unless agreed in advance of employment, in exceptional circumstances, staff are appointed at the bottom of the scale with a step up to the next point on 1 April annually and only on completion of successful probationary period.

Strategic Plan 2018-2023

The Strategic Plan for 2018-2023 was approved by the Board of Directors in the previous reporting period in December 2017.

Vision: A society where everyone has a home.

Mission: To end homelessness for people who need our help.

Values: Non-judgmental; caring; respectful; professional; collaborative; compassionate; creative; and innovative.

In March 2018, the Operational Priorities were agreed and set for 2018-2019.

Strategic Priority 1:

To prevent homelessness.

Operational Priorities for 2018-2019

- Offer people easy and accessible help and advice;
- Provide better and alternative housing options for those who need our help by investing in our Homelessness Prevention Service;
- Achieve greater public and political support to end homelessness through a number of awareness campaigns throughout the year; and
- Collaborate to deliver new and existing services through partnerships with other agencies.

Strategic Priority 2:

To provide the right support at the right time for those who become homeless.

Operational Priorities for 2018-2019

- Improved client-led support by the implementation of new organisational practice models; and
- All our accommodation will be safe, welcoming and comfortable through better investment in our property.

Strategic Priority 3:

To offer options and solutions to end homelessness.

Operational Priorities for 2018-2019

- People are supported to remain in their own homes by developing a floating support service; and
- Develop a capital budget and financing plan to provide longer-term accommodation solutions.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2019

Strategic Priority 4:

To develop, support and invest in our staff and volunteers.

Operational Priorities for 2018-2019

- Have the right staff at the right time across all levels of the organisation;
- People will have the right skills and knowledge to do their jobs through a comprehensive learning and development programme;
- Reward and recognise the exemplary work of our staff and volunteers;
- Have an engaged workforce through effective communication; and
- Our people feel supported through a proactive health and wellbeing programme.

Key Achievements and Performance

Homelessness Services Directorate

The Homelessness Services Directorate delivers frontline services to people who are either currently experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of entering homelessness. The work of the Directorate is divided into 4 strategic areas:

- **Accommodation Services** – providing emergency accommodation and to single homeless people through hostel type accommodation.
- **Young People Services** – providing bespoke services for young people and families who are experiencing homelessness.
- **Homelessness Prevention** – raising awareness of the risks of homelessness and making interventions in the lives of individuals to prevent homelessness occurring.
- **Health and Wellbeing** – promoting health and wellbeing among our clients to enable them to live healthy and independent lives and able to live with addictions, mental ill health and other conditions effectively.

Accommodation Services

Simon Community Northern Ireland provides emergency accommodation to people experiencing homelessness in Northern Ireland. We have 21 accommodation sites across Northern Ireland. We provided support for 3,346 cases where people accessed our services during the course of the year. Over 66% of which was within our emergency accommodation services in our 379 beds. Other support was provided via Floating Support, HOME Team, Flexible Outreach and our drug and alcohol team. Our staff work with clients to identify their housing support needs and then work with them in the service to help clients be able to live independently in their own sustainable tenancy. Services are provided under contract from the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE).

Work was ongoing throughout the year on two new accommodation sites. The first at Trostan Avenue, Ballymena was completed in the final quarter with 20 en-suite bedrooms and high-standard communal areas. The second new building is in Edward Street, Portadown which was completed in early 2019 and fully operational in the 2019/20 financial year.

Young People's Services

Bespoke support:

Funded by *Comic Relief*, we provided a range of individual and group work support to young people across our young people's projects. Outcomes achieved this year include:

- 43% of the young people have moved on to permanent accommodation. This has included returning to family, attaining own tenancy or moving into shared accommodation.

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Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2019

- 10 young people have successfully completed a range of independent skills development programmes. Out of these 10 young people 100% reported in the end of programme questionnaires that the programme had improved their independence skills.
- 100% of young people identified that participation in the programme improved their confidence and self-esteem.
- 12 young people have engaged in bespoke one to one work that explores their identified needs and challenges.
- 30 young people have completed a group work programme that explores mental health and well-being (including healthy relationships).
- 100% of the young people have reported that they are now good at making decisions, and 90% have reported that they are able to make decisions independently of friends.

We utilised *Children in Need* funding to support our young people aged 16-18 to overcome addiction, manage mental ill health and deal with emotional needs. As a result of the funding we were able to appoint a dual diagnosis worker who as a result of their intervention saw increased numbers of young people entering education, employment or training together with ending their homelessness.

Flexible Outreach Service

Working in partnership with the Northern Health & Social Care Trust and the NIHE, we provide both accommodation and 24-hour intensive community support for vulnerable looked after children aged 16-19 years. The Service has been funded by Northern Health and Social Care Trust and Health and Social Care Board, initially as a pilot until March 2020. During the year we have supported five young people, with four young people living in the community.

Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA) inspections in joint commissioned services at Mount Street Mews, Coleraine and 242 Antrim Road, Belfast were completed in December 2018 and May 2019, with positive feedback in relation to both sites.

Our Homelessness Prevention Work

A key operational priority, this service enables us to support individuals and families at risk of homelessness to remain in their own home and not enter into homelessness.

Our services align directly to the Homelessness Strategy for 2017-22: 'Ending Homelessness Together'. Working alongside other organisations in the sector has facilitated a joined-up approach to meeting the needs of homeless people and quicker access to support at the time of need.

Between 1st April 2018 and 31st March 2019 our staff, known as the HOME (Housing Options Made Easy) team, were fully integrated into the Housing Solutions team within the NIHE. Together, the HOME team assessed more than 1,200 referrals from Housing Advisers for people wishing to access our accommodation in Belfast, Lisburn, Bangor and Coleraine. Joint-working allowed the team to review the Full Duty Applicant (FDA) status of all our clients in these regions, maximising their move on options. In a large number of cases this approach helped clients move out of temporary accommodation and out of crisis:

- 1,086 clients received specialist advice and support through Housing Clinics;
- 112 people in crisis were supported to avoid the need for temporary accommodation;
- 44 moved into NIHE homes;
- 50 moved into Housing Association tenancies;
- 12 moved into shared accommodation; and
- 14 accessed the private rental sector.

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Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2019

The **Central Access Point** continues to respond to the needs of homeless people, reducing and removing barriers to access. As demand for bed spaces in our temporary accommodation increases, our access team has responded by identifying people most at risk and ensuring they have priority access. Our Central Access Point processed 3,768 referrals for Simon Community Northern Ireland accommodation places, of which 97% were accepted for service.

Development of our **Private Rented Sector Access** programme continued apace in 2018/19, with 6 clients supported into their own home and further referrals currently being processed. This programme will continue to help our clients access homes in the private rented sector, broadening their housing options.

Our **Tenancy Sustainment Service** has provided practical support to those people moving on from emergency accommodation into their own tenancy to be able to afford a deposit and basic essentials to set up their own home. Simon Community Northern Ireland will build further on the initial successes of this in 2019/20.

Drug and Alcohol Outreach Team

This team provide a bespoke service to clients, supporting them to deal with substance misuse. Working on Simon Community Northern Ireland accommodation sites in conjunction with staff teams, the Drugs and Alcohol Outreach Team seek to reduce harm by intervening with clients to help manage the misuse of a range of drugs and alcohol.

Funded by the Public Health Authority (PHA) and working out of the South-Eastern Trust area, Simon Community Northern Ireland's Outreach Team secured an additional £72,000 for the year 2019/20 to maintain the staff compliment at 6 following successfully submitting a business case to the PHA.

A total of **360 clients were supported across the South Eastern Trust region** – an increase from 294 the previous year.

The team has trained 151 of our staff to administer **Naloxone** (Naloxone reverses the effects of an overdose where an opiate, such as heroin or codeine has been taken). They have also delivered 38 workshops to third sector organisations, as well as providing training to 94 clients and 35 family members of clients to administer the medication and potentially save a life in the process.

Following analysis of overdoses across all our projects we were able to establish that younger male drug users who have been staying in our accommodation for under 4 weeks are at increased risk from overdose. In response, the team led a focus on supporting clients deemed to be at most risk to establish positive relationships and encourage openness about their substance use. This learning was used to train staff and to help them better formulate risk assessments and risk management plans with the involvement of the client.

Following a spike in HEP C infection among injecting drug users in the Belfast area in 2017/18 the Outreach Team have been trained to carry out **Dry Blood Spot Testing** for Blood Borne Viruses (BBVs). The reason the Outreach Team were seen as being crucial to carry out this role was that they have access to a population of potentially high-risk substance users that are not engaged with other services. This group is less likely to come forward for testing and may be unaware of the potential risks their substance use and other behaviours may pose. 60 clients have been tested to date, with one returning a positive result. This individual was referred to the appropriate health services.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2019

Dual Diagnosis service

In the reporting year, we have employed three Dual Diagnosis Practitioners (covering three hostels each -nine hostels in total) and they have engaged with 161 clients who have co-occurring mental health and substance use issues.

Our plan in the coming year is to extend the service to employ an additional 3 suitably qualified and experienced staff. This proposed expansion and model of intervention is based on a range of client engagement processes including surveys as well as focus group and individual interviews to establish what the clients feel they need from the service to support them more effectively with their mental health and substance use issues.

Organisational Development

Staff Training and Induction

A new Level 3 accredited induction programme was implemented and delivered to both new and existing staff. Staff health and wellbeing has been a strategic focus for the organisation and a new health and wellbeing strategy was commenced. This was supported by staff from local sites who were identified as health and wellbeing champions. A health and wellbeing survey of staff identified diet, sleep and mental health as key themes to be addressed by the strategy. The volunteer programme continued to roll out with an increase in the number of sites participating and the number of active volunteers involved.

A review of our quality assurance processes took place to determine how they could be further improved to ensure appropriate spread of learning from sites. This has involved reviewing how incidents are recorded and reported and how themes within the organisation are identified for further analysis and learning. Simon Community Northern Ireland worked with Supporting People to help review the Quality Assurance Framework and process for validation visits.

Impact:

- Permanent Support Worker vacancies are 3.9% of establishment;
- Total absence is 3.6%; and
- 145 new and existing staff have attained a Level 3 qualification by completing the Induction Certificate or in Understanding Opioid Overdose and Naloxone Administration.

Health and Wellbeing Strategy: Following a survey of staff, Simon Community Northern Ireland have identified key health and wellbeing priorities for staff around supporting mental health, sleep and diet. In response, a Health and Wellbeing Group have been established to oversee a programme of health and wellbeing initiatives. Staff have been supported to improve their health and wellbeing by being provided access to mindfulness training, smoking cessation and diet workshops and sleep seminars

Campaigning

We launched four public awareness campaigns during the year and used digital and press channels to distribute key messages to target audiences and capitalise on media opportunities.

The campaigns were:

1. Every Day, we end homelessness...

A campaign aimed at promoting greater awareness on the often-forgotten faces of homelessness. The campaign shed light on the thousands of Families, Young People and people with Mental Health conditions who experience homelessness and formed the thread for the charity's year of communications.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2019

The lynchpin of the campaign included regular staff and client content in the form of videos, press interviews, testimonials and thought-leadership. Outcomes included, over 200 billboards displayed across NI in partnership with JCDecaux alongside increased Social Media, Web and Press presence (further explained below).



Pictured above 'Every day...' billboard on display in Belfast.

2. **One Big Sleep Out** in partnership with Q Radio

Supporting the charity's flagship fundraising event, the radio and social media campaign worked with eight members of staff and three clients to share personal experiences of homelessness to best generate awareness around the topic and generate support.

This campaign generated over £16,000 in PR and Marketing and raised awareness of homelessness through the promotion of 3 client and 8 staff radio interviews that were played during the week of the event.



Pictured above Q Radio and Simon Community host members of the business community to the launch of One Big Sleep Out 2018.

3. **Christmas at Simon**

Taking advantage of the increased awareness of homelessness during Winter, the charity's Christmas campaign dedicated seasonal activity to support fundraising asks, showcase the personal stories of clients and promote the work of staff across the charity.

During this time, the website achieved an almost 40% increase in traffic from the previous year, nearly £50,000 was donated via the website, a BBC Appeals partnership ran on radio and digital to promote volunteering and the Foyer project and clients were used in a Tesco corporate responsibility campaign.

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Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2019



Pictured above Foyer Project promoting Tesco's Community Food Connection scheme.

4. **Rethink Homelessness** in partnership with Q Radio

Taking place during Homelessness Awareness Week and using a mixture of client and staff interviews, we worked with Q Radio to provide a week of daily news stories to encourage the public to reconsider their viewpoints on homelessness.

This campaign garnered support from high profile clients such as James Nesbitt and Gary Lightbody.

5. **Homelessness Deaths** supporting the Bureau of Investigative Journalism

Participating in part of the Bureau of Investigative Journalism's year long campaign, the number of people who died homeless in the UK was counted. Simon Community supported the investigation – giving journalists access to client and staff interviews as well.

The campaign resulted in UK wide media interest with the charity asked for comment on radio and in press at a local level. The homeless deaths investigation was nominated for 'Investigation of the Year' at the 2018 Amnesty UK media awards.

On-line Presence

In November 2018, Simon Community Northern Ireland launched a new website aimed at delivering a more efficient and effective customer experience while giving the charity greater opportunities to promote the brand.

Since switching live, the website, alongside a conscientious drive to deliver audiences via press and social media has resulted in a noticeable increase in monthly traffic.

During the year, the website attracted over 42,000 new visitors who consumed over 245,000 webpages containing charity information. When compared to the same period as the previous year, the website saw a 68% increase in new traffic and 225% increase in the number of pages viewed.

The creation of Simon Community Northern Ireland's own content was a key driver of traffic to the website with the News and Blog sections of the site accounting for high levels of traffic. A traffic peak took place between 28 - 29 January 2019, when almost 7,000 website hits happened in response to a blog post on the death of a homeless person on the streets of Belfast. Additionally, in the financial year, individuals used the website's new functionality to donate £34,000 to the charity.

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Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2019

Social Media

During the year, the charity witnessed traffic growths because of the curation of bespoke content for targeted audiences as well as trialing 'paid for' activity. Key results included:

- 40% rise in Facebook followers;
- Delivering content to almost 940,000 individuals on Facebook; and
- Twitter content being displayed to audiences over 1 million times.

During this year, engaging content encouraged almost £5,200 in online donations to be made by visitors via 'Facebook Donate'.

Press & Media

During the year press activity was used to improve public awareness of homelessness and the charity brand with 22 News Releases distributed in the year and 50 stories carried forward in print. Including mentions of 'Simon Community Northern Ireland' in external media activity, the charity reaped over £420,000 in positive press activity.

Engagement Events

On 7 December 2018, Simon Community NI hosted a working breakfast as part of Homeless Awareness Week. The event '*Pathways to Youth Homelessness Findings Review: A multi-agency conversation*' brought together 50 participants representing the statutory and voluntary sector. Representatives from the following organisations were present: NHSCT, BHSCT, Youth Justice Agency, NIHE, Springboard, Belfast Metropolitan College, MACS, Barnardos, First Housing, Apex Housing, Belfast City Mission and the Council for the Homeless NI.

A full report with recommendations is available on our website <http://bit.ly/2Bf8KLJ>



Pictured above Louie Montgomery - Apex, Mary Ryan - MACS NI, Karen McAlister - Simon Community NI, Eileen Best - First Housing, Brendan Nellis - Barnardo's, Claire Finlay - BCM and Kathy Maguire - Council for Homeless NI.

On 18 January 2019, Simon Community were guests of Professor Charlotte McArdle – NI's Chief Nursing Officer at the Nursing Now campaign. This three-year global awareness drive is in collaboration with the International Council of Nurses and the World Health Organisation and on the day, keynote speaker Professor Sir Michael Marmot, PHA's Director of Nursing and Allied Health and other specialists discussed the importance of better awareness and response to homelessness ill-health.

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Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2019



Pictured above Simon Community Northern Ireland at the launch of new nursing campaign which pledges to focus on homelessness and health inequalities in Northern Ireland.

Fundraising

Although total fundraised income was down by £11k on 2017/18, (this was mainly due to the one off GAA fundraiser of 2017, £37.5k) overall the Income Generation Team's strategy of diversifying income in 18/19 with new ways to give was very successful by providing more events for corporate partners and the public to take part in as well as new mechanisms to give. In total event generated income grew by 88% this year.

The new Slieve Donard Challenge in September 2018 had more than 60 participants and raised over £6,000 and Belfast Community Gospel Choir event raised £2,767, as well as generating good will in a challenging area for us.



Another new initiative to exceed target was Sweaters for Simon, a Simon Community Christmas Jumper Day. By directly marketing to businesses through 'candy cane' drops, LinkedIn and a social media marketing plan the campaign raised in excess of £18,000 through both local businesses and schools.

The rebrand of the Sleep-Out event to One BIG Sleep Out and the work to make it more of an 'experience'

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Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2019

for participants, coupled with a strategic social media marketing plan and a media partnership with Q Radio, meant we increased participation by 245% and raised more than £21,000, exceeding our initial target by £13k, with a spend of just £800. The gifted media partnership valued at £11,200 of airtime, was used to promote the event but also to have real clients and our staff tell the NI public of their journey, work and the impact of Simon Community first hand. The text to donate function with Q Radio contributed £1,200 to the event income. One BIG Sleep Out was recognised for its return on investment, marketing and impact at the Institute of Fundraising NI's annual awards, winning Event of the Year. One BIG Sleep Out will continue to be a flagship 'experience event' for Simon Community.



The increase in event generated income, also significantly contributed to the increase in Gift Aid income by more than £17k compared to 2017/18. Direct Debit income also grew by approximately 20%. The new website, better social media and more consistent asks are factors in this growth. Overall individual giving grew by 3.5%.

Online giving increased this year generating over £13,000, an increase of 2976%. Again, this is reflective of the organisation embracing a more modern giving mechanism and ask; allowing the public to donate online with greater ease and quantifying the impact of their gifts clearly.

Corporate Partnerships performed strongly in 2018/19 with notable new partnerships including Grant Thornton, who raised over £8k from their Run the Runway event at Belfast City Airport and taking part in our events. North Down Group raised over £10k during 18/19 from a variety of inhouse fundraisers and SCNI event participation. We also celebrated our partnership with Galgorm Resort & Spa raising £72,000 to date. Their increased 2018/19 income was due to our new tailored Christmas fundraising campaign, Dream/Dine & Donate, whereby their patrons can add a nominal £1 to their dining or room bill, raising almost £7k over Christmas. The corporate Christmas Presence Appeal also increased income by 43% to £11,500, again reflecting a more developed ask with better defined benefits for the business.

Major capital funding was also secured in January 2019 from Ulster Garden Villages for £29k towards the kit out of the new Edward Street Hostel, Portadown (income draw down in 19/20).

The 2018 Christmas mailing has been the most successful to date, raising in excess of £79,000, an increase of 12.8% versus 2017. This reflects the improved depth of client stories and our work developing specific seasonal asks. This is also demonstrated in our Christmas Church Appeal which raised over £9,000.

Alongside this fundraising activity the Income Generation Team has developed and nurtured 5 new Charity Champion Volunteers who act as ambassadors in their local area by volunteering their time to raise funds and talk about work to local groups. Fundraising volunteers delivered more than 500 hours support to the organisation in 2018/19.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2019

The Income Team will continue to build on these new activities, success and learning with all activities undertaken to raise income being reviewed in line with competition in the market and the Simon Community NI Business Plan.

Volunteer Involvement

Every day, our volunteers play an integral part in helping us to end homelessness, undertaking an active role in many aspects of our work. From sports to life skills, creative arts to gardening, our Client-Services volunteers assist clients to increase their self-esteem and promote their well-being. Helping to change perceptions and educate communities, our Community Champions advocate for some of society's most vulnerable.

Our fundraising volunteers engage with the public to raise the vital funds needed to deliver and sustain the services that will help us to end homelessness. Through regular involvement of corporate supporters, sports teams and student groups, we are also able to provide a regular supply of Welcome Packs for new clients to our 21 accommodation projects.

During 2018/19 it is estimated that volunteers contributed a total of 3,500 hours.

Risk Management

A new Risk Register was agreed and the Senior Management Team review and assess their departmental risks monthly at the Strategic SMT meeting. The top 10 risks (or risks with an amber scoring) are reviewed by Audit & Risk Committee and the Board on a quarterly basis. The full risk register will be reviewed annually at the July Audit & Risk Committee meeting and August Board meeting.

ASM continued in post as Internal Auditors. As well as follow up reviews, the following reviews have been completed for 2018-2019 as part of the final year of a three-year audit plan:

- Human Resources – Recruitment & Retention, Learning & Development
- Supporting People Funding Programme

Business Continuity Planning: Significant work was completed in year to develop the Business Continuity Plan. We now have a Business Continuity Plan in place that the organisation can refer to in the event of a significant business interruption. Departmental Managers, Accommodation Managers, Team Leaders, Heads of Services and the Senior Management Team all received training in Business Continuity Management and following that a scenario-based test of the plan was undertaken. Further training and testing of the plan will take place in 2019-20 as we work towards putting in place a Business Continuity Management System.

Financial review

The financial statements are presented in the standard format required by the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS102) and cover the activities of Simon Community Northern Ireland. The Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) shows the gross income from all sources and the split of activity between restricted and unrestricted funds.

Given the nature and location of the Simon Community Northern Ireland operations, the charity is not significantly exposed to price risk or foreign exchange risk. Regarding liquidity risk, cash flow is actively managed to ensure the company has sufficient available funds for operations and planned expansions. Interest rate risk is not currently relevant in relation to funding requirements. Regarding credit risk, exposure to individual clients is reviewed.

In 2018-2019, the Board of Directors approved the better use of reserves in financial investment and the acquisition of property. This commenced in early 2019 and at the end of the reporting period there was

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2019

over £888,000 invested in two Open-ended Investment Company (OEIC) fund portfolios with the Prudential. OEICs are considered to be medium to long term investments (5 to 10 years), however, funds can be accessed at any time should they be required by the Charity. One of the funds is slightly higher risk with the potential for bigger returns with only 10% of the available reserves being placed in this fund.

By 31 March 2019 the Charity had also completed the purchase of 1 property. The Board of Directors approved the purchase of up to 12 properties from the reserves in order to provide our clients, moving out of hostel accommodation, with affordable housing options. A further 4 properties have been purchased since the year end and two of these properties are now occupied with both tenants continuing to receive housing related support. The other 3 properties are currently being furnished and decorated to a standard that will help to raise the self-esteem of our clients to minimize the risk of them re-entering homelessness.

Incoming Resources

Incoming resources have marginally increased on prior year despite a reduction in Supporting People funding; Total incoming resources for the year were £9,222,121 compared with £9,109,099 (before exceptional items), in the previous year.

Gifts and donations have once again shown an increase being 5.27% higher than 2017-18. Activities undertaken to raise such income continue to be reviewed in line with competition in the market and the Simon Community Northern Ireland Operational Plan.

The Charity received 12 legacies during the year. This source provides vital unrestricted funds for furtherance of the organisation's activities.

The charity shop sells only donated goods. The Newtownards shop has contributed a profit of £16,667 for the year. Performance within the shop is reviewed on a monthly basis. This review will be in line with priorities identified in the Simon Community Northern Ireland Business Plan.

NIHE Supporting People Funding

A 5% reduction to Supporting People funding was notified at the start of the 2018/19 financial year and therefore it is unlikely the deficit position that has arisen on the restricted fund will be turned around. A transfer of £321,217 has been made from General Funds to Restricted Reserves to offset this deficit – please see note 14 on page 34 for further information.

Reserves Policy

Simon Community Northern Ireland annually reviews its reserves policy and the level of unrestricted reserves. In this context, unrestricted reserves are the total funds freely available to spend on any of the Charity's purposes. This definition excludes restricted funds and funds designated for essential future spending, although holding such funds may influence the Charity's reserve policy.

The Trustees have adopted a risk-based approach to the assessment of the appropriate level of freely available reserves. This approach is based on an understanding of income streams and their risk profile, the degree of commitment to expenditure and the overall risk environment in which the charity operates.

The unrestricted reserves balance at 31 March 2019 was £2,790,053 of which £1,106,639 was freely available for the Charity's purposes.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2019

Within its unrestricted reserves, the Charity has designated funds of £293,341 (2018 £269,011) related to capital grants and a cyclical maintenance fund for the upkeep of client accommodation sites and total Revaluation Reserves of £221,565.

In May 2018 an assessment of the level of free reserves that would be required to:

- maintain a quality service provision during any possible wind-up of the organisation;
- allow the orderly transition of services; and
- pay any financial liabilities,

was calculated at £898k. The Board approved the placement of these 'required' reserves in an investment portfolio that could be accessed relatively quickly should a 'doomsday' scenario arise. A procurement exercise was undertaken to appoint an Independent Financial Adviser to assist with the management of the financial investment. It was further agreed by the Board that in line with the 2018-2023 Strategic Plan, the remaining free reserves of circa £1.1 million would be invested into services and capital projects in the coming years.

Balance Sheet

The cash position as at 31 March 2019 remained strong with £1,511,905 held on deposit (£2,006,532 for 2017-2018).

Trustees' Responsibility Statement

The Trustees (who are also directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (including the Strategic Report) and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of 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, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that 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, 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 2015), and the governing document. 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.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2019

So far as each of the Trustees in office at the date of approval of these financial statements is aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- they have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

Auditor

GMcG Belfast have expressed their willingness to continue in office as auditor and a resolution to re-appoint them will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting in accordance with section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

In signing the Trustees' Annual Report approval of the Strategic Report is given in our capacity as company directors.

Registered office:
25-27 Franklin Street
Belfast
BT2 8DS

By order of the Board



Jason Johnston
Company Secretary and Director

Date of approval: 4 November 2019

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

**Independent auditor's report to the members of Simon Community Northern
Ireland**

Year ended 31 March 2019

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of Simon Community Northern Ireland (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2019 which comprise of the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2019 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, and cash flows 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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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.

**Independent auditor's report to the members of Simon Community Northern
Ireland** *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2019

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charitable company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

OTHER INFORMATION

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

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

We have nothing to report in the regard.

OPINION ON OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report (incorporating the strategic report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Strategic Report and Trustees' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

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SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Independent auditor's report to the members of Simon Community Northern Ireland *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2019

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report and the directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes 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 charitable company'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.

**Independent auditor's report to the members of Simon Community Northern
Ireland** *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2019

AUDITORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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 Auditors' 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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditors' Report.

USE OF OUR REPORT

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' 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 charitable company and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Alfred House
19 Alfred Street
Belfast
BT2 8EQ

12 November 2019



Mr Nigel Moore FCA
(Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of
GMcG BELFAST
Chartered Accountants &
Statutory Auditor

GMcG BELFAST are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

**SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE**

Statement of financial activities (incorporating the income and expenditure account)

Year ended 31 March 2019

		Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2019	Total Funds 2018
	Note	£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations and legacies:					
- Grants	2	457,207	121,779	578,986	673,161
- Gifts and Donations		-	524,608	524,608	498,355
- Legacies		-	156,369	156,369	156,113
Charitable Activities	3	5,396,604	2,440,955	7,837,559	7,670,061
Other trading activities:					
- Shops		-	93,453	93,453	94,719
- Rental		-	20,026	20,026	9,343
Investments		-	11,120	11,120	7,347
Exceptional income	4	-	-	-	198,711
Total		5,853,811	3,368,310	9,222,121	9,307,810
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		-	(402,839)	(402,839)	(390,907)
Charitable activities		(6,208,341)	(2,648,683)	(8,857,024)	(9,007,831)
Other		-	(84,335)	(84,335)	(74,118)
Total	6	(6,208,341)	(3,135,857)	(9,344,198)	(9,472,856)
Net income/(expenditure)	5	(354,530)	232,453	(122,077)	(165,046)
Transfer between funds	14	215,550	(215,550)	-	-
Net movement in funds		(138,980)	16,903	(122,077)	(165,046)
Total funds brought forward		293,813	2,773,150	3,006,963	3,232,009
Total funds carried forward		154,833	2,790,053	2,944,886	3,066,963

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 26 to 35 form part of these financial statements.

**SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE**

Balance sheet

As at 31 March 2019

	Note	2019		2018	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		793,522		768,944
Investments	10		888,469		-
			<u>1,681,991</u>		<u>768,944</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	11	237,000		292,046	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,893,554		2,746,498	
		<u>2,130,554</u>		<u>3,038,544</u>	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(867,659)</u>		<u>(740,525)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>1,262,895</u>		<u>2,298,019</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>2,944,886</u>		<u>3,066,963</u>
Net assets			<u>2,944,886</u>		<u>3,066,963</u>
Funds					
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	14		2,275,147		2,282,574
Designated fund	14		293,341		269,011
Revaluation Reserve	14		221,565		221,565
			<u>2,790,053</u>		<u>2,773,150</u>
Restricted funds	13		154,833		293,813
Total funds			<u>2,944,886</u>		<u>3,066,963</u>

These financial statements were approved by Board of Trustees on 4 November 2019 and are signed on its behalf by:



Jason Johnston
Company Secretary and Director

Charity Registration Number: NIC102724
Company Registration Number: NI 017466

**SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE**

Statement of cash flows

Year ended 31 March 2019

	Note	2019 £	2018 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		143,536	(403,332)
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(119,240)	(216,590)
Sale of tangible fixed assets		660	-
Purchase of Investments		(889,020)	-
Interest received		11,120	7,347
Change in cash and cash equivalents in year	17	(852,944)	(612,575)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	17	2,746,498	3,359,073
		1,893,554	2,746,498

Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities:

	2019 £	2018 £
Net expenditure	(122,077)	(165,046)
Interest received	(11,120)	(7,347)
Loss on investments	551	-
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	94,662	47,418
Profit on disposal of assets	(660)	-
Exceptional income	-	(198,711)
Movement in debtors	55,046	(100,810)
Movement in creditors	127,134	21,164
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	143,536	(403,332)

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2019

1. Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of freehold buildings and in accordance with 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 2015) and the Companies Act 2006. The principle accounting policies which have been applied consistently throughout are set out below.

Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets except freehold property are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation.

Tangible fixed assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and included at purchase cost, together with any incidental costs of acquisition.

Freehold properties are carried at their revalued amounts being fair value at the date of valuation less subsequent depreciation and impairment losses. Revaluations are performed by professional qualified valuers with sufficient regularity to ensure that the carrying amounts do not differ materially from those that would be determined using fair values at the end of each reporting date. Any accumulated depreciation at the date of revaluation is eliminated against the carrying amount of the asset and the net amount is restated to the revalued amount of the asset.

Any revaluation increase is transferred to the revaluation reserve. Where a property accumulates a deficit thus exceeding any previous revaluation surpluses, it is recognised as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities. Any reversal of such a deficit is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as a reduction in expenditure.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, on a straight line basis over the useful economic life of that asset as concerned. The principal annual rates used are as follows:

Freehold buildings	2% Straight line
Property improvements	2% Straight line/ over lease term
House equipment	20 & 50% Straight line
Office and shop equipment	20, 25 & 50% Straight line
Motor Vehicles	25% Straight line

Where the recoverable amount of a fixed asset is found to be below its net book value, the asset is written down to the recoverable figure and the loss on impairment is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Fixed Asset Investments

Investment in pooled asset funds which are classified as fixed assets investments are remeasured to market value at the balance sheet date. Gains and losses on remeasurement are recognised in the income and expenditure account for the year.

Debtors

Debtors are stated after all known bad debts have been written off and specific provision has been made against all debtors considered doubtful of collection.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2019

1. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is legally entitled to the income, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Grants

Revenue grants are credited to incoming resources in the earlier date of when they are received or when they are receivable, unless they relate to a specified future period, in which case they are deferred.

Grants for the purpose of capital expenditure are credited to restricted incoming resources when receivable, transferred to designated funds on purchase of asset and then released to general funds over the related asset's useful life.

Gifts and donations

Gifts and donations are included in the Statement of Financial Activities upon receipt.

Legacies

Legacies are recognised when received or when their amount is capable of measurement. Entitlements to material legacies which are not included are disclosed in the notes.

Charitable shop income

Donated goods for resale in charity shops are included as income in the period the goods are sold. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

Training suite and rental income

This small income stream is obtained primarily through the rental of a cafe facility and training and conference facilities at our Belfast Foyer.

Investment income

Investment income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Accommodation and support charges

Income is received from the Northern Ireland Housing Executive and Northern Ireland Health and Social Services Trusts for the provision of accommodation to homeless people. This is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributable to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources. Staff costs and overhead expenses are allocated to activities on the basis of staff time spent on those activities.

General fund raising and publicity costs

These include the salaries, direct expenditure and overhead costs of staff who promote fundraising, including events and mailings.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2019

1. Accounting policies *(continued)*

Governance costs

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

Pension costs

The Charity has established a Group Personal pension scheme for its employees. Defined contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Operating leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period in which the cost is incurred.

Fund accounting

The Charity has various types of funds for which it is responsible and which require separate disclosure. Definitions of the various types of funds are as follows:

Restricted funds

Restricted funds are to be used for specified purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is identified to the fund, together with a fair allocation of overheads and support costs.

Unrestricted funds – General

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated which are expendable at the discretion of the Charity in furtherance of its objectives.

Unrestricted funds – Designated

Designated funds comprise capital grants that have been expended for their restricted purpose and have been transferred to unrestricted funds. Such designated funds are then released to general funds over the related assets useful life.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at the carrying value plus accrued interest less repayments. The financing charge to expenditure is at a constant rate calculated using the effective interest method.

Exceptional Items

Exceptional items are transactions that fall within the ordinary activities of the charity but are presented separately due to their size or incidence.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2019

2. Grants

	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2019 £	Total Funds 2018 £
Grants				
Northern Ireland Housing Executive	112,000	-	112,000	99,000
Public Health Agency	203,237	-	203,237	169,167
Northern Health & Social Care Trust	-	-	-	121,274
Other grants	141,970	121,779	263,749	283,720
	<u>457,207</u>	<u>121,779</u>	<u>578,986</u>	<u>673,161</u>

In the prior year, £508,725 of grants related to Restricted Funds and £164,436 related to Unrestricted Funds.

3. Accommodation and support charges

	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2019 £	Total Funds 2018 £
Accommodation and support charges				
Supporting People	5,396,604	-	5,396,604	5,673,002
Accommodation and Community Support Services	-	1,904,587	1,904,587	1,803,064
Health and Social Care Trust *	-	536,368	536,368	193,995
	<u>5,396,604</u>	<u>2,440,955</u>	<u>7,837,559</u>	<u>7,670,061</u>

*Includes an amount of £48,765 from Belfast Health and Social Care Trust (2018: £58,678).

In the prior year, £5,673,002 of Accommodation and Support charges related to Restricted Funds and £1,997,059 related to Unrestricted Funds.

4. Exceptional income

In the prior year, exceptional income comprised the release of creditor balances which were no longer expected to become payable. A total of £198,711 was released to income which related to transactions that fell within the ordinary activities of the charity.

5. Net income/(expenditure):

Net income/(expenditure) for the year is stated after the following charges:

	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
Staff costs (note 7)	6,391,375	6,141,598
Fees payable to company's auditor for audit of Accounts	6,798	6,000
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets – owned assets	94,662	47,418

Indemnity insurance for Trustees' liability has been purchased by the Simon Community Northern Ireland within the Commercial Combined Policy.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2019

6. Total resources expended

	Raising funds	Influencing policy and practice	Accommodation and Community based support	Homelessness Prevention	Harm Reduction	Governance costs	2019	2018
	£	£	£	£	£	£	Total £	Total £
Charitable Activities:								
Fundraising	258,086	-	-	-	-	-	258,086	229,601
Shops	66,214	-	-	-	-	-	66,214	70,590
Accommodation and Community Support Services	-	-	7,348,342	85,488	291,937	-	7,725,767	7,839,750
Development	-	44,915	-	-	-	5,269	50,184	45,878
Support Costs:								
Directorate	16,337	16,337	107,822	4,084	2,450	16,337	163,367	199,423
Human Resources	-	-	391,667	10,417	6,250	8,333	416,667	396,619
Finance	28,487	-	216,501	7,122	4,273	40,294	296,677	263,938
Communications	22,054	11,027	33,817	1,838	1,103	3,676	73,515	99,838
IT	10,492	-	88,130	2,623	1,574	2,098	104,917	129,538
Property Services	-	-	67,455	4,164	3,331	8,327	83,277	74,536
Central Accommodation and Support Services	1,169	15,587	85,708	697	2,366	-	105,527	123,145
TOTAL	402,839	87,866	8,339,442	116,433	313,284	84,334	9,344,198	9,472,856

7. Staff costs and emoluments

	2019 £	2018 £
Wages and salaries	5,744,101	5,515,993
Social security costs	461,661	449,785
Other pension costs	140,500	100,180
Redundancy costs	-	13,568
Other staff costs	45,113	62,072
	<u>6,391,375</u>	<u>6,141,598</u>

One employee received emoluments of between £70,000 - £80,000 (2017/18: One).

The Charity considers its key management personnel comprise the Chief Executive, the Director of Homelessness Services, the Director of Finance and Business Support and the Director of HR and Organisational Development. The total remuneration for key management personnel was £252,397 (2018: £242,670).

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2019

7. Staff costs and emoluments *(continued)*

Particulars of employees:

The average number of employees during the year was 307 (2018: 294).

8. Trustees emoluments

The Trustees received no emoluments or reimbursement of expenses during the year (2018: £Nil).

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold buildings £	Property improvements £	House equipment £	Motor vehicle £	Office/ shop equipment £	Total £
At 1 April 2018	500,000	130,736	31,982	8,000	228,732	899,450
Additions	58,063	-	10,329	6,000	44,848	119,240
Disposals	-	-	-	(8,000)	-	(8,000)
Revaluations	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2019	558,063	130,736	42,311	6,000	273,580	1,010,690
At 1 April 2018	20,000	52,148	16,887	6,800	34,671	130,506
Charge for the year	10,290	8,922	4,894	1,300	69,256	94,662
On disposals	-	-	-	(8,000)	-	(8,000)
At 31 March 2019	30,290	61,070	21,781	100	103,927	217,168
At 31 March 2019	527,773	69,666	20,530	5,900	169,653	793,522
At 1 April 2018	480,000	78,588	15,095	1,200	194,061	768,944

The Charity has adopted a policy of revaluation in relation to freehold property. A valuation was carried out by an independent valuer during 2016 valuing the properties at £500,000. The depreciated historic cost of the revalued properties is £356,114 (2018 - £366,707).

10. Fixed Asset Investments

Market Value	2019 £
At 1 April 2019	-
Additions in year	889,020
Unrealised loss on revaluation	(551)
	<u>888,469</u>

**SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE**

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2019

11. Debtors

	2019	2018
	£	£
Trade debtors	95,279	110,968
Other debtors	10,677	15,031
Prepayments and accrued income	131,043	166,047
	<u>237,000</u>	<u>292,046</u>

All debtors are due within one year.

12. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2019	2018
	£	£
Trade creditors	390,934	259,791
PAYE and social security	112,292	110,424
Other creditors	24,679	27,525
Accruals and deferred income	339,753	342,785
	<u>867,659</u>	<u>740,525</u>

13. Restricted income funds

The income funds of the Charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balance of donations and grants to be applied for specific purposes.

	Balance at 1 Apr 2018	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Balance at 31 Mar 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Homeless prevention Accommodation and support	6,405	112,000	(102,957)	-	15,448
Harm reduction	-	5,396,604	(5,717,821)	321,217	-
Northern Trust – Flexible Outreach	22,200	203,237	(238,078)	-	(12,641)
Other grants	105,667	-	-	(105,667)	-
	159,541	141,970	(149,485)	-	152,026
	<u>293,813</u>	<u>5,853,811</u>	<u>(6,208,341)</u>	<u>215,550</u>	<u>154,833</u>

The deficit balance on the Harm Reduction is a result of timing differences for the receipt of income. Expenditure has occurred in the 2018/19 financial year that will be recovered in the 2019/20 financial year.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2019

13. Restricted income funds *(continued)*

Prior year restricted income funds

	Balance at 1 Apr 2017	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Balance at 31 Mar 2018
	£	£	£	£	£
30 th Anniversary	22,789	-	-	(22,789)	-
Homeless prevention Accommodation and support	668	99,000	(93,263)	-	6,405
Harm reduction	11,880	5,673,002	(6,066,315)	381,433	-
Northern Trust – Flexible Outreach	64,793	169,167	(211,760)	-	22,200
Other grants	-	121,274	(15,607)	-	105,667
	159,362	119,284	(141,894)	22,789	159,541
	<u>259,492</u>	<u>6,181,727</u>	<u>(6,528,839)</u>	<u>381,433</u>	<u>293,813</u>

Homeless Prevention	This programme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involves creating local community homeless task group and working with existing youth and community groups to develop homelessness prevention strategies • Works in response to local need and finds solutions to addressing homelessness locally • Promotes awareness and educates local service providers such as teachers on homelessness issues • Promotes holistic support of those more vulnerable people in our communities through partnership working with local communities and agencies.
Accommodation and Support	Received from the Northern Ireland Housing Executive and Northern Ireland Health and Social Care Trusts for the provision of accommodation and housing related support services.
Harm Reduction	This service aims to assist homeless substance abusers to reduce the harm associated with drug and/or alcohol abuse while they are living in a Simon Community Northern Ireland project as well as continuing that support when they move back into the community. It is funded by the Public Health Agency.
Flexible Outreach	This service provides flexible, outreach wraparound support to young people, aged 16-19 from within the Northern Trust area. The support services are provided to the young people in their own accommodation and is funded by the Northern Health & Social Care Trust.
Other grants	Other grants and donations which support the work of the Charity in both accommodation and community-based support.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2019

14. Unrestricted income funds

	Balance at 1 Apr 2018	Grant release	Transfer	Net incoming/ (outgoing) resources	Balance at 31 Mar 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds	269,011	(22,670)	47,000	-	293,341
General Funds	2,282,574	22,670	(262,550)	232,453	2,275,147
Revaluation Reserve	221,565	-	-	-	221,565
	<u>2,773,150</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(215,550)</u>	<u>232,453</u>	<u>2,790,053</u>

Grants received to fund capital expenditure are transferred to unrestricted funds from restricted funds when the expenditure is made and then released from designated to general funds over the related assets' useful life.

During the financial year ended 31 March 2019, the Supporting People Restricted Fund Reserve incurred deficits of £321,217. The deficit has arisen as no additional funding was made in year as well as not having an increment to the funding in the past 10 years and the increasing costs of providing these essential services. It is unlikely the deficit position will be turned around. Therefore, a transfer of £321,217 has been made from General Funds to Restricted Reserves to offset the deficit.

A transfer of £105,667 was made from Restricted Funds to General funds in relation to the Northern Trust Flexible Outreach programme. This was treated as a restricted fund income in the prior financial year due to uncertainty surrounding the successful provision of the programme.

	Balance at 1 Apr 2018	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources/ transfers	Balance at 31 Mar 2019
	£	£	£	£
Designated funds				
Capital grant	267,588	-	(22,670)	244,918
Service user designated	1,423	-	-	1,423
Cyclical maintenance fund	-	47,000	-	47,000
	<u>269,011</u>	<u>47,000</u>	<u>(22,670)</u>	<u>293,341</u>

15. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Tangible fixed assets	Fixed asset investments	Net current assets	Total
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds	-	-	154,833	154,833
Designated Funds	291,918	-	1,423	293,341
Revaluation Reserve	221,565	-	-	221,565
General Funds	280,039	888,469	1,106,639	2,275,147
Total Funds	<u>793,522</u>	<u>888,469</u>	<u>1,262,895</u>	<u>2,944,886</u>

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2019

16. Taxation

The Charity is recognised as such by HM Revenue and Customs and is entitled to certain tax exemptions on income and profits from investments, and surpluses on any trading activities carried on in furtherance of the Charity's primary objectives, if these profits or surpluses are applied solely for charitable purposes.

17. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	Balance at 1 Apr 2018	Cash flow	Balance at 31 Mar 2019
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	2,746,498	(852,944)	1,893,554
Net cash and cash equivalents	2,746,498	(852,944)	1,893,554

18. Contingent liabilities

A portion of grants received may become repayable if the charity fails to comply with the terms of the Letter of Offer.

19. Pension Commitments

The charity operates a defined contributions pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amounted to £140,500 (2018 - £100,180). Contributions totaling £23,712 (2018 - £15,112) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date.

20. Commitments under operating leases

At 31 March 2019 the Charity has total future commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as set out below:

	Property		Office Equipment	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
	£	£	£	£
Within one year	60,000	9,375	4,212	5,054
In one to five years	195,000	-	-	4,212
In more than 5 years	-	-	-	-
	255,000	9,375	4,212	9,266

21. Related party transactions

The Charity was under the control of the Board of Trustees throughout the current and previous period. There are no material related party transactions or balances during either year or at either year end such as are required to be disclosed.

22. Company limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee not having a share capital. The liability of each of its members is limited to £1.