

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 MARCH 2020

Company Registration Number NI017466
Charity Number NIC102724

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2020

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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 – Resigned 24 February 2020) Tara Brennan (Honorary Treasurer – Appointed 24 February 2020) 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

Trustee's Report

Year ended 31 March 2020

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 2020. 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 2019) 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 (Retired 24 th February 2020)
Tara McAreevey	Honorary Treasurer (Appointed 24 th February 2020)
Elizabeth Torrans	
Joe O'Neill	
Colm Donaghy	
Andrew Freeburn	
Rodney Morton	
Mark O'Kane	

Senior Management Team

Jim Dennison CIHCM	Chief Executive
Robin Arbuthnot	Director of HR & Organisational Development
Siobhan Laverty FCA	Director of Finance & Business Support (resigned 23 rd December 2019)
Áine Robinson ACA	Director of Finance & Business Support (appointed 15 January 2020)
Kevin Bailey	Director of Homelessness Services (resigned 1 August 2019)
Kirsten Hewitt	Director of Homelessness Services (appointed 27 January 2020)

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2020

Chairman's Introduction

It has been a huge year for Simon Community as it has continued to develop strategically in support of more people experiencing or risking homelessness. The impact our services have had on individuals is truly humbling - from people receiving the treatment and support needed to manage addictions, to individuals moving into their own home, these positive stories are the result of dedicated teams based throughout Northern Ireland.

During 2019-20 I was lucky enough on numerous occasions to meet with the people behind the charity and many volunteers. In June I welcomed a client who spoke at our Gala Ball and told his personal inspiring story of homelessness and the difference the charity made to his life. The Gala Ball is a fantastic fundraising event and very generously supported and managed by Galgorm Hotel. In September I hiked Slieve Donard mountain with supporters and corporate partners and heard first-hand why they choose to raise awareness and funds our services. In November I had the pleasure of joining many staff, volunteers and hundreds of supporters for the One Big Sleepout at the grounds of Stormont – it gave us all a tiny glimpse of the conditions which so many people who find themselves homeless have to endure as a way of life. And in January I attended the Chartered Institute of Housing NI awards alongside three Simon Community teams who had their work validated by peers - with one team taking home a prestigious and well deserved award on the night.

Supporting me in my role are those colleagues on the Simon Community's board who give most generously their time and expertise. Experts in their own field and coming together to challenge the charity with exciting suggestions and innovative thinking, I thank each of them for their dedication in ending homelessness. In particular, I thank Kathryn Thompson who ended her three terms on the board after 9 years of service and who was instrumental in key strategic accomplishments over that time.

Although this remarkable year was rounded off with the emergence of the deadly COVID-19 I remain optimistic and excited by the plans and developments that I know the organisation is waiting to launch. This organisation remains focussed on the future and as Chairman I am determined that we continue to help those most in need. I wish the charity's residents, staff and all supporters a successful year ahead and have no doubt that they will once again show their resilience and rise to all challenges presented.



Iggy O'Doherty

Chairman, Simon Community NI

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Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2020

Chief Executive Introduction

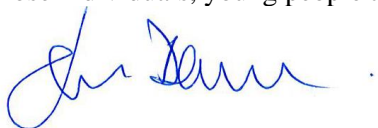
Brexit, a general election, restoration of power sharing in Northern Ireland and a global pandemic; 2019-2020 was a year like no other. A year in which the homelessness crisis worsened as thousands of adults, young people and families relied on our services.

Whilst many great achievements took place across our homelessness services, such as new property and service developments, the legacy of an absence of a devolved Government was apparent. The nature of short-term funding and the lack of joined-up government policy were shown to tie the hands of the homelessness sector. However, even with this, advancements were still made by the charity in educating, driving awareness and garnering support – none more than that of the new Minister for Communities who we lobbied as soon as Stormont was restored. Despite all the difficulties, we were able to support over 3,600 people who needed our help and I am grateful to all of my colleagues who were instrumental in making this happen.

Although a challenging year, it was one also filled with excitement, creativity and pride as the charity engaged with more clients, employees, partners and supporters. Across our HR and Organisational Development teams, we launched a staff wellbeing strategy and increased our training and volunteering opportunities. Our Finance and Business Support teams continued to streamline procedures to improve client support services. In Fundraising, we experienced a bumper of a year with successes in new corporate partnerships and our One BIG Sleep Out flagship event. Meanwhile, our Communications team launched a campaign as part of Homelessness Awareness Week, reaching 3.7 million people worldwide in the first 24 hours.

Of course, I must mention the appearance and challenge of COVID-19, which first began to interrupt our ability to deliver services in March 2020 and would later bring unforeseeable challenges and opportunities in the following weeks and months. However, what struck me during this time was the generosity and kindness that we witnessed during this time of uncertainty. I'd like to say thank you to the staff and service users who were forthcoming with ideas and such positive attitudes to changes in service delivery. Additionally, I cannot forget the amazing businesses, donors, community organisations and volunteers who ensured that our charity had food, hygiene products and funds to continue providing support. The support we receive is what helps us deliver on our mission of ending homelessness for people who need our help.

As I look to the year ahead, I'm aware of the challenges that it will bring but have trust that the charity is in a strong position. We will continue to support those who become homeless or who are at risk of losing their home. We will be a voice for those who are victims of inadequate housing policy and homelessness. We will continue to recruit, train and support the right people to help us achieve a vision of a society where everyone has a home. Most importantly, we will continue to deliver high quality support and shelter for those individuals, young people and families who need us most.



Jim Dennison,
Chief Executive, Simon Community NI

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2020



Our Year in Numbers

Homelessness Services

- 18,169 calls to 24/7 helpline
- 3,685 clients supported
- 481 bed spaces provided each night
- 362 new clients supported by a Public Health Agency (PHA) funded outreach programme
- 186 individuals received Naloxone training – the life-saving opioid overdose reversal drug
- 153 clients aged 16-25 welcomed across three young people's accommodation projects
- 111 housing clinics delivered by our Housing Options Made Easy team
- 106 young people supported to successfully live independently or reconnect with family
- 95% occupancy rate across temporary and emergency accommodation projects
- 68 individuals availed of floating support in Kilcooley, North Armagh and South Down
- 51 lives saved because of Naloxone administration in overdose situations
- 45 families supported at a family project in West Belfast
- 41 marginalised individuals tested for HIV, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C
- 33 shelter & support services located across 16 locations in Northern Ireland
- 21 young people engaged with a new wellbeing initiative
- 13 rental deposits gifted to clients ready to live independently
- 5 new homes purchased to rent privately to clients
- 2 new buildings opened in Portadown and Ballymena in partnership with Choice Housing and Triangle Housing
- 1 planning permission application granted for a 12-bedroom property in Downpatrick
- 1 new Quality Assurance & Improvement Group established



Staff & Organisational Development

- 511 hours of training delivered over 18 training modules
- 318 members of staff working across the charity
- 74 accredited qualifications provided to staff
- 51 new employees welcomed
- 50% of staff celebrated being with the charity 5+ years
- 12 staff health and wellbeing volunteers recruited
- 1 new staff healthcare package provided
- 1 staff conference



Communications and Lobbying

- 4.7 million content views across social media channels
- 92,111 visits to the website
- £97,000 earned in positive PR
- 3 roundtable events hosted exploring homelessness, research, funding and policy
- 1 global marketing campaign promoting the work of Simon Community

Volunteers

- £12,200 in funding sourced to facilitate volunteer opportunities
- 7,500 volunteer hours donated
- 500 Welcome Packs created for clients
- 121 volunteers took part in a range of roles
- 31 new volunteers trained and welcomed onboard

Fundraising

- £772,375 raised
- 483 participants took part in events
- 89 presentations delivered to businesses, schools and community organisations
- 82 partners supported with their fundraising needs
- 11% revenue increase at the One Big Sleep Out event

Reports and Publications

- Pathways to Youth Homelessness report published
- Homeless Families, their voices, their experiences report launched

Awards

- Excellence in Communications – Chartered Institute of Housing NI
- Fundraising Event of the Year, One BIG Sleep Out – Institute of Fundraising NI



SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2020

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 2020

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 a 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.

Strategic Priority 1:

To prevent homelessness.

Strategic Priority 2:

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

Strategic Priority 3:

To offer options and solutions to end homelessness.

Strategic Priority 4:

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

On 24th February 2020, met to discuss the Operational Priorities for 2020-2021. These fall under three main categories; People, Sustainability and Influencing

People includes our clients, staff and volunteers. **Sustainability** is to grow our income, remodel and reconfiguring services and to explore budget efficiencies and consider the longer-term viability of services. **Influencing** ministers and political parties and the departments of Communities, Health, Justice and Finance, as well as the NIHE and media.

The Board were asked to consider the following in 2020/2021:

- The implementation of an enhanced model of client support;
- Recommendations in relation to staff pay and benefits;
- Further property acquisition;
- Budget reduction measures;
- Possible social enterprise; and
- Policy positions.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2020

Key Achievements and Performance (incorporating Strategic Report)

Homelessness Services

Existing to support people who are experiencing or who are at risk of experiencing homelessness, Simon Community operates accommodation and services across four specialist departments. Services included:

- 20 x accommodation projects for adults, young people and families
- 5 x private rental homes
- 2 x community floating support teams
- 1 x young people flexible outreach team
- 1 x freephone helpline
- 1 x young person's wellbeing worker
- 1 x housing options team
- 1 x tenancy liaison officer
- 1 x drugs and alcohol outreach team

Together, Simon Community's homelessness services work to achieve the charity's strategic priorities. Below are just a few highlights of our year to showcase the charity's commitment in delivering on its five-year strategic plan.

Strategic Priority 1: To prevent homelessness.



Image 1: Simon Community's HOME Team at the Chartered Institute of Housing NI Awards 2020 pictured alongside charity chairperson, Iggy O'Doherty, Chief Executive, Jim Dennison, and Head of Homelessness Prevention, Kelan McClelland.

During 2019, significant investment by the NI Housing Executive's (NIHE) 'Housing Solutions and Support Teams' was made to our Housing Options Made Easy (HOME) service, which allowed for a reconfiguration of the team to better prevent and end homelessness. In Belfast, our tenancy liaison officer joined the HOME team working out of the NIHE's Belfast central office meanwhile an additional member of staff was recruited to work across the Derry/Londonderry and Coleraine region. In February 2020, this successful partnership received an award nomination at the Chartered Institute of Housing NI Awards.

Further development work took place when the team behind our freephone helpline contributed to a pilot project alongside the NIHE's 'Central Access Framework'. The purpose of this work was to improve communications and efficiency between agencies operating at the point of homelessness referral, which in turn would speed up the process of someone's entry into accommodation services.

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Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2020



Image 2: Simon Community's appoint new directors. Áine Robinson (left) joins the charity as Director of Finance and Business Support meanwhile, Kirsten Hewitt (right) takes on the role of Director of Homelessness Services.

In March 2020, we announced the appointments of a new Director of Homelessness Services and Director of Finance and Business Support. A homelessness specialist, Kirsten Hewitt joined after five years at The Salvation Army Ireland while Áine Robinson joined from Tourism NI where she held various finance roles spanning seven years. With a wealth of experience, both Directors will play integral roles in preventing homelessness and ensuring the charity is prepared to rise to current and future challenges.



Image 3: Simon Community's Chief Executive, Jim Dennison, Communities Minister, Deirdre Hargey MLA, Foyer Accommodation Manager, Wilma Henderson, Director of Homelessness Services, Kirsten Hewitt and Head of Young Person's Services, Karen McAlister pictured at the Foyer, Belfast to discuss preventing youth homelessness.

In March 2020, Communities Minister Deirdre Hargey MLA saw first-hand how her Department is supporting young people experiencing homelessness. The Minister visited Belfast Foyer; an accommodation project for young people and committed to protecting the Supporting People budget in her role.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2020

Strategic Priority 2: To provide the right support at the right time for those who become homeless.



Image 4: Staff and client at Simon Community's new accommodation project at Edward Street, Portadown.

The opening of new, fit-for-purpose, accommodation projects in Ballymena and Portadown, alongside the repurposing of under-utilised rooms in existing projects, allowed us to increase our available bed spaces throughout the year. These successful initiatives added 19 further spaces for those who need shelter and support with staff continuing to investigate new options that would allow the charity to accommodate more people who need a safe place to sleep.



Image 5: Julianne Heggarty (pictured left) pictured at the launch of Simon Community's Young People's Learning Centre with Head of Young Person's Services, Karen McAlister and Foyer Accommodation Manager, Wilma Henderson.

In May 2019, we recruited a Wellbeing Worker to operate across our three bespoke young people's accommodation projects and community-based Flexible Outreach Service. Funded through Children In Need, this vital role worked with clients on areas such as drug and alcohol hard reduction, health and hygiene, criminality and community relationships. In addition, a major part of the project's role was to

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2020

support young people with their mental health and emotional wellbeing.



Image 6: Client at Simon Community's Foyer accommodation project utilising the new Learning Centre.

In October 2019, we opened a new Learning Centre at our Foyer accommodation project based in Belfast. Funded in partnership with Comic Relief and made possible thanks to corporate volunteering, residents spent several months working on a redecoration initiative aimed at turning a vacant space into a fit-for-purpose hub that would facilitate workshops including IT, art and music.



Image 7: Head of Health, Wellbeing and Practice Development, Eoin Ryan, discusses the importance of the Dual Diagnosis trial pilot at Simon Community's staff conference, held in March 2020.

In the year, we tested a pilot Dual Diagnosis Service with members of the team placed within selected temporary accommodation projects and tasked with meeting the mental health and substance use support needs of residents. By closely targeting a group that is often excluded from necessary support due to co-occurring complex needs, the team behind the pilot were able to secure the right external support services for residents. Based on the outcomes, the team has been able to apply for funding to the Big Lottery to develop a three-year Wellbeing Service with news on the application to be announced in mid-2020.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2020

Strategic Priority 3: To offer options and solutions to end homelessness.



Image 8: Michael McDonnell, Group Chief Executive of Choice pictured with Simon Community's Chief Executive Jim Dennison, Tenancy Liaison Officer Melissa Mallon and Louise, the first recipient of tenancy rental deposit scheme.

In April 2019, we were proud to launch a new tenancy sustainment service, initially made possible thanks to a Nationwide Community Grants with further support from Choice Housing. Employing a tenancy liaison officer working across six of our housing projects, we targeted residents least likely to receive social housing and helped make independent living within the private rental sector a reality.



Image 9: A screenshot of Simon Community's *Pathways to Youth Homelessness* report, which can be downloaded from the Knowledge Hub on the charity's website.

In the Summer of 2019, we launched two major reports:

- 'Pathways to Youth Homelessness' in partnership with Action for Children, Barnardo's NI, Apex, First Housing Aid & Support Service, CHNI, Belfast Central Mission and MACS
- 'Homeless Families, their voices, their experiences' in partnership with Depaul, First Housing Aid & Support Services, and The Salvation Army

These reports highlighted the views and experiences of homeless young people and families across Northern Ireland identifying reasons for homelessness, lived experiences and provided rationale for required responses to meet the needs of the most vulnerable in society.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2020



Image 10: Clients at Simon Community project in Derry received accredited Community Walk Leader Awards as part of a 12-week PHA funded programme aimed at improving health and wellbeing for individuals experiencing homelessness.

In Derry, we tackled homelessness health issues through an initiative funded by the Public Health Agency. The Wellbeing, Awareness, Learning and Keeping in Touch (WALK) programme worked with 12 residents over 12 weeks and aimed to reduce depression and anxiety. By providing distractions for individuals with substance dependency and creating opportunities for physical and social activities, this volunteer-led initiative saw residents take part in walking challenges, excursions and ultimately receive accreditation as Community Walk Leaders.



Image 11: Staff, clients and volunteers at Simon Community's family accommodation project enjoying a celebration event to mark the end of a 10-week wellness programme.

At our family project, we designed a 10-week volunteer-led wellness programme for parents. Funded by the Public Health Agency to improve resilience, interaction, skills and empowerment of those experiencing homelessness, the initiative included a steps challenge with the title being taken by a mum of three who overcame a fear of leaving her flat to ultimately achieve an impressive 213,000 steps in four weeks.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2020

Strategic Priority 4: To develop, support and invest in our staff and volunteers.



Image 12: Simon Community staff receiving mandatory Naloxone training.

This year, we made 'Opioid Use, Opioid Overdose & Naloxone Administration' training mandatory for all Simon staff. Delivered by experienced members of our PHA funded Outreach Team, this practical training provided staff with the knowledge and tools needed to recognise and respond to opioid usage and overdoses, which ultimately saved lives. To date, the training has received a 100% satisfaction score from staff who say it meets their expectations and learning needs.

In addition, we introduced a pro-active approach to analysing cases of overdoses, which has allowed the team to identify trends in relation to drug types, age and gender profiles, and geographical locations. This knowledge has allowed the charity to better manage risk by focusing attention, and staff vigilance, on residents most at risk from overdosing.



Image 13: Simon Community staff receiving Chairman's awards at the annual staff conference in March 2020.

Bringing together staff from across temporary accommodation projects, homelessness services and those working in other vital projects and business units of the charity, the 2020 Simon Community staff conference provided an opportunity for colleagues to meet, share best practice and celebrate success.

Facilitated by BBC's Tara Mills, and with thought provoking talks from Keynote speaker Dr. Eoin Galavan, a Senior Clinical and Counselling Psychologist in the HSE North Dublin Adult Mental Health Services, the theme was 'Supporting Each Other'.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2020

Impact of COVID-19

In March 2020, we responded to the coronavirus pandemic by implementing a range of measures, which included:

- Immediately following the Public Health Agency's COVID-19 advice and liaised closely with colleagues across the homelessness sector, as well as the Housing Executive, Department for Communities, PBNI and PSNI to review the situation. A Joint Providers Group was created to share knowledge during the time.
- Increasing recruitment opportunities to ensure projects remained in operation via the Crisis Cover Initiative and creation of Simon Concierge positions. To assist this, our training moved from classroom-based learning to online.
- Reconfiguring our drugs and alcohol outreach service into a virtual service during the crisis so that our staff could support clients in the community with addiction issues via telephone and video conferencing.
- Redeploying support staff from community-based services to assist at temporary accommodation sites meaning there has been an ability for staff to self-isolate for seven days if required. Additionally, due to the geographic locations of staff and services, projects benefitted from borrowing support staff from sister sites when needed.
- Implementing remote working for our Central Office teams ensuring that vital operations such as IT, Finance, HR, Fundraising and Communications could continue. This allowed us to continue to keep accommodation projects in operation, source funding and PPE, and drive community support.

The charity is proud to say that the quick decisions and commitment from all staff played a large part in keeping Simon Community in operation during COVID. We continued to accept referrals, keep suspected cases at a manageable level and provide shelter and support to some of society's most marginalised citizens.

The charity will report further on the impacts of COVID in the next period.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2020

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 2020, 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 4 occasions during 2019-2020. Membership consists of the Company Secretary and 3 other Board Members. Joe O'Neill was the Chair of this Committee until 21st October 2019. Andrew Freeburn was elected as the new Chair on 21st October.

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 1 occasion during 2019-2020. Membership consists of the Board Chair and 4 other Board Members. Kathryn Thomson, Treasurer, was the Chair of this Committee until 22nd July 2019. Joe O'Neill was appointed as the new Chair.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2020

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 2019-2020. Membership consists of the Board Chair, the Company Secretary and 2 other Board members. Jason Johnston, Company Secretary, is the Chair of this Committee.

Risk Management

The Corporate Risk Register is reviewed by the Senior Management Team to 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 2019-2020 as part of the final year of a three-year audit plan:

- Financial systems
- IT, Business Continuity Management and Data Protection (incl. GDPR)

Business Continuity Planning: The organisation has in place a Business Continuity Plan it can refer to the plan in the event of a significant business interruption. A scenario-based test of the plan was undertaken in August 2019. Lessons learned from this exercise were fed into the current plan and updated accordingly. Post year end, the plan was enacted for the first time as the organisation faced a severe shortage in staff on one of its sites, due to Covid-19. A programme of work will continue into 2020-21 in order to continue to embed Business Continuity processes throughout the organisation. This includes the development of a Crisis Management Handbook and training for relevant staff.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2020

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. In the prior year, there was 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.

As a result of the outbreak of Covid-19 in the last quarter of the financial year, global economic uncertainty caused the fund to take a sharp drop in value at the year end. This resulted in an unrealised loss of £32k in 2019-20. Post year end, the fund has recovered well, and the Senior Management Team will continue to monitor this throughout the year at regular intervals.

By 31 March 2020 the Charity had completed the purchase of an additional 4 properties, bringing the total property purchases to five. The Board of Directors have 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. All five properties are occupied, with all tenants continuing to receive housing related support. The Board of Directors have approved the purchase of 3 properties in 2020-21. This will be kept under review in light of Covid-19 and economic conditions in the property market.

Incoming Resources

Incoming resources have increased on prior year mainly due to an increase in grant funding, gifts and donations and small increases from key funders at year end in response to Covid-19 pressures; Total incoming resources for the year were £9,575,722 compared with £9,222,121 in the previous year.

In 2019/20 there was an increase in grant funding £725,348 (2019 - £578,986). Additional funding was secured from NIHE for the HOME Team as well as the Public Health Agency for the Harm Reduction Programme.

Gifts and donations have once again shown an increase being 16.8% higher than 2018-19. 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.

NIHE Supporting People Funding

There was no increase in Supporting People block funding in 2019/20 however an additional £20,086 was received in March 2020 to specifically address Covid-19 pressures.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2020

Overall, a deficit position has arisen on the restricted fund and a transfer of £425,1070 has been made from General Funds to Restricted Reserves to offset this deficit – please see note 13 on page 37 for further information. Going forward, the Senior Management Team, in conjunction with Supporting People and Housing Benefit colleagues will review the funding apportionment rates with a view to revising the current rates. It is hoped that this re-apportionment will reduce/eliminate future Supporting People deficits and provide the opportunity to improve services to our clients.

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 2020 was £2,762,606 of which £783,342 was freely available for the Charity's purposes.

Within its unrestricted reserves, the Charity has designated funds of £286,253 (2019 - £293,341) related to capital grants and a cyclical maintenance fund for the upkeep of client accommodation sites and total Revaluation Reserves of £293,733.

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. This investment portfolio is monitored regularly by a procured Independent Financial Adviser and the Director of Finance and Business Support with regular updates provided to the Board of Directors.

Balance Sheet

The cash position as at 31 March 2020 remained strong with £1,021,330 held on deposit (£1,511,905 for 2018-2019).

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2020

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 2019), 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.

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.

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

Trustees' report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2020

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 : 23 November 2020

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE



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

Year ended 31 March 2020

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of Simon Community Northern Ireland (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2020 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 2020 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

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.

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Chartered Accountants | Registered Auditors | Chartered Tax Advisors | Forensic Accountants | Corporate Finance Advisors

GMcG is a trading name of GMcG Group Limited. Reg No: NT059660. List of Directors available at registered office

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www.gmcgca.com

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 2020

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.

**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 2020

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.

**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 2020****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

18 December 2020

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

GM^cG 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 2020

		Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019
	Note	£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations and legacies:					
- Grants	2	614,048	111,300	725,348	578,986
- Gifts and Donations		-	612,980	612,980	524,608
- Legacies		-	87,901	87,901	156,369
Charitable Activities	3	5,416,690	2,620,383	8,037,073	7,837,559
Other trading activities:					
- Shops		-	71,494	71,494	93,453
- Rental		-	24,199	24,199	20,026
Investments		-	16,727	16,727	11,120
Total		6,030,738	3,544,984	9,575,722	9,222,121
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		-	(405,879)	(405,879)	(402,839)
Charitable activities		(6,398,050)	(2,676,478)	(9,074,528)	(8,857,024)
Other		-	(98,314)	(98,314)	(84,335)
Total	5	(6,398,050)	(3,180,671)	(9,578,721)	(9,344,198)
Net gain/(loss on investment)		-	(31,653)	(31,653)	-
Net income/(expenditure)	4	(367,312)	332,660	(34,652)	(122,077)
Transfer between funds	13	425,107	(425,107)	-	-
Gains/(losses) on revaluation	13	-	65,000	65,000	-
Net movement in funds		57,795	(27,447)	30,348	(122,077)
Total funds brought forward		154,833	2,790,053	2,944,886	3,066,963
Total funds carried forward		212,628	2,762,606	2,975,234	2,944,886

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 29 to 38 form part of these financial statements.


SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Balance sheet

As at 31 March 2020

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	8	1,121,023	793,522
Investments	9	856,818	888,469
		<u>1,977,841</u>	<u>1,681,991</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	10	235,167	237,000
Cash at bank and in hand		1,598,033	1,893,554
		<u>1,833,200</u>	<u>2,130,554</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(835,807)</u>	<u>(867,659)</u>
Net current assets		<u>997,393</u>	<u>1,262,895</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>2,975,234</u>	<u>2,944,886</u>
Net assets		<u>2,975,234</u>	<u>2,944,886</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	13	2,182,620	2,275,147
Designated fund	13	286,253	293,341
Revaluation Reserve	13	293,733	221,565
		<u>2,762,606</u>	<u>2,790,053</u>
Restricted funds	12	212,628	154,833
Total funds		<u>2,975,234</u>	<u>2,944,886</u>

These financial statements were approved by Board of Trustees on 23 November 2020 and are signed on its behalf by:


Jason Johnston
Company Secretary and Director

Charity Registration Number: NIC102724
Company Registration Number: NI 017466

The notes on pages 29 to 38 form part of these financial statements.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Statement of cash flows

Year ended 31 March 2020

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		72,293	143,536
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(385,738)	(119,240)
Disposal of tangible fixed assets		1,196	660
Purchase of Investments		-	(889,020)
Interest received		16,728	11,120
Change in cash and cash equivalents in year	16	(295,521)	(852,944)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward	16	1,893,554	2,746,498
		1,598,033	1,893,554

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

	2020 £	2019 £
Net expenditure	30,348	(122,077)
Interest received	(16,727)	(11,120)
Loss on investments	31,652	551
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	121,712	94,662
Profit/(loss) on disposal of assets	326	(660)
Gain on revaluation	(65,000)	-
Movement in debtors	1,833	55,046
Movement in creditors	(31,851)	127,134
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	72,293	143,536

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2020

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 2019) 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 2020

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 2020

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 required 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.

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2020

2. Grants

	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2019 £
Grants				
Northern Ireland Housing Executive	160,000	111,300	271,300	112,000
Public Health Agency	228,833	-	228,833	203,237
Other grants	225,215	-	225,215	263,749
	<u>614,048</u>	<u>111,300</u>	<u>725,348</u>	<u>578,986</u>

In the prior year, £457,207 of grants related to Restricted Funds and £121,779 related to Unrestricted Funds.

3. Accommodation and support charges

	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2019 £
Accommodation and support charges				
Supporting People	5,416,690	-	5,416,690	5,396,604
Accommodation and Community Support Services*	-	2,048,988	2,048,988	1,904,587
Health and Social Care Trust	-	571,395	571,395	536,368
	<u>5,416,690</u>	<u>2,620,383</u>	<u>8,037,073</u>	<u>7,837,559</u>

*Includes £20,086 Restricted funds specifically related to addressing the Covid-19 pandemic.

In the prior year, £5,396,604 of Accommodation and Support charges related to Restricted Funds and £2,440,955 related to Unrestricted Funds.

4. Net income/(expenditure):

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

	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Staff costs (note 6)	6,307,171	6,391,375
Fees payable to company's auditor for audit of Accounts	7,500	6,798
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets – owned assets	<u>121,712</u>	<u>94,662</u>

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 2020

5. Total resources expended

	Raising funds	Influencing policy and practice	Accommodation and Community based support	Homelessness Prevention	Harm Reduction	Governance costs	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£	Total £	Total £
Charitable Activities:								
Fundraising	260,420	-	-	-	-	-	260,420	258,086
Shops	65,206	-	-	-	-	-	65,206	66,214
Accommodation and Community Support Services	-	-	7,539,387	119,052	260,497	-	7,918,936	7,725,767
Development	-	49,068	-	-	-	5,740	54,808	50,184
Support Costs:								
Directorate	16,767	16,766	110,657	4,192	2,515	16,766	167,663	163,367
Human Resources	-	-	398,487	10,598	6,359	8,478	423,922	416,667
Finance	30,655	-	232,970	7,663	4,598	52,804	328,690	296,677
Communications	19,923	9,961	30,548	1,660	996	3,320	66,408	73,515
IT	12,074	-	101,413	3,018	1,811	2,415	120,731	104,917
Property Services	-	-	71,208	4,396	3,516	8,791	87,911	83,277
Central Accommodation and Support Services	834	11,109	69,544	719	1,820	-	84,026	105,527
TOTAL	405,879	86,904	8,554,214	151,298	282,112	98,314	9,578,721	9,344,198

6. Staff costs and emoluments

	2020 £	2019 £
Wages and salaries	5,619,204	5,744,101
Social security costs	459,130	461,661
Other pension costs	178,506	140,500
Other staff costs	50,331	45,113
	<u>6,307,171</u>	<u>6,391,375</u>

One employee received emoluments of between £70,000 - £80,000 (2019 - 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 £233,072 (2019 - £252,397).

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2020

6. Staff costs and emoluments *(continued)*

Particulars of employees:

The average number of employees during the year was 318 (2019 - 307).

7. Trustees emoluments

The Trustees received no emoluments or reimbursement of expenses during the year (2019 - £Nil).

8. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold buildings £	Property improvements £	House equipment £	Motor vehicle £	Office/ shop equipment £	Total £
At 1 April 2019	558,063	130,736	42,311	6,000	273,580	1,010,690
Additions	289,667	-	45,138	-	50,933	385,738
Disposals	-	-	(7,032)	-	(25,413)	(32,445)
Revaluations	30,000	-	-	-	-	30,000
At 31 March 2020	877,730	130,736	80,417	6,000	299,100	1,393,983
At 1 April 2019	30,290	61,070	21,781	100	103,927	217,168
Charge for the year	14,483	8,922	9,220	1,200	87,887	121,712
On disposals	-	-	(5,507)	-	(25,413)	(30,920)
On revaluation	(35,000)	-	-	-	-	(35,000)
At 31 March 2020	9,773	69,992	25,494	1,300	166,401	272,960
At 31 March 2020	867,957	60,744	54,923	4,700	132,699	1,121,023
At 1 April 2019	527,773	69,666	20,530	5,900	169,653	793,522

The Charity has adopted a policy of revaluation in relation to freehold property. A valuation was carried out by an independent valuer during 2019 valuing the properties at £530,000. The depreciated historic cost of the revalued properties is £345,519 (2019 - £356,114).

9. Fixed Asset Investments

Market Value

	£
At 1 April 2020	888,469
Additions in year	-
Unrealised loss on revaluation	(31,651)
	<u>856,818</u>

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2020

10. Debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
Trade debtors	147,388	95,279
Other debtors	11,694	10,677
Prepayments and accrued income	76,085	131,043
	<u>235,167</u>	<u>237,000</u>

All debtors are due within one year.

11. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Trade creditors	329,886	390,934
PAYE and social security	132,487	112,292
Other creditors	1,264	24,679
Accruals and deferred income	372,170	339,753
	<u>835,807</u>	<u>867,659</u>

12. 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 2019	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Balance at 31 Mar 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Homeless prevention	15,448	160,000	(142,496)	-	32,952
Accommodation and support	-	5,416,690	(5,841,797)	425,107	-
Harm reduction	(12,641)	228,833	(216,036)	-	156
Other grants	152,026	225,215	(197,721)	-	179,520
	<u>154,833</u>	<u>6,030,738</u>	<u>(6,398,050)</u>	<u>425,107</u>	<u>212,628</u>

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2020

12. Restricted income funds (continued)

Prior year restricted income funds

	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>

Homeless Prevention

This programme:

- 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 2020

13. Unrestricted income funds

	Balance at 1 Apr 2019	Grant release	Revaluation	Transfer	Net incoming/ (outgoing)	Balance at 31 Mar 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds	293,341	(22,670)	-	15,582	-	286,253
General Funds	2,275,147	22,670	(7,168)	(440,689)	332,660	2,182,620
Revaluation	221,565	-	72,168	-	-	293,733
	<u>2,790,053</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65,000</u>	<u>(425,107)</u>	<u>332,660</u>	<u>2,762,606</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.

A transfer of £7,168 was made from the revaluation reserve to general funds in respect of an impairment loss.

During the financial year ended 31 March 2020, the Supporting People Restricted Fund Reserve incurred deficits of £425,107. 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 11 years and the increasing costs of providing these essential services. It is unlikely the deficit position will be turned around. Therefore, a transfer of £425,107 has been made from General Funds to Restricted Reserves to offset the deficit.

	Balance at 1 Apr 2019	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources/ transfers	Balance at 31 Mar 2020
	£	£	£	£
Designated funds				
Capital grant	244,918	-	(22,670)	222,248
Service user designated	1,423	-	-	1,423
Cyclical maintenance fund	47,000	45,240	(29,658)	62,582
	<u>293,341</u>	<u>45,240</u>	<u>(52,328)</u>	<u>286,253</u>

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Tangible fixed assets	Fixed asset investments	Net current assets	Total
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds	-	-	212,628	212,628
Designated Funds	284,830	-	1,423	286,253
Revaluation Reserve	293,733	-	-	293,733
General Funds	542,460	856,818	783,342	2,182,620
Total Funds	<u>1,121,023</u>	<u>856,818</u>	<u>997,393</u>	<u>2,975,234</u>

15. 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

SIMON COMMUNITY NORTHERN IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2020

for charitable purposes.

16. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	Balance at 1 Apr 2019 £	Cash flow £	Balance at 31 Mar 2020 £
Cash at bank and in hand	1,893,554	(295,521)	1,598,033
Net cash and cash equivalents	1,893,554	(295,521)	1,598,033

17. Contingent liabilities

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

18. 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 £178,506 (2019 - £140,500). Contributions totaling £31,618 (2019 - £23,712) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date.

19. Commitments under operating leases

At 31 March 2020 the Charity has total future commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as set out below:

	Property		Office Equipment	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£
Within one year	60,000	60,000	-	4,212
In one to five years	135,000	195,000	-	-
In more than 5 years	-	-	-	-
	195,000	255,000	-	4,212

20. 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.

21. 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.