



CONFEDERATION OF
COMMUNITY GROUPS

2021/22 Annual Report





CONFEDERATION OF COMMUNITY GROUPS

Newry & District

Annual Report 2021 / 2022

CCG Management Committee 2021 - 2022

Chairperson

David Cunningham (Retired 15/09/22)

Ballinacraig Community Association

Vice Chairperson

Maureen Ruddy

Martins Lane Community Association

Treasurer

Rosemarie McDonnell

Community Advice Newry, Mourne & Down

Executive Committee Directors:

Kathleen Lowry

Greater Linenhall Community Association

David McKenna

Mencap

Ewan Morgan

Community Restorative Justice

Anne Woods

Cedar Foundation

Deirdre Shields

Newry Gateway Club

Rosemary Rooney

Davina's Ark

Colin Hanna

Barcroft Community Association

Co-opted Members :

Conor Patterson, Mickey Brady, Marie-Clare Fitzpatrick

Company Information

Registered Office

Ballybot House,
28 Cornmarket, Newry

Solicitors

Ciaran Rafferty,
Rafferty Solicitors, 83 Hill Street, Newry

Company Secretary

Raymond Jackson

Bankers

Bank of Ireland, 12 Trevor Hill, Newry

Auditors

Malone Accounting
12c New Street, Newry BT35 6JD

Company Registration No. NI22294

Charity Commission No. NIC101359

Inland Rev. Charity Reference XR40558

Confederation of Community Groups,

Ballybot House, 28 Cornmarket, Newry, Co. Down BT35 8BG

Tel: 028 3026 1022 Website: www.ccgnewrycommunity.org

Email: info@ccgnewrycommunity.org

Chairperson's Forward

Welcome to the Confederation of Community Group's Annual Review 2021/22.



Despite the challenging times, not withstanding the Covid pandemic, this report highlights the essential community programmes that we have delivered and provides a record of our strong partnerships with a range of statutory, private and community/voluntary sector organisations.

We were delighted to retain core funding support from the Department for Communities, Newry Mourne & Down District Council and from the Southern Health & Social Care Trust. To the DfC, NMDDC and SHSCT, I offer our sincere thanks. Core funding remains essential to support our project delivery and for the overall sustainability of the Confederation.

During the year Carol Fearon retired from her position as Administration / Receptionist after more than 16 years with the Confederation and recent recruit, Joanne Park, found alternative employment. I would like to record our sincere thanks to Carol and Joanne and to wish them well for the future.

On behalf of the Board, I would particularly like to thank Davy Cunningham for his long years of service on the Board and as Chair of CCG. Davy has recently had to retire from his position due to illness. He was pivotal in providing direction and stewardship to the organisation and will be fondly remembered by all at CCG. We wish Davy all the best for the future.

In commending this report, I would like to personally thank my fellow Board members, staff and volunteers and our wider membership for all their support and co-operation throughout the year. Thanks, are also due to our many funders who provide the vital financial support necessary for our work.

Maureen Ruddy
CHAIRPERSON - October 2022.

Chief Executive's Report



The 2021-22 period has been extremely challenging but also rewarding in terms of what the Confederation and wider Com/Vol sector have been able to achieve. In many cases it was local volunteers who were the first to respond, and throughout the pandemic local voluntary action ensured that those most in need were supported. Established partnerships have helped galvanise and coordinate the response and I am delighted to report that we were able to adapt our services and deliver programmes to meet emerging needs.

We worked with local communities, with funders and with our colleagues across the sector in a varied range of programmes and were able to support groups in areas such as governance, policy & procedures, charity registration & reporting, training, operational planning and sourcing of funds.

Through the Neighbourhood Renewal programme we continued to provide practical support to local communities in areas of disadvantage throughout Newry City and have assisted them with community activities, funding applications and vouching processes.

We provided training programmes whilst contributing to social policy development working with strategic partnerships, attendance at seminars/conferences and by responding to consultations. We contributed extensively to the Community Coordination Hub and Strategic Stakeholders Forum strengthening engagement between statutory and com/vol sectors in relation to the pandemic and wider societal issues.

Our Volunteering & Older Peoples Programme remained a central strand of service delivery, we strengthened our IT infrastructure and minimised non-essential expenditure. We continued to provide affordable office accommodation, day care, venue hire and back-office support resulting in generated income equating to approximately 50% of "normal income".

Finally, I want to personally thank all of the staff, volunteers and board members for their hard work throughout a difficult year.

Raymond Jackson.
Chief Executive - October 2022

Volunteering & Older People's Community Projects

The Good Morning Service

Our Good Morning Service was provided for a total of 237 service users over the year with our GM volunteers talking directly to older people and in supporting their needs. In response to the limitations imposed by the Covid pandemic our volunteers were able, with the support of our staff, to provide the service from their homes. This was done in an almost seamless way and we were in fact able to cater for an additional 70 users over the year.

The staff of the OPC would like to put on record our appreciation to all the volunteers who gave up their time, energy and skills over the most extreme of the pandemic restrictions. The service during the worst of the pandemic received almost 80 referrals more than in an ordinary year. A large amount of people who were placed on furlough or who had returned home, volunteered making calls particularly on the Good Morning service. This was an outstanding community effort and one that is still felt today.

While our face-to-face Good Neighbour Service remained closed to referrals in agreement with our funders, we were able to provide a new Caring Neighbour Volunteer Service which we delivered



virtually to 19 cared for people and their informal carers resident in the Southern Health and Social Care Trust. CCG had identified an unmet need within the Southern Health and Social Care Trust area, due to the social isolation of informal / family carers in deprived and rural areas. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, the project offered virtual support, over 12 weeks, through weekly Zoom calls on an iPad. The Caring Neighbour Volunteer Scheme pilot project was very positively evaluated independently by Queen's University, Belfast in June 2021.

As part of the Summer Scheme, in December 2021 students from St Paul's Bessbrook recorded talking Christmas card messages that were delivered to our Good Moring users and some of our volunteers. Students learned about how the service works with the various teams in the Trust's Promoting Wellbeing team, and how Christmas time in particular presents a challenge for our older community members.

Throughout these festive periods and during the pandemic too, volunteers passed on safety messages, warning our users of the dangers of doorstep crime, and pandemic related criminal activity. Signposting to additional services is one of the many ways in which the Good Morning service is much more than a phone call.

Good Day Good Carer Service

Our Good Day Good Carer service made over 6,000 calls to 152 older carers. At an average of 15 minutes per calls, this equates to more than 1,500 volunteer hours spent engaging with and supporting older carers. Through our events calendar we were able to offer clients a wide range of on-line courses, initiatives and events. These were wide and varied in subject and content, for example:

- Wellness Recovery Network
- Knit Wits
- Energy Saving Information
- Living with Autism
- Minding Your Head
- Eating Well As You Age
- Never Too Old to Join the Circus
- Musical Teas
- Chi Me

Within the Out-Bound Telephone Service from its inception 139 carers have received a Carers Assessment through the Southern & South Eastern Health & Social Care Trusts and of that number, 101 were placed on the Carers Register. Throughout the year the Good Day Good Carer Outbound Telephone Support Service was operated remotely with volunteers being able to connect to our call centre databases through secure software. We increased our remote capacity by using an existing IT room to accommodate 4 further remote connections to volunteers. We have also been able to roll the GDGC service out to the South Eastern Trust during the pandemic crisis. As noted above we have been developing new software and this will see the Good Day Good Carer part of the service also moving to cloud-based provision.

In March 2022 we organized a number of face to face meetings with volunteers to reconnect with our colleagues and to discuss procedure and working practices on how to return to volunteering in Ballybot House. We hope to fully leverage the benefits of remote volunteering in the future to benefit volunteers and the service alike, and have been careful to observe the best medical advice at all stages of the process.

IT Modernisation Project

As part of our pandemic response, our Good Morning and Good Day Good Carer call services kept running for the entire period with the exception of the first day of lockdown to the great credit of our volunteers. Early in this period it was clear a more permanent solution would be required to fully harness the advantage of remote volunteering for all of the service stakeholders. The CCG's appointment of Conor Duffy as IT Manager and later of Kenny King as consultant software developer enabled us to successfully upgrade our software and infrastructure through working with our volunteers and understanding the sensitive nature of our work.

In March 2022 we sat down with volunteers and engaged all our users in what will be a huge transformation of how our outbound telephone support services perform. This investment from CCG of almost £20k sets up the Older People's project well for future projects and for the future years of our call services.



W.A.V.E.

WAVE was a CCG project developed that formed part of the Southern Trust's local suite of projects, under the MPower project. MPower generally looked to use technology better to make meaningful interventions in people's healthcare provision. W.A.V.E. (Weekly Audio-Visual Engagement) provided local help from local volunteers and staff with IT training, at a crucial time when due to the pandemic many of our daily routines now involved the use of technology as a necessity rather than an option. The WAVE project offered older people in our community a chance to upskill themselves and reduce the isolation and fear that sometimes can come when the pace of technology becomes so rapid.

Key to this work was project assistant Colin Morley who started with CCG on a University of Ulster placement as part of studies in Community Development. The project team so far has trained over 10 volunteers, assisted 80 people from our community in using tablets, phones, laptops and all the many daily tasks which became digitised over a very short period of time including accessing and procuring broadband, buying guides for tablets, help in setting up e-mail accounts, help with digital covid certificates and advice on using video calling software.

Some of our Good Morning and Good day clients were assessed as being eligible for the WAVE project, and a total of 18 users were identified for a well-being plan, an in-depth look at how technology and social prescribing could make a person's life easier and more independent.

Our Wave project will conclude in May 2022, and has been a useful diversification of our work into the digital field, and this practice will inform how our services perform as the inevitable transition to digital services proceeds.



Student Summer Scheme

In the past two years, our student Summer Scheme has evolved to provide different opportunities to a wider range of students. As well as the talking Christmas card initiative mentioned above, students also participated in a number of summer scheme events organized in the community, assisting children with additional needs. In December, students from St Paul’s and Our Lady’s distributed home safety advice and devices around their local community and their older relatives.



CCG Partnership Working

Community Planning & Engagement

CCG Board & staff attended meetings of the Community & Voluntary Strategic Stakeholders Forum (SSF), Greater Newry Vision Partnership and Newry Chamber of Commerce & Trade council throughout the period. As part of SSF we published “A Vision for Recovery & Renewal in NMD” – a paper which we have used to lobby for the active engagement of the Com/Vol sector in both local and regional initiatives as we emerge from Covid restrictions.

We also attended quarterly Newry City DEA Forum meetings throughout the period, and supported representatives to participate in the Slieve Gullion and Crotlieve DEA Forums



Health & Wellbeing

We co-chaired quarterly Wellbeing Action Partnership (WAP) meetings and hosted a number of ad-hoc meetings in the period. In June we chaired a number of meetings to discuss European Union Settlement Status (EUSS) and attended an EUSS webinar presented by the Home Office.

We attended meetings of the South Down Homelessness Local Action Group in partnership with NIHE and others with particular emphasis on tackling chronic homelessness including rough sleeping whilst addressing housing supply and severe weather emergency protocols.

We also represented WAP at the “Health Working Group” meeting in June 21 and Primary Mental Health Care seminar in November 21.



Charity Regulation and Good Governance

In this period the following 13 groups were assisted with compliance and annual reporting to Charity Commission NI:

- Barcroft CA
- Martin’s Lane CA
- Carnagat CA
- Derrybeg CA
- Linenhall CA
- Meadow & Armagh Road CA
- Greater Linenhall Area CA
- Three Ways CA
- Drumalane & Quayside Close CA
- Meigh CA
- Dorsey CA
- Caring Coins
- Ballinacraig CA



Community Places / Community Development Network Forum / Community Transport

We chaired Board meetings of Community Places (who provide independent advice and support to individuals and groups in relation to planning, participatory budgeting, engagement and community planning).

We attended Community Development Network Forum (CDNF) meetings throughout the period. We met with Kellie Armstrong (MLA and member of the DfC committee) in December 21 and attended zoom meetings to provide a briefing to DfC's Stormont Committee in February 22.

We also attended Newry & Mourne Community Transport Board meetings throughout the period.



CCG Representation on Partnerships

- N&M Policing & Community Safety Partnership (PCSP)
- Newry & Mourne Community Transport (NMCT)
- Community Development Network Forum (CDNF)
- Volunteer Now
- N&M Drugs & Alcohol Partnership
- N&M Play Partnership
- NMDDC Traveller Forum
- Community Sector Training
- Good Morning NI
- Mental Health Forum
- Children & Young People's Partnership (CYPSP)
- Housing Community Network
- N&M Orana Surestart
- NMDDC Age Friendly Initiative
- Community Co-ordination Hub (CCH)
- Strategic Stakeholder Forum (SSF)
- Wellbeing Action Partnership (WAP)
- Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership
- Greater Newry Vision Partnership
- Newry Chamber of Commerce & Trade
- Surestart Partnership
- NMD Intercultural Forum
- Southern Area Locality Planning Group
- John Moores NI Advisory Group
- SHSCT CST Steering Group

Seminars, Events & Consultations:

- Engaged with the consultation on the Newry City Centre Regeneration and completed questionnaire re same (30/4/21).
- Completed questionnaire re the independent review of Charity Commission (29/4/21).
- Attended NIHE consultation event re “Homelessness Strategy” 19/5/21.
- Consulted with DfC Housing Supply Strategy (5/5/21).
- Met with NIO Engagement Team 28/5/21 and follow up meetings with Brandon Lewis (Secretary of State) 3/11/21 and 1/12/21. Further meeting attended 27/1/22 (together with the then Foreign Sec Liz Truss) in relation to Protocol and Brexit transition as part of a CNR reference group.
- Attended the Albert Basin stakeholders forum (30/6/21) as follow up to consultation to oversee the proposals for the 15 acre Park.
- Attended the Peace Plus consultation event 26/8/21.
- We also took part and completed a return re consultation for future Integrated Care systems 31/8/21.
- Attended Housing Needs Conference (10/11/21) re lack of affordable / social homes across NMD.
- We presented at NMDDC Funding Awareness virtual event (9/12/22) on behalf of sector and attended follow up meetings with NMDDC staff regarding financial assistance and management of community centres.
- We responded to NICVA’s Employee and Volunteer Workforce survey and attended NICVA/The Wheel “Shared Island – Shared Practice” event 6/12/21.
- We joined a Digital Poverty working group and attended meetings to highlight and address digital disadvantage in the NMD area. This work was used to establish need for greater funding and co-ordination in the future.



- We attended NICVA’s Covid Recovery seminar (10/1/22) and attended a meeting with Finance Minister Conor Murphy MLA (22/2/22) re budget considerations /implications.
- We attended a CD Network session to discuss Housing Supply Strategy with DfC in January 22.
- We took part in DTNI’s “Making Financial Power work for Local Places” webinar (part of the wider community wealth building programme) in January 22. We also attended a Community Wealth building “Housing webinar” on 23/3/22 and the DTNI Community Wealth Building Conference (24/3/22).
- We attended a virtual Public Information event re the proposed Theatre / Conference center for Newry City (16/2/22).
- Recently we attended a meeting in WIN with a range of community development workers from across the area to advance better partnership working – included NMDDC, SHSCT, NMEA, Radius and Arbour Housing Associations.
- We joined an NMDDC/DfC Newry City Centre OBC Regeneration working group and attended meetings 24/2/22 and 30/3/22. Issues covered stakeholder consultation, communications, Civic Centre, public realm, Theatre/Conference centre, Office development and Albert Basin park.



Assisting groups in the Newry City Neighbourhood Renewal area with:

- Forward Planning (beyond Covid -19) / Community Group Governance/ current government and health guidelines.
- CCG Staff met regularly with Neighbourhood Renewal Community Associations throughout the year to ensure local understanding of current Covid-19 guidelines and how they pertain to community activities We assisted groups with risk assessments, implementation of Covid-19 protocols, whilst trying to encourage and support community engagement in a safe manner. Some of the Associations have been more active this year than others as some groups struggled to 're-start' community activities during the pandemic.
- Template Risk Assessments were provided to all NR CA's, CCG Staff attended both zoom meetings and physical meetings with groups to provide as flexible support as possible.
- CCG provided support with renewal of groups' Public Liability Insurance policies – flagging up changes/amendments due to Covid ensuring people understood the insurance cover being provided particularly in relation to a new number of 'exclusions' due to the pandemic.
- Martin's Lane, Meadow/Armagh Road, Three Ways & Linenhall were all supported with completion of their Annual Monitoring Return to the Charity Commission.
- CCG provided support to Linenhall CA with preparations for their AGM including promotion and assistance with completion of their Annual Report. CCG facilitated the AGM via Zoom where two new volunteers joined the Committee.
- CCG supported Drumalane/Quayside Close CA with preparations for their AGM helped design promotion materials for local distribution, posts for Facebook, supported the completion of accounts and financial report .
- Carnagat CA were supported with their AGM which was facilitated via Zoom, we also assisted the group with promotional tasks, press release and their Trustees Report to the Charity Commission.



- CCG supported Barcroft CA with assistance with accounts, adverts, press release and facilitation of their AGM via Zoom. We also assisted them with Annual Monitoring & Trustees Report for the Charity Commission.
- Martins Lane CA were assisted in preparing their AGM A.M.R. to Charity Commission Report.

Guidance on Community Activities – how to keep safe/ideas to involve the community

Considerable support has been provided to each of the Neighbourhood Renewal Community Associations to ensure that community activities were being delivered in each Neighbourhood Renewal Area.

All the groups received support to deliver a local Covid-19 response – for some this was an extensive food distribution scheme and for others a smaller scale response. Groups were also supported to assess need and provide support with the rising costs of utilities.

Many of the groups also distributed various activity or growing packs throughout the community and encouraged community participation from peoples own home in collective projects.

All Neighbourhood Renewal Community Associations were supported to deliver a Summer Programme of activities, the nature and duration of each varied from area to area but each group was supported to deliver something for the local community.

New registration were forms drafted and distributed – including updated Covid-19 guidance, measures required to be implemented locally and Track/Trace requirements.

Assisting NR groups with training / development / skills audits

- CCG maintained ongoing assessment of training needs within groups and training courses were scheduled as required:
- Safeguarding Training was facilitated for Barcroft CA & Martin's Lane CA;
- Designated Person's Training course facilitated for representatives from across the NR areas.
- Emergency First Aid training was facilitated for representatives from across the NR areas.
- Defibrillator Training was facilitated for Three Ways CA.
- Bespoke training support was also provided by CCG staff in relation to digital skills, using Zoom platform and WhatsApp/Messenger – aiming to show group reps that there are a variety of digital means to utilise/avail of easily.
- NR groups were also provided with informal, individual training sessions focusing on Risk Assessments and implementing Covid-19 protocols.



Assisting NR groups with Financial Management / Record Keeping / Accounts:

CCG staff provided the following financial management assistance :

- Advice and support provided to all NR groups, CCG's EoI Scheme for local community covid response and considerable work was undertaken to ensure compliance and understanding of funding parameters.
- Support provided to the Meadow/Armagh Road CA with financial management, accounts and clarifying various funding streams to ensure accurate reporting.
- Support provided to Derrybeg CA with accounts and general financial management – limited financial transactions over the pandemic.
- Support provided to Linenhall to ensure completion of outstanding accounts.
- Support provided with Barcroft CA with Education Authority and NMDDC Returns.



Assisting NR groups to source funding & helping groups to complete applications including grant management:

CCG provided extensive support to all NR Community Associations to allow them to submit multiple Expressions of Interest to CCG's Community Covid Response fund – each group submitted at least one EOI, with some groups submitting up to 7 overall.

Linenhall: Support provided to devise projects and complete funding applications to NMDDC for Summer Scheme, Community Events & Festivals, PCSP and Suicide Prevention. Support provided with completion of funding application to Awards for All. Support provided with completion of End of Grant Report to Children in Need.

Meadow/Armagh Road: Support provided to complete funding applications to NMDDC under the themes of Summer Scheme, Community Events & Festivals and Community Engagement. Support provided with completion of funding application to ARCS.

Three Ways: Support provided to complete funding applications to NMDDC under themes of Suicide Prevention, Summer Schemes, Community Events & Festivals and PCSP. Support provided with completion of funding applications to Awards for All and Assets Recovery (ARC).

Derrybeg: Support provided in relation to outstanding FMA claim to NMDDC.

Barcroft Support: provided to complete funding applications to NMDDC under the themes of Summer Scheme, Community Events & Festivals and Community Engagement. Assistance with Education Authority grants. Support with mPower application.

Carnagat Support: provided to complete funding applications to NMDDC under the themes of Summer Scheme, Community Events & Festivals and Community Engagement. Assisted with 3 Year Children in Need application. Helped complete Awards for All application. Support with mPower

application.

Martins Lane Assistance: provided with Awards for All and 3 Year application for Children in Need. Support provided to complete funding applications to NMDDC under the themes of Summer Scheme, Community Events & Festivals and Community Engagement.



Supporting NR groups in inter-community activity across Newry :

Supporting inter-community activity across Newry is an important part of the CCG's work and this year we provided the following support for inter-community activities:

Ongoing coordination of Food Pallet Scheme; supporting NR groups to assess need in local community, signpost referrals to external agencies as required, complete referral forms, coordinate order forms and facilitate delivery/pickups as part of Covid Recovery.

Attendance at Neighbourhood Renewal Health subgroup meetings, 13 April, 11 May, 9 June, 30 June & 9 September.

Meeting with SHSCT NR staff to advance plans for NR Growing Project – following up on issues of land transfer for several NR groups.

- Attendance at the NR Community/Physical subgroup throughout the year.
- Collaborating with Bolster Community to discuss current programmes and opportunities for their engagement in NR areas.
- Meeting with NMDDC DEA Coordinator on number of occasions to advance partnership working.
- Facilitating Zoom sessions for NR Education School Clusters meeting and NR Education subgroup throughout the year.
- Facilitating Zoom meeting for SRC to meet with NR CAs re upcoming programmes.
- Attending NMDDC Inter-Cultural Forum meetings throughout the year including organising for Chair of Community Relations Council to speak at a meeting as part of Good Relations week.

- Attending Sure Start Management Group meetings throughout the year and supporting Sure Start with plans for 21st Birthday celebrations – attending the Celebration Event on 29 September. Also providing support to secure community venues for Sure Start programmes.
- Attending Radius Advisory Group meetings for N&M area.
- Working closely with Community Sector Training to facilitate several Safeguarding Training courses and Designated Training courses for NR CA's.
- Facilitating Emergency First Aid training courses and Defibrillator training courses for NR CA's.
- Facilitating Zoom session with Una Walsh for NR groups – History of the Townlands in Newry.
- Meeting with EA staff regarding upcoming TBUC programmes – NR CAs advised of same opportunities.
- Meeting with Magnet Centre staff regarding opportunities for NRA's – NR CAs advised of same opportunities.
- Attending quarterly meetings of the CYPSP throughout the year .
- Meeting with Magnet Centre staff regarding opportunities for NRA's advising NR groups of same opportunities.



Assisting groups outside the Neighbourhood Renewal areas

As well as working with groups throughout the Neighbourhood Renewal areas of Newry City the CCG provided a wide range of community and sporting groups with Community Development support and training including :

- The Polish Families Community Association
- Swagat Indian Families Association
- Forkhill Playgroup
- Kilkeel COI Seeds of Hope Community Garden Project
- Moneydarragh Community Hub
- Burren Community Forum
- Newtown Together Men's group
- Caring Coins Association
- Ballinacraig Community Association
- Meigh Community Association
- Dorsey Community Association
- N&M Mental Health Forum
- Drumgath Ladies Group
- Rathore Parents Association
- Newry Shamrock Cross- Community youth club
- Well Lane Warriors
- Lisdarragh Residents Association.



Projects completed in period:

We successfully completed the “Small change to lasting change” project (a pilot programme aimed at those who are referred to as being squeezed or “just about managing”) in partnership with Newry Credit Union and Community Advice NMD. This programme was supported by the Money & Pension Service (MAPS).

We also completed the “Access to Food” programme and “Food Pallet Scheme” as part of our Covid recovery work – these programmes were supported by NMDDC and DfC.

We were delighted to host the pilot “Well Bean crisis café” provided by PIPS (and supported by our tenants Action Mental Health) at our An Stóras premises up until the new year when PIPS secured core funding and a permanent base for the project at River Street, Newry.



Neighbourhood Renewal (NR)

We continue to act as Lead Partner for NMDDC in delivering the Capacity Building & Support element of this programme for nine Community Associations in the Newry City area. CCG staff attended bi-monthly NR Partnership meetings, sub-group meetings and Action Planning days. Together with NMEA we have also discussed a possible community asset transfer of McCreech park, we also provided updates for the Covid Recovery “EOI” scheme and a proposed “Social Supermarket scheme”.

Covid Response & Emerging Issues:

Throughout the period we continued to act as com/vol sector representatives on NMDDC’s Community Coordination Hub (CCH) and have engaged with statutory departments and others to help coordinate the response to the Covid 19 pandemic. We have also engaged with FareShare, Red Cross and other agencies and have represented the sector in the Emergency Ref Group.

During the Recovery phase we helped develop longer term provision to address systemic issues such as food poverty/insecurity. We engaged with the com/vol sector across Newry, Mourne & Down and in particular to those in the Newry, S Armagh and S Down areas including established food banks, SVP and local community groups. Together with our colleagues in CDRCN, we acted as lead partners for NMDDC to coordinate more than £600k of DfC Covid Recovery funding on behalf of the Com/Vol sector. This funding was allocated through a “Trusted Partner Scheme” and included CCG’s “Expression of Interest” (EOI) scheme which provided smaller com/vol organisations with much needed finance to assist those in local communities. In this way we ensured that the funding was targeted to those most in need while assuring fiscal control, effective monitoring and reporting.

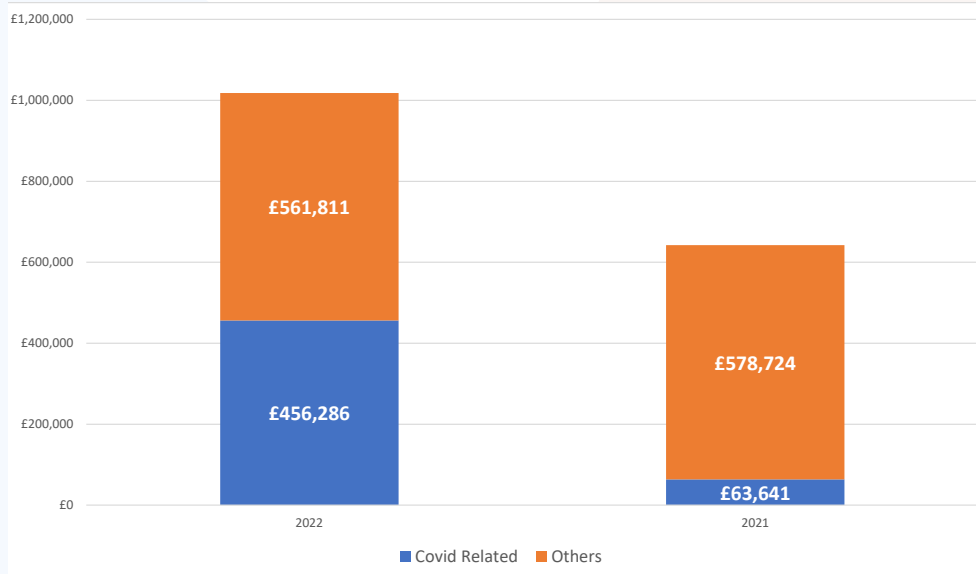
As a longer-term measure, we together with SSF partners, are considering establishing a Social Super Market(s) in NM&D. We attended a zoom meeting with Strabane Social Supermarket (SSM) in February 2022 to discuss issues faced when setting up an SSM. We also met with Stephen McClelland (NMEA) as a primary stakeholder and have asked him to report on a number of options for any pilot SSM programme. This will be developed further in the next period.



Finance & Services 2021 / 2022

Total income for the year ended 31st March 2022 was £1,018,097. This was £375,732 more than the comparative figure (£642,365) for the period ended 31st March 2021. However £456,286 of this income related to Covid 19 intervention programmes and £11,657 related to the government’s Job Retention scheme.

Income



We experienced a significant increase in Generated income from management fees, rental income and, in particular, venue hire facilities. These returns were boosted by a return to more “normal” conditions and increased use of Ballybot House as we moved out of Covid restrictions.

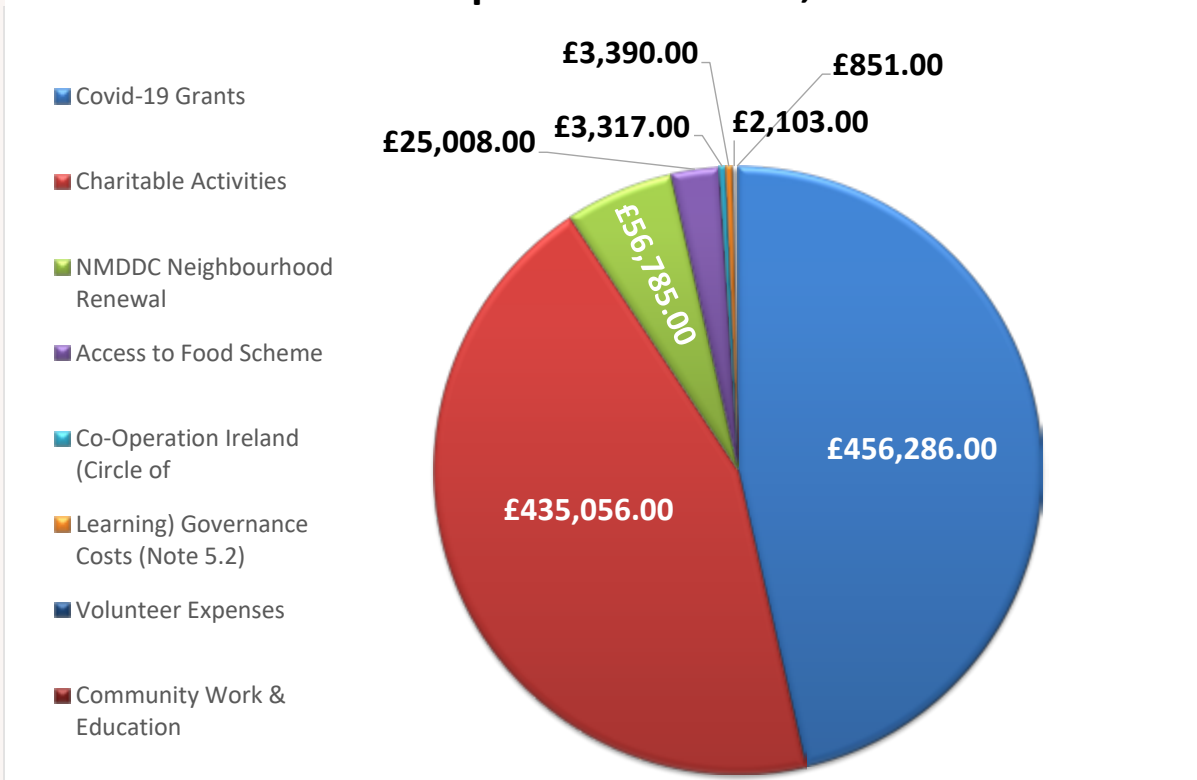
Income streams derived from office and day-care accommodation, venue hire, back office support and resource centre equated to more than 50% of total income (when Covid recovery money was removed), with surplus income used to offset deficits within the General Management Account, Older Peoples programme and Neighbourhood Renewal Programme.

Expenditure



Total Expenditure increased from £619,011 last year to £982,796 in this period (£456,286 related to Covid Recovery funding) resulting in an overall surplus of £35,301. We were able to reduce expenditure on our Ballybot House & An Stóras premises while at the same time undertaking a major upgrade of our IT infrastructure. This included a new software system for our Volunteer centre, migration to a cloud based telephone system and an upgrade to our heating system software. All non-essential expenditure was restricted resulting in a positive cash-flow throughout the period without the need to seek any loan or overdraft facilities in 2022

2022 Expenditure - £982,796



Despite the significant contributions made towards long term sustainability the continuing support in the form of core funding from DfC (Community Investment Fund), NMDDC (Community & Voluntary Service Level Agreement) and SHSCT (Older Peoples Programme) has been, and will continue to be, essential in supporting CCG to deliver its varied projects and activities in the challenging times ahead.

The Finance & Services team continue to discharge their duties in strict accordance with accounting policies and our audit has been prepared in line with the provisions of the "Companies Act 2006 FRS 102" The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland and Accounting & Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP). Our Financial and Governance Controls continue to be deemed "Robust" (this is the lowest risk status as certified by the DfC's Voluntary & Community Division).

Conference, Retail, Day-care and Office Accommodation at Ballybot House & An Stóras

Retail, Day-care, Office accommodation, Venue Hire and Conference facilities remained a vital source of income throughout the year. We were sad to lose long term tenants Praxis Care in May 21 and the Alzheimers Society in August 21. However, we were delighted to welcome new tenants, "Centre for Independent Living," in October 21 and new retail tenant Lorna Foster (LAF) in January 22. We continued to use all additional space for our own programmes, for storage, distribution of foodstuffs and for additional venue hire facilities.

Finance & Services cont'd

2021 / 2022

Statement of Financial Activities for the financial year ended 31 March 2022

Incoming Resources	Total 2022 £	Total 2021£
Charitable activities		
Grants from governments	721,743	373,986
Activities for generating funds	284,697	238,034
Other income	11,657	30,345
Total income	1,018,097	642,365
Expenditure		
Charitable activities	982,796	619,011
Net income/(expenditure)	35,301	23,354
Transfers between funds	-	-
Net movement in funds for the financial year	35,301	23,354
Reconciliation of funds		
Balances brought forward at 1 April 2020	2,394,115	2,370,761
Balances carried forward at 31 March 2021	2,429,416	2,394,115

Extract from Audited Accounts

Balance Sheet

	NOTES	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	9	2,098,163	2,101,556
Investments	10	1	1
		2,098,164	2,101,557
Current Assets			
Debtors	11	324,362	72,019
Cash at bank and in hand		411,239	426,461
		735,601	498,480
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		(404,349)	(205,922)
Net Current Assets		331,252	292,558
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		2,429,416	2,394,115
Funds			
Restricted trust funds		(94,232)	(99,243)
Unrestricted designated funds		1,265,219	1,265,219
General fund (unrestricted)		1,258,429	1,228,139
Total funds	14	2,429,416	2,394,115

Extract from Audited Accounts



CONFEDERATION OF
COMMUNITY GROUPS

The Confederation of Community Groups Funders 2021 / 2022



Department for
Communities

Community Investment Fund
Access to Food Scheme
Covid-19 Grants



**Money &
Pensions
Service**

Small Change to Lasting Change

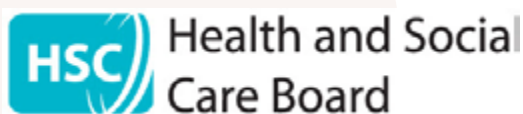


Comhairle Ceantair
**an Iúir, Mhúrn
agus an Dúin**
**Newry, Mourne
and Down**
District Council

Neighbourhood Renewal Grants
Core Fund
Covid-19 Grants



Older People
Volunteer Student Recruitment Scheme
W.A.V.E. Programme



Out-Bound Telephone Support
Caring Neighbour Pilot Project
Youth Volunteer Programme

