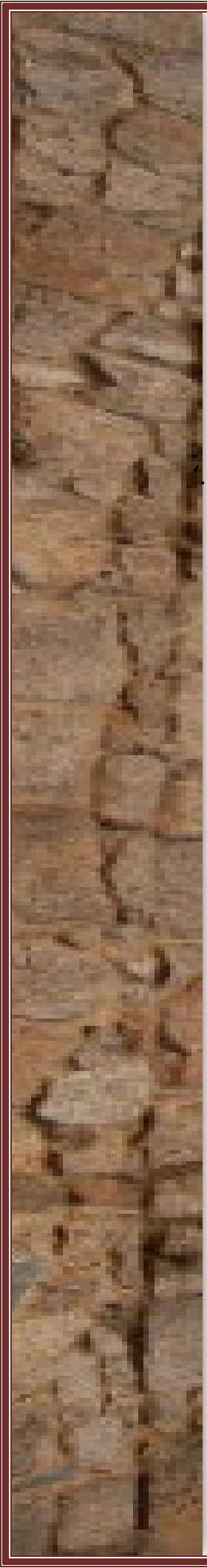


The Confederation of Community Groups (Newry & District) Annual Report 2018/19

'The purpose of the Confederation of Community Groups is to support and encourage the development of voluntary action by communities and individuals and in so doing contribute to the creation of a powerful and inclusive community that will influence positive change'.

Confederation of Community Groups
Newry & District

Annual Report 2018 / 2019

CCG Management Committee 2018-2019

Chairperson
David Cunningham Ballinacraig Community Association

Vice Chairperson
Maureen Ruddy Martin's Lane Community Association

Treasurer
Mary McCamley Carrivemaclone & Lisdrumliska Community Association

Executive Committee Directors:

Kathleen Lowry	Greater Linenhall Community Association
David McKenna	Mencap
Ewan Morgan	Community Restorative Justice
Rosemary McDonnell	Community Advice Newry, Mourne & Down
Rosemary Rooney	Davina's Ark
Anne Woods	Cedar Foundation
Deirdre Shields	Newry Gateway Club

Co-opted Members: Conor Patterson, Mickey Brady, Gemma Brolly.

Company Information

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

Company Secretary
Raymond Jackson

Auditors
Malone Accounting
12 New Street, Newry BT35 6JD.

Solicitors
Ciaran Rafferty, 83 Hill Street, Newry BT34
B**ankers**
Bank of Ireland, 12 Trevor Hill, Newry

Company Registration No. NI22294
C**harity Commission No**. NIC101359
Inland Rev. Charity Reference XR40558

Confederation of Community Groups, Ballybot House, 28 Cornmarket, Newry,Co. Down BT35 8BG
Tel: 02830261022 **Website**: www.ccgnewrycommunity.org **Email**: info@ccgnewrycommunity.org

CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

The Confederation of Community Groups (CCG) continues to deliver essential Community Development support throughout the district. Our core services dovetail with our generic programmes while our strategic partnership work provides advocacy and support for those in the wider community/voluntary sector.

We were able to retain core funding 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 for project delivery and the overall sustainability of the Confederation.

Gerry Carey, our Volunteer Co-ordinator, recently retired to concentrate on his long-term recovery following a serious accident. Gerry was with us for almost 24 years and will be sorely missed. I would like to welcome two new members of staff, Conor Keenan and Teresa Taggart, and trust that they will make a valuable contribution to our already strong team here at CCG.

Annette Hughes stepped down from the Board at the start of this term and I would like to record our sincere thanks to Annette for her contribution over the previous nine years.

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

David Cunningham. CCG Chairperson, October 2019.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

This report provides us with the opportunity to highlight our key achievements during 2018/19. Despite funding constraints and wider external pressures, we have been able to maintain and build on our strategic aims, deliver high-quality projects and services and address emerging needs in our local communities.

"On the ground" delivery is the cornerstone of community development and is evident in our Neighbourhood Renewal Programme, Community Education and in our Older Peoples and Volunteering Programmes. We also contribute to wider societal issues through representation on strategic partnerships and through our engagement with the community planning process.

We continued to work with a large range of stakeholders to support groups with charity registration and reporting, training, operational plans and sourcing of funds. In light of changes to Data Protection legislation (GDPR May 2018) and changes to Safeguarding we reviewed, amended and adopted a number of policies to help us comply with these changes and to provide advice and support to others to ensure their compliance.

We replaced our car-park barrier/entry system, upgraded our main Ballybot House stairwell and strengthened IT infrastructure while continuing to provide high quality, affordable office accommodation, day care, venue hire, and back-office support.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff, volunteers and board members for helping deliver our programmes during the year and for their ongoing commitment to help us to improve our services going forward.

Raymond Jackson. Chief Executive, October 2019

Supporting Community Development & Local Volunteering 2018/19

This year the CCG continued to provide community development support to local community groups. Through the Neighbourhood Renewal (NR) Programme there was significant

support provided to the 9 NR Community Associations; this focused on areas such as funding, fundraising, governance, training and Charity compliance.

CCG assisted the Ballinacraig Community Association to help rebuild community activity in the Warrenpoint Road area of Newry. In the Carrivemaclone / Lisdrumliska area, CCG assisted the promotion of a new community hub for an area that appears to fall between all the current funding parameters both rural and urban. Over a number of months, CCG supported the development of a new community partnership, which is striving to bring sporting, educational, and community interests together for the area.

Working with ethnic minorities

Throughout 2018 /19 CCG worked steadily with the local Polish community to establish the Polish Families Community Association. This is a promising start to improving connections between the Polish community and the existing community structures in the area and we have now assisted them to develop a new monthly drop-in facility in Ballybot House.

CCG also continued to engage with all local partners in addressing the needs of the Irish Traveller community and submitted an application for a Big Lottery small grant to develop a pilot programme under the People in the Lead programme.

We have also been meeting with, assisting the Muslims of Newry Association, and meeting with Syrian families to discuss volunteering opportunities and integration possibilities moving forward.

Supporting Community Development & Local Volunteering 2018/19

CCG Student Volunteering Programmes 2018 / 19

During June, July and August 2018 as part of our annual Student Summer Scheme, in partnership with the Southern Health & Social Care Trust, CCG recruited and placed 30 volunteers with 15 families of children with a learning disability.
The project is primarily aimed at relieving the stress placed on parents who are under pressure to care for children with sometimes complex needs, at a time of year when many of the supports available are closed. One family evaluation stated, *"The scheme is just brilliant, even just having a bit of time to do the simple things like tidying up the washing makes a big difference and frees me up for the rest of the day".*

All of the young volunteers participated in a 3-day induction-training programme delivered by CCG and external facilitators where they learned about:

- Guidelines to Volunteering
- Therapeutic Play Ideas
- Everyday First Aid
- Child Protection Awareness
- Disability Awareness
- Principles of Good Care

All students on our programme were registered as part of the Millennium Volunteer programme and their hours on the CCG's programme contributed to their Millennium Volunteering award. CCG has developed a new pathway with the Southern Regional College for students on the Social Care courses. These students can gain valuable experience through the scheme, and two such students from this year have since gone on to full time employment and full time study in the caring / nursing fields.

Supporting Community Development & Local Volunteering 2018/19

CCG Training Courses 2018/19

This year more than 300 people participated in a range of over 30 courses facilitated by the CCG and delivered to local community groups and volunteers.

We delivered 13 courses aimed at improving the practice of local community and voluntary groups that included:

- 3 courses focusing on Good Governance and Community Development Practice for local groups covering such topics as committee roles & procedures, meeting Charity Commission requirements and compliance with GDPR requirements.
- 3 courses in Emergency First Aid courses for local groups.
- 7 Safeguarding courses, including full & refresher Child Protection and Designated Persons training.

CCG also delivered training for both CCG volunteers and community based volunteers, aimed at increasing their knowledge and skills these included:

- Volunteer Guidelines & Code of Practice
- Good Morning /Good Neighbour IT System Training
- Telephone Skills and Skyping
- Adult Safeguarding Awareness Training
- Health Check Up day @ Gordon's Chemist
- Training Workshop with Action on Elder Abuse
- IT Training x 4 courses
- Ceramics Craft Classes
- Everyday First Aid Training
- Mental Health First Aid Training
- Découpage Craft Classes
- Diversity Training via The Belonging Project

Additional Support

The CCG assisted the following groups with governance and support:
Leonard Cheshire Project; Drumgath Ladies Group; Burren Community Forum; Barcroft & Ballybot Residents Association; Carrivemaclone Development Trust; Bessbrook Community Residents Association; Plough Historical & Cultural Group; Ballyholland Community Association; The Fit Club; Newry & Mourne Community Transport; Bessbrook Youth Club; Downright Brilliant; Newry Gateway Club; Drumcashelone CA; Silverbridge Luncheon Club; Dungormley Community Residents Association; SPACE; Newry Street Unite; Lower Mourne Gaelic League; Newry Maritime Association and the Autism Families Community Support Group.

CCG Partnership Working

Economic Development

CCG attended Newry Chamber of Commerce & Trade Council quarterly meetings and responded to their consultation on CCTV proposals. We attended the quarterly "Greater Newry Vision Partnership" meetings and provided mentoring as part of NMEA's "Work 4 U Plus programme".

Community Places NI / Community Transport

We attended Board meetings of Community Places who provide independent advice and support to individuals and groups in relation to planning, engagement and community planning. We also attended Newry & Mourne Community Transport Board meetings throughout the period and have consistently argued against the Department for Infrastructure's proposed changes to volunteer drivers licence and section 10B permits.

Health & Wellbeing

We continue to attend NIHE Homelessness Locality Action Group meetings highlighting issues affecting vulnerable people including those in the minority ethnic community. Issues such as 'rough sleeping' and 'sofa surfing' as well as addiction problems and restricted access to services due to having 'no leave to remain'. This work highlighted the significant homelessness problem in Newry City.

We co-chaired the Wellbeing in Action Partnership (WAP) throughout the period. WAP is a partnership comprising of approximately 30 community / voluntary sector organisations and invited statutory partners and is committed to tacking health inequalities and the improvement of health and wellbeing throughout the district.

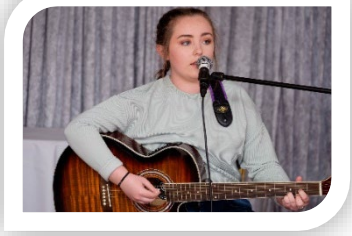
We also attended NMDDC Housing Conference in February 2019 organised in direct response to the lack of affordable/social housing highlighted by WAP.

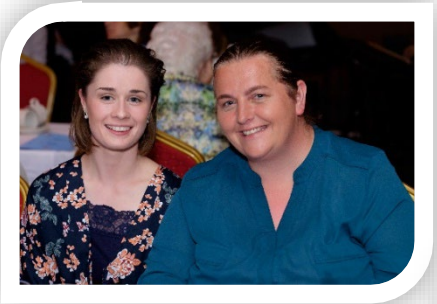
Neighbourhood Renewal (NR)

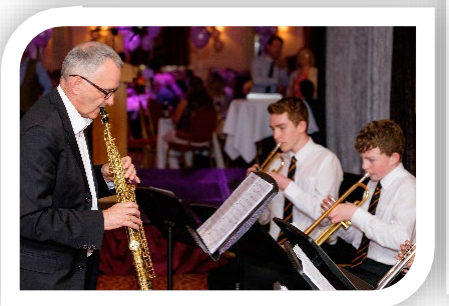
We continue to act as Lead Partner for NMDDC in delivering the Capacity Building & Support element of this programme to nine Community Associations in the Newry city area. CCG staff and Board members attended bi-monthly NR Partnership meetings, monthly sub group meetings and Action Planning days throughout the period. In the absence of a Stormont Executive, the programme was extended for the 2019-20 period.

The Patricia Graham 'Shining Light' Community Volunteering Awards 2018

The 2018 *Patricia Graham 'Shining Light' Community Volunteering Awards* was a special occasion as it marked the 10th Anniversary of the event, providing an opportunity for local groups & voluntary organisations, along with statutory and private sector representatives, to acknowledge the contribution made by local volunteers to our communities.







The Patricia Graham 'Shining Light' Community Volunteering Awards 2018

Pictured are award recipients along with Patricia's family, the Mayor, event sponsors and some of the five hundred strong gathering of people who attended the celebration, which was held on Friday 8th June 2018 in the Canal Court Hotel, Newry.

CCG Partnership Working

Community Planning & Engagement

CCG Board & staff attended the quarterly Community & Voluntary Strategic Stakeholders Forum and Newry City DEA Forum throughout the period. We contributed to NMDDC's pilot project on Participatory Budgeting (PB) and joined the steering group to help engage with, and promote the concept to, the community/voluntary sector. The first of these events was held in Kilkeel (October 2018) and a further youth event for all DEA's was held in Newry (November 2018). Both PB events were well supported and the steering group was encouraged by the positive response from groups on the ground.

We also attended NMDDC Environmental & Spatial Development bi-monthly sub-group meetings and responded to NMDDC's 'Preferred Options Paper' as part of the Local Development Plan in August 2018.

In partnership with NMDDC the CCG has sought ways to increase the numbers of community groups attending both the Crotlieve and Slieve Gullion fora while at the same time working in collaboration with the local DEA co-ordinators on delivery of local projects in the Newry , Slieve Gullion and ,Crotlieve DEAs.

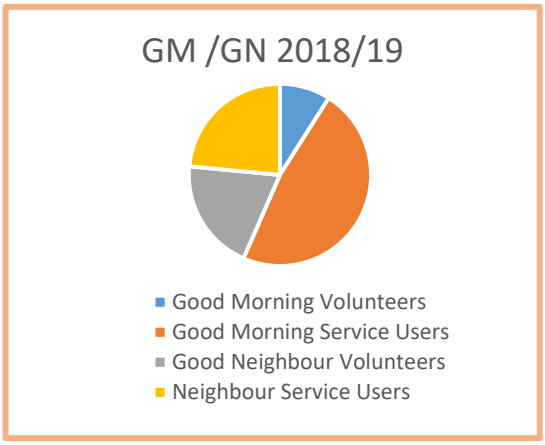
Seminars & Consultations

CCG hosted / attended the following seminars:

- In collaboration with The Charity Commission and Developing Good Governance Group, we hosted a 'Good Governance & Charity Reporting' seminar.
- Attended an MPower 'Healthy and Connected' Interreg programme in Drumalane House and participated, as a Steering Group member, at the launch of this Social Prescribing programme in September 2018.
- Attended NMEA's new cross community programme 'Growing Leadership which will Unite Everyone' (GLUE) workshop and a number of subsequent meetings.
- Attended a consultation event at BBH for a Peace IV 'Flags, Emblems & Bonfires' early engagement strategy and a number of follow up meetings.
- A joint CST/SHSCT/CCG 'Adult Safeguarding Awareness' seminar to discuss good practice, responsibilities of groups, targeted services, Access checks and minimum standards.
- A Funding clinic for the community/voluntary sector at BBH in association with NICVA.
- We met with representatives from the Big Lottery and Children in Need in relation to current and future funding projects in the Newry area.
- We responded to NMDDC consultation on the proposal to terminate CCTV surveillance.
- Submitted a further response to Dfl's consultation relating to the options for the Newry Southern Relief Road.
- Responded to the joint QUB / Sheffield University consultation on the health implications of Brexit.

Older People's Community Projects

Good Morning Service



In the year 2018/19, the Good Morning service was provided for 174 service users. The service made 28,050 Good morning calls ranging in duration from 5 – 20 minutes to those 174 service users, their families and support workers. This approximates (@ average 10 minutes per call) to some 4,675 volunteer hours to date spent in talking directly to older people and in supporting their needs.
A number of adjustments were made to our IT systems to make our role more accessible to all volunteers. We have now a customisable home screen, which was installed to help users with visual impairments. By altering the colour of the backgrounds, we can make the screen easier to read for those of our volunteers with macular degeneration.
This was how one of our service users who took the time to personally visit the project described the Good Morning service.

"A tremendous service showing the power of a simple telephone call and a friendly listening ear."

Good Neighbour Service

During the year 2018/19 period, the Good Neighbour service was provided for 86 service users. The service provided on average 1 visit per client per week by our pool of 73 Good Neighbour volunteers. This equates to approx. 4,125 voluntary hours (@average 1.5 hours per visit) spent this year by volunteers in providing face to face support for older people, helping them to live more independently.

In urban areas, The Good Neighbour Service continues to work in co-operation with CCG's Neighbourhood Renewal workers. It is hoped that we can further the project by building on the great neighbourhood spirit that exists in local areas. A closer and more integrated community means that older feel less isolated, the younger feel more involved, and the community can help protect itself from crime while combatting loneliness and fear.
The Good Neighbour scheme has many varied benefits, one of which is a reduced sense of carer stress for those in full time caring roles. This links well with our Good Day/ Good Carer project, where we could provide a measure of respite for these carers, while providing a stimulating visit for the older cared for person.

Older People's Community Projects

Good Day Good Carer

In the year 2018/19, the Good Day Good Carer service has provided a service to 140 carers who have received 5760 calls in the period, which equates to 1440 volunteer hours dedicated to the service. Additionally staff have attended over 160 different events and initiatives aimed at promoting the project's work.

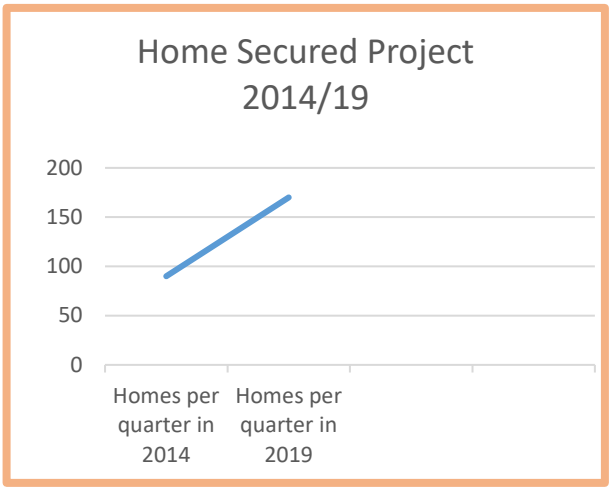
The service, which delivers a confidential telephone support service tailored to the needs of the client, provides additional help through our experienced network of support workers and partners. Providing a listening ear, helping to ensure people are getting all the benefits they are entitled to or accessing information to support them in their caring role. It connects carers with other events and initiatives that would support them in their caring role and provides access to other services and organisations.

Home-Secured Scheme 2018/19

The scheme provides security devices to vulnerable people across a range of age groups throughout the Council area. These individuals have been the victim of a crime or are living in fear of crime. This year over 600 homes were secured with the provision of more than 5000 devices.

Five-Year Project Review 2014-2019

A recently conducted five-year review of the service showed that the client base had almost doubled from some 90 homes each quarter to in excess of 170 homes. The number of devices offered and delivered almost quadrupled over the period. Through consultations with PSNI Crime Prevention Officers, the range of devices was increased by some 50% allowing the project to reach the challenges of more diverse situations and the needs of vulnerable people who had a crime visited upon them.



Finance & Services

Total income was £584,005 for the year ended 31st March 2019, which was £32,343 more than that of the comparative figure (£551,662) for the period ended 31st March 2018. There was a reduction in Grant funding relating to our Neighbourhood Renewal, Community Investment Fund and Community Work & Education programmes however, this was offset by an increase in funding relating to our Older Peoples Community Programme. Generated Income relating to Ballybot House & An Stóras remained strong and this was supplemented with an increase in Management and administration charges.

Total Expenditure increased from £522,153 last year to £555,430 in this period resulting in an overall surplus of £28,575. We were able to keep expenditure on our premises broadly in line with previous years despite a significant increase in utility costs, while at the same time replacing our barrier system and upgrading our main stairwell. 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.

Income streams derived from office and day-care accommodation, venue hire, back office support and resource centre equated to almost 50% of total income with surplus income used to offset deficits within the General Management Account, Neighbourhood Renewal and Older Peoples & Volunteering Programmes. Despite the significant contributions made towards long term sustainability the continuing support in the form of core funding from DfC (Community Investment Fund), NMDDC (Com/Vol 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 financial 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 and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting & Reporting by Charities". Our Financial and Governance Controls continue to be deemed "Robust" (this is the lowest risk status as certified by the DfC's Voluntary & Community Unit).

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 delighted to lease Retail Unit 2 to Homestart and attract SHSCT (CAWT i-Recovery) in May 2018. We were sad to lose Bravo Max from retail Unit 1 in December 2018 but gladly welcomed Creina Fegan (Counsellor) in February 2019. We continued to use all available space for our own programmes, for storage and for additional venue hire facilities securing 85% occupancy within BBH and 100% within An Stóras throughout the period.

Additional Services Provided:

We continue to provide administrative and "back office" support to CCG Projects, to affiliated members and to external bodies. Some of the services provided by our staff include:

- Help to establish financial systems & applications for funding
- Assistance with salaries and wages
- Advice on recruitment & selection procedures
- Guidance on charitable law & constitutions
- Charity Commission - Registration and Reporting
- Top of the range conference & meeting facilities.
- Compliance with Funding & Legal requirements and computation of claims information.
- Compliance with Health & Safety Legislation and Risk Assessments.
- Resource Centre operations – Printing, Copying, booklets, binding, reprographic services, fax, e-mail, internet etc.

Finance & Services

Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account)
for the year ended 31 March 2019

	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2019 £	Total Funds 2018 £
Incoming resources				
Incoming resources from generated funds				
Activities for generating funds:				
Bank Interest		349	349	237
Other Income		311,430	311,430	293,630
Incoming Resources from charitable activities				
Grants	246,426	25,800	272,226	257,795
(less deferred income)				
Total incoming resources	**246,426**	**337,579**	**584,005**	**551,662**
Resources Expended				
Charitable activities	249,744	68,904	318,648	292,865
Governance costs	8,839	227,943	236,782	229,288
Total resources expended	**258,583**	**296,847**	**555,430**	**522,153**
Net incoming (outgoing) resources for the year before transfers	(12,157)	40,732	28,575	29,509
Transfers between funds				
Net movement of funds in year	(12,157)	40,732	**28,575**	**29,509**
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward	845,460	1,499,018	**2,344,478**	**2,314,969**
Total funds carried forward	**833,303**	**1,539,750**	**2,373,053**	**2,344,478**
Statement of Total Fund Movement				
Total recognised funds relating to the year			28,575	29,509
Total recognised surplus since last annual report			**28,575**	**29,509**

Finance & Services

Balance Sheet at 31 March 2019

	Note	2018	2017
		£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	2	**2,108,342**	**2,106,687**
Current Assets			
Debtors	3	**50,587**	**55,302**
Cash at bank		**313,353**	**277,765**
		363,940	**333,067**
Liabilities falling due within one year	4	**99,231**	**95,276**
Net Current (Liabilities)/ Assets		**264,709**	**237,791**
Net Current Assets		**2,373,053**	**2,344,478**
Liabilities falling due after more than one year			
Capital Grant Reserve	7	**0**	**0**
Net Assets		**2,373,053**	**2,344,478**
Funds			
Restricted Funds		**833,303**	**845,460**
Unrestricted Funds			
General fund		**274,531**	**233,799**
Designated fund		**1,265,219**	**1,265,219**
		2,373,053	**2,344,478**

The Confederation of Community Groups
Funders 2018 / 2019

Outbound Telephone Support & Volunteer Programme

Voluntary Contributions / Neighbourhood Renewal Programme

Community Investment Fund

Telephone Support / Home Secured

Community Work & Education

Older People's Community Project, Student Volunteering Scheme and Community Education

Shining Light Awards Sponsors:

Main Sponsor:
Newry Credit Union

Shining Light Awards Sponsors and Donations:
Newry Credit Union, HSCB, Malone Accounting, NMDDC, Quays Shopping Centre, Haldane Fisher, Newry & Mourne Enterprise Agency, First Derivatives, Clanrye Taxis, Redrock Training, Rice Office Supplies, Systems & Solutions, Murdock Builders Merchants, Blue Print Pizza Company, Fieldmotion, Canal Court Hotel, Barclay Communications, IP Options, Maura McCourt, A.M. Rentals, Solon Security, Buttercrane Shopping Centre