

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

Trustees	Marie Cavanagh, Chair Michael Briggs Margaret Baumann Elizabeth Cuddy, Vice Chair Michael Hughes (resigned 1 December 2014) Audrey Murray Paul Roberts Peter McBride Diane Rathfield Margaret Sinnott Patricia Hutchinson Dermot McCluskey Brian Allen (appointed 22 October 2014) Colin Devine (appointed 5 December 2014)
Company registered number	NI001792
Charity registered number	NIC100012
Registered office	61 Duncairn Gardens Belfast BT15 2GB
Recognised by HMRC as a charity under reference number	XN 47024
Company secretary	Una McKernan
Chief executive officer	Seamus McAleavey
Senior management team	Seamus McAleavey, Chief Executive Una McKernan, Deputy Chief Executive Stephen Gray, Head of Information Management Sandra Bailie, Head of Organisational Development Lisa McElherron, Head of Public Affairs
Independent auditors	Goldblatt McGuigan Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor Alfred House 19 Alfred Street Belfast BT2 8EQ

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

Administrative details (continued)

Bankers	First Trust Bank 35 University Road Belfast BT7 1ND
Solicitors	Elliott Duffy Garrett Royston House 34 Upper Queen Street Belfast BT1 6FD
President	Sir Kenneth Branagh
Vice-President	Dr Jeremy Harbison (passed away 14 August 2015)

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
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TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

The Board of Trustees (Executive Committee) present their report and the audited financial statements of the group for the year ended 31 March 2015.

Principal Activities

The principal activity of the Charity, being a voluntary sector development agency committed to social change, is the alleviation of disadvantage amongst communities, families and individuals through the provision of information, advice, training and development services to community and voluntary groups in Northern Ireland.

The principal activity of the subsidiary company during the year was the provision of HR, financial and other support services to the voluntary and community sector and to small businesses.

Reference and Administrative Details of the Charity, Trustees and Advisers

The reference and administration details of the Charity are outlined on pages 1 and 2.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action (NICVA) is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association, dated 1 August 1944 and amended as at 5 September 2001 and 20 November 2009.

Appointment of Executive Committee

NICVA is governed by an Executive Committee elected by its member organisations on an annual basis through a postal ballot using the single transferable vote system. All NICVA members are invited to nominate to the committee which consists of 12 people elected for a three year period. Elected members, on completion of their three year term, may stand for re-election if they so wish. One third (or the number nearest one third) of the committee so elected must retire at each annual general meeting, those longest in office retiring first. For this financial year, there were four places for Executive Committee members. There were five nominees for election and on completion of the postal vote, four members were duly elected.

Committee Induction and Training

New Executive Committee members undergo induction training to brief them on roles and responsibilities and their legal obligations under charity and company law, the committee and the decision-making processes, the strategic and operational planning processes, the organisational structure and key organisational activities. Executive Committee members are provided with copies of the NICVA Governance Manual which includes the Memorandum and Articles of Association, Role Descriptions for Office Bearers and Committee members and Sub Committees, NICVA Finance Procedures and the NICVA Equal Opportunities Policy.

Organisational Structure

The Executive Committee ensures the good governance of the organisation by setting its strategic objectives and policy direction through NICVA's three year strategic plan and monitoring progress on this through the annual operational planning process. The Committee meets every six weeks and the Resources Sub-Committee which deals with the human and financial resources of the organisation meets on a quarterly basis. The Chief Executive Officer, appointed by the Committee, manages the day to day operations of the organisation. To facilitate effective operations, the Chief Executive Officer has delegated authority for operational matters including the application and monitoring of strategic and operational objectives.

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

Related Parties

NICVA is an independent organisation and therefore all operations are carried out in accordance with this. However, by the nature of the objects of the charity, NICVA works closely with its members, representing their interests to government bodies and funders as appropriate.

Risk Management

Financial risks are assessed by the organisation through the Resources Committee on a quarterly and annual basis. Core funding is provided by the Department for Social Development (DSD) which periodically conducts a Risk Assessment on all funded organisations. NICVA has retained its low risk status demonstrating that robust financial systems and controls are in place. NICVA continues to monitor all procedures associated with risk management.

During the prior year NICVA also commenced a liability management exercise as part of its participation in the NI Charities Pensions Trust Pension Scheme. NICVA seeks to minimise any future liability within this multi-employer pension scheme and during the prior year allocated £1.2m of reserves to a designated fund to facilitate the transfer of members out of the scheme. During the year £1.2m was paid from this designated fund and a further £119k was paid from unrestricted funds to transfer members out of the NI Charities Pensions Trust Pension Scheme.

Objectives, Activities, Achievements and Performance

This is the final year in the implementation of the strategic plan for 2012-2015. The three core themes to "Lead, Develop and Connect" are supported by eight key strategic objectives. The following highlights some of the work in support of the delivery of the plan during its third year of implementation.

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

NICVA Operational Plan Review April 2014 - March 2015

Summary

Theme	No of events (Conferences, seminars, training sessions, clinics, formal meetings)	No of support cases/development projects	No of participants
Lead	335	35	2087
Develop	495	1558	3075
Connect	182	151	994
Total	1012	1744	6156

Event Type	Total no of events
Formal Meetings	549
Seminars	56
Conferences	12
Training Sessions	249
Bespoke training	99
Accredited training	45
Clinics	2
Total	1012

Summary Evaluations	
Total evaluations completed	2886
Excellent	47%
Very Good	42%
Good	9%
Satisfactory	2%
Total	100%

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

Theme	Strategic Objective	Goal	Programme	Outputs	
Lead	Influence – To continue to develop relationships with government leading to a more robust challenge at all levels.	The goals included within this objective include secretariat to the joint forum and all party group, participation on government working groups, policy consultation and work on the policy manifesto, and policy leadership on major campaigns.	RISP	Formal meetings Seminars Conferences Development projects Support Cases Training Sessions	270 28 2 2 17 4

Comment

Overall NICVA CEO participated in 169 key meetings with senior government officials and sector representatives. This included DEL, DETI, DSD and DFP Ministers and attendance at the TBUC Ministerial Panel meeting, meetings with Permanent Secretaries and other Senior Government officials from DFP, DARD, DCAL, DHSSPS and attendance at the Finance Directors' meeting of all government departments with a focus on the impact of the budget cuts on the sector. Meetings were also held with a number of representatives from political parties including Sinn Féin, DUP, UUP as well as Trade Unions and the British Irish Government Secretariat. Other meetings include US Consulate, IFI, Chief Executives Forum, Head of the European Commission in NI and attended receptions to mark the Queen's visit and the visit of Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade.

NICVA CEO met with Her Excellency Dima Khleifat who is the Director General (Head) of Voluntary Societies in Jordan and 12 representatives from the Jordanian Ministry of Social Development re "Strengthening the Capacity of the Ministry of Social Development of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

NICVA hosted the Heenan Anderson Commission Consultation which was set up to look at the current levels of economic marginalisation and deprivation in Northern Ireland. The Commission Co-Chair Colin Anderson and Shadow Secretary of State Ivan Lewis both came to hear what the community and voluntary sector felt were the real issues faced by the people they work with.

Of the 28 seminars held during the year, 9 were arranged to allow the sector to consult on departmental spending plans for 2014-2015. Other events included a public expenditure roundtable with DFP, social housing reform consultations, CollaborationNI policy seminars and a focus on issues of public sector reform.

Other major policy work includes the impact of the European Social Fund on organisations, Welfare Reform, Regeneration Bill, Children's Bill, Lobbying Bill and Community Planning (20 responses to policy consultations).

NICVA presented to 4 Assembly Committees including Employment & Learning (on ESF), Finance & Personnel (on Land Value Tax research by CEE) and twice to Enterprise Trade and Investment on Living Wage research on Economic Data report.

NICVA continued to contribute to the "Tackling Bureaucracy Project" lead by VCU, which is nearing completion with cross departmental agreement and NI Audit office support for a code of practice to govern future funding relationships between central government and the Voluntary and Community Sector.

NICVA continues to provide secretariat for meetings of the Joint Forum Voluntary and Community Sector Group and support to the wider Joint Government/Voluntary Community Sector forum.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

Theme	Strategic Objective	Goal	Programme	Outputs	
Lead	Research - Listen to and gather evidence on behalf of the voluntary and community sector.	The goals included within this objective include our work on State of the Sector, the Salary Survey, quarterly Viewfinder surveys, the Charitable Giving Survey and the research work via the Centre for Economic Empowerment (CEE).	RISP CEE	Seminars Formal meetings CEE research reports Viewfinder survey reports Charitable Giving Survey report Support cases Development Projects	4 6 5 2 1 5 3
Comment					
<p>Two Viewfinders produced and published during the year on topical issues affecting the sector, the first examining the issue of prompt payments, charity registration and open data and the second looking at future support needs of the sector to inform our strategic plan and the impact of the current political situation. The Charitable Giving Survey was also completed and published during the year. CutswatchNI was re-introduced toward the end of 2014 in light of the very significant cuts in funding being experienced by the sector. This includes the impact of ESF funding, and central government funding streams.</p> <p>The Centre for Economic Empowerment in NICVA commissioned and published five reports during the year: A Land Value Tax for NI; An Economic Analysis of the Living Wage in NI; Universal Childcare in NI, which examines the economic implications of providing universal childcare in NI using cost benefit analysis; Financial Benefits of the Supporting People Programme, which examines the costs that would be incurred if the Supporting People Programme were to cease; and Fostering Innovation Through Public Procurement, which examines how public procurement in Northern Ireland can better encourage innovation – the creation of new processes, products, ideas and services. The first four reports were launched at four seminars attended by 168 individuals.</p> <p>The research findings have been published widely through press and the sector.</p> <p>CEE reports have been cited in sessions of the NI Assembly during the year.</p>					

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

Theme	Strategic Objective	Goal	Programme	Outputs	
Lead	Innovate - To provide strategic leadership for change and innovation and for building solidarity within the sector, and to bring forward solutions to societal challenges.	The goals within this objective include leading on Innovation in ICT, providing opportunities for the sector to explore efficiency gains through the best use of ICT, our work through the CEE project.	RISP CEE CollaborationNI	Formal meetings Seminars Conferences Support Cases Development projects	10 9 2 5 3
Comment					
<p>During the year we ran two “Tweet Ups” with 123 participants exploring what's new in social media and how it can help organisations. As part of our CollaborationNI programme we participated in the delivery of a seminar to provide individuals from both Voluntary/Community and statutory sectors with an opportunity to explore working examples and good practice models to help develop a shared vision of successful service delivery in Health and Social Care.</p> <p>Our CEE work continues to innovate through running our series of masterclasses including: Alternative Economies, Community Currencies and Trading Schemes; Zero Hours Contracts; Energy Markets; Inequality and growth. Our conference “Innovation – development, design and delivery” had input from world famous designer Wayne Hemingway, Minister for Finance Simon Hamilton and Andrea Siodmuk from the Cabinet Office Policy Lab.</p> <p>We introduced our new “Policy Hack” series with the first Working Poverty Policy Hack. A policy hack borrows the techniques and ethos of the tech sector, applies them to a number of social policy topics to come up with solutions to key social, economic and environmental problems and are a new way of bringing people together to share ideas and develop solutions to some of Northern Ireland's most pressing social, economic and environmental problems.</p> <p>We introduced our new “Influence > Access Policy Pop Ups” which are one hour, off the record talks and conversations on a wide range of topics to help members get an insight into key decision making processes. Our first event was “How to think like a Senior Civil Servant” with retired Permanent Secretary of DFP Stephen Peover.</p> <p>We were successful in securing funding, in partnership with The Detail, from the Big Lottery Fund for a project to help the sector to develop its use of open data to effectively create and enhance social, economic and environmental value.</p>					

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

Theme	Strategic Objective	Goal	Programme	Outputs	
Develop	Skill - To enable voluntary and community sector organisations to access high quality and diverse learning opportunities.	The goals included within this objective include the delivery of an annual calendar of training courses, bespoke training to organisations, accredited training, and our work on the delivery of development and support through contracts including ROCOP, RCNI, CollaborationNI, CEE and CLP.	RISP ROCOP RCNI CollaborationNI CEE Inspiring Impact	Formal meetings Conferences Training Sessions Accredited training Bespoke training Support cases Development projects	19 2 106 45 99 37 1
Comment					
<p>A major area of work for many of NICVA staff across all teams is in the delivery of training to the sector either through our calendar of training courses publicly advertised and delivered, through bespoke training sessions at the request of individual organisations or through the various programmes we run via contracts. These include three contracts for development and support to groups funded by Big Lottery Fund under their Reaching Out Connecting Older People Programme (ROCOP), Reaching Communities NI programme (RCNI) and Impact of Alcohol Programme.</p> <p>Others include the CollaborationNI programme delivered on behalf of the Building Change Trust and the Centre for Economic Empowerment funded through Atlantic Philanthropies and the NI Development Fund.</p> <p>This year we have seen an increase in the demand for training in general but specifically for accredited training programmes. Earned income for NICVA training has exceeded our original budget estimate. Online learning is also on the increase with 21 online sessions held with 122 participants.</p> <p>This year, in response to demand, we introduced an ILM level 5 Award in Management of Volunteers.</p> <p>NICVA is one of 13 organisations awarded a grant to support groups to plan for impact practice in Northern Ireland as part of the Inspiring Impact NI programme funded by the Building Change Trust. Three masterclasses and two follow up support sessions have been held with 55 organisations.</p>					

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

Theme	Objective	Goal	Programme	Outputs	
Develop	Inform - To enable voluntary and community organisations to access relevant information, guidance, advice and resources.	The goals included within this objective include the supply of information via the NICVA websites, nicva.org, communityni.org, the weekly eNews, monthly members' bulletin and providing an advice service to NICVA members.	RISP ROCOP RCNI	Support cases	1350
				Formal meetings	9
				One to one advice sessions (formal meetings)	120
				Clinics	2
Comment					
<p>A major area of work for most of NICVA staff across all is to contribute to all the NICVA communication channels, websites, eNews, NICVA News and social media. Communityni.org - 588,103 site visits, 4,487 articles, 5,638 followers. Nicva.org - 212,594 site visits, 268 new articles added, 6,230 twitter followers. 50 eNews distributed to 2,442 subscribers. A new NICVA Members' monthly bulletin was introduced and was issued 13 times to 5,962 recipients. Our Assembly Insider was issued weekly when the Assembly was sitting with 30 editions to 627 subscribers.</p> <p>GrantTracker.org - 16,420 site visits, 302 subscribers and income of £35k. An external working party has been convened to guide the continuous development from a user perspective.</p> <p>Our advice service also primarily sits within this objective where NICVA responds to requests for advice on a range of topics including human resources, financial, governance, fundraising, financial and pensions issues, 1,350 cases opened with 3,610 activities and 120 one to one advice sessions dealt with.</p> <p>As part of the Impact of Alcohol project, 11 Assembly Monitors were issued and a briefing issued to 108 MLAs by Trust area.</p> <p>The Scope magazine has been introduced as a pilot online publication to publish news, analysis, comment and insights into public policy to enhance civil society. Three issues have been independently written, edited and published to ensure impartiality.</p>					

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

Theme	Strategic Objective	Goal	Programme	Outputs	
Develop	Support - To support voluntary and community sector organisations to build their organisational capacity and development potential.	The goals included within this objective include the service of reviewing and drafting governing documents, assisting organisations with application for charitable status, providing fundraising advice, and coaching, mentoring and client support within CollaborationNI programme.	RISP CollaborationNI RCNI	Formal meetings Training sessions Support cases Governance cases Seminars Development projects	15 64 61 106 14 3
Comment					
<p>During the year 78 governing documents were either drafted or re-drafted, exceeding the original target of 30. Staff assisted organisations with 51 applications for charitable status, exceeding the original target of 10. 9 NI wide roadshows (seminars) attracting 339 participants were held to promote charity regulations and good governance.</p> <p>Further seminars were held on new regulations for organisations regarding Automatic Pension Enrolment and the outcome of the NICVA Individual Giving Survey.</p> <p>Ongoing support was also provided to organisations and individuals engaging with the CollaborationNI programme. This year marked the beginning of phase 2 of our CollaborationNI programme which received an additional two year contract. Phase 2 is designed to provide more focused support for collaborations with 63 in house training sessions to 232 participants being held.</p>					

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

Theme	Strategic Objective	Goal	Programme	Outputs	
Connect	Collaborate - To promote and facilitate joint working to support more effective delivery of services.	The goals included within this objective include our work and engagement with networks, developing governance group, Forum for Adult Learning NI, and expert facilitation, governance and legal support within the CollaborationNI programme.	RISP CollaborationNI	Formal meetings Training Sessions Conferences Support cases	46 74 1 141
Comment					
<p>Regular engagement is ongoing with the sub regional networks and many events are arranged collectively with the networks in their areas (in particular governance roadshows). NICVA continues to provide the secretariat for the Developing Governance Group with a focus this year on reviewing the code of good governance and working with the Charity Commission on charity registration, and supporting the sector through this.</p> <p>CollaborationNI provides direct support to organisations to guide them through their collaborative processes. This is achieved via expert facilitation as well as direct meetings with boards and the drafting of legal documents.</p> <p>In partnership with the Equality Commission we hosted an Employment Policy Review Clinic for the sector.</p> <p>Our Welfare Reform Conference was held in partnership with the Advice Services Consortium. The 123 delegates were addressed at the event by the Minister for Social Development.</p>					

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

Theme	Strategic Objective	Goal	Programme	Outputs	
Connect	Network - To create, identify and provide opportunities for networking to share information, learning and effective practice.	The goals included within this objective include our engagement with councils, our support for the policy fora and our engagement with funders via 'Meet the Funder' events.	RISP ROCOP	Formal meetings Seminars Conferences Training Sessions Support cases	54 1 5 1 10
Comment					
<p>Within this goal we provide opportunities for organisations to engage collectively across the sector in a range of ways including via the 10 policy fora which we facilitate and provide secretariat to all the meetings. The policy fora format was reviewed and a decision taken to replace the 12 policy fora into Departmental Monitoring Groups to more effectively facilitate the sector to lobby government and impact on policy development. These are member only groups.</p> <p>We also run a range of other member events including two "Meet the Funder" events with 115 participants and our AGM and conference.</p> <p>NICVA continues to participate in the NI Trusts Group (and provides secretariat), the Forum for Adult Learning NI, Will to Give and Philanthropy Fortnight.</p> <p>One major seminar was held as part of the Collaboration NI programme with the new Causeway Coast and Glens Council, providing an opportunity to bring together the VCSE in the area with council staff, to develop relationships for future working across the new landscape. 90 participants attended.</p> <p>Within the ROCOP programme, emphasis has been placed on bringing the funded groups together on a regular basis to network and share learning. A conference on "Measuring your Impact" was held with 77 participants.</p>					

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

Theme	Strategic Objective	Goal	NICVA Support	Outputs	
Internal	Deliver – To ensure the appropriate people, systems and tools are available to support NICVA's work.	To provide support services to enable the delivery of all services and programmes using the appropriate people, systems and tools.	All programmes	Contract meetings	33
				Evaluation reports	44
				Financial claims	22
				Management accounts, audits, budget re-profiling	16
Comment					
<p>To enable effective delivery of all projects across the organisation, we have a range of people and systems delivering financial, fundraising, HR and ICT services. Activities include contractual meetings with funders on specific projects, completion of all evaluation reports, financial claims, budget re-profiles and staff management. Overall responsibility for the effective delivery of services rests with the Executive Committee who met seven times during the year. The Resources Committee met three times to receive operational, financial and human resources reports. It is noted by Executive Committee that sickness absence remained low during the year sitting at 1.2% overall (below CIPD average of 3.3%). The Senior Management Team met eight times.</p> <p>Four Operational Planning staff meetings were held and one Executive Committee/Strategic Planning session to commence the development of our new Strategic Plan for 2016-2019. Other regular internal communications involves a Monday morning meeting with team representatives and a follow up Monday bulletin on key planned work for the week ahead. Project Managers met six times to discuss future developmental opportunities and highlight key issues. The monthly Communications meeting involves a cross section of the organisation and is used to plan future events, media, websites and social media campaigns.</p> <p>Major website development continued with a new build of the NICVA, CollaborationNI and ScopeNI websites and re-design of GrantTracker. The members' directory was also re-launched.</p> <p>In our commitment to continuous improvement of our ICT infrastructure the main internet connection, backup and public wifi provision was switched resulting in an overall cost saving. We have also moved the website hosting to cloud hosting as well as using a virtualised file server. Improved reporting has been achieved through moving transaction emails to mandrill service.</p> <p>Our conference rooms had 934 bookings attracting 11,773 attendees with consistent excellent feedback on service and facilities.</p>					

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

Financial Review

The results are set out in detail on pages 19 to 42. The group returned net decrease in funds for the year of £1,476,287 (2014 - net increase in funds of £288,051), of which £1,386,452 related to unrestricted funds and £89,835 related to restricted funds.

Investment Policy

The Resources Sub-Committee has considered the most appropriate policy for investing funds and decided that a mixture of bank deposit accounts and holding an investment portfolio with Barclays Wealth were best placed to meet its requirements to generate income and provide capital growth in the context of the economic climate during the year. The investment policy is reviewed quarterly by the Committee.

Reserves Policy

Unrestricted funds are considered to be essential to provide sufficient funds to cover any unforeseen costs which may arise and fulfil the legal obligations of the Charity in the event that current levels of income are not maintained.

The reserves policy has been designed in order to recognise NICVA's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. It has established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed should equate to 12 months' total resources expended. The aim is to provide sufficient funds to cover any unforeseen costs which may arise, recognise the volatile grant environment as well as allowing for the payment of any liabilities which would arise should the Charity cease to operate. Any call upon the use of reserves will be at the approval of the Executive Committee which will examine the rationale for doing so and agree an amount where appropriate.

At 31 March 2015, the level of "free reserves", excluding fixed assets and designated funds was £495,722 (2014 - £646,821) which equates to almost 3 months' expenditure.

Plans for Future Periods

NICVA's current strategic plan was due to expire at the end of the financial year 2015 in line with the three year funding cycle from the Department of Social Development (DSD) as part of the Regional Infrastructure Support Programme (RISP). However DSD offered a one year extension to the existing contract pending a review of the RISP and in keeping with the cycle, the NICVA Executive Committee agreed to extend the Strategic Plan and core work associated with this until the end of March 2016. Work is currently under way to develop a new Strategic Plan for 2016-2019.

Funds held as Custodian Trustee on Behalf of Others

NICVA administers the Cheques for Charity scheme whereby they receive, claim gift aid and hold monies on behalf of donors and disburse according to their instructions.

Details of these restricted funds are included within notes 25 and 26 to the accounts.

Conduit Funding

NICVA is responsible for receiving and distributing funds on behalf of the Department for Social Development. £172,379 (2014 - £284,013) was received and distributed during the year and no balance was held in relation to these monies at 31 March 2015.

**NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

Trustees' Responsibilities Statement

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

Company law requires the directors to prepare group financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the group and parent charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the group's and charitable company's financial position and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of Disclosure of Information to Auditor

In so far as the Trustees, who held office at the date of approval of the financial statements, are aware:

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

Registered office:
61 Duncairn Gardens
Belfast
BT15 2GB

By order of the Executive Committee


.....
ÚNA McKERNAN
SECRETARY

Accepted as a charity by HM Revenue & Customs
under Reference No: XN 47024

Approved by the directors on 21/10/15

Charity No: NIC100012

Registered in Northern Ireland
No: NI001792

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION

We have audited the financial statements and group financial statements of Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action for the year ended 31 March 2015 set out on pages 19 to 42. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities).

This report is made solely to the charity'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 charity'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 charity and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinion we have formed.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND AUDITORS

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and group financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements and group financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

SCOPE OF THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements and group financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements and group financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the group's and the parent charity's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements and group financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Trustees' Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and group financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION

OPINION ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

In our opinion the financial statements and group financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the parent charity's affairs as at 31 March 2015 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

OPINION ON OTHER MATTER PRESCRIBED BY THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Trustees' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements and group financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements and group financial statements.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

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:

- the parent charity and group has not kept adequate accounting records, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charity financial statements and group financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the Trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements and group financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and to take advantage of the small companies' exemption from the requirement to prepare a Group Strategic Report or in preparing the Trustees' Report.


Mr Jackie Smith FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of

Goldblatt McGuigan

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

Alfred House
19 Alfred Street
Belfast
BT2 8EQ
5 November 2015

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2015 £	Restricted funds 2015 £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
Voluntary income	2	682,385	174,962	857,347	831,860
Activities for generating funds	3	166,837	-	166,837	157,037
Investment income	4	3,165	-	3,165	6,997
Incoming resources from charitable activities	5	801,219	217,473	1,018,692	1,833,562
Other incoming resources	6	2,000	-	2,000	-
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		1,655,606	392,435	2,048,041	2,829,456
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Costs of generating funds:					
Costs of generating voluntary income	7	1,054	108	1,162	10,721
Charitable activities	8	1,549,729	481,086	2,030,815	2,434,366
Governance costs	12	5,692	1,076	6,768	6,623
Other resources expended	13				
Commercial trading operations		167,654	-	167,654	140,525
Exceptional costs		1,336,514	-	1,336,514	-
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		3,060,643	482,270	3,542,913	2,592,235
NET (OUTGOING) / INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE INVESTMENT ASSET DISPOSALS					
		(1,405,037)	(89,835)	(1,494,872)	237,221
Gains on disposals of investment assets		-	-	-	26,664
NET (RESOURCES EXPENDED) / INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE REVALUATIONS					
		(1,405,037)	(89,835)	(1,494,872)	263,885
Gains on revaluations of investment assets	17	18,585	-	18,585	24,166
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR		(1,386,452)	(89,835)	(1,476,287)	288,051
Total funds at 1 April 2014		2,430,151	1,550,586	3,980,737	3,692,686
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 MARCH 2015		1,043,699	1,460,751	2,504,450	3,980,737

The notes on pages 23 to 42 form part of these financial statements.

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2015 £	Restricted funds 2015 £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
TOTAL INCOME		1,655,606	392,435	2,048,041	2,829,456
LESS: TOTAL EXPENDITURE		3,060,643	482,270	3,542,913	2,592,235
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net (expenditure)/income for the year before investment asset disposals		(1,405,037)	(89,835)	(1,494,872)	237,221
Gain on disposal of investment assets		-	-	-	26,664
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME FOR THE YEAR		<u>(1,405,037)</u>	<u>(89,835)</u>	<u>(1,494,872)</u>	<u>263,885</u>

The notes on pages 23 to 42 form part of these financial statements.

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: NI001792

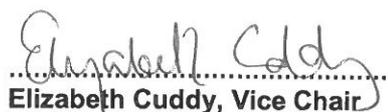
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2015

	Note	2015		2014	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	16		1,466,448		1,511,342
Investments	17		387,116		368,531
			<u>1,853,564</u>		<u>1,879,873</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	18	220,714		330,986	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,792,884		2,105,716	
		<u>2,013,598</u>		<u>2,436,702</u>	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	19	(1,357,201)		(324,105)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>656,397</u>		<u>2,112,597</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			<u>2,509,961</u>		<u>3,992,470</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year	20		(5,511)		(11,733)
NET ASSETS			<u><u>2,504,450</u></u>		<u><u>3,980,737</u></u>
CHARITY FUNDS					
Restricted funds	23		1,460,751		1,550,586
Unrestricted funds	23		1,043,699		2,430,151
TOTAL FUNDS			<u><u>2,504,450</u></u>		<u><u>3,980,737</u></u>

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 21 October 2015 and signed on their behalf, by:


 Marie Cavanagh, Chair


 Elizabeth Cuddy, Vice Chair

The notes on pages 23 to 42 form part of these financial statements.

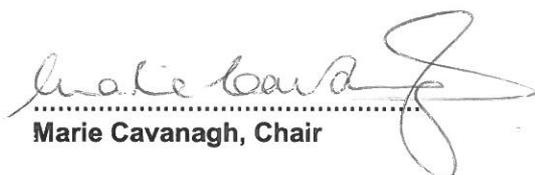
NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: NI001792

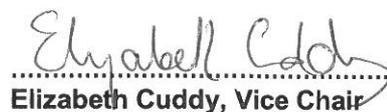
CHARITY BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2015

	Note	2015		2014	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	16		1,466,323		1,511,022
Investments	17		387,117		368,532
			<u>1,853,440</u>		<u>1,879,554</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	18	228,233		327,144	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,755,529		2,082,980	
		<u>1,983,762</u>		<u>2,410,124</u>	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	19	(1,333,784)		(302,568)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>649,978</u>		<u>2,107,556</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			<u>2,503,418</u>		<u>3,987,110</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year	20		(5,511)		(11,733)
NET ASSETS			<u>2,497,907</u>		<u>3,975,377</u>
CHARITY FUNDS					
Restricted funds			1,460,751		1,550,586
Unrestricted funds			1,037,156		2,424,791
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>2,497,907</u>		<u>3,975,377</u>

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 21 October 2015 and signed on their behalf, by:


 Marie Cavanagh, Chair


 Elizabeth Cuddy, Vice Chair

The notes on pages 23 to 42 form part of these financial statements.

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008). The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' published in March 2005, applicable accounting standards and the Companies Act 2006.

The Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) and Balance Sheet consolidate the financial statements of the charity and its subsidiary undertaking. The results of the subsidiary are consolidated on a line by line basis.

No separate SOFA has been presented for the charity alone as permitted by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to fifty pence per member of the charity.

1.3 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.4 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity has entitlement to the funds, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

Where funding is received and subsequently distributed to other organisations in accordance with the donor's instructions it is treated as conduit funding and, therefore, is not recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Trading income represents net sales to customers and excludes Value Added Tax. Trading income is recognised upon provision of the service to the customer.

1.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.6 Cash flow

The financial statements do not include a Consolidated Cash Flow Statement because the charitable company, as a small reporting entity, is exempt from the requirement to prepare such a statement under the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

1.7 Basis of consolidation

The financial statements consolidate the accounts of Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action and all of its subsidiary undertakings ('subsidiaries').

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption contained within 408 of the Companies Act 2006 not to present its own Income and Expenditure Account.

The income and expenditure account for the year dealt with in the accounts of the charity was £(1,496,055) (2014 - £247,373).

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.8 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is not charged on freehold land. Depreciation on other tangible fixed assets is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of those assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Land & buildings	-	2% straight line
Motor vehicles	-	25% reducing balance
Office equipment	-	15% reducing balance
Computer equipment	-	33.33% straight line

1.9 Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

1.10 Leasing and hire purchase

Assets obtained under hire purchase contracts and finance leases are capitalised as tangible fixed assets. Assets acquired by finance lease are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and their useful lives. Assets acquired by hire purchase are depreciated over their useful lives. Finance leases are those where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership are assumed by the charity. Obligations under such agreements are included in creditors net of the finance charge allocated to future periods. The finance element of the rental payment is charged to the Statement of Financial Activities so as to produce a constant periodic rate of charge on the net obligation outstanding in each period.

1.11 Grants

Government grants relating to tangible fixed assets are treated as deferred income and released to the Statement of Financial Activities over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned. Other grants are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities as the related expenditure is incurred.

1.12 Pensions

In prior years the charity contributed to a multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme, NICPS, and the charity is committed to making payments of £5,469 per month to make good prior year deficits. Following the closure of this Scheme on 31 March 2009, the Trustees confirmed the selection of the Pensions Trust as the provider of the Flexible Retirement Plan (defined contribution scheme) at a contribution rate of 5% from employers and a minimum 5% per employee. Contributions to this Scheme by the charity have therefore been accounted for by charging costs as payments accrue.

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

2. VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Unrestricted funds 2015 £	Restricted funds 2015 £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
Donations	4,371	-	4,371	6,835
Department for Social Development - Core Activities	678,014	-	678,014	702,072
Cheques for Charity	-	174,962	174,962	122,953
	<u>682,385</u>	<u>174,962</u>	<u>857,347</u>	<u>831,860</u>

3. TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds 2015 £	Restricted funds 2015 £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
Charity trading income				
United Kingdom	166,837	-	166,837	157,037
	<u>166,837</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>166,837</u>	<u>157,037</u>
Net income from trading activities	<u>166,837</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>166,837</u>	<u>157,037</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted funds 2015 £	Restricted funds 2015 £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
Bank interest	3,165	-	3,165	6,997
	<u>3,165</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,165</u>	<u>6,997</u>

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

5. INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds 2015 £	Restricted funds 2015 £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
Charitable activity	801,219	217,473	1,018,692	1,833,562

Detailed incoming resources from charitable activities

	2015 £	2014 £
Grants received		
Peace III	-	5,583
Centre for Economic Empowerment	-	63,656
Atlantic Philanthropies	193,541	372,984
Big Lottery - Detail Data Grant	12,092	-
Inspiring Impact Grant	11,840	-
Other income		
Big Lottery Fund	182,973	242,455
Collaboration NI - BCT Income	220,696	282,183
Training	124,552	120,812
Membership subscriptions	76,511	64,960
Sale of publications	2,669	385
Resource services	83,077	103,821
Room hire	48,069	44,047
IFI Community Leadership Programme	-	476,983
Earned research income	-	6,000
Contributions for administration		
Charities Aid Foundation (via NCVO)	56,026	44,959
Cheques for Charity	6,646	4,734
	<u>1,018,692</u>	<u>1,833,562</u>

The Board considers the Charity to have one main charitable activity, being the alleviation of disadvantage amongst communities, families and individuals through the provision of information, advice, training and development services to community and voluntary groups in Northern Ireland.

6. OTHER INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted funds 2015 £	Restricted funds 2015 £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
Grants receivable	2,000	-	2,000	-

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

7. COSTS OF GENERATING VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Unrestricted funds 2015 £	Restricted funds 2015 £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
Promotional expenditure	1,054	108	1,162	10,721
	<u>1,054</u>	<u>108</u>	<u>1,162</u>	<u>10,721</u>

8. EXPENDITURE BY CHARITABLE ACTIVITY

SUMMARY BY FUND TYPE

	Unrestricted funds 2015 £	Restricted funds 2015 £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
Charitable activity	1,549,729	481,086	2,030,815	2,434,366
	<u>1,549,729</u>	<u>481,086</u>	<u>2,030,815</u>	<u>2,434,366</u>

SUMMARY BY EXPENDITURE TYPE

	Staff costs 2015 £	Depreciation 2015 £	Other costs 2015 £	Total 2015 £	Total 2014 £
Charitable activity	1,188,053	60,755	782,007	2,030,815	2,434,366
	<u>1,188,053</u>	<u>60,755</u>	<u>782,007</u>	<u>2,030,815</u>	<u>2,434,366</u>

9. ANALYSIS OF RESOURCES EXPENDED BY ACTIVITIES

	Activities undertaken directly 2015 £	Support costs 2015 £	Total 2015 £	Total 2014 £
Charitable activity	1,715,105	315,710	2,030,815	2,434,366
	<u>1,715,105</u>	<u>315,710</u>	<u>2,030,815</u>	<u>2,434,366</u>

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

10. DIRECT COSTS

	Charitable activity £	Total 2015 £	Total 2014 £
Recruitment	1,702	1,702	1,115
Travel and subsistence	18,219	18,219	23,124
Reference books and publications	3,612	3,612	4,211
Research costs	147,611	147,611	83,443
Consultancy	79,320	79,320	32,687
Training course expenses	167,863	167,863	379,422
Seminars and conferences	59,415	59,415	63,315
Printing and stationery	44,425	44,425	31,132
Telephone and postage	20,739	20,739	29,688
Cheques for Charity	130,176	130,176	165,475
Affiliation fees	4,414	4,414	6,147
Evaluations	-	-	60,887
Wages and salaries	805,367	805,367	943,166
National insurance	92,138	92,138	104,666
Pension cost	128,338	128,338	129,782
Depreciation	11,766	11,766	27,808
	<u>1,715,105</u>	<u>1,715,105</u>	<u>2,086,068</u>

11. SUPPORT COSTS

	Charitable activity £	Total 2015 £	Total 2014 £
Printing and stationery	6,376	6,376	3,114
Telephone and postage	4,296	4,296	4,369
Rent, insurance and service charges	28,028	28,028	29,071
Cleaning, heat and light	37,009	37,009	43,096
Repairs and maintenance	13,869	13,869	9,390
Equipment rental	8,413	8,413	10,435
General expenses	3,881	3,881	3,658
Bank charges	1,397	1,397	827
Hire purchase interest	586	586	635
Bad debts provision	953	953	344
(Profit)/loss on disposal of fixed assets	(297)	(297)	423
Wages and salaries	162,210	162,210	191,814
Depreciation	48,989	48,989	51,122
	<u>315,710</u>	<u>315,710</u>	<u>348,298</u>

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

12. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	Unrestricted funds 2015 £	Restricted funds 2015 £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
Auditor's remuneration	5,524	1,076	6,600	6,528
Legal fees	168	-	168	95
	<u>5,692</u>	<u>1,076</u>	<u>6,768</u>	<u>6,623</u>

13. OTHER RESOURCES EXPENDED

	Unrestricted funds 2015 £	Restricted funds 2015 £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
Administration expenses	46,875	-	46,875	40,613
Staff salaries	107,919	-	107,919	87,080
Staff national insurance	8,699	-	8,699	8,811
Staff pension costs	3,966	-	3,966	3,826
Depreciation	195	-	195	195
Exceptional costs	1,336,514	-	1,336,514	-
	<u>1,504,168</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,504,168</u>	<u>140,525</u>

During the prior year NICVA commenced a liability management exercise as part of its participation in the NI Charities Pensions Trust Pension Scheme. NICVA seeks to minimise any future liability within this multi-employer pension scheme and during the year paid £1,336,514 to transfer members out of the scheme.

14. NET (OUTGOING) / INCOMING RESOURCES

This is stated after charging:

	2015 £	2014 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:		
- owned by the charitable group	56,337	72,975
- held under finance leases	4,613	6,150
Auditors' remuneration	6,600	6,528
Pension costs	132,304	133,608
Auditors' remuneration of subsidiary	1,600	1,500
	<u>197,454</u>	<u>290,661</u>

During the current and prior year, no Trustees received any remuneration or benefits in kind.
 2 Trustees received reimbursement of expenses amounting to £928 in the current year, (2014 - 4 Trustees - £2,404).

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

15. STAFF COSTS

Staff costs were as follows:

	2015 £	2014 £
Wages and salaries	1,075,496	1,222,060
Social security costs	100,837	113,477
Other pension costs	132,304	133,608
	<u>1,308,637</u>	<u>1,469,145</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2015 No.	2014 No.
	38	42
	<u>38</u>	<u>42</u>

The number of higher paid employees was:

	2015 No.	2014 No.
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	1	1
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

16. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Group	Land & buildings £	Motor vehicles £	Office equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 April 2014	1,937,410	26,800	192,632	191,895	2,348,737
Additions	-	-	11,348	5,234	16,582
Disposals	-	-	(2,078)	(23,755)	(25,833)
At 31 March 2015	<u>1,937,410</u>	<u>26,800</u>	<u>201,902</u>	<u>173,374</u>	<u>2,339,486</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2014	503,534	8,349	150,141	175,371	837,395
Charge for the year	37,407	4,324	7,294	11,925	60,950
On disposals	-	-	(1,552)	(23,755)	(25,307)
At 31 March 2015	<u>540,941</u>	<u>12,673</u>	<u>155,883</u>	<u>163,541</u>	<u>873,038</u>
Net book value					
At 31 March 2015	<u>1,396,469</u>	<u>14,127</u>	<u>46,019</u>	<u>9,833</u>	<u>1,466,448</u>
At 31 March 2014	<u>1,433,876</u>	<u>18,451</u>	<u>42,491</u>	<u>16,524</u>	<u>1,511,342</u>

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16. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS (continued)

The net book value of assets held under finance leases or hire purchase contracts, included above, are as follows:

Group	2015 £	2014 £
Motor vehicles	13,838	18,451

Included in land and buildings is land at a cost of £67,051 (2014 - £67,051) which is not depreciated.

Charity	Land & buildings £	Motor vehicles £	Office equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 April 2014	1,937,410	26,800	192,394	191,083	2,347,687
Additions	-	-	11,348	5,234	16,582
Disposals	-	-	(2,078)	(23,755)	(25,833)
At 31 March 2015	<u>1,937,410</u>	<u>26,800</u>	<u>201,664</u>	<u>172,562</u>	<u>2,338,436</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2014	503,534	8,349	149,997	174,785	836,665
Charge for the year	37,407	4,324	7,258	11,766	60,755
On disposals	-	-	(1,552)	(23,755)	(25,307)
At 31 March 2015	<u>540,941</u>	<u>12,673</u>	<u>155,703</u>	<u>162,796</u>	<u>872,113</u>
Net book value					
At 31 March 2015	<u>1,396,469</u>	<u>14,127</u>	<u>45,961</u>	<u>9,766</u>	<u>1,466,323</u>
At 31 March 2014	<u>1,433,876</u>	<u>18,451</u>	<u>42,397</u>	<u>16,298</u>	<u>1,511,022</u>

The net book value of assets held under finance leases or hire purchase contracts, included above, are as follows:

Charity	2015 £	2014 £
Motor vehicles	13,838	18,451

Included in land and buildings is land at a cost of £67,051 (2014 - £67,051) which is not depreciated.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

17. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

Group	Listed securities £
Market value	
At 1 April 2014	368,531
Revaluations	18,585
	<hr/>
At 31 March 2015	<u>387,116</u>

Group investments at market value comprise:

	2015 £	2014 £
Listed investments	387,116	368,531
	<hr/>	<hr/>

All the fixed asset investments are held in the UK.

Charity	Listed securities £	Shares in group undertakings £	Total £
Market value			
At 1 April 2014	368,531	1	368,532
Revaluations	18,585	-	18,585
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 March 2015	<u>387,116</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>387,117</u>

Charity investments at market value comprise:

	2015 £	2014 £
Listed investments	387,116	368,531
Group	1	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>387,117</u>	<u>368,532</u>

All the fixed asset investments are held in the UK.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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18. DEBTORS

	<u>Group</u>		<u>Charity</u>	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	170,335	287,948	137,854	244,106
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	40,000	40,000
Prepayments and accrued income	50,379	43,038	50,379	43,038
	<u>220,714</u>	<u>330,986</u>	<u>228,233</u>	<u>327,144</u>

19. CREDITORS:
Amounts falling due within one year

	<u>Group</u>		<u>Charity</u>	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
	£	£	£	£
Payments received on account	1,149,238	87,484	1,149,238	87,484
Net obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts	6,222	6,222	6,222	6,222
Trade creditors	52,360	81,737	47,633	83,365
Other taxation and social security	41,079	38,472	23,941	22,902
Accruals and deferred income	108,302	110,190	106,750	102,595
	<u>1,357,201</u>	<u>324,105</u>	<u>1,333,784</u>	<u>302,568</u>

Net obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts are secured by the group.

20. CREDITORS:
Amounts falling due after more than one year

	<u>Group</u>		<u>Charity</u>	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
	£	£	£	£
Net obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts	5,511	11,733	5,511	11,733

Net obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts are secured by the group.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

21. CONTINGENCIES

A portion of grants received may become repayable if the Charity fails to comply with the terms of the letter of offer.

The Charity has been notified by The Pensions Trust of the estimated employer debt on withdrawal from the Northern Ireland Charities Pension Scheme based on the financial position of the Scheme as at 30 September 2014. As of this date the estimated employer debt for NICVA was £3,928,000.

An employer debt would only fall due in the event of NICVA ceasing to participate in the pension Scheme or the Scheme winding up at a time when it is not fully funded on a buy-out basis. As neither of these scenarios are foreseen to occur in the near future this debt has not been provided for in these financial statements, however, the directors consider it appropriate to disclose same as a contingent liability.

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

22. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The Charity participates in the Northern Ireland Charities Pension Scheme ('the Scheme'), which is a funded multi-employer defined benefit scheme. The Scheme is not contracted-out of the State scheme.

The Northern Ireland Charities Pension Scheme closed to future accrual on 31 March 2009. There is currently no intention to wind-up the Scheme and it continues in paid-up form.

The Trustee commissions an actuarial valuation of the Scheme every three years. The main purpose of the valuation is to determine the financial position of the Scheme in order to determine the level of future contributions required so that the Scheme can meet its pension obligations as they fall due.

The actuarial valuation assesses whether the Scheme's assets at the valuation date are likely to be sufficient to pay the pension benefits accrued by members as at the valuation date. Asset values are calculated by reference to market levels. Accrued pension benefits are valued by discounting expected future benefit payments using a discount rate calculated by reference to the expected future investment returns.

During the year NICVA paid contributions of £102,935 to cover the deficit payments and Scheme management costs. As disclosed in note 13, as part of a liability management exercise payments were made during the year to transfer members out of the scheme and as such, the annual contributions have now been significantly reduced.

It is not possible in the normal course of events to identify the share of underlying assets and liabilities belonging to individual participating employers. This is because the Scheme is a multi-employer scheme, where the assets are co-mingled for investment purposes, and benefits are paid out of total Scheme assets. Accordingly, due to the nature of the Plan, the accounting charge for the period under the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective 2008) represents the employer contribution payable.

The last formal completed valuation of the Scheme was performed as at 30 September 2013 by a professionally qualified actuary using the 'projected unit credit' method. The market value of the Scheme's assets at the valuation date was £14.9 million. The valuation revealed a shortfall of assets compared to liabilities of £13.6 million.

The financial assumptions underlying the valuation as at 30 September 2013 were as follows:

Rate of return pre retirement 3.9%, rate of return post retirement 3.6%, rate of salary increases 4.7%, rate of pension increases 2.5%, rate of price inflation 3.2%.

Following the finalisation of the 2013 valuation, a new recovery plan came into effect, from 1 April 2015. Confirmation of the contributions payable from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016 was advised to employers by letter in April 2015.

If the valuation assumptions are borne out in practice this pattern of contributions should be sufficient to eliminate the past service deficit, on an ongoing funding basis, by 31 August 2045.

The Scheme Actuary has prepared an Actuarial Report that provides an approximate update on the funding position of the Scheme as at 30 September 2014. Such a report is required by legislation for years in which a full actuarial valuation is not carried out. The funding update revealed an increase in the assets of the Scheme to £19.6 million (from £14.9 million at 30 September 2013) and indicated a decrease in the shortfall of assets compared to liabilities to approximately £10.2 million (from £13.6 million at 30 September 2013), equivalent to a past service funding level of 66% (from 52% at 30 September 2013).

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

22. PENSION COMMITMENTS (continued)

Following a change in legislation in September 2005 there is a potential debt on the employer that could be levied by the Trustee of the Scheme. The debt is due in the event of the employer ceasing to participate in the Scheme or the Scheme winding up.

The debt for the Scheme as a whole is calculated by comparing the liabilities for the Scheme (calculated on a buy-out basis i.e. the cost of securing benefits by purchasing annuity policies from an insurer, plus an allowance for expenses) with the assets of the Scheme. If the liabilities exceed assets there is a buy-out debt.

The leaving employer's share of the buy-out debt is the proportion of the Scheme's liability attributable to employment with the leaving employer compared to the total amount of the Scheme's liabilities (relating to employment with all the currently participating employers). The leaving employer's debt therefore includes a share of any 'orphan' liabilities in respect of previously participating employers. The amount of the debt therefore depends on many factors including total Scheme liabilities, Scheme investment performance, the liabilities in respect of current and former employees of the employer, financial conditions at the time of the cessation event and the insurance buy-out market. The amounts of debt can therefore be volatile over time.

NICVA has been notified by The Pensions Trust of the estimated employer debt on withdrawal from the Northern Ireland Charities Pension Scheme based on the financial position of the Scheme as at 30 September 2014. As of this date the estimated employer debt for the Charity was £3,928,000.

NICVA believes that as a responsible employer it should provide the opportunity of a pension scheme for all staff, but must balance this against ensuring that the cost of providing such a scheme does not put a strain on its future viability. Following the closure of the Final Salary Scheme the NICVA Executive Committee confirmed the selection of the Pensions Trust as the provider of the Flexible Retirement Plan (defined contribution scheme) at a contribution rate of 5% per employee. Staff are required to make a minimum payment of 5% to this scheme on joining.

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

23. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

	Brought Forward £	Incoming resources £	Resources Expended £	Gains £	Carried Forward £
Designated funds					
Designated Premises Reserve	189,633	-	(4,233)	-	185,400
Designated Pension Transfer Reserve	1,217,256	-	(1,217,256)	-	-
	<u>1,406,889</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,221,489)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>185,400</u>
General funds					
General Funds	1,023,262	1,655,606	(1,839,154)	18,585	858,299
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>2,430,151</u>	<u>1,655,606</u>	<u>(3,060,643)</u>	<u>18,585</u>	<u>1,043,699</u>
Restricted funds					
Atlantic Philanthropies (Property)	335,800	-	(9,200)	-	326,600
Belfast Regeneration Office (Property)	250,000	-	(6,849)	-	243,151
Big Lottery (Property)	385,440	-	(10,560)	-	374,880
DSD - Capital Grants	23,603	-	(740)	-	22,863
CFC Client Funds	200,056	174,962	(130,176)	-	244,842
Atlantic Philanthropies	319,538	193,541	(266,582)	-	246,497
Peace III - Vital Links	221	-	(33)	-	188
Centre for Economic Empowerment	35,928	-	(34,939)	-	989
Big Lottery - Detail Data Grant	-	12,092	(11,351)	-	741
Inspiring Impact Grant	-	11,840	(11,840)	-	-
	<u>1,550,586</u>	<u>392,435</u>	<u>(482,270)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,460,751</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>3,980,737</u></u>	<u><u>2,048,041</u></u>	<u><u>(3,542,913)</u></u>	<u><u>18,585</u></u>	<u><u>2,504,450</u></u>

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2015

23. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

SUMMARY OF FUNDS

	Brought Forward	Incoming resources	Resources Expended	Gains	Carried Forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds	1,406,889	-	(1,221,489)	-	185,400
General funds	1,023,262	1,655,606	(1,839,154)	18,585	858,299
	<u>2,430,151</u>	<u>1,655,606</u>	<u>(3,060,643)</u>	<u>18,585</u>	<u>1,043,699</u>
Restricted funds	1,550,586	392,435	(482,270)	-	1,460,751
	<u>3,980,737</u>	<u>2,048,041</u>	<u>(3,542,913)</u>	<u>18,585</u>	<u>2,504,450</u>

Note 25 provides explanatory notes to the funds.

24. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	2015	2015	2015	2014
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	497,856	968,592	1,466,448	1,511,341
Fixed asset investments	387,116	-	387,116	368,531
Current assets	1,521,439	492,159	2,013,598	2,436,702
Creditors due within one year	(1,357,201)	-	(1,357,201)	(324,104)
Creditors due in more than one year	(5,511)	-	(5,511)	(11,733)
	<u>1,043,699</u>	<u>1,460,751</u>	<u>2,504,450</u>	<u>3,980,737</u>

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25. EXPLANATORY NOTES TO THE RESERVE FUNDS

Unrestricted funds

Designated Premises Reserve

This is a designated fund NICVA established to facilitate the construction and maintenance of their premises at Duncairn Gardens, Belfast.

The purpose of the fund is to ensure resources are retained for the upkeep of the conference facilities and offices to include general repair work, building maintenance and decorating, as and when required.

Designated Pension Transfer Reserve

During the prior year NICVA commenced a liability management exercise as part of its participation in the NI Charities Pensions Trust Pension Scheme. NICVA seeks to minimise any future liability within this multi-employer pension scheme and during the prior year allocated £1.2m of reserves to a designated fund to facilitate the transfer of members out of the scheme. During the year £1.2m was paid out of this designated fund.

Accumulated General Fund

This fund is the result of NICVA's strategic objective to establish reserves which would allow NICVA to operate for 12 months without other sources of income.

Restricted funds

Atlantic Philanthropies (Property)

A restricted donation to assist with the cost of building NICVA's regional community resource centre at Duncairn Gardens, Belfast.

Belfast Regeneration Office (Property)

A restricted grant to assist with the cost of building NICVA's regional community resource centre at Duncairn Gardens, Belfast.

Big Lottery (Property)

A restricted grant to assist with the cost of building NICVA's regional community resource centre at Duncairn Gardens, Belfast.

DSD – Capital Grants

A fund from year end additional grants from Department for Social Development for specific projects.

Cheques For Charity Client Funds

A fund to receive, claim gift aid and hold monies on behalf of donors. NICVA disburses the monies according to the donors instructions.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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EXPLANATORY NOTES TO THE FUNDS (continued)

Atlantic Philanthropies

A fund to support efforts that contribute to analysing, critiquing, monitoring and influencing public expenditure decisions in Northern Ireland.

Peace III - Vital Links

The Vital Links project is part-financed by the European Union's European Regional Development Fund through the EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation (PEACE III) managed by the Special EU Programmes Body. Funded for three years, the aim of the Vital Links project is to increase the interaction and understanding of the key institutions, the voluntary and community sector and foster and promote positive engagement. Vital Links delivers a programme of free training, seminars, conferences and publications.

Centre for Economic Empowerment

NICVA received a grant under the Northern Ireland Development Fund to establish the Centre for Economic Empowerment. The Development Fund is managed by The Henry Smith Charity and the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation.

The Centre for Economic Empowerment is a think tank, observatory and skills development project. It aims to influence resource allocation and the formation of budgets at government level, to monitor trends in economic development/policy and assess their impacts on poverty, deprivation, equality and creating a shared future and to increase the skills and knowledge of economic policy and budgeting in the community/voluntary sector.

Big Lottery - Detail Data Grant

The Detail Data project is a BIG Lottery NI funded partnership between NICVA and The Detail investigative journalism website. Funded for three years the aim of the project is to develop the ability of the voluntary and community sector to understand and use open data effectively to create and enhance social, economic and environmental value. Through this project, the first of its kind, NICVA will develop NI's first on-line data store, deliver training courses, lunch time seminars, masterclasses and develop and publicise high impact data stories on key sector issues.

Inspiring Impact Grant

The Inspiring Impact NI Programme is a NI initiative that aims to support voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations and their funders to better understand and embrace impact practice. Funded by the Building Change Trust, NICVA was one of 13 organisations awarded a one year grant to support groups to plan for impact practice in Northern Ireland. NICVA delivered masterclasses and follow up support sessions for masterclass participants during the course of the grant.

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26. CHEQUES FOR CHARITY - CLIENT FUNDS

NICVA administers the Cheques for Charity scheme, whereby they receive, claim gift aid and hold monies on behalf of donors and disburse according to their instructions. During the year NICVA received £174,962 (2014 - £122,953) of Cheques for Charity donations, with £130,176 (2014 - £165,475) being dispersed to charitable organisations as instructed by the donors.

27. CONDUIT FUNDING

NICVA is responsible for receiving and distributing funds on behalf of the Department for Social Development. During the year £172,379 (2014 - £284,013) was received and distributed during the year and no balance was held in relation to these monies at 31 March 2015.

28. PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARIES

Company name	Country	Percentage Shareholding	Description
Sector Matters Limited	Northern Ireland	100	Provision of HR, financial and other support services