Company Registration Number: 381973 Charities Regulatory Authority Number: 20055080

EPIC Empowering People in Care CLG

Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

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EPIC Empowering People in Care CLG REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Directors

Conor Brophy Maeve Doyle John Feehan

Bernard Kennedy (Appointed 14 June 2023)

Val Ker

Mary-Emer Larkin (Appointed 9 May 2024) Deirdre Mullen (Resigned 28 September 2023) Michelle O'Connell (Resigned 3 May 2024) Edel O'Connor (Appointed 29 November 2023)

Fiachra O'Suilleabháin Barry O'Sullivan Aidan Stacey

Chairperson

Maeve Doyle

Company Secretary

Aidan Stacey

Charities Regulatory Authority Number

20055080

Company Registration Number

381973

Registered Office and Principal Address

7 Red Cow Lane Smithfield Dublin 7 D07 KX52 Ireland

Auditors

Whelan Dowling & Associates

Chartered Accountants & Statutory Audit Firm

Unit 1+4, Block 1, Northwood Court,

Santry, Dublin 9.

Principal Bankers

Allied Irish Banks plc 7/12 Dame Street

Dublin 2

Ireland

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

The directors present their Directors' Annual Report, combining the Directors' Report and Trustees' Report, and the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2023.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2014, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounts and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), effective 1 January 2019.

The Directors' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Directors' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines.

The directors of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's constitution are known as members of the board of trustees.

In this report the directors of EPIC Empowering People in Care CLG present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 2023.

The charity engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. EPIC Empowering People in Care CLG subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2014
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)
- The Charities Governance Code

The charity is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014 and, although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102, the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

The charity is limited by guarantee not having a share capital. The liability of each member, in the event of the company being wound up is €1.

Mission, Objectives and Strategy

A new strategic plan has been prepared in early 2022 and will direct the organisation for the next 5 years.

A society where every child in the care system is valued, respected and heard.

To champion the rights of care-experienced children and young people, ensure their voices inform the policy and practice that affects their lives and cultivate a care aware society.

Our Core Objectives are:

- 01. Providing quality, effective, and independent rights-based advocacy directly to care-experienced children and young people to age 26
- 02. Ensuring the voices of our Care Community are heard where it matters
- 03. Producing agenda-setting policy and research that is informed by lived experiences
- 04. Raising awareness, educating and campaigning for transformational change in society
- 05. Being a vibrant, well governed and resourced organisation

Structure, Governance and Management

Governance

EPIC Empowering People In Care Limited is a company limited by guarantee and governed by it's Board of Directors.

The Board is responsible for the Vision, Mission and Strategy of EPIC; they approve strategy, structure, annual plans and budgets of the organisation and strive to ensure that it is effective and accountable. There were five formal board meetings in 2023. The Board delegates day-to-day operations to the Chief Executive.

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

There are three sub-committees of the Board to support their ongoing evaluation and monitoring of risks and accountability.

The Board is seeking to continuously improve its governance standards through interacting with leading governance practitioners, as well as its peers and funders. It regularly reviews governance structures to ensure suitability for the organisation's size.

In 2018, the Charities Regulatory Authority took on responsibility for establishing the standards for good corporate governance for charities and in November 2018, it published a new Charities Governance Code (the Code) with which all charities (including EPIC) must be compliant. A formal annual review of the Charities Governance Code is embedded on our annual governance work programme.

Review of Activities, Achievements and Performance

National Advocacy Service

One of our core activities continues to be the delivery of our national Advocacy Service. This provides a direct 1:1 advocacy service to children and young people who are currently living in care or who have had an experience of living in care, in Ireland. This includes those in residential care, foster care, hostel, high support, detention and special care. We also work with young people preparing to leave care and in aftercare. The Advocacy Service conducted 869 Advocacy cases in 2023 (848 in 2022). As the service develops the new cases each year are becoming longer and more difficult in the nature of the issues involved. This service is funded by Tusla, The Child and Family Agency.

Youth Engagement and Participation

The next core activity is our Youth Engagement and Participation Programme which aims to create a number of different platforms for young people with care experience to participate in EPIC. During 2023 of we engaged with young people through the EPIC Youth Council (national and regional), and other projects. Young people were involved in attending events and participating in Care Day and other activities.

A number of young people participated by working as volunteers to make presentations, speak to social workers and other professionals about their experiences, and took part in interviews with the media.

Knowledge Transformation

The next core activity of the organisation is the policy and knowledge transformation work. This work is informed by the issues raised through our direct advocacy and participation work. The main focus of the work is to influence and impact on policy and decision makers to bring about positive change to the care system, to inform new legislation to raise awareness of the issues raised by young People in Care. We do this by:

· Preparing submissions and policy briefings

- · Hosting seminars, conferences and similar events to share the knowledge and experiences gained through delivery of our services
- · Attending relevant policy events, seminars, conferences

· Monitoring media and parliamentary questions

· Using media as a means of awareness-raising and engagement with the general public.

EPIC conducts a detailed analysis of its programmes each year. In addition, we facilitate other organisations access to young people who are interested in participating in research work. In 2023, through a funding grant from IHREC, we launched the first piece of research in Ireland on the issues facing children and young People in Care who also have a disability.

Future Developments

The directors are not expecting to make any significant changes in the nature of the activities in the near future

Financial Review

The results for the financial year are set out on page 12 and additional notes are provided showing income and expenditure in greater detail.

Financial Results

At the end of the year the charity has assets of €1,535,954 (2022 - €1,312,855) and liabilities of € 920,911 (2022 -€719,647). The net assets of the charity have increased by €21,835.

The directors are satisfied with the level of retained reserves at the year end. The directors are continuing to work towards having a level of reserves to support the organisation in a time of reduced funding including but not limited to the payment of redundancies should this be required.

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

Funding received was spent for the purposes for which it had been granted.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

EPIC Empowering People In Care is aware of the dual nature of risk: the likelihood of an adverse event and the consequences if such an event were to happen. EPIC is also aware of its dual nature as a company limited by guarantee and that of a body founded for charitable purposes.

EPIC's policy on risk has a number of components. Firstly, EPIC seeks to avoid entering any risky liabilities; and where a proposal necessarily involving some risk is considered appropriate EPIC seeks to minimize the risk.

Secondly, where it has been determined to enter a project involving some risk, EPIC seeks to ensure, so far as is practicable and appropriate, that it is covered against the risk, whether by insurance or otherwise. The degree of risk is monitored as the project proceeds and where necessary adjustments are made considering changes in the degree of risk or the consequences.

Financial Risk

The Board carries responsibility for the financial viability of the company.

The core funding continues to come from the Child and Family Agency, Tusla and this commitment is a key element of the financial sustainability of the company.

In common with all companies operating in Ireland in this sector, the company faces increasing pressures to source ongoing philanthropic or other funding to continue the activities which support our core work. The company is continuing to exercise caution in its commitments until each element of funding is sourced and confirmed.

The organisation is actively working on increasing reserves to cover potential loss of funding and costs associated with such an occurrence. We have made some progress in this regard, but it remains a focus for the Board of Directors.

The directors are not expecting to make any significant changes in the nature of the activities in the near future.

Directors and Secretary

The directors who served throughout the financial year, except as noted, were as follows:

Conor Brophy Maeve Doyle John Feehan Bernard Kennedy (appointed 14 June 2023) Val Kerr Mary Emer Larkin (appointed 9th June 2024) Deirdre Mullen (resigned 28th September 2023) Michelle O'Connell (resigned 3rd May 2024) Edel O'Connor (Appointed 29 November 2023) Fiachra Ó'Suilleabháin Barry O'Sullivan Aidan Stacey

In accordance with the Constitution, the directors retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The members of EPIC Empowering People In Care Limited are the current Board of Directors.

The secretary who served throughout the financial year was Aidan Stacey.

Formal Board meetings attendance

Board member		Attended	
Conor	Brophy	5 out of 5 meetings	
Maeve	Doyle	5 out of 5 meetings	
John	Feehan	4 out of 5 meetings	***
Bernard	Kennedy	2 out of 2 meetings	
Val	Kerr	1 out of 2 meetings	
Deirdre	Mullen	2 out of 3 meetings	
Michelle	O'Connell	4 out of 5 meetings	CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE
Fiachra	O'Suilleabháin	3 out of 5 meetings	
Barry	O'Sullivan	4 out of 5 meetings	
Aidan	Stacey	5 out of 5 meetings	

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards

The charity engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector EPIC Empowering People in Care CLG subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

The Companies Act 2014 The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

The Charitles Governance Code

Events after the Balance Sheet date

Post year end there are no events or activities which would have a significant impact on the activities or linances of the company.

The company, as a charity, is not liable to corporation tax. The company is registered with the Charities Regulatory Authority (reference number 20055080) and with the Revenue Commissioners (reference number CHY15742).

The company does not take a position on political parties or their manifestos. No political donations are made by the company.

Payment of Creditors

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for ensuring compliance with the provisions of the European Communities (Late Payment in Commercial Transactions) Regulations 2012. It is the company's policy to agree payment terms with all suppliers and to adhere to those payment terms.

The Auditors

The auditors. Whelen Dowling & Associates, (Charlered Accountants & Statutory Audit First) have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of section 363(Z) of the Companies Act 2014.

Statement on Relevent Audit Information

in accordance with section 330 of the Companies Act 2014, so far as each of the persons who are directors at the time this report is approved are aware, there is no relevant such information of which the statutory auditors are unaware. The directors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant tunit information and they have established that the statutory auditors are aware of that information.

Accounting Records

To ensure that adequate accounting records are kept in accordance with Sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014, the directors have employed appropriately qualified accounting personnel and have maintained appropriate computerised accounting systems. The accounting records are located at the company's effice at 7 Red Cow Lane, 5mchield, Dublin 7, 007 KX52.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 25 09 24 and signed on its behalf by:

Maeve Doyle

Chairperson.

Alden Stacey

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EPIC Empowering People in Care CLG DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

The directors are responsible for pregaring the Directors' Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with the Companies Act 2014 and applicable regulations.

irish company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under the law the directors have elected to prepare the tinancial statements is accordance with the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102. "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" issued by the Financial Reporting Council, Under company law, the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that step give a rue and tair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the charity as at the financial year and date and of the net income or expenditure of the charity for the financial year and otherwise comply with the Comperves Act 2014.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
state whether the themselet statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards,
identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any mesonal departure from those standards; and

prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

This directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The directors are responsible for ensuring that the charity loseps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the charity, enable at any time the essets, soblides, financial position and net income or expenditure of the charity to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and the Directors' Annual Report comply with Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the essets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of freed and other irregularities.

in so far as me crectors are sware:

there is no relevant audit information (information needed by the charity's auditor in connection with precaring the auditor's report) of which the chartor's auditor is unaware, and

the directors have taken all the eleps that they ought to have taken as directors in order to make themselves sware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 25 09124 and signed on its behalf by:

Mains Doyle Chairperson

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the Members of EPIC Empowering People in Care CLG

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the charity financial statements of EPIC Empowering People in Care CLG ('the Charity') for the financial year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 2. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish law and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

In our opinion the financial statements:

give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the Charity as at 31 December 2023 and
of its surplus for the financial year then ended;

 have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"; and

- have been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described below in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report.

We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard for Auditors (Ireland) issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other Information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2014

Based solely on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:

- in our opinion, the information given in the Directors' Annual Report is consistent with the financial statements;
- in our opinion, the Directors' Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2014; and
- the accounting records of the charity were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited and the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, are necessary for the purposes of our audit.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the Members of EPIC Empowering People in Care CLG

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the Directors' Annual Report. The Companies Act 2014 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions required by sections 305 to 312 of the Act are not complied with by the charity. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Respective responsibilities

Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 8, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework that give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditor's Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Further information regarding the scope of our responsibilities as auditor

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (Ireland), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional

scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the

charity's internal control.

Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and

related disclosures made by directors.

Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our Auditor's Report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our Auditor's Report. However, future events or conditions may cause the the charity to cease to continue as a going concern.

Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair

presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT to the Members of EPIC Empowering People in Care CLG

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

Our report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. 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 Auditor's 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 the charity's members, as a body, for our audit work for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Darren Carrick ACA for and on behalf of WHELAN DOWLING & ASSOCIATES

Chartered Accountants & Statutory Audit Firm

Unit 1+4, Block 1, Northwood Court, Santry, Dublin,9.

EPIC Empowering People in Care CLG STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

Income	Notes	Inrestricted Funds 2023 €	Restricted Funds 2023 €	Total Funds 2023 €	Unrestricted Funds 2022 €	Restricted Funds 2022 €	Total Funds 2022 €
Charitable activities - Grants & contracts Other income	4.1 4.2	3,847 6,716	1,568,032 5,000	1,571,879 11,716	986 6,587	1,434,917 5,000	1,435,903 11,587
Total income		10,563	1,573,032	1,583,595	7,573	1,439,917	1,447,490
Expenditure				r - 265 S			
Charitable activities	5.1	-	1,561,760	1,561,760	-	1,373,435	1,373,435
Net income/(expenditure)		10,563	11,272	21,835	7,573	66,482	74,055
Transfers between funds				-	-		_
Net movement in funds for the financial year		10,563	11,272	21,835	7,573	66,482	74,055
Reconciliation of funds: Total funds beginning of the year	18	197,469	395,739	593,208	189,896	329,257	519,153
Total funds at the end of the year		208,032	407,011	615,043	197,469	395,739	593,208

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the financial year. All income and expenditure relate to continuing activities.

EPIC Empowering People in Care CLG BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 December 2023

	2023	5025
Notes	e	€
11	304,646	309.621
12	12,509 1,218,709	21,545 981,689
	1,231,308	1,003,234
14	(901,016)	(694.752)
	830,292	308,482
	634,\$30	618.103
15	(19,805)	(24,895)
	615,043	593,208
	407,011 208,092	395,739 197,469
16	#15,043	593,206
	11 12 15 14	11 304,646 12 12,556 13 1,218,708 1,231,308 14 (901,016) 330,292 634,936 15 (19,895) 615,049 407,011 208,092

Approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 250924 and signed on its behalf by

Chairperson

Alden Steces

EPIC Empowering People in Care CLG STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

for the financial year effect of December 2020				
34.0	Notes	2023 €	***	2022 €
	Notes	-		
4.46				
Cash flows from operating activities		21,835		74,055
Net movement in funds		,		**
Adjustments for:		17,025		16,149
Depreciation		(216)		-
Interest receivable and similar income		(50)		1,723
Gains and losses on disposal of fixed assets		(5,000)		(5,000)
Amortisation of capital grants received				
		33,594		86,927
Movements in working capital:		8.946		(12,042)
Movement in debtors		206,264		182,200
Movement in creditors	8	200,204		
	***	248,804		257,085
Cash generated from operations				
Cash flows from investing activities		040		_
Interest received		216		(47,345)
Payments to acquire tangible assets		(12,050)		600
Receipts from disposal of tangible assets		50		
		(11,784)		(46,745)
Net cash used in investment activities				
				210,340
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		237,020		771,347
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		981,689		
	13	1,218,709		981,687
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	13	.,		

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

GENERAL INFORMATION

EPIC Empowering People in Care CLG is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in Ireland. The registered office of the company is 7 Red Cow Lane, Smithfield, Dublin 7, D07 KX52, Ireland which is also the principal place of business of the company The financial statements have been presented in Euro (€) which is also the functional currency of the company.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the charity's financial statements.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements of the charity for the financial year ended 31 December 2023 have been prepared on the going concern basis and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102".

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by IFRS 102.

Fund accounting

The following are the categories of funds maintained:

Restricted funds

Restricted funds represent income received which can only be used for particular purposes, as specified by the donors. Such purposes are within the overall objectives of the charity.

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds consist of General and Designated funds.

- General funds represent amounts which are expendable at the discretion of the board, in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

- Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that the board has, at its discretion, set aside for particular purposes. These designations have an administrative purpose only, and do not legally restrict the board's discretion to apply the fund.

Income

Voluntary income or capital is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to it, its financial value can be quantified with reasonable certainty and there is reasonable certainty of its ultimate receipt. Entitlement to legacies is considered established when the charity has been notified of a distribution to be made by the executors. Income received in advance of due performance under a contract is accounted for as deferred income until earned. Grants for activities are recognised as income when the related conditions for legal entitlement have been met. All other income is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. It is categorised under the following headings:

- Costs of generating funds comprises the costs associated with attracting voluntary income

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

- Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity

 All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis.

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or at valuation, less accumulated depreciation. The charge to depreciation is calculated to write off the original cost or valuation of tangible fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives as follows:

Land and buildings freehold Fixtures, fittings and equipment 2% Straight line

12.5% Straight line

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due. Income recognised by the charity from government agencies and other co-funders, but not yet received at year end, is included in debtors.

Creditors with no stated interest rate and payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other financial liabilities, including bank loans, are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand comprises cash on deposit at banks requiring less than three months notice of withdrawal.

Taxation and deferred taxation

No current or deferred taxation arises as the charity has been granted charitable exemption. Irrecoverable valued added tax is expensed as incurred.

Grants

Grants are accounted under the accruals model as permitted by FRS 102. Grants relating to expenditure on tangible fixed assets are credited to the Statement of income and retained earnings at the same rate as the depreciation on the assets to which the grant relates. The deferred element of grants is included in creditors as deferred income.

Grants of a revenue nature are recognised in the Statement of income and retained earnings in the same period as the related expenditure.

Foreign currencies

The financial statements are prepared in Euro (€) which is the functional currency of the charity. Foreign currency transactions are recorded in Euro at the rate ruling on the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Euro at the balance sheet date. The resulting gains and losses are dealt with in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Financial Instruments

The Company only enters into basic financial instrument transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like trade and other debtors and creditors, loans from banks and other third parties, loans to related parties and investments in non-puttable ordinary shares.

Debt instruments (other than those wholly repayable or receivable within one year), including loans and other accounts receivable and payable, are initially measured at present value of the future cash and subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Debt instruments that are payable or receivable within one year, typically trade debtors and creditors, are measured, initially and subsequently, at the undiscounted amount of the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received. However, if the arrangements of a short-term instrument constitute a financing transaction, like the payment of a trade debt deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate or in the case of an out-right short-term loan not at market rate, the financial asset or liability is measured, initially, at the present value of the future cash flow discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument and subsequently at

Financial assets that are measured at cost and amortised cost are assessed at the end of each reporting period for objective evidence of impairment. If objective evidence of impairment is found, an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of comprehensive income.

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

For financial assets measured at amortised cost, the impairment loss is measured as the difference between an asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. If a financial asset has a variable interest rate, the discount rate for measuring any impairment loss is the current effective interest rate determined under the contract.

For financial assets measured at cost less impairment, the impairment loss is measured as the difference between an asset's carrying amount and best estimate of the recoverable amount, which is an approximation of the amount that the Company would receive for the asset if it were to be sold at the balance sheet date.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the Balance sheet when there is an enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY 3.

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. The judgements, estimates and assumptions used in the financial statements are based upon management's evaluation of the relevant facts and circumstances as of the date of the financial statements. Actual results could differ from these estimates, and the effect of any change in estimates will be adjusted in the financial statements when they become reasonably determinable.

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under these circumstances.

Estimation uncertainty

Information about estimates and assumptions that have the most significant effect on recognition and measurement of assets, liabilities, income and expenses is provided below. Actual results may be substantially different.

Estimating useful lives of tangible assets

The company estimates the useful lives of its tangible assets based on the period over which the assets are expected to be available for use. The company reviews annually the estimated useful live of tangible assets based on factors that include asset utilisation, internal technical evaluation, technological changes, environmental and anticipated use of the assets tempered by related industry benchmark information. It is possible that future results of operations could be materially affected by changes in the company's estimates brought about by changes in the factors mentioned.

Recoverability of debtors

The company has made judgements when assessing the impairment of its debtors. Outstanding balances have been grouped on the basis of similar risk characteristics such as past-due status, and impairment has been reviewed with reference to historical loss experience updated for current conditions.

GOING CONCERN 3.1

The company made a surplus of €21,835 in the year ended 31 December 2023 and had net assets in the sum of €330,292.

The directors are monitoring their bank position carefully. To date, there is no indication that there will be funding cuts imposed on the charity. The directors have continued to monitor projects closely to ensure there is no deficit in funding.

The directors have assessed a period of 12 months form the date of approving the financial statements with regard the appropriateness of the going concern assumption in preparing the financial statements. The directors are confident that they will have the necessary funds to meet its current and future obligations to third parties and consequently the financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis of accounting.

EPIC Empowering People in Care CLG NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

		8				
4. 4.1	INCOME CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Ur	nrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2023	2022
			Fullus	€	€.	€
	Grants from governments and other co	-funders:		4 444 505	4 444 525	1,316,789
	Tusla, Child & Family Agency Core Funding	ng	•	1,411,525	1,411,525	1,510,700
	TESS (Tusla Education Support Service)		•	76,478	76,478	24 200
	Oberstown Campus		*	24,390	24,390	24,390
	Legal clinics		-	14,800	14,800	12,200
	Corporate Donations		2,629	10,780	13,409	5,822
	National Care Day (DCEDIY)		•	9,708	9,708	6,180
	IHREC Research Grant			8,697	8,697	5,882
	Know Your Rights to Care (DCEDIY)			4,997	4,997	-
			2	2,632	2,632	<u>~</u>
	LGBTI+ Project (DCEDIY)			1,920	1,920	<u>-</u>
	Childrens Rights Alliance		1,218	590	1,808	1,998
	Donations		1,210	1,308	1,308	1=0
	Pobal - CVESS		-	207	207	_
	5 Nations 1 Voice Alliance		-	207	207	4,820
	Schools Project - Lakeside Trust		•	-		590
	Department of Children, Equality, Disabili	ty,		-	-	590
	Integration and Youth Higher Education Authority		-	-	1=	221
	Higher Education Authority		_	-	-	47,011
	TUSLA - Endowment Grant Tusla, Child & Family Agency - Participat	ion		-	-	10,000
	Tusia, Office & Farmy Agency - Factorput				4 ==4 0=0	4.425.002
			3,847	1,568,032	1,571,879	1,435,903
					2222	0000
4.2	OTHER INCOME		Unrestricted	Restricted	2023	2022
			Funds	Funds		€
			€	€	€	6
	6 0 - 1			2.	_	3
	Other income		6,500		6,500	6,584
	Rent		0,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
	Amortisation of Capital Reserve		046	5,000	216	-
	Bank Interest		216			
			6,716	5,000	11,716	11,587
5.	EXPENDITURE		041	Support	2023	2022
5.1	CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Direct	Other	E 4	2023	2022
		Costs	Costs		€	€
		€	€	€	e	C
		145,122	_	1,373,467	1,518,589	1,348,334
	Expenditure on charitable activities	143,122	_	43,171	43,171	25,101
	Governance Costs (Note 5.2)					
		145,122	-	1,416,638	1,561,760	1,373,435
		partic	04k	Support	2023	2022
5.2	GOVERNANCE COSTS	Direct			2023	2022
		Costs €	Costs	120	€	€
		•	•			
	Governance Costs		-	43,171	43,171	25,101
	Governance Costs					

EPIC Empowering People in Care CLG NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

5.3	SUPPORT COSTS	Charitable Activities	Governance Costs	2023	2022
		€	€	€	€
	Direct Support	128,181	43,171	128,181 43,171	108,256 25,101
	Governance Staff	1,245,286	43,171	1,245,286	1,107,656
		1,373,467	43,171	1,416,638	1,241,013
6.	ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS			2023 €	2022 €
	Direct Support Governance Staff			128,181 43,171 1,245,286	108,256 25,101 1,107,656
				1,416,638	1,241,013
7.	INCOME				
	The whole of the income is attributable to the principal	al activity of the	he company who	olly undertaken	in Ireland.
8.	NET INCOME			2023 €	2022 €
	Net Income is stated after charging/(crediting): Depreciation of tangible assets (Surplus)/deficit on disposal of tangible fixed assets			17,025 (50)	16,149 1,723
	Auditor's remuneration: - audit services Amortisation of grants			4,785 (5,000)	4,305 (5,000)

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION 9.

Number of employees

The gross salaries cost below includes a redundancy payment paid during the year of €36,000. The payment was made to a former staff member. There are no further liabilities relating to this settlement and the case is closed as at the year end.

The average number of persons employed during the financial year was as follows:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Advengey Administrator	1	1
Advocacy Administrator Advocacy Officers	8	8
CEO	1	1
Communications Manager	1	-1
COO	1	1
Digital Media Officer	1	-
Education Project Manager	1	-
Finance Officer	1	1
Operations Assistant (temp contract)	1	₹'
Youth Engagement and Participation Senior Coordinator	1	-
Youth Engagement and Participation Lead	2	2
Research & Policy Manager	1	1
Regional Advocacy Manager	2	. 2
Research & Policy Officers (part time)]	1
Research Assistant (temp contract)	1	
· ·	24	19
The steff costs comprise:	2023	2022
The staff costs comprise:	€	€
	1,037,974	938,564
Wages and salaries	114,144	103,154
Social security costs Pension costs	39,414	40,964
	1,191,532	1,082,682

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS 10.

The number of employees whose total employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period fell within the bands below were:

period fell within the bands below work.	2023 Number of Employees	2022 Number of Employees
con 000 to 670 000	3	3
€60,000 to €70,000	1	-
€70,000 to €80,000	i	1
€80,000 to €90,000	·	

EPIC Empowering People in Care CLG NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

11.	TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Land and buildings freehold €	Fixtures, fittings and equipment €	Total €
	Cost At 1 January 2023 Additions	312,794	76,117 12,050 (216)	388,911 12,050 (216)
	Disposals			
	At 31 December 2023	312,794	87,951	400,745
	Depreciation At 1 January 2023 Charge for the financial year On disposals	50,040 6,256	29,250 10,769 (216)	79,290 17,025 (216)
	At 31 December 2023	56,296	39,803	96,099
	Net book value At 31 December 2023	256,498	48,148	304,646
	At 31 December 2022	262,754	46,867	309,621
12.	DEBTORS		2023 €	2022 €
	Trade debtors Prepayments		6,856 5,743	16,069 5,476
			12,599	21,545
13.	CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		2023 €	2022 €
	Cash and bank balances		1,218,709	981,689
14.	CREDITORS Amounts falling due within one year		2023 €	2022 €
	Payments received on account Trade creditors Taxation and social security costs Other creditors Accruals Deferred Income		3,535 21,926 39,708 44,735 183,321 607,791	593 24,192 22,637 43,000 154,339 449,991
			901,016	694,752

EPIC Empowering People in Care CLG NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

15.	GRANTS RECEIVABLE		2023 €	2022 €
	Capital grants received and receivable At 1 January 2023		24,895	29,895
	Amortisation Amortised in financial year	E .	(5,000)	(5,000)
	Net book value At 31 December 2023	•	19,895	24,895
16.	INFORMATION RELATING TO GRANTS			
	Agency	TUSLA		
	Government Department	Department of Children, Equa and Youth (DCEDIY)	ility, Disability, In	tegration
	Grant Programme	Advocacy, Justice and Human	n Rights	
	Purpose of the Grant	To deliver a national advocac young people with care exper	y service for child ience	dren and
	Term	Annual		
	Total Fund	Grants taken to income in the The cash received in the peri	period - € 1,411 od - € 1,652,328	,525
	Expenditure	€1,411,525		
	Fund deferred or due at financial year end	€350,406		
	Capital Grant	€47,011 (deferred from 2021)	
	Restriction on use	Programme delivery; Salarie: Overheads	s, Programme Co	osts & Direct
	Agency	DCEDIY		
	Government Department	Department of Children, Equand Youth (DCEDIY)	ality, Disability, I	ntegration
	Grant Programme	Support of National Care Da	y events	
	Purpose of the Grant	To support the activities and	events of Nation	nal Care Day
	Term	Once off		
	Total Fund	€9,708		
	Expenditure	€9,708		
	Fund deferred or due at financial year end	€Nil		
	Capital Grant	€Nil		
	Restriction on use	Yes - National Care Day pro	ogramme deliver	y

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

Agency

TESS (Tusia Education Support Service)

Government Department

Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration

and Youth (DCEDIY)

Grant Programme

Education Project

Purpose of the Grant

To develop supports for teachers in dealing with children

and young people in care and with care experience

Term

1 year

Total Fund

Total fund - €100,000

Grants taken to income in the year - €76,478

Expenditure

€Nil

Fund deferred or due at financial year end

€23,522

Capital Grant

€Nil

Restriction on use

Programme delivery: Programme Costs

Agency

IHREC

Public Body

Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission

Grant Programme

Research: Progressing the Rights of children and youth with disabilities in the care system and aftercare

Purpose of the Grant

To support the research into rights of children and young people with disabilities in the care system and aftercare

2021/22 extended into 2023 due to delays

Term

€8,373

Total Fund Expenditure

€8,373

Fund deferred or due at financial year end

€Nil

Restriction on use

Programme delivery: Programme Costs

EPIC Empowering People in Care CLG NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

	Agency	TUSLA			
	Government Department	Department of Children, Equand Youth (DCEDIY)	uality,	Disability, In	tegration
	Grant Programme	Legal Clinics with Communi	ity Lav	w & Mediation	1
	Purpose of the Grant	To Support the provision of young people in care and w	legal vith ca	clinics to child re experience	dren and
	Term	Annual			
	Total Fund	Grants taken to income in the period - €14,800			
	Expenditure	€14,800			
	Fund deferred or due at financial year end	€Nil			
	Capital Grant	€Nil			
	Restriction on use	Programme delivery: Programme Costs			
17.	RESERVES	Fund	ds	Capital Reserve	Total
			€	€	€
	At the beginning of the year Surplus for the financial year	383,20 21,83		210,000	593,208 21,835
	At the end of the year	405,04	43 =	210,000	615,043
18. 18.1	FUNDS RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	Unrestricte Fund		Restricted Funds €	Total Funds €
	At 1 January 2022 Movement during the financial year	189,89 7,57		329,257 66,482	519,153 74,055
	At 31 December 2022 Movement during the financial year	197,46 10,56		395,739 11,272	593,208 21,835
	At 31 December 2023	208,03	32	407,011	615,043

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

18.2	ANALYSIS OF MOVEMENTS ON F	UNDS Balance 1 January 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers between funds	Balance 31 December 2023
	and the state of t	€	€	€	€	€
	Restricted funds Restricted Restricted - Capital Reserve	185,739 210,000	1,573,032	1,556,760 5,000	-	202,011
	<i>9</i> °	395,739	1, 573,032	1,561,760	-	407,011
	Unrestricted funds Unrestricted General	197,469	10,563		-	208,032
	Total funds	593,208	1,583,595	1,561,760		615,043
18.3	ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY F	Fixed assets - charity use	Current assets	Current liabilities	Long-term deferred income	1
	Restricted funds	€ 304,646	€ 1,023,276	€ (901,016)	€ (19,895	€ 407,011
	Unrestricted general funds	 .	208,032			208,032
		304,646	1,231,308	(901,016)	(19,895	615,043

19. STATUS

The charity is limited by guarantee not having a share capital. The liability of each member, in the event of the company being wound up is €1.

20. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

The charity had no material capital commitments at the financial year-ended 31 December 2023.

21. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Funding received from Atlantic Philanthropies and Tony Ryan Trust and other organisations may become repayable if the organisation ceases to operate and does not complete the projects for which funding was received.

22. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The charities trustees are the directors who served during the year. No trustee received any remuneration during the year. Travel costs amounting to €Nil (2022: €Nil) were reimbursed to trustees.

No director or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year (2022 : Nil).

23. POST-BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

The Board of EPIC Empowering People In Care have considered the impact on the organisation of the events subsequent to the balance sheet date. The Board state that following their review, EPIC Empowering People In Care have no current going concern issues and expect the Charity to remain viable and solvent for the foreseeable future.

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

24. KEY MANAGEMENT

The key management personnel comprises of the CEO. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were €85,087 (2022: €84,000), excluding employer pension contributions.

The charities trustees are the directors who served during the year.

25. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

The company contributes to an employee pension scheme for participating employees. The amount recognised in the income and expenditure was €39,414 (31 December 2022 - €40,964).

26. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

EPIC EMPOWERING PEOPLE IN CARE CLG

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

RELATING TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

NOT COVERED BY THE REPORT OF THE AUDITORS

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION RELATING TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OPERATING STATEMENT

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

	Schedule	2023 €	2022 €
Income		1,571,879	1,435,906
Charitable activities and other expenses	1	(1,561,760)	(1,373,435)
		10,119	62,471
Miscellaneous income	2	11,716	11,584
Net surplus		21,835	74,055

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION RELATING TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS SCHEDULE 1: CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES AND OTHER EXPENSES

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

	2023 €	2022 €
Expenses		000 504
Wages and salaries	1,037,974	938,564
Social security costs	114,144	103,154
Staff defined contribution pension costs	39,414	40,964
Staff training and supervision	9,785	8,349
Temporary staff costs	41,582	9,304
Programme delivery	79,511	41,501
Recruitment	1,800	7,582
Rent payable	25,069	12,354
Service charges	.17,725	19,253
Insurance	8,345	7,178
Software support and development	18,039	12,858
Web development and support	10,431	4,449
Light and heat	11,709	10,211
Repairs and maintenance	9,222	3,021
Leasing costs	· ·	1,230
Printing, postage and stationery	8,828	16,368
Advertising	1,600	
Telephone	12,451	11,223
Computer costs	11,668	14,925
Travelling and subsistence	65,606	74,772
Fundraising	30	•
Consultancy fees	10,977	8,503
Board expenses	188	203
Auditor's/Independent Examiner's remuneration	4,785	4,305
Bank charges	1,183	1,352
Canteen	708	199
Staff welfare	587	*
Security - alarms	362	181
General expenses	5	
Strategy & evaluation expenses	-	2,920
Subscriptions	850	640
Exceptional administration items	207	-
Surpluses/deficits on disposal of tangibles	(50)	1,723
Depreciation	17,025	16,149
	1,561,760	1,373,435

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION RELATING TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS SCHEDULE 2: MISCELLANEOUS INCOME

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

	2023 €	2022 €
Miscellaneous Income Rent receivable - other income Amortisation of capital grants received Bank Interest	6,500 5,000 216	6,584 5,000
	11,716	11,584