



**DfC**

Department  
for Communities

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# Charities Annual Report 2017

A report by the Department for Communities

January 2018



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# Charities Annual Report 2017

A report by the the Department For Communities of proceedings  
by the Department For Communities under The Charities Act  
(Northern Ireland) 1964 for the year 2017

Prepared pursuant to section 34 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 1964

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## Introduction

1. As required by section 34 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 1964, this report gives an account of the proceedings of the Department for Communities where they have exercised their statutory powers under the Charities Act (NI) 1964 in respect of any charity in Northern Ireland in 2017. It has been prepared by Charities Team, Voluntary and Community Division, Department for Communities.
2. In this report “the Department” means the Department for Communities, and “the Act” means the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 1964.

## Appointment of New Trustees

3. As provided for under section 12 of the Act, where it appears to the Department that the appointment of new trustees of a charity is necessary in the interest of the proper administration of a charity, and that the appointment cannot conveniently be made otherwise than by an order made under section 12 or of the Court, the Department

may (with the consent of the Attorney General), make an order appointing new trustees of a charity. No such order was made in 2017.

## Cy - Près Schemes

4. Under section 13 of the Act, the Department may in the circumstances set out in sections 22 and 23 of the Act make a cy-près scheme for the application to charitable purposes of property, provided the aggregate net value of the property does not exceed £50,000.00. Under Article 90 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, the Department may make such a Scheme for the proceeds of sale of a teacher’s residence, irrespective of the amount involved. No such scheme was made in 2017.

## Section 10 Amending schemes

5. Under section 10 of the Charities Act (NI) 1964, the trustees of a charity may apply to the Department to make a scheme of incorporation.

Two schemes were made, details of which are shown below.

Name of Charity
Presbyterian Church Investment Fund Scheme
The Community Foundation for Northern Ireland

## Section 25 Amending schemes

- Under section 25 of the Charities Act (NI) 1964, the Department may by order make and bring into effect schemes for the establishment of common investment funds under trusts. One scheme was made, details of which are shown below.

Name of Charity
Presbyterian Church Investment Fund Scheme

## Transactions affecting charity property

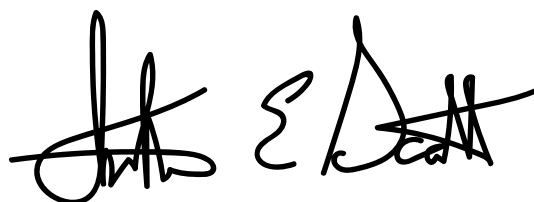
- Sections 17 – 21 of the Act confer power on the Department to authorise dealings in charity lands where it is satisfied that the proposed transactions will be for the benefit of the charity concerned.

The following transactions were authorised in 2017:

Number	Details of transaction
1	Sale, producing gross proceeds of £568,050.00
3	Surrenders, the value of which totalled £414,169.84

## Other functions of the Department under the act

- Although the Department was not required to exercise all of its powers under other sections of the Act, the Act continued to be widely used. This entailed a considerable amount of work for the Department providing advice in relation to problems which arose in the administration of charities. Many of these problems were not, strictly speaking, the concern of the Department, but guidance was nevertheless given whenever possible.



**Arthur Scott**  
**Director**  
**Voluntary and Community Division**

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