

**DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES**

**CHARITIES  
ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2016**

**A REPORT BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES  
OF PROCEEDINGS BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE  
DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES UNDER  
THE CHARITIES ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1964 FOR THE YEAR 2016**

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



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## CHARITIES ANNUAL REPORT 2016

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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 Social Development and the Department for Communities<sup>1</sup> where they have exercised their statutory powers under the Charities Act (NI) 1964 in respect of any charity in Northern Ireland in 2016. It has been prepared by Charities Team, Voluntary and Community Division, Department for Communities.
2. In this report “the Department” means the Department for Social Development for the period January to April and the Department for Communities from May to December 2016, and “the Act” means the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 1964.

## ADMINISTRATION OF THE CHARITIES ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1964

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 2016.

## CY - PRES 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-pres 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. 1 scheme was made, details of which are shown below:

VALUE OF PROPERTY	CIRCUMSTANCES GIVING RISE TO SCHEME	NEW OBJECTS AUTHORISED BY SCHEME
Fund amounting to £13,490.24	Newry District Nursing Society and Mary Heron Moorehead Charity	Paid to Southern Health and Social Care Trust for the provision of District Nursing services within the Newry area.

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<sup>1</sup> In May 2016 the Department for Communities came into existence following the restructuring of NI Departments and took over the role in respect of charities policy and legislation which until that point had been the responsibility of the now defunct Department for Social Development.

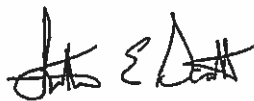
## TRANSACTIONS AFFECTING CHARITY PROPERTY

5. 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 2016:

Number	Details of transaction
4	Sales, producing gross proceeds of £3,393,437.00
4	Surrenders, the value of which totalled £186,542.33
3	Leases with rental value of £17,000
1	Mortgage amounting to £410,000.00

## OTHER FUNCTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT UNDER THE ACT

6. 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 such as interviews with Trustees or their advisers or giving assistance 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 OF THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY DIVISION**