



Department for
Communities

An Roinn
Pobal

Department for
Commonities

www.communities-ni.gov.uk

Charities Annual Report 2023

A report by the Department for Communities of proceedings
by the Department for Communities under The Charities Act
(Northern Ireland) 1964 for the year 2023

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 undertaken by the Department for Communities where it has exercised its statutory powers under the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 1964 in respect of any charity in Northern Ireland in 2023. It has been prepared by departmental officials in the Charities Team, Voluntary & 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 2023.

Section 10 Amending Schemes

4. 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.

No such scheme was made in 2023.

Section 25 Amending Schemes

5. 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.

No such scheme was made in 2023.

Transactions Affecting Charity Property

6. 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 2023:

Number	Details of transaction
4	Sale, producing gross proceeds of £123,000.
3	Surrenders, the value of which totalled £835,244.71.
1	Lease, the value of which totalled £337,500.

Other Functions of the Department Under the Act

7. Although the Department was not required to exercise its powers under all other sections of the Act, the provisions within the Act continued to be widely used. This entailed work within the Department providing advice and guidance in relation to issues and problems which arose in year in relation to the administration of charities.



Sharron Russell
Director, Voluntary & Community Division

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