

ANNUAL REPORT



Royal Ulster Constabulary GC Foundation

*"Marking the sacrifices and honouring the achievements of the
Royal Ulster Constabulary GC"*

Report for the period

1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022

OUR PATRON

HRH The Prince of Wales (King Charles III)

Laid in the Northern Ireland Assembly pursuant to regulation 11A (b) of the Royal Ulster Constabulary GC Foundation Regulations 2002, as amended by the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Audit of Public Bodies) Order 2008, and further amended by the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Devolution of Policing and Justice Function) Order 2010.

FOREWORD ON GOVERNANCE, ACCOUNTABILITY AND AUDIT ARRANGEMENTS

Devolution of Policing and Justice functions

The Royal Ulster Constabulary GC Foundation (RUC GC Foundation) was created by section 75 of the Police (Northern Ireland) Act 2000 for the purpose of marking the sacrifices and honouring the achievements of the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Regulations, namely the “Royal Ulster Constabulary GC Foundation Regulations”, came into operation on 16th September 2002 and provided for the status and constitution of the Foundation and enabled the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland to make payments to, or for the purposes of, the Foundation.

On 9 March 2010 responsibility for policing and justice functions devolved to the Northern Ireland Assembly on 12 April 2010. Before that date the RUC GC Foundation complied with the corporate governance and accountability framework arrangements issued by the Northern Ireland Office (NIO) and guidelines issued by HM Treasury, including “Managing Public Money”. Following devolution the Department of Justice (DOJ) was established and the RUC GC Foundation became an executive Non Departmental Public Body (NDPB) of the DOJ. As such, it now complies with the corporate governance and accountability framework arrangements issued by the DOJ and guidance issued by the Department of Finance (DOF).

Consequently, the Foundation’s Annual Report and Accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2011 and onwards have been laid in the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Audit

Prior to the devolution of policing and justice functions in Northern Ireland, the Financial Statements were audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General (who heads the National Audit Office) and reported to Parliament. Financial statements for 2010-2011 onwards are audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General for Northern Ireland (C&AG), who heads the Northern Ireland Audit Office and is appointed by statute and reports to Northern Ireland Assembly. Her certificate and report are reproduced at pages 27 - 31.

The C&AG may also undertake other statutory activities that are not related to the audit of the Foundation’s Financial Statements such as value for money studies. No such activity took place during this reporting year.

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CHAIRMAN AND TRUSTEES' REPORT

Background

The Annual Report and accompanying accounts contain a summary of events and the financial out-turn of the Royal Ulster Constabulary George Cross (RUC GC) Foundation for the period ended 31 March 2022.

The Annual Report and Accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounts direction given by the Department of Justice (DoJ) in accordance with Article 11 of the Royal Ulster Constabulary GC Foundation Regulations 2002 and, where appropriate, the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities'; and follows the requirements of the Government Financial Reporting Manual (FRM).

This report contains a Chairman and Trustees' Report, which contains all requirements of a Directors' report as per Charities SORP 15.6.

Statutory Basis and Objectives

The Foundation was created for the purpose of '*marking the sacrifices and honouring the achievements of the Royal Ulster Constabulary*'; "*to support the professional development of police officers and innovations in policing*"; and "*to undertake joint initiatives*" with other organisations/persons within the RUC family, as appropriate in matters of common interest. It is comprised of a chairman and five trustees. Three of the five trustees, like the Chair, are appointed by the DOJ following an open competition regulated by the Commissioner for Public Appointment Northern Ireland (CPANI) for a period of five years. The other two trustees are nominated by the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) Chief Constable and the Chair of the Northern Ireland Policing Board (NIPB), who each nominate one representative. Induction training included Accounting Officer training for the Chair by the Chief Executives Forum. The trustees have complied with the duty in Part 1 Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland. The Foundation is not yet registered with the Commission. An application for registration is currently with the Commission. The RUC GC Foundation's HMRC charity number is XR80453.

The public benefit of the Foundation's work is primarily targeted towards: commemorating the achievements of the RUC GC; honouring the service of its former members; and, supporting their families. The Foundation's responsibilities include marking the sacrifices of the RUC by managing the RUC GC Memorial Garden and holding remembrance events; supporting the professional development of current police officers with a bursary scheme enabling individual research projects; and, initiating joint initiatives with various groups within the RUC GC family.

Despite restrictions due to the global coronavirus, it continued to make progress towards all these objectives during the year.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The RUC GC Foundation trustees are officially appointed by the Department of Justice. The recruitment competition is carried out following the principles and practices contained within the Commissioner for Public Appointments Code. Induction for new trustees is provided in-house.

Chairman and Trustees

During all of the reporting period the board of trustees comprised a full complement of a chairman and five trustees (three appointed by the DOJ, one representing NIPB and one representing PSNI). The Chairman was appointed on 27th November 2018, the three “DOJ” trustees in January 2019, the PSNI representative trustee in February 2019 and the NIPB representative trustee in February 2021.

Chairman:

Professor Stephen White OBE CF BSSc (Hons) MSc MSt (Camb)

Stephen White was a member of the RUC from 1978 until 2001 and served in the PSNI until he retired from policing in 2004. In Northern Ireland he held the rank of Assistant Chief Constable. He also served in Iraq with the UK’s Foreign and Commonwealth Office and US-led Coalition in the temporary rank of Deputy Chief Constable.

He is the son of an RUC officer and father of a PSNI officer and held a number of interesting specialist posts during his police career. These included Commandant (Initial Training), Head of Community Affairs Branch, Programme Director of the Change Management Team and Head of the National Senior Leadership Development at the Police College, Bramshill, England. He performed operational, uniformed service in all ranks throughout Northern Ireland i.e. west and north Belfast, Fermanagh and ‘South Region’ based in Co. Armagh and undertook many international assignments.

Following his police career he served for five years as a diplomat in the European Union – as a special adviser to the High Representative and Secretary-General and Head of Mission for the EU’s rule of law mission in Iraq. Currently he is a freelance security sector consultant and holds a number of posts including: Senior Fellow of the US-based Global Centre on Cooperative Security; and, member of the Council of Experts for the International Network for Promoting the Rule of Law (INPROL).

He is a Commissioner in the NI Human Rights Commission, a Director of Brooke House and a member of the Police Advisory Committee for Belfast Harbour Commissioners. He studied at Queens University Belfast (QUB) and Cambridge University.

In 2004 was awarded an OBE for his services to policing at home and abroad. In February 2022 he was awarded an honorary professorship by QUB.

Trustees:

Shane Quinn BEM (Trustee from 14th January 2019)

Shane is Development Director & Company Secretary of Belfast Buildings Trust. He has extensive strategic communications and public affairs experience and leads on the Trust's community engagement projects. These include the creation of the World Premiere of The Belfast Opera and the annual Northern Ireland Schools Debating Competition. His current projects include the regeneration of Carlisle Memorial Church, a cross-sectoral civic partnership to secure Belfast's designation as a UNESCO City of Music and Covid-19 response projects focused on people-led design activity and using resocialising activity to explore memories rooted in place.

Shane is Founder of Successful Belfast, an initiative to creatively involve new voices in the city's development. He is a member of the Northern Ireland Heritage Stakeholder Forum, a Committee Member of the Heritage Trust Network in Northern Ireland, and sits on the Council of the Academy of Urbanism. Shane was awarded a British Empire Medal for services to Young People in Northern Ireland in 2014 and was a 2017 Winston Churchill Fellow, exploring civic and cultural regeneration in the US and Colombia. He was appointed as a Trustee of the RUC George Cross Foundation in January 2019.

Sandra Best (Trustee from 14th January 2019)

Sandra retired in 2010 from her position as a civilian staff member in the PSNI.

She is currently the Treasurer of the PSNI Ladies Choir, a position she has held for seven years. She has been a voluntary gardener for the RUC GC Foundation since 2003, a voluntary guide in the Memorial Garden for the RUC GC Foundation for the past eleven years and has undertaken some research for the RUC GC Oral History Project.

June Butler MBE BA (Hons) (Trustee from January 14th 2019)

June served in various roles in the public and private sector in Northern Ireland for over 40 years. She was the Assistant Chief Electoral Officer for Northern Ireland from 2001-2009 with responsibility for the conduct of all elections, finance, audit, human resources and other matters of governance. In 2008 and 2012 she also worked with the Greater London Authority for the Mayoral Elections, specialising in project management and electronic counting of votes. In 2010 she was awarded an MBE for her work in electoral services.

In 2009 June became the Diocesan Secretary of the two Church of Ireland Dioceses of Connor and Down & Dromore and acted as their chief executive as well as secretary to both Diocesan Synods. Currently she is a member of Down and Dromore Diocesan Council and of General Synod. She has served on several General Synod committees and advisory bodies.

From January 2019, June was elected as the All Ireland President and Worldwide Trustee of the Anglican charity, Mothers' Union. She is particularly engaged in matters of policy and advocacy and chairs the central charity's Advisory Committee. On three occasions she has attended the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women as a Mothers' Union delegate.

Her other interests include historic buildings and since 2017 she has chaired the Northern Ireland Places of Worship Forum bringing together professionals and churches from all denominations with government and other funding bodies, coordinated through the National Churches Trust. She also chairs the NCT's Northern Ireland's Grants Committee. June has also recently been appointed to the Board of the Consumer Council for Northern Ireland.

Michael Davidson FHEA (Chief Constable's nominated trustee from February 2019)

Michael retired from the PSNI in 2016 having served in both the PSNI and RUC since 1984 when he joined as an RUC Cadet in the Bangor group. Michael has over 30 years' practical experience of law enforcement in various areas specialising in covert and intelligence duties. In his later years as a police officer Michael developed University accredited training programmes which recognised and rewarded the professionalism of serving police officer and staff.

In 2016 Michael joined the Criminology team at Ulster University as a Lecturer and since then has developed a number of University programmes for law enforcement officers and staff. Michael's research and teaching interests are in the areas of law enforcement, political violence, education and leadership and management.

Michael is currently the Course Director for the BSc (Hons) Criminology and Criminal Justice (Applied Practice) degree designed for current and recently retired members of the PSNI.

In 2020 Michael was appointed as Faculty Partnership Manager (FPM), within Ulster University, with responsibility for security sector programs.

Michael is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy; has an MSc in Education and a BA Hons in Leadership and Management.

Joanne Bunting (NI Policing Board nominated representative trustee since 22 February 2021)

Joanne is a Democratic Unionist MLA for East Belfast having first been elected to the Northern Ireland Assembly in 2016. As part of her political duties she represents her party as an active member of the Northern Ireland Policing Board, while also currently serving as the Vice-Chairperson of the Assembly's Audit Committee and as Chair of the All Party Groups on Terminal Illness and Modern Slavery.

Prior to entering politics Ms Bunting was employed by Northern Bank, before making the move to politics in 1998 by taking up the first of a number of party staff roles she would hold at Stormont. In the course of this period she also served in local government for 11 years as a Councillor in the former Castlereagh Borough Council during which time she was part of the Strategic Leadership Board for the Reform of Local Government, reporting directly to Direct Rule and Executive Ministers and chairing the all-Party Policy Development Panel for Governance, Community Planning and Central and Local Government Relations.

Staff and Volunteers

During the reporting period the Foundation office was staffed by two full time staff: an office manager (responsible for day to day office management, financial management and development activities) and one administration officer. Both staff members were seconded from the PSNI and paid for from the Foundation's DOJ grant.

Unlike other arms-length bodies the Foundation does not have a Chief Executive and therefore the volunteer chairman takes a very "hands-on" approach to its leadership and management. The Foundation's programme of events, activities and engagements are led and carried out by the chairman, trustees (most of whom take a lead role in various core activities and projects) and approximately forty unpaid volunteers (who among other things act as garden guides, gardeners and ushers at events). The Foundation promotes equality and treats all volunteers, contractors and staff on the same basis, irrespective of religious belief, gender, disability, race, political opinion, age, marital status and sexual orientation.

The chairman and trustees wish to record their appreciation for the support and dedication of the staff and volunteers without whom the Foundation could not achieve its stated objectives.

Corporate Plan, Annual Plan and Objectives

Each year the Foundation publishes/republishes its three year Corporate Plan and an Annual Business Plan containing key objectives which relate to the Foundation's main

purposes. All objectives were achieved during the period apart from a few that involved travel and gatherings that were curtailed due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Training and Development

The Foundation provides a range of training and development opportunities for the staff and volunteers and at least once a year a full training day is organised for trustees, staff and volunteers. This complements regular meetings of volunteers which allow the three groups to share information, exchange views, consult on ideas and operate effectively as a team. Unfortunately, due to the lockdown imposed to address the pandemic, there was no official training day held for volunteers during the reporting period. However, a very successful conference for trustees, staff, volunteers and stakeholders was held in February 2022.

Consultation

Consultation with the police family and related stakeholders is a specific requirement for the Foundation and is carried out by the Chairman and Trustees hosting frequent formal meetings with a nominated (and recently expanded) Stakeholders Group and through a series of forums and conferences. Most meetings were held online throughout the reporting period to avoid face to face contact, thereby adhering to Covid-restrictions but, as mentioned above, a very successful and well-attended conference was held in February.

In addition, all year throughout Northern Ireland numerous informal interactions and communications take place regularly with various bodies and groups who include and represent “RUC GC Family” persons and interests. Various methods are used including email messages to volunteers, newsletters and articles in service-related publications such as the Police Service Gazette. The Foundation’s own Newsletter was issued four times during the reporting period and, in January 2022 to coincide with the Centenary Year, a new communications strategy was launched which included a series of media briefings and the launch of a new Foundation twitter account.

Annual Report and Accounts

In accordance with Article 11 of the Royal Ulster Constabulary GC Foundation Regulations 2002, and in compliance with the accounts direction given by the DOJ the Foundation is required to record and prepare accounts which give a ‘true and fair view’ of its income, expenditure and cash flow for the financial year, and, the state of affairs at the financial year-end.

The accounts are prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Manual (FRM), and the accounting and disclosure requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (to the extent that such requirements are deemed appropriate), and other guidance which the Department of Finance (DOF) may issue from time to time.

The annual accounts are audited by the Northern Ireland Audit Office (NIAO).

Disclosure to Auditors

As Accounting Officer, the Chairman has taken all reasonable steps to make himself aware of all relevant audit information and to ensure that the Foundation's auditors are made aware of all relevant audit information. He declares that he is not aware of any relevant audit information of which the Foundation's auditors are unaware.

Risk Management

The Foundation maintains a risk management system, which seeks to identify and prioritise any risks to its activities and the delivery of its objectives, and puts in place measures proportionate to the management of those risks. The main risks are categorised as:

- **Funding:** e.g. Reliance on external budget setting means that Foundation income is subject to a range of pressures outside its control and the possibility of this being reduced.
- **Change in Regulations or Legislation:** e.g. A Change in the Foundation's regulations or any future reporting requirements, whether Departmental or charitable, which might affect compliance needs.
- **Personnel:** e.g. the risk of losing key staff or volunteers, with the associated loss of expertise and experience.
- **Information:** e.g. Sensitive confidential, and/or personal data relating to the Foundation or the people involved with it might be compromised.
- **Project Delivery & Planning:** e.g. Lack of effective and timely planning for Foundation projects and events.
- **Operations:** e.g. Procedures and policies not in place to cover day-to-day Foundation operations and activities, including visits, events, finances.

Register of Interests

Trustees are required to disclose information of their personal or business interests which might be perceived by any reasonable member of the public to influence their judgement in the exercise of their public duties.

A register of such interests is retained and is available for public inspection on request.

Health and Safety

The areas for which the Foundation has responsibility are all contained within the confines of the PSNI headquarters and, as such, all health and safety matters are covered by the policies of the PSNI, to which the Foundation adheres.

Future Developments

The RUC GC Memorial Garden is now more than twenty years in existence (although officially opened in September 2003). Consequently, in addition to routine maintenance, some major restoration and repairs were and will continually be required on an ongoing basis. These included a major overhaul of its water features. Due to its iconic and central role in Foundation activities, the trustees have focused considerable attention on the Garden's short, medium and long term maintenance and refurbishment needs and an action plan has been drawn up, initiated and this will continue to be addressed for the foreseeable future.

During the reporting period, plans to commemorate the RUC's 100 year anniversary (specifically on 1st June 2022 – but also at various points of time throughout the year) were addressed by the Foundation's chairman and trustees. The Foundation does not claim a monopoly of the Centenary commemorations and celebrations and has encouraged and supported other bodies within the "RUC Family" in their plans – for example in Newtownards in January 2022. The Foundation organised a party of representatives to meet the Royal Patron, HRH The Prince of Wales, during the reporting period on 23rd March 2022 and presented him with an RUC GC Centenary lapel pin. Major events to be held in the next reporting period, both in Northern Ireland and GB, were planned during the reporting period.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Financial Review

The RUC GC Foundation is principally funded by the Department of Justice (DoJ). The total income from DoJ for the 12 month period to 31 March 2022 was £127,000.

The Foundation prepares estimates and receives funding to cover capital, payroll and other administrative costs.

The Foundation's accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 have been prepared on an accruals basis. Total incoming resources for the year totalled £160,317 with expenditure of £208,447, resulting in a net decrease in funds of £48,130. Details of the reconciliation of unrestricted funds are provided in note 11 to the accounts. Details of the reconciliation of restricted funds are provided in note 12 to the accounts.

During the year, the Foundation continued to hold reserves to further its objectives. As described in note 1 (g) to the accounts, restricted funds are applied strictly in accordance with the donors' wishes e.g. the maintenance and development of the memorial garden. Its policy for unrestricted funds ensures that reserves are maintained to undertake special projects identified by stakeholder groups in the pursuance of the Foundation's aims and objectives and to facilitate the progress of the organisation in the medium and longer term e.g. the development of interactions and initiatives with the next generation of the RUC GC families and stakeholders groups.

The Foundation supports the prompt payment initiative in accordance with the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) 'Better Payment Practice Code'. The target requires payment for goods and services to be made within agreed payment terms or within 10 days of receipt of invoices not in dispute. The most recent prompt payment survey indicates that 100% of invoices were paid in accordance with the terms of this code.

The Foundation's fixed assets consist principally of its I.T. (computer) equipment and software and office furniture, which have been significantly depreciated over their useful lives.

Although not reflected in the accounts, the work of the volunteers attached to the Foundation is estimated to have contributed some 306 hours (much less than normal due to Covid. The benefit cost is estimated £5,508.00 at £18.00 an hour) which is the current hourly rate for work conducted within the Memorial Garden by our garden maintenance contractor.

The Trustees have approved this Strategic Report as per Charities SORP 15.9.

SUMMARY of ACTIVITIES

Under the chairman and trustees, during 2021/22, the Foundation continued to work on key targets that include improving and enhancing inclusivity, meaningfulness and outreach. To do so it had (in 2019/20, pre-pandemic) enhanced and increased its interactions with the “RUC GC Family” and its stakeholders. For example, initiatives included the introduction, for the first time, of an annual conference for all volunteers, stakeholders and interested parties, and, a planned annual RUC GC Foundation Lecture in partnership with Queens University. Unfortunately, during the previous reporting period (2020/21) and as a direct result of the pandemic, both events were postponed. The Foundation is pleased to report that during this reporting period both events were successfully organised, held and well-attended. On 18th November 2021, the inaugural RUC GC Foundation Annual Lecture took place at Riddel Hall, Queens University, Belfast (QUB). The speaker was Sir George Hamilton QPM and the event, which was held in partnership with QUB, received much positive publicity and feedback. The second ever RUC GC Foundation Annual Conference was held on 23rd February 2022 and almost sixty delegates attended providing the Foundation with a raft of new ideas, suggestions and feedback to help it continuously deliver on its objectives.

Trustees hold regular monthly meetings to oversee Foundation activities. Meetings with the Stakeholders’ Group are held three times a year and the Audit & Risk Committee meets at least twice per annum.

Ad hoc meetings convene as and when necessary and to plan for the RUC GC Centenary, many sub-committee meetings were held. These included sub-committees dealing with the Annual Church Service, a Commemorative Service and March at the National Memorial Arboretum, a Centenary Concert and a Centenary Dinner.

As mentioned, and in line with the Foundation’s key functions and to enable the achievement of its Business Plan objectives the chairman and trustees frequently meet formally and consult informally with a designated Stakeholders’ Group which is chaired by an independent chairman (Leslie Busby MBE). During the reporting year, stakeholder meetings were mostly conducted online. Nevertheless, they provided valuable opportunities for consultation and were a source of ideas and suggestions for the maintenance and development of the Foundation.

In addition to their collegiate responsibility for the good governance of the Foundation Trustees undertake individual roles in order to progress the work of the Foundation.

During the year to 31 March 2022, the Chair and Trustees attended on average, a two hour Trustee meeting each month and attended other scheduled formal meetings during the year such as Audit & Risk Committee meetings, Stakeholder Group meetings and Volunteers’ meetings.

This represents just a fraction of the time Trustees committed to the work for the Foundation as each Trustee, and the Chairman, lead on projects and deal with issues on which they spend many additional hours for example: maintaining the Oral History Archive, overseeing maintenance of the Memorial Garden, community outreach for example through the provision of talks and hosting of visits, running the Bursary Scheme, maintaining links with the National Memorial Arboretum and the College of Policing (both in England), organising and attending the many church, memorial services, victims events and other events associated with the RUC GC and wider policing family along with a broad range of activities relating to representation, liaison and networking. Without doubt, many such activities were impacted by the pandemic. However, by complying with current Government restrictions on social distancing and the size of gatherings, and, through the use of technology, many events still went ahead – with obvious limitations.

These included commemorative and remembrance events in the RUC Memorial Garden and the annual RUC GC Thanksgiving Church Service.

Royal Ulster Constabulary GC Garden

The RUC GC Memorial Garden is often described as the Foundation's "jewel in the crown" and over the years has won many awards for its design and contributions to civic life.

Up until 26th August 2021 it was closed to visitors – initially due to Covid and then, additionally, while repair and restoration work took place.

Despite the pandemic, a few, Covid-19 compliant commemorative, and memorial events were able to go ahead, such as a reopening event in August 2021 to mark the successful conclusion of the major works programme, and the annual November Remembrance service. On November 11th a much-reduced number of attendees participated in the annual Remembrance Day Service in the RUC GC Garden. All the normal ceremonial events took place including a short service, two minutes silence and the laying of wreaths.

During this financial year, a much lower figure than normal only 231 visitors visited the Garden, bringing the total since the official opening on 2 September 2003 to 42,416.

The Foundation continues to be indebted to the Volunteer Guides despite the pandemic preventing them this particular year from being able to escort visitors around the Garden and assist with gardening duties. However, volunteers supported the works programme by escorting the contractors and subcontractors throughout the four months of major repairs and reconstruction work. They also supported all the other smaller work projects in the gardening escorting contractors for electrical works, lighting works and in preparation for some of the garden events.

In September 2020, a new garden maintenance contract was awarded and during this reporting period, the Foundation chairman and trustees continued to be impressed by the new contractor's excellent work, dedication and professionalism. Since August 2021 and the completion of the much-needed maintenance work the whole Garden has been rejuvenated and visitors have commented on its new very tasteful and appropriate planting and overall condition.

New projects have been costed and planned for in the new financial year including renewing the information boards on the history trail and renewing the inscriptions on the plinths and St Anne's window.

RUC GC DAY

The Chairman and Trustees of the RUC GC Foundation throughout this year continued to 'mark the sacrifices and honour the achievements of the RUC GC'. One of the highlights of each year is our Annual RUC GC Thanksgiving Service. The event is normally held on the first Sunday in June each year as the RUC was formed on 1st June 1922. This is the Foundation's flagship event and gives comfort to so many who lost loved ones over many years.

The 2021/22 Annual Service was another casualty of the pandemic. However, despite the service having to be cancelled, the Foundation with the assistance of the main church leaders created a virtual service. Many hundreds of stakeholders were able to see and download the service which received overwhelmingly positive feedback to the Foundation and on social media.

Volunteer Training Day

In or around September each year an Annual Training Day is organised for Volunteers and trustees. The aim of the training day is to bring our volunteers together for an educational event and to benefit from team building. This year it was postponed – again, due to the pandemic and restrictions on gatherings.

Annual Remembrance Day Service

As mentioned already, the Annual Remembrance Service was held in the RUC GC Memorial Garden on the 11th November – but on a much-reduced scale from other years. This was led as usual by Rev Dr Colin McClure to whom we are indebted for his unstinting support to the Foundation.

Christmas Reception

An Annual Foundation Christmas Reception is normally held in December with over 100 volunteers and supporters invited to participate in an event where information is shared, and the opportunity is taken to thank all those who assist us in our tasks.

The pandemic forced this reporting period's event to be organised on a much smaller scale.

Nevertheless, an RUC GC Foundation Christmas Dinner was successfully organised to thank volunteers and also update them on Foundation news, activities and future plans.

Royal Ulster Constabulary GC Foundation Bursary Scheme

The RUCGC Foundation Bursaries are reliant on the Foundation's strong strategic partnership with PSNI and Ulster University, and the professional support of staff within.

Foundation Bursaries are central to one of our core functions of supporting the professional development of police officers and innovations in policing, and we pay tribute to all the previous recipients and everyone who helped them complete their Bursary projects.

Unfortunately no bursaries were awarded during this reporting period but it is hoped, Covid easements permitting, that the scheme will be up and running again towards the end of the 2022/23 financial year.

Oral History Project

The Oral History Project currently holds over three hundred interviews and accounts of real events, which we hope would be beneficial for community outreach, education and for giving visitors to the Foundation a real experience of policing during the troubles. In an attempt to see how the project could be progressed, the Foundation brought in an independent advisor to assess the project. It was found that the system that was initially used to begin the project was now antiquated and at risk as there was little room for any further development or for any further interviews to be added.

Through meetings with the Ulster University, the original author of the project, RUCGC Foundation stakeholders and Foundation trustees, the Foundation appointed Web Bureau to address the identified deficiencies of the project by designing and installing a new, easy to use, web based system.

This system will engage new and old users and be accessible to users outside of the Foundation board room and accessible on mobile devices.

Unfortunately, COVID related restrictions hindered the development of the new system considerably over the last reporting year. Work on the new system continued during this reporting period, using donated funds to pay for relevant expertise.

Improvements were made to allow further content, audio and visual to be uploaded and new easily used compatible equipment has been specified for purchase to complete the system upgrade.

The final testing of the system is currently underway and a launch/training event is planned for the near future for volunteers, administrators and interested parties. The project should be fully functioning and in place within the next financial year.

Donations

The RUCGC Foundation does not proactively solicit or invite donations. However, over the years a modest reserve of monies has accumulated from visitors who leave small sums after visiting the Memorial Garden and occasionally a more substantial legacy is received.

The current board of trustees previously agreed that a dedicated sub-committee should be formed to consider how best donated funds might be used in the future and to make recommendations to the Trustees. Representatives were appointed from various stakeholder groups and the committee was established towards the end of 2019. It met by Zoom several times in the current year, particularly to consider the most appropriate use of the donated funds and to prepare a list of priorities. The Sub-committee recommended, and the Trustees agreed, that some of the donated funds should be used towards the repair and remodelling of the water feature in the Memorial Garden. After proper tendering procedures, the work on the water feature was completed on 6th August 2021 at a total cost of £46,480.

In addition, the Chairman, Trustees and donations committee agreed to use donations money to fund a comprehensive communication strategy during the RUC GC Centenary Year (2022) and to fund general garden improvements. Some of these have been completed but it is has also been agreed to provide better facilities for the volunteers in the gardening team and to review and renew the story boards within the Memorial Garden using donated monies. We do hope to continue to progress with these work streams during the coming financial year (2022/23).

During the 2021/22 financial year, a total of £32,712 was received in donations. Also the RUC GC Foundation made donations totalling £65. Details of the amounts donated and the recipients are provided in note 17 of the accounts.

Centenary Plans

During the reporting period, planning for RUC GC Centenary Year events took centre stage in the Foundation's activities and in particular the Chairman, lead trustee (Sandra Best) and office staff. A comprehensive programme of events has been planned to commemorate the formation of the RUC in June 1922.

A supporting communication strategy was initiated during the reporting period. The commemorations were “kick-started” by a visit to the Province by our Royal Patron who specifically asked to meet RUC GC representatives.

Back in November 2020 a Centenary Committee was formed by the Foundation and stakeholders notified and consulted.

Consequently, a number of sub-groups have been formed to organise events and put together a workable and comprehensive communications strategy for the centenary period that will commemorate, educate, enlighten and pay respects to the RUC in keeping with our mandate to “mark the sacrifices and honour the achievements of the RUC”.

The following dates and Venues have been agreed for Centenary Events and Sub Committees for the Concert and Gala Dinner will meet in the near future to start the planning process.

1. 29th May 2022 - Centenary Service - St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast
2. 1st June 2022 - Act of Remembrance - RUC GC Foundation Memorial Garden, Brooklyn.
3. 17th June 2022 - Church Service and Act of Remembrance - National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas, Staffordshire
4. 8th October 2022 - Concert - Glenmachan, Church of God, Belfast
5. 21st October 2022 - Gala Centenary Dinner - Galgorm Resort and Spa, Ballymena.

FINANCIAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

AT 31 MARCH 2022

Trustees

Prof S White OBE, Chairman and Accounting Officer (from November 2018)

Mrs S Best (from January 2019)

Mrs J Butler MBE (from January 2019)

Mr S Quinn (from January 2019)

Mr M Davidson (From February 2019)

Ms Joanne Bunting (from February 2021)

Principal Office

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Auditor

Comptroller and Auditor General

Northern Ireland Audit Office

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BT7 1EU

Principal Banker

Danske Bank

520 Upper Newtownards Road

Belfast

BT4 3HD

Remuneration Report

Remuneration Policy

The Chairman and Trustees work wholly on a voluntary basis and receive no remuneration, bonuses, benefits-in-kind or have any pension entitlements. Likewise, Foundation volunteers are not remunerated.

The two permanent members of staff, seconded from the PSNI, are subject to the same level of remuneration and terms and conditions of service within the general pay structure of the PSNI, as approved by the Department of Justice (DoJ). Note 1(j) to the accounts describes the pension policy for these staff.

Service Contracts

PSNI appointments are made in accordance with the PSNI Recruitment Code, which requires appointment to be on merit, based on fair and open competition; and also describes the circumstances where appointments may otherwise be made.

The two permanent officials hold appointments, which are open ended until they reach the normal retirement age of 65 years.

Early termination, other than for misconduct, would result in the individual receiving compensation as set out in the Civil Service Compensation Scheme.

Signed



Position: Chairman

Date: 8th January 2024

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the accounts direction issued by the Department of Justice (DoJ), the RUC GC Foundation is required to prepare for each financial year a Statement of Accounts in the form and on the basis specified by the DoJ. The accounts are prepared on an accruals basis and must give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the RUC GC Foundation and of its income and expenditure and cash flows for the financial year.

In preparing the accounts, the accounting officer is required to comply with the requirements of the Government Financial Reporting Manual and, in particular, to:

- observe the accounts direction issued by the DoJ, including relevant accounting and disclosure requirements, and apply suitable accounting policies on a consistent basis;
- make judgements and estimates on a reasonable basis;
- state whether applicable accounting standards as set out in the Government Financial Reporting Manual have been followed, and disclose and explain any material departures in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on a 'going concern' basis.
- Confirm that the Annual Report and Accounts as a whole is fair, balanced and understandable and take personal responsibility for the Annual Report and Accounts and the judgments required for determining that it is fair, balanced and understandable.

The DoJ has appointed the Chairman of the RUC GC Foundation as accounting officer of the Foundation. The responsibilities of an accounting officer, including responsibility for the propriety and regularity of the public finances for which the accounting officer is answerable, for keeping proper records and for safe-guarding the RUC GC Foundation's assets, are set out in the management statement and financial memorandum issued by the DoJ. Chairman Stephen White received training on Accounting Officer responsibilities from the Chief Executives Forum on Tuesday 5 March 2019.

As the Accounting Officer, I have taken all the steps that I ought to have taken to make myself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that RUC GC Foundation's auditors are aware of that information. So far as I am aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the auditors are unaware.

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

1. Scope of Responsibility

The RUC GC Foundation was established by virtue of Paragraph 70 of The Police (Northern Ireland) Act 2000 for the purposes of ‘marking the sacrifices and honouring the achievements of the Royal Ulster Constabulary’.

The functions of the Board of Trustees are further outlined in the RUC GC Foundation Regulations 2002 stating that ‘The Board of Trustees shall, in consultation with stakeholders, as appropriate, decide on the disbursement of funds and the funding of projects commensurate with its aims of marking the sacrifice and honouring the achievements of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and support professional development of police officers and innovations in policing’.

Since its inception the RUC GC Foundation has been an Executive Non Departmental Public Body and sponsorship responsibility fell to the Northern Ireland Office but, following the devolution of the justice function to the Northern Ireland Assembly in 2010, our sponsor department is now the Department of Justice.

The RUC GC Foundation prepares its accounts on a going concern basis. The Trustees are content that under the premise of the RUC GC Foundation Regulations 2002, this basis is appropriate for the future.

The RUC GC Foundation has set out in its Corporate Plan its objectives, against which it monitors its performance.

The three year Corporate Plan and Annual Business Plan is developed, discussed, reviewed and updated on an ongoing basis.

2. Purpose of the Governance Framework

The Foundation operates within an effective governance framework to enable the Foundation Chairman, as accounting officer, to meet his responsibilities as set out in the preceding statement and to enable the board to assure itself of the proper control of the organisation’s activities.

Being a small organisation limits the potential to separate duties between staff and therefore the Chairman performs a significant executive role in managing and controlling the affairs of the Foundation. This obliges the other Trustees to play an active and essential role in the detailed scrutiny of transactions.

Governance controls are aimed at eliminating or managing risk to a reasonable level and while our management to date has proven effective, it is kept under regular review, particularly by the independent internal auditor, who reports annually and makes recommendations to address any weaknesses identified.

3. Governance Framework

The Board, which governs the organisation, consists of a Chairman and five Trustees. These are ministerial public appointments which do not attract remuneration. Trustees, other volunteers and stakeholders give freely of their time and a range of expertise.

The 'stakeholders', as enshrined in the Foundation's regulations, play a critical role in the good governance of the organisation by ensuring that the needs of the wider policing family shape the services provided. As the principal funding stakeholder, the DoJ also maintains a continuous scrutiny of the Foundation's activities.

The Chairman has a key role in providing effective strategic leadership and operational oversight, including the allocation of responsibility for aspects of the Board's work and ensuring that members are fully briefed on the work of the Foundation on their appointment.

Trustee members have a corporate responsibility to ensure that the board discharges its responsibilities effectively and in so doing, they are obliged to attend regularly the formal Board meetings and those additional meetings necessary to carry out their individual assigned duties.

Details of Trustees' attendance at governance and management meetings during the year are recorded below.

The Chairman of Trustees has met with DoJ Officials and has accounted for the Foundation's compliance with the Corporate Governance Code. There were no departures noted.

The Board adheres to DoJ requirements on all issues affecting its management and is conscious of the requirement to produce good quality data for internal Foundation consumption and that of the DoJ.

4. Trustees' Attendance

Attendance at the various meetings is analysed and recorded in the table below.

TRUSTEES' ATTENDANCE: 1st April 2021 – 31st March 2022

| Name | Trustees' Meetings (11) | S-Holders Group (3) | Audit Committee (2) | Guides & Volunteers (0) |
|--|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Stephen White (Foundation Chair) | 11 | 3 | 2 | N/A |
| Shane Quinn (Audit Committee Chair) | 9 | 1 | 2 | N/A |
| Michael Davidson | 10 | 3 | N/A | N/A |
| June Butler (Donations Committee Chair) | 10 | 2 | 2 | N/A |
| Sandra Best | 11 | 3 | N/A | N/A |
| Joanne Bunting | 6 | 2 | N/A | N/A |

5. DoJ Governance Meetings

Quarterly governance meetings take place between the Foundation Chairman, as accounting officer, and key DoJ personnel to monitor the Foundation's performance and ensure strategic objectives are being met.

6. Audit & Risk Committee

The audit committee is chaired by a Trustee and also comprises the Foundation Chairman and another Trustee.

The committee, which meets at least twice per year, advises the Board of Trustees on all matters relating to internal control, including the effectiveness of monitoring processes and whether reliance can be placed on internal control systems.

The committee's work is informed mainly by the independent findings and advice of the internal auditor and NIAO, the external auditor.

It also scrutinises other detailed reports prepared by the accounting officer and his staff and government guidance on matters of audit and accountability.

This committee makes recommendations to the Board in relation to accounting policies, and draws attention to the implication of recommendations and findings of both internal and external auditors, as appropriate. The committee monitors the implementation of these recommendations from both internal and external audits.

Particular attention is given to the review of;

- Board's risk management systems
- Annual audit plans and reports' findings
- Foundation's draft accounts before submission to the Department of Justice, the Board of Trustees and the NIAO.
- Foundation policies e.g. gifts & hospitality, counter fraud, donations etc.

There have been no adverse reports issued by the Audit Committee during the year.

7. Significant Internal Control Issues

There were no significant internal control issues identified during the year.

8. Current and Emerging Risks

The Foundation maintains a proportionate risk management system which includes a schedule of prioritised risks, with appropriate management action plans.

9. Accounting Officer Statement on Assurance

The Board of Trustees are conscious of the need to perform to their highest level and are open and transparent, expressing their views and constantly reviewing their personal performances at meetings of the Trustees.

The Chairman completes an assessment of the performance and effectiveness of each Trustee annually and these are submitted to the Department of Justice.

The Chairman's performance and effectiveness is assessed and reported on by a DoJ Senior Official. There have been no adverse comments.

Since its inception the Foundation has secured an independent accounting service from a reputable external firm of accountants, which is currently Hopper & Co, Ballyclare.

For the year under review, the independent internal auditor provided a satisfactory level of assurance on the Foundation's system of internal control. Since 2013/14, the Foundation's internal audit service has been provided by the Internal Audit Branch of the DoJ.

Since its first report and accounts were submitted the Foundation has had an unqualified report from Government's external auditor (National Audit Office to 2009/10; and Northern Ireland Audit Office from 2010/11).

Each year the Board reflects on its own effectiveness through consideration of feedback from stakeholders, including the DoJ, and through assessment of individual Trustee's contribution by the Foundation Chairman.

As the Foundation operates from the secure environment of PSNI Headquarters with well protected office accommodation and police computer network, I am confident that we operate in a physically secure environment. Staff members are very experienced in working within the police environment and continue to be updated on developments to improve the security of information held and used by the Foundation.

Having reviewed the financial year to 31st March 2022, including the risk register, Trustees' and stakeholders' observations, the findings and advice of the Audit Committee, the reports of the internal and external auditors, I am satisfied that the Board of Trustees has maintained sound systems of governance for the financial year 2021/22.

Signed:



Date: 8th January 2024

Position: Chairman

THE CERTIFICATE AND REPORT OF THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL TO THE NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY

Royal Ulster Constabulary George Cross Foundation

THE CERTIFICATE AND REPORT OF THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL TO THE NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY

Opinion on financial statements

I certify that I have audited the financial statements of the Royal Ulster Constabulary George Cross Foundation (The Foundation) for the year ended 31 March 2022 under the Royal Ulster Constabulary GC Foundation Regulations 2002, as amended by the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Audit of Public Bodies) Order 2008 and the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Devolution of Policing and Justice Functions) Order 2010. The financial statements comprise: the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes, including significant accounting policies. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out within them. I have also audited the information in the Remuneration Report that is described in that report as having been audited.

In my opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of The Foundation's affairs as at 31 March 2022 and of its net movement in funds for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Royal Ulster Constabulary GC Foundation Regulations 2002, as amended by the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Audit of Public Bodies) Order 2008 and the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Devolution of Policing and Justice Functions) Order 2010 and Department of Justice directions issued thereunder.

Opinion on regularity

In my opinion, in all material respects the expenditure and income recorded in the financial statements have been applied to the purposes intended by the Assembly and the financial transactions recorded in the financial statements conform to the authorities which govern them.

Basis for opinions

I conducted my audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) (UK), applicable law and Practice Note 10 'Audit of Financial Statements and Regularity of Public Sector Bodies in the United Kingdom'. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of this certificate.

My staff and I are independent of The Foundation in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

I believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinions.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, I have concluded that The Foundation's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

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

The going concern basis of accounting for The Foundation is adopted in consideration of the requirements set out in the Government Reporting Manual, which require entities to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements where it anticipated that the services which they provide will continue into the future.

My responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees and the Accounting Officer with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees annual report other than the financial statements, the parts of the Remuneration Report described in that report as having been audited, and my audit certificate and report. The Trustees and the Accounting Officer are responsible for the other information included in the annual report. My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in my report I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

I have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters

In my opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the parts of the Remuneration Report to be audited have been properly prepared in accordance with the Department of Justice directions made under the Royal Ulster Constabulary GC Foundation Regulations 2002, as amended by the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Audit of Public Bodies) Order 2008 and the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Devolution of Policing and Justice Functions) Order 2010; and
- the information given in the Chairman and Trustees' Report and Strategic Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on which I report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of The Foundation and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, I have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

I have nothing to report in respect of the following matters which I report to you if, in my opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements and the parts of the Remuneration Report to be audited are not in agreement with the accounting records; or

- certain disclosures of remuneration specified by the Government Financial Reporting Manual are not made; or
- I have not received all of the information and explanations I require for my audit; or
- the Governance Statement does not reflect compliance with the Department of Finance's guidance.

Responsibilities of the Accounting Officer for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Accounting Officer Responsibilities, the Accounting Officer is responsible for:

- the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view;
- such internal controls as the Trustees and Accounting Officer determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
- assessing The Foundation'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 the Trustees and Accounting Officer anticipates that the services provided by The Foundation will not continue to be provided in the future.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

My responsibility is to audit, certify and report on the financial statements in accordance with the Royal Ulster Constabulary GC Foundation Regulations 2002, as amended by the Government Resources and Accounts Act 2000 (Audit of Public Bodies) Order 2008 and the Northern Ireland Act 1998 (Devolution of Policing and Justice Functions) Order 2010.

My 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 a certificate that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) 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.

I design procedures in line with my responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of non-compliance with laws and regulation, including fraud.

My procedures included:

- obtaining an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to The Foundation through discussion with management and application of extensive public sector accountability knowledge;
- making enquires of management and those charged with governance on The Foundation's compliance with laws and regulations;
- making enquiries of internal audit, management and those charged with governance as to susceptibility to irregularity and fraud, their assessment of the risk of material misstatement due to fraud and irregularity, and their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud and irregularity;
- completing risk assessment procedures to assess the susceptibility of The Foundation's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur.

This included, but was not limited to, an engagement director led engagement team discussion on fraud to identify particular areas, transaction streams and business practices that may be susceptible to material misstatement due to fraud;

- engagement director oversight to ensure the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with the applicable legal and regulatory framework throughout the audit;
- designing audit procedures to address specific laws and regulations which the engagement team considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements in terms of misstatement and irregularity, including fraud. These audit procedures included, but were not limited to, reading board and committee minutes, and agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation and approvals as appropriate; and
- addressing the risk of fraud as a result of management override of controls by:
 - performing analytical procedures to identify unusual or unexpected relationships or movements;
 - testing journal entries to identify potential anomalies, and inappropriate or unauthorised adjustments;
 - assessing whether judgements and other assumptions made in determining accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
 - investigating significant or unusual transactions made outside of the normal course of business.

A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of my certificate.

In addition, I am required to obtain evidence sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the expenditure and income recorded in the financial statements have been applied to the purposes intended by the Assembly and the financial transactions recorded in the financial statements conform to the authorities which govern them.

Report

I have no observations to make on these financial statements.



Dorinnia Carville
Comptroller and Auditor General
Northern Ireland Audit Office
106 University Street
BELFAST
BT7 1EU

09 January 2024

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

| | Note | Unrestricted Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | Total Funds 2022 £ |
|------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Income and Endowments: | 2 | | | |
| Donations and legacies | | | | |
| <i>Grant in Aid</i> | | 127,000 | - | 127,000 |
| <i>Donations</i> | | 32,712 | - | 32,712 |
| Charitable Activities | | 488 | - | 488 |
| Investment Income | | 35 | - | 35 |
| Other Income | | 82 | - | 82 |
| Total Income | | <u>160,317</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>160,317</u> |
| Expenditure: | 3 | | | |
| Charitable Activities | | 161,967 | 46,480 | 208,447 |
| Total Expenditure | | <u>161,967</u> | <u>46,480</u> | <u>208,447</u> |
| Income with Expenditure | | <u>(1,650)</u> | <u>(46,480)</u> | <u>(48,130)</u> |
| Net movement in funds | | (1,650) | (46,480) | (48,130) |
| Reconciliation of funds | | | | |
| Total Funds Brought Forward | | 166,673 | 220,769 | 387,442 |
| Transfer in funds | | - | - | - |
| Total Funds Carried Forward | | <u>165,023</u> | <u>174,289</u> | <u>339,312</u> |

The notes on pages 36 to 46 form part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

| | Note | Unrestricted Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | Total Funds 2021 £ |
|------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Income and Endowments: | 2 | | | |
| Donations and legacies | | | | |
| <i>Grant in Aid</i> | | 132,000 | - | 132,000 |
| <i>Donations</i> | | 250 | - | 250 |
| Charitable Activities | | 184 | - | 184 |
| Investment Income | | 22 | - | 22 |
| Other Income | | - | - | - |
| Total Income | | <u>132,456</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>132,456</u> |
| Expenditure: | 3 | | | |
| Charitable Activities | | 143,706 | - | 143,706 |
| Total Expenditure | | <u>143,706</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>143,706</u> |
| | | <u>(11,250)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>(11,250)</u> |
| Income with Expenditure | | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| Net movement in funds | | (11,250) | - | (11,250) |
| Reconciliation of funds | | | | |
| Total Funds Brought Forward | | 177,923 | 220,769 | 398,692 |
| Transfer in funds | | - | - | - |
| Total Funds Carried Forward | | <u>166,673</u> | <u>220,769</u> | <u>387,442</u> |

The notes on pages 36 to 46 form part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2022

| | Notes | 2022 £ | 2021 £ |
|---|-------|----------------|----------------|
| Fixed Assets | | | |
| Intangible Assets | 5 | 16,632 | 11,232 |
| Tangible Assets | 6 | 73,898 | 97,569 |
| | | <u>90,530</u> | <u>108,801</u> |
| Current Assets | | | |
| Stock | 7 | 11,456 | 11,465 |
| Debtors | 8 | 6,931 | 737 |
| Cash at Bank and in Hand | 9 | 261,879 | 296,129 |
| | | <u>280,266</u> | <u>308,331</u> |
| Liabilities | | | |
| Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year | 10 | 31,484 | 29,690 |
| | | <u>248,782</u> | <u>278,641</u> |
| Net Current Assets | | <u>248,782</u> | <u>278,641</u> |
| Total assets less current liabilities | | <u>339,312</u> | <u>387,442</u> |
| Total Net assets | | <u>339,312</u> | <u>387,442</u> |
| | | ===== | ===== |
| Funds of the charity: | | | |
| Unrestricted Income Funds | | | |
| Unrestricted Funds | 11 | 165,023 | 166,673 |
| Restricted Income Funds | | | |
| Restricted Funds | 12 | 174,289 | 220,769 |
| Total Charity Funds | | <u>339,312</u> | <u>387,442</u> |
| | | ===== | ===== |

The notes on pages 36 to 46 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Accounting Officer



Date: 8th January 2024

CASHFLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

| | Notes | 2022 £ | 2021 £ |
|---|-------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Cashflows from Operating Activities | 14 | (27,841) | (20,200) |
| Cashflows from Investing Activities | | | |
| Purchase of Intangibles | | (5,400) | (5,616) |
| Purchase of Property Plant and Equipment | | (1,009) | (5,701) |
| | | - | - |
| (Decrease)/Increase in Cash during the Year | | (34,250) ===== | (31,517) ===== |

The notes on pages 36 to 46 form part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1. **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

(a) Basis of Accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis in accordance with the accounts direction given by the DoJ and in accordance with Article 11 of the Royal Ulster Constabulary Foundation Regulations 2002. The accounts are prepared using the modified historic cost convention and follow the requirements of the FReM. The RUC GC Foundation is a public benefit entity.

(b) Accounting Conventions. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with:-

- (i) the accounting and disclosure requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice 2005 (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" to the extent that such requirements are appropriate to the Foundation and are in line with the requirements of the accounts Direction.
- (ii) Standards issued by the Accounting Standards Board.
- (iii) Disclosure and accounting requirements of the DOF.
- (iv) The accounting and disclosure requirements of the accounts direction and conditions of grant issued to the Foundation by the DoJ.

(c) Income - All income is accounted for on a receivable basis. Grant-in-Aid from the DoJ unless for one-off specified purposes is allocated to the general fund and is taken to the Statement of Financial Activities for the year in which it relates. Bank interest is accounted for on an accruals basis.

(d) Resources Expended - Expenditure is classified under the principal categories of charitable and other activities, rather than the type of expense in order to provide more useful information to users of the financial statements. Charitable expenditure and governance costs comprise direct expenditure including direct staff costs attributable to the activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributable they are allocated to the activities on an equally spread basis as the amount of money is considered small.

(e) Fixed Assets and Depreciation

The RUC GC Foundation's policy is to capitalise all fixed assets with a value of over £100 and initially record them at cost.

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets on the following basis:

IT Equipment & Software 25% straight line

Fixtures & Fittings 20% straight line

Memorial Garden 10% straight line

No adjustment has been made for the revaluation of fixed assets on the grounds that it would not have a material impact on the accounts.

(f) Cash and Cash equivalents

In the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents includes cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. In the statement of Financial position, bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

(g) Fund Accounting

The Foundation has various types of funds for which it is responsible and which require separate disclosure. These are as follows:-

(i) Restricted Funds

Donations received which are designated by the donor for specific reasons. Such purposes are within the overall aim of the organisation.

(ii) Unrestricted Funds

Funds which are expendable at the discretion of the Foundation in furtherance of the objects of the Foundation.

(iii) Designated Funds

Funds which are expendable at the discretion of the Foundation and have been designated for a particular purpose.

(h) Value Added Tax

The Foundation is not eligible to register for VAT and all costs are shown inclusive of VAT.

(i) Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Net realisable value is based on selling price less anticipated costs to completion and selling costs. The Foundation carries a number of items for distributions as gifts; these items are branded and have either nil or negligible realisable value and are therefore not included in the valuation of stock.

(j) Pensions

Past and present employees are covered by the provisions of the Civil Service Pension Schemes. The defined elements of the schemes are unfunded and are non-contributory except in respect of dependent's benefits. The parent organisation recognises the expected cost of these elements on a systematic and rational basis over the period during which it benefits from employees' services by payment to the Principal Civil Service Pension Schemes NI (PCSPS (NI)) of amounts calculated on an accruing basis. Liability for payment of future benefits is a charge on the PCSPS (NI). In respect of the defined contribution elements of the schemes, the organisation recognises the contributions payable for the year.

(k) Accounting standards, interpretations and amendments to published standards and FReM issued

The RUC GC Foundation has reviewed the standards, interpretations and amendments to published standards and FReM that became effective. The adoption of these standards are either not relevant to the RUC GC Foundation's operations or have not had a significant impact on the financial position or results of the RUC GC Foundation.

(l) Accounting standards, interpretations and amendments to published standards not yet effective

The RUC GC Foundation has reviewed the additional or revised accounting standards and new (or amendments to) interpretations contained within the Government Financial Reporting Manual (FReM) 2021/22 and considers that these changes are not relevant to its operations.

2) **Income and Endowments**

a) **Income from donations and legacies**

| | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Total 2022 £ | Total 2021 £ |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>Donations and legacies;</i> | | | | |
| Government Grants in Aid | 127,000 | - | 127,000 | 132,000 |
| Donations | 32,712 | - | 32,712 | 250 |
| | <hr/> | | | |
| | 159,712 | - | 159,712 | 132,250 |

b) **Income from charitable activities**

| | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Total 2022 £ | Total 2021 £ |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Heritage Lottery Fund | - | - | - | - |
| Sales Income | 488 | - | 488 | 184 |
| | <hr/> | | | |
| | 488 | - | 488 | 184 |

c) **Investment
Income**

| | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Total 2022 £ | Total 2021 £ |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bank Interest Received | 35 | - | 35 | 22 |

d) **Other Income**

| | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Total 2022 £ | Total 2021 £ |
|--------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Other Income | 82 | - | 82 | - |

3a) Expenditure on Charitable Activities

| | Staff costs | Support costs | Other direct costs | Total 2022 | Total 2021 |
|---|---------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Unrestricted funds | | | | | |
| Bursary Grant | 3,703 | - | - | 3,703 | 5,743 |
| Hospitality | 2,222 | 2,516 | 509 | 5,247 | 4,352 |
| Annual Church Service | 7,407 | 2,516 | 300 | 10,223 | 9,716 |
| Concerts & Reception | - | 2,516 | - | 2,516 | 2,226 |
| Newforge Reception | - | 2,516 | - | 2,516 | 2,434 |
| Promotional Gifts | - | 2,516 | - | 2,516 | 2,224 |
| Garden Exps & Maintenance | 14,815 | 2,516 | 31,829 | 49,160 | 47,826 |
| Museum | - | - | - | - | - |
| Special Events | 3,703 | 2,516 | 8,352 | 14,571 | 5,743 |
| National Memorial Arboretum | - | 2,516 | - | 2,516 | 2,224 |
| Oral History Project | 14,814 | 2,515 | - | 17,329 | 16,305 |
| Donations | 3,703 | 2,514 | 65 | 6,282 | 5,793 |
| Repairs & Maintenance | - | - | - | - | - |
| Guide Expenses | - | - | - | - | - |
| Promotional Booklet | - | - | - | - | - |
| Stock | - | - | 1,389 | 1,389 | 195 |
| Governance | 23,702 | 2,514 | 17,783 | 43,999 | 38,925 |
| | <u>74,069</u> | <u>27,671</u> | <u>60,227</u> | <u>161,967</u> | <u>143,706</u> |
| Total of Unrestricted charitable & governance costs | <u>74,069</u> | <u>27,671</u> | <u>60,227</u> | <u>161,967</u> | <u>143,706</u> |
| Restricted funds | | | | | |
| Miss Betty Estate | - | - | 46,480 | 46,480 | - |
| Total of Restricted charitable & governance costs | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>46,480</u> | <u>46,480</u> | <u>-</u> |
| | <u>74,069</u> | <u>27,671</u> | <u>106,707</u> | <u>208,447</u> | <u>143,706</u> |

3b) Analysis of governance and support costs

| | Admin & Sundry | Postage & Stationery | Depreciation Costs | Total 2022 | Total 2021 |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Support Costs allocated to charitable activities | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Bursary Grant | - | - | - | - | 2,224 |
| Hospitality | 145 | 127 | 2,244 | 2,516 | 2,227 |
| Annual Church Service | 145 | 127 | 2,244 | 2,516 | 2,227 |
| Concerts & Reception | 145 | 127 | 2,244 | 2,516 | 2,226 |
| Newforge Reception | 145 | 127 | 2,244 | 2,516 | 2,226 |
| Promotional Gifts | 145 | 127 | 2,244 | 2,516 | 2,224 |
| Garden Exps & Maintenance | 145 | 127 | 2,244 | 2,516 | 2,224 |
| Museum | - | - | - | - | - |
| Special Events | 145 | 127 | 2,244 | 2,516 | 2,224 |
| National Memorial Arboretum | 145 | 127 | 2,244 | 2,516 | 2,224 |
| Oral History Project | 145 | 127 | 2,243 | 2,515 | 2,224 |
| Donations | 144 | 127 | 2,243 | 2,514 | 2,224 |
| Governance | 144 | 127 | 2,243 | 2,514 | 2,224 |
| | 1,593 | 1,397 | 24,681 | 27,671 | 26,698 |

Governance Costs

| | Total 2022 | Total 2021 |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Legal & professional fees | 12,503 | 11,288 |
| Costs of AGM & Trustee travel etc | 5,280 | 2,888 |
| Trustees Entertainment | - | - |
| Apportionment of staff and support costs | 26,216 | 24,749 |
| | 43,999 | 38,925 |

External audit fees for the year 2021/22 total £8,900 (Prior Year - £8,600) and are included in Legal & professional fees.

4. STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS

Wages represent amounts paid to the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) for two PSNI staff on secondment to the Foundation. Trustees, including the chairman/accounting officer, receive no remuneration nor are there any directly employed staff.

The Foundation meets all of the staff costs for seconded staff as these are incurred. Although these costs are fully re-charged to the Foundation, the PSNI remains the permanent employer with responsibility for their pay, allowances and pension. Details of pension benefits for PSNI Police Staff can be found in the PSNI Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Amounts payable are in respect of staff on secondment.

| | Y/E 31/03/22 | Y/E 31/03/21 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| Basic | 52,119 | 49,875 |
| Employers National Insurance Contribution | 5,204 | 4,617 |
| ASLC | 15,581 | 14,801 |
| Allowances | 1,070 | 1,096 |
| | <u>73,974</u> | <u>70,389</u> |
| Total staff Costs | | |
| Average Number of staff | 2 | 2 |

5. INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

| | INTANGIBLE ASSETS UNDER CONSTRUCTION | TOTAL |
|--------------------------|---|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| COST | | |
| At 1 April 2021 | 11,232 | 11,232 |
| Additions | 5,400 | 5,400 |
| Disposals | - | - |
| Cost at 31 March 2022 | <u>16,632</u> | <u>16,632</u> |
| AMORTISATION | | |
| At 1 April 2021 | - | - |
| Provided during the Year | - | - |
| Elimination On Disposal | - | - |
| Cost at 31 March 2022 | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| NET BOOK VALUE | | |
| At 31 March 2022 | <u>16,632</u> | <u>16,632</u> |
| At 31 March 2021 | <u>11,232</u> | <u>11,232</u> |

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

| | MEMORIAL GARDEN £ | IT EQUIPMENT £ | FIXTURES & FITTINGS £ | TOTAL £ |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| COST | | | | |
| At 1 April 2021 | 232,140 | 21,028 | 5,838 | 259,006 |
| Additions | - | 120 | 889 | 1,009 |
| Disposals | - | - | - | - |
| Cost at 31 March 2022 | <u>232,140</u> | <u>21,148</u> | <u>6,727</u> | <u>260,015</u> |
| DEPRECIATION | | | | |
| At 1 April 2021 | 139,284 | 20,280 | 1,873 | 161,437 |
| Provided during the Year | 23,214 | 280 | 1,186 | 24,680 |
| Elimination On Disposal | - | - | - | - |
| Cost at 31 March 2022 | <u>162,498</u> | <u>20,560</u> | <u>3,059</u> | <u>186,117</u> |
| NET BOOK VALUE | | | | |
| At 31 March 2022 | <u>69,642</u> | <u>588</u> | <u>3,668</u> | <u>73,898</u> |
| At 31 March 2021 | <u>92,856</u> | <u>748</u> | <u>3,965</u> | <u>97,569</u> |

7. STOCK

| | 2022 £ | 2021 £ |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Closing Stock | <u>11,456</u> | <u>11,465</u> |

8. DEBTORS

| | 2022 £ | 2021 £ |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Debtors | - | - |
| Prepayments and Accrued Income | 6,904 | 710 |
| Other Debtors | 27 | 27 |
| Provision for Bad Debts | - | - |
| | <u>6,931</u> | <u>737</u> |

| | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 9. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND | 2022 | 2021 |
| | £ | £ |
| Cash at bank and in hand | 261,879 | 296,129 |
| | <u>261,879</u> | <u>296,129</u> |
| | ===== | ===== |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 10. CREDITORS & ACCRUALS | 2022 | 2021 |
| | £ | £ |
| Trade Creditors | - | - |
| Accruals | 31,484 | 29,690 |
| Other Creditors | - | - |
| | <u>31,484</u> | <u>29,690</u> |
| | ===== | ===== |

| | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| 11. RECONCILIATION OF UNRESTRICTED FUNDS | 2022 | 2021 |
| | £ | £ |
| Balance at 1 April 2021 | 166,673 | 177,923 |
| Net (Outgoing)/Incoming Resources | (1,650) | (11,250) |
| Transfers to Restricted Funds | - | - |
| Balance at 31 March 2022 | <u>165,023</u> | <u>166,673</u> |
| | ===== | ===== |
| Analysis of Unrestricted reserves at 31 March 2022 | | |
| Reserves Associated with Assets | 90,530 | 108,801 |
| Free reserves | 74,493 | 57,872 |
| | <u>165,023</u> | <u>166,673</u> |
| | ===== | ===== |

12. RECONCILIATION OF RESTRICTED FUNDS

| Fund | 01/04/2021 | Incoming Resources | Outgoing Resources | Transfers | 2022 | 2021 |
|-------------------|------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------|---------|---------|
| Miss Betty Estate | 220,769 | - | (46,480) | - | 174,289 | 220,769 |

13. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Royal Ulster Constabulary GC Foundation is an executive Non Departmental Public Body sponsored by the Department of Justice (DoJ). In the year to 31 March 2022 the grants received from the DoJ amounted to £127,000 (2021:£132,000).

Other than the reimbursement of travelling expenses, none of the trustees has undertaken any material transactions with the Foundation during the year. Reimbursement of travelling expenses to 5 trustees (2021:5) amounted to £5,280 (2021:£2,888).

14. RECONCILIATION OF RESULT FOR THE PERIOD TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

| | 2022 £ | 2021 £ |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Result for the period ended 31 March | (48,130) | (11,250) |
| Depreciation | 24,680 | 24,472 |
| (Increase)/Decrease in Stock | 9 | 195 |
| (Increase)/Decrease in Debtors | (6,194) | 512 |
| Increase/ (Decrease) in Creditors | <u>1,794</u> | <u>(34,129)</u> |
| | <u>(27,841)</u> | <u>(20,200)</u> |

15. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

As at 31 March 2022 the Royal Ulster Constabulary G C Foundation had no capital commitments.

16. COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES

As at 31 March 2022 the Royal Ulster Constabulary GC Foundation had no commitments under operating leases (2021:£Nil).

17. DONATIONS

The following donations were made by the Foundation during the year ended 31 March 2022.

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Newtownards GC Association | <u>£ 65.00</u> |
| Total | <u>£ 65.00</u> |

The following donations were made by the Foundation during the year ended 31 March 2021.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Banbridge South Down GC Association | <u>£ 50.00</u> |
| Total | <u>£ 50.00</u> |

18. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

As at 31 March 2022 the Royal Ulster Constabulary GC Foundation has no contingent liabilities (2021:£Nil).

19. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

There are no post balance sheet events to report.

20. IMPAIRMENT LOSSES AND SPECIAL PAYMENTS

There were no losses or special payments during the year ended 31 March 2022.

21. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

FRS102, Section 12- Other Financial Instruments, requires disclosure of the role which financial instruments have had during the year in creating or changing the risks an entity faces in undertaking its activities. Due to the non-trading nature of its activities and the way in which Non-Departmental Public Bodies are financed, the Royal Ulster Constabulary GC Foundation is not exposed to the degree of financial risk faced by business entities. Moreover, financial instruments play a much more limited role in creating or changing risk than would be typical of the listed companies to which FRS102 mainly applies. The Foundation has limited year end flexibility. Financial assets and liabilities are generated by day-to-day operational activities and are not held to change the risks facing the Foundation in undertaking its activities.

As permitted by FRS102, debtors and creditors which mature or become payable within 12 months from the balance sheet date have been excluded from this disclosure.

Liquidity Risk

The Foundation is financed by the DoJ and is accountable to the NI Assembly through the Minister of Justice for Northern Ireland and is therefore not exposed to significant liquidity risk.

Interest Rate Risk

All financial assets and financial liabilities of the Foundation with the exception of the No.2 Bank Account carry nil rates of interest and are therefore not exposed to interest-rate risk. The No.2 Bank Account attracts a variable rate of interest payable quarterly.

Currency Risk

The Foundation does not trade in foreign currency and therefore has no exposure to foreign currency risk.

22. NET ASSETS BY FUNDS

| | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | 2022 | 2021 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Fixed Assets | 90,530 | - | 90,530 | 108,801 |
| Current Assets | 105,977 | 174,289 | 280,266 | 308,331 |
| Liabilities | (31,484) | - | (31,484) | (29,690) |
| Net Assets | 165,023 | 174,289 | 339,312 | 387,442 |

DATE OF AUTHORISATION FOR ISSUE

The annual report and accounts were authorised to be issued on 9th January 2024 by the Accounting Officer

The Trustees would like to express their gratitude to all who have assisted or supported the Foundation in any way during the past year.

The Foundation can be contacted as follows:

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