

# Many Hands Make Light Work



**This Report covers the period of January 1st to December 31st 2024**

**Company name:** Laois Volunteer Centre Company CLG

**Principal address:** Unit 7, Bloom HQ, Patrick Street, Mountrath. Co. Laois, R32DT9F

**Registered office:** Unit 7, Bloom HQ, Patrick Street, Mountrath, Co. Laois, R32DT9F

**E-mail:** [info@volunteerlaois.ie](mailto:info@volunteerlaois.ie)

**Tel:** Manager: 087 2499659 Development Officer: 089 205 0593, Outreach Officer: 089 231 8904

**CHY Number** 20206150

**Company Registered Number** 676229

**Revenue CHY Number:** 22937

**Auditors:** Duncan Financial Services

Georgian House

12 Patrick Street

Kilkenny

R95 P573

**Bankers:** Bank of Ireland,

Lyster Square,

Portlaoise,

Co Laois

**Solicitor:** Laois Volunteer Centre does not have a solicitor but avails of legal expertise when required.

**Photos on Front Cover** Volunteers at the Ogra Live Well, 1st ever Community and Voluntary Expo for Post Primary Students.

**Photos on Back Cover**

**L-R,** Star weaving volunteers Portlaoise group, launch of Community and Voluntary awards, LVC at the National Ploughing Championships.

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Emma Cashin, teacher, Frances Kerry, Vice Principal, Mountmellick Community School, Caitriona Ryan, Manager, LVC, Martina Harding, teacher, Ogra Live Well

# Statement from the Manager



2024 was another great year for volunteering in Co. Laois. Similar to the previous year, there was an interest in volunteer registrations, organisation registrations and high volunteer placement rates. One of our aims is to promote volunteering to

both volunteers and organisations seeking our service. In order to do this, we endeavour to ensure that there are plenty of short term and online/remote volunteering roles.

## Corporate Volunteering

In 2024, we facilitated six very successful corporate volunteering projects which resulted in a large body of work being carried out on the Abbeyleix Bog Project, Linear Park in Portlaoise and The NeighbourWood in Abbeyleix.

## Recruitment

In quarters one, two and three we had four staff but that number decreased to two in quarter 4. Funding for one contract ended and another staff member left to take on more lucrative employment. Such reasons are common in the community and voluntary sector where funding is often ring fenced for a specific period and salaries in the private sector are more attractive.

## Volunteers

In 2024, 322 new volunteers registered via I-VOL, the national volunteering platform. 588 volunteers (volunteers that registered in 2024 and volunteers who registered in previous years) were referred to organisations for interview and placement. There are a number of key reasons why not all volunteers are placed into volunteering roles; change of mind/circumstances, unsuitable for the role or barriers such as language and transport. We pride ourselves on providing a personal, tailor-made service to both volunteers and organisations. Every volunteer that registers with us receives a welcome email, a phone call and ongoing support, if required from our Development Officer to discuss their reasons for volunteering, skills and talents they'd like to share and availability. This service is also extended to not for profit organisations and corporate companies by our new Community Support Officer. We continue to provide a volunteer management service for large once off events.

## Good Governance

We continue to comply with the Charities Regulatory Authority Good Governance Code and file our compliance every October. We were delighted to be awarded our Quality Standards Certificate in November. This award is an industry standard

## Acknowledgements

I want to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all the stakeholders that contributed to the development of our organisation throughout 2024. Many thanks also to the Department of Rural and Community Development and the dedication and commitment of the staff.

And finally, I want to express my gratitude to the huge contribution and time commitment shown by the board of Laois Volunteer Centre. Your ongoing input has been of immense value, not only to Laois Volunteer Centre, but to the wider communities throughout Laois.

## Caitriona Ryan

Manager  
Laois Volunteer Centre

## Aim, Mission Values



### Our Aim

Laois Volunteer Centre aims to be a 'one stop shop' for all your volunteering needs in County Laois. Laois Volunteer Centre is an independent organisation which works with individuals and organisations to carry out a range of activities to improve our communities.



### Our Vision

Laois Volunteer Centre, through its work with volunteers and organisations aims to help create a vibrant society; where every person feels connected to their community through active participation in voluntary activities.



### Our Values

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As per our Constitution, the main objective is to promote the value of volunteering and civic responsibility and to increase the range and quality of volunteering; to increase access to volunteering by offering a support service to the public and Volunteering Involving Organisations (VIOs); and to carry on these charitable purposes for the benefit for people living in Laois.

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Promoting the value of volunteering and civic responsibility

## Timeline

2019



Volunteer Ireland came to Laois with the remit of setting up a successor to Laois Volunteering Information Service.

2020



Laois Volunteer Centre established as a Company limited by Guarantee.

2021



Granted charitable status  
Staff manager, Caitriona Ryan was recruited

2022



Located office in Bloom HQ, Mountrath  
Completion of first annual report in compliance with the Charity Regulator  
Preparation of Strategic Plan 2023-2026  
First AGM in October  
First year compliance with Charities Regulator  
Development Officer recruited in August.

2023



Outreach Officer recruited in July – to build and support volunteer involving organisations (VIOs).  
Corporate Volunteering projects – Abbeyleix Bog Project hosted 25 corporate employees (Oct 9) and Down Syndrome Centre, Midlands hosted 18 corporate employees (Oct 16)  
Second year compliant with Charities Regulator  
Sponsored Junior Volunteer of the Year 2023 Awards at Laois Community & Voluntary Awards, November  
Shortlisted for the Good Governance Awards

2024



6 corporate volunteering projects  
3rd year of compliance with the Charities Regulator  
First Volunteering Expo for young people - Ogra Live Well, Mountmellick Community School  
Quality Standard Award (industry standard award) achieved  
Sponsored Junior Volunteer of the Year Award

# Sustainability

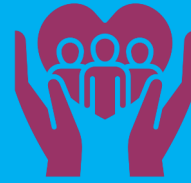
Laois Volunteer Centre places sustainability at the core of all of its operations. Being sustainable is a key priority in our Strategy Plan 2023-2026 (Priority 1: Ensure the Organisation is Sustainable by meeting high standards of Good Governance, Accountability and Management). As previously stated, we are in our third year of compliance with the Charities Regulatory Authority. Our audited accounts are prepared using SORP which we voluntarily implemented from the very beginning.

Our staff work under a hybrid model, combining in person and remote working. Our in person office is located in a community enterprise co working space where resources and equipment are shared. We schedule online meetings (where possible) to reduce our need to travel and carpool when in person meetings are necessary.

Our corporate volunteering programme is primarily environmental in focus and we have gained considerable experience in facilitating environmental programmes particularly in the removal of invasive species of flora.



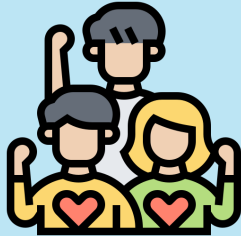
AIB corporate volunteering at The Neighbour Wood project with Mr Mark Clancy, Abbeyleix Tidy Towns.



## 2024 Data Highlights

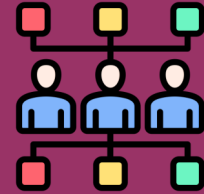
### New Volunteers Registered in 2024

**322**



### New VIOs Registers

**31**



\*Volunteer Involving Organisations

Opportunities

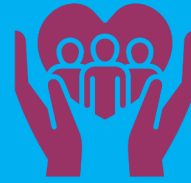
**789**

Applied For



Laois Domestic  
Abuse Service





## 2024 Data Highlights

# 1 Million

Commenced Star Weaving Project in June 2024 as part of the community arts, One Million Stars programme which raises awareness about domestic and gender based violence. Home - [One Million Stars Ireland](#)



## Volunteers Referred

# 588

Various reasons for non referrals:- unsuitable for position, no longer interested, vacancy no longer available, volunteer did not respond to contacts made.

## Female



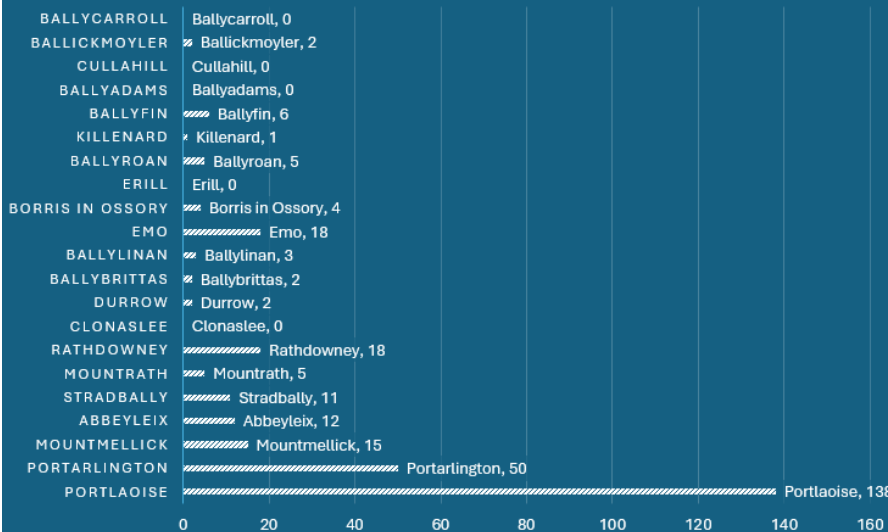
# 221

## Male



# 96

## VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION BY AREA



|                  |     |
|------------------|-----|
| Portlaoise       | 138 |
| Portarlington    | 50  |
| Emo              | 18  |
| Rathdowney       | 18  |
| Mountmellick     | 15  |
| Abbyleix         | 12  |
| Stradbally       | 11  |
| Ballyfinn        | 6   |
| Ballyroan        | 5   |
| Borris in Ossory | 4   |
| Ballickmoyler    | 2   |
| Ballybrittas     | 2   |
| Ballylinan       | 2   |
| Durrow           | 2   |

## Participating Organisations by Country



Ireland, Ukraine, Brazil, Moldova and Africa

\* Gender breakdown - estimated figures as not everyone stated their gender

## History of the Organisation

The Laois Volunteer Centre was established in August 2020 as a company limited by guarantee in line with a government aim of expanding the volunteer centre network in Ireland to all counties. Laois Volunteer Centre was preceded by the Laois Volunteer Information Service provided by Laois Partnership CLG.

Laois Volunteer Centre was granted charitable status by the Charities Regulator in April 2021. The Centre's board successfully recruited its first staff manager and development officer in 2021. With the recruitment of the manager and subsequently the development officer, work began on the core service tasks of matching volunteers with not-for-profit organisations.

Covid-19 impacted significantly on the work of the Centre in the initial years of operation.

The board and manager agreed that rather than open an office, the Centre's staff would work at a remote working hub, Bloom HQ in Mountrath and from home. This has had a beneficial impact on finances. It has also fostered a more proactive approach to networking and developing an outreach service.

A significant amount of work was also carried out in 2021 and 2022 bedding in the foundations and structures to support the board and staff.

Two milestones in 2022 were the completion of our first annual report/AGM and compliance with the Charities Regulator Governance Code.

In 2023, the recruitment of two extra staff members resulted in a greater number of volunteering opportunities. Our first large scale volunteer management project took place in May 2023 in Sue Ryder residential facility in Ballyroan. The Garden Makeover Project saw 39 volunteers transform an unusable garden space over three weekends into a welcoming, biodiverse rich space for residents.

The roll out of corporate volunteering and also a community volunteer programme demonstrated an added dimension of our service.

In 2024, our corporate volunteering programme continued to grow. We facilitated six different corporate volunteering days. Five different volunteer involving organisations benefitted from this programme – they were: Mountmellick Tidy Towns, Mountmellick Community Development Association, Portlaoise Tidy Towns, The Abbeyleix Bog Project and The Neighbour Wood. 115 employees from four different companies gave their time and skills to environmental projects.

## About Us

**Laois Volunteer Centre provides the following services for Volunteers:**

- Finding suitable volunteering opportunities
- Matching skills, talents and abilities to a suitable non-for-profit organisation, taking into account the time availability, interests etc.
- Supporting and advising on volunteer matters.
- Managing the I-VOL app where volunteers can register their interest in volunteering opportunities.

**We provide the following services for Non for Profit Organisations:**

- Conducting skills gaps/needs analyses with organisations to identify volunteering requirements.
- Finding and matching suitable volunteers.
- Providing practical support and advice about volunteer engagement and management.
- Garda Vetting services for organisations who do not have an authorised signatory in their organisation.
- Free/low-cost training on various volunteer related matters such as Garda Vetting, Volunteer Engagement, Benefits of Volunteering etc.
- Volunteer Management at large community events.
- Facilitating corporate volunteering projects.
- Management of the I-VOL app where you can post your volunteer vacancies.

**Laois Volunteer Centre has sponsored a volunteering category in the annual Laois Community and Voluntary Awards since it's inception in 2021.**

In 2024, Tommy and Sarah Doyle were the overall winners of the Junior Volunteer of the Year 2024. Saoirse Oxley was the runner up.

Work continued on maintaining compliance with the Charities Regulatory Authority Good Governance Code.

## STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Laois Volunteer Centre is a Company Limited by Guarantee having no share capital and in accordance with clause 10 of the Constitution every member of the Company is liable to contribute a sum of €1 in the event of the company being wound up.

Board members are nominated to the board.

The term of office is three years and after the initial term can be renewed twice, with a total of nine years on the board for each member.

**At 31 December 2024 there were seven board members:**

Conor Ganly (Chairperson)  
Pauline Flanagan (Member)  
Zain Jawed Khan (Treasurer)  
Julia O'Connor (Director)  
Seamus Bennett (Secretary)  
Denis McEvoy (Member)  
Tony Loughnane (Member).

During 2024 the board met every second month. In addition to the board, there are four sub-committees of the board:

- Finance
- HR
- Communications
- Governance

Board members receive no remuneration in respect of their services but may be paid for travel, hotel and other expenses incurred. In 2024, there were:

- ⇒ 9 Finance Sub Committee Meetings
- ⇒ 4 Governance Sub Committee Meetings
- ⇒ 2 HR Sub Committee Meetings
- ⇒ 2 Communications Sub Committee Meetings

The role of the board of management is to support the manager and staff in the day-to-day operations of Laois Volunteer Centre.

Laois Volunteer Centre is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development. Laois Volunteer Centre is compliant with the Charities Regulator's Governance Code. All registered charities in Ireland are expected to meet the core standards of the six principles of the Code.



Junior Volunteer of the Year Award Winners: Tommy and Sarah Doyle. Caption, Caitriona Ryan, Manager, LVC, Tommy and Sarah Doyle, Overall Winners, Junior Volunteer of the Year Award and Emer Boyle, Development Officer, LVC.



# Goals and Objectives



## Core Objective 1:

**Increase access to volunteering by offering a Support Service to the public and volunteer involving organisations.**



## Core Objective 2:

**Increase overall levels of participation in volunteering by consistent relationship building with volunteers.**



## Core Objective 3:

**Increase the knowledge and skills of VIOs to manage and support volunteers.**



## Core Objective 4:

**Ensure the organisation is sustainable through Good Governance and Management.**

**CORE OBJECTIVE 1: Increase access to volunteering by offering a Support Service to the public and volunteer involving organisations.**

Laois Volunteer Centre continued to build and enhance relationships with volunteer involving organisations and other stakeholders. We did this by carrying out more needs analysis meetings with VIOs which enabled us to identify more volunteering opportunities and other ways in which to support VIO services and activities e.g. volunteer management at big events etc. We continued to participate and collaborate in stakeholder and VIO events e.g. hosting information stands or delivering presentations about volunteering, Garda Vetting etc.

**Targets**

Every year we aim to increase the number of volunteer involving organisations. Recruiting more VIOs results in a greater number of volunteering opportunities and 2) the VIOs run their services more effectively.

Relationship building with key stakeholders and all VIOs is crucial and, through extensive networking, participation and collaboration we recruited 31 new VIOs.

However, it is important also for us to allocate enough time and resources to maintain and develop our existing VIO base.

**Learnings from 2023**

As mentioned above, we focused on attending and participating in a diverse range of stakeholder networking events with organisations including the Laois County Council, Laois Chamber Alliance and Laois Partnership Company. Having a staff member (outreach officer) dedicated to the recruitment of organisations is crucial in enabling us to carry out this type of networking and relationship building. The outreach officer also devotes much time to capacity building in the form of in-depth meetings with VIOs where needs analyses and reviews of activities are conducted.

By doing this, we continue to raise awareness about our service and maintain our profile with existing stakeholders and VIOs.

Following on from the learnings of 2023, Laois Volunteer Centre continues to be proactive in our approach to recruiting VIOs. We tend to reach out to organisations to offer our service rather than waiting for them to contact us.

**CORE OBJECTIVE 2: Increase overall levels of participation in volunteering by consistent relationship building with volunteers.**

We continue to offer a friendly, supportive one to one service with volunteers. Our Development Officer phones every person who registers to volunteer to welcome them, ascertain their reasons for volunteering and their interests. We aim to match people with the most suitable volunteering opportunity possible. Our Development Officer is also in regular contact with our more experienced volunteers and conducts regular checks with them about their volunteering experience. Following up with referrals to organisations is another important piece of the process. One of the main reasons is to ensure that volunteer applications are handled in a timely manner.

All of this work is time consuming and demanding but is crucial to providing the basis of an effective and efficient service.

Our principal funder broadened our remit from supporting displaced Ukrainians to include supporting New Communities. This has enabled us to help build the capacity of other migrant led VIOs.

In addition to supporting the Malva Ukrainian Choir, it was very satisfying to be able to support LABRAS (Laois Brazilian Support Group), Laois Africa Support Group, Portlaoise Women's Shed and PATH.

In collaboration with Laois Connects (part of Laois County Council) and Mountmellick Community School, we organized our first ever Community and Voluntary Expo. Over 55 different organisations and companies hosted stands with an attendance of almost 1,700 5th and 6th class primary and post primary students. The aim of the event was to provide a central location for young people to learn about the not for profit organisations in our county. During the Expo, they could learn about the organisations and the services and activities they provide. By planting the seeds about the importance of community, we are nurturing the volunteers of the future.



## Ukrainian /New Communities Response

We worked closely with the Ukrainian Malva Choir, Laois Africa Support Group, LABRAS, Portlaoise Women's Shed and PATH to assist them in developing their volunteering programme.

In addition, Laois Volunteer Centre continued to participate in the monthly Community Response Forum facilitated by Laois County Council.

### **CORE OBJECTIVE 3: Increase the knowledge and skills of VIOs to manage and support volunteers.**

Building capacity with VIOs is essential to ensure that relevant volunteering opportunities are identified and created. In addition to providing support through skills and needs analyses, we delivered training in The Fundamentals of Garda Vetting and in The A-Z of Volunteer Management. A considerable amount of time and resources are devoted to helping VIOs develop their organisations and services. 31 new VIOs were recruited

## Networking

Laois Volunteer Centre staff have participated in over 55 networking/collaborative events throughout 2024 including events with Laois Chamber Alliance, Laois County Council, National Ploughing Championships, Live Well Expo, Volunteer Ireland, Laois Partnership Company events and others and have exhibited stands at 8 county-wide events. In addition, LVC collaborated with Mountmellick Community School



### **CORE OBJECTIVE 4: Ensure the organisation is sustainable through Good Governance and Management.**

Laois Volunteer Centre aims to provide a high quality, professional service to all stakeholders and to ensure effective and transparent governance within the organisation.

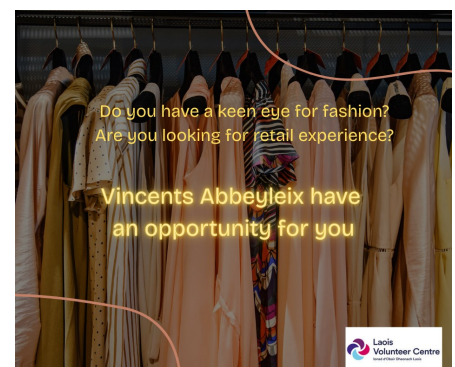
Four Governance Sub Committee meetings were held with regular reporting on progress to the other board members. In addition to these meetings, we met with a consultant who specialises in Governance. We hired them to assist the Governance Sub Committee in its review of our Constitution, Terms of Reference, Standing Orders and other documents that detail how we operate.



Throughout 2024, the Manager with the support of Volunteer Ireland carried out an intensive programme of work on Quality Standards for Volunteer Centres. In November, Laois Volunteer Centre was awarded its Certificate in Quality Standards - an industry standard governance award.



# Social Media



# Organisation Testimonials

Working with Laois volunteer group has been one of the most meaningful experiences since the creation of LASG. Their unwavering commitment to supporting our migrant community is not only inspiring but deeply human. They offer more than just services - they offer hope, dignity, and a sense of belonging. Every interaction is filled with compassion, respect, and understanding. LASG has witnessed first-hand how their work transforms lives, builds bridges, and strengthens the community in the most powerful ways. We are truly honoured to stand alongside them'

**From everyone in LASG**  
**Bolaji Adeyanju**



Our garda vetting is processed through Laois Volunteer Centre. We have found the staff there to be very helpful and efficient. They have always treated our enquiries with patience.

**Brenda Murtagh, Youth Dart School**

<https://sosadireland.ie/>



To whom it concerns,

We at YDS have had our Garda vetting processed through Laois Volunteer Centre. We have mainly dealt with Caitriona and we have found her and all the Staf very helpful and efficient. They have always treated our enquiries with patience and are very prompt in their response to us.

We are grateful for the help and support they provide to our Club.

Yours sincerely,

Brenda Murtagh  
(on behalf of Youth Darts School, Laois)



As a Deputy Principal at Mountmellick Community School. I am proud to offer this testimonial in support of Laois Volunteer Centre and the exceptional work they have undertaken in partnership with Mountmellick Community School to promote wellbeing and the intrinsic value of volunteerism, among our students.

Their involvement in wellbeing initiatives has been both meaningful and impactful. Notably, their partnership with our school in the organising of the Ógra Live Well event - held on November 20th as part of Laois County Council's Laois Connects programme - provided an invaluable opportunity for our students to engage directly with a wide range of local services. The event not only raised awareness about community supports but also created a vibrant space for networking and learning for over 1400 Primary and Post Primary students who attended on the day. The event was so successful we are both working together and are in negotiations with various agencies / businesses with a view to hosting the event again in 2025.

Beyond large-scale events, Laois Volunteer Centre has fostered student engagement through creative and socially conscious initiatives. One standout example is their coordination of the One Million Stars weaving project to highlight domestic violence. Their invitation for our Transition Year students to contribute to this powerful campaign was met with enthusiasm, and the opportunity to be part of a national effort - culminating in a local art installation - has given students a real sense of purpose and social responsibility. The group's willingness to visit the school, deliver tutorials, and supply all materials reflects their deep commitment to accessibility and inclusion.

The team at Laois Volunteer Centre, spearheaded by Caitriona, with Eimear and Mary always there to offer advice and assist, has consistently demonstrated the values of empathy, community engagement, and how it all lends to proactive wellbeing support. Their partnership has greatly enriched our school environment, and I wholeheartedly endorse Laois Volunteer Centre.

**Frances Kerry - La Rosa**  
**Deputy Principal**  
**Mountmellick Community School**



## Past Events



Emer Boyle, Development Officer, George Leahy General Manager, Midlands Park hotel. Caitriona Ryan, Manager, LVC.



Caitriona Ryan and Storm Powell at New Communities Open Day, Rathdowney.



LVC staff with students from LOETB - LVC staff delivered a talk about the benefits of volunteering to the students.

## Past Events



Joint Winners of the Junior Volunteer of the Year Award 2024 Tommy and Sarah Doyle with LVC staff.

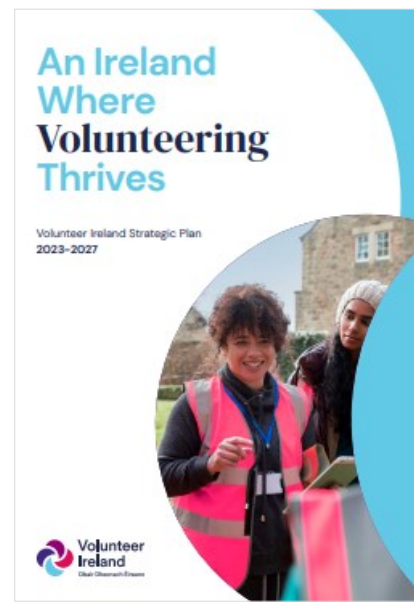


LCV Staff with Jason McEvoy, chairperson of PATH.



Fingleton White Engineering volunteers in the Abbeyleix Bog Project.

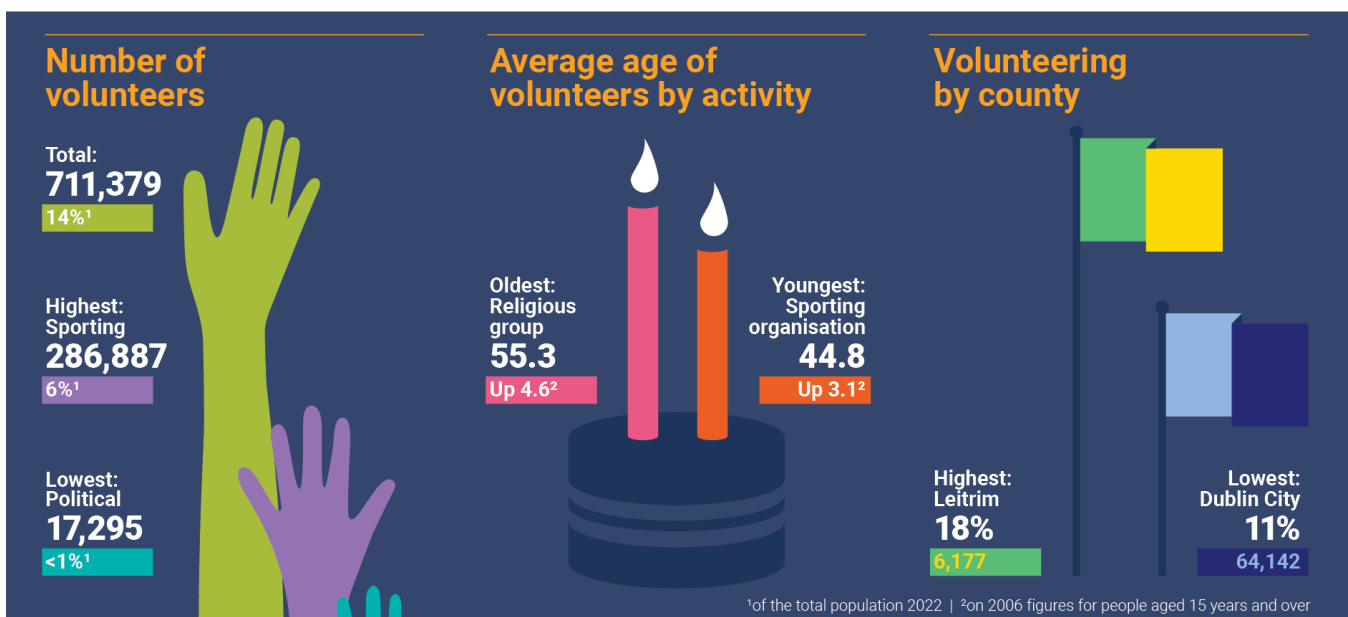
# Key Documents



## Census Data Shines Light on Significant Role of Volunteers

**More than 700,000 people in Ireland said they do voluntary work regularly, with almost half involved in a sporting organisation**

- In April 2022, more than 700,000 people regularly engaged in helping or voluntary work (14% of the population).
- The largest numbers of volunteers were involved in Sport, at almost 290,000 people or 6% of the population.
- The next most common area where people volunteered was in their community, followed by in a social or in a charitable organisation.
- Males were most likely to volunteer in a sporting organisation while females were more likely to volunteer in their community.
- Leitrim had the highest rate of volunteers at 18%. Dublin City and South Dublin had the joint lowest at 11%.
- The proportion of people engaged in helping or voluntary work increased with age. Over one-third (38%) of all volunteers were aged between 45 and 64 years.
- Some 16% of volunteers, or more than 113,000 people, volunteered in more than one activity or organisation.
- Among younger people, 3% of children under the age of 15 (over 30,000 people) volunteered in at least one activity.



Ref: Central Statistics Office

## Census Data Shines Light on Significant Role of Volunteers

### Statistician's Comment

The Central Statistics Office (CSO) has today (01 February 2024) released Census 2022 Spotlight Series: Volunteering in Ireland. This is the first in a new series of Census 2022 analyses which will be published under the title of Census 2022 Spotlight Series.

Commenting on the results, Sheelagh Bonham, Statistician in the Census Division, said:

*“For the first time since 2006, the census in 2022 included a question on volunteering. The 2006 question on volunteering was restricted to people aged 15 years and over while in 2022 it was open to people of all ages. The number of volunteers aged 15 and over grew by 23% between 2006 and 2022, matching the growth in that age group in the period. Sporting organisations had 50% more volunteers in 2022 than 2006, while religious or church groups had 13% fewer volunteers.*

*The most popular area where people volunteered in 2022 was a Sporting Organisation. This was followed by community activities and then volunteering in social or charitable organisations. People were least likely to volunteer in religious or church groups (18%) and political organisations (2%). Volunteering is integral to a huge range of organisations and activities which people in every town, village, city, and county in Ireland participate in and rely on every day. This publication provides invaluable data and will help us to better understand volunteering in Ireland today.”*

### Laois

In Laois, 14% of the county's population or almost 13,200 people were volunteering in their community and various organisations in April 2022. Of these there were 6,189 females and almost 7,000 males volunteering.

The most popular voluntary activity was in a sporting organisation, where just over 5,900 Laois people were volunteering. More than 4,200 people volunteered in their community while over 3,100 were involved in social or charitable organisations. More than 2,400 people were volunteering in a religious or church group while there were 283 volunteers in political organisations. Nearly 2,200 people were volunteering in more than one group or activity.

Looking at broad age groups, the largest group of volunteers were among people aged 45-64 where there were 4,943 people volunteering. A further 4,053 people aged 25-44 were also involved in voluntary activities. There were 2,078 volunteers aged 65 and over. Just over 700 children (under 15 years old) and almost 1,400 people aged 15-24 were also volunteering.

[Press Statement Census of Population 2022 Spotlight Series: Volunteering in Ireland - CSO - Central Statistics Office](#)





**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**

**Directors' Report And Financial Statements**

**For The Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

**Registered Number 676229**

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**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**  
**Directors and Company Information**  
**For The Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

**Directors**

Conor Ganly  
Seamus Bennett  
Pauline Flanagan  
Zain Jawed Khan  
Julia O'Connor  
Denis McEvoy  
Tony Loughnane

**Secretary**

Seamus Bennett

**Registered Office**

Bloom HQ, Unit 6  
Mountrath  
Co Laois

**Registered Charity Number**

20206150

**Tax Registration Number**

3731813BH

**Charitable Tax Exemption Number**

22937

**Business Address**

Bloom HQ, Unit 6  
Mountrath  
Co Laois

**Auditors**

Duncan Financial Services Limited  
Georgian House  
12 Patrick Street  
Kilkenny

**Bankers**

Bank of Ireland  
Portlaoise  
Co Laois

## **Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**

### **Chairman's Report**

#### **For The Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**



The growing relevance of Laois Volunteer Centre as a practical resource for many non-profit community groups and outlet for individuals to contribute was in evidence throughout 2024.

With the Covid-19 pandemic and its restrictions in the rear view mirror, the Centre's staff and its board entered the year with refreshed resolve to meet needs and overcome challenges to deliver on our mission of being a one-stop-shop for volunteering in Laois.

Led by Manager Caitriona Ryan, the Centre continued its work matching volunteers with volunteer organisations who have opportunities. Hundreds of people have registered through the i-vol portal. A trend noted throughout the year was the willingness of people to contribute to one-off events.

While welcome, this does represent a challenge as medium and long term volunteering commitment is also sought after by non-profit groups. Finding ways to encourage substantive volunteering by individuals in conjunction with the organisations could be a body of work for the centre to take on going forward.

The Centre's staff have continued to work to advance volunteer initiatives involving employers and their staff. These initiatives continue to prove wins for employers, staff and non-profits particularly when it comes to environmental projects.

Corporate Governance doesn't often make the headlines but the subject matter did in 2024 due to difficulties at RTÉ. Laois Volunteer Centre's staff and board remain committed to good governance. We remained compliant with the Charities Regulator Governance. The Centre also achieved the Quality Standard Award overseen by Volunteer Ireland. Receipt of State funds was contingent on achieving this in 2024.

The Centre successfully ran a specific new event in 2024 in conjunction with Mountmelick Community School. The Ogra Live Well day saw hundreds of secondary school students interacting with voluntary groups to encourage volunteerism in their communities.

A key role for the Laois Volunteer Centre is promoting volunteerism. In reality this happens every day through interactions staff have with organisations and individuals. Promotion through events and investments is necessary. Funds have been invested in promotional equipment that can be used over the longer term. The Centre also was involved with events such as Live Well Expo, the Laois Community and Voluntary Awards and St Patrick's Day to raise awareness.

Being agile and adaptable to challenges is important. One example of this during the year was a decision to pivot away from employing a staff member to work with new communities outreach work. Instead the board had directly supported groups in procuring equipment that helped them deliver on their goals when working with Ukrainians and others who have moved to Laois from other countries.

Staff play a crucial role in delivering services for Laois VC. The board believes it is important to recognise this contribution and did so during 2024 through enhanced conditions by mid-year. We remain committed to this going forward where resources permit. Recruitment issues that presented during 2023 were eventually resolved during 2024 and we feel we have a strong team of staff in place to deliver for the future.

Board members are to be commended for their ongoing commitment to their contribution to oversight and governance of the Laois Volunteer Centre. This voluntary effort can sometimes feel onerous but the community does benefit from the input.

**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**

**Chairman's Report**

**For The Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

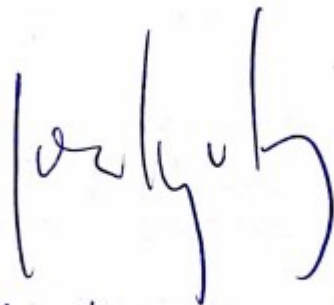
The Centre was on a sound financial footing by the end of the year thanks to the careful management of our finances by the manager with the important input of the Treasurer and other board members. The Centre was advised by the Department of Rural and Community Development, at the end of 2024 that the new funding model to be introduced in 2025.

I concluded thanking staff and board members for the work and committed through 2024. Thanks are also extended to all the groups and volunteers who have worked with us to help the community. We are also grateful to our chief funder, the Department of Rural and Community Development as well as the many partner organisations we work with to advance volunteerism in Laois.

**Approved by:**

Conor Ganly

- Chairperson



**Date :**

18 / 6 / 2025

# A Note from the Treasurer



The financial year ending 31 December 2024 marked a period of both strategic advancement and operational success for Laois Volunteer Centre CLG. We successfully expanded our service delivery and deepened community engagement.

Our total income increased by 17% year-on-year, primarily due to enhanced support from the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD). This growth was accompanied by a rise in expenditure, particularly in staffing and program delivery, resulting in a deficit of €28,866. Our financial position remains stable, with year-end reserves of €105,563 and a cash balance of €104,712.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to financial stewardship, continued compliance with governance standards, and alignment with DRCD funding objectives to support long-term sustainability. I would like to thank DRCD, my fellow board members, staff, and volunteers for their unwavering support and dedication throughout the year.

**Zain Khan**

Treasurer

Laois Volunteer Centre CLG

## **Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**

### **Directors' Report**

#### **For The Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

The directors present their report and audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2024.

#### **Our Aim**

Laois Volunteer Centre aims to be a 'one stop shop' for all your volunteering needs in County Laois. Laois Volunteer Centre is an independent organisation which works with individuals and organisations to carry out a range of activities to improve our communities.

#### **Our Vision**

Laois Volunteer Centre, through its work with volunteers and organisations aims to help create a vibrant society; where every person feels connected to their community through active participation in voluntary Activities

#### **Our Mission**

Laois Volunteer Centre will promote the value of volunteering and increase the range and quality of volunteering in the Laois.

#### **Our Values**

As per our Constitution, the main objective is to promote the value of volunteering and civic responsibility and to increase the range and quality of volunteering; to increase access to volunteering by offering a support service to the public and Volunteering Involving Organisations (VIOs); and to carry on these charitable purposes for the benefit for people living in Laois.

#### **Laois Volunteer Centre provides the following services for Volunteers:**

- Finding suitable volunteering opportunities
- Matching skills, talents and abilities to a suitable non-for-profit organisation, taking into account the time you have available, your interests etc.
- Support and advice about volunteering.
- Management of the I-VOL app where volunteers can register their interest in volunteering opportunities.
- Check out the I-VOL app [here](#).

#### **We provide the following services for Organisations:**

Conducting skills gaps/needs analysis with organisations to identify volunteering requirements.

- Finding and matching suitable volunteers.
- Practical support and advice about volunteer engagement and management.
- Garda Vetting services for organisations who do not have an authorised signatory in their organisation.
- Free/low-cost training on various volunteer related matters such as Garda Vetting, Volunteer Engagement, Benefits of Volunteering etc.
- Volunteer Management at large community events.
- Facilitating corporate volunteering projects.
- Management of the I-VOL app where you can post your volunteer vacancies.
- We also provide services for organisations who would like to engage with volunteers.

The Laois Volunteer Centre was established in August 2020 as a company limited by guarantee in line with a government aim of expanding the volunteer centre network in Ireland to all counties.

## **Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**

### **Directors' Report**

#### **For The Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

Laois Volunteer Centre was preceded by the Laois Volunteer Information Service provided by Laois Partnership CLG. Laois Volunteer Centre was granted charitable status by the Charities Regulator in April 2021.

The Centre's board successfully recruited its first staff manager and development officer in 2021. With the recruitment of the manager and subsequently the development officer, work began on the core service tasks of matching volunteers with not-for-profit organisations.

Covid-19 impacted significantly on the work of the Centre in the initial years of operation. The board and manager agreed that rather than open an office, the Centre's staff would work at a remote working hub, Bloom HQ in Mountrath and from home. This has had a beneficial impact on finances. It has also fostered a more proactive approach to networking and developing an outreach service.

A significant amount of work was also carried out in 2021 and 2022 bedding in the foundations and structures to support the board and staff. In 2023, work continued to increase Volunteer Involving Organisations, build relationships with key stakeholder and develop our corporate volunteering programme.

In 2024, Laois Volunteer Centre continued to work on maintaining compliance with The Charities Regulatory Authority's Good Governance Code. In addition, we were awarded the industry standard Quality Standard Certificate in November.

In 2024, there were some staff changes and it proved difficult to recruit new staff so the Board made the decision to enlist the help of a recruitment company which resulted in staff being placed in November. Six corporate volunteering projects took place in 2024. Companies included AIB, The Midlands Park Hotel, Fingelton White Engineering and a well-known financial institution (they do not permit us to publicize their name). 118 employees generously gave their time to local environmental projects in The Abbeyleix Bog Project, The Neighbour Wood, Linear Park and on the banks of the Owenass River.

Laois Volunteer Centre has sponsored a volunteering category in the annual Laois Community and Voluntary Awards since its inception in 2021. In 2024, we sponsored the Junior Volunteer of the Year Awards. Tommy and Sarah Doyle were the joint winners. Saoirse Oxley was awarded the runner up prize.

Two milestones in 2022 were the completion of our first annual report/AGM and compliance with the Charities Regulator Governance Code.

In 2024, we facilitated six very successful corporate volunteering projects which resulted in a large body of work being carried out on the Abbeyleix Bog Project, Linear Park in Portlaoise and The NeighbourWood in Abbeyleix.

In quarters one, two and three we had four staff but that number decreased to two in quarter 4. Funding for one contract ended and another staff member left to take on more lucrative employment. Such reasons are common in the community and voluntary sector where funding is often ring fenced for a specific period and salaries in the private sector are more attractive.

## **Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**

### **Directors' Report**

#### **For The Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

In 2024, 322 new volunteers registered via I-VOL, the national volunteering platform. 789 volunteers (volunteers that registered in 2024 and volunteers who registered in previous years) were referred to organisations for interview and placement. There are a number of key reasons why not all volunteers are placed into volunteering roles; change of mind/ circumstances, unsuitable for the role or barriers such as language and transport. We pride ourselves on providing a personal, tailor-made service to both volunteers and organisations. Every volunteer that registers with us receives a welcome email, a phone call from our Development Officer to discuss their reasons for volunteering, skills and talents they'd like to share and availability. Ongoing support during their volunteering journey is also provided. This service is also extended to not for profit organisations and corporate companies by our new Community Support Officer. We continue to provide a volunteer management service for large one off events.

We continue to comply with the Charities Regulatory Authority Good Governance Code and file our compliance every October. We were delighted to be awarded our Quality Standards Certificate in November. This award is an industry standard.

During 2024 the Board met every second month. In addition to the Board, there are three sub-committees of the Board: Finance, HR, Communications and Governance. Board members receive no remuneration under any circumstances in respect of their services but may be paid for travel, hotel and other expenses properly incurred. There were 7 board meetings. 9 Finance Sub Committee Meetings, 4 Governance Sub Committee Meetings, 2 HR Sub Committee Meetings and 2 Communications Sub Committee Meetings.

The role of the board of directors is to support the manager and staff in the day-to-day operations of Laois Volunteer Centre. Laois Volunteer Centre is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development. Laois Volunteer Centre is compliant with the Charities Regulator's Governance Code. All registered charities in Ireland are expected to meet the core standards of the six principles of the Code.

Laois Volunteer Centre is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development. Laois Volunteer Centre is compliant with the Charities Regulator's Governance Code. All registered charities in Ireland are expected to meet the core standards of the six principles of the Code.

#### **CORE OBJECTIVE 1:**

Increase access to volunteering by offering a Support Service to the public and volunteer involving organisations.

Laois Volunteer Centre continued to build and enhance relationships with volunteer involving organisations and other stakeholders. We did this by carrying out more needs analysis meetings with VIOs which enabled us to identify more volunteering opportunities and other ways in which to support VIO services and activities e.g. volunteer management at big events etc. We continued to participate and collaborate in stakeholder and VIO events e.g. hosting information stands or delivering presentations about volunteering, Garda Vetting etc.

Every year we aim to increase the number of volunteer involving organisations. Recruiting more VIOs results in a greater number of volunteering opportunities and 2) the VIOs run their services more effectively. Relationship building with key stakeholders and all VIOs is crucial and, through extensive networking, participation and collaboration we recruited 31 new VIOs.

However, it is important also for us to allocate enough time and resources to maintain and develop our existing VIO base.

## **Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**

### **Directors' Report**

#### **For The Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

As mentioned above, we focused on attending and participating in a diverse range of stakeholder networking events with organisations including the Laois County Council, Laois Chamber Alliance and Laois Partnership Company. Having a staff member (outreach officer) dedicated to the recruitment of organisations is crucial in enabling us to carry out this type of networking and relationship building. The outreach officer also devotes much time to capacity building in the form of in-depth meetings with VIOs where needs analyses and reviews of activities are conducted.

By doing this, we continue to raise awareness about our service and maintain our profile with existing stakeholders and VIOs.

#### **CORE OBJECTIVE 2:**

Increase overall levels of participation in volunteering by consistent relationship building with volunteers. We continue to offer a friendly, supportive one to one service with volunteers. Our Development Officer phones every person who registers to volunteer to welcome them, ascertain their reasons for volunteering and their interests. We aim to match people with the most suitable volunteering opportunity possible. Our Development Officer is also in regular contact with our more experienced volunteers and conducts regular checks with them about their volunteering experience. Following up with referrals to organisations is another important piece of the process. One of the main reasons is to ensure that volunteer applications are handled in a timely manner.

All of this work is time consuming and demanding but is crucial to providing the basis of an effective and efficient service.

Our principal funder broadened our remit from supporting displaced Ukrainians to include supporting New Communities. This has enabled us to help build the capacity of other migrant led VIOs.

In addition to supporting the Malva Ukrainian Choir, it was very satisfying to be able to support LABRAS (Laois Brazilian Support Group), Laois Africa Support Group, Portlaoise Women's Shed and PATH.

In collaboration with Laois Connects (part of Laois County Council) and Mountmellick Community School, we organized our first ever Community and Voluntary Expo. Over 55 different organisations and companies hosted stands with an attendance of almost 1,700 5th and 6th class primary and post primary students. The aim of the event was to provide a central location for young people to learn about the not for profit organisations in our county. During the Expo, they could learn about the organisations and the services and activities they provide. By planting the seeds about the importance of community, we are nurturing the volunteers of the future.

#### **Ukrainian /New Communities Response**

We worked closely with the Ukrainian Malva Choir, Laois Africa Support Group, LABRAS, Portlaoise Women's Shed and PATH to assist them in developing their volunteering programme.

In addition, Laois Volunteer Centre continued to participate in the monthly Community Response Forum facilitated by Laois County Council.

#### **CORE OBJECTIVE 3:**

Increase the knowledge and skills of VIOs to manage and support Volunteers.

Building capacity with VIOs is essential to ensure that relevant volunteering opportunities are identified and created. In addition to providing support through skills and needs analyses, we delivered training in The Fundamentals of Garda Vetting and in The A-Z of Volunteer Management. A considerable amount of time and resources are devoted to helping VIOs develop their organisations and services. 31 new VIOs were recruited.

## **Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**

### **Directors' Report**

#### **For The Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

#### **Networking**

Laois Volunteer Centre staff have participated in over 55 networking/collaborative events throughout 2024 including events with Laois Chamber Alliance, Laois County Council, National Ploughing Championships, Live Well Expo, Volunteer Ireland, Laois Partnership Company events and others and have exhibited stands at 8 county-wide events. In addition, LVC collaborated with Mountmellick Community School.

#### **CORE OBJECTIVE 4:**

Ensure the organisation is sustainable through Good Governance and Management.

Laois Volunteer Centre aims to provide a high quality, professional service to all stakeholders and to ensure effective and transparent governance within the organisation.

Four Governance Sub Committee meetings were held with regular reporting on progress to the other board members. In addition to these meetings, we met with a consultant who specialises in Governance. We hired them to assist the Governance Sub Committee in its review of our Constitution, Terms of Reference, Standing Orders and other documents that detail how we operate.

Throughout 2024, the Manager with the support of Volunteer Ireland carried out an intensive programme of work on implementing Quality Standards for Volunteer Centres. In November, Laois Volunteer Centre was awarded its Certificate in Quality Standards - an industry standard governance award.

#### **Going Concern**

The Company is economically dependent on the Department of Rural and Community Development for funding. The directors are satisfied that this funding will continue for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

#### **Financial Review**

The deficit for the financial year after providing for depreciation amounted to €28,866 (2023 - surplus €22,543).

At the end of the financial year the company has assets of €112,591 (2023 - €153,263) and liabilities of €7,028 (2023 - €18,834). The liabilities of the company have decreased by €11,806, which includes a decrease in deferred income of €12,359.

Laois Volunteer Centre had total income of €178,155 in 2024 (2023 - €152,560). €177,965 (99.89%) was received for specific purposes and was therefore treated as restricted funds. €177,965 which represents 99.89% of total income was received is state funding. Total 'other income' received was €190 (2023 - €370) which represented 0.11% of income and was mainly derived from Garda vetting.

Total expenditure in the Laois Volunteer Centre in 2024 was €207,021 of which €118,658 (57.32%) related to staff and staff related costs and €88,363 (42.68%) related to other costs.

#### **Restricted Funds**

Restricted reserves represent funding, grants, donations and sponsorships received which can only be used for particular purposes specified by the donors and binding on the directors. Such purposes are within the overall aims of the charity.

#### **Unrestricted Funds**

Unrestricted Funds represent amounts which may be spent or applied at the discretion of the directors in furtherance of the objectives of the Company. They may include designated reserves which are earmarked by the directors for specific projects.

## **Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**

### **Directors' Report**

#### **For The Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

### **Remuneration Policy**

The salary rates of all staff are agreed by the board.

The directors do not receive any remuneration for their services as directors.

### **Directors and Company Secretary**

The directors who served during the financial year were:

Julia O'Connor Seamus Bennett

Pauline Flanagan

Denis McEvoy - (appointed 20 July 2024)

Conor Ganly

Tony Loughnane - (appointed 09 October 2024)

Zain Jawed Khan

Damien Kirwan (retired 30 January 2024)

Pauline Flanagan retired as company secretary on 18 June 2024 and Seamus Bennett was appointed company secretary on that date.

### **Events Since the Financial Year End**

No significant events have affected the company since the financial year end.

### **Accounting Records**

The directors are responsible for ensuring that adequate accounting records, as outlined in Sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014 are kept by the company. To achieve this the directors have appointed appropriately qualified accounting personnel to ensure that those requirements are complied with. The accounting records are maintained at the company's office at Bloom HQ, Unit 6, Mountrath, Co. Laois.

### **Statement of Relevant Audit Information**

The directors of the company at the date this report is approved have in accordance with Section 332 of the Companies Act 2014 confirmed:

- so far as each director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's statutory auditors are unaware, and
- each director has taken all the steps that he or she ought to have taken as a director in order to make himself or herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's statutory auditors are aware of that information.

### **Auditors**

The auditors, Duncan Financial Services Limited, will continue in office in accordance with the provision of Section 382(2) of the Companies Act, 2014.

### **Approved by the board of directors and signed on its behalf by:**

- Director

- Director



**Date:**

16/06/2025

**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**  
**Directors' Responsibilities Statement**  
**For The Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with Irish law and regulations.

Irish company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under the law, the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" issued by the Financial Reporting Council as modified by the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" effective from 1 January 2015.

Under company law, the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at the financial year end date and of the surplus or deficit of the company for the financial year and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, identify those standards and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for ensuring that the company keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the company, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and surplus or deficit of the company to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and directors' report comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be readily and properly audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**Independent Auditor's Report**  
**To the Members of**  
**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**

**Report on the audit of the financial statements**

**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Laois Volunteer Centre CLG for the year ended 31 December 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities and Income and Expenditure Account, the Statement of Changes in Equity and Funds, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 3. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish Law and FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, issued in the United Kingdom by the Financial Reporting Council.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at 31 December 2024 and of its surplus/deficit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

**Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are described below in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard for Auditors (Ireland) issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

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

We have availed of the exemption provided by IAASA'S Ethical Standard - Section 6 - "Provisions available for Audits of Small Entities" in the circumstances set out in note 21 to the financial statements.

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

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

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

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

**Independent Auditor's Report**  
**To the Members of**  
**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**

**Other information**

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

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Opinions on other matters prescribed by Companies Act 2014**

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:

- the information given in the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with the applicable legal requirements.

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

In our opinion the accounting records of the company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited, and the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

**Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the directors' report.

The Companies Act 2014 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion, the requirements of any of Sections 305 to 312 of the Act, which relate to disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions are not complied with by the company. We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Respective responsibilities**

**Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements**

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement on page 11, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework that give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## **Independent Auditor's Report**

### **To the Members of**

### **Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**

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

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority's website at: [https://iaasa.ie/wp-content/uploads/docs/media/IAASA/Documents/audit-standards/Description\\_of\\_auditors\\_responsibilities\\_for\\_audit.pdf](https://iaasa.ie/wp-content/uploads/docs/media/IAASA/Documents/audit-standards/Description_of_auditors_responsibilities_for_audit.pdf) This description forms part of our auditor's report.

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

Our report is made solely to the company's members as a body in accordance with Section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company or the company's members as a body for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

**Georgian House  
12 Patrick Street  
Kilkenny**

**Patrick Duncan  
For and on behalf of  
Duncan Financial Services Limited  
Certified Public Accountants,  
Statutory Audit Firm**

**Date:** 18th June 2025

**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**  
**Statement Of Financial Activities And Income And Expenditure Account**  
**For The Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

|                                                            |             | <b><u>2024</u></b><br><b><u>Restricted</u></b><br><b><u>Funds</u></b><br><b><u>€</u></b> | <b><u>2024</u></b><br><b><u>Unrestricted</u></b><br><b><u>Funds</u></b><br><b><u>€</u></b> | <b><u>2024</u></b><br><b><u>Total</u></b><br><b><u>€</u></b> | <b><u>2023</u></b><br><b><u>Total</u></b><br><b><u>€</u></b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                            | <b>Note</b> |                                                                                          |                                                                                            |                                                              |                                                              |
| <b><u>Income from</u></b>                                  |             |                                                                                          |                                                                                            |                                                              |                                                              |
| <b>Charitable activities</b>                               |             |                                                                                          |                                                                                            |                                                              |                                                              |
| - Community service                                        | 5           | 177,965                                                                                  | -                                                                                          | 177,965                                                      | 152,190                                                      |
| - Other trading activities                                 | 6           |                                                                                          | 190                                                                                        | 190                                                          | 370                                                          |
|                                                            |             |                                                                                          |                                                                                            |                                                              |                                                              |
| <b><u>Total Income</u></b>                                 |             | <u>177,965</u>                                                                           | <u>190</u>                                                                                 | <u>178,155</u>                                               | <u>152,620</u>                                               |
| <b><u>Expenditure on:</u></b>                              |             |                                                                                          |                                                                                            |                                                              |                                                              |
| Charitable activities                                      |             |                                                                                          |                                                                                            |                                                              |                                                              |
| Community services                                         | 7           | <u>206,831</u>                                                                           | <u>190</u>                                                                                 | <u>207,021</u>                                               | <u>130,017</u>                                               |
|                                                            |             |                                                                                          |                                                                                            |                                                              |                                                              |
| <b><u>Total expenditure</u></b>                            |             | <u>206,831</u>                                                                           | <u>190</u>                                                                                 | <u>207,021</u>                                               | <u>130,017</u>                                               |
|                                                            |             |                                                                                          |                                                                                            |                                                              |                                                              |
| <b><u>Net (deficit) surplus for the financial year</u></b> |             | <u>(28,866)</u>                                                                          | <u>-</u>                                                                                   | <u>(28,866)</u>                                              | <u>22,543</u>                                                |
|                                                            |             |                                                                                          |                                                                                            |                                                              |                                                              |
| <b><u>Net movement in funds</u></b>                        |             | <u>(28,866)</u>                                                                          | <u>-</u>                                                                                   | <u>(28,866)</u>                                              | <u>22,543</u>                                                |
|                                                            |             |                                                                                          |                                                                                            |                                                              |                                                              |
| <b><u>Reconciliation of funds</u></b>                      |             |                                                                                          |                                                                                            |                                                              |                                                              |
| Total funds brought forward                                |             | <u>134,429</u>                                                                           | <u>-</u>                                                                                   | <u>134,429</u>                                               | <u>111,886</u>                                               |
|                                                            |             |                                                                                          |                                                                                            |                                                              |                                                              |
| <b><u>Total funds carried forward</u></b>                  |             | <u><u>105,563</u></u>                                                                    | <u><u>-</u></u>                                                                            | <u><u>105,563</u></u>                                        | <u><u>134,429</u></u>                                        |

**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**  
**Statement Of Changes in Equity and Funds**  
**For The Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

|                                             | <b><u>Restricted<br/>Funds</u></b><br>€ | <b><u>Unrestricted<br/>Funds</u></b><br>€ | <b><u>Total</u></b><br>€ |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Retained surplus at 1 January 2023</b>   | 111,886                                 | -                                         | 111,886                  |
| Surplus for the financial year              | 22,543                                  | -                                         | 22,543                   |
| <b>Retained surplus at 31 December 2023</b> | 134,429                                 | -                                         | 132,429                  |
| Deficit for the financial year              | (28,866)                                | -                                         | (28,866)                 |
| <b>Retaine surplus at 31 December 2024</b>  | 105,653                                 | -                                         | 105,563                  |

**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**As at 31 December 2024**

|                                                       | <u>Notes</u> | <u>2024</u><br>€ | <u>2023</u><br>€ |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b><u>Fixed Assets</u></b>                            |              |                  |                  |
| Tangible assets                                       | 12           | 4,002            | 2,835            |
| <b><u>Current assets</u></b>                          |              |                  |                  |
| Debtors                                               | 13           | 3,877            | 4,630            |
| Cash at bank and in hand                              |              | 104,712          | 145,798          |
|                                                       |              | 108,589          | 150,428          |
| <b>Creditors:</b> Amounts falling due within one year | 14           | (7,028)          | (18,834)         |
| <b>Net Current Assets</b>                             |              | 101,561          | 131,594          |
| <b><u>Total Assets Less Current Liabilities</u></b>   |              | 105,563          | 134,429          |
| <b><u>Net Assets</u></b>                              |              | 105,563          | 134,429          |
| <b><u>Net Funds</u></b>                               |              |                  |                  |
| Income and Expenditure Account                        | 17           | 105,563          | 134,429          |

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102.

**Approved by the board of directors and signed on its behalf by:**

- Director

- Director

**Date :**

18/06/2025

**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

|                                                                    | <b><u>Notes</u></b> | <b>2024</b><br>€ | <b>2023</b><br>€ |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b><u>Cash flows from operating activities</u></b>                 |                     |                  |                  |
| Operating (deficit) surplus                                        |                     | (28,866)         | 25,543           |
| Depreciation                                                       |                     | 2,849            | 1,833            |
| Decrease in debtors                                                |                     | 753              | (2,984)          |
| Increase / (Decrease) in creditors                                 |                     | (11,806)         | (52,970)         |
| Additions to fixed assets                                          |                     | (4,016)          | (2,983)          |
| <b>Net cash flows from operating activities</b>                    |                     | <b>(41,086)</b>  | <b>(34,561)</b>  |
|                                                                    |                     |                  |                  |
| <b><u>Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents</u></b> |                     | <b>(41,086)</b>  | <b>(34,561)</b>  |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year</b>    |                     | <b>145,798</b>   | <b>180,359</b>   |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year</b>          |                     | <b>104,712</b>   | <b>145,798</b>   |

**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**For the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

**1. General Information**

These financial statements comprising the Statement of Financial Activities and Income and Expenditure Account, the Statement of Changes in Equity and Funds, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes constitute the individual financial statements of Laois Volunteer Centre CLG for the financial year ended 31 December 2024.

Laois Volunteer Centre CLG is a company limited by guarantee and not having share capital, incorporated in the Republic of Ireland. The registered office is Bloom HQ, Unit 6, Mountrath, Co Laois which is also the principal place of business of the company. The nature of the company's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Directors' Report on pages 5 to 10.

**Statement of Compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" as modified by the Statement of Recommended Practice" Accounting and Reporting by Charities" effective from 1 January 2015.

**Currency**

The financial statements have been presented in the Euro currency (€) which is also the functional currency of the company.

**2. Significant Judgements and Estimates**

Preparation of the financial statements requires management to make significant judgements and estimates in arriving at the figures in the financial statements. The most significant judgements and estimates used in the preparation of these financial statements are:

**Going Concern**

The company is mainly funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development. After reviewing the company's forecasts, plans and financial projections, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the company, with the continued support of the Department of Rural and Community Development, will have adequate resources to continue to meet its liabilities as they fall due, and to continue as a going concern. On this basis the directors consider it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. Accordingly, these financial statements do not include any adjustments and classification of assets and liabilities that may arise if the company was unable to continue as a going concern.

### **3 Accounting Policies**

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

#### **Basis of Preparation`**

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis and in accordance with the historical cost convention. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued by the Financial Reporting Council as modified by the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" effective from 1 January 2015.

#### **Income**

Government funding for revenue purposes is recognised as income when the intended activities have been undertaken or offer of funding has been communicated to the company, the related expenditure has been incurred and there is reasonable probability of receipt.

Income due to the company but not yet received by the financial year end is included in debtors in the balance sheet and funds already received but not yet expended are included in creditors.

Donations are recognised when received.

#### **Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the liability can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for when incurred and includes amounts due at the end of the financial year but not paid. Expenditure includes attributable value added tax which cannot be recovered.

#### **Support costs**

Support costs are those costs that assist the work of the charity but do not directly relate to charitable activities. Support costs include office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the company's programmes and activities. These costs are allocated to expenditure on charitable activities as appropriate.

#### **Fund accounting Restricted funds**

Restricted funds represent funding, grants, donations and sponsorships received which can only be used for particular purposes specified by the donors and binding on the directors. Such purposes are within the overall aims of the charity.

**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**For the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

**Unrestricted funds**

Unrestricted funds represent amounts which may be spent or applied at the discretion of the directors and enhance the overall aims of the charity.

**Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or at valuation, less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

|                                   |                              |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Furniture, fittings and equipment | -15% to 33.33% Straight Line |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|

It is a requirement of FRS 102 that the carrying value of tangible fixed assets are reviewed annually for impairment and losses recognised in periods if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. As the company does not hold fixed assets for the purpose of generating cashflows, but were acquired to carry out charitable activities, the value cannot be meaningfully measured in terms of cashflow as the benefits that derive from their use are not financial. Accordingly, an impairment of fixed assets will only arise where the asset suffers impairment in the physical sense resulting in physical damage and the use of the assets has reduced significantly or is no longer in use or where the quality of service it provides has deteriorated. As long as such assets continue to provide the anticipated benefits to the company, the consumption of such benefits will be reflected in regular depreciation charges.

**Debtors**

Debtors are recognised in the financial statements at transaction value less impairment for any bad or doubtful debts.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash in bank and in hand.

**Creditors**

Creditors are recognised in the financial statements at transaction value.

**Taxation**

The company is a registered charity, regarded as established for charitable purposes only, and is exempt from taxation on its income under the Taxes Consolidation Act, 1997.

**Government and Other Grants**

Capital grants received are shown as deferred income and credited to the statement of financial activities and income and expenditure account by instalments on a basis consistent with the depreciation policy of the relevant assets. Revenue grants are credited to income to offset the matching expenditure.

**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**For the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

**Specific Funds**

Monies raised for specific projects are matched with the related expenditure when same is incurred.

**Reserves Policy**

In case of unforeseen and significant reduction in funding the company is working towards having sufficient financial reserves to maintain the operations of the company for six to nine months.

**4. Financial Instruments Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash consists of cash on hand, bank current accounts and demand deposits. Cash equivalents consist of short term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash that are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value .

**Other Financial Assets**

Other financial assets including debtors for services provided to clients on short-term credit, are initially measured at the undiscounted amount of cash receivable from that client, which is normally the invoice price. If payment is deferred beyond normal business terms or is financed at a rate that is not a market rate, this constitutes a financing transaction , and the financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument. Subsequently, other financial assets are measured at amortised cost less impairment, where there is objective evidence of an impairment.

**Other Financial Liabilities**

Other financial liabilities, include trade creditors arising from goods purchased from suppliers on short-term credit, are initially measured at the undiscounted amount owed to the creditor, which is normally the invoice price. Liabilities that are settled within one year are not discounted. If payment is deferred beyond normal business terms or is financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, this constitutes a financing transaction, and the financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument. Subsequently, other financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost.

**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**For the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

**5. Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities**

|                                   | <b><u>Restricted<br/>Funds</u></b><br>€ | <b><u>2024<br/>Total</u></b><br>€ | <b><u>2023<br/>Total</u></b><br>€ |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b><u>Community Services</u></b>  |                                         |                                   |                                   |
| DRCD - Core Funding               | 143,082                                 | 143,083                           | 130,075                           |
| DRCD - Ukrainian Response Funding | 19,724                                  | 19,724                            | 15,796                            |
| DRCD - Additional Funding         | 2,800                                   | 2,800                             | 13,857                            |
| Other Public Funding              | -                                       | -                                 | -                                 |
| Transfer to Deferred Income       | 12,359                                  | 12,359                            | (7,538)                           |
|                                   | <u>177,965</u>                          | <u>177,965</u>                    | <u>152,190</u>                    |

**6. Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities**

|                                 | <b><u>Unrestricted<br/>Funds</u></b><br>€ | <b><u>Restricted<br/>Funds</u></b><br>€ | <b><u>2024<br/>Total</u></b><br>€ | <b><u>2023<br/>Total</u></b><br>€ |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Other income<br>(garda vetting) | <u>190</u>                                | <u>-</u>                                | <u>190</u>                        | <u>370</u>                        |
|                                 | <u>190</u>                                | <u>-</u>                                | <u>190</u>                        | <u>370</u>                        |

**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**For the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

**7. Expenditure on Charitable Activities**

Programme costs represent necessary costs incurred in the provision of the principal activities of the company

|                                                |                    | <b><u>Community<br/>Services</u></b><br>€ | <b><u>2024<br/>Total</u></b><br>€ | <b><u>2023<br/>Total</u></b><br>€ |
|------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b><u>Direct costs</u></b>                     | <b><u>Note</u></b> |                                           |                                   |                                   |
| Staff and related costs                        |                    | 112,725                                   | 112,725                           | 86,161                            |
| Staff and volunteer training                   |                    | 3,403                                     | 3,403                             | 838                               |
| Advertising, promotions and community projects |                    | 28,543                                    | 28,543                            | 11,466                            |
| New Communities events                         |                    | 18,664                                    | 18,664                            | -                                 |
| Transport and travelling                       |                    | 3,877                                     | 3,877                             | 2,457                             |
| Establishment costs                            |                    | 6,056                                     | 6,056                             | 5,419                             |
| Office and administration costs                |                    | 6,840                                     | 6,840                             | 6,202                             |
|                                                |                    | 180,108                                   | 180,108                           | 112,543                           |
| Support costs                                  | <b>8</b>           | 12,149                                    | 12,149                            | 7,711                             |
| Governance costs                               | <b>9</b>           | 14,764                                    | 14,764                            | 9,763                             |
|                                                |                    | 207,021                                   | 207,021                           | 130,017                           |

**8. Support costs**

Support costs common to all activities are allocated on a percentage basis as deemed appropriate by the directors.

|                                                | <b><u>Community<br/>Services</u></b><br>€ | <b><u>2024<br/>Total</u></b><br>€ | <b><u>2023<br/>Total</u></b><br>€ |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Staff and related costs                        | 5,933                                     | 5,933                             | 4,535                             |
| Advertising, promotions and community projects | 1,502                                     | 1,502                             | 603                               |
| Transport and travelling                       | 204                                       | 204                               | 129                               |
| Establishment costs                            | 319                                       | 319                               | 285                               |
| Office and administration costs                | 360                                       | 360                               | 326                               |
| New Communities events                         | 982                                       | 982                               | -                                 |
| Depreciation etc                               | 2,849                                     | 2,849                             | 1,833                             |
| Total                                          | 12,149                                    | 12,149                            | 7,711                             |

**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**For the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

**9. Governance costs**

Governance costs are allocated on a percentage basis as deemed appropriate by the directors.

|                             | <b><u>Community<br/>Services</u></b><br>€ | <b><u>2024<br/>Total</u></b><br>€ | <b><u>2023<br/>Total</u></b><br>€ |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Legal and professional fees | 12,304                                    | 12,304                            | 7,118                             |
| Audit fees                  | 2,460                                     | 2,460                             | 2,645                             |
|                             | <u>14,764</u>                             | <u>14,764</u>                     | <u>9,763</u>                      |

**10. Employees**

**Number of employees**

The average number of employees during the financial year were:

|                      | <b><u>2024<br/>Total</u></b><br>€ | <b><u>2023<br/>Total</u></b><br>€ |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Support services etc | <u>4</u>                          | <u>3</u>                          |
| <b>Payroll Costs</b> | <b><u>2024</u></b><br><b>€</b>    | <b><u>2023</u></b><br><b>€</b>    |
| Wages and salaries   | 106,687                           | 81,254                            |
| Social welfare costs | 10,221                            | 7,942                             |
|                      | <u>116,908</u>                    | <u>89,196</u>                     |

During the financial year, there were no employees paid a salary greater than €70,000

**11. Directors' Remuneration and Transaction**

**Directors' remuneration**

No remuneration has been paid by the company to its directors

**Directors' transactions**

The company had no related party transactions with the directors during the year.

**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**For the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

**12. Tangible Fixed Assets**

|                               | <b><u>Furniture,<br/>Fittings &amp;<br/>Equipment</u></b><br>€ | <b><u>Total</u></b><br>€ |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b><u>Cost</u></b>            |                                                                |                          |
| At 1 January 2024             | 5,835                                                          | 5,835                    |
| Additions                     | 4,016                                                          | 4,016                    |
| At 31 December 2024           | 9,851                                                          | 9,851                    |
| <b><u>Depreciation</u></b>    |                                                                |                          |
| At 1 January 2024             | 3,000                                                          | 3,000                    |
| Charge for the year           | 2,849                                                          | 2,849                    |
| At 31 December 2024           | 5,849                                                          | 5,849                    |
| <b><u>Net Book Values</u></b> |                                                                |                          |
| At 31 December 2024           | 4,002                                                          | 4,002                    |
| At 31 December 2022           | 2,835                                                          | 2,835                    |

**13. Debtors**

|                                      | <b><u>2024</u></b><br>€ | <b><u>2023</u></b><br>€ |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Debtors and prepayments              | 3,877                   | 4,630                   |
| All debtors fall due within one year |                         |                         |

**14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

|                        | <b><u>2024</u></b><br>€ | <b><u>2023</u></b><br>€ |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Creditors and accruals | 3,352                   | 3,535                   |
| Deferred income        | 1,800                   | 14,159                  |
| Taxation creditors     | 1,876                   | 1,140                   |
|                        | 7,028                   | 18,834                  |

**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**For the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

**15. Financial Commitments**

On 4th April 2022 the company commenced a rolling agreement to occupy as office space, Unit 6 Bloom HQ, Mountrath, Co Laois on a non exclusive basis. The monthly licence fee on the office space is €450.

**16. Department of Public Expenditure and Reform Circular 13/2014**

**Grant 1**

|                                             |                                              |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sponsoring Government Department:</b>    | Dept. of Rural and Community Development     |
| <b>Grant Programme:</b>                     | Volunteering and Support Services            |
| <b>Purpose of the Grant:</b>                | General administration and service provision |
| <b>Deferred income at 1 January 2024</b>    | €-                                           |
| <b>Total grant approved:</b>                | €143,082                                     |
| <b>Grant taken to income in the period:</b> | €143,082                                     |
| <b>Cash received in the period:</b>         | €-                                           |
| <b>Deferred income at 31 December 2024:</b> | -                                            |
| <b>Term:</b>                                | Expires 31 December 2024                     |
| <b>Received period ended:</b>               | 31 December 2024                             |
| <b>Capital Grant:</b>                       | Nil                                          |
| <b>Restriction on use:</b>                  | General administration and service provision |

**Grant 2**

|                                             |                                          |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sponsoring Government Department:</b>    | Dept. of Rural and Community Development |
| <b>Grant Programme:</b>                     | Volunteering and Support Services        |
| <b>Purpose of the Grant:</b>                | Additional Funding                       |
| <b>Total grant approved:</b>                | €2,800                                   |
| <b>Grant taken to income in the period:</b> | €1,000                                   |
| <b>Cash received in the period:</b>         | €2,800                                   |
| <b>Deferred income at period end:</b>       | €1,800                                   |
| <b>Term:</b>                                | Expires 31 December 2024                 |
| <b>Received period ended:</b>               | 31 December 2024                         |
| <b>Restriction on use:</b>                  | Additional Funding                       |

**Grant 3**

|                                             |                                          |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sponsoring Government Department:</b>    | Dept. of Rural and Community Development |
| <b>Grant Programme:</b>                     | Ukrainian Community Response             |
| <b>Purpose of the Grant:</b>                | Ukrainian Community Support              |
| <b>Deferred income at 1 January 2023</b>    | €14,159                                  |
| <b>Total grant approved:</b>                | €19,724                                  |
| <b>Grant taken to income in the period:</b> | €33,883                                  |
| <b>Cash received in the period:</b>         | €19,724                                  |
| <b>Deferred income at period end:</b>       | €-                                       |
| <b>Term:</b>                                | Expires 31 December 2024                 |
| <b>Received period ended:</b>               | 31 December 2024                         |
| <b>Restriction on use:</b>                  | Intercultural Exchange                   |

Compliant with relevant circulars, including Circular 44/2006, "Tax Clearance Procedures, Grants Subsidies and Similar Type Payments"

**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**For the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

| <b>17. <u>Appropriation of Income and Expenditure</u></b> | <b><u>2024</u></b><br><b>€</b> | <b><u>2023</u></b><br><b>€</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Opening balance                                           | 134,429                        | 111,886                        |
| (Deficity)/Surplus for the financial period               | (28,866)                       | 22,543                         |
| Closing balance                                           | 105,563                        | 134,429                        |

**18. Analysis of Funds**

|                                        | <b><u>Opening</u></b><br><b><u>Surplus</u></b><br><b><u>1 January</u></b><br><b><u>2024</u></b><br><b>€</b> | <b><u>Incoming</u></b><br><b><u>Resources</u></b><br><b>€</b> | <b><u>Outgoing</u></b><br><b><u>Resources</u></b><br><b>€</b> | <b><u>Closing</u></b><br><b><u>Surplus</u></b><br><b><u>31 December 2024</u></b><br><b>€</b> |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>Restricted Funds</u></b>         |                                                                                                             |                                                               |                                                               |                                                                                              |
| <u>Community Services</u>              |                                                                                                             |                                                               |                                                               |                                                                                              |
| DRCD Funding                           | 134,429                                                                                                     | 177,965                                                       | (206,831)                                                     | 105,563                                                                                      |
| <b><u>Total Restricted Funds</u></b>   | 134,429                                                                                                     | 177,965                                                       | (206,831)                                                     | 105,563                                                                                      |
| <b><u>Total Unrestricted Funds</u></b> | -                                                                                                           | 190                                                           | (190)                                                         | -                                                                                            |
| <b><u>Total Funds</u></b>              | 134,429                                                                                                     | 178,155                                                       | (207,021)                                                     | 105,563                                                                                      |

**19. Events Since the Financial Year End**

No significant events have affected the company since the financial year end.

**20. Related Party Transactions**

The transactions of the company with its directors and their connected persons are given in note 11. Apart from these there were no other related party transactions during the financial year.

**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**For the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

**21. Provisions Available for Smaller Entities**

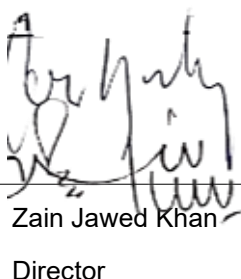
In common with many other organisations of our size and nature we use our auditors to assist with the preparation of the financial statements and deal with company secretarial matters on our behalf.

**22. Legal Status of the Company**

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. At 31 December 2024, the company had 7 members (2023, 6 members) whose guarantee is limited to €1 each.

**23. Approval of Financial Statements**

The financial statements were approved by the board on 18th June 2025.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Conor Ganly  
Director  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Zain Jawed Khan  
Director

**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**

**Annual Report**

**For The Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

**Detailed Income and Expenditure Account**

**\*The following do not form part of the audited financial statements \***

**Laois Volunteer Centre CLG**  
**Detailed Income and Expenditure Account**  
**For the Financial Year Ended 31 December 2024**

| <b><u>Schedule 1</u></b> | <b>Income</b>                       | <b>2024<br/>€</b> | <b>2023<br/>€</b> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                          | DRCD - Core funding                 | 143,082           | 130,075           |
|                          | DRCD - Ukrainian Community Response | 19,724            | 15,796            |
|                          | DRCD - additional funding           | 2,800             | 13,857            |
|                          | Other income                        | 190               | 370               |
|                          | Transfer to / from deferred income  | 12,359            | (7,538)           |
|                          |                                     | <u>178,155</u>    | <u>152,560</u>    |

| <b><u>Schedule 2</u></b> | <b>Administrative Expenses</b>          | <b>2024<br/>€</b> | <b>2023<br/>€</b> |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                          | Wages and social insurance              | 116,908           | 89,196            |
|                          | Staff and volunteer training            | 3,403             | 838               |
|                          | Other staff costs                       | 1,750             | 1,500             |
|                          | Office rent and rates                   | 5,630             | 5,040             |
|                          | Insurance                               | 745               | 664               |
|                          | Postage, stationery and office expenses | 2,209             | 1,589             |
|                          | Advertising and promotions              | 30,045            | 12,069            |
|                          | New Communities events *                | 19,646            | -                 |
|                          | Telephone                               | 1,707             | 1,484             |
|                          | Computer and website costs              | 2,151             | 1,841             |
|                          | Motor and travel                        | 4,081             | 2,586             |
|                          | Subscriptions and affiliations          | 821               | 798               |
|                          | Legal and professional fee              | 12,304            | 7,118             |
|                          | Audit fee                               | 2,460             | 2,645             |
|                          | Bank charges                            | 223               | 216               |
|                          | Sundry expenses                         | 89                | 600               |
|                          | <u>Depreciation</u>                     |                   |                   |
|                          | Furniture, Fittings and equipment       | <u>2,849</u>      | <u>1,833</u>      |
|                          |                                         | <u>207,021</u>    | <u>130,017</u>    |



Midlands Park Hotel corporate volunteers Linear Park

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank all our **volunteers** and **Volunteering Organisations**. Without your generosity of spirit, the Laois Volunteer Centre would be unable to exist. Your time and dedication has helped so many people in our community.

We would also like to thank our generous funders: **The Department of Rural and Community Development**.



An Roinn Forbartha  
Tuaithe agus Pobail  
Department of Rural and  
Community Development

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