## 2023

## **ANNUAL REVIEW**











#### **OUR VISION**

Our vision is to be a leader in creating a healthy, equitable and sustainable city.

#### **OUR MISSION**

Our mission is to promote health and wellbeing, provide inspiration and facilitate innovative collaborative action and good policies through:

- Leadership and learning from the WHO European Healthy Cities Network
- Supporting research, sharing evidence and building capacity
- Introducing and piloting innovative concepts and approaches
- Maximising partners' impact on health and inequalities.



## BELFAST HEALTHY CITIES

Belfast is at the heart of the WHO European Healthy Cities Network of more than 88 cities and 20 national networks.

Belfast Healthy Cities has represented Belfast within the WHO European Healthy Cities Network since 1988, working with partner organisations and stakeholders across the city, to deliver actions that fulfil the goals of the WHO European Healthy Cities Network Phase VII (2019-2026).

We have more than 35 years of experience in challenging health inequalities, improving health and wellbeing for all our citizens and in working in partnership with Government at all levels.

## **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

This report covers another successful year for Belfast Heathy Cities and the significant achievements in 2023. We continued to work collaboratively with local and regional sectors across all levels, to deliver our programmes and with colleagues in WHO Europe.

This year, we celebrated 35 years of Belfast being a member of the WHO European Healthy Cities Network and we were very pleased so many of our stakeholders were able to join us for the celebration event in the Harbour's Commissioner's Office. We were very grateful to Kira Fortune, WHO Regional Adviser for Healthy Cities for participating in the event and to other European and local colleagues. We look forward to continuing to work with WHO on the emerging themes of 'One Heath' & the 'Well-being economy'.

I was very pleased to be able to attend the WHO Annual Healthy Cities Conference this year in Utrecht, Netherlands with other Board colleagues and staff, where Belfast's case studies were prominent in the programme.

While our programmes are based within the 6P framework of the WHO European Heathy Cities Phase VII (2019 – 2026), they are very closely aligned with regional and local government policy frameworks and we look forward to continuing to support delivery and some of the challenges during the incoming year.

I would like to thank our funders, regional and local government across a number of departments, organisations and the many stakeholders who have contributed to the work of Belfast Healthy Cities during the past year.

I would also like to thank my colleagues on the Board of Directors; special thanks to Dr Karen Casson and Nigel McMahon for their untiring commitment and contribution to Belfast Healthy Cities over the past ten years. Thanks also to the small but dedicated staff team, led by our Chief Executive, Joan Devlin, for making this another successful year.

MICHAEL BOYD

**CHAIRPERSON** 



## **CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT**

Welcome to our annual review for 2023 that outlines the progress we have made on our key programmes. We continue to work locally on the determinants of health, using an intersectoral approach and within the WHO Healthy Cities framework of People; Place; Prosperity; Planet; Peace and Participation.

Our 'Greening the City' programme got off to a great start last year and has continued to deliver the agreed action plan. A highlight of the year was the study visit to Cork as part of the networking and sharing learning across the WHO Healthy Cities Network. The development of the Green Maps in east and west Belfast was another key element of the Greening programme and Belfast City council's 'grey to green' programme is one of the key actions the group supports.

As follow up to the city health profile, Profiling Health, Well-being and Prosperity, six further chapters were developed using the WHO 6P framework, 'Has Covid 19 changed our city?' The chapters outlined some of the positive changes brought about during the pandemic but unfortunately highlighted too the ongoing deep inequality issues in the city. We were delighted the Chief Medical Officer could join us at the launch of the chapters in November. Training continued to be delivered on the Pharmacy Schools Programme resource and is welcomed by primary schools across Northern Ireland.

We continue to be a partner in a number of projects with Queen's University and in doing so, generating new knowledge and exchanging that knowledge with many of our European colleagues. Many thanks to all the stakeholders who work with us in delivering our programmes – the support and investment is mutually beneficial and we look forward to continuing to work with you in the coming year.

I would like to thank the Board of Directors for their continuous support, special thanks to the Officers, Michael Boyd, Chair; Karen Casson, Vice Chair; and Ian Montgomery, Treasurer. Sincere thanks to the small but dedicated staff team. We welcomed Gemma Evans and Maeve Brennan to our team this year. It is with the team's commitment that much progress is made.

JOAN DEVLIN

CHIEF EXECUTIVE



## **CITY HEALTH PROFILE**

In 2022, Belfast Healthy Cities produced the six profile chapters 'BELFAST Profiling Health, Wellbeing & Prosperity: The data behind the people and the city'.

Following the pandemic, each of the six themes from WHO's framework - People; Prosperity; Place; Planet; Peace and Participation – were revisited to examine the impact COVID-19 has had on Belfast and its people.

A further six 'COVID-19 chapters' were produced and these were launched in Autumn 2023.

Each chapter had a preface from senior officers in their relevant field.

- People Dr Joanne McClean, PHA
- Prosperity I Sherry & N Brennan, VCSE Advisory Panel
- Place Grainia Long, CEO, NIHE
- Planet Debbie Caldwell, Climate Commissioner
- Peace District Commander Jones, PSNI
- Participation Richard Meade, Direct, Carers UK

The Chief Medical Officer, Professor Sir Michael McBride, gave the opening address at the launch and the profile author Erica Ison, Specialist Practitioner in Population and Public Health; presented a summary analysis of the People; Prosperity; Place; Planet; Peace and Participation chapters.

Other guest presenters at the launch were Graham Alabaster, Head of Geneva Office, Office of The Executive Director, United Nations Human Settlements Programme, Geneva; and Maude Luherne, Co-ordinator, French National Healthy Cities Network

A workshop was held on the Belfast profiles at the WHO Healthy Cities Annual Conference in Utrecht, Netherlands, facilitated by Erica Ison and Karen Casson. The purpose of the workshop was to provide knowledge to Healthy Cities and National Networks on the development of the Belfast profile/s and the rationale for including various types of data.





Belfast Healthy Cities continues to work with the Care Zone group in north Belfast, chairing and facilitating the Management Committee and the Membership Group.

An Action Planning Day with an independent facilitator took place in September to look at prioritising actions for the next year and the structures for delivery. Positive support from member organisations including Belfast City Council, Reach Out, YEHA, Care Zone Community Champions, Cancer Lifeline; North Belfast Seniors Forum, Public Health Agency, Sacred Heart Primary School, and Belfast Healthy Cities will see the action plan moving forward through 2024.

Care Zone Community Champions continue to develop their skills and a number of the Champions have completed an OCN accredited course in Mentoring Skills and Techniques. Other training includes Autism Awareness and Community Event Planning.

## **UK HEALTHY CITIES NETWORK**

Belfast continues to be a member of the UK Healthy Cities Network.

A development workshop took place earlier this year in Liverpool to agree a limited number of common priorities to develop a network plan for the remainder of Phase VII; identify network infrastructure needs, potential resources across the network, and ways of working; and develop politicians' role and engagement in the network and the tools/resources they need.



## **TEACHING RESOURCE**

The Healthy Places, Healthy Children resource has been designed by Belfast Healthy Cities in collaboration with the Public Health Agency, Northern Ireland Housing Executive and the Education Authority.

The resource, which compliments the Northern Ireland National Curriculum, introduces children to the links between the built environment and health and well-being. It provides an opportunity for: children to research their local area; develop proposals for how to make their local environment more child friendly; and provides a mechanism to share their proposals with local decision makers.

In June 2023, 19 primary school teachers from across Northern Ireland have completed training with Belfast Healthy Cities. The training will support teachers as they deliver lessons in the Healthy Places, Healthy Children programme to Key Stage 2 children, and pass on to their pupils the important learnings about their local environment and living an active life.

Alongside the training, participants heard from Melanie Mulligan, Education Manager, Council for the Curriculum Examinations and Assessment (CCEA), and Ms Maria Tierney, Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator, St Kevin's Primary School, Belfast on how the programme supports the Key Stage 2 curriculum and tips on how use the resource to gain support for projects to improve the school area.

Find out more about the <u>Healthy Places Healthy Children Teaching Resource</u>



## **EXPLORER BURSARY AWARD**

Following a 3 year break due to the pandemic travel restrictions, 2023 saw the Explorer Bursary relaunched.

The bursary supports a study visit to a Phase VII World Health Organization (WHO) European Healthy City, where the Explorers will learn from their chosen city and is open to applicants living or working in Belfast from the community, voluntary, public and business sectors.

Two applications were successful this year:

Clare Flynn, Belfast Health & Social Care Trust visited Stockholm, Sweden to learn from public health approaches addressing alcohol related harm.

Jacquline O'Hagan and Caleb Armitage, EastSide Greenways, went to Utrecht, Netherlands to look at how they are best utilising greenspaces and how they are tackling some of the common challenges we face such as climate resilience.





## POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT

Ahead of the local government elections in May, Belfast Healthy Cities produced a briefing which asked candidates to make health and wellbeing a central part of their policy programme, if elected to Council.

Using the City Health Profile developed in 2022, the briefing highlighted some of the data and issues which determine the health and wellbeing of our citizens.

The profile is available to inform decision makers and influencers on the changes required to improve the health and well-being of all citizens of Belfast. We asked election candidates to work to make a real difference to citizens by prioritising action under each theme of People, Planet, Place, Peace, Participation & Prosperity.

















# 2023 WHO EUROPEAN HEALTHY CITIES ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AND TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

The 2023 meeting of the Healthy Cities Network took place 21-23 November in Utrecht, Netherlands. The overall theme of the 2023 WHO European Healthy Cities Annual Business Meeting was *Health and Well-being for All* and also celebrated 35 years of the Network.

Over the course of the conference, a wide range of topics around the Healthy City movement were examined, including the latest trends, cutting-edge research, and innovative ideas presented by the cities of Healthy Cities network. Plenary sessions included Paving a way towards health and well-being for all; and *The Future of Cities*.

The sub themes explored in the parallel sessions as well as workshops included; Fostering resilient cities in the face of emergencies; One health, one future: moving towards planetary well-being; and Urban futures: co-creating sustainable places for all generations. The Belfast Healthy Cities staff team, Board Members Michael Boyd, Dr Karen Casson and Linda Armitage; and Councillor Mickey Murray, Chair of the People and Communities Committee attended the meeting.

Anne McCusker presented Health Literacy in a Healthy City in the Thriving together: navigating health in the well-being economy case study session. Erica Ison and Karen Casson facilitated a workshop on Profiling health, well-being and prosperity which shared learning from the development of Belfast Healthy Cities' two most recent healthy city profiles.













## PARTNERSHIP WITH QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST

Belfast Healthy Cities continues to work with QUB on a number of projects:

 QUB SPACE Project (Supportive Environments for Physical and Social Activity, Healthy-Ageing Cognitive Health).

Belfast Healthy Cities have hosted SPACE webinars on *The History Of Our City* And Its Influence On Public Health; The Impact Of Microplastics And Other Novel Environmental Exposures On Public Health; and have supported SPACE workshops

Groundswell – exploring evidence of green space for health and wellbeing.
 An evidence training/workshop took place on in June and was delivered by
 QUB Groundswell colleagues. The aim of the workshop was to support
 stakeholders to use evidence to improve greening policies and projects and
 support funding applications for new initiatives.

Anne McCusker attended the annual retreat in Edinburgh in November 2023 and participated in a panel discussion on the benefits of partnership working, relationship with Queen's University and the importance of the GroundsWell consortium to develop evidence and data to shape development of green and blue spaces for health.



## **WALKING BUS**

Belfast Healthy Cities has been working in partnership with the Ministerial Advisory Group (MAG), Department for Communities and schools in east Belfast to pilot 'walking buses'.

Braniel Primary School pioneered the walking bus model during early March where the children were delighted to be joined by the Chronicles of Narnia characters. The walking bus supported over 500 individual walking trips throughout the week, with the busiest morning involving approximately 150 children.

The project involves a group of children walking together in the morning, supported by an adult at the front and at the back of the group, acting as the 'driver, and 'conductor' of the walking bus. Braniel Primary School hope that by providing the safe Walking Bus model, more pupils are encouraged to get out of the family car and walk to school.

The initiative builds on the success of walking buses in north Belfast and is supported by the Community Active Travel programme funded by the Public Health Agency.



## PHARMACY SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

The Pharmacy Schools Programme developed by Belfast Healthy Cities, in partnership with the Department of Health continues to be utilised in primary schools right across Northern Ireland.

The aim of the Programme is to promote self-care as the best choice to treat minor illnesses and to equip children with the knowledge and skills they need to use medicines safely throughout their lives. It also aims to highlight the role of community pharmacy services to treat common childhood ailments such as colds, head lice and hay fever.

The Pharmacy Schools Programme was developed to support the delivery of the Department of Health's Medicines Optimisation Quality Framework as well as the Department's "Transforming medication safety in Northern Ireland" strategy which aims to reduce severe avoidable harm from the use of medicines by aligning Northern Ireland's medication safety priorities to the WHO Third Global Patient Safety Challenge, "Medication without Harm"

Pharmacy Schools Programme training sessions were held with 45 teachers in Dungannon, Belfast and Derry in November, supported by STEM.

Further promotion of the programme was issued to all Primary Schools in Northern Ireland, resulting in an additional 60 schools registering to deliver the programme, during 2023/2024.

Find out more about the <u>Pharmacy Schools Programme</u>





# CELEBRATING 35 YEARS AS A WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION HEALTHY CITY

Throughout the year, Belfast celebrated 35 years as a designated WHO Healthy City. This culminated in December with a celebration event at Belfast Harbour Office.

The event saw 80 people register to hear from a number of high level speakers including Jayne Brady, Head of Civil Service in Northern Ireland; Evelyne de Leeuw, University of Montreal; Kira Fortune, WHO Europe; Geoff Green, WHO Expert Advisor; and Erica Ison, Specialist Practitioner in Population and Public Health.

Belfast Health & Social Care Trust Chief Executive, Cathy Jack, chaired the opening session which also had a panel discussion with the speakers.

Lord Mayor of Belfast, Cllr Ryan Murphy addressed the delegates to open the second part of the programme which was chaired by Belfast Healthy Cities CEO, Joan Devlin. Michael Boyd, Chair of Belfast Healthy Cities gave the closing remarks.





## **HEALTH LITERACY**

Belfast Health Cities continues to be a partner in the UK Health Literacy Group.

During Health Literacy Month in October, Vicki Rodulson presented the Embedding Health Literacy into Frontline Healthcare Practice webinar.

A delegation from the Department of Health NI attended the UK Health Literacy Policy Sub-group where representatives from Northern Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales agreed actions to raise the profile of health literacy in each area.



## **GREENING THE CITY**

#### **Health Maps**

The Greening the City Advisory Group, chaired by Ruth Hunter and Carol Ramsey, worked with EastSide Partnership and West Belfast Partnership Board to develop 'Green Health Maps' for each area.

The East Belfast Green Map was launched in July and the event included a presentation from John Tully from Belfast City Council and a guided walk on the Connswater Community Greenway.

The West Belfast Green Map launched in October including presentations from West Belfast Partnership making links to the availability of green space and inequalities in the area.

#### **Cork Study Visit**

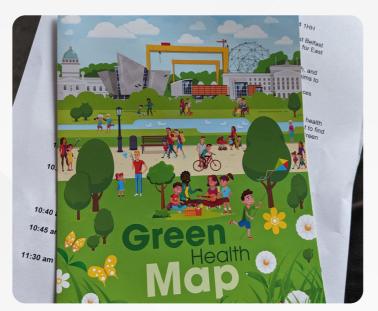
A study visit to Cork, hosted by Cork Healthy Cities took place 13 – 15 June. The two day trip was a chance for 25 representatives from Belfast, Cork and Limerick to come together to look at a range of innovative projects and share experiences in delivering impactful programmes. The Belfast delegation was made up of the Greening the City Advisory Group, which included representatives from Belfast City Council, Queen's University Belfast, and EastSide Greenways.

The visit showcased a range of inspirational projects, including Togher Community Gardens, where community led regeneration, growing and learning is having a positive impact on people's lives and the wider environment. Among the other stops on the tour of the city were The People's Parklet on Douglas Street, Beehives at St John's College, Marina Park Greenway, and the Seed Library at Hollyhill.

#### **Greening for Health Workshop**

The Greening for Health Training Workshop: Using Evidence in Practice saw participants who work to address greening, health, and inequalities in Belfast come together to consider how to formulate the right questions when searching for evidence, and how to identify, find, and appraise the evidence needed.

The training was facilitated by Belfast Healthy Cities and UKPRP GroundsWell Consortium, Queen's University Belfast.











## **PARTICIPATION**

Belfast Healthy Cities is a member of and participate in the following groups:

- Care Zone
   Management Committee
   Membership Committee
- Community Planning Belfast Agenda
   Voluntary Community Social Enterprise Panel
   City Development Board
   Health Inequalities Strategic Reference Group
   Connectivity Active & Sustainable Travel (CAST)
   Active Belfast Participatory Budgeting Design Team
  - Climate Change and Health
  - Healthy Ageing Strategic Partnership Strategic Design Group
  - Queen's University Belfast GroundsWell Consortium
  - Queen's University Belfast Reducing Car Dependency Study
  - Queen's University Belfast Supportive Environment for Physical and Social Activity, Healthy Ageing and Cognitive Health (SPACE)
  - Ulster University, MSc Public Health & Health Promotion Course Committee
  - UK Health Literacy Group
  - WHO Healthy Cities Network Co-ordinators
  - WHO Healthy Cities Network Advisory Committee
  - WHO Environment & Health Working Group
  - WHO Healthy Ageing Task Force



## BELFAST HEALTHY CITIES INFORMATION SERVICE

The Belfast Healthy Cities Information Service continues to provides quick and direct links to Departmental press releases, relevant research findings as well as selected other information, particularly from other Healthy Cities and Belfast Healthy Cities' partners. It aims to provide individual and organisations with direct access to up to date news and information.

To become a subscriber, sign up here.

### **BOARD AND STAFF**

#### **Board of Directors**

Linda Armitage, East Belfast Community Development Agency
Alistair Beggs, Department for Infrastructure
Michael Boyd, Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission - Chair
Karen Casson - Vice Chair
Ruth Hunter, Queen's University Belfast
Nigel McMahon, Department of Health
Daniel McQuillan, Start 360
Elizabeth Mitchell, Independent
Ian Montgomery, Ulster University - Treasurer
Maureen Mawhinney, Northern Ireland Housing Executive
Lizzy Pinkerton, Northern Ireland Environmental Link
Carol Ramsey, Independent
John Tully, Belfast City Council

#### Staff

Joan Devlin, Chief Executive
Anne McCusker, Programme Manager
Caroline Scott, Office Manager
Gemma Evans, Programme Officer – joined August 2023
Maeve Brennan, Programme Officer – joined November 2023

Belfast Healthy Cities Project Limited (A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital) Company Number: NI031042

**BALANCE SHEET** 

as at 31 March 2023

		2023	2022
	Notes	£	£
Fixed Assets Tangible assets	11		388
Current Assets Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	12	113,507 200,022	51,936 300,766
		313,529	352,702
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(29,366)	(66,751)
Net Current Assets		284,163	285,951
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		284,163	286,339
Total Net Assets		284,163	286,339
Funds Designated Funds Unrestricted Funds		238,885 45,278	226,733 59,566
Total funds	14	284,163	286,339

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

08-Dec-23 | 14:43 GMT Approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on \_ and signed on its behalf by DocuSigned by:

Michael Boyd 8C814E1E66E0428...

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

#### to the Members of Belfast Healthy Cities Project Limited

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

#### Report on the audit of the financial statements

#### Opinion

We have audited the company financial statements of Belfast Healthy Cities Project Limited ('the company') for the financial year ended 31 March 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 2. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

In our opinion, when reporting in accordance with a fair presentation framework the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 March 2023 and of its deficit for the financial
  year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described 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 ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, 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.

#### 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.

#### Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's Report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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.

#### Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

#### to the Members of Belfast Healthy Cities Project Limited

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

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

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- the directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the Directors' Annual Report.

#### Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities set out on page 8, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they 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.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or has 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 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 (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

#### Further information regarding the scope of our responsibilities as auditor

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform
  audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide
  a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for
  one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the
  override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our Auditor's Report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our Auditor's Report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the Members of Belfast Healthy Cities Project Limited

(A company limited by guarantee, not having a share capital)

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

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

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. 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 auditor's 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 and the company's members as a body if the our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

ROBERT BARR

Mr Robert Barr (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of

MULDOON & CO

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors 16 Mount Charles

Belfast

BT7 1NZ

10-Dec-23 | 22:02 GMT

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COMPANY REG NO NI31042

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