



THE IRISH BLUE CROSS
A N I M A L W E L F A R E C H A R I T Y



Annual Report & Audited Financial Statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2022

Company Number: 637671

Charity Number: Tax Exemption CHY 22274

Charities Regulatory Authority Number: CRA 20203128

THE IRISH BLUE CROSS

CONTENTS

	Page
Directors' Annual Report	3 - 16
Directors' Responsibilities Statement	17
Independent Auditor's Report	18 - 20
Statement of Financial Activities	21
Balance Sheet	22
Statement of Cash Flows	23
Notes to the Financial Statements	24 - 36

Directors Annual Report

The Directors of The Irish Blue Cross CLG present their Annual Report. This document combines the Directors' Report, the Trustees' Report and the Audited Financial Statements for the financial period from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022.

As a registered Charity and Company Limited by Guarantee, The Irish Blue Cross Annual Report and Financial Statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2014, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (effective 1 January 2015) and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard currently applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland.

The Directors have agreed to adopt and comply with the SORP format although this is not yet required in the Republic of Ireland.

The Directors' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Trustees' Annual Report under SORP guidelines. The Directors of the Company are also Charity Trustees for the purpose of Charity law; and under the Charity's Constitution are known as Members of the Board of Trustees.

In this report the Directors of The Irish Blue Cross present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial period to 31 December 2022.

A message from our Chair and CEO

In a year where we have seen the beginnings of the impact of the cost of living on households due to inflation, energy and increasing mortgage interest it is heartening to see how the work of The Irish Blue Cross as shown on page 12 has had a significant effect on the welfare of thousands of pets across many Dublin communities. Our clinics focus on preventative, regular, and life-saving care including important welfare initiatives to promote and facilitate microchipping and neutering.

We know how invaluable our services are for pet owners who can't afford to go elsewhere for veterinary care. We strive to develop our services and to improve the quality of life for all pets. We invest in providing the best resources for our teams to carry out their work as effectively and efficiently as possible. Last year, for example, we upgraded our X-ray and anaesthetic machines and invested in a new urinalysis machine. All of this was made possible through the generous support of sponsors who share our vision for helping pets.

Huge thanks to our front-line workers – our mobile clinics drivers, vets, nurses, and receptionists – all who work incredibly hard to attend the needs of our pet patients and the public seeking support.

In addition to our clinics we also provide a much relied on horse ambulance welfare service which attends Irish Race Meetings and major international events held in Ireland. We are very grateful to have a dedication and experienced horse ambulance team of operators. It is fully supported by the Irish racing industry and racing community. In 2022, we replaced a Toyota Landcruiser fleet vehicle which was fully funded by Horse Racing Ireland.

As ever, we are indebted to our front-line workers and support team all who work incredibly hard to attend the needs of our pet patients and the public seeking support. In particular, we would like to acknowledge our former Head of Veterinary Services, Una O'Toole who was a very dedicated team leader of our Inchicore Clinic for seven years before moving on to set up her own practice late last year.

We could not continue to operate our services without the goodwill of our supporters, volunteers and sponsors who, time and time again, make generous financial contributions and give freely of their time when we reach out for help.

These extraordinary levels of support including government grants, donations, donations-in-kind and bequests truly help The Irish Blue Cross fulfil its critical mission. It also helps us spread our message further afield through social media, and by running targeted marketing and fundraising campaigns.

In particular, we acknowledge the continued support and generosity received from the Department of Agriculture, Food and The Marine in 2022, plus a large legacy which places our small-animal veterinary services in a much stronger position for 2023. Details of these are shown in our Financial Accounts in this Annual Report.

All that was achieved in 2022 would not have been possible without the hard work of our small core management team along with the Board of Directors and its sub committees which ensure the Charity meet all of its governance and statutory obligations and requirements.



Thank you and well done to each and every one of you who has played a role in helping our Charity achieve success over the

past year. Here's to a bright future for The Irish Blue Cross and the pet communities it serves.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink.

Declan Duggan
Chair
The Irish Blue Cross



A handwritten signature in blue ink.

Christina Conneely
CEO
The Irish Blue Cross

Objectives & Activities

Vision Statement

The vision of The Irish Blue Cross is that care is provided for every animal and all pets should enjoy a healthy life despite the financial circumstances of their owners.

Mission Statement

The mission of The Irish Blue Cross is to offer affordable veterinary care to eligible owners; promote welfare and responsible pet ownership; and alleviate the suffering of animals through veterinary clinics and equine ambulances.

Objectives

The core objective defined in the Charity's strategy is to continue to offer and develop veterinary services for the least well-off domestic pet owners who cannot afford private veterinary care and to more broadly support animal welfare. This is achieved through the work of professional veterinary teams at the Inchicore Clinic and Dublin based mobile veterinary clinics. Our aim under our current strategy is to:

- ✓ maximise the benefit of our services to pet owners;
- ✓ extend pet welfare through new initiatives;
- ✓ to inform and educate nationally on the responsibilities and benefits of pet ownership; and
- ✓ maintain the horse ambulance service which attends all Irish race meetings and main equestrian events.

These objectives are dependent on availability of adequate funding and maintaining high standards at all levels.

Our Strategy

Our Strategy (2021 – 2023) was carefully set against the backdrop of Covid. In 2022 it was revisited and extended to 2025 to ensure the Charity develops and maintains its valued services for pets in the community. Key aims going forward include working with stakeholders and funders to ensure a secure future for the Charity and to identify opportunities for further growth and development.

An important aspect is to recognise staff talents and equip our veterinary teams with the best technology and resources to carry out their work and to provide excellent clinical facilities for maintaining high standards of patient care.

The strategy is dynamic and flexible and is reviewed on a regular basis to achieve the best possible outcomes to:

- ✓ deliver small animal care to our communities;
- ✓ continuously improve our services and capabilities;
- ✓ create long term value to ensure long term sustainability.

The management team works closely with the Board in delivering this strategy and its objectives. Delivery of the strategy is in line with our core values, and in line with the expectations of a registered Irish Charity.

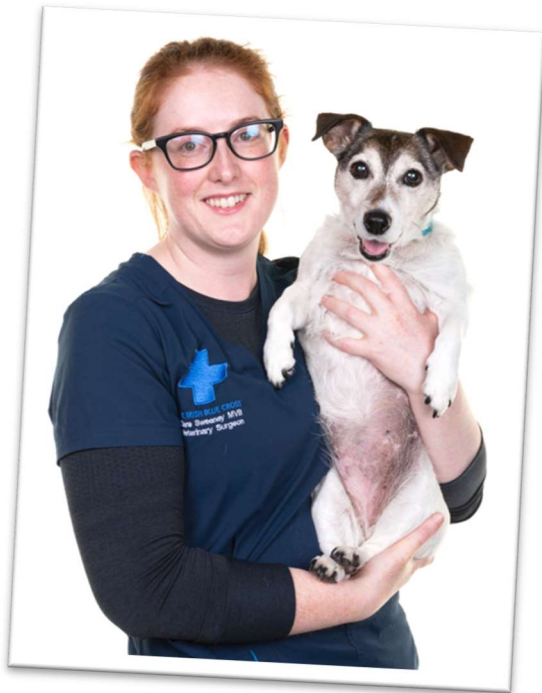
Hi, I'm Albert. One day, I felt really unwell and in pain. After an Ultrasound and Xray at the Inchicore Clinic, a suspicious foreign object showed up in my intestine. During emergency surgery, The Irish Blue Cross team found the culprit – a peach stone! My operation was a huge success and I got loads of TLC from the Inchicore Clinic team. I just feel so well again!



Our vet, Ciara, tells of her love for animals and being on the frontline

“

I have had a love for animals since I was a child, and I always wanted to be a vet. It is a very long and challenging road to become a vet, but I truly believe that it is a privilege to be able to help people and their pets in their time of crisis.



Being a vet, you can see the enormous bond people have with their animals - they really do become part of your family. When a client brings their pet to us it can be a very emotional experience for everyone involved. I love working in The Irish Blue Cross because we provide such a high standard of care to pets that otherwise may not be able to receive the same care in traditional veterinary practices. We have a great team of highly experienced nurses at the Charity.

Just like parents should never admit who their favourite child is, I do not think a vet should ever say who their favourite patient is either! I will admit though that I love seeing my regular patients back for repeat visits because you are able to really see the improvements over time as they follow their treatment plans. I have a strong interest in skin cases that come into the Irish Blue Cross.

I really enjoy working with the clients to figure out what exactly is wrong with their pet and the best treatment plan for them. Skin issues can be a long process to fix but when you find the right treatment for the patient the impact on the animal's quality of life is remarkable.

”

Hi, I'm Thor. I arrived at The Irish Blue Cross to take part in a photo shoot for the 2023 Calendar. It felt like a real pampering day and I met other dogs. But even though I didn't make the final cut – and heaven only knows – I starred in the Christmas Fundraising Appeal 2022. I'm chuffed anyhow because it was a great success!





Some of our Inchicore Clinic staff, Dr. Rocio Bayod, Adam Doran (receptionist), Dr. Stephen Cassidy, Michelle Gallagher RVN and Richard Smith (receptionist) holding Princess.

Our Core Values and What They Mean

The core values of The Irish Blue Cross are communicated to our employees through regular reviews. These are:

- ✓ **Integrity.** We act in an ethical, transparent, and honourable way;
- ✓ **Dynamic.** We are ambitious and optimistic, striving for success;
- ✓ **Responsible.** We are proud of our professionalism and hold ourselves accountable for the work we do;
- ✓ **Fair and Reasonable.** We aim to be consistent and treat everyone equally and;
- ✓ **Compassionate.** We believe in showing respect and kindness and we aim to be supportive and caring in all that we do



Jenny Conroy, Senior Receptionist with Jasmin Doyle, Mobile Clinic Service Administration Co-Ordinator and Princess

Structure, Governance and Management

2022 (1 January – 31 December) The Irish Blue Cross CLG, (Co. Reg. No. 637671; RCN 20203128, CHY No. 22274).

Governance

There were nine Directors serving on the Board of The Irish Blue Cross as at the 31 December 2022, which included a new Director who joined in December. Directors serve on the Board and its sub-Committees:

- ✓ **Finance, Audit and Risk (FARCO)** is responsible for reviewing the adequacy of the governance, risk management and internal control processes within the Charity, reporting any concerns and issues to the Board, as well as monitoring the integrity of the Charity's financial statements and the significant financial reporting judgements contained in them;
- ✓ **Services Delivery (SEDCO)** is responsible for overseeing the delivery of all services to clients,

whether in respect of small animals or the horse ambulance or others;

- ✓ **Nominations, Employment and Remuneration (NERCO)** is responsible for ensuring that the Board is properly resourced with the Directors needed to fulfil their responsibilities in accordance with law; and ensuring that the Charity has in place effective employment arrangements for Staff which maximise job satisfaction & employee welfare whilst containing employment costs within its means; and
- ✓ **Marketing and Fundraising (COMMS)** is responsible for considering all matters relating to the key commercial and income generating marketing and external communications activities of the Charity. It is the intent for meetings to be collaborative, high energy, constructively challenging and supportive.

Table 1: List of Directors and Board sub-Committee Membership

Director	Notes	Tenure ¹	Board		FARCO		SEDCO ²		NERCO		COMMS ²	
			M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A
Declan Duggan	Chair	3.8 yrs	✓	$\frac{6}{6}$					✓	$\frac{8}{8}$	✓	$\frac{4}{4}$
John Costello MVB, MRCVS	Vice Chair	3.8 yrs	✓	$\frac{2}{6}$			✓*	$\frac{4}{4}$	✓	$\frac{7}{8}$		
Robert Moynihan QFA	Company Secretary	3.8 yrs	✓	$\frac{6}{6}$	✓	$\frac{5}{5}$			✓*	$\frac{8}{8}$		
Zair Berry FCA		3.8 yrs	✓	$\frac{6}{6}$	✓	$\frac{5}{5}$						
Wayne Brooks ACMA, CGMA		3.8 yrs	✓	$\frac{6}{6}$	✓*	$\frac{5}{5}$						
Christina Lonergan	Appointed 13.12.22	1 mth	✓	$\frac{1}{1}$					✓	$\frac{2}{2}$		
Gary O'Sullivan Solicitor - England and Wales		3.8 yrs	✓	$\frac{6}{6}$	✓	$\frac{4}{5}$			✓	$\frac{8}{8}$		
The Hon. Fleur Roper-Curzon		3.8 yrs	✓	$\frac{5}{6}$							✓*	$\frac{3}{4}$
Claire Smith		2.6 yrs	✓	$\frac{2}{6}$							✓	$\frac{2}{4}$

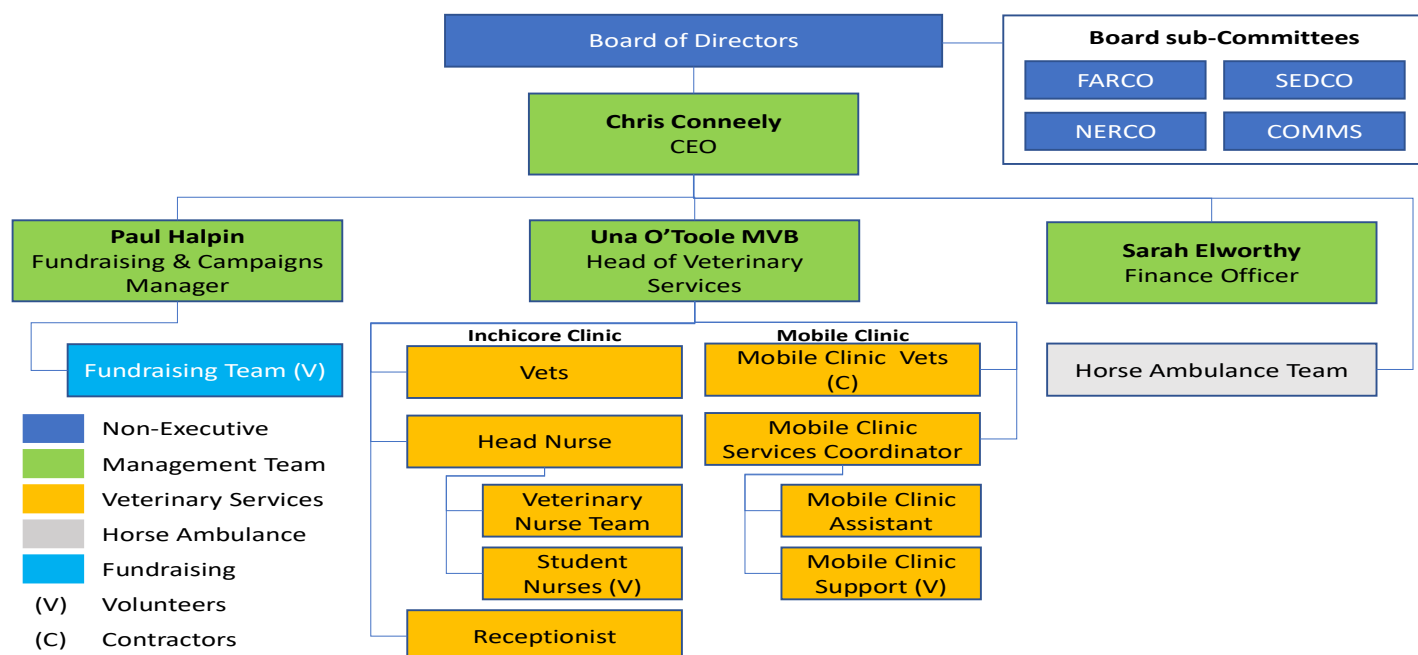
Key: * = Chair of Board sub-Committee, M = Member; A = Attendance, reported as $\frac{x}{y}$ where x is attendance and y is the number of meetings held.

Note 1: Tenure is calculated from the formation of The Irish Blue Cross CLG and does not count time in the prior trust.

Note 2: Two committees have members who are not Directors - SEDCO (Andrea Gallagher) and COMMS (Miriam Cunningham). These volunteer members provide additional guidance and expertise to support the Charity's activities.

Chart 1:

and hold office until the next AGM at which they are



During 2022 the Board met quarterly and on two other occasions. The sub-Committees convened at least on a quarterly basis and as required to carry out their responsibilities. In 2022, the Board remained committed to governing and managing the Charity to the highest standards of integrity and accountability.

The Board defines the Charity's vision, mission and values; sets out and reviews the long-term strategic plan; continues to establish policies and procedures to meet governance requirements; develops a risk management infrastructure; and oversees the use of its financial and other resources in pursuit of the Charity's objectives and long-term sustainability.

The Board and its sub-Committees reviewed the Strategy with management in 2022. A number of Directors undertook Diversity and Inclusion training provided by the Carmichael Centre and which was organised by Horse Racing Ireland's training division, Equip.

Directors and Secretary

Recruitment of Directors is the responsibility of NERCO, assisted by the Chair and CEO and can involve recommendations from existing Board members or recruitment through professional bodies, such as Volunteer Ireland or Boardmatch.

The Charity uses a talent matrix to identify any gaps in the makeup of the Board and to highlight those skills and experience required to continue its development.

New Directors are appointed following Board approval

eligible for re-election.

A list of Directors, their tenure, Board sub-Committee membership and attendance are set out in Table 1.

In accordance with the Charity's Constitution, at our (third) AGM held in 2022 all sitting Directors were required to resign, and being eligible, sought re-election. Going forward on an annual basis 3 Directors will retire by rotation, before putting themselves forward for re-election.

The Company Secretary who served throughout the financial period was Robert Moynihan.

Staff Development, Recruitment and Remuneration Policy

The Charity has a small and dedicated workforce of twenty-two (full time equivalent) employees, led by the Executive team as set out in Chart 1. The Board ensures that there are adequate resources in place to recruit the best people, invest in their training, development and wellbeing, and reward them in line with relevant sectors. As a values-focused organisation, the Charity works to ensure that equality, diversity and inclusion are an integral part of what we do.

provided services pro bono such as copywriter, Patrick Chapman.

All veterinary staff undertake professional CPD courses, which are subsidised by the Charity. Key staff in finance, management and fundraising participate in professionally run courses and training sessions provided by relevant institutions. A budget is set aside annually to fund training for all staff. Our incredibly hardworking teams enjoy a friendly, open and inclusive workplace where they are supported with HR resources in an atmosphere of respect and professionalism. Salary reviews are carried out annually by the NERCO Committee.

Support from Government and Local Authorities

The Irish Blue Cross receives vital annual grant assistance from central and local government for the provision of its veterinary and welfare services. In 2022, The Department of Agriculture, Food and The Marine substantially increased their level of funding to our Charity.

We are extremely grateful for this and for other funding received from the Department of Rural and Community Development; Dublin City Council; Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council; South Dublin County Council and Fingal County Council.

Support from the Horse Racing Industry

The Irish Blue Cross is also extremely grateful for the funding it receives from Horse Racing Ireland for operating the horse ambulance service at race meetings. We work closely with them and The Irish Horseracing Regulatory Board to support good equine welfare at all Irish Racecourses each year.

Support from within the Charity Sector

Throughout 2022, there was continued training and support provided for charities and community groups by The Wheel and The Charities Institute. They continued to work closely with government to secure a brighter future for the sector. The Charity Regulatory Authority was also on hand with supports and guidance on governance and other areas in 2022. Blue Cross (UK) also provided practical support and advice.

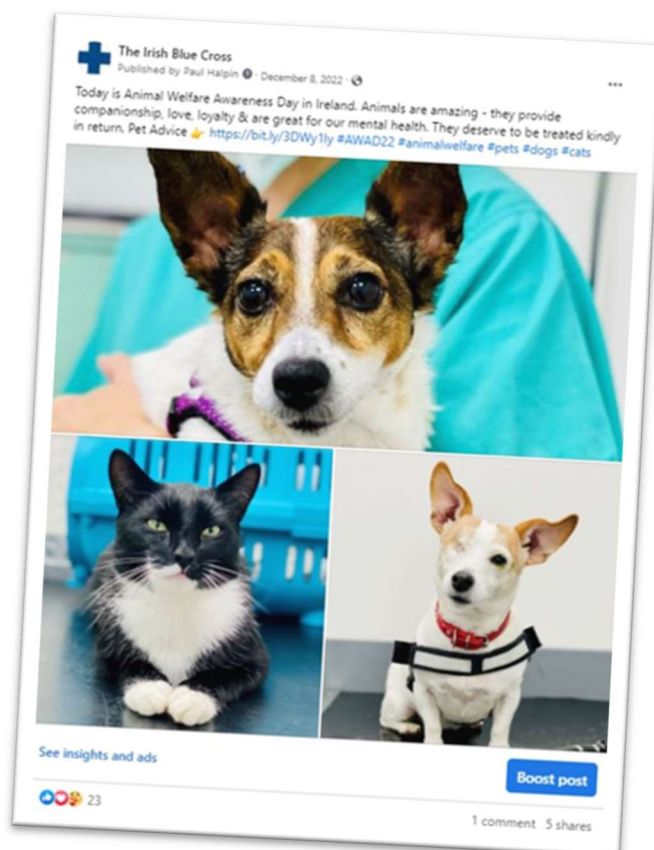
Support from Volunteers and the Community

In 2022 many Irish businesses and individuals once again donated prizes and gift vouchers for our Easter Raffle which continued to be a great success in raising funds for services.

During the year, there was strong support from corporates and trusts including the Community Foundation, Datarch, EI Electronics, Google, Harris Group, Matheson, PayPal Giving, and from others who



An extraordinary and generous gift of a new mobile veterinary clinic was custom built and presented to our Charity by the Harris Group. The gift reflects the patron's great love for animals and appreciation for our Charity's work, and is dedicated in memory of Pino Harris, the founder of the Harris Group.



Many new on-line supporters responded to our campaigns in 2022 donating generously, which made all the difference in keeping our services going.

Through our social media posts, infographics, and videos we covered a broad range of educational topics on responsible pet ownership. We reached 298,609 people via Facebook, 10,000 via Instagram, and a

further 223,697 through sponsored posts on these platforms. We also reached 16,000 people on Twitter.

There were 49 volunteers actively engaged in our activities, across fundraising and provision of services, in 2022 (2021: 14 volunteers). This reflects a return to more normal levels of volunteering in the aftermath of the pandemic.

Our Mobile Clinic drivers, once again, gave amazing support during last year. Their dedication and combined effort meant that we provided 482 (2021: 486) mobile clinic services spread across 10 Dublin communities, including, Ballyfermot, Blanchardstown, Ballybrack, Cabra, Crumlin, Finglas, Smithfield, Tallaght, Walkinstown and Whitehall.

Support from Staff

The Head of Vet Services and her dedicated clinical team undertook an extensive workload as can be seen in the Small-Animal Services Statistic Table 2 on the next page. Thousands of pets are treated, vaccinated and receive surgery annually. Overall, the level of care provided through the clinics increased in 2022.

The Head of Veterinary Services and the team gave priority, care, and attention to clients whose pets needed it the most.

The Charity’s Management Team manages the working relationship with Horse Racing Ireland and the Irish Horseracing Regulatory Board. It ensures that the horse ambulance service meets its objectives and is funded adequately through regular service income and grants, including regular equipment replacements.

In 2022, as usual, client and supporter communication are based on preference and consent, in line with GDPR regulations.

Our staff team in 2022 comprised of 22 staff (full-time equivalent) across management, marketing/fundraising, and service provision. In 2022 especially the Charity faced the challenge of hiring in a very competitive veterinary environment. Clinical staff were scarce to recruit for some key positions which arose within our Inchicore team later in the year.

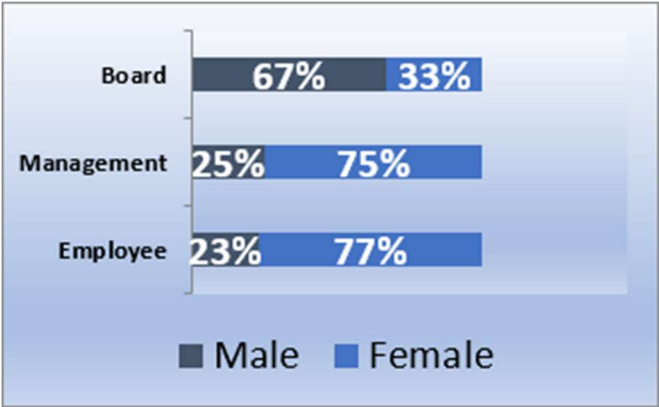
Despite these challenges, the efforts of our frontline, administrative and fundraising teams were key to the Charity’ performance in 2022. Success was underpinned with regular reviews and updates between management and the Board to guide decision making of the Charity. The Directors acknowledge the

extraordinary input and dedication of our staff involved in our main service areas: the Inchicore Clinic and Mobiles, Horse Ambulance Service and Fundraising.

Gender Diversity

The Board of The Irish Blue Cross recognise the importance of gender diversity in the Charity, and the focus our stakeholders place on this critical topic. A view of the Charity’s gender diversity across the Board, Management and Staff is set out below.

Chart 2: Gender



Review of Achievements and Performance

In 2022, our teams of vets treated 2,382 pets and vaccinated 2,527 (total 4,909) pets at the mobile clinics (2021: 4,676). This was up 5% on the previous year.

Our hard-working Inchicore Clinic team provided a diverse range of procedures, including treatments, consultations, bloods and other tests, X-rays, ultrasound, etc. totalling 11,318 (2021: 9,966), up 14%.

The overall level of activity increased by 11%, across almost all areas . For example , neuter surgeries were up 73%, vaccinations 63%, consultations 17% and laboratory tests and bloods were up 6%.

This reflected a return to more normal times in the aftermath of the pandemic years 2021 and 2020.

The Small-Animal Services Metrics Table (Table 2 below) shows the small-animal veterinary service levels for the 12-month period, 1 January to 31 December 2022 with comparisons for 2021.

In 2022, there were 482 mobile clinics in operation (2021: 486).

The Inchicore Clinic operates by appointment from 7.30am - 7pm Monday to Friday, and from 9am - 1pm on Saturdays. The veterinary team saw an average of 28 patients per day in 2022 (2021: 24).

The emphasis is on high quality, affordable veterinary care for eligible and means-tested pet owners who are required to register as clients.

Hi, I'm Fudge. I was in a terrible state when I arrived at The Inchicore Clinic. I was in an emergency! An ultrasound scan revealed all. I attended a barbecue on the QT, and I sampled a kebab! The Inchicore Clinic saved my life! Nicola and her surgical team got to work on me and removed the kebab stick and stitched me back up. A few days later I was feeling my old self again!



Table 2: Small Animal Metrics

Achievements from our Small Animal Services:	2022 (12 months)	2021 (12 months)
Mobile Clinics		
Treatments & Vaccinations	4,909	4,676
Inchicore Small-Animal Clinic		
Neuters	352	203
Vaccinations	214	131
Microchipping	116	20
Dentals	238	269
Surgeries, X-rays, Ultrasound	1,127	1,070
Euthanasia	333	270
Post- operative care	909	882
Consultations	4,623	3,948
Hospitalisations	354	285
Laboratory/bloods/biochemistry tests	3,052	2,888
Total	11,318	9,966
Grand Total	16,227	14,642



Our Horse Ambulance fleet is fully funded through Horse Racing Ireland. The Toyota Landcruiser Vehicles are replaced on a rolling basis every 4 to 5 years.

Each year, The Irish Blue Cross horse ambulance service supports the busy on-duty veterinary surgeons at all twenty-four Irish race meetings, north and south and attends main equestrian events. In 2022, our ambulance team provided a total of 434 (2021: 439) service days at 389 race meetings over the twelve-month period.

Our team was present at the RDS Horse Show 5-day event which was back on the calendar in 2022 and at the Tattersalls International Horse Trials, Mill Street for 4 days and at Tattersalls Breeze Ups held at Fairyhouse on 2 days.

In addition, our service was present for 13 schoolings held at Fairyhouse, Leopardstown, Naas, Navan, Tipperary, Thurles Racecourses, and for 2 barrier trials held at Dundalk Racecourse. The service also transferred 6 equines to the Irish Equine Centre for post-mortems.

The Irish Blue Cross is proud of its longstanding partnership with Horse Racing Ireland, the Irish Horseracing Regulatory Board and The Irish Racecourse Trainers Association. Annually, Horse Racing Ireland provides The Irish Blue Cross with service income and operational and capital grants for running the service. The Charity also receives a small fund from the Irish Racehorse Trainers Association and a donation from the Association of Irish Racecourse Veterinary Surgeons.

Financial Review

The second full year of trading of The Irish Blue Cross CLG, as laid out in the Financial Accounts, was 1 January – 31 December 2022. The comparative figures given are for a 12-month period ending 31 December 2021.

The results for the financial period are set out on pages 21 and 22 and additional notes are provided showing income and expenditure in greater detail.

Income

With the back-drop of strong support, The Irish Blue Cross successfully maintained the running of all its services in 2022. This was made possible from established and increased support from government bodies, legacies and new initiatives.

The overall income for the twelve-month period from 1 January to 31 December was €2,087,255 (2021: €1,686,814).

Statutory income and legacies were particularly strong in 2022. The income from the Inchicore Clinic and the Mobile Clinics were also strong. The Horse Ambulance income in 2022 was less compared to the previous year due to an extraordinary pandemic related income arising from resilience cover in 2021.

Expenditure

The overall expenditure for the twelve months to 31 December was €1,632,415 (2021: €1,536,095). This was essential for the provision of the Charity's veterinary and welfare services and the support required to deliver them. The main categories of expenditure relate to veterinary/staff costs, medical supplies, fleet and maintenance as shown in the Restricted and Unrestricted Expenditure Section on page 21.

Financial Results

The surplus for the 12-month period to 31 December 2022 was €454,840 and was transferred to reserves (2021: €150,719). At the end of the financial period the Charity has Fixed Assets of €1,186,623 (2021: €1,088,233), Current Assets of €1,911,573 (2021: €1,547,135) and Liabilities of €151,626 (2021: €143,638). The total funds of the Charity amounted to €2,946,570 (2021: €2,491,730). Directors were satisfied with the level of reserves at the end of the financial year.

Reserves Policy

The Charity's Reserves Policy is set by FARCO and approved by the Board of Directors annually. It allows for regular review; careful management and adequacy of reserves to protect the viability and operations of the Charity. The Reserves Policy in 2022 was that Net Current Assets should not fall below the sum of half of total budgeted expenditure plus all committed capital expenditure. If at any time Net Current Assets did not cover this value a special Board meeting would be required to review the Charity's financial position and outlook. Under this policy, the Charity operated above its minimum reserve at all times during 2022.

The Charity's Net Current Assets, as of 31 December 2022, were €1,759,947 (2021: €1,403,497), versus a minimum of €791,084 per this policy (2021: €838,119).

The Reserves Policy was reviewed and revised along with the Liquidity and Investments Policy in 2023 and both were amalgamated into one.

Liquidity and Investments Policy

Liquidity is defined as cash, current or deposit accounts or State Savings to which the Charity has contractually guaranteed access within 3 months. Under the new single amalgamated Reserves and Liquidity Policy there will be heightened monitoring if bank balances fall lower than 6 months budgeted expenditure plus committed capital expenditure. If bank balances drop below 4 months of budgeted expenditure plus capital expenditure a special Board Meeting will be convened to address the issue and take action.

In the interests of maximising capital security, all

liquidity and investments will be held with either the two systemically important banks or An Post. During 2022 bank deposit interest rates did not significantly Recover. The option for surplus liquidity would have been in State Savings, however this was not pursued.

Management minimised the extent to which liquid balances were exposed to the possibility of negative interest rates through regular communication with the banks. In December 2022, €400,000 was transferred to the Charity's second Bank's Current Account to avoid any possibility of this happening.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Charity has defined a risk management approach to protect it from negative events where possible, by reducing the likelihood of each risk occurring and minimising the impact of each risk where possible. The Irish Blue Cross has established a risk register to support it in identifying and evaluating key risks the Charity faces, supporting management in effectively managing all of the risks within the Charity. Due to the nature of risk management, the risk register is dynamic and will evolve over time as risk management increasingly matures in The Irish Blue Cross.

In completing the risk register, an assessment of risk occurs considering at a minimum the likelihood and impact of the risk, and the effectiveness of controls in place to mitigate these risks. The Charity takes a risk-based approach to risk response, which may include heightened monitoring or specific actions to close control gaps.

FARCO is primarily responsible for the oversight of the risk register, noting specific risks may have been allocated to other committees based on their terms of reference.

The primary risks facing the Charity are:

1. **Compliance risk**, arising primarily from the nature of our services and the need to meet robust Veterinary Council of Ireland standards at all times. In addition, the Charity has specific obligations relating to its role as an employer to ensure employment practices are consistent with legal requirements.
2. **Operational risk**, arising primarily through the delivery of our services both in our main Inchicore clinic and mobile clinics, relating to business continuity; public safety and security; and risks specific to maintaining our ageing mobile clinic fleet which is a key part of our strategy. Operational risk was further heightened during the pandemic.

3. **Financial risk**, arising primarily through the variable nature of fundraising which was heightened during the pandemic, and rising costs from post pandemic inflation which may impact on the financial strength of the Charity and delivery of our charitable purpose.
4. **Environmental risk**, arising primarily through factors outside the Charity's control including demand for our services, economic challenges arising in the aftermath of Brexit and the pandemic, as well as on-going adverse weather conditions.
5. **Reputational risk**, arising primarily through the impact of negative social media or other sources and the effect this may have on The Irish Blue Cross brand, its funding, resourcing, and client demand.

For all of the above risks, the CEO or a member of the wider management team have been appointed as responsible for overseeing the risk on a day-to-day basis, with the support of relevant Board sub-

Committees and the Board itself. Mitigants employed include documented procedures and controls, initial and ongoing training, as well as regular monitoring and oversight routines.

Specific to Health and Safety, The Irish Blue Cross Health and Safety Statement is updated on a regular basis by management and was professionally reviewed by Qualtec Training and Consulting in May 2021.

Reference and Administrative Details

Compliance with Sector-wide Legislation and Standards

The Irish Blue Cross engages proactively with the legislation, standards and codes that apply to the sector. The Charity is compliant with the Companies Act 2014 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

During 2022, the Board and Executive worked closely on compliance with the Charities Regulatory Authority's Charities Governance Code and the Charity's continued compliance in October 2022.

Compliance with Guiding Principles for Fundraising

The Irish Blue Cross is compliant with the Statement of Guiding Principles for Fundraising. The Charity's Donor Charter is consistent with this Statement, which it considers when planning all fundraising activity.

The Charity gives honest, open and transparent disclosure when raising funds from the public. It ensures that fundraising staff have the information and training they need to implement the Statement of Guiding Principles for Fundraising. All donations are tracked and recorded in compliance with data protection (GDPR) requirements, in this and all other areas.

Taxation Status

No charge to current or deferred taxation arises as the Charity has been granted charitable status under Sections 207 and 208 of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997, Charity No CHY 22274. The Charity is eligible under the "Scheme of Tax Relief for Donations to Eligible Charities and Approved Bodies under Section 848A Taxes Consolidation Act, 1997". Income tax refunds arising from donations exceeding €250 per annum are included in unrestricted funds.

Irrecoverable value added tax is expended as incurred, however the Government has introduced a Value Added Tax ("VAT") Compensation Scheme for Charities which aims to reduce the VAT burden on charities and to partially compensate them for VAT

paid. The scheme applies to VAT paid on expenditure on or after 1 January 2018. Charities are entitled to claim a refund of a proportion of their VAT costs based on their level of non-public funding.

Bankers

Our bankers are Bank of Ireland, 177 Drimnagh Road, Walkinstown, Dublin, D12 RX01 and Allied Irish Bank, 7-12 Dame Street Dublin 2, D02 KX20.

Solicitors

Our solicitors are Dechert, 5 Earlsfort Terrace, Saint Kevin's, Dublin 2, D01 X5X0 and Matheson, 70 Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin Docklands, Dublin 2, D02 R296.

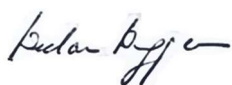
Auditors

Our auditors are Leonard Accountancy Ltd, Chartered Certified Accountants, P/A Leonard and Co., Unit 5D, Nutgrove Office Park, Unit D5, Dublin 14, D14 X343. They have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of section 383(2) of the Companies Act 2014.

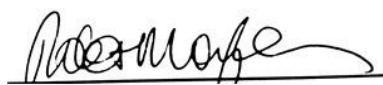
Accounting Records

To ensure that adequate accounting records are kept in accordance with Sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014, the Directors have employed appropriately qualified accounting personnel and have maintained appropriate computerised accounting systems. The accounting records are located at the company's office at 15A Goldenbridge Industrial Estate, Tyrconnell Road, Inchicore, Dublin 8, D08 EY92.

Approved by the Board of Directors on the 22nd of August 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Declan Duggan - Chair
Director



Robert Moynihan – Co. Secretary
Director

The Irish Blue Cross CLG
DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT
for the financial year ended 31 December 2022

The Directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with the Companies Act 2014 and applicable 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. 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 Charity as at the financial year end date and of the net income or expenditure of the Charity 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 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 Charity will continue in operation.

The Directors confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

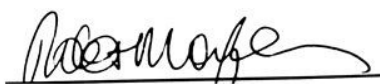
The Directors are responsible for ensuring that the Charity keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the Charity, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and net income or expenditure of the Charity to be determined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

The Directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the Republic of Ireland governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 22nd of August 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



**Declan Duggan - Chairman
Director**



**Robert Moynihan QFA - Co. Secretary
Director**

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the Members of The Irish Blue Cross CLG

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the Charity financial statements of The Irish Blue Cross CLG ('the Charity') for the financial year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the 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 Irish law and 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 the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, and financial position of the Charity as at 31 December 2022 and of its surplus for the financial 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 further described below in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report.

We are independent of the Charity 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.

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 Charity'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 The Irish Blue Cross CLG

Report on the audit of the financial statements

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 the Companies Act 2014

Based solely on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:

- in our opinion, the information given in the Directors' Annual Report is consistent with the financial statements;
- in our opinion, the Directors' Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2014; and
- the accounting records of the Charity were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited and the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the Charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the Directors' Annual Report. The Companies Act 2014 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of Directors' remuneration and transactions required by sections 305 to 312 of the Act are not complied with by the Charity. 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 set out on page 17, 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.

In preparing the financial statements, the Directors are responsible for assessing the Charity'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 they either intend to liquidate the Charity 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 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.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

to the Members of The Irish Blue Cross CLG

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Further information regarding the scope of our responsibilities as auditor

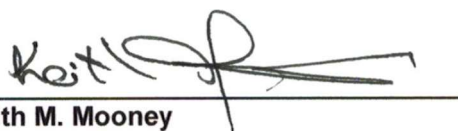
As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (Ireland), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, 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 Charity'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 Charity'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 Charity 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.

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

Our report is made solely to the Charity'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 Charity'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 Charity and the Charity's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Keith M. Mooney

for and on behalf of

LEONARD ACCOUNTANCY LTD

Chartered Certified Accountants

P/A Leonard & Company

Unit D5, Nutgrove Office Park

Dublin 14

D14 X343

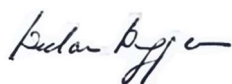
22 August 2023

The Irish Blue Cross CLG
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the financial year ended 31 December 2022

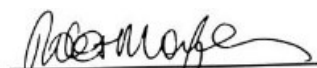
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2022 €	Restricted Funds 2022 €	Total Funds 2022 €	Unrestricted Funds 2021 €	Restricted Funds 2021 €	Total Funds 2021 €
Income							
Donations and legacies	3.1	538,208	6,350	544,558	345,878	12,048	357,926
Charitable activities	3.2	1,384,258	158,439	1,542,697	1,217,305	86,525	1,303,830
Other income	3.3	-	-	-	25,058	-	25,058
Total incoming resources		1,922,466	164,789	2,087,255	1,588,241	98,573	1,686,814
Expenditure							
Raising funds	4.1	208,257	-	208,257	156,870	-	156,870
Charitable activities	4.2	1,413,355	10,803	1,424,158	1,290,652	88,573	1,379,225
Total Expenditure		1,621,612	10,803	1,632,415	1,447,522	88,573	1,536,095
Net income/(expenditure)	5	300,854	153,986	454,840	140,719	10,000	150,719
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds for the financial year		300,854	153,986	454,840	140,719	10,000	150,719
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds beginning of the year	15	2,378,744	112,986	2,491,730	2,238,025	102,986	2,341,011
Total funds at the end of the year		2,679,598	266,972	2,946,570	2,378,744	112,986	2,491,730

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the financial year.
All income and expenditure relate to continuing activities.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 22nd of August 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Declan Duggan - Chairman
Director

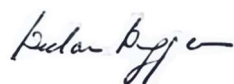


Robert Moynihan QFA - Co. Secretary
Director

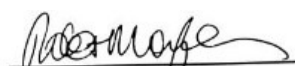
The Irish Blue Cross CLG
BALANCE SHEET
as at 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022 €	2021 €
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	8	<u>1,186,623</u>	<u>1,088,233</u>
Current Assets			
Stocks	9	60,690	36,032
Debtors	10	98,413	217,608
Cash at bank and in hand	11	<u>1,752,470</u>	<u>1,293,495</u>
		<u>1,911,573</u>	<u>1,547,135</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(151,626)</u>	<u>(143,638)</u>
Net Current Assets		<u>1,759,947</u>	<u>1,403,497</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<u><u>2,946,570</u></u>	<u><u>2,491,730</u></u>
Funds			
Restricted funds		266,972	112,986
General fund (unrestricted)		<u>2,679,598</u>	<u>2,378,744</u>
Total funds	15	<u><u>2,946,570</u></u>	<u><u>2,491,730</u></u>

Approved by the Board of Directors on 22nd of August 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Declan Duggan - Chairman
Director



Robert Moynihan QFA - Co. Secretary
Director

The Irish Blue Cross CLG
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
for the financial year ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	2022 €	2021 €
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net movement in funds		454,840	150,719
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation		75,079	65,465
Gains and losses on disposal of fixed assets		-	(25,058)
		<u>529,919</u>	<u>191,126</u>
Movements in working capital:			
Movement in stocks		(24,658)	6,828
Movement in debtors		119,195	(81,107)
Movement in creditors		7,988	(108,430)
		<u>632,444</u>	<u>8,417</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments to acquire tangible assets		(83,540)	(81,164)
Donation in kind of tangible asset	15.2	(89,929)	-
Receipts from disposal of tangible assets		-	33,168
		<u>(173,469)</u>	<u>(47,996)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		458,975	(39,579)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,293,495	1,333,074
		<u>1,752,470</u>	<u>1,293,495</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	11	1,752,470	1,293,495

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Irish Blue Cross CLG is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in Ireland. The registered office of the company is 15A Goldenbridge Ind Est., Tyrconnell Road, Inchicore, Dublin 8, D08 EY92 which is also the principal place of business of the Charity. The financial statements have been presented in Euro (€) which is also the functional currency of the Charity.

The Irish Blue Cross CLG commenced charitable activities on 1 March 2019, prior to that date the charitable activities were carried on by the old Irish Blue Cross Charitable Trust. All the assets, liabilities and undertakings of the old trust were transferred to the new Irish Blue Cross with effect 1 March 2019.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102".

The Charity has applied the Charities SORP on a voluntary basis as its application is not a requirement of the current regulations for charities registered in the Republic of Ireland. As permitted by the Companies Act 2014, the Charity has varied the standard formats in that act for the Statement of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet. Departures from the standard formats, as outlined in the Companies Act 2014, are to comply with the requirements of the Charities SORP and are in compliance with section 4.7, 10.6 and 15.2 of that SORP.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements of the Charity for the financial year ended 31 December 2022 have been prepared on the going concern basis and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS 102".

Fund accounting

The following are the categories of funds maintained:

Restricted funds

Restricted funds represent income received which can only be used for particular purposes, as specified by the donors. Such purposes are within the overall objectives of the Charity.

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds consist of General and Designated funds.

- General funds represent amounts which are expendable at the discretion of the Board, in furtherance of the objectives of the Charity.
- Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that the Board has, at its discretion, set aside for

particular purposes. These designations have an administrative purpose only, and do not legally restrict the Board's discretion to apply the fund.

Income

Income is recognised by inclusion in the Statement of Financial Activities only when the Charity is legally entitled to the income, performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, the amounts involved can be measured with sufficient reliability and it is probable that the income will be received by the Charity. Income includes donations, gifts, legacies, donated goods and services, income from grant funding and from the Charity's small-animal veterinary and horse ambulance services.

Income from Donations

Donations income arises primarily from a variety of fundraising activities including direct mail, the Easter raffle, online campaigns, events and from supporters. Donations received in the financial year ended 31 December 2022 included cash, cheques, postal orders, standing orders, direct debits, direct lodgements, credit card transactions via Elavon and also came through Benevity, iDonate, LIKE CHARITY, Paypal and PayPal Giving Fund, Giving.com, Facebook, SumUp and through our website via Stripe.

Income from charitable activities

Income from charitable activities includes income earned from the supply of goods and services under contractual arrangements. These include the Charity's small-animal veterinary and horse ambulance services. It also includes performance related grants which have conditions that specify the provision of particular services to be provided by The Irish Blue Cross. Income from government and other co-funders is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to the income because it is fulfilling the conditions contained in the related funding agreements. Where a grant is received in advance, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, it is accrued in debtors.

Grants from governments and other co-funders typically include one of the following types of conditions:

- Performance based conditions: whereby the Charity is contractually entitled to funding only to the extent that the core objectives of the grant agreement are achieved. Where the Charity is meeting the core objectives of a grant agreement, it recognises the related expenditure, to the extent that it is reimbursable by the donor, as income.
- Time based conditions: whereby the Charity is contractually entitled to funding on the condition that it is utilised in a particular period. In these cases the Charity recognises the income to the extent it is utilised within the period specified in the agreement.

In the absence of such conditions, assuming that receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured, grant income is recognised once the Charity is notified of entitlement.

Grants received towards capital expenditure are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when received or receivable, whichever is earlier.

Donated goods/services

Donations in kind may take the form of goods or services provided to the Charity free of charge. Where valuation can be measured with reasonable certainty, donations in kind are recognised in full as income in the year of receipt. Donations in kind are valued at the cost to the donor or the amount normally chargeable by the donor for the goods or services provided. If such a valuation is not available, reasonable prevailing market rates are used.

Volunteers time

The Charity does not attempt to put a financial value on the hours of work that it receives for free each year from its many volunteers. Therefore the accounts do not include any income or costs with respect to this time.

Expenditure

Expenditure is analysed between costs of charitable activities and raising funds. The costs of each activity are separately accumulated and disclosed and analysed according to their major components. Expenditure is recognised when a legal or constructive obligation exists as a result of a past event, a transfer of economic benefits is required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be reliably measured.

Support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the Charity but cannot be attributed to one activity. Such costs are allocated to activities in proportion to staff time and head count spent for each activity.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or at valuation, less accumulated depreciation. The charge to depreciation is calculated to write off the original cost or valuation of tangible fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives as follows:

Land and buildings freehold	- 2% Straight line
Fixtures, fittings, and equipment	- 10% / 20% / 33% Straight line
Motor vehicles	- 20% Straight line

Stock

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving items. Stocks comprise drugs and related products. It is not considered practicable to value stock of unsold donated goods at the financial year end.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due. Income recognised by the Charity from government agencies and other co-funders, but not yet received at financial year end, is included in debtors.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand comprises cash on deposit at banks requiring less than three months notice of withdrawal.

Taxation and deferred taxation

No current or deferred taxation arises as the Charity has been granted charitable exemption. Irrecoverable valued added tax is expensed as incurred.

The Irish Blue Cross CLG is eligible under the "Scheme of Tax Relief for Donations to Eligible Charities and Approved Bodies under Section 848A Taxes Consolidation Act, 1997". Income tax refunds arising from donations exceeding €250 per annum are included in unrestricted funds. Irrecoverable value added tax is expensed as incurred, however the Irish Government has introduced a Value Added Tax (VAT) Compensation Scheme for Charities. This scheme aims to reduce the VAT burden on charities and to partially compensate for VAT paid by the Charity. The scheme applies to VAT paid on expenditure on or after 1 January 2018. Charities are entitled to claim a refund of a proportion of their VAT costs based on their level of non-public funding.

Pensions

The Irish Blue Cross CLG operates a defined contribution pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity. Annual contributions payable to the Charity's pension scheme are charged to the income and expenditure account in the period to which they relate.

3. INCOME

3.1 DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted Funds €	Restricted Funds €	2022 €	2021 €
Donations, Gifts and Raffle	199,199	6,350	205,549	176,907
Legacies	302,926	-	302,926	159,000
Events	36,083	-	36,083	22,019
	538,208	6,350	544,558	357,926

3.2 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds €	Restricted Funds €	2022 €	2021 €
Inchicore Small Animal Clinic	462,681	-	462,681	434,064
Mobile Clinics	130,838	89,929	220,767	119,359
Horse Ambulance	254,130	55,625	309,755	277,302
Government Grants	512,813	-	512,813	450,275
Local Authority Funding	15,900	12,885	28,785	16,458
VAT Compensation Scheme	7,896	-	7,896	6,372
	1,384,258	158,439	1,542,697	1,303,830

3.3 OTHER INCOME	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2022	2021
	€	€	€	€
Profit/(Loss) on disposal of tangible assets	-	-	-	25,058

4. EXPENDITURE

4.1 RAISING FUNDS	Direct Costs	Other Costs	Support Costs	2022	2021
	€	€	€	€	€
Events	64,709	-	17,363	82,072	43,005
Donations, Gifts, Raffle & Legacies	90,483	-	35,702	126,185	113,865
	<u>155,192</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>53,065</u>	<u>208,257</u>	<u>156,870</u>

4.2 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	Direct Costs	Other Costs	Support Costs	2022	2021
	€	€	€	€	€
Inchicore Small Animal Clinic	789,405	-	85,747	875,152	830,064
Mobile Clinics	220,801	-	29,623	250,424	236,547
Horse Ambulance	220,492	-	78,090	298,582	312,614
	<u>1,230,698</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>193,460</u>	<u>1,424,158</u>	<u>1,379,225</u>

Please see note 15.2 for details of restricted expenditure.

4.3 SUPPORT COSTS	Cost of Raising Funds	Charitable Activities	2022	2021
	€	€	€	€
Support	53,065	193,460	246,525	247,333

5. NET INCOME	2022 €	2021 €
Net Income is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Depreciation of tangible assets	75,079	65,465
(Surplus) on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	(25,058)
Auditor's remuneration:		
- Audit services	12,330	14,938
- Non-audit services	738	726
	<u>75,817</u>	<u>55,061</u>

6. EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION

Number of employees

The average number of full-time equivalent persons employed during the financial year was as follows:

	2022 Number	2021 Number
Inchicore Small Animal Clinic	13	13
Mobile Clinics	2	2
Horse Ambulance Operators	3	4
Fundraising	2	1
Administration	2	2
	<u>22</u>	<u>22</u>

The staff costs comprise:	2022 €	2021 €
Wages and salaries	802,846	734,367
Social security costs	86,970	80,033
Pension costs	38,452	33,760
	<u>928,268</u>	<u>848,160</u>

7. SALARY BAND

The number of employees whose total employee benefits (excluding employer social welfare and pension costs) for the reporting period fell within the bands below were:

	2022 Number of Employees	2021 Number of Employees
€70,001 - €80,000	2	1
€60,001 - €70,000	-	1
	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Land and buildings freehold	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	€	€	€	€
Cost				
At 1 January 2022	1,013,148	114,866	136,757	1,264,771
Additions	-	27,915	145,554	173,469
	<u>1,013,148</u>	<u>142,781</u>	<u>282,311</u>	<u>1,438,240</u>
At 31 December 2022	1,013,148	142,781	282,311	1,438,240
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2022	63,849	56,259	56,430	176,538
Charge for the financial year	18,993	20,279	35,807	75,079
	<u>82,842</u>	<u>76,538</u>	<u>92,237</u>	<u>251,617</u>
At 31 December 2022	82,842	76,538	92,237	251,617
Net book value				
At 31 December 2022	<u>930,306</u>	<u>66,243</u>	<u>190,074</u>	<u>1,186,623</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>949,299</u>	<u>58,607</u>	<u>80,327</u>	<u>1,088,233</u>

9. STOCKS

	2022	2021
	€	€
Stock	60,690	36,032
	<u>60,690</u>	<u>36,032</u>

Stock of drugs and related products is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

10. DEBTORS

	2022	2021
	€	€
Trade debtors	22,775	22,035
Legacies	1,698	138,000
Prepayments	63,895	45,555
Accrued Income	10,045	12,018
	<u>98,413</u>	<u>217,608</u>

11. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND	2022	2021
	€	€
Cash and bank balances	1,157,008	628,033
Bank Deposits	595,462	665,462
	1,752,470	1,293,495

12. CREDITORS	2022	2021
Amounts falling due within one year	€	€
Trade creditors	74,370	47,450
Taxation and social security costs	19,882	21,923
Other creditors	2,669	3,842
Pension accrual	1,414	-
Accruals	51,108	68,195
Deferred Income	2,183	2,228
	151,626	143,638

13. PENSION COSTS - DEFINED CONTRIBUTION

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund. Pension costs amounted to €38,452 (2021 - €33,760).

14. STATE FUNDING

Government Department	Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine
Grant Programme	Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine Animal Welfare Grant
Purpose of the Grant	Service provision/Charitable activity: Animal welfare
Term	12 months
Received in the financial year and included as income in the period	€480,313
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	Nil
Restriction on use	Delivery as per annual submission

Government Department	Department of Rural and Community Development
Grant Programme	Animal Welfare
Purpose of the Grant	Charitable Small Animal Veterinary Services & Dog Control
Term	12 months
Received in the financial year and included as income in the period	€32,500
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	Nil
Restriction on use	Delivery as per annual submission
Agency	Dublin City Council
Grant Programme	Animal Welfare
Purpose of the Grant	Charitable Small Animal Veterinary Services & Dog Control
Term	12 months
Received in the financial year and included as income in the period	€10,000
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	Nil
Restriction on use	Delivery as per annual submission
Agency	Dublin County Council
Grant Programme	Local Community Development Committee Community Activity Fund
Purpose of the Grant	To purchase a Urinalysis Machine
Received in the financial year and included as income in the period	€11,685
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	Nil
Restriction on use	For the purchase of Urinalysis Machine

Agency	Dublin City Council
Grant Programme	Local Area Grant
Purpose of the Grant	Purchase of Equipment for the Inchicore Small Animal Clinic
Term	12 months
Received in the financial year and included as income in the period	€1,200
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	Nil
Restriction on use	Purchase of Infusion Pump & Fluid Warmer Unit
Agency	Fingal County Council
Grant Programme	Animal Welfare
Purpose of the Grant	Charitable Small Animal Veterinary Services
Term	12 months
Received in the financial year and included as income in the period	€1,000
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	Nil
Restriction on use	Delivery as per annual submission
Agency	South Dublin County Council
Grant Programme	Animal Welfare
Purpose of the Grant	Charitable Small Animal Veterinary Services
Term	12 months
Received in the financial year and included as income in the period	€4,000
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	Nil
Restriction on use	Delivery of service as per annual submission

Agency **Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council**

Grant Programme	Animal Welfare Grant Scheme
Purpose of the Grant	Charitable Small Animal Veterinary Services
Term	12 months
Received in the financial year and included as income in the period	€900
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	Nil
Restriction on use	Delivery of service as per annual submission

Agency **Horse Racing Ireland**

Grant Programme	Operational Annual Grant
Purpose of the Grant	To maintain and manage the operations of the horse ambulance service
Term	12 months
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	Nil
Restriction on use	The grant must be spent on maintaining and managing the operations of the horse ambulance service.

Agency **Horse Racing Ireland**

Grant Programme	Capital Grant
Purpose of the Grant	Purchase of Horse Ambulance Towing Vehicle
Received in the financial year and included as income in the period	€55,625
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	Nil
Restriction on use	The grant is paid specifically for the purchase of a Horse Ambulance Towing Vehicle

for the financial year ended 31 December 2022

15. FUNDS**15.1 RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	Unrestricted Funds €	Restricted Funds €	Total Funds €
At 1 January 2021	2,238,025	102,986	2,341,011
Movement during the financial year	140,719	10,000	150,719
At 31 December 2021	2,378,744	112,986	2,491,730
Movement during the financial year	300,854	153,986	454,840
At 31 December 2022	2,679,598	266,972	2,946,570

15.2 ANALYSIS OF MOVEMENTS ON FUNDS

	Balance 1 January 2022 €	Income €	Expenditure €	Transfers between 31 December funds €	Balance 31 December 2022 €
Restricted funds					
Inchicore Small Animal Clinic	-	17,007	2,038	-	14,969
Mobile Clinic	102,986	92,157	421	-	194,722
Horse Ambulances	10,000	55,625	8,344	-	57,281
	112,986	164,789	10,803	-	266,972
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted General	2,378,744	1,922,466	1,621,612	-	2,679,598
Total funds	2,491,730	2,087,255	1,632,415	-	2,946,570

Mobile Clinics

The Charity's current policy in relation to the mobile clinic fleet is to firstly maintain the vehicles in good working order and upgrade where possible. Otherwise new replacement vehicles will be acquired either through sponsorship or committing significant funds from the Charity's reserves. Accordingly, the use of the restricted funds to either absorb this expenditure to maintain, renew and upgrade or alternatively to fund replacement vehicles is appropriate.

A new mobile clinic was donated to the Charity in 2022 at a value of €89,929. This donation has been recognised as income in 2022. The donation of the vehicle is reflected as an addition to motor vehicles in note 8. The restricted fund will be reduced by way of the depreciation cost of the assets over their useful life.

Horse Ambulances

A grant was received by the Irish Blue Cross Trust for the replacement of a horse ambulance towing unit to the value of €55,625 which the Charity has used to replace a horse ambulance towing unit. This restricted income has been released to the Income & Expenditure Account in 2022. The purchase of the vehicle is reflected as an addition to motor vehicles in note 8. The restricted fund will be reduced by way of the depreciation cost of the new horse ambulance towing unit over the useful life of the vehicle.

16. STATUS

The Charity is limited by guarantee not having a share capital.

The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the Charity undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of its being wound up while they are members, or within one financial year thereafter, for the payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before they ceased to be members, and the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding €1.

17. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

John Costello, a Director of The Irish Blue Cross and owner of Animark, a supplier of microchips to the veterinary sector, sold microchips to the value of €1,350 (2021: €199) to the Charity in the year to 31 December 2022. There was no balance (2021: €129) outstanding at 31 December 2022 in respect of the provision of these microchips. On 30 June 2022 John Costello's ownership of Animark ceased.

18. POST-BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

There have been no significant events affecting the Charity since the financial year-end.

19. DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION

None of the Directors received any remuneration during the year. Incidental travel and meeting expenses are reimbursed where incurred. These expenses amounted to € 781 (2021: € - nil) for the year.

20. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 22 August 2023.