



# Annual Report 2018



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## Introduction



The mission of Polio Survivors Ireland is to create awareness and to provide information regarding the Late Effects of Polio among polio survivors, statutory agencies and the wider medical profession, and to ensure that the needs of polio survivors relating to their condition are met to enable them to live with dignity.

Polio Survivors Ireland was established for polio survivors by polio survivors. The organisation was formed in 1993 and we are run by a voluntary Board of polio survivors and volunteers. We are supported by voluntary committees, active members and a small executive staff at the office in Dublin. Our organisation is the only one in Ireland providing practical support to those unfortunate enough to have contracted polio. At the end of 2018 we had 937 members across the country.

Polio Survivors Ireland assists polio survivors by providing aids to daily living; stair lifts, callipers, bespoke footwear, electric scooters and wheelchairs. We also help survivors access Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and Respite Breaks, and provide those who need it with assistance with their heating bills. We employ two Service & Information Co-ordinators who provide information, respond to requests for assistance from members and, perhaps most importantly, provide a listening ear to survivors in need.

Our charity has a network of 20 Social Support Groups around the country and also offers a Telephone Support Service for those members who have difficulty in attending meetings.

The charity works tirelessly to:

- Create awareness of Post Polio Syndrome
- Provide information on polio and its Late Effects
- Ensure the needs of polio survivors relating to their condition are met to enable them to live with dignity

Any of the estimated 7,000 polio survivors in Ireland can contact us for support irrespective of whether they are a member or not.

Funding for Polio Survivors Ireland is provided by the Health Service Executive, the National Lottery and various grants from statutory and private bodies and fundraising by members, families and friends.

## Organisational Structure

### Board

Board  
Nominations  
Sub Committee

Finance &  
Audit  
Sub Committee

Services Quality  
& Safety Sub  
Committee

Governance &  
Compliance  
Sub Committee

### CEO

### Staff

#### 3 Active Member Networks:

- Publicity & Campaigning
- Fundraising
- Recruitment

#### Services & Supports to Members

- Aids & Appliances
- Therapies
- Respite
- Heating Grant

#### Social Support Service

20 Social Support  
Groups around  
the country

#### Telephone Support Service

RingRing  
&  
PhoneChat



## Chairperson's Report



I am pleased to report that 2018 was a relatively successful year for Polio Survivors Ireland especially with the increasingly difficult financial constraints imposed both on us and the charitable and voluntary sector generally. We are living under the continuous stress of no increase in funding from the HSE, extreme competition in general fundraising, and reduced funding from other sources. Over the last number of years, funding has been withdrawn from PFI (Polio Fellowship of Ireland) and the Department of Community and Local Government (SSNO). The

CEO puts a great deal of work into applying for grants from multiple sources. Many of these grants are once-off and for specific purposes and cannot replace the loss of regular funding.

Our financial statements for 2018 show a loss of " 2,400 . an improvement on 2017. This minor loss was absorbed by our reserves and we are still in an acceptable financial position. As our financial statements illustrate our income is reducing over the years while our costs are increasing. Our policy is to ensure that there is adequate income to meet the needs of our members and to ensure that funding is found to ease polio survivors problems and improve their quality of life. Astute financial control of our costs by our CEO has eased the position considerably. Close liaison between our staff, the HSE and other statutory bodies helps us to achieve our objectives regarding our members welfare.

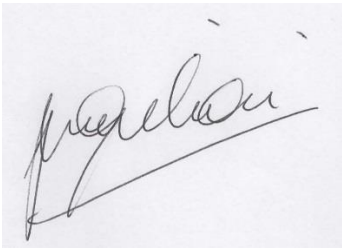
In recent years complying with statutory and regulatory requirements has become a major burden. Corporate governance requirements are an important focus of our main funder and this places responsibility on us to ensure compliance. Our Governance and Compliance sub-committee is continuing to draft new policies and procedures. Implementation of the Governance Code is progressing satisfactorily but substantial work has still to be done. GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations), in order to protect members details and to secure our database, is taking a great deal of time and energy to implement.

The Strategic Plan is the framework we use to plan and monitor our yearly progress and I am pleased to say implementation is generally on course. Since many of the targets are specific, I can report that we are now connected to almost 1,200 polio survivors thanks largely to the success of the Polio Register which will continue in 2019.

During the year due to retirements and a lack of new people seeking election, the Board was critically short of personnel to allow it to operate at an optimum level. The Board Nominations sub-committee was very active in seeking out external people with skills, knowledge and experience to join the Board. One new director, Marie Hyland, was co-opted from the membership to the Board while two other highly experienced professionals were appointed as Board Nominated Directors. Tony O'Connor, Board Director and Company Secretary resigned during the year due to work and personal commitments. However, Tony still performs an active role on the Governance and Compliance sub-committee.

I often describe Polio as the %forgotten disease+. the majority of people today have never experienced or are not familiar with the after effects of Polio. Young people are only intellectually aware of Polio as a disease. The only people who realise the effects of Polio are the families and extended families of polio survivors . active Polio has not been

experienced in Ireland in more than 60 years. That is why we have to fight so hard for everything from customised shoes to a wide range of supports. That is the reason that our volunteers, members and active members, are so important to the organisation. The roles they perform are invaluable to Polio Survivors Ireland. I would like to compliment them for their work and commitment to Polio Survivors Ireland and all those people who, in their many roles, provide assistance to us. In this context I would like to acknowledge the work of Fran, our CEO, and the multidisciplinary staff team for their contribution to our organisation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pat McGillion', written on a light-colored background.

**PAT MCGILLION**  
**Chairperson**

## Implementation of Strategic Plan

Successful implementation of the plan depends on three key underlying strategic approaches:

1. A focus on recruitment of new polio survivor members over the duration of the plan
2. Polio Survivors Ireland as a Hub for polio survivors - advising, directing and supporting survivors in accessing the services, supports and benefits they need
3. The utilisation of overlaps in the strategic objectives of educating polio survivors, recruiting new members and advocacy/campaigning activities

A full copy of the plan is available from the office in hardcopy or by downloading it from the website, <https://polio.ie/about/strategic-plan/>

### Progress in 2018

***Strategic Priority 1: Directly provide a range of services and supports that assist polio survivors in maintaining their independence, reducing their social exclusion and enhancing their quality of life***

#### **Key Developments in 2018:**

- Social Support: training provided to 8 Convenors & Asst Convenors
- 16 new members referred to social support groups
- Telephone Support: 3 new leaders trained & appointed
- 242 members helped by Service & Information Co-ordinators

***Strategic Priority 2: Inform, educate and assist polio survivors in accessing the services, supports, medical care and benefits they require***

- Polio Register campaign national advertising on Radio, Newspapers & Magazines
- Supported by regional promotional campaigns
- Over 28,000 leaflets distributed to every doctor's practice, health clinic and hospital around the country

***Strategic Priority 3: Advocate for improved statutory provision of services, supports, medical care and social welfare benefits for polio survivors***

- Supported Justice for Polio Survivors Campaign seeking funding from Rehab Group/Polio Fellowship of Ireland
- Highlighted the costs & long delays in provision of customised shoes in the media
- Unfortunately still no funding for an Advocacy Officer which severely limited advocacy initiatives

***Strategic Priority 4: Develop the organisational board and staffing structures in Polio Survivors Ireland to implement this plan and achieve these objectives***

- 54 New members recruited last year
- 25 New active members
- 3 External volunteers recruited
- 4 new people recruited to the Board over past year

## Board & Board Sub-committees

### Board Composition

At the AGM, elected directors Macrina Clancy, Joyce Henderson and Pat McGillion stood down and submitted themselves for re-election in accordance with the organisation's constitution. All three were re-elected unopposed.

During the year Tony O'Connor resigned as a Board Director

In October Marie Hyland was co-opted to the Board

In December, the Board appointed two new Board Nominated Directors, Elaine Twomey and Fintan Foy, on the recommendation of the Board Nominations Committee.

### Board Officers

At the Board AGM on 30<sup>th</sup> May the following officers were elected:

- Pat McGillion . Chairperson
- Joyce Henderson . Deputy Chairperson
- Tony O'Connor . Company Secretary
- Macrina Clancy . Treasurer
- Roisin Nolan . Minutes Secretary

During the year Tony O'Connor resigned as Company Secretary and was replaced by Joyce Henderson.

### Board Meetings

9 meetings of the Board took place over the course of the year as follows:

- 24<sup>th</sup> January
- 28<sup>th</sup> March
- 22<sup>nd</sup> May
- 30<sup>th</sup> May . Board AGM
- 17<sup>th</sup> July
- 20<sup>th</sup> July . Conference Call
- 10<sup>th</sup> October . Conference Call
- 6<sup>th</sup> November
- 11<sup>th</sup> December

## **Board Attendance**

Board attendance for each of the directors was as follows:

- Pat McGillion: 9 meetings
- Joyce Henderson: 8 meetings
- Tony O'Connor: 6 meetings
- Macrina Clancy: 9 meetings
- Roisin Nolan: 9 meetings
- Marie Hyland: 2 meetings

## **Board Sub-Committees**

The Board has four sub-committees as follows:

### Governance & Compliance Committee

This committee met on 30<sup>th</sup> April and 23<sup>rd</sup> November.

The composition of this committee was as follows:

Tony O'Connor . Committee Chair (until resignation)

Joyce Henderson . Chair (replacing Tony O'Connor)

Pat McGillion - Board Director

Ankita Ahluwalia

Fran Brennan - CEO

### Board Nominations Committee

This committee met on 13<sup>th</sup> June, 6<sup>th</sup> November and 27<sup>th</sup> November.

The composition of this committee was:

Pat McGillion . Committee Chair

Tony O'Connor . (until resignation)

Macrina Clancy . Board Director

Marie Hyland . Board Director

Joan Bradley

### Finance & Audit Committee

This committee met on 9<sup>th</sup> January, 20<sup>th</sup> March and 18<sup>th</sup> June.

The composition of this committee was:

Macrina Clancy - Chair (Treasurer)

Pat McGillion . Board Director

Roisin Nolan . Board Director

### Service Quality & Safety Committee

This committee met on 30<sup>th</sup> January, 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 14<sup>th</sup> August and 16<sup>th</sup> November.

The committee's composition was:

Roisin Nolan - Chair

Joyce Henderson . Board Director

Susan Dowling



## Report on Annual Conference and AGM

The 2018 Conference marked a very special occasion for Polio Survivors Ireland as it celebrated 25 years providing support and services to people affected with polio. The event was held in the Tullamore Court Hotel, Tullamore, Co. Offaly and was well attended.

### Keynote Speaker

The keynote speaker was Finian McGrath TD, Minister for Disabilities, who congratulated the organisation on providing 25 years of valuable support to those living with the impact of polio in Ireland. The Minister said he was delighted to be invited and described his agenda as being to find out what the issues are for people with disabilities and to push these issues for people on the ground.



Minister McGrath noted that disability affects all of us, be it personally or through family or friends. Though there are challenges, he is putting strong emphasis on investing in and reforming services, and changing the mindset of Government Departments to put the person with disabilities at the forefront of their service.

According to the Minister it's not just about funding, and there is a need to recognise the contribution that people with disabilities can make. There's a need to focus on ability and not just disability. However, he noted people with disabilities are still only half as likely to be in employment as those without. He spoke of the Comprehensive Employment Strategy which sets out a ten year approach to ensure that people with disabilities who want to work are enabled to do so. This is a cross government approach with a concerted effort to address the barriers to employment, with joined up services and support at local level.

The Minister spoke of the UN Convention on the Rights for People with Disabilities (UN CRPD) and the length of time it took to ratify, but we are now ready to meet our obligations after embarking on a great level of change in this country. He acknowledged that we still have a lot to do to implement UN CRPD, putting the services and the policies in place.

Minister McGrath talked about other achievements and policies to ensure inclusion for people with disabilities; he finished his speech by describing his door as always open. A Questions and Answer session followed which raised queries such as insurance for disabled people, as well as abuse of disabled parking and the policing of this, including in private car parks. A description was given of the management of this issue in Kilkenny, where two disabled people are employed part-time to monitor parking in disabled bays. The Minister felt this was an example of best practice. One question concerned implementation of UN CRPD, given the age of people with polio.

The Minister spoke of extra funding for housing grants and the rebuilding Ireland programme. and felt that there needs to be a special pot to ensure that in 12-18 months services can be put in place. He appealed for people to let him know of gaps and reiterated that the UN Convention is all about making sure that people have rights. The Minister was

asked about support for people with polio and the recognition of this as a disability and he indicated that he would highlight these issues within the upcoming Government estimates.

Another questioner asked whether parking for Dáil Eireann would be improved under the refurbishment and he confirmed that the long-term ambition would always be to have disabled places and proper parking available for those with disabilities.

Finally he was asked about waiting lists for those who need knee or hip replacements . for polio survivors this is something that can arise where the good leg is worn out and they must then rely on the polio affected leg. Minister McGrath agreed to follow it up directly with the Minister for Health.

## **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Geradline O'Neill, an Offaly member and well-known novelist, as well as the editor of our book *How We Survived and Surprised* gave a presentation on 25 years of achievements, milestones and acknowledgements. Geraldine's presentation included photographs of old and new faces and those who we remember fondly who are no longer with us. At the end of Geraldine's presentation a giant commemorative cake (the largest cake the Tullamore Court Hotel has ever had to make!) was wheeled in and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone after the lunch.

## **Guest Speaker**

HSE Confidential Recipient and disability activist, Leigh Gath, gave an inspiring speech on the importance of self-advocacy, encouraging attendees to always speak up regarding the issues they face. Leigh stated that her disability is just part of who she is . a wife, mother, disability activist and a thalidomide survivor.

Leigh emphasised the importance of using your own advocacy skills which will help keep people safe and included. Following a decent education, a varied career and marriage and two children, she moved to Texas. She met her second husband while working in disability rights, in Texas. Eventually she returned to Ireland with her husband and settled in Limerick. Leigh is passionate about people fulfilling their lives, regardless of their disability. She describes self-advocacy as sticking up for yourself and advocacy as speaking up for others. She feels that people should have the choice to be included . low expectation and exclusion are ongoing and lifelong battles of those with a disability.

Her role now as HSE Confidential Recipient gives a voice to those who are afraid of not being heard . her office is a safe place where anyone can come with any concerns they have regarding services for people with disabilities. They can raise concerns anonymously and all concerns are taken seriously. Leigh finished up her talk by reminding attendees that regardless of skin colour, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or disability, all citizens of Ireland should be treated with equal dignity, respect and inclusion and be free from the fear of abuse or neglect.

## **Stands & Sponsors**

Polio Survivors Ireland is very grateful to the following organisations for supporting our Annual Conference:

- DM Mobility Cars

- Home Instead
- Dr Deirdre Murray of Beaumont Hospital

## AGM

The AGM of the Post Polio Support Group operating as Polio Survivors Ireland took place during the Annual Conference on 30<sup>th</sup> May, in the Tullamore Court Hotel, Tullamore, Co. Offaly.

### Resolutions

The meeting approved the adoption of the minutes of the 2017 AGM, the adoption of the accounts for 2017 and the appointment of BMOL Partners as auditors for 2018.

### Board Director Elections

Macrina Clancy, Joyce Henderson and Pat McGillion were nominated for re-election to the Board. As the number of candidates did not exceed the vacancies in any region there was no ballot required and all three people were deemed duly elected.

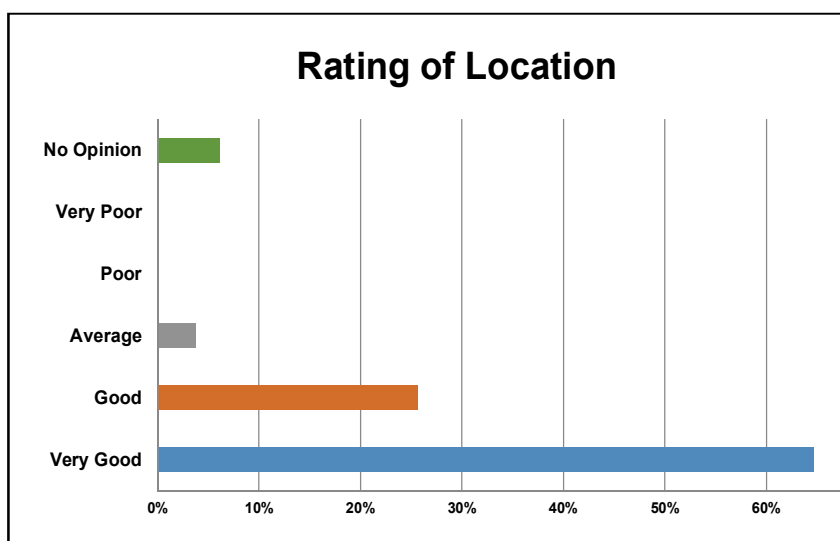
### Any Other Business

There was no other business.

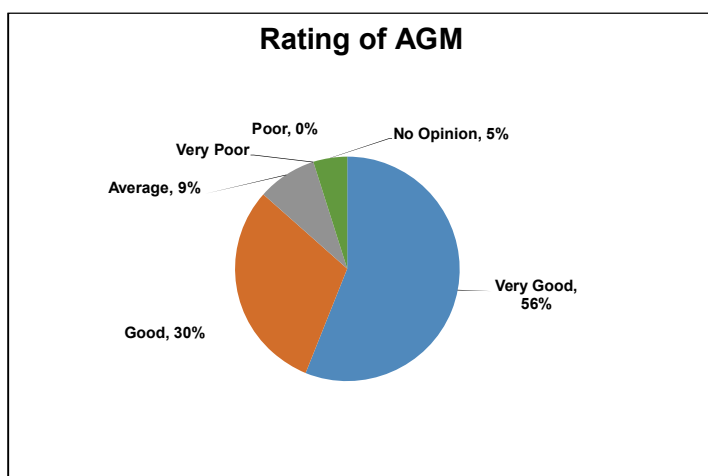
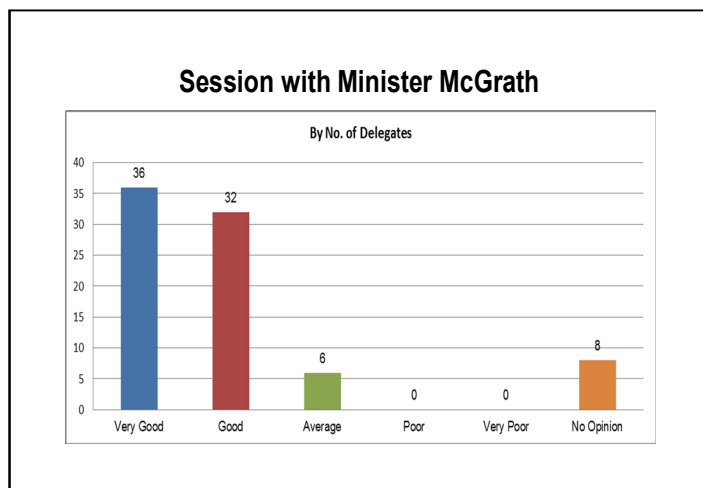
## Conference Evaluation

77 delegate members returned evaluation forms and along with 5 of their guests bringing the total number of forms returned to 82. The evaluation forms were distributed at the start of the conference and delegates were encouraged throughout the day to fill in the forms after each session rather than waiting until the end of the event.

90% of respondents rated the venue as good or very good, a very high satisfaction rating. The only significant negative comment that was made concerned feedback from the sound system during some of the sessions.

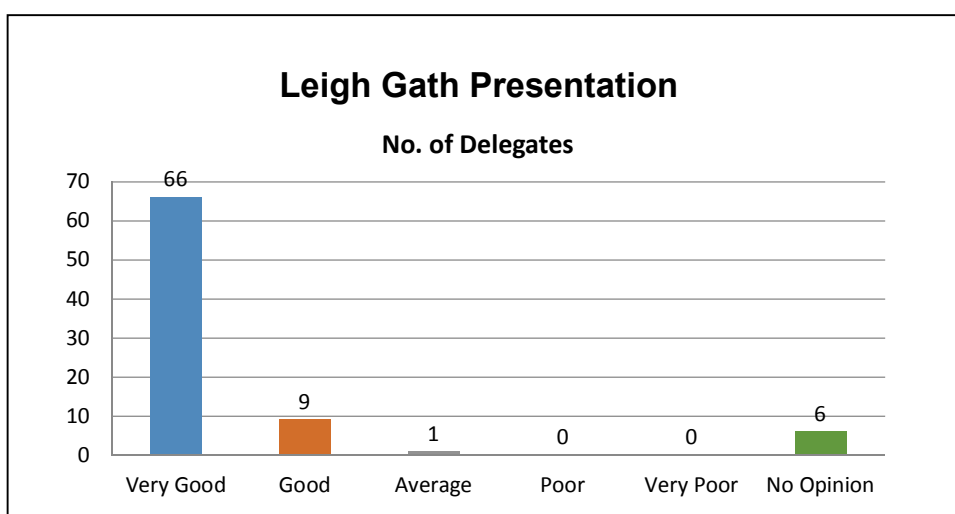


Minister Finian McGrath's address was very well received with 44% of those responding describing it as very good with another 39% describing it as good. Unsurprisingly this session attracted many comments, most of which were very positive but with some scepticism about whether some of the prospects he outlined will be realised.



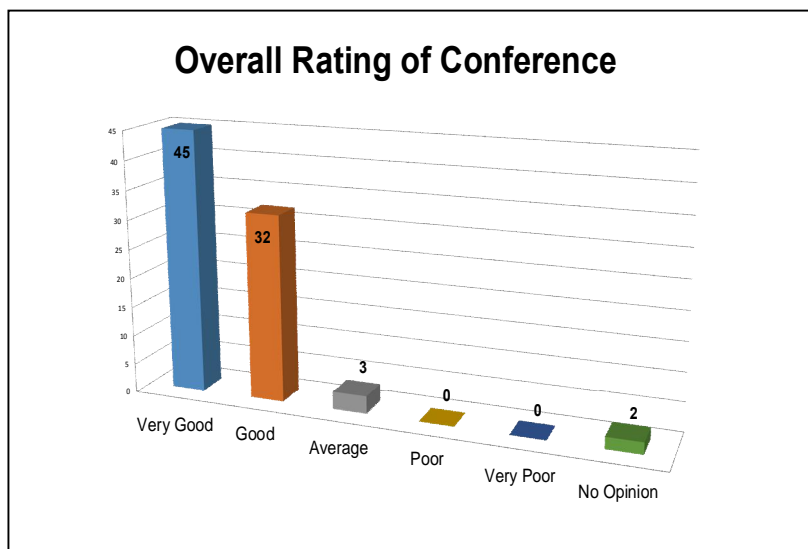
46 (56%) of respondents rated the AGM as Very Good, 25 rated it as good, while 7 rated it as Average. 4 respondents did not answer this question. Comments described the session as *very professional*, *positive* and *well delivered*.

80% of respondents rated the talk by Leigh Gath as Very Good - one of the highest ratings of any presentation at a Conference. If one was to pick out one word from the comments submitted which encapsulated the session it would be *inspirational*. One respondent said *"Very impressed, a wonderful woman would inspire anybody with a disability to reach their full potential"*.



77 of the 82 respondents rated the event as Good or Very Good making it one of the more popular Conferences of recent years.

The calibre of the guest speakers and the location appeared to be the main reasons for such positive feedback.



## Highlights of 2018

### Staff News 2018



In the middle of the year our Service & Information Co-ordinator, Kerrie Donegan, went on maternity leave. For the duration of her leave the Assistant Service & Information Co-ordinator, Ciara Hudson, temporarily covered for Kerrie while we recruited Margaret Traynor (left) as an Assistant SIC to support Ciara. Margaret joined Polio Survivors Ireland from SAGE where she worked as an advocate. Margaret proved very adept in the role, integrated well with the staff team and made a positive impact on members.

### Polio Register

Following its launch at the 2017 Annual Conference, 2018 was the year that the Register was rolled out nationally. 30,000 leaflets were distributed to every GP practice, clinic and hospital across the country, adverts were run on RTE radio over 5 weeks in the summer and two adverts were taken out in the Irish Independent to coincide with the radio advertising.

The Polio Register was also promoted through advertising and featured articles in Ireland's Own, through social media and Google Adwords. Regional promotional activity took place in Cork with adverts in the Irish Examiner and the Cork Independent and through the Cork50 plus Expo.

Thanks to these efforts by the year end **261** polio survivors who were not members had joined the Polio Register and were now connected with the organisation.



### World Polio Day

Wednesday 24th October is World Polio Day and for 2018, Polio Survivors Ireland highlighted the difficulties obtaining special footwear to maintain the mobility of polio survivors. Waiting lists for shoes can be up to 2 years or the alternative is to pay from "600 . " 1,200 for special footwear essential to keep mobile.



We marked World Polio Day 2018 by highlighting the considerable costs of this crucial footwear to polio survivors, in terms of money or waiting times. *"Before I was able to receive customised shoes, I would have to go into a store and buy two separate pairs of the same shoe, one in a size 8 and the other in a size 4, just so that I could have shoes that fit each foot," said Joe Lynch, polio survivor.*

Polio survivors may also have to wait up to two years to receive customised footwear through their medical card, if indeed they have one. *"For one*



*pair of shoes, I applied through my medical card and I was waiting for months and months to hear back,” said Claire White, polio survivor. When nothing came, I reached out to Polio Survivors Ireland and they were able to fund this pair to avoid waiting even longer, which could have been up to two years.* World Polio Day was established by Rotary International to mark the birth of Jonas Salk, who led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis.

## Rotary

At Rotary Ireland's District Council meeting in January, members of Polio Survivors Ireland



were invited to share their stories as Rotary campaigns for One Last Push to try to eradicate polio worldwide. This centrepiece of their council meeting event was a moving reminder of the polio outbreaks of 1956/1957, the last major outbreaks in Ireland, when thousands of young children were affected, mainly in the cities of Belfast, Dublin and Cork.

In a partial reprise of an event held in December 2017 to commemorate the Belfast outbreak, television presenter Pamela Ballantine spoke with six survivors, including three Polio Survivors Ireland members, to bring their harrowing but also inspirational stories to life. Like many of our members, they were infected by the polio virus as infants, typically between 8 and 18 months old. They each spent long periods in hospital, often in isolation units and often having little or no contact with their families. The survivors spoke of weekly visits from strangers waving through panes of glass who were, in fact, their parents and siblings.

A Rotary representative commented *“These polio survivors did not bemoan their misfortune, or complain about their long and difficult period of treatment and rehabilitation. They spoke instead of the lifelong friendships they had built along the way, of their refusal to allow polio and disability to define them, and of their journey towards full and happy lives. Their stories were truly inspirational, and a timely reminder of why Rotary’s efforts to eliminate the scourge of polio are so worthwhile.”*

Donations by attendees raised ” 1,000 for End Polio Now, which will be matched two for one by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, meeting the cost of 6,000 immunisations - another small step towards achieving the goal of a polio free world for the children of the



world. Polio Survivors Ireland salutes this objective and is delighted to have been invited to highlight the difficulties faced by polio survivors to Rotarians.

Polio Survivors Ireland is very grateful to Garth Arnold, Rotary Ireland District Governor, for his kind invitation to be part of this event and to Rotary Ireland's Dave Murray, Collette O'Neill and Phillip Beggs.

## **Make Way Day campaign**

Polio Survivors Ireland took part in 2018's Make Way Day campaign, on 26 September, to highlight obstacles found on paths and pavements, which are often hazardous for those with disabilities.



This now annual campaign is organised by the Disability Federation of Ireland, to raise awareness and educate the public about everyday obstructions blocking footpaths. These can make popping out to the shop or to work difficult and dangerous for people with disabilities.

Our members went out to photograph obstacles such as bins, bikes, tree branches, sandwich boards and cars parked on paths and posted them to social media.

## **Post-Polio MRI Research Study**

Trinity College Dublin is embarking on an ambitious new research study on post-polio syndrome, led by Prof. Peter Bede and Prof. Orla Hardiman. Given the limited research on post-polio syndrome, the objective of this study is to get a better understanding of how this condition affects the brain. This study involves a detailed brain scan (MRI) to identify subtle brain changes. It has been fully approved by the college's ethics committee and involves no needles, injections, or any invasive procedures, just a brain scan. With current MRI technology and state-of-the-art computational methods, we can now visualise the internal wiring of the brain and detect very small changes.

Every scan is supervised and rigorous safety screening takes place before any scan is scheduled. The researchers were looking for polio survivors who have been experiencing worsening symptoms after their initial infection, such as fatigue, decline in muscle strength or endurance, muscle aches, joint pains, intolerance to cold temperatures or changes in voice or swallowing. Detailed safety screening takes place before the scans are organised, as they are unable to scan people who have implanted metallic devices such as aneurysm clips or pacemakers.

MRI images of polio survivors will be compared to scans from healthy volunteers and patients with other conditions. This will help to show how polio affects the brain, which regions are affected, and if any compensatory changes can be detected. Findings will be presented to Polio Survivors Ireland as the study progresses.

## **Selection of Social Support Group Events 2018**

### **Cork Group Summer Outing**



On Saturday 23rd June, the Cork Polio Support Group had their annual summer outing. This included a return visit to Griffin's Garden Centre in Dripsey, Co. Cork. Just like last summer, the weather was glorious with clear blue skies and temperatures hitting almost thirty degrees.

The group gathered around one o'clock with time for chat and meeting up with old friends and indeed making some new ones. Then it was lunch, with a choice of beef or salmon, followed by mouth-watering desserts.

With appetites well catered everyone made way outside into the Spanish-like sunshine where Margaret Griffin answered numerous questions about gardening. There were many good tips dealing with watering, re-potting large shrubs, plant and flower choices depending on the type of soil, and dealing with pests. However, even Margaret had to admit that the humble slug is the most difficult pest to deal with. She advocated that everyone should try their hand at gardening and suggested that we should all grow tomatoes, strawberries and blueberries, the latter being suitable even for our type of climate.

Members then ventured into the gardens to seek out the plants suggested and whatever else caught their eye, but not before singing Happy Birthday to Michael Sheehan and presenting him with a gift. Everyone marvelled at the beauty and the abundance of nature in this most gorgeous spot by the river. It was a wonderful and thoroughly enjoyable outing thanks to hard work of Convenor Eileen O'Mahony and Assistant Convenor Anne Casey who organised it all.

## Trip to Galway

The Connacht Hotel was the venue for a three day trip to Galway by 28 members of the Dublin South West and Dublin North City Social Support Groups. Members reported that the facilities were brilliant, with plenty of disabled rooms and lots of space to move around the various parts of the hotel.

The groups had a great time and saw different parts of Galway. Some enjoyed the lovely weather by travelling to Doolin and taking a boat to the beautiful Aran Inis Oirr island. There was music every evening at the hotel and a sing-song after the official music finished - thanks to Jimmy Furlong for backing the singers with his guitar - even the hotel staff and other guests joined in! It was most enjoyable for all. As always Convenor of Dublin South West Group Pat McCabe took plenty of photos of the trip.



## Clew Bay Trip



On 18th February, a group of 38 members, travelled to Westport, for the Dublin North City Group's annual excursion. As always the group invited members from other social support groups around the country. The party took full advantage of the good weather by visiting the Foxford Mills, Knock, Kylemore Abbey and Clifden. Nightly singsongs were accompanied by local talent supported by Jimmy Furlong and Martin Brennan who backed the singers with their guitars. The Galway Group joined in the festivities demonstrating the talent among their group also.

## Evelyn Wainwright's Retirement

On Sunday 8th April, the Cork Social Support Group met in Vienna Woods Hotel, a little late due to Storm Emma, but that didn't stop the meeting. A great day was had with entertainment from Jim Ahern, bringing back some fond memories of decades gone by with music from the 70s and 80s.

Convenor Evelyn Wainwright announced her retirement to surprise of members of the group. It came as a huge shock to the members. Many tributes were paid to Evelyn for her many years hard work on behalf of the members in Cork. Happily, Evelyn will be staying on as a member with the Cork Social Support Group. Flowers and chocolates were presented to Evelyn as thank you for her many years of dedication and commitment to Cork Social Support Group.





## Fundraising

### Survivor Sweepstakes



Congratulations to member Maureen McGovern, winner of the Survivor Sweepstakes Winter Draw, pictured with CEO Fran Brennan presenting her cheque of " 1,000. " 50 winners were Con Glackin, Michael Quigley and Tom Cullen.

The numbers drawn were 8, 11, 19 and 24. However there were no match 4 winners so a random number was drawn to ensure that there was a winner of " 1,000 in accordance with procedures for the Winter Draw. The draw was witnessed by Aileen from McGrath McGrane Solicitors.

A huge thanks to members for their ongoing support with this vital fundraising initiative which raised just under " 8,000 for the organisation in 2018.

### Hospital Saturday Fund

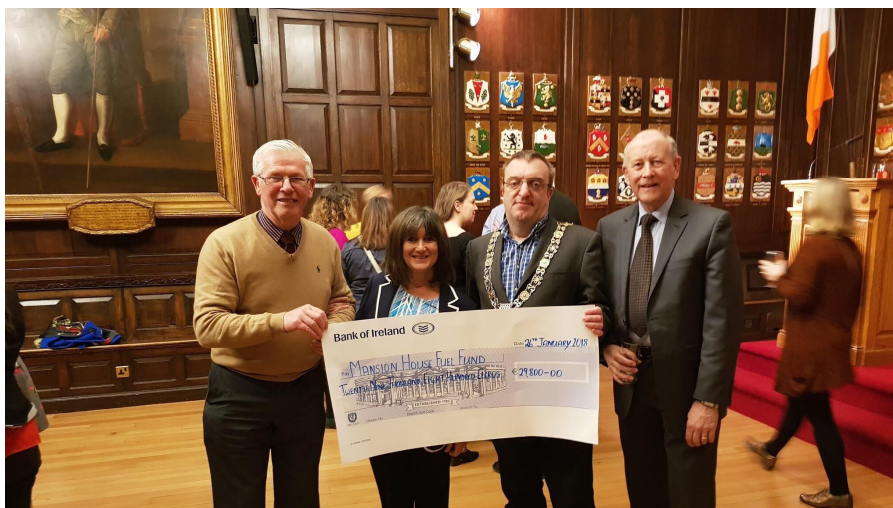
Polio Survivors Ireland are very grateful to the Hospital Saturday Fund for awarding a grant to the organisation for its Winter Heating Grant. Pictured right is Craig Broome of the Hospital Saturday Fund presenting a cheque for " 2,700 to Polio Survivors Ireland's Kerrie Donegan and Fran Brennan. This grant will ensure that we can continue to administer the Winter Heating Grant to polio survivors struggling with the high cost of heating bills in the winter. To find out more about Hospital Saturday Fund and their health plans, please visit their website: [www.hsf.ie](http://www.hsf.ie).



### Mansion House Live Crib collecting

A huge thanks to our volunteers, some of whom are pictured below being presented with a cheque by the Lord Mayor, Mícheál MacDonncha, for supporting the Mansion House, Dublin's Fuel Fund collections at the Live Crib. Many charities benefit from this fundraising endeavour, including Polio Survivors Ireland. The Mansion House Fuel Fund was set up by Sir John Arnott in 1891 to assist the needy during a particularly hard winter. At the end of that winter the surplus was carried over to the following year and the Mansion House Fuel Fund has continued to aid the needy in Dublin since. It is one of the oldest charities in Dublin. All donations go to those in need.

A big thanks to all of our volunteers and to everyone who is involved in ensuring this wonderful tradition of giving and helping continues. Our thanks to Pat Cullen, Pat McGillion, Josephine O'Reilly, Peter Barron, Des Whelan, Joan Bradley, Tommy Watkins and his brother Billy, Anne Burns and James Kavanagh.



## Cork Mini Marathon

The 2018 Evening Echo Cork Women's Mini Marathon took place on Sunday 16th September and Polio Survivors Ireland members were there in force. We are very grateful to our volunteers and members who tirelessly fundraise to ensure we can continue to provide vital services to polio survivors. Well done to the organisers and to everyone who took part in this annual event. The winners as always, are the charities who benefit.



## Dublin Bus Community Fund

Polio Survivors Ireland was awarded a Community Spirit grant from Dublin Bus for "2,000. The organisation and its members are very grateful to Dublin Bus in assisting us to directly help polio survivors who struggle to afford their heating bills. The difference the Winter Heating Grant makes is considerable to those who receive it.





## St. Patrick's Cathedral

The St. Patrick's Cathedral Community Fund kindly supported our Winter Heating Fund donating " 500 to our grant scheme to help keep polio survivors warm over the winter months.



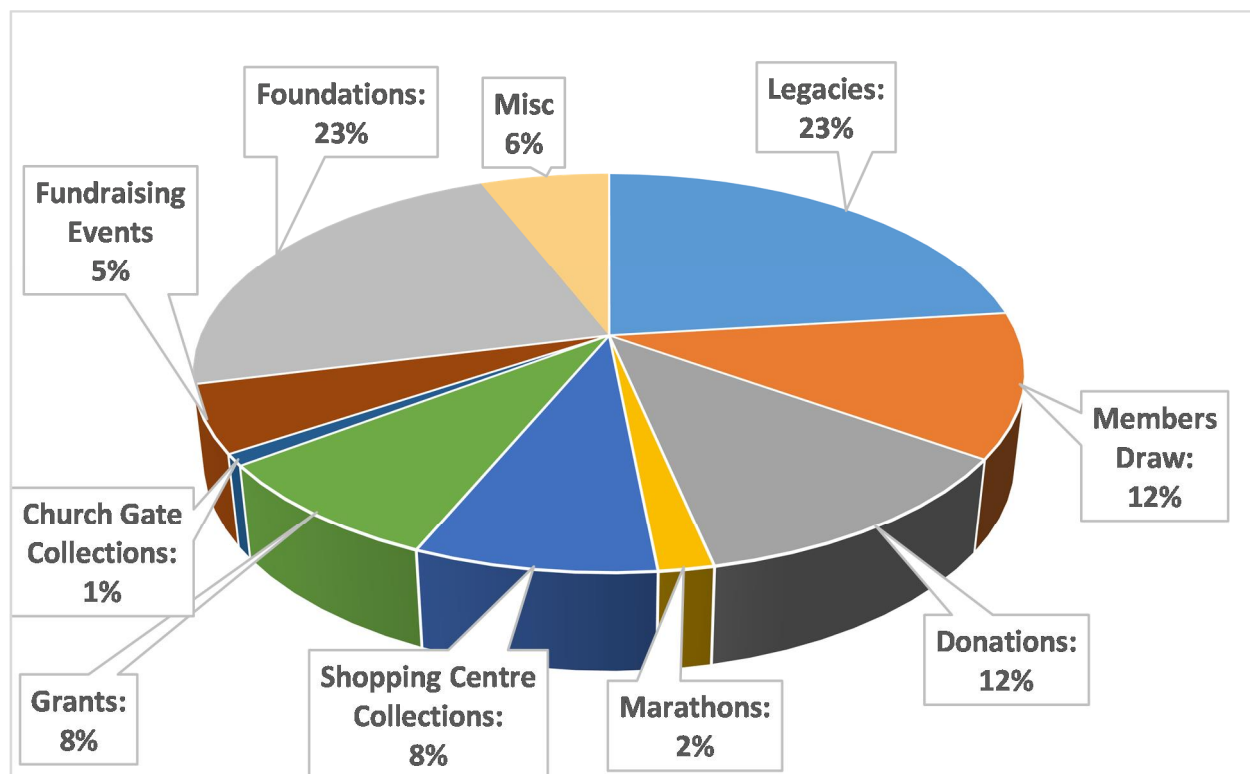
## Wedding Favours



Pictured left are Joyce O'Keeffe and her new husband Don O'Connell who were married in September. Joyce's mother Mary is a member of Polio Survivors Ireland and the couple very kindly made a donation of " 300 to the organisation in lieu of wedding favours.

Everyone in Polio Survivors Ireland wishes the couple the very best for the future.

## Breakdown of Fundraising by Source

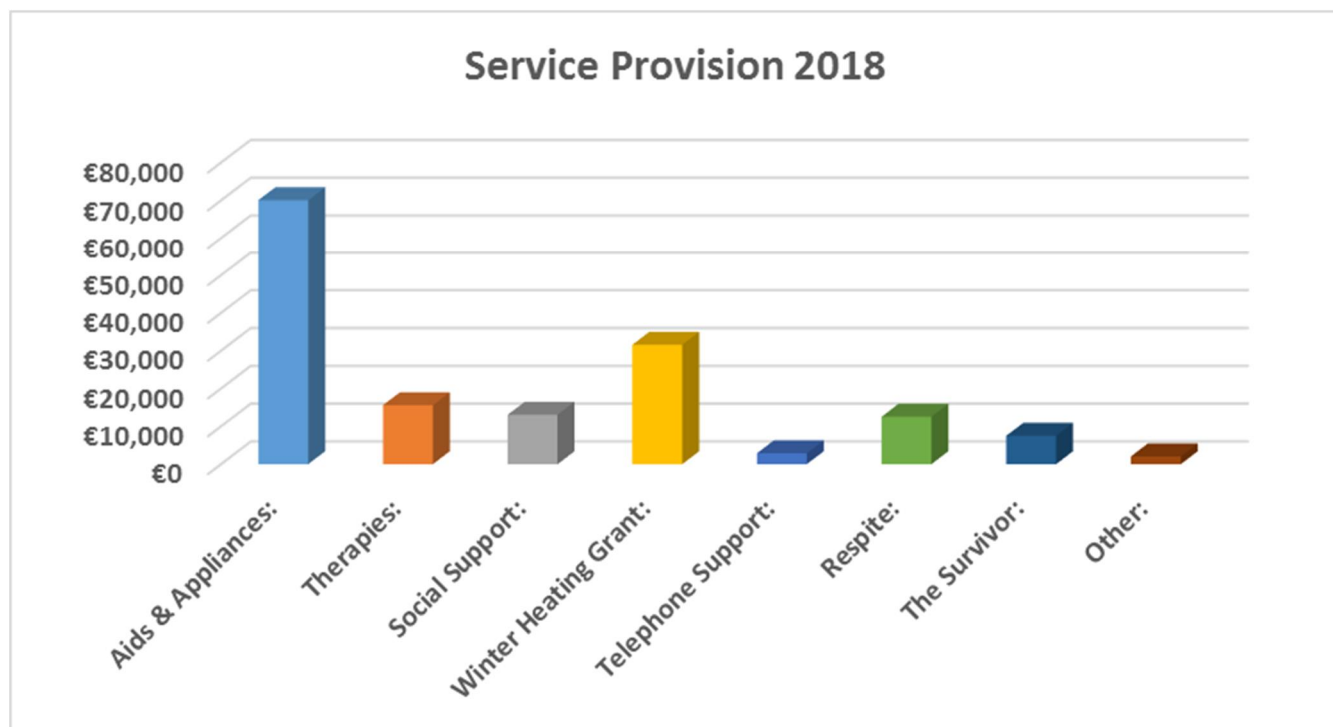


## Service Provision 2018

Polio Survivors Ireland provides a range of services and supports to polio survivors. These include information, personal advocacy, funding for aids and appliances, a variety of therapies, respite breaks and stairlifts as well as heating grants. These supports are administered by the Service and Information Co-ordinator (SIC) and the Assistant SIC. Polio Survivors Ireland would like to gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the HSE in particular, a number of other grant making trusts and of course our fundraisers without whom these services and supports to our members could not be provided.

Membership of Polio Survivors Ireland stood at 937 people at the end of 2018. The Organisation carries out a number of interventions with polio survivors each addressing an aspect of the deterioration in their functional abilities, in so far as is practicable. Each intervention provides incremental redress of the loss of functional ability. The intervention originates with a contact assessment by the SIC or ASIC. In addition we provide supports to those with needs arising from unforeseen circumstances and respond appropriately. The Services and Information Co-ordinators work co-operatively with HSE frontline staff and other professionals to ensure that the intervention proposed is appropriate to the individual polio survivor. 242 different polio survivors contacted our office for help during 2018.

**Figures for supports provided during the year are as follows:**



**73** polio survivors received aids, appliances and stairlifts during the year with a total expenditure of just over **€70,000**.

**62** polio survivors benefitted from therapies such as Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Chiropody and Counselling at a total cost of **€15,600**.

**35** members received a Respite break during the year at a cost of **€12,567**.

**257** members received the Winter Heating Grant at a cost of **€31,500**. This grant is offered to those members who are assessed as having difficulty in meeting their fuel bills. The grant



was distributed through 65 different fuel and heating providers. All the money for the heating grant is sourced from fundraising. We are very grateful to those organisations and individuals who supported us in providing this much needed and appreciated grant.

Special hardship support was provided to **5** polio survivors in 2018 at a cost of slightly over **€2,000**.

Other than direct supports, Polio Survivors Ireland provides other services to its members such as:

## **Social Support**

We run 20 social support groups around the country in the following locations:

Athlone, Co Westmeath; Bray, Co Wicklow; Carrickmacross, Co Monaghan; Carlow; Ennis, Co. Clare; Cork; Coolock, Swords and Tallaght in Dublin; Donegal; Wexford; Galway; Kilkenny; Limerick; Navan, Co Meath; Kildare; Castlebar, Co Mayo; Portlaoise, Co Laois; Sligo and Kerry.

Over **200** members attended social support group meetings and events in 2018. The cost of providing the service was just over **€13,000**.

## **Telephone Support**

The Telephone Support Service is a peer led service provided from home to home by and for polio survivors across the State. There are two services:

- RingRing is a one to one peer support service where a volunteer polio survivor calls a fellow survivor who may have difficulties attending our events or leaving their home. Usually each volunteer has three fellow survivors who they phone each month. At the end of 2018 there were 19 Leaders calling **39** polio survivors.
- PhoneChat is a fortnightly group conference call . a volunteer polio survivor and member facilitates a simultaneous conversation with 3 to 4 fellow polio survivors. At the end of the year there was 1 active Phonechat Network with **3** participants.

The total cost of the Telephone Support Service in 2018 was **€2,890**.

## **The Survivor Magazine**

Polio Survivors Ireland publishes its own magazine, The Survivor, which is sent to all its members and to other organisations and individuals the organisation is in contact with. There are three editions each year sent to almost 1,100 recipients. For members, The Survivor is a valuable communication tool and conduit for useful information sharing. The cost of the magazine in the year was **€7,500**.

## **Other Support**

In addition many polio survivors contact our office for information, advice and general support.

## **Complaints**

The organisation has a complaints procedure and maintains a register of all complaints and actions arising. Polio Survivors Ireland received 1 complaint during the year which was dealt with informally. The complaint concerned communication within the organisation.

## Financial Summary 2018

The organisation had an operational deficit of **€2,404** (Expenses over Income) after providing for depreciation in 2018 which compares to a loss of " 5,977 in 2017.

### Income

Total operating income for the year amounted to **€446,434**. The HSE accounts for the bulk of our funding. Fundraising at 15% is also very important as it enables Polio Survivors Ireland to offer support which is not met by the HSE funds. Contributions from members increased by **€3,051**, which reflects the work with the Polio Register.

### Expenditure

Total Expenditure for 2018 came to **€448,838**. Administration costs came to **€161,204**; services to members **€87,223**; provision of equipment **€70,080**; member support staff costs **€85,920** and general organisational costs amounted to **€44,411**.

### Profit/Loss

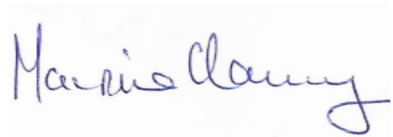
The organisation had an operational deficit of **€2,404** in 2018.

### Reserves

Net Current assets less current liabilities at 31st December 2018 came to **€125,142**

### Outlook

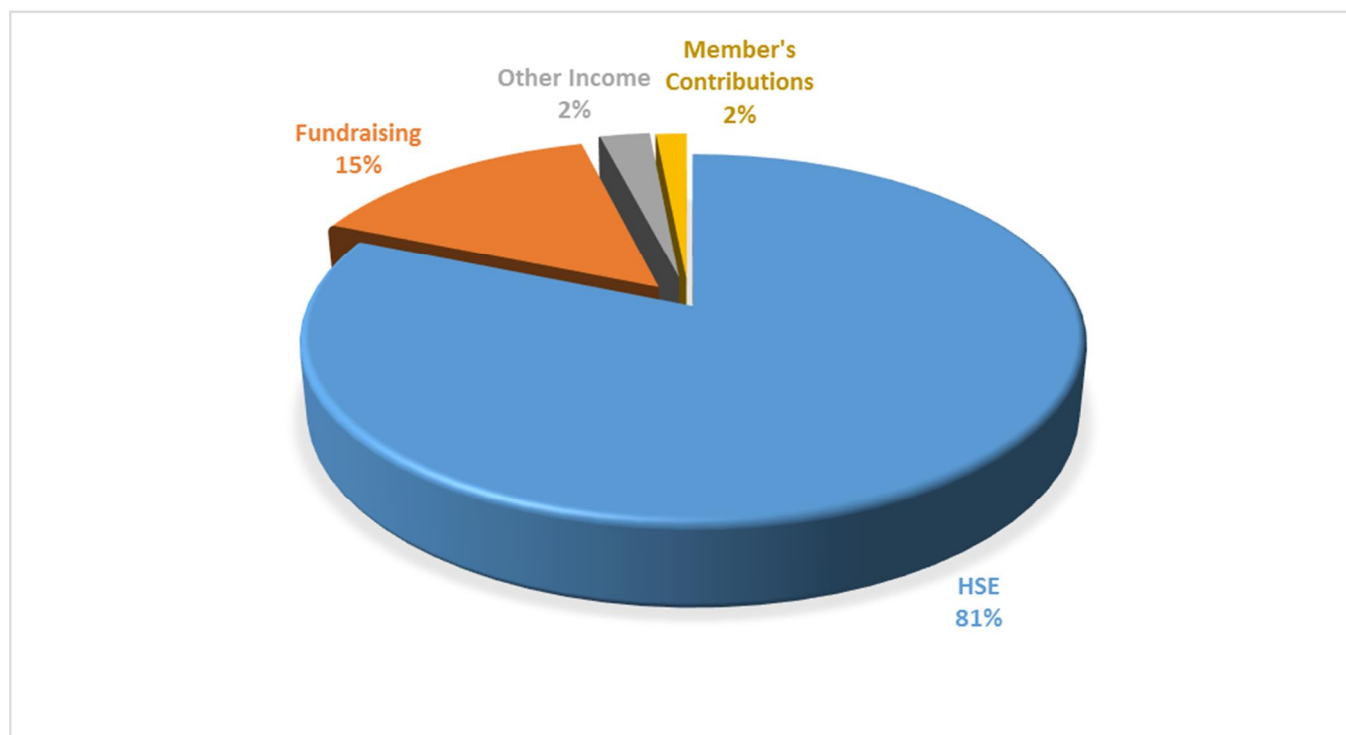
We are still in very challenging times for the charity sector and it seems likely these challenges will continue. The HSE is under pressure to stay within their budget and the future level of funding from this source may become a matter of concern. The Board is most appreciative of the work and commitment of the Fundraising Network in this regard as I am sure all the members are. The sustainability of the organisation is contingent on maintaining good revenue streams, which are always under threat. However, within these constraints the Board is confident that it can continue to provide a quality service to the members.



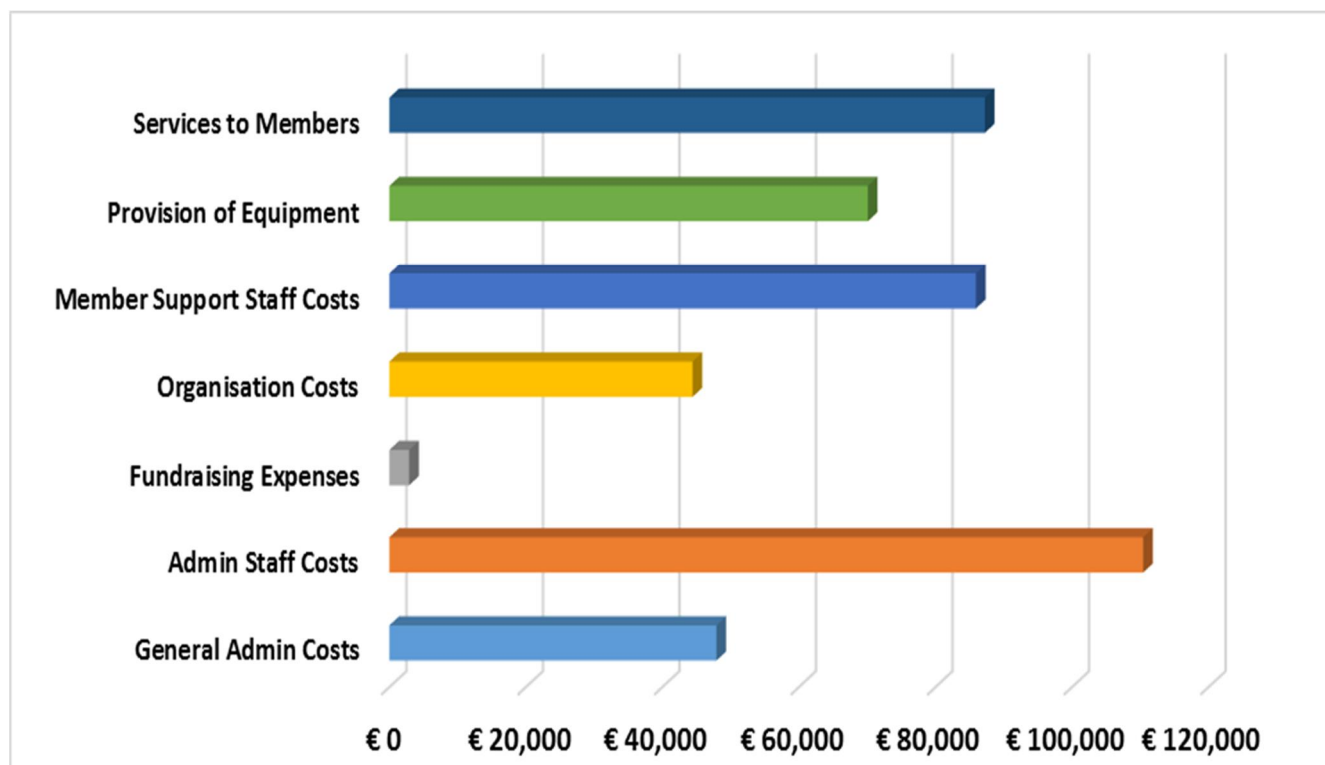
**Macrina Clancy**  
Treasurer

**31<sup>st</sup> May 2019**

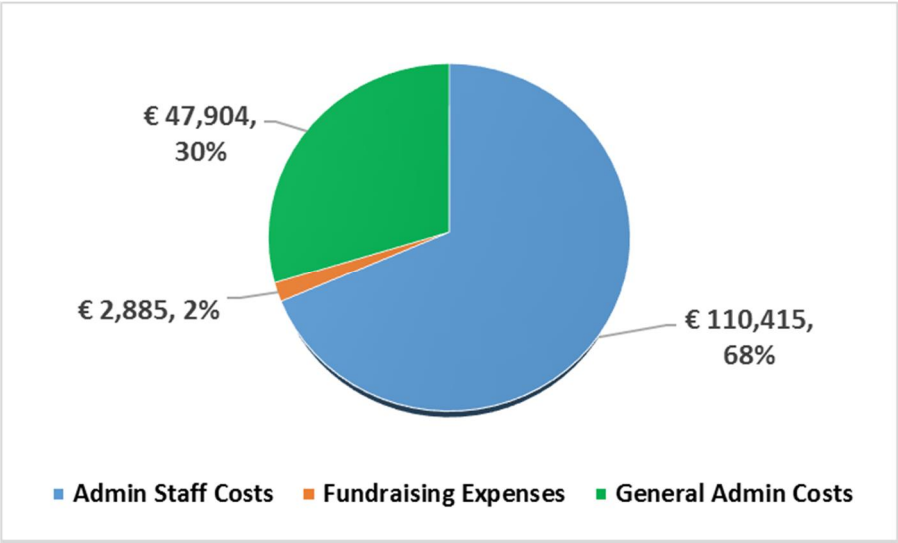
### Total Income €446,434



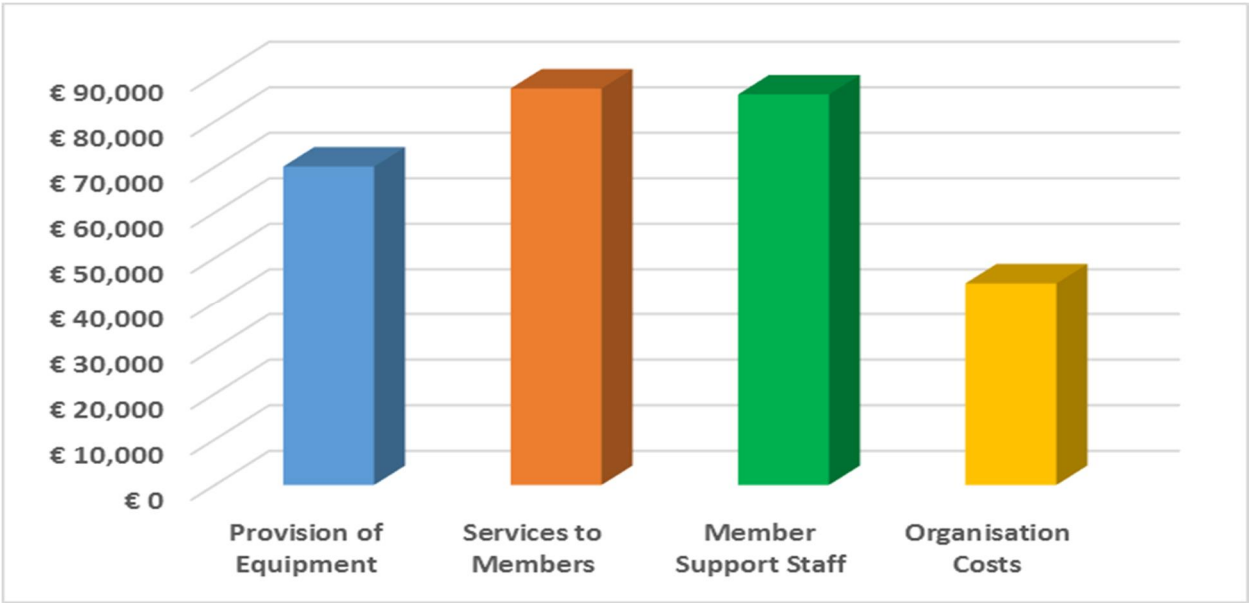
### Total Expenditure: €448,838



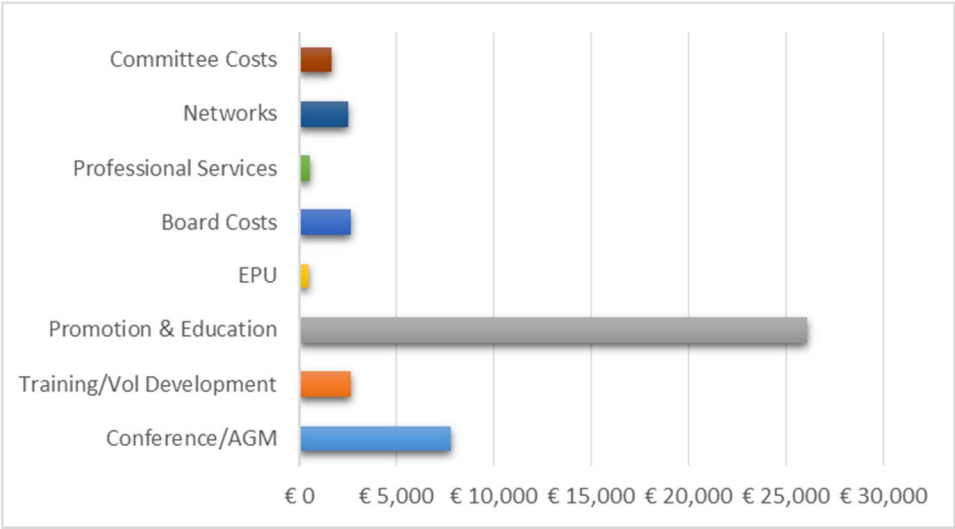
Administration Costs: €161,204



Service & Organisation Costs: €287,634



Organisation Costs € 44,411



**Post Polio Support Group**  
(A company limited by guarantee, without a share capital)  
**Directors' Report and Financial Statements**  
for the year ended 31 December 2018

<b>Directors</b>	Roisin Nolan Joyce Henderson Pat McGillion Anthony O'Connor (Resigned 17 September 2018) Macrina Clancy Marie Hyland (Appointed 10 October 2018)
<b>Company Secretary</b>	Joyce Henderson (Appointed 17 September 2018) Anthony O'Connor (Resigned 17 September 2018)
<b>Company Number</b>	354283
<b>Charity Number</b>	11356
<b>Registered Office and Business Address</b>	Unit 319 Capel Building Mary's Abbey Dublin 7 Ireland
<b>Auditors</b>	BMOL Partners Statutory Auditors 19 Herbert Street Dublin 2 Ireland
<b>Bankers</b>	Allied Irish Bank Capel Street Dublin Co. Dublin Ireland

## Directors Report

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2018.

### Principal Activity and Review of the Business

To create awareness and to provide information regarding the late effects of polio among Polio Survivors, statutory agencies and the wider medical profession, and to ensure that the needs of Polio Survivors relating to their condition are met to enable them to live with dignity.

The Company is a registered charity with the Charities Regulator (20030926) and with the Revenue Commissioners (CHY 11356).

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

There has been no significant change in these activities during the year ended 31 December 2018.

### Principal Risks and Uncertainties

Financial risk management objectives and policies:

The company uses financial instruments throughout its business. The core risks associated with the company's financial instruments are set out below. The board reviews and agrees policies for the prudent management of these risks as follows.

Liquidity and cash risk:

The company's policy is to ensure that sufficient resources are available either from cash balances or cash flows to ensure all obligations can be met when they fall due.

Credit risk:

The company's credit risk is dependent on the debtors' ability to pay within the company credit terms.

### Financial Results

The deficit for the year after providing for depreciation amounted to ("2,404) (2017 - ("5,977)).

At the end of the year, the company has assets of "225,934 (2017 - "222,968) and liabilities of "100,792 (2017 - "95,422). The net assets of the company have decreased by " (2,404).

### Directors and Secretary

The directors who served throughout the year are noted on page 1

There were no changes in shareholdings between 31 December 2018 and the date of signing the financial statements.

In accordance with the Constitution, the elected directors but not the Board nominated directors retire by rotation.

### Future Developments

While the Organisation is committed to reaching out to all Polio Survivors in Ireland, the welfare of its members remains its paramount concern. The Organisation is committed to ensuring that, as far as possible, sufficient funding is found to ease their problems and increase quality of life.

The Organisation will remain committed to maintaining sufficient income to meet the needs of polio survivors in real terms. Close liaison with the various Statutory Authorities, principally the Health Service Executive (HSE), will continue to be maintained and the Organisation will work in close partnership with all its funding bodies to accomplish its objectives.

### Post Balance Sheet Events

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

### **Auditors**

The auditors, BMOL Partners, (Statutory Auditors) have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of section 383(2) of the Companies Act 2014.

### **Trading name**

The trading name of the company is 'Polio Survivors Ireland', a registered business name in Ireland, 601798

### **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 Unit 319, Capel Building, Mary's Abbey, Dublin 7.

### **Signed on behalf of the board**



**Pat McGillion**

**Director**



**Macrina Clancy**

**Director**

**26 March 2019**

### **Directors' Responsibilities Statement** (for year ended 31 December, 2018)

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

Irish company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under the law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" issued by the Financial Reporting Council. Under company law, the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at the financial year end date and of the surplus or deficit of the company for the financial year and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014.

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

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

The directors are responsible for ensuring that the company keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the company, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and surplus or deficit of the company to be

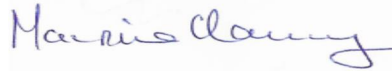


determined with reasonable accuracy and enable them to ensure that the financial statements and Directors' Report comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be readily and properly audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**Signed on behalf of the board**



**Pat McGillion**  
Director



**Macrina Clancy**  
Director                      **26 March 2019**

## **Independent Auditor's Report**

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

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Post Polio Support Group ('the company') for the year ended 31 December 2018 which comprise the Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet, the Reconciliation of Members' Funds, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes to the financial statements, including a 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".

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at 31 December 2018 and of its deficit for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

#### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are 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 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**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which ISAs (Ireland) require us to report to you where:

- the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the directors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

#### **Other Information**

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

In connection with our 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 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' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and

**Post Polio Support Group** (A company limited by guarantee, without a share capital)

- in our opinion, the Directors' Report has been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2014.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit. In our opinion the accounting records of the company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited. The financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

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

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the Directors' Report. The Companies Act 2014 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions required by sections 305 to 312 of the Act are not made. 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, 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 the going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operation, 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 (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 aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is contained in the appendix to this report which is to be read as an integral part of our report.

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

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

**Angus Donohoe**  
**for and on behalf of**  
**BMOL PARTNERS**

Statutory Auditors  
19 Herbert Street, Dublin 2

**2 April 2019**

## Appendix to the Independent Auditor's Report

### 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 company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the 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.

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.

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 December 2018

	Notes	2018	2019
Income	3	<b>€446,434</b>	469,990
Expenditure		<b>(€448,838)</b>	( <sup>"</sup> 475,967)
Deficit before tax		<b>(€2,404)</b>	( <sup>"</sup> 5,977)
Tax on deficit	6	—	—
Deficit for the year		<b>(€2,404)</b>	( <sup>"</sup> 5,977)
Total comprehensive income		<b>(€2,404)</b>	( <sup>"</sup> 5,977)

Approved by the board on 26 March 2019 and signed on its behalf by



**Pat McGillion**  
Director



**Macrina Clancy**  
Director

**Post Polio Support Group** (A company limited by guarantee, without a share capital)

**BALANCE SHEET** as at 31 December 2018

	Notes	2018	2019
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible assets	7	" 184	" 368
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	8	" 4,781	" 4,841
Cash & Cash Equivalents		" 220,969	" 217,759
		<b>€225,750</b>	<b>€222,600</b>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	9	(" 100,792)	(" 95,422)
Net Current Assets		" 124,958	" 127,178
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<b>€125,142</b>	<b>€127,546</b>
<b>Reserves</b>			
Capital reserves & funds		" 19,232	" 19,232
Income & expenditure account		" 105,910	" 108,314
<b>Equity attributable to owners of the company</b>		<b>€125,142</b>	<b>€127,546</b>

Approved by the board on 26 March 2019 and signed on its behalf by:



**Pat McGillion**  
Director



**Macrina Clancy**  
Director

**RECONCILIATION OF MEMBERS' FUNDS** as at 31 December 2018

	Retained Surplus	Special Reserve	Total
<b>At 1 January 2017</b>	" 114,291	" 22,723	" 137,014
Deficit for the year	(" 5,977)	-	(" 5,977)
Other movements in equity attributable to owners	-	(" 3,491)	(" 3,491)
<b>At 31 December 2017</b>	" 108,314	" 19,232	" 127,546
Deficit for the year	(" 2,404)	-	(" 2,404)
<b>At 31 December 2018</b>	<b>€105,910</b>	<b>€19,232</b>	<b>€125,142</b>

**Post Polio Support Group** (A company limited by guarantee, without a share capital)

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT** for the year ended 31 December 2018

	Notes	2018	2017
Cash flows from operating activities			
Deficit for the year		(“ 2,404)	(“ 5,977)
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation		” 184	” 1,048
Movement on Reserves		-	(“ 3,491)
		<b>(€2,220)</b>	<b>(€8,420)</b>
Movements in working capital:			
Movement in debtors		” 60	” 1,575
Movement in creditors		” 5,370	” 7,885
Cash generated from operations		<b>€3,210</b>	<b>€1,040</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		-	(“ 552)
<b>Net increase in cash &amp; cash equivalents</b>		<b>” 3,210</b>	<b>” 488</b>
<b>Cash &amp; cash equivalents at beginning of financial year</b>		<b>” 217,759</b>	<b>” 217,271</b>
<b>Cash &amp; cash equivalents at end of financial year</b>	14	<b>€220,969</b>	<b>€217,759</b>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** for the year ended 31 December 2018

**1. GENERAL INFORMATION**

The Post Polio Support Group is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in the Republic of Ireland

**2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

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

**Statement of compliance**

The financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 December 2018 have been prepared on the going concern basis and in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in Ireland and Irish statute comprising the Companies Act 2014 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued by the Financial Reporting Council

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis and in accordance with the historical cost convention except for certain properties and financial instruments that are measured at revalued amounts or fair values, as explained in the accounting policies below. Historical cost is generally based on the fair value of the consideration given in exchange for assets. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 ~~the~~ Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland+issued by the Financial Reporting Council.

**Income**

Deferred Income

Bequests and donations, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance. Where income is received in advance, recognition is deferred and, being only recognised in the period profit and loss account against matching expenditures.

### **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:

Computer equipment	- 25% Straight line
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	- 15% Straight line

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed annually for impairment in periods if events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable.

### **Trade and other debtors**

Trade and other debtors are initially recognised at fair value and thereafter stated at amortised cost using the effective interest method less impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts except where the effect of discounting would be immaterial. In such cases the receivables are stated at cost less impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts.

### **Trade and other creditors**

Trade and other creditors are initially recognised at fair value and thereafter stated at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method, unless the effect of discounting would be immaterial, in which case they are stated at cost.

### **Employee benefits**

The company facilitates an optional Approved Retirement Fund (ARF) Scheme for the benefit of the employees. The scheme is operated by a third part provider and the company contributes to the scheme on an individual member basis. The company's liability to the scheme is limited to employee contributions, deducted at source, and agreed matching employer contributions. The scheme is available to all employees of the company.

### **Taxation and deferred taxation**

Current tax represents the amount expected to be paid or recovered in respect of taxable income for the year and is calculated using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantially enacted at the Balance Sheet date.

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date where transactions or events have occurred at that date that will result in an obligation to pay more tax in the future, or a right to pay less tax in the future. Timing differences are temporary differences between the company's taxable income and its results as stated in the financial statements.

Deferred tax is measured on an undiscounted basis at the tax rates that are anticipated to apply in the periods in which the timing differences are expected to reverse, based on tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

### **Foreign currencies**

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the Balance Sheet date. Non-monetary items that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Non-monetary items that are measured at fair value in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rates at the date when the fair value was determined. The resulting exchange differences are dealt with in the Income and Expenditure Account.



### 3. INCOME

The income for the year has been derived from:-	<b>2018</b>	2017
HSE	<b>€362,890</b>	" 363,886
Rehab/PFI	-	" 20,000
General Fundraising	<b>€60,979</b>	" 75,567
Other Grants	<b>€4,700</b>	" 2,500
Interest	<b>€1,246</b>	" 835
Members' Contributions	<b>€6,762</b>	" 3,711
Legacy	-	" 3,491
Other income	<b>€9,857</b>	—
	<b>€446,434</b>	" 469,990

The whole of the company's income is attributable to its market in the Republic of Ireland and is derived from the principal activity of fundraising and grant receipts. The Organisation receives >50% of its funding from the Exchequer.

<b>4. OPERATING DEFICIT</b>	<b>2018</b>	2017
<b>Operating deficit is stated after charging:</b>		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<b>€184</b>	" 1,048

### 5. EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION

#### Number of employees

The average number of persons employed (including executive directors) during the year was as follows:

	<b>2018</b>	2017
	<b>Number</b>	Number
Admin Staff	<b>3</b>	4
Member Support Staff	<b>4</b>	3
	<b>7</b>	7

The staff costs comprise:	<b>2018</b>	2017
Wages and salaries	<b>€182,621</b>	" 173,164
Social welfare costs	<b>€13,714</b>	" 16,481
	<b>€196,335</b>	" 189,645

Wages and salaries costs of " 196,335 include salary costs, pension costs & social welfare costs

Salary bands:	No. of full-time staff	No. of part-time staff
0 - " 10,000	0	0
" 10,000 - " 20,000	0	4
" 20,000 - " 30,000	0	1
" 30,000 - " 40,000	1	0
" 40,000 - " 50,000	0	0
" 50,000 - " 60,000	1	0

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**6. TAX ON DEFICIT**

Analysis of charge in the year	2018	2017
<b>Current tax:</b>		
Corporation tax	-	-
Deficit before tax	<b>(€2,404)</b>	( " 5,977)

The entity is exempt from taxation due to its status as a registered charity (Registered Charity Number: CHY 11356)

**7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
<b>Cost or Valuation</b>			
At 31 December 2018	" 19,235	" 6,509	" 25,744
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 January 2018	" 18,867	" 6,509	" 25,376
Charge for the year	<u>" 184</u>	-	<u>" 184</u>
At 31 December 2018	" 19,051	" 6,509	" 25,560
<b>Net book value</b>			
At 31 December 2018	<u><b>€184</b></u>	-	<u><b>€184</b></u>
At 31 December 2017	<u>" 368</u>	-	<u>" 368</u>

**8. DEBTORS**

	2018	2017
Other debtors	<b>€4,500</b>	" 4,500
Accrued income	<u><b>€281</b></u>	<u>" 341</u>
	<b>€4,781</b>	" 4,841

**9. CREDITORS**

Amounts falling due within one year	2018	2017
Trade creditors	<b>€54,598</b>	" 41,776
Taxation (Note 10)	<b>€13,528</b>	" 10,267
Other creditors	<b>€9,441</b>	" 16,342
Pension accrual	<b>€1,645</b>	" 919
Accruals	<b>€12,210</b>	" 18,311
Deferred Income	<u><b>€9,370</b></u>	<u>" 7,807</u>
	<b>€100,792</b>	" 95,422

**10. TAXATION**

	2018	2017
<b>Creditors:</b>		
PAYE	<b>€13,528</b>	" 10,267

**11. STATUS**

The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of its being wound up while they are members or within one 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 " 2.

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**12. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS**

The company had no material capital commitments at the year-ended 31 December 2018.

**13. POST-BALANCE SHEET EVENTS**

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

**14. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

	2018	2017
Cash and bank balances	€136,779	" 99,870
Cash equivalents	€84,190	" 117,889
	€220,969	" 217,759

**15. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors on 26 March 2019.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION RELATING TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018 NOT COVERED BY THE REPORT OF THE  
AUDITORS. THIS IS NOT PART OF THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

	Schedule	2018	2017
<b>Income</b>		<b>€446,434</b>	<b>" 469,990</b>
Service & Organisation Costs	<b>1</b>	<b>(€287,634)</b>	<b>( " 318,490)</b>
Gross Surplus		<b>€158,800</b>	<b>" 151,500</b>
Gross Surplus Percentage		<b>35.6%</b>	<b>32.2%</b>
Administration Expenses	<b>2</b>	<b>(€161,204)</b>	<b>( " 157,477)</b>
<b>Net deficit</b>		<b>(€2,404)</b>	<b>( " 5,977)</b>

**SCHEDULE 1 : SERVICE & ORGANISATION COSTS** for the year ended 31 December 2018

	2018	2017
Member Support Staff Salaries	€77,652	" 74,547
Member Support Staff Social Welfare Costs	€8,268	" 6,828
Provision of Equipment	€70,080	" 68,113
Organisation Costs	€44,411	" 48,515
Service to Members	€87,223	" 120,487
	€287,634	" 318,490

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**Explanatory Notes**

1. **Member Support Staff Salaries:** Salary costs for the Service & Information Co-ordinators and the Membership & Volunteer Recruitment Officer
2. **Social Welfare Costs:** Social costs associated with these staff positions e.g. pension
3. **Provision of Equipment:** Includes Aids & Appliances and Stairlifts
4. **Organisation Costs:** Costs involved in running the organisation e.g. Annual Conference, Board & Committee costs, member and volunteer recruitment and support costs
5. **Services to Members:** This category covers therapies, respite, heating grants, Survivor magazine, Social Support and Telephone Support

**SCHEDULE 2 : ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES** for the year ended 31 December 2018

	2018	2017
Admin Staff Salaries	€104,969	" 98,617
Admin Staff Social Welfare Costs	€5,446	" 9,653
Fundraising Expenses	€2,885	" 3,684
General Administration Costs	€47,720	" 44,475
Depreciation of Tangible Fixed Assets	€184	" 1,048
	€161,204	" 157,477

**Explanatory Notes**

1. **Admin Staff Salaries:** These are the salaries of the CEO, Administration Officer and the Development Officer
2. **Admin Staff Social Welfare Costs:** Social costs associated with these positions e.g. pension
3. **Fundraising Costs:** Costs incurred in fundraising activities
4. **General Admin Costs:** Office costs such as rent, heating, telephone, postage, stationery, insurance, IT, book keeping and audit
5. **Depreciation:** Depreciation charge of assets, mostly relates to computer equipment