



The Multiple Sclerosis Society of Ireland Limited

Annual General Meeting

Notice and Information Pack

Saturday, 17th September 2022 at 4.00 p.m.
in the MS Care Centre, 65 Bushy Park Road,
Rathgar, Dublin 6 & Via Zoom

(Note: The AGM will be held online via Zoom. The AGM meeting will be recorded).
To attend the AGM virtually (via Zoom), members need to complete the registration form attached on page 60 and we will send the zoom link to you on receipt of your registration form.)

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Separate document circulated with the AGM Pack:

Proxy Form

NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that the twenty third National Annual General Meeting of the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Ireland Limited will take place in the MS Care Centre, 65 Bushy Park Road, Rathgar, Dublin 6 via Zoom on Saturday, 17th September 2022 at 4.00 p.m.

(Note The AGM will be online. The AGM will be recorded.) To attend the AGM virtually (via Zoom), members need to complete the registration form on page 60 and we will send the zoom link to you on receipt of your registration form.)

The AGM is being held for the following purposes:

The Chairman's Address and Report
The Chief Executive's Address and Report

Ordinary Resolutions

To consider and, if thought fit, to pass the following resolutions which will be proposed as ordinary resolutions:

1. To receive and consider the consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021 together with the directors' report and the auditors' report thereon
2. To re-elect Mr Robin Bradley as Director
3. To re-elect Ms Noelle Burke as Director
4. To re-elect Dr Rebecca Maguire as Director
6. To authorise the Directors to fix the remuneration of the Auditors

By Order of the Board



Rory Mulcahy
Company Secretary
MS Ireland

12th August 2022

Note: Voting will be done online or if you are unable to attend online, by proxy.

Patron Michael D. Higgins, PRESIDENT OF IRELAND

A list of names and personal details of every Director of the Company is available for inspection to the public at the Company's Registered Office for a nominal fee.
Registered Office: 80 Northumberland Road, Dublin 4. Company Registration Number 296573; Registered Charity Number: 20007867; Charity Number: 5365.

Re: 23rd National Annual General Meeting ("AGM") (since incorporation – the Society was founded in 1961) of the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Ireland Limited on Saturday, 17th September 2022 at 4.00 p.m. in the MS Care Centre and via Zoom

Dear Member,

Please find enclosed information regarding the Annual General Meeting ("AGM"). Particular points to note are the following:

1. Election Information

Mr Robin Bradley, Ms Noelle Burke and Dr. Rebecca Maguire are standing for re-election.

The candidates are listed in your AGM Pack.

A candidate must receive in excess of 50% of the votes cast to be elected.

2. Voting at the AGM

Members are entitled to vote on the resolutions being proposed in the enclosed Notice of AGM. Votes for the AGM may be registered in person at the AGM or by proxy, which means that if you are unable to attend or vote online at the AGM, you can fill in the attached Proxy Form to appoint the Chairperson, to speak and vote on your behalf at the AGM. A proxy form that is not complete or does not meet the requirements of S.183 and S.184 of the Companies Act will not be counted.

To be valid this proxy form (and where applicable, any power of attorney under which it is signed) must reach the Company Secretary by post or by hand to 80 Northumberland Road, Dublin 4, D04 T856 not less than forty-eight hours before the time appointed for the AGM, i.e. by no later than 4.00 p.m. on Thursday, 15th September 2022.

If you have any queries regarding the AGM, please contact National Office on 01 678 1608.

Yours sincerely



Rory Mulcahy

Company Secretary, MS Ireland

Patron Michael D. Higgins, PRESIDENT OF IRELAND

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Registered Office: 80 Northumberland Road, Dublin 4. Company Registration Number 296573; Registered Charity Number: 20007867; Charity Number: 5365.

Annual General Meeting Agenda

Approval of Agenda

Approval of the last Minutes

Matters arising

Chairman's address and report

Chief Executive's address and report

Ordinary Resolutions

1. Directors' Report, Auditors' Report and Financial Statements 2021
2. Re-Election of Mr Robin Bradley as Director to the Board
3. Re-Election of Ms Noelle Burke as Director to the Board
4. Re-Election of Dr Rebecca Maguire as Director to the Board
5. Authorise the Directors to fix the remuneration of the Auditors

Please note that the AGM will be recorded

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

Minutes of the 61st Annual General Meeting (22nd Annual General Meeting since incorporation) of the Company held in the MS Care Centre, 65 Bushy Park Road, Rathgar, Dublin 6 on Friday, 17th September 2021 at 5.00 p.m. and by Zoom.

PRESENT: Mr Maurice O'Connor (Chairperson)
Mr Rory Mulcahy (Secretary)
Members Et Delegates

IN ATTENDANCE: Ms Ava Battles (Chief Executive)
Ms Alice McKeon (Staff - Minutes)

APOLOGIES: As per list available from MS Ireland

The Chairperson, Mr Maurice O'Connor, formally opened the meeting and welcomed all members to the 61st Annual General Meeting of the Society and 22nd since its incorporation. The members were informed that because of Covid 19, the Chief Executive, Ava Battles and Staff Member, Alice McKeon were physically in attendance at the meeting in the Care Centre while he and the Company Secretary, Rory Mulcahy, were attending via Zoom as were all the members.

The Chairperson remembered the 78 people who were closely connected to the Society that passed away in the last year, 64 of whom had MS. He took a moments silence to remember them.

The Chairperson presented the Awards for MS Person of the Year to Mairin Harris, Carer of the Year to Helen Binions and Volunteer of the Year to Willie Doherty.

Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda for the meeting having previously been circulated, was approved by the members present.

Members were informed that the AGM was recorded and that the recording would be held till the next AGM.

Approval of the Previous Minutes

Minutes of the 60th Annual General Meeting of the Society held on Saturday, 19th September 2020 having previously been circulated, were taken as read. The Minutes were approved by the Members.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Chairperson's Address

The Chairperson reported that 2020 was a huge challenge for People with MS and those affected by MS. With the risk of Covid infection, people had to curtail their social events, person to person contacts and fundraising activities. It also resulted in medical appointments and treatments being delayed. People have anxiously waited for their Covid vaccinations. He said the organisation responded strongly in the past year - community workers stayed in touch with people over the phone and by zoom; A Covid 19 section was constantly updated on the website with information relevant to MS. Fundraisers worked tirelessly with holding online fundraising events. We advocated strongly on behalf of PwMS at a national level. We have recently launched a new employment resources on our website. We availed of as many of the national supports and grants that were available to us. We provided rehabilitation services online particularly the Move Smart and Active Neuro pilot programmes. We collected research data from these programmes. We are about to start updating 'The Society Cost of MS' research. We have reopened the Care Centre. We have received excellent HIQA reports on the Care Centre throughout the pandemic. We are actively working on responding to the fundraising, governance and social challenges branches are facing under the banner of 'Back to the Future'. The team of bloggers provide a special insight into living with MS. Board meetings start with an insight of a person living with MS which is a timely reminder of the core reason why MS Ireland exists and why we do what we do on behalf of MS Ireland. Our role is to support, to provide guidance, to challenge the CEO and her management team so that all of us in MS Ireland can answer the following four key questions - are we delivering on our mission, are we any closer to realising our vision, are we achieving our aims and are we living our values?

The Chairman thanked his fellow Board members for their participation on the Board and on committees and to the non-Board members of those Committees. He thanked all Council members, Branch Officers and Branch Committee members for their work. He thanked the staff for maintaining their commitment and resilience to keep going through difficult times. He thanked the bloggers for their insightful writing. He thanked our funders, individual and corporate volunteers and to all people with MS, their carers, families and friends to support what we are trying to achieve on their behalf.

The Chief Executive's Address

The Chairperson called on the Chief Executive, Ava Battles, to give an overview of 2020 and to focus on key achievements of the organisation.

Ms Battles brought the members through some of the work that was achieved in 2020 which was the first year of the strategic plan 2020-2024. In March 2020 as a result of the pandemic all services moved on line. Programmes including one to one case work, physiotherapy, yoga and information sessions and webinars were developed and went on line. This was a very exciting development. Many of our programmes are no longer location specific. They are allowing us to target a much wider audience.

Living with MS programmes also went online. We were trying to make social media as engaging as possible. Our social media channels allowed us to distribute the latest updates. We developed a Covid 19 section on the website. We had over 22,000 unique page views on Covid which was a good resource for PwMS. We weren't able to have physical meetings. Instead we held a number of webinars throughout the year. We had neurologists and health professionals running these webinars for us. MS Nurse videos and secondary progressive MS videos are still accessible on the website.

From a research perspective, we tried to ensure we got information out to the community about what research was going on. We continue to be actively involved with Multiple Sclerosis International Federation on the Atlas of MS and the European MS Platform in relation to the EMSP barometer.

Advocacy – one of the huge wins during 2020 was access to Ocrevus, which is the only licensed treatment, was extended to relapsing remitting MS and primary progressive MS. A huge thank you to everybody in the community who got involved in advocating for this. MS Understood Café and roadshow highlighted the need for access to treatments for PwMS.

For World MS Day we were due to be at Bloom but Bloom didn't happen. Instead the entire community got behind our balloon race which was a fantastic positive fundraising experience and a very positive story.

Readathon went virtual in 2020. We had level 5 lockdown at the time and we went virtual. We had some wonderful ambassadors to promote it. We had a great campaign and some incredible schools that fundraised for us.

Mick Quinn wanted to do a fundraiser in honour of his brother, Frank. He undertook a marathon in his back garden and raised more than €30K. We did our first virtual walk in 2020. Thanks to the Fundraising team who changed and adapted in the world we found ourselves in and for turning around our fundraising into virtual events.

We have many significant partnerships including the HSE and other State bodies. We continue to have relationships with universities. We are linked with Neurological Alliance of Ireland, Disability Federation of Ireland, Care Alliance, European MS Platform and Multiple Sclerosis International Federation.

We struggled with working from home. We had huge support from the Digital Committee to ensure that we were brought up to a fully functioning online position. We had 40 physio's delivering tailor made programmes. Care Centre closed for a time due to Covid and is now back up and running. Congratulations to the team in the Care Centre for all their hard work and keeping people safe. Thanks to the staff team, the volunteers, our branch network team who kept up connections with fellow branch members, rang people, made sure people were looked out for. 2020 was an incredibly difficult as some members lost family and friends but our community rallied around and helped each other and she thanked members for doing that.

She congratulated Mairin Harris, Helen Binions and Willie Doherty on winning the Awards.

The Chairperson called on Mr Martin Nolan, Chairperson of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee to give a financial overview of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

The Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2020 was taken as read. The Directors' Report for the same year was taken as read.

The Directors' Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 were submitted to the meeting and considered.

In his presentation to members, Mr Nolan noted that our Auditors, Deloitte, had given us a clean audit opinion. He said that in the Audit process, Deloitte looked at the financial control systems and they didn't identify any specific material weaknesses in that process. We were looking at a top to bottom review of all our control systems as a volunteer process and that is ongoing.

Mr Nolan said that Covid 19 was very significant for everyone. The financial challenges posed were significant and the Irish Government had stepped in with funding which we benefitted from and which fed into our figures for the end of 2020. He said it was important to acknowledge this support. He thanked the Management team and Finance team for submitting grant applications to the state agencies to ensure we were part of getting these grants.

Mr Nolan reported a fairly solid financial performance in 2020. Our services plan will be rolled out once restrictions are lifted sufficiently. We turned in a surplus for the year of €561,000 which was substantially supported by state funds and it was up from €29K in 2019 which was a significant increase. Restrictions arose from Covid and because of Covid, many staff services could not be provided and therefore some people had to go on State schemes and there were savings made in terms of staff costs. Secondly in relation to community workers travelling, there were savings made here as well. Net Assets comprised of the Care Centre, Northumberland Road, the mews properties and the property in Limerick came to a net of €9.7M.

Mr Nolan said that total income for the year was €5.7M, comprising Government Grants of €2.94M, donations and fundraising. Donations and fundraising was down by nearly €700K. Branches were hit with reduced income as branches couldn't fundraise. MS Ireland through its fundraising team and initiatives brought its programmes online very quickly such as Readathon. CEP schemes provide a significant amount of support. Care Centre was closed for 6 months and reopened gradually so Care Centre income was down. He noted that two thirds of our income came from the State.

Mr Nolan stated that total expenditure came to €5.1M. Expenditure was less this year with the Care Centre closure and staff restrictions which were unintentional. €4.5M was spent on community services, respite care and research. Fundraising costs were 12% of expenditure Costs are down in line with income being down. All staff support the delivery of services.

Branch income came to €357,000 for the year down from €898K in 2019. Branch income dropped by over €500K. This was a huge hit to the local activities of the organisation. Fundraising and donations were 86% of the income for 2020. Expenditure was €411,000 so unfortunately a drop of €500K in supports across 34 branches so this was felt by many people. 2021 fundraising restrictions are continuing for the whole year. 2021 will be a significant challenge at branch level and we are waiting to see what supports and measures need to be taken locally. Services and financial assistance across all our branches was 84%. Fundraising expenses were small. We have heard of significant failings in charities. That is what happens if governance isn't strong and it is not to be measured purely in euros. It has got to be measured in effectiveness. That cost is likely to continue.

Mr. Nolan reported that 7 months figures for 2021 were healthy but it all depends on the success of Readathon and other projects towards the end of the year. We would hope that by the end of the year with Covid improving to break even which would be a big achievement for the whole organisation including the branches. We do retain sufficient reserves to carry us through bad patches and we do have such reserves if we have unexpected significant challenges arising.

The Chairman thanked Mr Nolan for his continued support and Jackie Baker for all her audit work, making submissions and managing her own team.

Ordinary Resolutions – these resolutions required over 50% of the votes cast to be passed

After careful consideration the following resolutions were **RESOLVED** by the Members on a show of hands:

THAT the Directors' Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2019, as submitted to this meeting, be and are hereby received and adopted.

THAT Rory Mulcahy had received a majority of the votes cast and that he was hereby re-elected as a Director to the Board

THAT Maurice O'Connor had received a majority of the votes cast and that he was hereby re-elected as a Director to the Board

THAT Dr. Carol Ellis-Barton had received a majority of the votes cast and that she was hereby elected as a Director to the Board.

THAT Anthony Kelly had received a majority of the votes cast and that he was hereby elected as a Director to the Board.

THAT the Directors are hereby authorised to fix the remuneration of the Auditors

CONCLUSION:

The Chairperson congratulated the Board members on being elected to the Board. He congratulated the award winners again. He thanked Alice for her support to the Board and to Alice and Triona for organising the AGM and Jason for assisting with the technology in the Care Centre. He thanked everybody for attending the meeting.

The business of the meeting was then declared to have been concluded and the meeting terminated at approximately 6.20 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON

COMPANY SECRETARY

DATE

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

REPORTS AND CONSOLIDATED
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2021

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Directors and Other Information

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Maurice O'Connor (Chairperson)
Jacinta Kelly (Deputy Chairperson)
Robin Bradley
Noelle Burke
Tom Cronin
Carol Ellis-Barton
Eugene Kearney
Anthony Kelly
Dr Rebecca Maguire
Aveen Murray
Martin Power
Anne Restan
Mary Sheahan Lonergan
Rory Mulcahy (Company Secretary)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Ava Battles

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

William Lonergan
Allen O'Connor

FINANCE, AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

Martin Nolan Ex Chairperson – Retired 5th October 2021
Martin Power (Chairperson)
Robin Bradley
Tom Cronin
Jacinta Kelly
Rory Mulcahy
Maurice O'Connor
Jackie Baker (In Attendance)
Ava Battles (In Attendance)

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

DIRECTORS AND OTHER INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

REGISTERED OFFICE

80 Northumberland Road
Dublin 4, D04 T856

CHARITY NUMBER

CHY 5365

CHARITY REGULATORY AUTHORITY NUMBER

20007867

COMPANY NUMBER

296573

DATE OF INCORPORATION

19th November 1998

YEAR MS IRELAND WAS FOUNDED

1961

AUDITOR

Deloitte Ireland LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm
Deloitte & Touche House
Earlsfort Terrace
Dublin 2

PRINCIPAL BANKERS

Bank of Ireland
College Green
Dublin 2

SOLICITORS

Joynt & Crawford
8 Anglesea Street
Dublin 2

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Directors present their annual report and the audited consolidated financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2021.

In this report the Directors of The Multiple Sclerosis Society of Ireland ("MS Ireland") present its activities, governance, achievements, and finances for the financial year ended 31 December 2021.

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND MISSION, VISION, OBJECTIVES AND VALUES

MS Ireland's mission is *"to enable and empower those affected by MS to live the life of their choice to their fullest potential"*.

MS Ireland has a vision of an Irish society where all people affected by MS live positive and active lives in the community.

Its principal objectives are:

- To enable and empower people with multiple sclerosis (hereinafter referred to as "PwMS") to live the life of their choice to their fullest potential
- To provide support for the families and carers of PwMS
- To co-operate with the medical, scientific, social, and caring professions to promote scientific research into the causes of, cure for and management of MS, and the alleviation of medical and social symptoms
- To exchange and disseminate information relating to MS and
- To provide an identifiable focal point by developing an efficient, effective, and caring organisation to serve the needs of PwMS.

Values

MS Ireland is committed to being supportive, transparent, informative, and empowering. These core values are the fundamental beliefs of our organization.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Board

MS Ireland is directed by a voluntary Board which comprises of people with varied backgrounds, some with MS. Its function is to provide leadership, develop strategy, formulate effective policies, and oversee their implementation, monitoring the delivery of services, ensure good governance and financial control.

The Board is provided with regular financial and operational information. Detailed budgets are prepared in line with the current Strategic Plan and are reviewed by the Finance, Audit, Risk and Strategy Committee and further reviewed and approved by the Board. Actual results and outcomes are compared against the budget to ensure alignment with the Plan and to maintain tight budgetary control and value for money.

Governance of MS Ireland is conducted in accordance with Charity Regulator Governance Code 2018, its Constitution, and its Bye Laws. These are available on our website www.ms-society.ie.

The Board continues to be committed to a high level of transparency and disclosure in relation to staff remuneration. As in previous years, Note 10 to the financial statements provides details on Staff Remuneration in line with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) as developed by the Financial Reporting Council.

The Branches, Council and Committees

MS Ireland's voluntary Branches are primarily run by people with MS and their families. They are governed by an elected committee to organise the activities of the Branch including all the services and fundraising activities. Voluntary Branches work very closely with the regional offices. MS Ireland has a network of 31 voluntary Branches.

The Council is the consultative body that represents the views of the Branches around the country. The Council provides a direct link between members, Branches, and the Board. The structure of the Council has changed in parallel with the introduction of the Regional Integrated Meetings (Meetings where regional staff members, a National Office representative and local Branch representatives come together to discuss service delivery in the region and National Office updates).

The Board is responsible for the strategy, and it creates/appoints committees. The following committees are appointed by the Board to aid in the internal workings of MS Ireland:

1. Digital Innovation and Technology Committee
2. Finance, Audit, Risk and Strategy Committee
3. Services, Monitoring and Evaluation Committee
4. Research Advocacy and Communications Committee
5. Remuneration and Nomination Committee
6. Governance Committee
7. Organisation and People Committee

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance

We want to reassure you that MS Ireland is transparent, ethical and has on-going and effective audit processes in place. We value every donation we receive and are always mindful that it is our duty to use the money to achieve the biggest possible impact for people living with MS.

Here are some facts for you about our governance:

- The Board hold meetings 6 times a year with the Chief Executive in attendance at those meetings. As a result of COVID 19, all Board meetings in 2021 were held virtually on Microsoft Teams. The Chief Executive reports to the Board but is not a member of the Board. MS Ireland's Constitution and Code of Conduct details the process on the selection and rotation of Board members, the roles and duties of the Chairperson and Chief Executive. We require formal disclosure of any potential conflict of interest or loyalty of Directors at meetings. We have a committed and strong Board, currently made up of 57% people living with MS or family members. They give their time for free and receive no payments for their work. However, Board members are entitled to claim for travel and subsistence expenses in attending meetings. In 2021 Board members expenses were nil (2020: €377). No emoluments are paid to Board members. The list of Board members and biographies can be found on our website.
- MS Ireland is a registered charity and is in compliance with the requirements of Charities Governance Code and is listed on the [Register of the Charities Regulatory Authority](#).
- Our annual financial statements are audited by Deloitte Ireland LLP. Accounts for the last number of years can be obtained from our website.
- MS Ireland's accounts adhere to the SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities) accounting standard. Accounts year ended 31st December 2021 will be available following the AGM on 17th September 2022.
- We adhere to the [Guiding Principles for Fundraising](#). The principles set the standard for best practice in fundraising in Ireland.

Management

The Chief Executive, to whom day to day management of the charity is delegated, leads a team of 73 employees working throughout the National Office, the MS Care Centre and 10 regional offices, plus an additional 46 Community Employment workers employed with the support of the Department of Social Protection ("DSP").

The National Office is the base for the overall administrative and support services of MS Ireland, including Information and Advocacy, Finance, Fundraising, IT, HR, and Communications. Regional offices provide services to PwMS, people affected by MS ("PaMS") and support to the network of Branches throughout the country. The Care Centre provides respite services. Service development and operations currently sit within the remit of the Chief Executive, the Services Manager, and the National Services Development Manager. In 2021 we had a roster system in operation in MS Ireland National Office to ensure a presence in the office daily. The Care Centre was opened on reduced capacity and our regional offices were providing services both virtually and in person based on government advice.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

Activities for 2021 are reviewed under the headings of MS Ireland's Strategic Plan 2020–2024:

In 2021, MS Ireland worked towards achieving our strategic priorities, as set out in our Strategic Plan 2020–2024.

The Board of MS Ireland is committed to building an organisation which is integrated, effective, outcome-driven, and accountable.

The key goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan 2020 – 2024 of MS Ireland are as follows: -

Goal: Service Delivery

Objective 1 Services Development and New Service Models

Objective 2 Research

Objective 3 Advocacy

Goal: Sustainable Finances

Objective 4 Grow Sustainable Revenue Base

Objective 5 Develop Partnerships

Goal: Innovation

Objective 6 Develop Digital Operations and Governance

Goal: People and Culture

Objective 7 Develop and Invest in our People

Objective 8 Grow Branch and Community Volunteer Base

Goal: Service Delivery

Objective 1: Services Development & New Service Models

During 2021 the Company underwent the second year of its Strategic Plan. It continued to review and develop our suite of services provided by professionals and volunteers. The provision of online services continued. This was an exciting development resulting in many of our programmes being non location specific thus appealing to a potentially wider audience. This offered us an opportunity to capacity build our staff, volunteers, and MS community with digital literacy opportunities.

Regional Community Work

In 2021, MS Ireland ensured the provision of practical and emotional support, community physiotherapy and other physical activity programmes, health promotion, coping strategies and well-being services to PwMS and their families. In 2021 82 people who were newly diagnosed with MS contacted the regions for support. There were 727 one to one case work meetings conducted by community workers for PwMS. 884 individuals attended various groups and events in 2021.

Information Line

The Information Line is often the first port of call for a person with MS and/or a family member. This is a confidential service, and the main thrust is the provision of reliable and accurate information and support in a timely fashion. The information is given on an individual basis to people affected by MS ("PaMS") and health professionals through the MS Information Line – Telephone – 1800 233 233. The Information Line hours increased from 9.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m. to 9.30 a.m. – 5.00 p.m. to respond to the increased need as a result of COVID 19. 930 people contacted the Information Line in 2021, 644 of these contacts were by telephone, 239 were by email, 16 via Facebook, 9 letters and the remaining 22 by other means. The information line also provides information to Regional Staff, and to other services and/or agencies as appropriate.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Exercise and Physical Activity Programmes

In 2021 MS Irelands Physiotherapy/Exercise services continued to be delivered online. Our core service was the Getting the Balance Right programmes run by the regions, comprising 48 physio programmes, 18 yoga programmes and 4 fitness programmes with over 800 participants. In all regions apart from the West, these are reliant on fundraising income, grants, and branch support. Clinical audit data found statistically significant improvements in Impact of MS and Impact of Fatigue. Walking ability was maintained which is a positive outcome for this cohort with a progressive neurological condition. The key impact of the GTBR programmes is preventing disability and enabling people with MS to live well at home reducing primary care waiting lists and preventing hospital and other healthcare service utilisation. Two Physiotherapy projects that arose due to the pandemic are further discussed below.

The MS Care Centre

The MS Care Centre is a 12 bed respite facility. When it reopened in October 2020, due to infection control and Public Health Guidelines, the capacity was reduced to 6 residents and the length of stay was increased to 12 nights. In 2021, the capacity was increased to 8 residents. In 2021 175 people stayed in the Care Centre.

The MS Care Centre, - registered by the Health Information Quality Authority ("HIQA") in order to operate. The Care Centre is reviewed on a three-yearly basis by HIQA and was approved for reregistration in October 2020. The work in relation to HIQA is directed and managed by the Clinical Nurse Manager and the Quality Manager at the Care Centre. The most recent HIQA report has been published and is available <https://www.hiqa.ie/areas-we-work/find-a-centre/multiple-sclerosis-society-ireland-ms-care-centre>

Branches

In 2021 due to the pandemic Branch activities and fundraising were hugely curtailed resulting in a significant drop in activity levels across a range of activities. MS Ireland staff supported Branches to make the transition from in person meetings to various digital platforms. Branch activities include support groups, social activities, therapies and in some instances, financial assistance. The provision of branch level supports is made possible by voluntary local fundraising.

Community Employment Schemes

The provision of services and supports throughout the country relies on the quality contribution of our Community Employment Scheme Participants. They contribute hugely to the work of MS Ireland on a day-to-day basis. There are 23 CE participants assisting in the work of the Care Centre, 11 CE participants assisting with the exercise training plans for PwMS in the Western region: 16 visiting PwMS in their homes, in the North West region. Three offices, the North East, the South East and the Mid-West have a number of CE participants that assist with data collection for the Health Research Board, which represents the needs of PwMS. As with other services the role of the CE participant was moved to online/telephone support outside of the Care Centre based on Government advice.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Social Media

In MS Ireland, we continued to develop our social media throughout 2021, which was integral to our response to the COVID-19 pandemic. 20,435 people accessed our Facebook page, 9,427 people accessed Twitter and 4,617 connected with us on Instagram. We have a team of volunteer bloggers who write about their own personal experiences of living with MS. The blogs had 22,760 page views on the MS Ireland website. We share these blogs on our website and promote them through social media to signpost our members to this resource. The MS Ireland website played a crucial role in distributing information and the latest updates on the COVID19 pandemic. In 2021 the website had a total of 280,716 unique page views. In 2021 we grew our E-News subscribers from 5,702 to 6,350 an increase of 11%.

We used social media to support our various online fundraisers in 2021 and ran several Facebook ad campaigns in house to support these. For World MS Day 2021, we held a virtual balloon race, and we also held a very successful Crunch fundraising challenge in March 2021 run solely through Facebook.

MS Ireland developed a digital strategy; The Digital Strategy includes long term goals for years 2022-2024 and mid- and short-term goals for Q1 and Q2 2022.

Webinars

In continuation of our webinar series, throughout 2021, MS Ireland arranged several online information webinars which allowed people in the MS community to access virtually attend expert led information sessions. We recorded the majority of these sessions and made them available on our website on our dedicated 'Online Video Catalogue section'. Providing the information in this format allows our community to access these videos on demand at a time that suits them.

MS Explored – The Podcast

In collaboration with Novartis, MS Ireland produced a series of podcasts which invited people living with MS as well as leading experts on the various topics covered to share their experiences and thoughts on issues commonly encountered by people living with MS. The podcast series was developed in response to the need for easily accessible information resources for the MS community. Topics explored include navigating the patient journey following diagnosis, the impact living with MS can have on family life, and tips and useful advice. The Podcast explores a range of topics from diagnosis through to managing family and work pressures.

Video – Most Googled Questions

Using data which captured the most frequently searched questions relating to MS on Google, we created a video to answer these questions. Consultant neurologist Dr Karen O'Connell provided answers to these questions. The aim of this video was to ensure people living with MS in Ireland have access to accurate information on the questions that matter most.

Employment Project

In collaboration with Roche, MS Ireland produced the 'Understanding MS at Work' project. This project aims to encourage and enable people living with MS to have beneficial conversations with their employers about their working environment. Videos of people with MS talking about their careers and their conversations with employers were created along with advice on working during the pandemic. Information for employees and employers were also developed to provide information and awareness of the entitlements, potential challenges faced by people living with MS and emphasize the benefits of providing a flexible work environment for employees with MS and other chronic conditions.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Objective 2: Research

Service design and development informed by research, international best practice, and outcomes.

Sharing opportunities with our community to engage in and learn more about MS research is an important part of the work that MS Ireland does and throughout 2021, we shared numerous opportunities with our community members. We shared research findings through our eNews, website and social media platforms. MS Ireland collaborated with Multiple Sclerosis International Federation (MSIF) on updates to the Atlas of MS and the European Multiple Sclerosis Platform (EMSP). At a global event, we presented on how MS Ireland have used past 'Atlas of MS' data to help support our advocacy efforts in the hopes of inspiring other countries and MS organisations to utilize the data to make positive change for their own communities.

MS Ireland have continued to develop the 'Researchers profiles' section on our website. This section which was developed in 2020 has grown with new researchers adding their details to the page. The aim of this page is to give researchers an understanding from our site, of what research is currently being conducted and the key people within the Research community in Ireland.

In 2021, MS Ireland facilitated PPI workshops with community members and researchers enabling people living with MS to be active partners in research relating to them and to ensure researchers had the opportunity to hear the views of people their research may impact.

In collaboration with Roche, MS Ireland commissioned a research piece on professional attitudes to MS Ireland. The aim of this research was to understand the areas where MS professionals, including MS Nurses and Neurologists, felt MS Ireland do well and could improve. It also gave us an opportunity to explore our relationships with these roles and understand how we can best work in partnership to support the MS community.

Objective 3: Advocacy

Improve access to services to ensure PwMS can exercise choice over their lives and careers.

In 2021, MS Ireland's efforts to advocate for people living with MS, their families and carers continued. We took action on several issues and encouraged community members to speak up on the issues impacting them, providing them with the opportunity to be heard by decision makers. We created and updated position papers and briefing documents, including one on the use of stem cell therapy in MS. We made a number of submissions to political representatives and government including pre-budget submission and a submission relating to the impact of COVID-19. We liaised with political representatives on issues including the delay in processing Primary Medical Certificates. We liaised with Deputy Mark Ward who raised this issue for MS Ireland in the Dail.

Collaborative Advocacy – Organisations

MS Ireland believes in the power of working in partnership with other organisations. By doing this, we use our collective voice to be heard more clearly. In 2021, MS Ireland continued working with the Neurological Alliance of Ireland (NAI) on some issues including a campaign to help highlight the severe shortages of specialist neurology nurses, including MS nurses, across Ireland. This campaign included virtual meetings from various locations, most impacted by these shortages. At each of these events, a person living with MS had the opportunity to speak and share their experience. To mark Brain Awareness Week, MS Ireland collaborated with other neurological organisations to provide a week-long schedule of information webinars.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Collaborative Advocacy – Organisations (continued)

Our collaboration with Irish Platform for Patient Organisations, Science and Industry ("IPPOSI") continued including engagement regarding the COVID-19 vaccination roll-out. We continued our collaborations with the Disability Federation of Ireland (DFI) and the Homecare Coalition.

World MS Day

On May 30th, MS Ireland joined people living with MS and other MS organisations around the world to mark World MS Day. The theme for World MS Day 2020–2022 is 'Connections'. The MS Connections campaign is all about building community connection, self-connection, and connections to quality care.

The campaign tagline is 'I Connect, We Connect' and the campaign hashtag is #MSConnections. MS Connections challenges social barriers that leave people affected by MS feeling lonely and socially isolated. It is an opportunity to advocate for better services, celebrate support networks and champion self-care. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic World MS Day in 2021 was celebrated solely as an online event and previous plans had to be postponed. The highlight of MS Ireland's World MS Day was our successful Virtual Balloon Race, although we did not reach the target of 9,000 virtual balloons in the sky, we had great involvement from all stakeholders.

The 2021 AGM was held online via zoom.

MS Explored event for Young People living with MS

On May 21st, MS Ireland held our third event for young people living with MS (ages 18 years +). This event which was supported by Novartis was initially planned as a physical event but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was adapted to become a fully virtual event held on Facebook Live. MS Ireland encouraged online interaction to reach as many young people as possible and to ensure they had the chance to ask any questions they had for the speakers.

COVID-19 Response

In 2021, the need to provide relevant and tailored information to the MS community regarding COVID-19 was unquestionable. In response to the developing pandemic, MS Ireland continued to relay relevant information to our community and where appropriate we dissected information to identify and highlight the parts most relevant to people living with MS. We worked closely with the Clinical Programme as well as the HSE Clinical Advisory Group for Neurology through the year to ensure we were relaying appropriate, accurate and current information to our community. We continue to develop and grow the COVID-19 information section on our website to ensure our community could easily find the information they needed.

Goal: Sustainable Finances

Objective 4: Grow Sustainable Revenue Base

MS developed online fundraising activities during 2021 which helped sustain finances in 2021. MS Ireland also maintained strong relationship with the relevant government agencies to ensure the funding of MS services continued to be supported throughout 2021.

MS Ireland successfully participated in the HSE Pay Restoration Scheme and some smaller grant aided activities which provide the staff and other resources required to maintain a broad range of services to people with MS.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Objective 5: Develop partnerships

Due to COVID 19 many of our usual large fundraisers had to be first postponed and then cancelled. But we were delighted that we were able to go ahead with our Flagship event the MS ReadAthon (virtually) at the end of the year. We also held our first virtual trek and a virtual balloon race for World MS Day. We built on our online giving platforms and increased our donations via Facebook. We were delighted to have the support of our loyal community when we sent out two funding appeals in Spring and at the end of the Summer. MS Ireland was also honoured to continue our corporate partnerships with Perrigo and the Irish Times, and we were thrilled to be announced as partners for Maynooth Students Union.

Goal: Innovation

Objective 6: Develop Digital Operations and Governance

Overall Aim: Develop Digital Operations and Governance structures and strategies to improve operational efficiency and effectiveness. Ensure the Organisation has a robust ICT (Information & Communication Technology) strategy roadmap and execution plan, including the financial, tactical, and strategic benefits of proposed major ICT initiatives.

The Digital Innovation & Technology Committee was established by the Board of MS Ireland to:

- **Develop Digital Operations and Governance structures and strategies to improve operational efficiency and effectiveness.**
- **Ensure the Organisation has a robust ICT (Information & Communication Technology) strategy roadmap and execution plan, including the financial, tactical, and strategic benefits of proposed major ICT initiatives.**

The Digital, Innovation and Technology Committee facilitated lots of consultation on MS Ireland's Digital Strategy. The Digital Strategy aims at defining a winning path to support overall organization objectives through digital channels. The Digital Strategy includes long term goals for years 2022-2024 and mid- and short-term goals for 2022 and Q1 and Q2 2022.

Tierney's, our IT Providers worked on a three-phase upgrade of hardware, operating systems, which greatly supports remote working and mitigates risk by moving server infrastructure into the cloud.

Goal: People & Culture

Objective 7: Develop and Invest in Our People

MS Ireland appointed a permanent Human Resources Manager in March 2021. The HR Manager has conducted a full review of the existing HR policies and procedures including but not limited to Performance Management, Training & Development, Sick Pay, Annual Leave, Compensation & Benefits.

The continuing pandemic has prevented more face-to-face meetings with employees both in National Office and in the regions, however, this is something that we hope to improve on in 2022. Under the pay restoration for Section 39 organisations, salaries for most MS Ireland employees were increased in 2021.

Objective 8 Grow Branch and Community Volunteer Base

We worked with our Branches to improve their governance and more Branches signed up to using E-docs (Accounting system for Branches) to record their finances. We also launched a new Branch Handbook which provides a valuable insight into how a Branch should function including its rules and regulations and it also outlines tasks of the Branch Committee members. MS Ireland is very proud of our staff and volunteers and how quickly they adapted to working in a COVID world and providing services to people virtually.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

RISKS ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT

The Board is responsible for ensuring that the major risks are identified, managed, and monitored. The major risks facing MS Ireland defined by the Board and the management are potential loss in income or significant increase in costs, potential loss of some services or breach of regulations, potential damage to MS Ireland's reputation or a significant loss of capital. These risks have been reviewed and their potential impact assessed. The Board ensures control processes are subject to continuous improvement. Given the objectives of MS Ireland, and the nature of the activities by which it furthers them, some of the risks must be accepted: it is not possible for MS Ireland to eliminate them. However, appropriate steps have been taken to mitigate them where possible.

At the time of approving the financial statements, MS Ireland is exposed to the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The principal Operational impacts of Covid-19

MS Ireland is operating throughout the pandemic with an aim to continue to meet the needs of people with Multiple Sclerosis, to preserve the livelihoods and well-being of our staff and ensure the financial stability of the organisation. MS Ireland has continued to provide services to people with MS but in a different manner.

Service updates

- Regional Coordinators/Regional workers continuing to prioritise their client list in terms of the most vulnerable and contact them by phone or Zoom. One to one work is carried out as per Government/HSE guidelines
- There are a range of Zoom classes in operation in the regions, these classes range from information sessions to 1:1 physio to group physio classes
- Physio Policies and Procedures and Zoom policy and procedures have been developed.
- Additional MS Ireland Zoom for business licences purchased to respond to the demand of online classes
- Bimonthly Zoom meetings for all regional staff
- The Information, Advocacy and Research Officer constantly updated the staff on all COVID-19 related issues and Staff are recirculating the appropriate communication to people with MS
- Regional Integrated Meetings were held on Zoom.
- Social Innovation Fund applied for to extend the Slaintecare project (Neuro Rehab) in the Midwest to a national online programme

Care Centre Update

- The Care Centre was closed from April to October 2020. When it reopened in October, due to infection control and Published Health Guidelines, the capacity was reduced to 6 residents and the length of stay was increased to 12 nights.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

The principal Operational impacts of Covid-19 (Continued)

Physiotherapy Projects

Two projects, Active Neuro (SlainteCare Integration Fund) in the Mid-West and Move Smart MS (Rethink Ireland) nationally also continued online in 2021. For Move Smart MS we delivered 37 specialist, symptom focused, tailored, online programmes and offered places to 324 participants, between January and December 2021. Our data provide evidence of the clinically and statistically significant improvements on physical symptoms such as strength (17.4% improvement), balance (28.4%) and walking endurance (7%) and anxiety, depression, and fatigue. Our programmes also reduced the number of fallers from 60 to 45 of participants (25% reduction), and the number of falls by 27%.

Additionally, the group programmes provide peer learning and support to increase confidence, empowerment, feelings of connectedness and motivation to continue. Peer support was highly valued by our participants with 95% of respondents to our satisfaction survey saying they enjoyed chatting to and learning from others in the class. "I have felt connected to others who experience some of the same symptoms and situations I do as they have MS. It's one of the few times I felt I was in a safe, understanding space relating to my MS."

For Active Neuro in 2021, there were 161 participants in physio programmes, with a further 106 referred on to Sports Partnership classes. There were significant reductions (44%) in healthcare utilisation, both in terms of primary and tertiary care services following the programme. Additionally, Active Neuro led to a 30% reduction in the number of falls and a 49% reduction in the number of participants experiencing falls. 71% improved their leg strength as measured by the 30 second sit to stand test. 62% showed an improvement of more than 10%.

Participants reported high levels of satisfaction and commented on the improvements in symptoms, physical and mental health and on the peer learning and social support provided by the programmes "*It helps with my mobility and strength. To me the biggest benefit is the mental side, as being in lockdown, I have not been out and about meeting people. The Active Neuro Programme was a huge psychological boost*"

Return to Work Safely Protocols

We established a Return-to-Work Group and developed a return-to-work protocol.

Temporary Remote Working

Where appropriate, staff of MS Ireland worked remotely in line with Government guidelines.

The principal Financial impacts of Covid-19

Covid-19 has had a significant impact on Fundraising activities at National Office and throughout the Branch network. Our budget/cash flows for 2021 were updated to take the impact into account. We received two grants from the Department of Rural and Community Development; via Covid-19 Stability Fund and Innovate Together Fund.

The Board is satisfied that the operational and financial measures taken by MS Ireland are both appropriate and sufficient in dealing with the on-going impacts and challenges of the Covid-19 Pandemic. The Board continues to regularly monitor developments to ensure the continued stability of the organisation.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

All planned activities will be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and are subject to change due to the various response restrictions that may be introduced by Government and on the impact on our revenue generating capacity.

In 2022 we will continue to work on our strategic priorities.

Support people with MS to maximise their potential in all areas of their lives

Create public awareness of MS and understanding of the needs of people with MS

In 2020, MS Ireland planned to celebrate World MS Day at Bloom Gardening Festival. Due to COVID-19, this plan could not go ahead. We initially thought we could suspend plans and possibly take part in Bloom Gardening Festival in 2021. This would have given us the potential to engage with thousands of visitors to Bloom for the duration of the event. Unfortunately, as the pandemic carried into 2021, we had to adjust our plans and further postpone this activity.

As COVID-19 is still creating huge uncertainty, we have decided to move forward in a different direction and celebrate World MS Day 2022 differently. In collaboration with Novartis, MS Ireland will be hosting an art exhibition in a central Dublin location. The artwork for this project has been created by people living with MS who wished to convey their experiences or thoughts about MS through visual and audio art. The aim of this project is to highlight the lived experience of MS while celebrating the community and their talents.

In 2021, we began creating a video project called 'The MS Circle of Support'. This video series highlights various roles of people who support the MS community. Initially, we planned to release these videos in 2021 but were made aware that they fit perfectly with the 'Teams' theme of Brain Awareness Week 2022 and so a decision was made to postpone the release of the videos until January 2022 and run the first batch of videos up to Brain Awareness Week. Professionals including an MS Ireland Regional Community Worker, MS Nurse, Neurologist, Occupational therapist, carer, family carer, people living with MS themselves (as they are peer support to one another) are already or will be part of this series.

MS Ireland will have awareness/fundraising activities which focuses on the many stories of people living with MS.

Webinars

MS Ireland will continue to work through our calendar of webinars for 2022 to ensure we continue to provide our community with access to expert information and the opportunity to ask the questions that matter to them. National Office will work closely with Regional teams on these webinars. By making online events available nationally, we will ensure the maximum number of people possible are benefiting from our efforts. Recordings will continue to be added to the online catalogue which was established in 2020. This will mean that people can access the information after the live event at a time that suits them and from anywhere, they wish.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS CONTINUED

Develop 'Young Persons' services group and online communications platform.

In collaboration with Novartis in 2022, MS Ireland is planning to build on the success of season 1 of the 'MS Explored' podcast and produce a second series of episodes. Our intention is to create another three episodes, inviting both people living with MS and relevant experts on to discuss topics that have been defined following a consultation with our listeners. The topics for this season will include Building Resilience from Diagnosis; Sex & Relationships and Understanding What High Efficacy Treatments Means!

MS Ireland is also exploring options in relation to online communications platforms for young people living with MS.

Societal Cost of MS – Updates report

In 2021, MS Ireland partnered with Novartis to conduct research to understand the societal cost of MS in Ireland. This study replicated one conducted in 2015 and aims to provide updated findings as well as acting as a comparator to understand what has changed or stayed the same in the time between the two reports. The findings will be launched in 2022.

Foster a network of Researchers, PwMS and health care professionals, to enable and participate in MS research and communicate findings.

In 2021, MS Ireland worked very closely with the AIMS Research Network who aim to "To support collaborative research, including collaboration with people with MS, across the island of Ireland that holds potential to limit the progression of MS, to train future generations of MS researchers and to contribute to global MS research". Working with this network has allowed us to assist in connecting researchers across the island of Ireland. In 2022, MS Ireland will continue to work with and support this network. We will also continue to share research opportunities in line with our protocol for researchers engaging with MS Ireland for support with projects. In line with appropriate policies and guidelines, MS Ireland will promote PPI in research and facilitate PPI activities. In 2022, we hope to continue the expansion of the 'Researchers Profiles' section on the website and produce research communications for circulation. We will continue to share research findings with our wider community.

Fundraising

For 2022 we are feeling hopeful that we can again hold some of our in-person events that have been cancelled for the previous two years. We are expecting events such as the VHI Mini Marathon and Dublin marathon will be in person. We are also looking forward to hosting our final foreign trek after over 25 years and going forward we will be concentrating our efforts on building virtual treks and challenges. We continue to put huge efforts into diversifying our income streams and are concentrating on growing our online fundraising through Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. We are delighted to have partnered with MSIF for the second year to run the 'May 50k' a global fitness and fundraising challenge. We are continuing to build our online presence on corporate giving and grant management platforms such as Benevity.com, yourcause.com and Globalgiving.com. For World MS day we have decided not to run our annual balloon race but to release a new jumper on our shop designed by one of our community members. We are looking forward to running an online and offline MS Readathon towards the end of the year.

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS CONTINUED

Governance and Regulation: Continue to strengthen the governance and regulation of MS Ireland ensuring compliance with relevant regulatory bodies

In 2019 MS Ireland reviewed the new Governance Code which it adopted in 2020 and we continue to review the Code annually.

The Branch Development Committee undertook a review of the Branch Handbook, and it was rolled out to Branches in 2021. We will also be promoting the Children First training to our branches.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The detailed consolidated results for the financial year are set out on page 35. The net income for the year after tax before exceptional items was €450,972 (2020: €556,648).

Income

Income totalled €6,101,497 which represents an increase of €378,013 (6.6%) on 2020. Donations and fundraising income increased by €226,362 (15.3% more than 2020).

Expenditure – Before Exceptional items

During the financial year €5,650,525 (2020: €5,166,836) was spent on the provision of charitable activities/services to PwMS, reflecting an increase of €483,689 (9.3%) on 2020. The increase in expenditure was driven by the resumption of services which had been impacted by Covid-19 in 2020.

Exceptional items

In 2018 the society received three investment Properties valued in total at €1,375,000 this was revalued to €1,380,000 in 2020.

The net income for the year after exceptional items was €450,972 (2020: net income of €561,648).

Financial position at the end of the financial year

The fund balances totalled €10,162,961 (2020: €9,711,989) at the end of the financial year.

These funds are represented by the following:

	National Office € CEP	Branches	Total
	€	€	€
Tangible Fixed Assets	4,382,626	38,450	4,421,076
Investment properties	1,380,000	-	1,380,000
Net Current Assets (excl. Bank loan)	3,850,933	1,280,348	5,131,281
Bank Term Loan	(769,396)	-	(769,396)
Total	8,844,163	1,318,798	10,162,961

The tangible fixed assets of the National Office are comprised mainly of the premises at Northumberland Road and Bushy Park Road, Dublin.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FINANCIAL REVIEW (CONTINUED)

Reserves Policy

The Board has the responsibility for establishing an appropriate reserves policy. It is the policy of the Board of MS Ireland to retain sufficient reserves to safeguard the continuity of its operations, while at the same time committing the maximum possible resources to its current services.

The total reserves at 31 December 2021 of €10,162,961 fall into two categories, Restricted and Unrestricted funds:

Restricted funds of €3,332,469 represent income received that can only be used for particular purposes which arise because of restrictions on their use imposed by the donor at time of receipt or because the funds were collected in a public appeal to raise money for a particular purpose. Such purposes are within the overall aims of the Society. It is the policy of MS Ireland to fully apply such funds for the purposes for which they were donated as quickly as possible.

Unrestricted funds of €6,830,492 are funds that have no specific restrictions attached to them but are categorised as follows:

Designated funds of €5,826,660 which represent amounts that MS Ireland has, at its discretion, set aside for specific purposes, which would otherwise form part of its general unrestricted funds. At the end of 2021, funds had been designated for specific purposes as follows:

- The carrying value of tangible fixed assets for use by MS Ireland less associated capital grants €3,679,232 which is not available for distribution.
- The net assets of the Society's branches €1,280,348 which are retained for the furtherance of services and supports to PwMS in the future.
- Funds set aside to cover the planned budgeted deficit on unrestricted funds in 2022 of €515,456
- Funds set aside to ensure continuity of regional support of €351,624

General unrestricted funds of €1,003,832 represent funds which are available for the general purposes of the Society.

It is also the policy of the Society to hold sufficient reserves to fund its activities and maintain the quality of its services for a minimum period of six months. This threshold has been set following an assessment of the following factors: the need to provide short term protection against unforeseen downward fluctuations in annual income; and the need to provide a financial cushion in the event of extreme circumstances affecting the Society's ability to operate.

We aim to maintain general unrestricted reserves within a policy range of a lower limit of six months. At the 31 December 2021, general unrestricted funds held were €1,003,832 (2020: 922,667), equating to ten months' reserves (2020: nine months).

The Board reviews the level of reserves held periodically.

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

DIRECTORS AND SECRETARY

The current directors are set out on page 12. The directors, who served at any time during the financial year, were as follows:

Directors:

Maurice O'Connor (Chairperson)
Jacinta Kelly (Deputy Chairperson)
Marcella Flood (Resigned 17th September 2021)
Robin Bradley
Noelle Burke
Tom Cronin
Eugene Kearney
Dr Rebecca Maguire
Rory Mulcahy
Aveen Murray
Martin Power
Anne Restan
Mary Sheahan Lonergan
Carol Ellis-Barton (Elected on 17th September 2021)
Anthony Kelly (Elected on 17th September 2021)

Secretary:

Rory Mulcahy

DIRECTORS' INTERESTS

None of the directors had any interests in any contracts entered into by the Society during the year.

SUBSIDIARY UNDERTAKINGS

The information required by Section 327 of the Companies Act 2014 is included in note 14 to the financial statements.

ACCOUNTING RECORDS

The measures that the directors have taken to secure compliance with the requirements of sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014 with regard to the keeping of accounting records, are the employment of appropriately qualified accounting personnel and the maintenance of computerised accounting systems. The company's accounting records are maintained at 80 Northumberland Road, Dublin 4.

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

STATEMENT OF RELEVANT AUDIT INFORMATION

In the case of each of the persons who are directors at the time the Directors' Report and Financial Statements are approved:

- (a) As far as the directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's statutory auditors are unaware, and
- (b) Each director has taken all steps appropriate to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's statutory auditors are aware of that information.

This confirmation is given and should be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of Section 330 of the Companies Act 2014.

SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

There have been no events subsequent to the yearend that require an adjustment to or additional disclosure in the 2021 financial statements. There have been no significant matters affecting the company post the financial year end. Under the section risk assessment and management above the Directors have outlined the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the operational and financial activities of the Society.

GOING CONCERN

Based on the results for the year, the year-end financial position and the approved budgets 2022 and 2023 which take into account the projected impacts of Covid-19, the Board of Directors believe that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual financial statements.

AUDITOR

The auditor, Deloitte Ireland LLP, Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm, continue in office in accordance with Section 383(2) of the Companies Act 2014.

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

Maurice O'Connor
Director

Jacinta Kelly
Director

Date: _____

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The directors are responsible for preparing the directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with the Companies Act 2014.

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 FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued by the Financial Reporting Council* ("relevant financial reporting framework"). 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 profit or loss of the company for the financial year and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014.

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

- select suitable accounting policies for the Company Financial Statements and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the 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 profit or loss of the company to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and directors' report comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be 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.

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion on the financial statements of The Multiple Sclerosis Society of Ireland (the 'company')

In our opinion the group and parent company financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the group and parent company as at 31 December 2021 and of the income of the group and parent company for the financial year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework and, in particular, with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

The financial statements we have audited comprise:

the group financial statements:

- the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities ;
- the Consolidated Balance Sheet;
- the Consolidated Cash Flow Statement; and
- the related notes 1 to 34, including a summary of significant accounting policies as set out in note 1.

the parent company financial statements:

- the Company Balance Sheet;
- the related notes 1 to 34, including a summary of significant accounting policies as set out in note 1.

The relevant financial reporting framework that has been applied in the preparation of the financial statements 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 ("the relevant financial reporting framework").

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are described below in the "Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements" section of our report.

We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Reports and Consolidated Financial Statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2021, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the 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.

Responsibilities of directors

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 otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on IAASA's website at: http://www.iaasa.ie/getmedia/b2389013-1cf6-458b-9b8f-a98202dc9c3a/Description_of_auditors_responsibilities_for_audit.pdf. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2014

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

- 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.
- In our opinion, information and returns adequate for our audit have been received from branches of the company not visited by us.
- The financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.
- In our opinion the information given in the directors' report is consistent with the financial statements and the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2014.

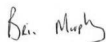
Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the provisions in the Companies Act 2014 which require us to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions specified by law are not made.

Use of our report

This 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 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.



Brian Murphy
For and on behalf of Deloitte Ireland LLP
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm
Deloitte & Touche House, Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2

Date: 29 July 2022

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021
including income and expenditure account and recognised gains and losses

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2021 €	Restricted Funds 2021 €	Total Funds 2021 €	Unrestricted Funds 2020 €	Restricted Funds 2020 €	Total Funds 2020 €
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:							
Income from generated funds:							
Voluntary Income							
- Donations and fundraising		1,573,793	128,426	1,702,219	1,431,428	44,429	1,475,857
- Legacies		10,500	30,000	40,500	106,000	5,000	111,000
- Pharmaceutical	4	7,170	84,411	91,581	4,640	163,720	168,360
- Research		-	2,210	2,210	-	2,234	2,234
- Subscriptions		1,220	-	1,220	650	-	650
Income from charitable activities							
- Fees received		121,687	-	121,687	82,947	-	82,947
- Grants and other service contract income	5	-	3,243,183	3,243,183	-	2,949,315	2,949,315
- Community employment schemes	30	-	756,646	756,646	-	806,639	806,639
- Other income	6	19,987	122,264	142,251	11,311	115,171	126,482
TOTAL INCOME	3	1,734,357	4,367,140	6,101,497	1,636,976	4,086,508	5,723,484
EXPENDITURE ON:							
Costs of generating funds:							
Costs of generating voluntary income							
- Fundraising		533,677	106,300	639,977	431,587	163,242	594,829
Charitable activities							
- Community services		25,502	2,814,004	2,839,506	-	2,516,659	2,516,659
- Respite care services		119,063	1,727,970	1,847,033	104,619	1,534,984	1,639,603
- Research		1,973	10,141	12,114	3,000	8,446	11,446
- Local MS services		193,964	117,931	311,895	298,229	106,070	404,299
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	3	874,179	4,776,346	5,650,525	837,435	4,329,401	5,166,836
Taxation	24	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) for the year before exceptional items	7/21	860,178	(409,206)	450,972	799,541	(242,893)	556,648
Exceptional items	11	-	-	-	-	5,000	5,000
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	7	860,178	(409,206)	450,972	799,541	(237,893)	561,648
Transfer between funds	22	(497,896)	497,896	-	(373,733)	373,733	-
Net movement in funds		362,282	88,690	450,972	425,808	135,840	561,648
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:							
Total funds brought forward	21	6,468,210	3,243,779	9,711,989	6,042,402	3,107,939	9,150,341
Total funds carried forward		6,830,492	3,332,469	10,162,961	6,468,210	3,243,779	9,711,989

All gains and losses arose from continuing activities and are included in the statement of financial activities for the current and prior financial year.

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	2021 €	2020 €
Fixed Assets			
Tangible fixed assets	12	4,421,076	4,552,165
Investment Properties	13	1,380,000	1,380,000
		<u>5,801,076</u>	<u>5,932,165</u>
Current Assets			
Asset held for re-sale - Property	15	-	-
Stocks		9,692	6,921
Debtors	16	410,442	470,605
Investments	17	15,379	15,379
Cash at bank and in hand	18	5,532,072	4,951,689
		<u>5,967,585</u>	<u>5,444,594</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	19	(1,080,460)	(895,087)
Net current assets		<u>4,887,125</u>	<u>4,549,507</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>10,688,201</u>	<u>10,481,672</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	20	(525,240)	(769,683)
NET ASSETS		<u>10,162,961</u>	<u>9,711,989</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds:			
Designated	21	5,826,660	5,545,543
General	21	1,003,832	922,667
		<u>6,830,492</u>	<u>6,468,210</u>
Restricted funds:			
Endowment	21	1,380,000	1,380,000
General	21	1,952,469	1,863,779
		<u>3,332,469</u>	<u>3,243,779</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	21	<u>10,162,961</u>	<u>9,711,989</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 21st July 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Maurice O'Connor
Director

Jacinta Kelly
Director

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

COMPANY BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	2021 €	2020 €
Fixed Assets			
Tangible fixed assets	12	4,421,076	4,552,165
Investment in subsidiary undertaking	14	-	1
Investment Properties	13	1,380,000	1,380,000
		<u>5,801,076</u>	<u>5,932,166</u>
Current Assets			
Asset held for resale - Property	15	-	-
Stocks		9,692	6,921
Debtors	16	410,442	460,242
Investments	17	15,379	15,379
Cash at bank and in hand	18	5,532,072	4,939,472
		<u>5,967,585</u>	<u>5,422,014</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	19	(1,080,460)	(872,508)
Net current assets		<u>4,887,125</u>	<u>4,549,506</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		10,688,201	10,481,672
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	20	(525,240)	(769,683)
NET ASSETS		<u>10,162,961</u>	<u>9,711,989</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds:			
Designated	21	5,826,660	5,545,543
General	21	1,003,832	922,667
		<u>6,830,492</u>	<u>6,468,210</u>
Restricted funds:			
Endowment	21	1,380,000	1,380,000
General	21	1,952,469	1,863,779
		<u>3,332,469</u>	<u>3,243,779</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>10,162,961</u>	<u>9,711,989</u>

The net income dealt within the financial statements of the company was €450,972 (2020: net income of €561,648).

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 21st July 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Maurice O'Connor
Director

Jacinta Kelly
Director

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2021	Total funds 2020
	Notes	€	€	€	€
Net cash flows from operating activities	23(i)	<u>814,037</u>	<u>171,164</u>	<u>985,201</u>	<u>800,402</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Interest received		28	0	28	136
Interest paid		(55,105)	0	(55,105)	(73,532)
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(16,980)	(94,333)	(111,313)	(69,802)
Proceeds from sale of tangible fixed assets		0	0	0	-
Net cash flows from investing activities		<u>(72,057)</u>	<u>(94,333)</u>	<u>(166,390)</u>	<u>(143,198)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities:					
Repayments of borrowings	20	<u>(238,428)</u>	0	<u>(238,428)</u>	<u>(224,232)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	23(ii)	<u>503,552</u>	<u>76,831</u>	<u>580,383</u>	<u>432,972</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		<u>4,010,278</u>	<u>941,411</u>	<u>4,951,689</u>	<u>4,518,717</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		<u><u>4,513,830</u></u>	<u><u>1,018,242</u></u>	<u><u>5,532,072</u></u>	<u><u>4,951,689</u></u>

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102, the financial reporting standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102") and voluntarily in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice, as applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102 (issued by the Charity Commission for England and Wales, "the Charities SORP") and in accordance with the Companies Act 2014.

The Multiple Sclerosis Society of Ireland ("the Society") is constituted under Irish company law as a company limited by guarantee and is a registered charity with registration number 296573. The address of the registered office is 80 Northumberland Road, Dublin 4. In prior years, company law scoped out companies not trading for gain for the members from the requirements with regard to formats and content of financial statements which applied to for profit companies, thus permitting the adoption of a format appropriate to a charity. Accordingly, the Society adopted and reported its performance in accordance with the format provided for in the Charities SORP and in particular reports its performance for the financial year in the format of the SORP's Statement of Financial Activities ("SOFA").

Basis of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements for 2020 include the financial statements of The Multiple Sclerosis Society of Ireland (the parent undertaking) and its subsidiary undertaking, The Multiple Sclerosis C.E.P. Company Limited. Transactions between the national office, Branches and MS care centre (including The Multiple Sclerosis C.E.P. Company Limited) have been eliminated. The assets and the undertakings of the subsidiary Multiple Sclerosis C.E.P. Company Limited were transferred to The Multiple Sclerosis Society of Ireland on 12th December 2020. The subsidiary was formally wound up in June 2021.

Going Concern

Based on the results for the year, the year-end financial position and the approved budgets 2022 and 2023 the Board of Directors believe that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual financial statements.

Income

Income is accounted for when the Group has entitlement, there is certainty of receipt, and the amount is measurable.

Grants from statutory bodies are credited to income in the financial year to which they relate. Where the 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. Capital grants are accounted for as income as soon as they are receivable.

Member subscriptions are taken to revenue in the financial year in which they are received.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Income (continued)

Gifts of assets are included in income at a reasonable estimate of their value, at the date received. These assets are treated as either tangible fixed assets or current assets depending on whether the gift is to be disposed of or retained for use by the Group. Gifts for fundraising purposes are accounted for when realised.

Legacy income is accounted for when the Group has entitlement, the receipt is probable, and the amount is measurable.

Legacies are recognised when all the three criteria below are met:

- a. Establish entitlement – in practice this would be estate accounts being finalised or cash received or where there is agreement on an interim distribution.
- b. Where receipt is probable – receipt is probable when there has been grant of probate, executors have established that there are sufficient assets after settling any liabilities to pay the legacy and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met. There will normally be sufficient certainty of receipt when notice of intention to pay the legacy is received from the personal representatives of the estate.
- c. The amount is measurable – in practice this could come from estate accounts, cash received or correspondence from executors/solicitors confirming an amount to be distributed. Measurability will also be met where a reasonably accurate assessment can be made of the value.

Where legacies have been notified to the Group or the Group is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Rental income is recognised on accruals basis.

Deferred Income and Expenditure

Funds received and expenditure incurred by the Group for fundraising events to be held in the future are treated as deferred income and expenditure.

Stocks

Stocks, which comprise fundraising materials, are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Fixed assets are recorded at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of the assets over their estimated useful lives. The rates and methods of depreciation are as follows:

Freehold Premises	2% straight line
Office Equipment	10% straight line
Computer Equipment	33% straight line
Furniture and Fittings	20% straight line
Motor Vehicles	20% straight line
Branches' Motor Vehicles/Mobile Homes	10% straight line

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Investment Properties

Investment properties, arising from legacies, are initially recorded at open market value based on an independent professional valuation. The market values are assessed at each year end reporting date.

Asset held for resale

Assets held with the intention of resale are included at open market value.

Leased Assets

All leases entered into by the Group are operating leases. Operating lease costs are charged to the statement of financial activities in the period to which they relate.

Retirement Benefits

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Retirement benefits to employees of the Group are funded by contributions from the Group and the employees. Payments are made to pension trusts which are financially separate from the Group. These payments, which are made in accordance with periodic calculations by consulting actuaries, are charged in the statement of financial activities in the period in which they become payable.

Research

Expenditure on research projects is charged to the statement of financial activities as incurred.

Fund Accounting and Reserves Policy

The following are the categories of funds maintained:

Restricted funds:

General

Restricted funds represent grants, donations and legacies which can only be used for the particular purposes specified by the donors. Such purposes are within the overall objectives of the Group.

Endowment

A gift of endowment arises where there is no power to convert capital into income i.e., must be retained intact.

Unrestricted funds:

General funds

General funds represent amounts which are expendable at the discretion of the Board, in furtherance of the objectives of the Group.

MS Ireland defines its reserves as its total unrestricted funds. In planning and budgeting for its activities, the company considers the level of unrestricted reserves to maintain a balance between the need to safeguard the continuity and development of its services and the need for prudent management of its activities as well as providing for contingencies. The Board aims to maintain its total unrestricted reserves level at three months operating costs.

Designated funds

Designated funds represent amounts that the Group has, at its discretion, set aside for specific purposes, which would otherwise form part of its general unrestricted funds.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Financial Instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Group becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the company after deducting all of its liabilities.

Financial assets and liabilities

Financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for any financial assets classified as at fair value through the SOFA, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs). Trade and other receivables, trade and other payables and interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently stated at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Financial assets and liabilities are only offset in the balance sheet when, and only when there exists a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the company intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

In the application of the Group's accounting policies, which are described in note 1, the Directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The directors do not consider there are any critical judgements or sources of estimation uncertainty except for those set out in the accounting policies in Note 1.

3. TOTAL INCOME/EXPENDITURE

	Restricted 2021	Unrestricted 2021	Total 2021	Total 2020
	€	€	€	€
Community Services-National and Regional	2,532,645	15,757	2,548,402	2,343,888
Fundraising & Donations-National office and Regional	78,241	1,265,745	1,343,986	1,337,419
Local MS Services-Branches	13,515	296,194	309,709	357,696
Respite Care Services	986,093	156,661	1,142,754	877,842
Government Schemes	756,646	-	756,646	806,639
TOTAL INCOME EXCLUDING EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS	4,367,140	1,734,357	6,101,497	5,723,484
Exceptional items (see note 11(i))	-	-	-	5,000
TOTAL INCOME INCLUDING EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS	4,367,140	1,734,357	6,101,497	5,728,484

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

3. TOTAL INCOME/EXPENDITURE (CONTINUED)

EXPENDITURE:	Restricted 2021 €	Unrestricted 2021 €	Total 2021 €	Total 2020 €
Community Services-National and Regional	2,427,656	436,388	2,864,044	2,509,406
Fundraising & Donations-National office and Regional	-	502,953	502,953	466,026
Local MS Services-Branches	29,804	242,902	272,706	355,785
Respite Care Services	1,064,344	184,404	1,248,748	1,024,434
Government Schemes	756,646	5,428	762,074	811,185
TOTAL EXPENDITURE EXCLUDING EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS	4,278,450	1,372,075	5,650,525	5,166,836
Exceptional items	-	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURE INCLUDING EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS	4,278,450	1,372,075	5,650,525	5,166,836
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR	88,690	362,282	450,972	561,648

4. PHARMACEUTICAL INCOME

	Restricted 2021 €	Unrestricted 2021 €	Total 2021 €	Total 2020 €
Perrigo Company plc	46,000	-	46,000	40,000
Novartis Ireland Ltd	411	7,170	7,581	3,395
Merck Serono (Ireland) Ltd	10,000	-	10,000	10,000
Biogen IDEC	-	-	-	20,000
Roche Pharm holding B.V	8,000	-	8,000	67,965
Alkermes Pharma Ireland Ltd	20,000	-	20,000	20,000
Almirall	-	-	-	7,000
	84,411	7,170	91,581	168,360

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

5.	GRANTS AND OTHER SERVICE CONTRACT INCOME	2021	2020
		€	€
	HSE - Statutory Funding	2,701,420	2,321,763
	HSE - National Lottery Funding	54,334	50,500
	HSE - Other Grants	860	2,400
	Pobal Funding - Craiga Grant	90,000	90,000
	Pobal Slaintecare	69,903	56,565
	Pobal - Stability	90,500	200,000
	Rethink Ireland - Social Innovation	130,498	2,077
	Other Grants - Non HSE	105,668	47,674
	TWSS	-	135,852
	EWSS	-	42,484
		<u>3,243,183</u>	<u>2,949,315</u>

6.	OTHER INCOME	2021	2020
		€	€
	Rental Income	57,121	57,247
	Donations for Programmes (Physio Et Yoga)	30,355	37,269
	EMSP (European Multiple Sclerosis Platform)	32,540	20,655
	Other Income (VAT Refund, Bank Interest)	22,235	11,311
		<u>142,251</u>	<u>126,482</u>

The rental income arises in respect of the investment properties (see note 13).

7.	NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR	2021	2020
		€	€
	The net income/(expenditure) for the financial year is stated after charging/(crediting):		
	Depreciation	242,402	221,707
	Interest payable and similar charges	55,105	73,532
	Auditor's remuneration - Group	37,150	40,821
	- Branches	22,564	24,739
	- CEP Schemes	4,206	3,920
	- Other	2,214	2,214
	Directors' remuneration	-	-
	Operating lease rentals	40,728	49,089
	and after crediting: Interest received	<u>(28)</u>	<u>(136)</u>

Board member's travel and subsistence expenses in attending meetings in 2021 were Nil (2020: €377).
No emoluments are paid to Board members.

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

8. EXPENDITURE ON FUNDRAISING AND CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Activity	Direct Salary Costs	Other Direct Costs	Support Costs (Note 9)	Total 2021	Total 2020
	€	€	€	€	€
Fundraising	225,305	320,282	94,390	639,977	594,829
Community Services	2,019,608	398,793	421,105	2,839,506	2,516,660
Respite Care Services	1,093,186	480,150	273,697	1,847,033	1,639,603
Local MS Services	41,150	205,508	65,237	311,895	404,298
Research	8,327	2,000	1,787	12,114	11,446
	<u>3,387,576</u>	<u>1,406,733</u>	<u>856,216</u>	<u>5,650,525</u>	<u>5,166,836</u>

9. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	2021	2020
	€	€
Charitable activities:		
Staff and related costs	525,669	424,127
Other costs	179,855	192,277
Depreciation	73,257	72,488
Governance	77,435	84,100
Total	<u>856,216</u>	<u>772,992</u>

Support costs are allocated on the basis of the percentage expenditure incurred for each charitable activity.

Governance costs

Auditor's remuneration – Group	37,150	40,821
– Branches	22,564	24,739
– Government/CEP Schemes	4,206	3,920
– Other	2,214	2,214
Annual Report	480	630
Board of Directors expenditure	–	377
Support costs	10,821	11,399
Total	<u>77,435</u>	<u>84,100</u>

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

10. EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION

The average number of persons employed by the Group in the financial year was 119 (2020: 115), analysed into the following categories:

	2021	2020
	No.	No.
Regional and National services	30	27
Care	22	20
Administration	15	13
Fundraising activities	6	6
Community Employment schemes	46	49
	<u>119</u>	<u>115</u>

The numbers shown above are inclusive of 46 (2020: 49) persons employed under the Department of Social Protection Scheme and exclusive of persons contracted on a consultancy basis to counselling and fundraising services.

	2021	2020
	€	€
Total staff costs comprised of the following:		
Wages and salaries	3,461,828	3,102,063
Employer social welfare costs	297,368	246,619
Employer retirement benefit contributions	100,000	99,657
Annual Leave Accrued	54,050	27,802
	<u>3,913,246</u>	<u>3,476,141</u>

The Group also receives significant support from voluntary workers.

The number of employees whose emoluments, excluding employer pension contributions, were greater than €60,000 is set out below:

	2021	2020
	Number	Number
€60,000 – €70,000	3	-
€70,000 – €80,000	1	1
€80,000 – €90,000	-	-
€90,000 – €100,000	-	1
€100,000 – €110,000	1	-
	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>

Key management personnel

Key management personnel are the Board, the Chief Executive, Services Manager, National Services Development Manager, Fundraising Manager, Human Resources Manager and Financial Controller. Total emoluments (including benefits and employer pension contributions) paid to key management personnel was €472,678 (2020: €330,385). The Fundraising Manager and Human Resources Manager joined the Senior Management Team in 2021. As a result of HSE Pay Restoration Scheme, all salaries were reviewed and restored where applicable in 2021. The Society's chief executive was paid a salary of €101,337 (2020: €95,000) and received a 10% contribution to a defined contribution pension scheme. The chief executive received no additional benefits in the current or prior year.

Board members receive no remuneration.

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

11. EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS

	2021	2020
	€	€
Investment Properties – restricted legacy (i)	-	5,000
Property held for resale – restricted legacy (ii)	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>5,000</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

- i. This legacy is comprised of three mews properties located in Dublin. The use of the properties is restricted for use in providing services for PwMS. The properties must be held for at least 20 years before they can be sold. The properties are rented, and the net rental income can be applied in the provision of services for PwMS. The properties were revalued to €1,380,000 in 2020 giving to an increase in value of €5,000.
- ii. This legacy is comprised of a single property located in Doonbeg, County Clare. The property was sold in January 2020 and the net proceeds were €48,098 giving rise to an impairment charge of €21,902 in 2019 accounts.

The above items are considered to be exceptional by virtue of size and incidence, notwithstanding that they fall within the ordinary activities of the company.

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND
 NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

GROUP AND COMPANY	Freehold Premises €	Office Equipment €	Computer Equipment €	Furniture & Fittings €	Motor Vehicles/ Mobile Homes €	Branches Mobile Homes/ Motor Vehicles €	Total €
Cost:							
At 1 January 2021	7,192,143	255,780	204,796	519,597	134,594	189,236	8,496,146
Additions	-	19,736	42,941	46,493	-	2,143	111,313
At 31 December 2021	7,192,143	275,516	247,737	566,090	134,594	191,379	8,607,459
Depreciation:							
At 1 January 2021	2,885,139	213,463	160,107	452,159	91,408	141,705	3,943,981
Charge for the financial year	143,843	16,138	29,625	29,222	12,338	11,236	242,402
At 31 December 2021	3,028,982	229,601	189,732	481,381	103,746	152,941	4,186,383
Net Book Value:							
At 31 December 2021	4,163,161	45,915	58,005	84,709	30,848	38,438	4,421,076
Net Book Value: At 31 December 2020	4,307,004	42,317	44,689	67,438	43,186	47,531	4,552,165

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

13. INVESTMENT PROPERTIES	2021 €	2020 €
Market Value	<u>1,380,000</u>	<u>1,380,000</u>

As set out in Note 11(i), the Group received a legacy of three properties in 2018 which are restricted in use. The properties were valued on an open market value basis in January 2021 by an independent valuer.

14. INVESTMENT IN SUBSIDIARY UNDERTAKING COMPANY	2021 €	2020 €
Cost:		
Balance at beginning and end of financial year	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

In previous years The Multiple Sclerosis Society of Ireland through its wholly owned subsidiary undertaking, The Multiple Sclerosis C.E.P. Company Limited, operated a Community Employment Scheme at 65 Bushy Park Road, Rathgar, Dublin 6. The registered office of the subsidiary was 80 Northumberland Road, Dublin 4. The assets and the undertakings of the subsidiary were transferred to The Multiple Sclerosis Society of Ireland on 12th December 2020. The subsidiary was formally wound up in June 2021.

15. ASSET HELD FOR RESALE

As set out in Note 11(ii), the Group received a legacy of a property in 2018 which is restricted in use. The property was valued at €70,000 on an open market value basis by an independent professional valuer but was reduced to €48,098 (Net proceeds) following its sale in January 2020.

16. DEBTORS	2021 €	2020 €
GROUP		
Amounts due from fundraising activities	72,016	31,149
Prepayments	84,084	184,852
Community Employment Schemes	33,611	48,541
HSE grants	176,502	156,666
Residents' fees and other debtors	40,224	41,442
Deferred Fundraising Expenditure	4,005	7,955
	<u>410,442</u>	<u>470,605</u>

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

16. DEBTORS (CONTINUED)

	2021	2020
	€	€
COMPANY		
Amounts due from fundraising activities	72,016	31,149
Prepayments	84,084	184,852
HSE grants	176,502	156,666
Community Employment Schemes	33,611	17,707
Residents' fees and other debtors	40,224	41,442
Amount due from subsidiary	-	20,471
Deferred Fundraising Expenditure	4,005	7,955
	<u>410,442</u>	<u>460,242</u>

17. INVESTMENTS

	2021	2020
	€	€
GROUP AND COMPANY		
At 1 January and 31 December (principally prize bonds)	<u>15,379</u>	<u>15,379</u>

18. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	2021	2020
	€	€
GROUP		
National and Regional services	4,239,777	3,670,493
Branches	1,292,295	1,268,980
C.E.P Company	-	12,216
	<u>5,532,072</u>	<u>4,951,689</u>
COMPANY		
National and Regional services	4,239,777	3,670,492
Branches	1,292,295	1,268,980
	<u>5,532,072</u>	<u>4,939,472</u>

Of the €4,239,777 (2020: €3,670,492) of National and Regional Services cash at bank and in hand a total of €3,478,048 (2020: €2,893,866) is unrestricted.

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

19.	CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	2021	2020
		€	€
	GROUP		
	Trade creditors	284,035	144,645
	Accruals	151,353	124,398
	Bank term loan (note 20)	244,156	238,140
	Deferred income	179,206	232,746
	PAYE/PRSI	133,335	68,748
	Community Employment Schemes	88,375	86,410
		<u>1,080,460</u>	<u>895,087</u>
	COMPANY		
	Trade creditors	284,035	144,645
	Accruals	151,353	124,398
	Bank term loan (note 20)	244,156	238,140
	Deferred income	179,206	232,746
	PAYE/PRSI	133,335	68,748
	Community Employment Schemes	88,375	63,831
		<u>1,080,460</u>	<u>872,508</u>
20.	CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year	2021	2020
		€	€
	GROUP AND COMPANY		
	Bank term loan	525,240	769,683
		<u>525,240</u>	<u>769,683</u>

The loan is repayable by monthly instalments of €21,634 of which €20,346 represents capital repayments. As at 31 December 2021 the balance remaining on the loan was €769,396, of which an amount of €244,274 was at a variable interest rate of 1.15% (remaining term of 4 years), €261,907 was fixed for 10 years (remaining term of 4 years) at an interest rate of 3.220% and €263,215 was fixed for 7 years (remaining term of 1 year) at an interest rate of 2.57%. The loans are secured by a fixed charge on the premises at 65 Bushy Park Road, Rathgar, Dublin 6.

The maturity analysis of the bank loan at 31 December is as set out below:

	2021	2020
	€	€
Within one year (Note 19)	244,156	238,140
Within two to five years	525,240	769,683
After more than five years	-	-
	<u>769,396</u>	<u>1,007,823</u>

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

21. FUNDS

GROUP AND COMPANY	Restricted Funds €	Unrestricted Funds €	Total Funds €
Funds at beginning of financial year	3,243,779	6,468,210	9,711,989
Movement during financial year:	88,690	362,282	450,972
Funds at end of financial year	3,332,469	6,830,492	10,162,961

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

General

Unrestricted funds are funds received where the donor has not specified how the funds are to be used.

	Opening balance as at 01/01/2021 €	Net movement 2021 €	Closing Balance as at 31/12/2021 €
General fund	922,667	81,165	1,003,832

Designated

The designated fund comprises amounts allocated by the directors from unrestricted income.

	Opening balance as at 01/01/2021 €	Net movement 2021 €	Closing Balance as at 31/12/2021 €
Tangible fixed assets less associated capital grants	3,783,599	(104,367)	3,679,232
Branch Net Assets	1,261,944	18,404	1,280,348
Planned budget Deficit	170,000	345,456	515,456
Regional Support Continuity Fund	330,000	21,624	351,624
Total Designated funds	5,545,543	281,117	5,826,660

The movement in restricted funds in the financial year was as follows:

RESTRICTED FUNDS

(i) Endowment

This legacy of €1,380,000 is comprised of three mews properties located in Dublin. The use of the properties is restricted for use in providing services for MS. The properties must be held for at least 20 years before they can be sold. In the meantime, the properties are rented, and the net rental income is applied in the provision of services for MS.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

21. FUNDS (CONTINUED)

(ii) General

Restricted fund	Fund balance at beginning of financial year	Income	Expenditure	Fund balance at end of financial year
	€	€	€	€
HSE Statutory Funding	-	2,701,420	2,701,420	-
HSE Lottery Funding	56,822	54,334	56,484	54,672
HSE Other	-	860	860	-
Pobal	-	250,403	250,403	-
Other Grants	-	236,165	236,165	-
Government Schemes	-	756,646	756,646	-
Capital grants	768,566	-	26,721	741,845
TWSS/EWSS	-	-	-	-
Other (a)	840,829	365,101	249,565	956,365
Research (b)	64,370	2,210	27	66,553
Bequests (c)	63,472	-	-	63,472
J.P. McManus (d)	21,622	-	159	21,463
HSE Statutory Funding shortfall	-	-	-	(497,896)
Transfer from unrestricted funds	-	-	497,896	497,896
Total excluding exceptional item	1,815,681	4,367,140	4,776,346	1,904,371
Proceeds of Property held for resale	48,098	-	-	48,098
Total including exceptional item	1,863,779	4,367,140	4,278,450	1,952,469

The Property held for resale was sold in 2020 for €48,098.

The restricted funds are represented by fixed assets of €741,845 (2020: €768,566) and net current assets of €1,210,624 (2020: €1,095,213).

- The other restricted funds include funds received from funds received for the Care Centre and funds received for Getting the Balance Right Programmes and events.
- The research fund is restricted to research expenditure.
- Bequests are restricted to expenditure in Cork, the Mid-West, and Care Centre.
- The J.P. McManus Fund is restricted to expenditure in the Mid-West region.

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

22. TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS

The transfer between funds reflects the amount incurred by MS Ireland in providing community and respite services which are only part funded by the HSE.

23. NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

(i) RECONCILIATION OF CHANGES IN RESOURCES TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2021 €	2020 €
Net incoming resource	450,972	561,648
Interest received	(28)	(136)
Interest payable	55,105	73,532
Depreciation	242,402	221,707
Fair value movement of Investment Properties	0	(5,000)
Asset held for resale	0	48,098
Increase in stocks	(2,771)	3,561
Decrease in debtors	60,163	(140,581)
Increase in creditors	179,359	37,571
Decrease in value of Investments	-	2
Net cash inflow from operating activities	<u>985,201</u>	<u>800,402</u>

(ii) RECONCILIATION OF NET CASH FLOW TO MOVEMENT IN NET DEBT

	2021 €	2020 €
Increase in cash in financial year	580,383	432,972
Cash flow from debt financing	238,428	224,232
Change in net cash	<u>818,811</u>	<u>657,204</u>
Net cash at beginning of financial year	3,943,866	3,286,662
Net cash at end of financial year	<u>4,762,677</u>	<u>3,943,866</u>

(iii) ANALYSIS OF NET CASH

	2020 €	Cash Flow	2021 €
Cash at bank and in hand	4,951,689	580,383	5,532,072
Debt due within one year	(238,140)	(6,016)	(244,156)
Debt due after one year	(769,683)	244,443	(525,240)
	<u>3,943,866</u>	<u>818,810</u>	<u>4,762,676</u>

24. TAXATION

The company has been granted charitable status, and accordingly no charge to corporation tax arises by virtue of Section 208 of the Taxes Consolidation Act, 1997.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

25. GIFTS IN KIND

The Group receives financial support through the provision of services at reduced costs, from its advertisers, architects, printers, solicitors, and other suppliers. The value of this support was approximately €1,500 in 2021 (2020: €17,599).

26. PENSIONS

The Group operates a defined contribution insured pension scheme for employees. The employer pension cost for the financial year was €100,000 (2020: €99,657) there was a balance outstanding at the end of the year €22,854 (2020: prepayment €526).

27. FUNDRAISING

The Group has a fundraising department. Commissions are not paid for any fundraising activities.

28. LEASE COMMITMENTS

Operating Leases:

Premises

Total lease commitments at 31 December 2021 amounted to €40,728 (2020: €49,089) and relate to leases which expire.

	2021 €	2020 €
- Within one year	33,728	35,089
- Within two to five years	<u>7,000</u>	<u>14,000</u>

29. OTHER COMMITMENTS

In certain circumstances grants received could become repayable by the Group. There was a Fixed charge of IRE600,000 held over the MS Care Centre which expired in November 2021.

There were no significant capital commitments contracted for by the Group as at 31 December 2021.

30. CEP GRANTS

MS Ireland operates three Community Employment Schemes which are funded by the Department of Social Protection. The schemes support the provision of services throughout the country.

CEP Grants are credited to income in the financial year in which they relate. Where the grant is received in advance its recognition is deferred and included in creditors.

THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF IRELAND

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	2021	2020
	€	€
INCOME		
Care Centre CEP Scheme	292,000	337,319
Northwest Region CEP Scheme	235,279	234,459
Western Region CEP Scheme	229,367	234,861
Total	<u><u>756,646</u></u>	<u><u>806,639</u></u>
EXPENDITURE		
Care Centre CEP Scheme	292,004	337,319
Northwest Region CEP Scheme	238,966	235,251
Western Region CEP Scheme	230,804	238,415
Other CEP Schemes (Sponsor Contribution)	299	200
Total	<u><u>762,073</u></u>	<u><u>811,185</u></u>
DEBTORS		
Care Centre CEP Scheme	12,533	30,834
Northwest Region CEP Scheme	10,699	10,604
Western Region CEP Scheme	10,379	7,103
Total	<u><u>33,611</u></u>	<u><u>48,541</u></u>
CREDITORS		
Care Centre CEP Scheme	26,643	53,856
Northwest Region CEP Scheme	27,243	27,597
Western Region CEP Scheme	34,339	5,107
Other CEP Schemes (Sponsor Contribution)	150	(150)
Total	<u><u>88,375</u></u>	<u><u>86,410</u></u>

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

31. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The carrying values of the group's financial assets and liabilities are summarised by category below:

	2021	2020
	€	€
Financial assets		
<i>Measured at amortised cost</i>		
GROUP		
• Amounts due from fundraising activities	72,016	31,149
• Community Employment Schemes	33,611	48,541
• HSE grants	176,502	156,666
• Residents fees and other debtors	40,244	41,442
	<u>72,016</u>	<u>31,149</u>
COMPANY		
• Amounts due from fundraising activities	72,016	31,149
• HSE grants	176,502	156,666
• Community Employment Schemes	33,611	17,707
• Residents fees and other debtors	40,224	41,442
• Amount due from subsidiary	-	20,471
	<u>72,016</u>	<u>31,149</u>
	2021	2020
	€	€
Financial liabilities		
<i>Measured at amortised cost</i>		
GROUP		
• Trade creditors	284,035	144,644
• Bank term loan (note 19 and 20)	769,396	1,007,823
• Community Employment Schemes	88,375	86,410
	<u>284,035</u>	<u>144,644</u>
COMPANY		
• Trade creditors	284,035	144,644
• Bank term loan (note 19 and 20)	769,396	1,007,823
• Community Employment Schemes	88,375	63,831
	<u>284,035</u>	<u>144,644</u>

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

32. The comparative figures, where necessary, have been regrouped on a basis consistent with the current year.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

33. EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE

There have been no significant events affecting the Society since the year-end that would require adjustment to or additional disclosure in the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021. Under the section risk assessment and management in the Directors' report the Directors have outlined the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the operational and financial activities of the Society.

34. LEGAL STATUS

By virtue of Section 1180 of the Companies Act 2014 the company is exempt from including the word "Limited" in its name. The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The amount of the guarantee is limited to €1.27 per member.

As permitted by Section 304(2) of the Companies Act 2014, the statement of financial activities of the parent undertaking is not presented as part of these financial statements. The net income dealt within the financial statements of the company was €450,972 (2020: net income of €561,648).

Candidates Profiles

Candidates listed in alphabetical order

Mr Robin Bradley

Robin Bradley is a highly experienced Finance Professional, Company Director and Project Manager. He is a former member of the board of the Irish Credit Bureau. He brings experience in business management and strategic planning. He has worked abroad for many years and currently works in Bank of Ireland. Robin holds an MSC in Organisational Behaviour from Trinity College Dublin, a B.A in Business Studies from West London University and is a Qualified Financial Adviser from the Institute of Bankers in Dublin.

Robin is married with two children, living in Dublin.

Robin has a sister who is in long term care and is keen to lend his skills to MS Ireland which does so much to improve peoples lives.



Ms Noelle Burke

Noelle Burke is Chief People Officer at ESW. In her role herself and her team partner with the business on all strategic business and people agendas. During her 20 years working she has held leadership and human resources positions with high profile companies including Microsoft and Hewlett Packard offering her experience in the Technology, Manufacturing and Financial Services industries in Ireland & EMEA. She has a Masters in Strategic HR leadership and believes her greatest learnings have been from some of the brilliant leaders and mentors she has met throughout her career.

Noelle has been involved in activities and fundraising for a number of communities and charities.

She is married to Keith and lives in Kildare.



Dr. Rebecca Maguire

Dr Rebecca Maguire is a Chartered Psychologist and Lecturer in the Department of Psychology at Maynooth University, who is also living with MS. She holds a BA (Hons) in Psychology, as well as an MA and PhD in Cognitive Science from University College Dublin. Rebecca is involved in a number of different research projects investigating the psychological wellbeing of those with chronic illness and their caregivers. She has a particular interest in furthering MS research, from both a professional and personal perspective. Rebecca is a strong advocate for all those affected by MS, and is actively involved in IPPOSI (which emphasises public and patient involvement in research), the European Multiple Sclerosis Platform (EMSPP), and the International Women in MS (IWIMS) community, where she is co-leading a rehabilitation/quality of life group. Rebecca is married with two children and lives in Co. Kildare.



REGISTRATION FORM – YOU MUST COMPLETE THIS FORM TO RECEIVE THE LINK TO ATTEND THE MEETING VIRTUALLY



I will attend the A.G.M. virtually on Saturday, 17th September 2022 at 4.00 p.m. –

Please tick one of the boxes

or

YES

NO

e-mail confirmation of your attendance at the AGM to Alice McKeon
(E-mail address is: alicem@ms-society.ie)

By the 9th September 2022

Name

.....

Address

.....

.....

Phone/Mobile No.

E-mail address

(Note: We must have your email address to send you the link to the meeting)

Branch (if applicable)

.....