

Company Registration No. 510402 (Republic of Ireland)

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

COMPANY INFORMATION

Directors	Deirdre Mortell Alison Cowzer Daire Keogh Niamh Gallagher Susan Shannon Lynn Ruane
Secretary	Margaret Kavanagh
Company number	510402
Registered office	36 Fitzwilliam Place Dublin 2
Auditor	Browne Murphy & Hughes Chartered & Certified Accountants & Statutory Auditors, 28 Upper Fitzwilliam Street, Dublin 2
Business address	36 Fitzwilliam Place Dublin 2
Bankers	Bank of Ireland St Stephen's Green Dublin 2
Solicitors	Barry J Rafferty Solicitors 12 Merrion Square Dublin 2

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

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WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

The directors present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019.

Principal activities

Women for Election is a non-partisan organisation whose vision is of an Ireland with balanced participation of women and men in political life. Our mission is to inspire and equip women to succeed in politics. Women for Election offers a tailored training and support programme to women seeking to enter public life, and provides and facilitates a cross-party network of political women, committed to equal representation of women and men in Irish politics. We are driven by our belief that enriching the diversity of voices in our politics will lead to more robust decisions, and help create a fairer, more inclusive and dynamic society, better equipped to tackle future challenges.

Directors and secretary

The directors who held office during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were as follows:

Deirdre Mortell	
Claire Duignan	(Resigned 3 March 2020)
Alison Cowzer	
Daire Keogh	
Niamh Gallagher	
Susan Shannon	
Lynn Ruane	
Caroline Kirrane	(Resigned 7 February 2020)

Results and dividends

The results for the year are set out on page 14.

Accounting records

The company's directors are aware of their responsibilities, under sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014 as to whether in their opinion, the accounting records of the company are sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited and are discharging their responsibility by:

- employing qualified and experienced staff,
- ensuring that sufficient company resources are available for the task, and
- liaising with the company's auditors

The accounting records are held at the company's registered office, 36 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin 2.

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

Chairperson's Report 2019

At Women for Election our mission is to inspire, equip, support and advocate for women to succeed in politics. We work to bring about systemic and sustainable change.

In recent years Irish society has undergone significant changes, we have seen radical changes in our constitution and the makeup of our population. Ireland is a more inclusive, more diverse society facilitating a wider range of voices to be heard. However, in the midst of all that change, the number of women achieving political office is still stubbornly low. We believe that it is only by achieving greater diversity in our politics, that we will be enabled to make better decisions, that take account of the diverse needs of our society.

Building a pipeline of committed, capable women to enter political life is our contribution to making that change. Our advocacy to amplify the imperative for more women in politics is crucial to keep the issue on the political agenda, ensuring that women's voices are heard, and that our political leaders are continually reminded that systemic and cultural political change is vital for our politics to begin to represent that population it serves.

During 2019, a year of two major election campaigns, the Local Elections and the European Parliament election, our executive team led by CEO Ciairín de Buis has delivered a comprehensive programme of training, communication and advocacy initiatives to deliver our mission. We have engaged with over 500 women encouraging them and supporting them to enter political life. Our message has featured in a broad range of media and press and our social media reach and engagement has developed substantially. Building a strong network of supporters across the country is vital to ensure we can encourage women from all walks of life to consider a entering public life and we are grateful to all those who have supported us throughout 2019.

We appreciate the funding received from the Department of Local Government and thank Minister John Paul Phlelan and his officials for their strong support for Women for Election. We look forward to working with the Department over the coming years to improve the number of women of politics and to provide the support, training and advocacy that will deliver real change.

It has been a privilege to serve as Chair of Women for Election in 2019 as we work together to achieve lasting change.

I would like to sincerely thank our executive team led by CEO Ciairín de Buis, and my fellow directors on the Board of Women for Election for their un-stinting expertise, energy and ongoing commitment that helps Women for Election to deliver our mission: Deirdre Mortell, Daire Keogh, Clare Duignan, Niamh Gallagher, Susan Shannon, Caroline Kirrane, and Senator Lynn Ruane. I would also like to express my appreciation to our Company Secretary Margaret Kavanagh. All of our board members and our Company Secretary provide their time and services *pro bono*.

I would especially like to thank members of our Countess Markievicz Circle, who have supported Women for Election throughout 2019. Our Brussels branch of the Countess Markievicz Circle continues to provide strong support to the work of WFE, as we progress our mission across the European as well as the domestic political landscape

The Circle continues to grow and we were delighted to welcome many new members. With their valuable financial support, we have been able to deliver the strong level of support to women on their journey to enter public life.

I look forward to working with the executive team, our Board, our funders, our volunteers and all our supporters who are united in working together to change the Irish political landscape for the better. #morewomen!

Alison Cowzer

Chairperson

Women for Election

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

A word from our CEO

Less than 1/4 of our elected representatives are women, despite us being slightly more than half our population. Women for Election works to change that; we provide practical training and support for women - we work to inspire, equip and support women to succeed in political life. 2019 saw Women for Election (WfE) deliver an ambitious training programme focused on the May 2019 Local and European Elections. In tandem, we also worked extensively to raise the profile of the issue of women in politics, and the need for more women in political life.

Throughout the year we worked with women from right across the country; women who were elected to your local council chamber and the European Parliament. We've worked with women who topped the poll and those who weren't successful. We worked with women who managed campaigns and were directors of elections. We worked with women who knocked on doors for the first time. I wish to offer my heartfelt thanks and admiration to each and every one of you – you are playing an invaluable part of changing the face of Irish politics.

Women for Election is a small organisation and are hugely dependent on our volunteers for their commitment and support, it would not have been possible for us to deliver our ambitious training programme without them. Similarly, our funders and donors who help us help more women enter politics. I wish to thank you all; you are helping us to change the face of politics.

I also wish to thank my colleagues - Jeanne Sutton who finished up with us during the year, Claire Hayes who joined us at a particularly busy time, Neasa Montague who worked with us during the local elections and Mairéad Butler who joined the team towards the end of the year. I'd also like to thank Lucy Dougherty who joined us for a while as part of her EUSA Academic Internship.

My personal thanks to our supportive Board of Directors, particularly our Chairperson Alison Cowzer. They each give of their time, commitment, skills and expertise freely to help us deliver on our work and see more women succeed in Irish political life.

Ciairín de Buis

Chief Executive Officer

Women for Election

Women for Election is a not-for-profit, non-partisan organisation whose vision is of an Ireland with balanced participation of women and men in political life.

Women for Election offers tailored training and support to women thinking of entering public life. We are driven by our belief that enriching the diversity of voices in our politics will lead to more robust decisions, and help create a fairer, more inclusive and dynamic society, better equipped to tackle future challenges.

Our vision is for an Ireland with balanced political participation between men and women. Since the foundation of the State in 1918, just 114 women have been elected to the Dáil – women are still less than ¼ of our elected politicians. Women for Election aims to change this. We do this through active measures that encourage, support and train women so that a career in politics becomes more achievable to them while also challenging the current political structures so that they become increasingly convinced of the necessity to implement change.

Women for Election works to increase the number of women running for election by making sure there is a pipeline of competent, prepared female candidates putting themselves forward for selection and election. Women for Election provides training and support to women, encouraging them to consider politics as a career option and supporting women to take their next step on their political journey.

To do this, we focus on three main areas:

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

Training: Our Inspire and Masterclass programmes provide high quality political training focused on supporting women to take their next step in politics.

Building a movement: Women for Election engages women at all levels of political interest and provides a platform for women in or interested in politics to connect.

Advocacy: Women for Election leads in the promotion of the concept of gender balance in elections and ultimately the involvement of more women in our Local Councils, the Dáil and European Parliament. We contribute to public debate through participation in media debate, social media discussion, and the provision of research and data on female representation to media outlets.

Impact of Women for Election

The political story of 2019 were the Local and European elections, held in May.

A lot more women put themselves forward for election in 2019 than in previous years. 29% of candidates were women, which represents a significant increase on the 2014 election. However, while record numbers of women were elected this time, the number of women taking seats still only reached 24% of councillors. Women for Election have worked with more than half the women elected to their local council.

Consistency across parties is crucial to ensuring the equal representation of women in Councils. It was clear that in candidate selection party and geography mattered. The smaller parties tend to have better gender balance amongst their Councillors, with the proportion of women ranging between 41% and 64%. This is largely a reflection of the gender balance amongst their candidates – as smaller parties tended to run a more balanced ticket.

Amongst Independent candidates, only 19% were women. Neither of the two larger parties met 30% women candidates (Fianna Fáil reached 22%, Fine Gael reached 29%), which is reflected in their councillors (18% of Fianna Fáil councillors are women, 24% of Fine Gael councillors are women).

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown almost reached 50:50 representation, with 19 women taking seats amongst the 40 members elected. The results reflected the fact that 47% of the candidates in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown were women. Similarly, Kildare saw 17 (43%) women elected to the Council, although only 32% of candidates there were women. There were 13 (41%) women elected in Wicklow, where 25 (40%) of the candidates were women. At the other end of the scale, only 1 woman was elected in Longford (6%) and just 2 women were elected in Offaly (11%), Sligo (11%), Waterford (6%), Carlow (11%) and Mayo (7%). For the first time, at least one woman was elected to each council in the country.

The onus is also on the Government to ensure there are quotas in place for the local elections in 5 years' time to make sure this happens across all parties.

LE19:

A RECORD NUMBER OF WOMEN WERE ELECTED BUT THEY STILL REPRESENT LESS THAN ¼ OF COUNCILLORS.

At a European level, women are better represented amongst the Irish parliamentarians. With 6 of the 13 elected MEPs women, we have a balanced representation in Europe. Women for Election is proud to have worked with half of our women MEP's and looks forward to working with them in the future.

EE19:

We have balanced political representation in Europe – 6 of our 13 MEPs are women.

Our work

In 2019 Women for Election worked to 3 strategic objectives:

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

1. # MoreWomen

Women for Election work to inspire, equip and support more women to succeed in public life. We provide practical training which helps equip and instil confidence in women to run for political office.

2. Amplifying # MoreWomen

Highlighting the need for more women in political life in Ireland and building understanding of the barriers to women entering politics and the practical steps needed to overcome these barriers.

3. Strengthening Women for Election

Ensuring the sustainability and long-term future of the organisation

- Ensuring a robust and accountable organisational structure
- Developing a sustainable financial base for our work

As with any small NGO, Women for Election works hard to ensure our financial and organisational sustainability as well as striving to ensure proper and good governance.

For the purposes of this report, and in line with good practice, our work and activities are outlined within these 3 key objectives.

1. # MoreWomen

Women for Election training and engagement, 2019

Women for Election had an intensive training programme throughout 2019. All of our training continued to be offered on a subsidised basis, and we were also able to offer fully funded places across our training as well. While training income continues to be a vital aspect of our budget, the cost of training should not be a barrier to women participating on our training. We've worked with a diversity of women - migrant women, traveller women, lone parents and women living in direct provision, amongst others.



In the early half of 2019 we worked with women focused on the local and European elections. We ran Inspire training sessions, masterclasses and online training targeted at women who were either selected or those who were likely to be selected candidates. The local elections saw a record number of women run and get elected (both in absolute figures and as a percentage overall). Subsequent to the elections we concentrated on providing training and support to elected councillors, as well as running courses for those who had an eye on the General Election.

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

Our Masterclasses included training specifically for women running in rural areas, radio skills, campaigning, how to run for the Seanad, training to support councillors and bespoke training for Traveller women. To ensure we had the best possible reach, we teamed up with organisations such as the National Traveller Women's Forum, Longford Women's Link, Wexford Local Development and Bridge 47. We also delivered an Online Toolkit which delivered campaign tips and resources as well as giving advice to candidates.

We also had a range of outreach and engagement events, where our supporters had the chance to meet in a more social setting. These included panel discussions with politicians, hearing from women working behind the scenes in Irish politics, and evening with Samantha Power and a Councillors Caucus.

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Women for Election Training and Engagement 2019

Inspire	60
Masterclasses	158
Online training	86
Outreach events and engagement	233
Total	537



WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

2. Amplifying # MoreWomen

Advocacy and communications work 2019.

Women for Election raised the profile of the issue of gender equality within Irish politics through ongoing media engagement, advocacy and our communications work. With coverage across all the main broadsheets, many local papers as well as national and local broadcasters we ensured the issue of electing more women was highlighted and featured across mainstream media.

On social media we had a huge presence through our local election video project. During the local election campaign we rolled out a series of videos, having worked with 8 councillors across 6 counties, filmed over 3 days. We had a significant reach, with almost 450,000 video views. Of the women who featured in our videos, 7 of the 8 councillors were returned.

Over the first half of the year, our primary focus in our communications work was the Local Elections. Women for Election was featured in coverage in the Irish Times, Irish Examiner, Irish Independent, Image Magazine, Irish Country Living, RTÉ, Newstalk, and local radio stations.

Before the close of nominations, our focus was on encouraging more women to run and calling on the parties to select more women. Once the nominations closed, our focus moved to encouraging voters to vote for women – with coverage on, amongst others, RTÉ 6.1 news, Morning Ireland and Drivetime as well as the Newstalk Breakfast Show, Women for Election reached significant audiences on broadcast media. Similarly, Women for Election featured in all three Irish broadsheets as well as magazines and local newspapers.

After the local elections we continued to amplify the issue of # MoreWomen in Irish political life, and the voices of Irish women in politics.

3. Strengthening Women for Election

Women for Election scaled up in February 2018, with newly appointed staff and an expanded board and continued that work throughout 2019. We have worked to ensure good governance and a strong organisation with sustainable funding.

Women for Election will be an ongoing active presence, working towards a balanced political system. We see this as a long-term project, bringing lasting change to the face of politics. With a small staff team, a panel of trainers and committed volunteers, we delivered an ambitious training and communications programme. We are, and will continue to be, a small lean organisation, with minimal overheads.

Alison Cowzer continued her role as chairperson throughout the year.

Our board members do not receive any remuneration from Women for Election.

Over the course of the year, the board adopted a new Constitution and Memorandum and Articles of Association as well as a Communications Strategy.

The full board met on 6 occasions during 2019.

Our staff and support team

Over the course of 2019 Women for Election had a small core staff team – initially our CEO, Ciairín de Buis, and Communications and Events Executive, Jeanne Sutton. Jeanne Sutton left Women for Election in May 2019. Claire Hayes joined us as Office Coordinator in May 2019 and Mairéad Butler joined as Communications and Events Executive in November 2019. Neasa Montague joined the team during the Local Elections campaign, and Women for Election were lucky to have Lucy Dougherty join us while completing her EUSA Academic Internship .

Their work was supplemented by a panel of expert trainers, who lend their expertise and support to Women for Election on a low-bono basis.

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

Our volunteers

The work of Women for Election would not be possible without the commitment and contribution of a wide range of volunteers – those who help out at our training and events, who provide advice and support as well as those who lend us their skills.

Our Brussels branch of the Countess Markievicz Circle continues to provide strong support to the work of WfE, their commitment to our work is extremely important as we progress our mission across the European as well as the domestic political landscape.

Funding

In 2019 Women for Election worked to establish a sustainable financial base.

We received very welcome funding from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government which helped ensure we could provide a range of free training places on our courses, as well as expanding our training and advocacy work.

However, we must still depend on the generosity of our supporters and donors. After the May elections we held a crowdfunding campaign to ensure we could train more women in advance of the next general election and to campaign for more women to be elected to the next Oireachtas.

Throughout 2019 our Countess Markievicz Circle continued to be the financial engine of our organisation.

We, through the generosity of our chairperson, are able to be based in 36 Fitzwilliam Place.

WfE met its targets for all its grant funding and provided reports as required.

We are incredibly grateful to all our funders, public and private, who enable us to work to change the face of politics in Ireland.

The financial accounts attached give a detailed picture of the income, expenditure and activities of the organisation for 2019.

Covid 19

In early 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic had significant impact on almost all not for profit organisations in Ireland.

Women for Election moved our services online – delivering an ambitious training and events programme and reaching virtually into homes over 500 times during our lockdown. This was while the staff team were each working from home and individually coping with the challenges brought by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Our fundraising plans were significantly hit, with 2 fundraising events being planned for the first half of 2020 being cancelled due to the pandemic. Women for Election will need a focused fundraising campaign in the later part of 2020 in order to ensure we can continue our work and progress made is not lost. The board is acutely aware of this, and in the summer of 2020 established a Development Committee to ensure we can properly focus on fundraising and development in the immediate and medium term.

Auditor

In accordance with the Companies Act 2014, section 383(2), Browne Murphy & Hughes continue in office as auditor of the company.

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

Statement of disclosure to auditor

Each of the directors in office at the date of approval of this annual report confirms that:

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

Taxation status

The company is a company limited by guarantee and operates in the not for profit sector. Any surpluses generated are for the mutual benefit of the members and as a result no taxation is applied.

On behalf of the board,


Deirdre Mortell

Director

Date: 22/9/20


Alison Cowzer

Director

Date: 22/9/20

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

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

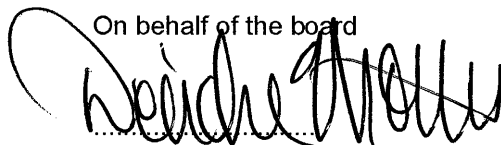
Irish company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law, the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland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

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

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

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

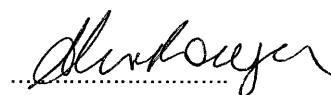
On behalf of the board



Deirdre Mortell

Director

22/9/20



Alison Cowzer

Director

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Women for Election Company Limited By Guarantee (the 'company') for the year ended 31 December 2019 which comprise the income statement, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of financial position, the statement of changes in equity, the statement of cash flows and the related notes. The relevant financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland*.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at 31 December 2019 and of its surplus for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

Basis for opinion

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

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

Other information

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

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2014

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

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

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, and the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

We have nothing to report in respect of our obligation under the Companies Act 2014 to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions specified by sections 305 to 312 of the Act are not made.

Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as 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 the IAASA's website at: [http://www.iaasa.ie/Publications/Auditing-standards/International-Standards-on-Auditing-for-use-in-Ire/International-Standards-on-Auditing-\(Ireland\)/ISA-700-\(Ireland\)](http://www.iaasa.ie/Publications/Auditing-standards/International-Standards-on-Auditing-for-use-in-Ire/International-Standards-on-Auditing-(Ireland)/ISA-700-(Ireland)). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

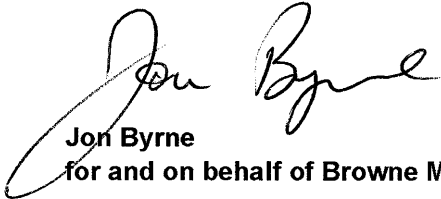
WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

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

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with 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.



Jon Byrne
for and on behalf of Browne Murphy & Hughes

22/9/20

Chartered & Certified Accountants
& Statutory Auditors
28 Upper Fitzwilliam Street
Dublin 2

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

INCOME STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

	Notes	2019 €	2018 €
Income	3	266,024	194,418
Administrative expenses		(266,008)	(193,895)
Surplus before taxation		<u>16</u>	<u>523</u>
Tax on profit	6	-	-
Surplus for the financial year		<u><u>16</u></u>	<u><u>523</u></u>

The income statement has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations.

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

	2019 €	2018 €
Surplus for the year	16	523
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	<u>16</u>	<u>523</u>

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

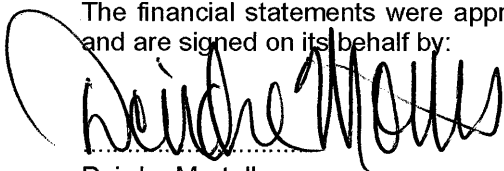
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2019

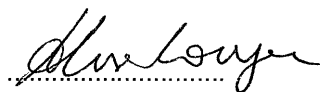
	Notes	2019		2018	
		€	€	€	€
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	7		7,517		2,053
Current assets					
Debtors	9	10,869		13,555	
Cash at bank and in hand		66,194		90,903	
		<u>77,063</u>		<u>104,458</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(84,490)</u>		<u>(106,437)</u>	
Net current liabilities			<u>(7,427)</u>		<u>(1,979)</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>90</u>		<u>74</u>
Capital and reserves					
Members Funds			<u>90</u>		<u>74</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with Financial Reporting Statement 102 'The Financial Statement Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

The financial statements were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 22/9/20 and are signed on its behalf by:



Deirdre Mortell
Director



Alison Cowzer
Director

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

	Members funds €
Balance at 1 January 2018	(449)
Year ended 31 December 2018:	
Surplus and total comprehensive income for the year	523
	<hr/>
Balance at 31 December 2018	74
Year ended 31 December 2019:	
Surplus and total comprehensive income for the year	16
	<hr/>
Balance at 31 December 2019	<u>90</u>

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

	Notes	2019 €	€	2018 €	€
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	15		(17,704)		9,812
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(7,005)		(3,064)	
Net cash used in investing activities			(7,005)		(3,064)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents			(24,709)		6,748
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			90,903		84,155
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			<u>66,194</u>		<u>90,903</u>

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

1 Accounting policies

Company information

Women for Election Company Limited By Guarantee is a limited company domiciled and incorporated in Republic of Ireland. The registered office is 36 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin 2 and its company registration number is 510402.

1.1 Accounting convention

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102"), as adapted by Section 1A of FRS 102, and the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

The financial statements are prepared in euros, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest €.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Income and expenditure

Income and expenses are included in the financial statements as they become receivable or due.

Expenses include VAT where applicable as the company cannot reclaim it.

1.4 Research and development expenditure

Research expenditure is written off against profits in the year in which it is incurred. Identifiable development expenditure is capitalised to the extent that the technical, commercial and financial feasibility can be demonstrated.

1.5 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment	33% straight line
Computer equipment	33% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is credited or charged to profit or loss.

1.6 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash and cash equivalents are basic financial assets and include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.7 Financial instruments

The company has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the company's statement of financial position when the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Classification of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, that are classified as debt, are initially recognised at transaction price. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

1.8 Employee benefits

The costs of short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense, unless those costs are required to be recognised as part of the cost of stock or fixed assets.

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

2 Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the company's accounting policies, the directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount 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 where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

a) Impairment review following COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused an adverse effect on the economic environment in which the company operates. In accordance with section 27.9 of FRS 102 this is an impairment indicator and the company has carried out an impairment review of its assets. The factors taken into consideration in performing an impairment review are based on estimates and are subject to uncertainty.

3 Provisions available for audits of small entities

In common with many other businesses of our size and nature, we use our auditors to prepare and submit tax returns to the Revenue and to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

3(a)

Income and other revenue

In 2019, our funding breakdown was as follows:

- Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government: €137,999
- Training Income: €13,325
- Fundraising Campaigns Income Including the Countess Markievicz Circle (CMC): €90,700
- Donated Services: €24,000

We recognised deferred income from 2018 of €86,950, we have deferred income of €65,375 to 2020, in the current year showing a total income of €266,025.

3(b)

Donated Services

Donated resources are included in the Financial Statements where the benefit to the company is reasonably quantifiable and measurable. The company has usage of an office space owned by one of the directors and no charge has been levied for the use of this space. The estimated value of this service is €24,000.

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

4 Operating surplus

	2019	2018
	€	€
Operating surplus for the year is stated after charging:		
Research and development costs	5,000	-
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	1,294	1,294

5 Employees

The average monthly number of persons employed by the company during the year was:

	2019	2018
	Number	Number
	2	2

Their aggregate remuneration comprised:

	2019	2018
	€	€
Wages and salaries	104,319	88,737
Social security costs	10,472	8,729
	114,791	97,466

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows

Management Personnel	1	1
Wages and Salaries	66,932	60,717

One employee earned over €60,000 during the year.

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

6 Taxation

The actual charge for the year can be reconciled to the expected charge for the year based on the profit or loss and the standard rate of tax as follows:

	2019 €	2018 €
Profit before taxation	16	523
Expected tax charge based on the standard rate of corporation tax of 12.50% (2018: 12.50%)	2	65
Unutilised tax losses carried forward	(4)	(114)
Permanent capital allowances in excess of depreciation	2	49
Taxation charge for the year	-	-

7 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and equipment €	Fixtures and fittings €	Total €
Cost			
At 1 January 2019	6,330	858	7,188
Additions	4,843	2,162	7,005
Disposals	(3,266)	-	(3,266)
At 31 December 2019	7,907	3,020	10,927
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 January 2019	4,277	858	5,135
Depreciation charged in the year	1,277	264	1,541
Eliminated in respect of disposals	(3,266)	-	(3,266)
At 31 December 2019	2,288	1,122	3,410
Carrying amount			
At 31 December 2019	5,619	1,898	7,517
At 31 December 2018	2,053	-	2,053

8 Financial instruments

	2019 €	2018 €
Carrying amount of financial assets		
Debtors / Cash Balances measured at amortised cost	76,201	103,731
Carrying amount of financial liabilities		
Measured at amortised cost	11,141	1,153

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

9 Debtors		2019	2018
Amounts falling due within one year:		€	€
Trade debtors		9,499	12,571
Other debtors		508	257
Prepayments		862	727
		<u>10,869</u>	<u>13,555</u>
10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		2019	2018
	Notes	€	€
Trade creditors		11,141	1,153
PAYE and social security		3,301	2,534
Deferred income	11	65,375	86,950
Accruals		4,673	15,800
		<u>84,490</u>	<u>106,437</u>
11 Deferred income		2019	2018
		€	€
Other deferred income		65,375	86,950
		<u>65,375</u>	<u>86,950</u>

12 Non Audit Services

Browne Murphy & Hughes assist the company in the submission of corporation tax returns, company secretarial returns and with the preparation of the financial statements.

13 Related party transactions

The company has usage of an office space owned by one of the directors and no charge have been levied for the use of this space.

The directors do not receive any salary or remuneration for their services.

14 Controlling party

The company is controlled by it's board of directors.

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

15 Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	2019	2018
	€	€
Profit for the year after tax	16	523
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	1,541	1,294
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease in debtors	2,686	1,185
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(372)	14,860
Decrease in deferred income	(21,575)	(8,050)
Cash (absorbed by)/generated from operations	<u>(17,704)</u>	<u>9,812</u>

16 Events after the reporting date

In the first half of 2020 the COVID-19 virus spread worldwide. In common with many countries the Irish government issued guidance and restrictions on the movement of people designed to slow the spread of this virus. In late March 2020 all "non-essential" businesses were ordered to close temporarily. Whilst the directors believe that the effect of COVID-19 on the Women for Election CLG will be negative and the full effect of these events are difficult to determine, they are confident that the Company will continue as a going concern.

17 Approval of financial statements

The directors approved the financial statements on the 22/9/20

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
MANAGEMENT INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

	2019	2018
	€	€
Income		
Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government	137,999	62,296
Community Foundation of Ireland (Political Leadership for Traveller Women)	-	7,500
The Ireland Fund	-	5,000
Communicating Europe	-	7,500
Training Income	13,325	23,563
Fundraising Campaigns Income including The Countess Markievicz Circle (CMC)	90,700	66,559
Donated Services	24,000	22,000
	<u>266,024</u>	<u>194,418</u>
Administrative expenses	(266,008)	(193,895)
	<u>16</u>	<u>523</u>
Operating surplus	16	523

WOMEN FOR ELECTION COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

SCHEDULE OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

	2019	2018
	€	€
Expenditure		
Wages and salaries	104,319	88,737
Social security costs	10,472	8,729
Staff training	2,084	421
Cleaning and maintenance	240	83
Events and training	31,484	38,617
Networking	1,802	828
Computer and IT	13,181	2,227
Staff travel and subsistence	2,028	1,315
Volunteer and student expenses	60	801
Professional subscriptions	238	-
Communication and Events Consultancy fees	13,860	-
Bookkeeping and payroll	3,811	5,109
Auditor's remuneration	3,690	5,473
Bank charges	460	449
Insurance	1,494	1,200
Printing, postage and stationery	3,995	4,221
Branding and communication	16,193	10,388
Local elections project 2019 (DHPCLG)	18,644	-
Fundraising expenses	5,118	-
Telephone	2,160	1,286
Research and policy costs	5,000	-
Sundry expenses	134	717
Donated Services / Rent	24,000	22,000
Depreciation	1,541	1,294
	<u>266,008</u>	<u>193,895</u>