

Annual Report

2024



Croí Laighean
CREDIT UNION

€20,000

Prize Pot

How would *you* spend *yours*?



Be sure to join our monthly
Members Draw for your
chance to win



Croí Laighean
CREDIT UNION

clcu.ie/links/members-draw

Croí Laighean Credit Union is Regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland

AGM Notice & Agenda 2

General Information 3

Chair's Report 4

Our Year in Review 5

CEO's Report 6

Directors' and Board Oversight Committee's Responsibilities Statement 11

Board Oversight Committee Report 12

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Croí Laighean Credit Union Limited ... 13

Marketing & Community Update 16

Nominations Committee Report 20

Directors' Report 21

Income and Expenditure Account 23

Balance Sheet 24

Statement of Changes in Reserves 25

Statement of Cash Flows 26

Notes to the Financial Statements 27

Schedules to the Income and Expenditure Account 44

Members Draw Report 45

AGM NOTICE & AGENDA

Notice is hereby given that the AGM of Croí Laighean Credit Union will take place remotely via the Zoom webinar platform on Tuesday, December 10th at 7pm.

The agenda for the AGM is as follows:

- Acceptance by the Board of Directors of the authorised representatives of members that are not natural persons (clubs/organisations)
- Ascertainment that a quorum is present
- Adoption of Standing Orders
- Reading & approval (or correction) of the Minutes of the last AGM
- Report of the Chair
- Report of the CEO and Consideration of the Accounts
- Report of the Auditor
- Declaration of Dividend and Loan Interest Rebate
- Report of the Board Oversight Committee
- Report of the Nominations Committee
- Election of Auditors
- Election to fill vacancies on the Board of Directors
- AOB
- Adjournment or close of meeting

Yours sincerely,

Board of Directors

Croí Laighean Credit Union

GENERAL INFORMATION

Directors:

Josephine O'Neill
Chair

Finola Mullaniff
Secretary

Eamonn O' Farrell
Aida Tolentino
Nicola Kiely
Michael Garry
Carita O'Leary
Kenn Larkin
John Whelan

**Board Oversight
Committee:**

Eoin O'Shea
Shauna McGrath

CEO

Paul Kennedy

Deposit Rates Are Dropping...
Secure Your Savings Today!



Guaranteed
3.75%
Return

CHAIR'S REPORT

This is my second term as Chair, a position I am incredibly fortunate and proud to hold. I work with an extremely dedicated and supportive Board who lead the strategic direction of Croí Laighean Credit Union in a highly collaborative manner.

We had our first review of our new strategic plan this year, and I am delighted to see how much has been achieved by our teams during 2023 / 2024. Our CEO will outline this work in his report, as our tagline says, we are not your average credit union.

Our strategy is based on the foundation of implementing a new core banking system for the benefit of existing and future generations of members. This is an ambitious project but one that the Board and Leadership and staff group are fully committed to, we look forward to seeing it in action.

This year we remembered our past Chair, Martin "Muller" Maloney with the first Muller Memorial Cup. It was a day filled with every emotion imaginable, I am so proud of our team for treating Muller's memory and his family with such respect, while providing such great fun and entertainment.

On a personal level, I want to mention someone who has given so much to our wonderful credit union over many years. Eugene Kearney retired from Croí Laighean duty this year and I want to extend my thanks to him and his family for the dedication he has shown for over 30 years truly showing what the word volunteer stands for.

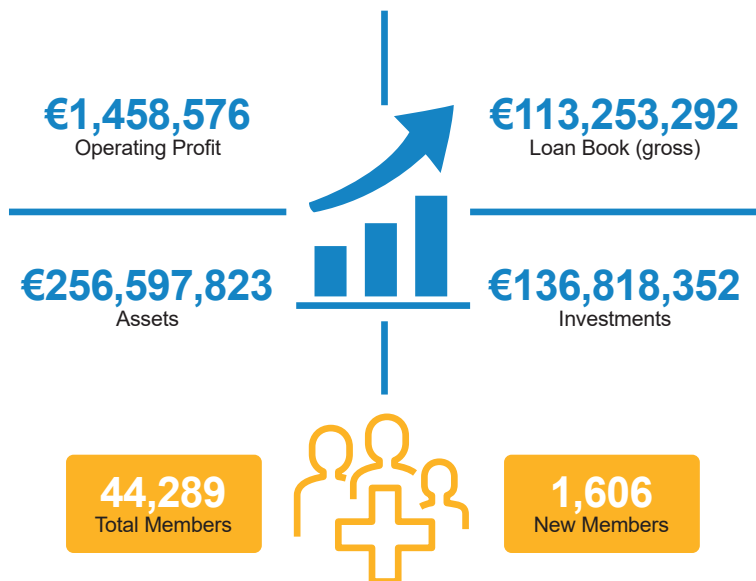
I am extremely pleased with all our results this year. We have seen such growth and achievement across all areas of Croí Laighean, we remain always at the "Heart of the Community".

Josephine O'Neill

Josephine O'Neill
Chair



OUR YEAR IN REVIEW



Member Services

Phone Calls taken:

36,868

Percentage of calls serviced:

94.24%

Loan Applications Handled by MS Team:

4,382

Members Draw Amount Paid Out:

€276,000 in prizes

Total Non-personal accounts:

792

Transactions

€19,062,600 (20.24%)

Increase in Loan Book

207,324

In-branch Transactions

€217,339,764

Member Savings

2.9 Million

Automated Transactions



We gave back over

€120,000

to our local community

Some of the key achievements for 2024



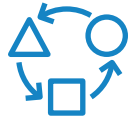
24%
Growth in Loans Issued



€9.6m
Mortgages issued



98%
of our team feel Croí Laighean Credit Union is a great place to work



Project Spark
nearing Go Live



Community Initiatives totalling
€126,833



First full review of new
Strategic Plan

Financial Highlights



Loan Book Growth of 20%
from 2023 to **€113m**



Income of
€10.1m
(increase of 12.6% from 2023)



Costs of
€8.6m
(increase of 19% from 2023)



Overall surplus of
€1.5m



Savings of
€223m
(static from 2023)



New Fixed Term Deposit
Offering attracts **€1.5m**

I work with the most amazing people in Croí Laighean Credit Union, their investment and belief in our culture and strategy is an inspiration. It is impossible to summarise all of their work and achievements in an annual report, however I will try. The sections below follow the themes in our current Strategic Plan.

Governance

A strong governance framework is at the core of Croí Laighean. The Credit Union (Amendment) Act 2023 introduced many changes to the existing Credit Union Act 1997 (as amended). This permits Croí Laighean Credit Union’s Board of Directors to approve, by resolution changes to the Credit Union’s Rules which incorporate any changes arising from the Credit Union (Amendment) Act 2023. The amended rules will be submitted to the Central Bank of Ireland for approval. This has not compromised reporting or governance; the Board maintain strength in their oversight and stewardship of Croí Laighean.

Our three-person regulatory team report on the areas of risk management, compliance, anti-money laundering and data protection ensuring the Board are updated regularly and get the assurance they need that Croí Laighean is compliant with all regulations and that all risks are being managed or mitigated in the best way possible.

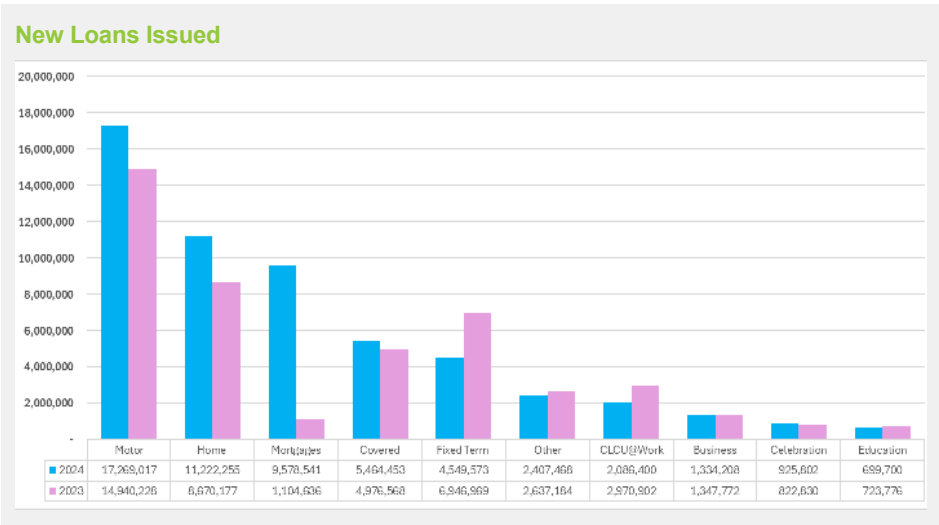
Growth

Lending is vital for the long-term viability of any credit union; it is an area Croí Laighean have put significant resources into. The entire team have worked tirelessly to achieve our best result ever in lending, surpassing last year by 24%, with over €55m loans issued to 6,754 members. The graph below highlights the different types of loans issued over the past 2 years.

Last year I mentioned that we were introducing new mortgage rates and products. I am so pleased to report that we helped over 85 members borrow €9.6m to fulfil their ambitions of owning their own homes. This was an increase of over €8m compared to 2023.

Our largest category motor loans, also saw an increase of 16% to €17.2m as members avail of some of the best rates in the market for all their motoring needs.

During the year we celebrated as our loan book grew to over €100m. This now seems ancient history as our loan book is over €113m at year end. We have ambitious targets and plans, and appreciate the support of you, the members, who continue to use us for your borrowing needs.



Finance

Income

We have seen a 12.6% increase in our income this year which is due to the significant growth in lending and the continuation of stronger investment rates in the market.

Lending is responsible for about 81% of this increase due to the significant growth in loans issued. Investment income has also increased by almost €0.25m, as rates offered on short term deposits are significantly higher than recent times. This situation will not last as world economies seek to reduce inflationary pressures leading to rate reductions, so as always, we must prioritise our lending efforts while seeking alternative sources of income.

We sold some investment products this year to boost our liquidity and fund the significant growth in our loan book. Some of these investments were sold at an initial loss, however this was more than offset by the growth in our lending income.

Costs

	Explanations
Staff Costs	We continued to invest in our people during the year with the addition of people in our lending department, branches and contact centre. We have also sought to help our team with cost-of-living issues by introducing some initiatives during the year. Our people are our main asset, it is important we invest in them as part of our people and capabilities strategy.
Professional / Audit	These costs have fallen as many of the historical costs in relation to legal matters or recruitment were not required this year.
Computer Maintenance	We continue to invest in technology for the benefit of all members, now and in the future. Our new system will Go Live in 2025 and provide a stable foundation for all future growth in technology and services. We also invest heavily in protecting our systems from the global cybersecurity threats that are so prevalent in our worlds these days.
Regulatory Costs	Regulatory costs increased for one main reason – an unexpected Deposit Guarantee Scheme charge was levied by Central Bank this year. There was no forewarning of this, and it has impacted the Credit Union sector quite significantly. It should not occur again; however, this is not certain.
Provision for Bad Debts	Based on current accounting rules, we provide for loans based on how the book has performed historically and apply a certain percentage loss default ratio to our overall book, even if it is performing. This means as our loan book grows the amount we provide grows in line with it. Our provisions have grown as we must apply this ratio to the loan book, which has grown by €30m in 2 years.

People & Capabilities

We took a strategic decision a few years ago to invest in a People and Capabilities team with experienced resources to help drive our strategy of “letting our people shine”. Some of the key achievements this year are:

- 98% of our employees' regard CLCU as a great place to work
- Minimum Competency Code requirements have changed during the year and seek to bring our people to a certain professional standard – as usual our team completely embraced this and have had great success in exams this year
- We carried out workshops with every single person in the organisation to inform our strategic update and have everyone's fingerprint on our future strategic thoughts
- We held resilience workshops for everyone with one of Ireland's leading resilience experts, Richard Burke
- Coaching programmes were put in place for the Leadership and Management Groups to help them to enable their teams to achieve goals more efficiently
- Several initiatives put in place to help our people cope with cost-of-living issues and focus on their health and well-being

Member Services

Our automated transactions levels continue to grow as members interact with us 2.9m times which is a 15% growth rate in online, app, debit card and direct debit transactions. Branch

transactions dropped slightly this year and were below 4,000 per week for the first time. We were delighted to open our Leixlip branch on Saturday mornings this year, which was very well received by local members.

1,606 new members joined us this year with almost 80% of them being onboarded digitally.

This year we had 1.4m transactions totalling €57.5m on our debit cards which is a testament to the great work across all our teams.

I am also proud to say that we can now engage with members and prospective members in 12 different languages

Business Systems

Project Spark is the name given to our new operating system transformation project moving to the Temenos Community Banking Platform, one of the leading banking systems in the world. This is a strategic decision which we believe will drive growth and efficiencies for the future benefit of all Croí Laighean members.

There have been many moving parts to this project, and some unexpected changes necessary based on technological updates in the world of payments. We are continuing to work through all these changes and will only decide to Go Live when the time is right, and we are comfortable that we are operationally ready. We remain fully committed and excited about the implementation of this system; it will transform all that we do.



Community Involvement

The easiest way to see all of the work our dedicated team do with our communities is to read the report on page 16 and visit all our social media channels. Our strategy has always contained strong community involvement at its core, and our resources are utilised in support of this strategy.

Strategic Plan 2024 - 2027

In last year's report, I said that we had prepared our new strategic plan, and named it in honour of our past Chair, Martin "Muller" Maloney. This year we took time out to review progress on the plan across all aspects of the business. I am very pleased to say that we have made significant progress in all areas as is evident in this report.

Strategy is always on our agenda and is monitored by the Board and Leadership Team on a regular basis outside of the annual review process. We are firmly committed to delivering on all aspects of our strategic plan, it is ambitious and challenging, but all our resources are focused on its objectives.

While my role is always full-on, I am hugely supported by the individual and collective wisdom of our dedicated and professional Board of Directors, to whom I am indebted for their trust and oversight.

Our Leadership Team are an extraordinary bunch of talented and committed professionals who show their ambition, drive, determination, collaboration and leadership to me daily – it is uplifting to watch them grow and succeed.

Our people constantly make me proud in the pursuit of excellence in member services, finance, regulation, community, marketing, business systems, operations and growth. Without our people, we couldn't achieve anything.



Paul Kennedy
CEO



The directors are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable Irish law and regulations. The directors are also responsible for preparing the other information included in the annual report. The Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the credit union and of the income and expenditure of the credit union for that period.

In preparing those financial statements the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies 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 reason 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 credit union will continue in business.

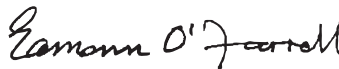
The directors are responsible for ensuring that the credit union keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the credit union, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and income and expenditure of the credit union to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended), and Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland, and enable the financial statements to be audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the credit union and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This statement was approved by the board on 21 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Josephine O'Neill

Chair of the Board of Directors



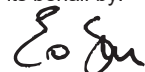
Eamonn O'Farrell

Member of the Board of Directors

BOARD OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) requires the appointment of a board oversight committee to assess whether the board of directors has operated in accordance with part iv, part iv(a) and any regulations made for the purposes of part iv or part iv(a) of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) and any other matter prescribed by the Central Bank of Ireland in respect of which they are to have regard to in relation to the board of directors.

This statement was approved by the board oversight committee on 21 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Eoin O'Shea

Chair of the Board Oversight Committee

The functions of the Board Oversight Committee as set out in the Credit Union and Co- Operation with Overseas Regulators Act 2012 may be summarised as follows:

- To assess whether the Board of Directors has operated in accordance with Part IV of the Act
- To assess whether the Board of Directors has operated in accordance with any other matters prescribed by the Central Bank in respect of which they are to have regard.

We attended the Board of Directors virtual meetings during the year, always being afforded the opportunity to engage and contribute. The Board Oversight Committee is satisfied that the actions and decisions of the Board of Directors were compliant with current rules and legislation, and we are encouraged with the standards of governance and strategic direction of Croí Laighean Credit Union.

We extend our thanks to the Chair, Directors and Leadership team for their courtesy, assistance, and co-operation during the year. I would also like to thank my fellow committee members, Shauna McGrath, Eugene Kearney and Michael Whelan for their commitment and dedication during the year. Eugene and Michael both stepped down this year after many years of service, we are grateful for their experience and knowledge which will be missed greatly.



Eoin O'Shea
Chair

Board Oversight Committee



4.95%
Limited
Availability

**Covered Loan
SPECIAL**

We have reduced our
covered loan rate to just
4.95% for a limited period.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CROÍ LAIGHEAN CREDIT UNION LIMITED

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Croí Laighean Credit Union Limited (the 'Credit Union') for the year ended 30 September 2024 which comprise of the Income and expenditure account, the Statement of Other Comprehensive Income, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Changes in Reserves, the Statement of Cash Flows, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 2. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish law and FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in the UK by the Financial Reporting Council.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Credit Union's affairs as at 30 September 2024 and of its income and expenditure and cashflows for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Credit Union Act 1997 (as amended)

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 Credit Union in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard for Auditors (Ireland) issued by the Irish

Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The 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.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CROÍ LAIGHEAN CREDIT UNION LIMITED (CONTINUED)

14

whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Credit Union Act 1997 (as amended)

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

- we have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purposes of our audit;
- in our opinion proper accounting records have been kept by the Credit Union;
- the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records; and the financial statements contain all primary statements, notes and significant accounting policies required to be included in accordance with section 111(1)(c) of the Act.

Respective responsibilities

Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities set out on page 2, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (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: https://iaasa.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Description_of_auditors_responsibilities_for_audit.pdf

This description forms part of our auditor's report.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CROÍ LAIGHEAN CREDIT UNION LIMITED (CONTINUED)

15

Further information regarding the scope of our responsibilities as auditor

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

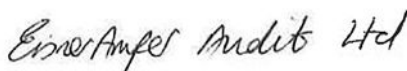
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting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

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

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

Our report is made solely to the Credit Union's members, as a body, in accordance with section 120 of the Credit Union Act 1997 (as amended). Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Credit Union'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 Credit Union and the Credit Union's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



EiserAmper Audit Limited

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm
Dublin

27 November 2024

Coill Dubh Revamp

In July, our Coill Dubh branch was cleaned and repainted. These enhancements have rejuvenated the building, restoring its charm and creating a more welcoming environment.



AED Fund

We are in our third year of our local AED initiative. To date, we have contributed over €30,000 to local CFR groups. This has been used to expand the network of public access AED's in our community



Muller Cup & Martin Maloney Memorial Award

In late August, we honored our former chairman, Martin 'Muller' Maloney, with two events. The Martin Maloney Memorial Award, chosen by referees, celebrates the "referee's referee," while the Memorial Fund provides vital support to referees across Ireland. The inaugural Muller Cup saw Edenderry Town edge out Derry Rovers with a single goal.



Pat Jones Bursary

€16,000 was awarded to 12 students as part of this years Bursary awards. Kurians Biju from Coláiste Chiaráin in Leixlip & Sarah Crowe from Scoil Mhuire in Clane were the recipients of €6,000 each.



Reviews

In April, we launched Croí Laighean Credit Union on the Feefo review platform. To date, we have received over 250 reviews and our customer service rating is 4.9 out of 5.

EXCEPTIONAL



4.9 OUT OF 5

feefo

This year the number of Community Fund applications almost doubled and we were delighted to assist 180 clubs, groups, and schools by contributing over €55,000 through our 2024 Community Fund.

Coill Dubh

Hawthorn Manor Residents Association | Bluetown Lane Residents Association | Coill Dubh AFC | Robertstown Community Amenities Association CLG | Allenwood Celtic AFC | Coill Dubh Camogie Club | Na Fianna Ladies | Timahoe Community Council | St. Kevin's GAA | Aylmer Gaels GFC | Allen Heritage and History society | Allenwood Parents Association | Corra Choill Parc Residents Association | Staplestown PTA | Ballyteague GFC | Allenwood Day Care | 8th Kildare Allenwood Scout Group | The Willows Residents Association | Allen National School Parents Association | Allen Manor Residents Association | Prosperous Pitch & Putt Club | Na Fianna Men's Shed | Shamrock Car & Machinery Club | Tir Móna Athletics | Scoil an Linbh Iosa Parents Association | Kanes Pass Residents Association | Coill Dubh Fit4Life | Irish Draughts Association | Kildare North Ukulele Club | Timahoe Active Age Group | & Coill Dubh AFC Football For All.

Clane

The Every Voice Choir | Little Way Cancer Support Centre | Oatfield Pk Residents Association | Clane Men's Shed | Rathcoffey National School Parents Association | Scoil Phadraig | Churchview Lawns Residents Association | Killybegs Manor Estate Maintenance Committee | Parents Association Committee Scoil Bhride Clane | Caragh GFC | Scoil Phadraig Parents Association | Clane Kickboxing | Clane Lawn Tennis Club | Clane Athletic Club | Mainham Cemetery Committee | Sallins Lourdes Committee | Zero Waste Community Garden Rathcoffey | Rathcoffey Camogie Club | Rathcoffey GAA Club | Clane Golf Club | Clane RFC | Clane & Rathcoffey Benevolent Fund | Eire Og Corra Choill | Rath Ave/Rath View Residents Association | Rathcoffey Senior Citizens Association | St Farnans Post Primary PTA | Anne Street Residents Association | Millicent Singers | & Clane St. Patrick's Day Festival.

Leixlip

Liffeybank FC | Oaklawn West Residents Association | Our Lady's Gospel Choir | Confey Active Group | BMA Leixlip | Leixlip Tennis Club | Confey Men's Sheds | 1/10th Kildare Leixlip & Confey Scouts | Multiple Sclerosis

Society of Ireland Kildare Branch | Confey FC | Liffey Salmon Project | Leixlip Meals on Wheels Service | Leixlip Men's Shed | Leixlip Youth Premises Group CLG | Cedar park Residents Association | Leixlip Town Twinning Association

Edenderry

Rhode Ladies Football Club | Parents Association for St Marys Primary School | Kildare FootGolf Club | Broadford National School | Gaelscoil Éadan Doire | Scoil Mhuire Naofa | Edenderry Girl Guides | Ballinabrackey Underage GAA | Rhode Parish Historical Group | Rhode Athletics Club | Monasteroris National School Parents Association | Oaklands Community College | Eden Pitch and Putt | Eden FM Community Radio | Edenderry AC Seniors | Edenderry Golf Club | Coiste GS Éadan Doire | Community Garden | Acorn – Teach Na Nog | Killina NS Parents Association | Edenderry Community Games | Clonbullogue GAA | St Broughans GAA | St Ciaran's NS Parents Association | St. Josephs Hall Sports Committee | Woodville Manor Residents Association | Gemini Players ADG | Ticknevin Community Group | Edenderry Women's Shed | Clogherinkoe NS PGA | Rhode Gaelic for Mothers & Others | Balyna Parish | St Brigid's Edenderry Boxing Club | Edenderry Canoe Club | Fahy Cross Handball Club | Castlejordan Ballinabrackey Community Text Alert | Acorn Midlands Education and Training | Parent & Toddler Group | North West Kildare Women's Group | Clogherinkoe GFC | Derrintum Active Seniors Group | Clonmore Harps GAA Club | Eden Craft Group | Broadford Hurling Club | Community Cabin Edenderry | St Brigid's GAA | Cokery Residents Association | Kildare Carers Carbury Branch | St. Mary's Primary School | Kilcock Indian Community | Edenderry Youth Café | Rhode community games | Edenderry St Patrick's day parade | St Joseph's Boxing Club | Edenderry | Team905 Cycling Club | Ballyfore GAA | Carbury GAA Golf Society | Carbury Ladies football team-LGFA | Jordan Juniors Youth Club | Edenderry Disability Club | Young at Heart | Edenderry Town football club | St Patrick's Primary School | Edenderry Rugby Club | Cadamstown NS Parents Association | Park View Residents Association | Edenderry Tractor Light Up | Ladies Section of Edenderry Golf Club | Carbury Scouts 24th Kildare | Edenderry Juvenile Athletics Club | Carbury LGFA | Scoil Mhuire Community School Camogie Team | Edenderry Snooker Club | Edenderry Playground | Gilroy Avenue | Castlevue Park & Fr. Killian Crescent Residents Association | Scoil Bhride NS | Edenderry Badminton | Festival Edenderry | Little Wishes Edenderry | St. Conleths Parents Association

SPONSORSHIPS

We're proud of our history of empowering local people, and over the years we've funded a huge number of local clubs through our sponsorship programme. This year, we have committed over €50,000 to local clubs to help with their development.



RHODE GAA



ALLENWOOD GFC



CONFHEY GAA



LEIXLIP GAA



MU BARNHALL RFC



LEIXLIP UNITED



EDEN TRI



COILL DUBH HURLING



CLANE GAA



ALL STARS



EDENDERRY GAA



LIFFEY CELTICS



CLANE UNITED



CARBURY GAA



DONADEA RC

FAIR INSURANCE

We believe that insurance should work in your favour. That's why we have created really affordable and fair insurance that puts you first. We get you the right cover, that's easy to buy, and easy to understand.



HOME INSURANCE - We guarantee to work every year to get you the lowest offer from our panel of insurance providers, ensuring the cost of your home cover doesn't automatically rise every year.



LIFE INSURANCE - Our term life insurance offers the most affordable cover you'll find. We won't be beaten on price, we guarantee to match any premium plus the first month is free.



TRAVEL INSURANCE - Our travel insurance is always affordable, kids go free and we include covid cover at no extra cost. Plus no matter what your age we will always insure you.



CAR INSURANCE - Our car insurance policies are designed to work in your favour, no matter what kind of driver you are. We offer options for experienced drivers, young drivers, and even electric vehicle owners.

THE RIGHT PROTECTION, THAT'S EASY TO BUY, AND EASY TO UNDERSTAND.

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CREDIT UNION

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POWERED BY **Peopl.**
insurance

Croí Laighean Credit Union Ltd is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. Reg No. 163CU
CUIIS Financial Services DAC, t/a Peopl is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. Ref No. C182485


The role of the Nominations Committee is to ensure that the Board of Directors have the necessary skills and knowledge to direct the course of Croí Laighean Credit Union on behalf of members, induct new board members and ensure we have a succession plan in place for the Board. I am satisfied that we have succeeded in this regard this year.

Croí Laighean Credit Union are always seeking new energetic members to join their voluntary Board, who meet virtually at regular intervals during the year. This is an exciting opportunity for any individual looking to gain valuable hands-on board experience to help fast track their career and personal development.

The Nominations Committee has put together an exciting director program which focuses on training, development, and progression. The Board has integrated really well this year, embracing the new Credit Union Amendment Act and maintaining focus on our strategic plan.

Please visit <https://www.clcu.ie/join-our-board/> if you would like to learn more about the benefits of being a Director or becoming a member of the Board Oversight Committee at Croí Laighean Credit Union.

We extend our thanks to the directors, the Leadership team and staff for their courtesy, assistance, and co-operation during the year. I would also like to thank my fellow committee members, Josephine O'Neill and Eamonn O'Farrell for their work, commitment and dedication.



Aida Tolentino

Chair

Nominations Committee



DIRECTORS' REPORT

For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 30 September 2024.

Principal activity

The principal activity of the business continues to be the operation of a credit union.

Authorisation

The credit union is authorised as follows:

- Insurance/reinsurance or ancillary insurance intermediary under the European Union (Insurance Distribution) Regulations, 2018.
- Entitled under the European Union (Payment Services) Regulations 2018 to provide payment services.

Business review and future developments

The directors are reporting a surplus of €1.46m for the year, this is primarily driven by increased lending along with higher returns on investments. The loan book has increased by 20.2% to €113.25m, while Member's savings and Member's Current Accounts have decreased by 0.12% to €222.94m.

The directors expect to develop and expand the credit union's current activities and they are confident of its ability to continue to operate successfully in the future. The credit union is investing in a new IT system which will enhance our online and mobile banking service.

Dividends and loan interest rebates

The directors are not proposing a dividend or loan interest rebate in respect of the year ended 30 September 2024 (2023: proposed dividend of €Nil (0%) and a proposed loan interest rebate of €Nil (0%)).

Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risks and uncertainties faced by the credit union are:

1. Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a borrower will default on their contractual obligations relating to repayments to the credit union, resulting in financial loss.

2. Lack of loan demand

Lending is the principal activity of the credit union, and the credit union is reliant on it for generating income to cover costs and generate a surplus.

3. Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the value of an investment will decrease. This risk can arise from fluctuations in values of, or income from, assets or changes in interest rates.

4. Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the credit union will not have sufficient cash resources to meet day to day running costs and repay members' savings when demanded.

5. Operational risk

Operational risk is the risk of loss resulting from inadequate or failed processes or systems of the credit union, any failure by persons connected with the credit union or from external events.

6. Investment Portfolio Performance

Investment Portfolio Performance risk is a risk both through the potential loss of capital and / or insufficient rate or return.

7. Brexit risk

Following the UK exit from the EU, ongoing uncertainty relating to the nature of the future trading relationship between the UK and EU could impact the markets in which the Credit Union operates including member confidence, credit demand, collateral values, and customers' ability to meet their financial obligations and consequently the Credit Unions financial performance, balance sheet, capital and dividend capacity.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

22

These risks are managed by the board of directors as follows:

1. Credit risk

In order to manage this risk, the board of directors regularly reviews and approves the credit union's credit policies. All loan applications are assessed with reference to the credit policies in force at the time. Subsequently loans are regularly reviewed for any factors that may indicate that the likelihood of repayment has changed.

2. Lack of loan demand

The credit union provide lending products to its members and promote these products through various marketing initiatives.

3. Market risk

The board of directors regularly reviews and approves the credit union's investment policy and funds are invested in compliance with this policy and regulatory guidance.

4. Liquidity risk

The credit union's policy is to maintain sufficient funds in liquid form at all times to ensure that it can meet its liabilities as they fall due.

5. Operational risk

The operational risk of the credit union is managed through the employment of suitably qualified staff to ensure appropriate processes, procedures and systems are implemented and are further supported with a robust reporting structure.

6. Investment portfolio performance

The Board regularly reviews and approves the credit union's investment policy in which it sets out the types of investments within which the credit union can invest funds. A key factor for all investments is the need to balance the secure return of capital with the interest yield. Funds are invested in compliance with the credit union's policy and regulatory guidance.

7. Brexit Risk

The Credit Union has established a comprehensive Brexit programme to identify, monitor and mitigate risks associated with various outcomes of Brexit. The Board receive regular updates from the leadership team on the potential impacts of Brexit for Croí Laighean Credit Union.

Accounting records

The directors believe that they comply with the requirements of Section 108 of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) with regard to books of account by employing accounting personnel with appropriate expertise and by providing adequate resources to the finance function. The books of account of the credit union are maintained at the credit union's premises at O'Connell Square, Edenderry, Co. Offaly.

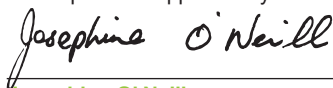
Events after the end of the financial year

There have been no significant events affecting the credit union since the year end.

Auditors

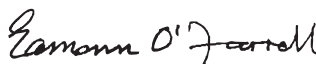
In accordance with Section 115 of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended), the auditors EisnerAmper Audit Limited offer themselves for re-election.

This report was approved by the board on 21 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Josephine O'Neill

Chair of the Board of Directors



Eamonn O'Farrell

Member of the Board of Directors

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

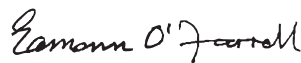
Income	Notes	2024 €	2023 €
Interest on members' loans		7,526,139	6,613,676
Other interest income and similar income		2,375,805	2,127,152
Net interest income		9,901,944	8,740,828
Other income		270,983	251,902
Other gains / (losses)		(49,436)	-
Total income		10,123,491	8,992,730
Expenditure			
Employment costs	4	3,499,856	2,889,859
Exceptional Cost – ILCU defined benefit pension scheme	4	-	415,700
Operational expenses		3,758,999	3,437,422
Depreciation		233,286	230,113
Bad debt losses	5	1,172,774	294,853
Total expenditure		8,664,915	7,267,947
Surplus for the financial year		1,458,576	1,724,783

STATEMENT OF OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

	2024 €	2023 €
Surplus for the financial year	1,458,576	1,724,783
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the financial year	1,458,576	1,724,783

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board on 21 November 2024 and signed on behalf of the credit union by:



Eamonn O'Farrell
Member of the Board of
Directors



Eoin O'Shea
Member of the Board
Oversight Committee



Paul Kennedy
CEO

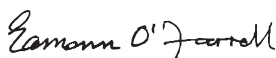
The notes on pages 27 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET

As at 30 September 2024

	Notes	2024 €	2023 €
Assets		€	€
Cash and balances at bank		5,692,788	6,557,998
Deposits and investments – cash equivalents	7	40,876,584	42,859,185
Deposits and investments – other	7	95,941,768	110,980,602
Loans to members	8	107,211,427	89,185,933
Tangible fixed assets	9	2,669,786	2,866,779
Intangible fixed assets	10	3,518,330	2,551,501
Prepayments and accrued income	11	687,140	475,757
Total assets		256,597,823	255,477,755
Liabilities			
Members' savings	12	217,339,764	217,590,410
Members' current accounts	13	5,615,705	5,643,193
Other liabilities, creditors, accruals, and charges	14	1,184,654	1,242,044
Other provisions	15	83,117	86,101
Total liabilities		224,223,240	224,561,748
Reserves			
Regulatory reserve		27,000,000	26,000,000
Operational risk reserve		741,825	741,825
Other reserves			
- Realised reserves		4,500,999	3,701,894
- Unrealised reserves		131,759	472,288
Total reserves		32,374,583	30,916,007
Total liabilities and reserves		256,597,823	255,477,755

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board on 21 November 2024 and signed on behalf of the credit union by:



Eamonn O'Farrell

Member of the Board of Directors



Eoin O'Shea

Member of the Board Oversight Committee



Paul Kennedy

CEO

The notes on pages 27 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN RESERVES

For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

25

	Regulatory reserve €	Operational risk reserve €	Realised reserves €	Unrealised reserves €	Total €
As at 1 October 2022	26,000,000	741,825	2,081,413	367,986	29,191,224
Surplus for the year	-	-	1,620,481	104,302	1,724,783
As at 1 October 2023	26,000,000	741,825	3,701,894	472,288	30,916,007
Surplus for the year	-	-	1,799,105	(340,529)	1,458,576
Transfers between reserves	1,000,000	-	(1,000,000)	-	-
As at 30 September 2024	27,000,000	741,825	4,500,999	131,759	32,374,583

- The regulatory reserve of the credit union as a percentage of total assets as at 30 September 2024 was 10.52% (2023: 10.18%).
- The operational risk reserve of the credit union as a percentage of total assets as at 30 September 2024 was 0.29% (2023: 0.29%).



The notes on pages 27 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

26

	Notes	2024 €	2023 €
Opening cash and cash equivalents		49,417,183	36,307,505
Cash flows from operating activities			
Loans repaid by members	8	36,158,583	33,957,323
Loans granted to members	8	(55,816,336)	(45,140,592)
Interest on members' loans		7,526,139	6,613,676
Other interest income and similar income		2,375,805	2,127,152
Bad debts recovered and recoveries		469,706	522,008
Other income		164,753	251,902
Members' current account lodgements	13	83,704,888	75,351,501
Members' current account withdrawals	13	(83,742,597)	(74,287,387)
Operating expenses		(7,258,855)	(6,742,981)
Movement in other assets including impairment		(211,383)	(9,118)
Movement in other liabilities		(60,374)	(1,403,165)
Net cash flows from operating activities		(16,689,671)	(8,759,681)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Fixed assets (purchases)/disposals		(946,328)	(1,054,924)
Net cash flow from other investing activities		15,038,834	22,686,194
Net cash flows from investing activities		14,092,506	21,631,270
Cash flows from financing activities			
Members' savings received	12	125,154,757	133,508,144
Members' savings withdrawn	12	(125,405,403)	(133,270,055)
Net cash flow from financing activities		(250,646)	238,089
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		(2,847,811)	13,109,678
Closing cash and cash equivalents	6	46,569,372	49,417,183

The notes on pages 27 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

27

1. Legal and regulatory framework

Crof Laighean Credit Union Limited is registered with the Registry of Credit Unions and is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. The registered office of the credit union is located at O'Connell Square, Edenderry, Co. Offaly.

2. Accounting policies

2.1. Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable Irish accounting standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland and Irish statute comprising of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended). The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

The financial statements are presented in Euro (€) which is also the functional currency of the credit union.

The following principal accounting policies have been applied:

2.2. Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (FRS 102).

2.3. Going concern

After reviewing the credit union's projections, the directors have reasonable expectation that the credit union has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The credit union therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

2.4. Income

Interest on members' loans

Interest on members' loans is recognised on an accruals basis using the effective interest method.

Deposit and investment income

Deposit and investment income is recognised on an accruals basis using the effective interest method.

Other income

Other income is recognised on an accruals basis.

2.5. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and deposits and investments with a maturity of less than or equal to three months.

2.6. Investments

Held at amortised cost

Investments designated on initial recognition as held at amortised cost are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method less impairment. This means that the investment is measured at the amount paid for the investment, minus any repayments of the principal; plus or minus the cumulative amortisation using the effective interest method of any difference between the amount at initial recognition and the maturity amount, minus, in the case of a financial asset, any reduction for impairment or un-collectability.

Investments at fair value

Investments are valued at fair value (market value) at the year-end date and all gains and losses are taken to the income and expenditure account. The fair value of quoted investments is determined by reference to bid prices at the close of business on the balance sheet date. Where there is no market value, these investments are carried at cost plus accrued income less impairment.

2.7. Financial assets – loans to members

Loans are financial assets with fixed or determinable payments. Loans are recognised when cash is advanced to members and measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Loans are derecognised when paid in full or charged off.

2.8. Provision for bad debts

The credit union assesses if there is objective evidence that any of its loans are impaired with due consideration of environmental factors. The loans are assessed collectively in groups that share similar credit risk characteristics. Individually significant loans are assessed on a loan-by-loan basis. In addition, if there is objective evidence that any individual loan is impaired, a specific loss will be recognised. Bad debt provisioning is monitored by the credit union, and the credit union assesses and approves its provisions and the adequacy of same on a regular basis.

If an asset is impaired, the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount and the net present value of the expected cash flows discounted, where required, at the asset's original effective interest rate. Losses expected from future events are not recognised in accordance with FRS 102.

Any bad debts/impairment losses are recognised in the income and expenditure account.

If there is a decrease in the impairment loss arising from an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the impairment is reversed. The reversal is such that the current carrying amount does not exceed what the carrying amount would have been, had the impairment not previously been recognised. The impairment reversal is recognised in the income and expenditure account.

2.9. Intangible fixed assets

Intangible assets, which comprise of computer software, are stated at cost less amortisation and provisions for impairment (if any). The identifiable and directly associated external and internal costs of acquiring and preparing the software for its intended use are capitalised where it is probable that future economic benefits that are attributable to the asset will flow to the entity.

Costs associated with maintaining software are recognised as an expense in the Income and Expenditure Account when incurred. Capitalised computer software is amortised over the expected useful life of the asset (estimated to be a period of eleven years) from the date on which the asset is available for use. Intangible assets are reviewed for impairment when there is an indication that the asset may be impaired. Intangible assets not yet available for use are reviewed for impairment on an annual basis.

2.10. Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets under the cost model are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

Depreciation is charged to allocate the cost of assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Premises	4% straight line per annum
Fixtures and fittings	10% straight line per annum
Furniture and equipment	20% straight line per annum
Computers	25% straight line per annum
Motor vehicles	20% straight line per annum

The assets' residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted prospectively if appropriate, or if there is an indication of a significant change since the last reporting date. Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised in the income and expenditure account.

2.11. Impairment of assets

At each reporting date assets are reviewed to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If there is an indication of possible impairment, the recoverable amount of any affected asset is estimated and compared with its carrying amount. If the estimated recoverable amount is lower, the carrying amount is reduced to its estimated recoverable amount, and an impairment loss is recognised immediately in the income and expenditure account. If an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but not in excess of the amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised immediately in the income and expenditure account.

2.12. Other receivables

Other receivables such as prepayments are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.13. Financial liabilities – members' savings

Members' savings are redeemable and therefore are classified as financial liabilities. They are initially recognised at the amount of cash deposited and subsequently measured at amortised cost.

2.14. Members' current accounts

The credit union provides Member Personal Current Account Services in accordance with Section 49(3) of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended).

2.15. Other payables

Short term other liabilities, creditors, accruals, and charges are measured at the transaction price.

2.16. Pension costs

Pension Costs Defined Contribution Scheme

Croí Laighean Credit Union operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the Credit Union pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the Credit Union has no further payments obligations. The contributions are recognised as an expense in the Income and Expenditure Account when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals as a liability on the Balance Sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the Credit Union in independently administered funds.

2.17. Holiday pay

A liability is recognised to the extent of any unused holiday pay entitlement which is accrued at the balance sheet date and carried forward to future periods. This is measured at the undiscounted salary cost of the future holiday entitlement so accrued at the balance sheet date.

2.18. Termination benefits

Termination benefits are included in employment costs where applicable and are expensed to the income and expenditure account on an accruals basis.

2.19. Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the income and expenditure account on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

2.20. Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the obligations of the credit union specified in the contract are discharged, cancelled, or expired.

2.21. Regulatory reserve

The Credit Union Act, 1997 (Regulatory Requirements) Regulations 2016 requires credit unions to establish and maintain a minimum regulatory reserve requirement of at least 10 per cent of the assets of the credit union. This reserve is to be perpetual in nature, freely available to absorb losses, realised financial reserves that are unrestricted and non-distributable.

2.22. Operational risk reserve

Section 45(5)(a) of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) requires each credit union to maintain an additional reserve that it has assessed is required for operational risk having regard to the nature, scale, and complexity of the credit union. Credit unions are required to maintain a minimum operational risk reserve having due regard for the sophistication of the business model.

The directors have considered the requirements of the Act and have calculated the operational risk reserve requirement by reference to the predicted impact of operational risk events that may have a material impact on the credit union's business.

In addition, the credit union has included in its operational risk reserve a Member Personal Current Account Service operational risk reserve, in accordance with Section 49(3) of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended).

2.23. Other reserves

Other reserves are the accumulated surpluses to date that have not been declared as dividends returnable to members. The other reserves are subdivided into realised and unrealised. In accordance with the Central Bank guidance note for credit unions on matters relating to accounting for investments and distribution policy, investment income that has been recognised but will not be received within 12 months of the balance sheet date is classified as "unrealised" and is not distributable. A reclassification between unrealised and realised is made as investments come to within 12 months of maturity date. All other income is classified as "realised".

For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

2.24. Distribution policy

Dividends and loan interest rebates are made from the current year's surplus or reserves set aside for that purpose. The board's proposed dividends and loan interest rebates to members each year is based on the distribution policy of the credit union. The rate of dividends and loan interest rebates recommended by the board will reflect:

- the risk profile of the credit union, particularly in its loan and investments portfolios;
- the board's desire to maintain a stable rather than a volatile rate of dividend each year; and
- members' legitimate dividend and loan interest rebates expectations;
- all dominated by prudence and the need to sustain the long-term welfare of the credit union.

For this reason, the board will seek to build up its reserves to absorb unexpected shocks and still remain above minimum regulatory requirements.

The credit union accounts for dividends and loan interest rebates when members ratify such payments at the Annual General Meeting.

2.25. Taxation

The credit union is not subject to income tax or corporation tax on its activities.

2.26. Provisions and Contingencies

Provisions are recognised when the Credit Union has a legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate of the obligation can be made.

Contingent liabilities are possible obligations arising from past events, whose existence will be confirmed only by uncertain future events, or present obligations arising from past events that are not recognised because either an outflow of economic benefits is not probable, or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably.

Contingent liabilities are not recognised but information about them are disclosed unless the possibility of any outflow of economic benefits in settlement is remote. The Credit Union does not disclose information about a provision or contingent liability for a particular matter where disclosure of the information can be expected to prejudice seriously the Credit Union's position in the matter.



3. Judgements in applying accounting policies and key source of estimation uncertainty

Preparation of the financial statements requires the directors to make significant judgements and estimates. The items in the financial statements where these judgements and estimates have been made include:

Determination of depreciation, useful economic life, and residual value of tangible assets

The annual depreciation charge depends primarily on the estimated lives of each type of asset and, in certain circumstances, estimates of residual values. Management regularly reviews these useful lives and change them if necessary to reflect current conditions. In determining these useful lives management consider technological change, patterns of consumption, physical condition and expected economic utilisation of the assets. Changes in the useful lives can have a significant impact on the depreciation charge for the financial year.

Determination of amortisation, useful economic life, and residual value of intangible assets

The annual depreciation charge depends primarily on the estimated lives of each type of asset. Management regularly reviews these useful lives and change them if necessary to reflect current conditions. In determining these useful lives management consider technological change, patterns of consumption and expected economic utilisation of the assets. Changes in the useful lives can have a significant impact on the amortisation charge for the financial year.

Provision for bad debts

The credit union's accounting policy for impairment of loans is set out in the accounting policy in note 2.8. The estimation of loan losses is inherently uncertain and depends upon many factors, including loan loss trends, credit risk characteristics in loan classes, local and international economic climates, conditions in various sectors of the economy to which the credit union is exposed, and other external factors such as legal and regulatory requirements. The provision for bad debts in the financial statements at the year-end was €6,041,865 (2023: €5,004,759) representing 5.33% (2023: 5.31%) of the total gross loan book..

Adoption of going concern basis for financial statements preparation

The directors have prepared projections and cash flows for a period of at least twelve months from the date of the approval of the financial statements which demonstrate that there is no material uncertainty regarding the credit union's ability to meet its liabilities as they fall due, and to continue as a going concern. On this basis the directors consider it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. Accordingly, these financial statements do not include any adjustments to the carrying amounts and classification of assets and liabilities that may arise if the credit union was unable to continue as a going concern.

For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

4. Employees and employment costs

4a. Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Management	12	10
Staff	53	46
	65	56

4b. Employment costs

Amounts treated as an expense in the financial year:

	2024 €	2023 €
Wages and salaries	2,936,219	2,434,714
Social security costs	313,930	255,766
Contributions to defined contribution pension scheme	249,707	199,379
	3,499,856	2,889,859

Amounts capitalised in the financial year:

	2024 €	2023 €
Wages and salaries	90,540	84,000
Social security costs	10,005	9,282
Contributions to defined contribution pension scheme	13,581	12,600
	114,126	105,882

Total employment costs	3,613,982	2,995,741
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4c. Key management personnel compensation

The directors of the credit union are all unpaid volunteers. The key management personnel compensation is as follows:

	2024 €	2023 €
Short term employee benefits paid to key management	668,992	514,611
Payments to pension schemes	95,371	81,197
Total key management personnel compensation	764,363	595,808

For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

4d. The Irish League of Credit Unions Republic of Ireland Pension Scheme

Croi Laighean Credit Union Limited participated in an industry-wide pension scheme for employees (The Irish League of Credit Unions Republic of Ireland Pension Scheme). This is a funded defined benefit scheme with assets managed by the Scheme's trustees.

On 31 March 2022, the defined benefit scheme closed to future accrual and although staff retained all the benefits that they had earned in the scheme to that date, Croi Laighean Credit Union Limited and its employees ceased making regular contributions to the scheme and ceased earning any additional benefits from the scheme.

At the date of closure of the scheme, there was a past service deficit which was allocated to each individual credit union based on the total benefits earned by staff in each credit union. Croi Laighean Credit Union Limited's allocation of that past service deficit is €1,066,300. This total cost is included in the Income & Expenditure account for the year ended 30 September 2022.

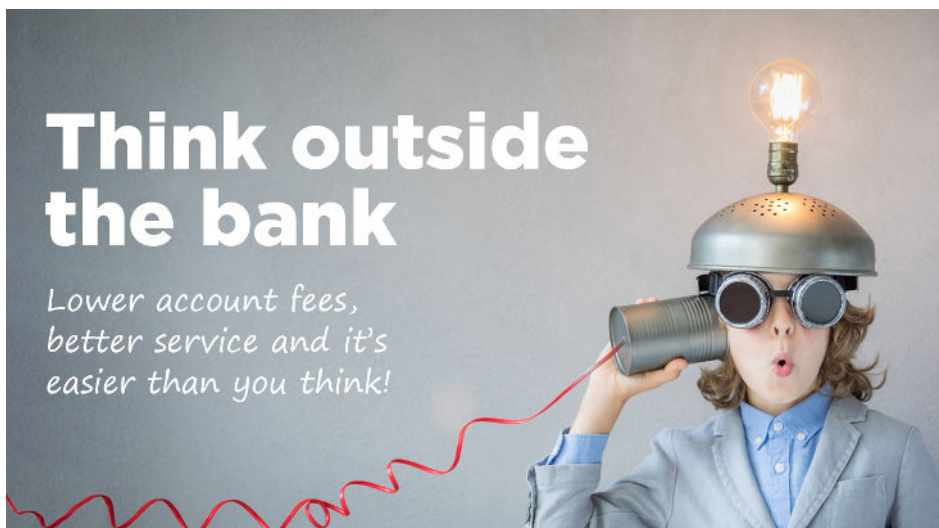
As this is a pooled pension scheme, Croi Laighean Credit Union Limited remains liable to cover the cost of their share of any future increase in the total cost of providing the pension payments to credit union employees who were part of the scheme. Croi Laighean Credit Union Limited could exit the scheme and therefore never have to make a potential additional payment requirement but exiting the scheme would incur an additional cost.

If credit unions exit the Scheme, they are required to pay to the trustees the exit amount which the trustees determine is required to fund benefits in respect of their active, deferred and pensioner members on a "no risk" basis. The exiting credit union thereby settles any liability they have to contribute to the Scheme in the future without increasing the risk for remaining credit unions.

On 2 August 2023, Croi Laighean Credit Union agreed to exit the Irish League of Credit Unions Republic of Ireland pension scheme at a cost of €1,482,000, which was paid over to the pension scheme. €1,066,300 was included in the Income & Expenditure account for the year ended 30 September 2022, the remaining €415,700 is included in the Income & Expenditure account for the year ended 30 September 2023.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

35

For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

5. Bad debt losses

	2024 €	2023 €
Bad debts recovered	(326,728)	(383,022)
Impairment of loan interest reclassified as bad debt recoveries	(142,978)	(138,986)
Movement in provisions on member loans during the year	1,037,106	500,242
Movement in provisions on member current accounts during the year	(9,011)	10,159
Loans written off during the year	595,153	306,460
Overdrawn current accounts written off during the year	19,232	-
Bad debt losses	1,172,774	294,853

6. Cash and cash equivalents

	2024 €	2023 €
Cash and balances at bank	5,692,788	6,557,998
Deposits and investments – cash equivalents (note 7)	40,876,584	42,859,185
Total cash and cash equivalents	46,569,372	49,417,183

7. Deposits and investments

	2024 €	2023 €
Deposits and investments – cash equivalents		
Accounts in authorised credit institutions (Irish and non-Irish based)	40,876,584	42,859,185
Total deposits and investments – cash equivalents	40,876,584	42,859,185
Deposits and investments		
Accounts in authorised credit institutions (Irish and non-Irish based)	63,193,869	67,191,587
Irish and EEA state securities	4,042,718	4,029,819
Bank bonds	26,497,060	37,051,075
Central bank deposits	2,208,121	2,708,121
Total deposits and investments	95,941,768	110,980,602
Total deposits and investments	136,818,352	153,839,787

For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

7. Deposits and investments (continued)

Set out below is summary of the credit union's investment portfolio, analysed by the credit rating of deposit/investment counterparty:

	2024 €	2023 €
Basic Financial Instruments		
Aa3	21,911,226	28,363,445
A1	91,328,456	90,013,649
A2	-	4,795,795
Baa1	12,072,118	12,060,819
Unrated	11,506,552	18,606,079
Total Basic Financial Instruments	136,818,352	153,839,787

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For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

8. Loans to members

	2024 €	2024 €	2024 €	2024 €	2024 €	2023 €	2023 €	2023 €	2023 €
	Business Loans	Mortgage Loans	Unsecured Loans	Total	Business Loans	Mortgage Loans	Unsecured Loans	Total	
As at 1 October	4,816,834	6,214,156	83,159,702	94,190,692	4,666,210	6,087,466	72,560,207	83,313,883	
Advanced during the year	1,284,208	9,578,541	44,953,587	55,816,336	1,347,772	1,104,636	42,688,184	45,140,592	
Repaid during the year	(1,151,503)	(509,558)	(34,497,522)	(36,158,583)	(1,179,885)	(977,946)	(31,799,492)	(33,957,323)	
Loans written off	(49,353)	-	(545,800)	(595,153)	(17,263)	-	(289,197)	(306,460)	
At 30 September	4,900,186	15,283,139	93,069,967	113,253,292	4,816,834	6,214,156	83,159,702	94,190,692	
Loan provision									
Individually significant loans	469,482	-	-	469,482	474,099	-	-	474,099	
Group assessed loans	-	525,974	5,046,409	5,572,383	-	467,522	4,063,138	4,530,660	
At 30 September	469,482	525,974	5,046,409	6,041,865	474,099	467,522	4,063,138	5,004,759	
Carrying value									
30 September	4,430,704	14,757,165	88,023,558	107,211,427	4,342,735	5,746,634	79,096,564	89,185,933	

The credit union offers mortgages and as a result these loans are all secured by way of a first legal charge on the property. Some business loans are secured by way of a first legal charge over an asset, personal guarantees provided by company directors, while the remaining business loans are unsecured. All other loans to members are unsecured, except that there are restrictions on the extent to which borrowers may withdraw their savings whilst loans are outstanding. There are maximum amounts set out by regulations in terms of the maximum amount a member can borrow from the credit union. Additionally, the credit union has maximum loan amounts as part of its risk management framework.

For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

8 Loans to members (continued)

The carrying amount of the loans to members represents the credit union's maximum exposure to credit risk. The following provides information on the credit quality of loan repayments. Where loans are not impaired it is expected that the amounts repayable will be received in full.

	2024		2023	
	€	%	€	%
Loans not impaired				
Total loans not impaired, not past due	100,694,566	88.91%	83,384,583	88.53%
Impaired loans:				
Not past due	907,539	0.80%	818,566	0.87%
Up to 9 weeks past due	7,619,632	6.73%	6,760,565	7.18%
Between 10 and 18 weeks past due	997,923	0.88%	868,634	0.92%
Between 19 and 26 weeks past due	587,057	0.52%	326,762	0.35%
Between 27 and 39 weeks past due	609,652	0.54%	504,029	0.54%
Between 40 and 52 weeks past due	422,295	0.37%	351,973	0.37%
53 or more weeks past due	1,414,628	1.25%	1,175,580	1.25%
Total impaired loans	12,558,726	11.09%	10,806,109	11.47%
Total loans	113,253,292	100.00%	94,190,692	100.00%

Provision for bad debts

	2024 €	2023 €
As at 1 October	5,004,759	4,504,517
Movement in bad debts provision during the year	1,037,106	500,242
As at 30 September	6,041,865	5,004,759

The provision for bad debts is analysed as follows:

	2024 €	2023 €
Individually assessed loans	469,482	474,099
Grouped assessed loans	5,572,383	4,530,660
Provision for bad debts	6,041,865	5,004,759

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

39

For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Premises €	Furniture and equipment €	Fixtures and fittings €	Computers €	Motor vehicles €	Total €
Cost						
1 October 2023	3,596,915	118,303	386,179	274,259	39,951	4,415,607
Additions	-	-	-	78,999	-	78,999
Disposals	(43,801)	(3,014)	(18,044)	(38,330)	-	(103,189)
At 30 September 2024	3,553,114	115,289	368,135	314,928	39,951	4,391,417
Depreciation						
1 October 2023	1,038,896	53,962	255,378	160,641	39,951	1,548,828
Charge for year	126,451	16,994	26,196	63,645	-	233,286
Disposals	(9,516)	(2,511)	(10,125)	(38,331)	-	(60,483)
At 30 September 2024	1,155,831	68,445	271,449	185,955	39,951	1,721,631
Net book value						
30 September 2024	2,397,283	46,844	96,686	128,973	-	2,669,786
30 September 2023	2,558,019	64,341	130,801	113,618	-	2,866,779

10. Intangible fixed assets

	Software €	Total €
Cost		
1 October 2023	2,551,501	2,551,501
Additions	966,829	966,829
At 30 September 2024	3,518,330	3,518,330
Depreciation		
1 October 2023	-	-
Charge for year	-	-
At 30 September 2024	-	-
Net book value		
30 September 2024	3,518,330	3,518,330
30 September 2023	2,551,501	2,551,501

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

40

For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

11. Prepayments and accrued income

	2024 €	2023 €
Loan interest receivable	236,255	185,396
Prepayments	450,885	290,361
As at 30 September	687,140	475,757

12. Members' savings

	2024 €	2023 €
As at 1 October	217,590,410	217,352,321
Received during the year	125,154,757	133,508,144
Withdrawn during the year	(125,405,403)	(133,270,055)
As at 30 September	217,339,764	217,590,410

Members' savings are analysed as follows:

	2024 €	2023 €
Members' shares	198,532,057	202,081,852
Members' everyday accounts	17,359,449	15,508,558
Members' fixed term deposit	1,448,258	-
Total members' savings	217,339,764	217,590,410

13. Members' current accounts

	2024 €	2023 €
As at 1 October	5,618,963	4,554,849
Lodgements	83,704,888	75,351,501
Withdrawals	(83,742,597)	(74,287,387)
Overdrawn current accounts written off	19,232	-
As at 30 September	5,600,486	5,618,963

Provision for bad debts

	2024 €	2023 €
As at 1 October	24,230	14,071
Movement in bad debts provision during the year	(9,011)	10,159
As at 30 September	15,219	24,230

Carrying amount of Member's current accounts	5,615,705	5,643,193
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For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

13. Members' current accounts (Continued)

Number of current accounts:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Debit Balances	371	447
Credit Balances	4,176	3,893
Permitted Overdrafts	-	-
Number of current accounts	4,547	4,340

Value of current account balances:

	2024 €	2023 €
Debit Balances	-	-
Credit Balances	5,615,705	5,643,193
Permitted Overdrafts	-	-
Value of current account balances	5,615,705	5,643,193

14. Other liabilities, creditors, accruals and charges

	2024 €	2023 €
Trade creditors	264,622	297,121
Prize draw	55,071	57,048
Other creditors and accruals	864,961	887,875
As at 30 September	1,184,654	1,242,044

15. Other provisions

	2024 €	2023 €
Holiday pay accrual	83,117	86,101

16. Financial instruments – measured at amortised cost

Financial assets	2024 €	2023 €
Financial assets measured at amortised cost	250,409,707	250,059,475
Financial liabilities	2024 €	2023 €
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	224,223,240	224,561,748

Financial assets measured at amortised cost comprises cash and balances at bank, deposits and investments, loans, prepayments, accrued income and members' current accounts (debit balances). A number of deposits have been reclassified from other to basic financial instruments during the year and accordingly have been accounted for at amortised cost.

For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost comprise of members' savings, members' current accounts (credit balances), other liabilities, creditors, accruals and charges and other provisions.

17. Related party transactions

	2024		2023	
	No. of loans	€	No. of loans	€
Loans advanced to related parties during the year	1	16,000	4	90,100
Total loans outstanding to related parties at the year end	6	86,168	8	113,250
Total provision for loans outstanding to related parties		2,436		3,336

17a. Loans

The related party loans stated above comprises loans outstanding to directors and the management team (to include their family members or any business in which the directors or management team had a significant shareholding).

Total loans outstanding to related parties represents 0.08% of the total loans outstanding at 30 September 2024 (2023: 0.12%).

The above loan provisions are made in line with the credit union's provisioning policy. At 30 September 2024, all loans outstanding to related parties are performing in accordance with the contractual repayment terms of their credit agreements.

17b. Savings

The total amount of savings held by related parties at the year-end was €266,239 (2023: €308,349).

18. Additional financial instruments disclosures

18a. Financial risk management

The credit union manages its members' savings and loans so that it earns income from the margin between interest receivable and interest payable. The main financial risks arising from the credit union's activities are credit risk, market risk, liquidity risk and interest rate risk. The board of directors reviews and agrees policies for managing each of these risks, which are summarised below.

Credit risk: Credit risk is the risk that a borrower will default on their contractual obligations relating to repayments to the credit union, resulting in financial loss. In order to manage this risk, the board of directors regularly reviews and approves the credit union's credit policies. All loan applications are assessed with reference to the credit policies in force at the time. Subsequently loans are regularly reviewed for any factors that may indicate that the likelihood of repayment has changed.

Market risk: Market risk is the risk that the value of an investment will decrease. This risk can arise from fluctuations in values of, or income from, assets or changes in interest rates. The board of directors regularly reviews and approves the credit union's investment policy and funds are invested in compliance with this policy and regulatory guidance.

For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

18. Additional financial instruments disclosures (Continued)

Liquidity risk: Liquidity risk is the risk that the credit union will not have sufficient cash resources to meet day to day running costs and repay members' savings when demanded. The credit union's policy is to maintain sufficient funds in liquid form at all times to ensure that it can meet its liabilities as they fall due.

Interest rate risk: The credit union's main interest rate risk arises from adverse movements in interest rates receivable which would affect investment income. The credit union reviews any potential new investment product carefully to ensure that minimum funds are locked in low yielding long term investments yet at the same time maximising investment income receivable.

18b. Liquidity risk disclosures

The credit union's policy is to maintain sufficient funds in liquid form at all times to ensure that it can meet its liabilities as they fall due. The credit union adheres on an ongoing basis to the minimum liquidity ratio and minimum short term liquidity ratio as set out in regulatory requirements.

18c. Interest rate risk disclosures

The following shows the average interest rates applicable to relevant financial assets and financial liabilities.

	2024		2023	
	€	Average interest rate %	€	Average interest rate %
Gross loans to members	113,253,292	7.35%	94,190,692	7.66%

Any dividend payable is at the discretion of the directors and is therefore not a financial liability of the credit union until declared and approved at the AGM.

19. Events after the end of the financial year

There have been no significant events affecting the credit union since the year end.

20. Insurance against fraud

The credit union has Insurance against fraud in the amount of €3,000,000 (2023: €3,000,000) in compliance with Section 47 of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended).

21. Capital commitments

There were no capital commitments at 30 September 2024.

22. Approval of financial statements

The board of directors approved these financial statements for issue on 21 November 2024.

SCHEDULES TO THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

The following schedules do not form part of the statutory financial statements which are the subject of the Independent Auditor's report on pages 13 to 15.

SCHEDULE 1 – OTHER INTEREST INCOME AND SIMILAR INCOME

	2024 €	2023 €
Investment income and gains received/receivable within 1 year	2,342,181	2,073,147
Investment income receivable outside of 1 year	33,624	54,005
Total per income and expenditure account	2,375,805	2,127,152

SCHEDULE 2 – OTHER INCOME

	2024 €	2023 €
Other income	270,983	251,902
Total per income and expenditure account	270,983	251,902

SCHEDULE 3 – OTHER GAINS

	2024 €	2023 €
Losses on disposal of investments	(106,230)	-
Other realised gains	56,794	-
Total per income and expenditure account	(49,436)	-



SCHEDULES TO THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT CONTINUED

For the financial year ended 30 September 2024

SCHEDULE 4 – OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

	2024 €	2023 €
Members Insurance	769,472	694,979
General insurance	111,494	104,463
Rent and rates	15,719	23,006
Light, heat and cleaning	83,815	97,192
Maintenance and office repairs	76,464	92,318
Security	37,049	35,014
Printing, stationery, postage, and telephone	136,109	129,045
Community and schools' programmes and sponsorship	126,833	128,746
Marketing, advertising, and branding	166,494	177,498
Professional fees	208,611	265,613
Current account related expenses and other costs	59,776	63,370
AGM and meetings	12,794	11,936
Bank and transaction charges	292,773	278,907
Audit fees	66,345	78,535
Computer and data transfer costs	963,996	731,923
DGS levy	332,441	318,761
Other regulatory levies and charges	130,855	39,543
Training	45,733	36,648
Travel and subsistence	20,249	13,584
Other expenses	64,679	40,185
Legal fees	9,887	54,354
Internal audit	22,755	21,802
Member Deposit Interest	4,656	-
Total per income and expenditure account	3,758,999	3,437,422

MEMBERS DRAW 2023 - 2024

Income & Expenditure Account				€	€	Winners	€
Opening Balance				57,048	10,000	12	120,000
					4,000	12	48,000
Fees from members	8,046	members	274,023		3,000	12	36,000
					2,000	24	48,000
Prizes to members	84	winners	-276,000		1,000	24	24,000
Closing balance			55,071			84	276,000

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