



Irish College of
Ophthalmologists

Eye Doctors of Ireland

Protecting your Vision

ICO

ANNUAL REPORT

2022

*Protecting, Promoting
and Preserving Eye Care
Standards in Ireland*



ICO MISSION

The Irish College of Ophthalmologists is committed to the advancement and improvement of eye health and patient safety and works to protect, enhance and promote the highest standards in the delivery of eye care

This Annual Report describes the performance and key operations of the Irish College of Ophthalmologists (ICO) during 2022.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MR TIM FULCHER

2022 was a year of good progress and achievement for the College. I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on some of our key accomplishments and challenges.

First and foremost, I would like to acknowledge the extraordinary dedication and commitment of our members in providing high-quality eye care to patients in Ireland. Your work towards improving patient outcomes serves as a testament to the values that we hold dear as doctors.

In the past year, we have made important strides in advancing our education and training programmes to meet the evolving needs of our profession and the patients we care for. We recognise that training must continue to change and evolve to meet the demands of modern education delivery, while also being conscious of the health and well-being of the doctors who deliver care and train the next generation of ophthalmologists.

We also recognise the challenges faced across ophthalmology and the need to provide care in an environment that supports the health and well-being of the doctors delivering that care. It is our

goal to continue to promote the importance of work-life balance, resilience, and good mental health among our members and across the health landscape and to work towards its achievement.

I would like to sincerely thank the Board, our Committee members and CEO Siobhan Kelly and the ICO team for their commitment to the work of the College.

Mr Tim Fulcher

**President,
Irish College of Ophthalmologists**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MESSAGE

SIOBHAN KELLY

It is my pleasure to present to you our annual report for 2022. I am very pleased to say that we have continued to make progress towards our goal of providing high-quality training and education to ophthalmologists in Ireland.

While the Covid-19 pandemic has continued to pose challenges in healthcare, it has also underscored the critical importance of our work. As the demand for ophthalmologists continues to grow, we are mindful of the need to continue to strive to meet the health needs of the population. We are committed to continuing to develop our training pathways, to increase the number of trainees and to ensure that our graduates are equipped with the skills and knowledge needed to provide the best possible care to their patients.

As we look to the future, we are guardedly optimistic. We believe that the College is well-positioned to meet the challenges ahead and to continue to drive positive change in healthcare education and training. We are excited about the opportunities and look forward to continuing to collaborate with our partners and stakeholders to achieve our goals.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to all the team at the College for their hard work and dedication over the past year.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Siobhan Kelly
CEO, Irish College of Ophthalmologists

ABOUT THE ICO – who we are

The Irish College of Ophthalmologists (ICO) is the training and professional body for eye doctors in Ireland.

The ICO is committed to the advancement and improvement of eye health and works to protect, enhance and promote the highest standards in the delivery of eye care and ophthalmic training.

The delivery of healthcare requires a lifelong commitment to learning. The ICO's goal is to provide and support education and learning for ophthalmologists in training, in practice and those who work alongside them as they deliver care to patients.

OUR ROLE:

1. TRAINING

The Irish College of Ophthalmologists is formally assessed and accredited by the Irish Medical Council. The accreditation by the Medical Council, for a period of five years, is under section 89(3)(a)(ii) of the Medical Practitioners Act and approves the College as the body which may grant evidence of the satisfactory completion of Specialist Training in Medical Ophthalmology. A certificate of satisfactory completion in specialist training in Medical Ophthalmology is the title and designation of qualification granted in the State, by the Medical Council, to enable a medical practitioner to secure registration in the Specialist Division of the Register, under the terms of Section 89(2) of the Medical Practitioners Act 2007. The College delivers the National Training Programme in Medical Ophthalmology and in conjunction with the RCSI, Surgical Ophthalmology.

The ICO works alongside our fellow Postgraduate Training Colleges to support the education and training of medical and surgical colleagues in Ireland.

2. ONGOING EDUCATION OF OPHTHALMIC SPECIALISTS

Maintaining and expanding skills, knowledge and competency is essential in medical practice. The ICO delivers a continuous programme of events and online content to support the continued acquisition of knowledge and skills by the profession.

Doctors who hold Specialist, General or Supervised registration with the Irish Medical Council, are required by law to maintain their professional competence and to enroll on a Professional Competence Scheme operated by a Postgraduate Medical Training Body relevant to their scope of practice.

The ICO operates the Professional Competence Scheme (PCS) for ophthalmologists and those practicing within the specialty and advises doctors on how to fulfill this commitment and to continuously develop their professional skills.

The ICO remains committed to enhancing and promoting life-long learning and providing on-going professional development support to our members and members of the Integrated Eye Care Team.

3. ADVOCACY

The ICO advocates for the highest standards of eye healthcare delivery in Ireland, on behalf of patients and doctors.

We do this through our influence as the medical authority on eye care practice in Ireland, helping to shape healthcare policy in the interests of the delivery of safe, sustainable, equitable and quality care for all patients.

Through our collaboration with a number of key external stakeholders, including patient support groups, the Health Service Executive, the Department of Health, the Medical Council and the Forum of Postgraduate Training Bodies, the ICO is focused on demonstrating leadership and guidance on patient centered policy decisions.

The College places a high priority on our role as a trusted source of reliable eye health information for the public. We do this through the promotion of positive eye care practices, and raising awareness of the modifiable risk factors associated with the most common causes of sight loss.

Underpinning all ICO activity is a commitment to:

- **Integrity** acting with openness, consideration and respect
- **Collegiality** supporting trainees and members through all stages of their career
- **Innovating** in the delivery of education & healthcare
- **Collaboration** working with others involved in the delivery of eye health care nationally and internationally

DIRECTORS REPORT*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Mr. Tim Fulcher - President and Chair of the Board
- Mr. John Doris - President Elect
- Dr. Patricia Quinlan - Vice President
- Ms. Elizabeth McElnea
- Dr. Máiride McGuire
- Ms. Caroline Baily
- Dr. Aziz Rehman
- Mr. Sean Chen
- Mr Eamonn O'Connell
- Prof. Colm O'Brien
- Mr James O'Reilly

Dean of Postgraduate Education: Miss Yvonne Delaney

Clinical Lead for the National Clinical Programme in Ophthalmology: Prof. William Power

The Board of Directors met on 5 occasions in 2022 and held an AGM on May 17, 2022.

All Board members are Directors of the Company. All Board members are inducted regarding their role and responsibilities

Principal Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

The principal activity of the College continues to be education, training, and the running of a professional body for ophthalmologists and ophthalmic surgeons. It is responsible for setting and maintaining standards in ophthalmic training for young ophthalmologists and for continuing medical education for those in practice. The College provides a range of skills courses for trainees and for continuing education.

****The full Annual Report and Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022 is included under Appendix 1 at the end of this document.***

GOVERNANCE

The ICO is a company limited by guarantee with charitable status. The voluntary Board of Directors, who are elected from the membership, provides governance oversight.

As a registered charity, the ICO is committed to our compliance with the requirements of the Charities Governance Code and has established its governance structures, policies and procedures to comply with the Code.

ICO Annual General Meeting

The ICO AGM was held on Tuesday, May 17, 2022.

ICO President Mr Tim Fulcher chaired proceedings for the ICO Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 17th May. He updated members on the activities of the Board, presenting an overview of the ICO committee reports, financial report and 2021 audited accounts, the report from the Board and board elections.

The focus of the Board has continued to be on the regulatory requirements of both the Medical Council and the Charities Regulator. A 2022 work plan was agreed to guide Board activities.

Dean of Postgraduate Education, Miss Yvonne Delaney reported on the ICO National Training Programme updates for the previous 12 months.

ICO Governance – Committee Structure

The committee structures of the College are designed to reflect the core mission of the ICO as a training and educational body.

Committee members are drawn from the ICO membership and sit for fixed terms (2 years). On occasion, non-College members, with specific expertise, may be co-opted in an advisory capacity to a committee, if approved by the Board.

ICO committees are structured to ensure a balanced representation across the various areas of practice.

Committees are chaired by Board members, with a clear remit and work plan approved by the Board, to which they report.

The ICO committee structure is as follows:

- Governance and Nominations committee
- Finance committee
- Training committees
- Training Advisory committee

- Training Regulations and Standards committee
- Scientific and Continuing Professional Development committee
- Service Development committee

ICO Annual Report 2021

The ICO published its Annual Report 2021 on Wednesday, 28 September 2021.

The report provides an update on ICO activities and finances for 2020, in line with the College's responsibilities under the Charities Governance Code and the requirements of the Charities Regulator.

The report was circulated to all ICO members and is published on the ICO website www.eyedoctors.ie

Operational Structure and Funding

The ICO is a membership-based organisation with an annual subscription fee.

Our members and trainees are a very important resource for the College. We rely on this community to help shape our policy, inform our leadership and develop the future of medical education, practice and healthcare. Our goal is to develop, encourage and continually expand relationships within the College at all levels, from the innovative trainee perspective to the invaluable experience of life and senior members.

A voluntary Board of Directors is elected from the membership to provide governance oversight and policy guidance.

The Chairman of the Board (ICO President), along with the other directors, sets the policy direction for the ICO and oversees the administration of affairs. The Chairman and the Board of Directors are charged with setting the strategy and goals of the ICO. A number of voluntary committees of the Board focus and advise on the specific areas of ICO activity.

The executive team is comprised of a Chief Executive along with operational roles within the organisation: training programme manager, professional competence manager, communications and advocacy manager, and administrative services. The ICO staff are responsible for implementing the strategy and running the day-to-day activities of the College.

The College has a number of income streams; Members pay an annual subscription fee, the College runs educational events including an annual summer and autumn meeting for which there is a registration fee and a trade exhibition supported by pharmaceutical and instrument & device companies, the College has a service level agreement in place with the HSE for the delivery of specialist training and specialist support for the clinical programme.

Sources of Funding and Reporting

The ICO holds an Annual General Meeting (AGM) where our annual accounts are presented to the members for approval. These accounts are also included in our Annual Report, which is published on our website.

ICO CORE ACTIVITIES

1. SPECIALTY TRAINING IN OPHTHALMOLOGY

SPECIALIST TRAINING PROGRAMME IN MEDICAL OPHTHALMOLOGY

Throughout 2022, the College continued its promotional recruitment campaign for Specialist Training in Medical Ophthalmology. While there was a minor increase in the number of candidates applying for entry onto the training programme, the College is aware that further work is required to meet the workforce planning demand for Medical Ophthalmologists now and into the future.

The ICO progressed our targeted communications campaign with the Schools of Medicine, Intern Networks and with the training units to highlight the Medical Ophthalmology programme and exciting career opportunities available to aspiring ophthalmologists. The College is focused on expanding the number of training posts year-on-year to align a specialised medical workforce with patient demand.

The second phase of the communications strategy launched in March 2022 with an in person presentation to final year medical students in UCD followed by a Q&A with further face to face visits in University Hospital Limerick and Galway University Hospital in October 2022 to promote the specialty.

On behalf of the College, Dean Miss Yvonne Delaney wishes to thank the Professors of Ophthalmology Prof Conor Murphy, Prof Colm O'Brien, Prof Lorraine Cassidy, Dr Fiona Harney, Dr Mark James and tutors in the Schools of Medicine for their support of the campaign throughout COVID, when it has been challenging to engage in person with students and interns to share this information.

This has included the circulation of the ICO's animated explainer video for the National Training Programme in Medical Ophthalmology and the facilitation of the return to in person career talks.

Online Selection Processes for Basic And Higher Medical And Surgical Ophthalmology Programmes

As a result of the continued impact of the pandemic, it was necessary to adapt and hold the selection process for all training programmes virtually in 2022. The College restructured the delivery of the shortlisting process to be more conducive to an online format. The College also held preparatory sessions with the relevant selection panel members ahead of the interviews to ensure they were familiar with the virtual format.

Structured Objective Oral Examinations (SOEs) in Higher Medical Training (HMT)

The SOE is a mandatory summative component of the HMT Programme. The SOE takes place at the end of each subspecialty module in Medical Retina, Glaucoma and Paediatric Ophthalmology and must be passed by each candidate in order to progress. The purpose of the assessment is to ensure the required standard for independent practice consistent with the standard outlined in the curriculum is achieved. In 2022, SOEs took place virtually for the third time in Medical Retina, for the second time in Glaucoma and for the first time in Paediatric Ophthalmology. This was the first time that the Medical Retina SOE was held for multiple trainees at the same time.

Objective Structured Examinations (OSEs) in Higher Surgical Training

The OSE is a formative assessment for trainees in HST Year 6. The OSEs assesses the seven-subspecialty areas of the HST curriculum and assess the ability of trainees to evaluate, diagnose and formulate treatment plans for ophthalmic conditions. These assessments serve to encourage ongoing learning and preparation for the final FRCSI exam in Ophthalmology. The OSEs took place virtually again across two dates, 9th and 13th of June 2022.

National Masterclass for Medical Ophthalmology

In 2022, the College launched a new educational masterclass series for Medical Ophthalmology Trainees. The purpose of the series is to promote the specialty of Medical Ophthalmology. The Masterclass is an opportunity to showcase the expertise of our own specialists in the field and our colleagues in other jurisdictions to expand on this knowledge. The Masterclasses Series welcomes speakers from internationally renowned centres to present on medically relevant topics. The presentation is followed by a Q&A session and an opportunity for medical trainees to present cases.

The inaugural meeting of the National Masterclass Series in Medical Ophthalmology took place in person on 24th March 2022 at the Radisson Blu Hotel with guest speaker Mr Luke Nichol森, Consultant Medical Retina Specialist at Moorfields Eye Hospital, London. Mr Nichol森 gave an in-depth presentation on the topic 'Retinal Ischaemia: Evaluation of ischaemia in retinal disease and the role of multimodal imaging'. This was followed by case report presentations by trainees currently on the ICO Basic and Higher National Specialist Training Programme in Medical Ophthalmology and allowed time for questions and discussions after each case.

A second Masterclass was held virtually on 22nd April 2022, with guest speaker Prof Sobha Sivaprasad, Consultant Ophthalmologist, Moorfields Eye Hospital, London. The meeting topic focused on Age Related Macular Degeneration. Case presentations from current ICO trainees followed, with time for questions and discussion after each case.

The third and final meeting in the Masterclass series for 2022 was held in person on 23rd September 2022 with guest speaker Prof Camiel Boon, Professor of Ophthalmology at Leiden University Medical Center and Professor of Clinical Ophthalmogenetics at the Amsterdam University Medical Centers. Prof Boon is a leading expert in Central Serous Chorioretinopathy, the topic chosen for the last in the Masterclass Series 2022. Prof Boon presented his talk to attending ICO Medical Ophthalmology trainees and trainers at the Radisson Hotel via zoom from Amsterdam. Prof Boon's presentation was followed by case presentations from current trainees with time for questions and discussion after each case.

ICO Annual Conference 2022 - Progress Report on the National Training Programme

A dedicated session on the advancement of the National Specialty Training Programmes in Ophthalmology was presented by Miss Yvonne Delaney at the ICO Annual Conference in May 2022. The presentation highlighted the significant progress and development of the ICO National Training Programmes over recent years and in particular, the advancement of the dedicated Medical Ophthalmology specialty training programme, launched in 2017.

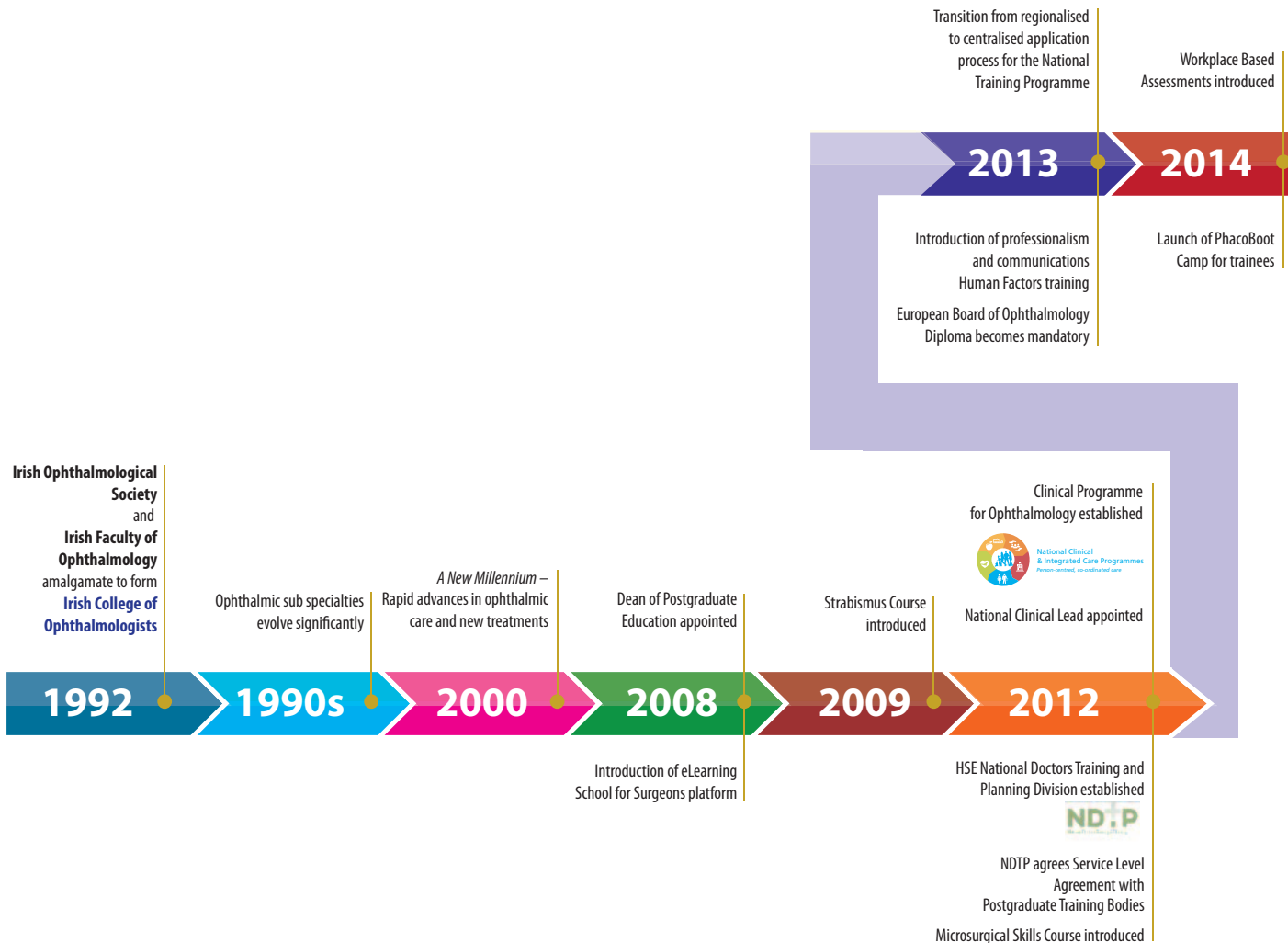
The standalone programme was developed in response to the demand for ophthalmic specialists to treat patients in the areas of greatest eye care demand, namely medical retina, glaucoma and paediatric ophthalmology, coupled with an increasing ageing demographic and the huge expansion of new medical treatments for sight threatening conditions.

These developments have cumulatively led to a shift in how we practice and deliver medical ophthalmology. The reconfigured national training programme has been designed to address workforce and service demands, with the curriculum mapped to the National Clinical Programme for Ophthalmology Model of Care.



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National Training Programme Key Milestones Timeline





The ICO National Training Programme timeline highlights key milestones for the College training pathway over the past two decades.

With the opportunity to regroup at the College's first in person meeting in three years, the ICO felt it was timely and important to put a spotlight on all that has been achieved in recent years, and throughout 2020-2022 despite the challenges posed by the pandemic.

Miss Delaney noted that the progress is a result of collaboration between the trainees on the programme, the trainers in the training units and the entire ophthalmic community including the work of the Clinical Programme alongside the Irish College of Ophthalmologists.

She congratulated and commended ICO medical and surgical trainees for their commitment, resilience and resolve throughout the past two years in particular, acknowledging the incredibly challenging period it has been.

A 'Class of' roll of honour in acknowledgment of ICO Basic and Higher specialty trainees in medical and surgical ophthalmology for 2021 and 2022 was called at the session in recognition of their achievement.

Training Site Accreditation

In order to deliver excellence in ophthalmic education and training, in 2022 the College developed criteria and a process for the accreditation of ophthalmic training sites. The accreditation of training posts process is structured on the basis of ensuring that the quality and standard of ophthalmic training is consistent across training posts and equivalent to best practice in the sector. The goal of the accreditation process is to work with the training unit stakeholders to support the continual improvement, knowledge sharing and trainee learning experience while ensuring that the standards and guidelines associated with the accreditation process are implemented in a consistent, fair and transparent way.

The accreditation criteria and standards detail the training post requirements necessary to educate and train ophthalmologists and aim to clarify, for those who undertake and provide such training, the standards and criteria for each post. The underlying principle of the accreditation process is to ensure that education and training sites provide training posts and learning environments that facilitate the training of safe and competent ophthalmologists.

The accreditation standards are not all encompassing, but they reflect a minimum set of standards that all training sites must meet and complement the Medical Council criteria for evaluation of training sites, which support the delivery of specialist training. The standards form the basis for training post inspections and audit for all Basic and Higher Ophthalmic Training posts in Surgical and Medical specialist training.

The standards are divided into five categories:

1. Minimum Generic Standards for Ophthalmology
2. Minimum Standards for Basic Surgical Training (BST)
3. Minimum Standards for Basic Medical Training (BMT)
4. Minimum Standards for Higher Surgical Training (HST)
5. Minimum Standards Higher Medical Training (HMT)

The first accreditation of a training unit commenced in the last quarter of 2022. The College intends to run two accreditations per training year (July-July).

ICO Trainer Portal & Train the Trainer Course

In the summer of 2022, the College launched its dedicated trainer portal. The portal has been designed to provide resources to support trainers and in response to the mandatory Medical Council requirement for trainers to complete a Train the Trainer course. Trainers have access on the portal to:

- A trainer information page which includes the ICO Code of Conduct for Trainers, Role and Responsibilities of Trainers, and a list of Educational Supervisors in each unit.

- Additional trainer support and information including details of relevant ICO policies, procedures and processes, contact details, a checklist for trainers and a link to calendar of training events for the relevant training year.
- Train the Trainer: online course and survey.

The online course modules were developed by the College and include content generously shared by the Ophthalmology Foundation. Content specific to ophthalmic specialty training in Ireland has been created by Miss Yvonne Delaney, Dean of Postgraduate Education. The course comprises of three modules:

1. Giving Effective Feedback
2. The Critical Role of Feedback in Clinical Training
3. ICO Assessment & Feedback

The first two videos, supplied by the Ophthalmology Foundation, examine the role of feedback and its importance in postgraduate medical education. The content includes formative learning feedback tools and techniques, with the aim of improving and motivating the performance of learners at all levels. The third video presented by Miss Yvonne Delaney, concentrates on the opportunity for feedback on our own training programmes, particularly in relation to formative assessment and workplace based assessment. To complete the module, trainers must ensure they have viewed the videos and completed the post learning survey.

The development of the ICO Trainer Portal & Train the Trainer course is fundamental to the College's commitment to provide ongoing support and learning development tools to our training team.

2. CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

The College ran its Continuing Medical Education series throughout 2022 including the following events:

ICO Annual Conference 2022

The ICO held our Annual Conference 2022 from Monday 16th to Wednesday 18th May 2022 at the Kilkenny Convention Centre, Lyrath Estate. Over 200 ophthalmologists and ICO trainees gathered for the three-day meeting to hear the latest clinical and scientific updates and developments in the specialty from national and international eye experts.

Clinical symposia focused on Ocular Surface Disease and on Recent Clinical Trials in Glaucoma, Myopia and Retina.

A service delivery symposium on 'Planning for the Future' examined Medical Retina and Telemedicine/Virtual Review, IOP Clinics and Glaucoma Diagnostic Hubs.

A symposium on the Integrated Eye Care Team highlighted the model of eye care implementation at national, regional and community level.

Parallel workshop sessions on Ocular Motility and OCT Angiography in Practice, in addition to the paper and poster sessions (ICO medal and prize presentations) and the SOE Young Ophthalmologist Lecture 2022 were some of the many other highlights on the 2022 conference agenda.

ICO Medal Winners at the ICO Annual Conference 2022

Sir William Wilde Medal 2022 - Best Poster

"12-month analysis of emergency argon laser retinopexy in an Irish tertiary hospital"

Dr Rory Holohan

Barbara Knox Medal 2022 - Best Paper

"The Ecological Impact of Cataract Surgery - Single-use Items Consumption and Knowledge of Ophthalmic Theatre Staff in University Hospital Limerick"

Dr Emily Mahon

John Blake Medal 2022 – Best Scientific Research Paper (photo 17-DVR62052)

'Autotaxin: A Fibrosis Target in the Lamina Cribrosa in Glaucoma'

Dr Amy O'Regan

Annual Mooney Lecture 2022

'Improving the Outcomes of Surgery for Retinal Detachment'

It was a great privilege for the College to welcome Prof Stanley Chang, the K.K. Tse and Ku Teh Ying Professor of Ophthalmology at Columbia University, to present the Annual Mooney Lecture 2022.

A specialist in vitreoretinal disorders and surgery, Prof Chang has pioneered many of the surgical techniques currently used in this field, including revolutionary surgical approaches to treat complicated forms of retinal detachment, which have led to improved outcomes for patients worldwide.

The focus for the 2022 Mooney Lecture was to discuss the four different methods of treating retinal detachment – pneumatic retinopexy (injection of a gas bubble, with positioning, and laser), scleral buckling alone, vitrectomy, and vitrectomy and scleral buckling. Evidence-based data on the outcomes of the different methods of the treatment for retinal detachment were presented and surgical techniques that enhance the outcomes.

Prof Chang highlighted the exciting future developments for improving the anatomic and visual outcomes in retinal detachment surgery, bringing to a close an incredible lecture experience for all in attendance.

Eye Care in Focus Conference 2022

In the autumn of 2022, the College hosted our inaugural clinical education 'Eye Care in Focus' conference for the extended eye care team.

The meeting invited all eye health care professionals, including ophthalmologists, ICO trainees, GP's, ophthalmic nurses, optometrists and orthoptists working both within the HSE and outside of the health service in private practice to a one day clinical education meeting.

The Conference is aimed at supporting continuing medical education opportunities for the wider eye care team, with key areas of clinical interest featuring on the programme agenda. It provides an important platform for clinical learning opportunities and expertise sharing within the Irish eye healthcare community.

The clinical sessions at the 2022 meeting focused on perimetry, retinopathy of prematurity (ROP) and keratoconus, featuring speakers from optometry education and clinical practice, neonatology, advanced nursing practice and ophthalmologists.

Dr Colm Henry, Chief Clinical Officer of the Health Service Executive, delivered a guest lecture on his key insights into the 'Learnings from COVID-19', reflecting on the past two and a half years of living through and emerging from the pandemic.

Dr Henry highlighted the immense impact of the pandemic on our healthcare system, the country's emergency response and measures implemented to restrain its spread and the rollout of the vaccine programme. He stressed the point that the public's cooperation and responsible adherence to the widespread health and safety measures was evident and helped curb the spread of Covid 19.

The ICO is committed to the further development of clinical education and discussion opportunities to support the continuing education of all those working to deliver eye care.

Plans for the expansion of the meeting in 2023 and for future events are underway.

ICO Winter Meeting and Annual Montgomery Lecture 2022

The College held its Winter Meeting on Friday 18 November, 2022 in the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. It marked a return to an in-person session for

the annual calendar meeting, which was held virtually in 2020 and 2021.

A grand rounds session focused on eyelid, lacrimal and orbital conditions was led by ICO President, Mr Tim Fulcher and a panel of experts including Prof. Timothy Sullivan, Professor of Ophthalmology, University of Queensland, Australia, Ms Elizabeth McElnea, Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, University Hospital Galway, Mr Michéal O'Rourke, Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital and Mr Gerry Fahy, Galway Clinic.

An interactive panel and audience Q&A session was based on a series of clinical cases and the management of complexities in this area, presented by ICO Surgical Trainees Dr. Aaron Donnelly and Dr. Liam Mulcahy.

Podium presentations and a virtual poster exhibition highlighted the exciting areas of research and audit findings the doctors had undertaken in the previous year.

Annual Montgomery Lecture "2022: An Orbital Odyssey"

Following his participation in the winter meeting earlier that day, Prof Timothy Sullivan, a specialist in paediatric and adult eyelid disorders, lacrimal and orbital disease presented the prestigious Annual Montgomery Lecture that evening at The Albert Lecture Theatre, RCSI.

His lecture entitled "2022: An Orbital Odyssey" highlighted advances in the management of orbital diseases over the years through improvements in imaging, diagnostics and treatment resulting in better outcomes for patients.

A former President of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Ophthalmic Plastic Surgery and the Asia-Pacific Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Professor Sullivan currently provides tertiary and quaternary level subspecialty care to patients at the Terrace Eye Centre in Brisbane. He is involved in medical student, registrar and Fellow teaching as Professor of Ophthalmology for the University of Queensland.

2022 marked the 106th year of the Annual Montgomery Lecture. The establishment of the Lecture in 1916 was of great significance to the specialty of ophthalmology in Ireland. Dr Robert Montgomery served as an ophthalmic surgeon to St Mark's Hospital and the Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital until his passing in 1912.

The Montgomery Lecture was the first medical lecture to be founded in Trinity College Dublin and the inaugural lecture was presented by Dr Euphan Maxwell in 1916 on the subject of "Diagnosis in Uveitis".

3. ICO PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE SCHEME

The ICO operates the Professional Competence Scheme (PCS) for doctors practicing as ophthalmologists who are registered with the Irish Medical Council on the General Register and the Specialist Register – Division of Ophthalmology and Division of Ophthalmic Surgery. The PCS is organised and run in line with the Arrangements Documents with the Medical Council of Ireland.

Throughout 2022, the ICO supported enrolled doctors in achieving, maintaining and developing their professional competence. Enrolled doctors were supported by the ICO in the process of recording credits and using the PCS Online Portal. The College provided support in the recording of CPD credits by ensuring credits for all College organised events were directly uploaded to the PCS online accounts of those who attended. Information on CPD accredited meetings was continuously circulated to doctors via email, the ICO website, the ICO Member's Portal and the ICO newsletter.

To aid our doctors in navigating the challenges of current medical and surgical practice, the ICO is committed to developing the PCS to ensure our scheme is in keeping with the latest advancements from the Medical Council in relation to professional competence, and regularly contributing to Forum meetings and liaising with our fellow PGTBs on issues relating to professional competence.

In 2022, the ICO committed to delivering a full annual educational programme which included a return to our in-person, 3-day Annual Conference to assist members in meeting the requirements for Professional Competence and reflect the eight domains of good medical practice.

These were the learning opportunities provided by the College to support PCS engagement from Jan – Dec 2022:

- ICO Annual Conference 2022
- ICO Conference Extra Sessions: Alimera Session on Uveitis Challenges; Ocular Motility Session; Bayer Breakfast Session on Neovascular AMD
- Eye Care in Focus 2022 - ICO Conference for the Extended Eye Care Team
- National Education Series Integrated Eye Care Team Webinar x 2
- Masterclass in Medical Retina
- Masterclass CSCR
- Charter Day Ophthalmology Parallel Session
- Refraction Course

- Strabismus Course
- ICO Winter Meeting 2022
- Annual Montgomery Lecture 2022
- Annual Mooney Lecture 2022
- National Clinical Practice Audit

For support of doctors on the IMGTI programme and supervised division of the register:

- ICO National Tutorial Series in Ophthalmology
- Phaco Bootcamp
- Microsurgical Skills Course

End of PCS year 2021/22 (Jan - April 2022)

The ICO planned for the final four months of the PCS 2021/22 year to ensure there were regular check-ins, giving enrolled doctors adequate time to participate in any learning activities before the end of the PCS year on 30th April. Regular reminders were provided to enrolled doctors between Jan and April 2022, along with support for those having difficulty recording credits on the online PCS portal. Comparison of the previous year's enrolled list with the current year enrolled list was regularly carried out to identify any doctors who would benefit from a reminder to enrol.

The 2021/22 ICO National Audit topic focused on sustainability in ophthalmology consumables use and/or processes over the course of one week to record whether there was any environmental waste or time inefficiency associated. The ICO facilitated the audit by providing guidance and a platform to log the details and results of the audit, and at the end of the PCS year, the ICO recorded the audit credit on the PCS online accounts of those who participated.

The following end of year reports for the 2021/22 PCS year were collated and submitted to the Medical Council:

- Qualitative Report (general report recapping the year)
- Action Plan update (identifying objectives and goals for the upcoming year)
- Report on Actions in Response to Medical Council Oct 2021 Recommendations
- Report on Measures Implemented & Objectives for 2022/23 based on Medical Council's PCS Themes (a-h)
- Key Performance Indicators
- Financial Report
- Activities Recognised by the College for CPD
- Activities Provided by the College for CPD
- Uptake of Professional Development Plan

Start of PCS year 2022/23 (May - Dec 2022)

The ICO planned for the PCS year and prepared the educational programmes for all activities based on the identified needs of the patient, practice and Irish health service. The educational programmes were also designed to be diverse, with both clinical and non-clinical content, incorporated the Domains of Good Professional Practice and provided opportunities for self and practice reflection.

Doctors in locally appointed Non Consultant Hospital Doctor (NCHD) non-training posts were invited to enrol for the Continuous Professional Development Support Scheme (CPD-SS) which is the HSE support scheme for those doctors participating in the Professional Competence Scheme. The ICO regularly updated these doctors with learning opportunities and provided support throughout 2022.

In 2022, the College assessed and recognised 31 live educational events for Continuous Professional Development to meet the needs of doctors seeking External (Maintenance of Knowledge and Skills) credits.

Proposed New PCS Guidelines to take effect from May 2024:

The Medical Council has proposed new Professional Competence Rules and Guidelines based on research into best international practice and following consultation with registered medical practitioners and other key stakeholders to take effect in May 2024. The majority of changes relate to the CPD categories. Once enrolled, registered medical practitioners must engage in and record 50 hours of CPD activity annually. There are four broad categories of CPD proposed: Planning, Practice Review, Work-based Learning, and Accredited Continuing Education.

Throughout 2022, the ICO worked with the Forum of Irish Postgraduate Medical Training Bodies and the Medical Council to understand and provide feedback on the proposed changes, preparing a communication plan for our PCS cohort to prepare and support them when the changes are formalised. Since August 2022, the ICO has had biweekly video calls with the IT development team from the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland to work on the new PCS Online Portal, which will launch in May 2024 along with the new PCS framework. The Medical Council has highlighted the importance of planning in professional development and this is why Planning has been made a full category on its own. The ICO provided feedback on the negative connotations of using the term Professional Development Plan (PDP), and it has been confirmed that the more generic term 'Plan' will be used instead.

The Verification Audit was carried out for the 2021/22 PCS year. Commencing in August 2022, the ICO conducted an audit of a randomly selected sample of enrolled doctors, providing support and reviews of the PCS records. All of the selected doctors were found to be fully compliant with the PCS requirements for the 2021/22 year and will be exempt from selection for the next 3 years.

4. CLINICAL PROGRAMME

Clinical Programme Update for 2022

The ICO has been a long-standing advocate for the expansion of ophthalmology services for patients in Ireland.

The National Clinical Programme for Ophthalmology, with support from the ICO, has worked extensively with the HSE and with the Department of Health to support the implementation of the new Integrated Eye Care Teams (IECT) which will extend the delivery of specialist ophthalmic care in the community.

The key recommendations of the National Clinical Programme for Ophthalmology include

- The development of IECTs in the community linked to the acute hospital service. The IECT consists of Consultant Medical Ophthalmologist, Optometrists, Orthoptists, Ophthalmic Nurses, Technicians and Administrative support. IECTs are now in place in CHO 6, 7, 9 in Dublin and in progress in CHO 4 (Cork), CHO 2 (West) and CHO 8 (Midlands). They are a major component of addressing the current demands for specialist ophthalmology services with a building up of capacity in HSE community clinics.
- Investment in information technology is an essential enabler to transfer patients currently being seen in the hospital to the new teams in the primary care centres.
- Expansion of theatre access and establishment of stand-alone, cataract only theatres for efficient higher volume delivery of surgery with pre and post-operative care delivered in HSE Community clinics.

Among the key priorities for the Clinical Programme and the Integrated Eye Care Team model is the implementation of new national cataract patient care pathway, and the transfer of patients with stable ocular conditions from the acute hospital to specialist delivered care in the community.

The implementation of the recommendations are expected to address the significant capacity deficit in out-patient services, reduce the OPD waiting lists and increase the capacity in the acute hospital setting to deliver complex care.

CHO7 - Adult Ophthalmology Service / Cataract and Glaucoma Patient Care Pathway

At the ICO Annual Conference 2022, delegates heard an update from Ms Aoife Doyle, Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon and Dr Margaret Morgan, Consultant Medical Ophthalmologist on the adult ophthalmology service with particular focus on the glaucoma and cataract patient care pathway between the Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital (RVEEH) and Community Healthcare Organisation 7 (CHO 7).

The Adult Ophthalmology service in CHO 7 was established with funding received from the Sláintecare Integration fund on foot of an application from the Clinical Programme for Ophthalmology, to establish a specialist eye clinic which would be integrated with an existing surgical site. The initial focus of the service was on delivering pre and post operative cataract care in the community and establishing a Primary Care Eye Team in CHO 7. Funding of €354 000 was awarded for one year.

Service delivery commenced in April 2021 with new patient cataract and post-op cataract clinics. The service is paperless with an electronic medical record and imaging platform shared with the RVEEH to allow all clinical information to be accessible at the point of patient care. Patients listed for cataract surgery have their pre-op assessment performed on the day of listing by the staff nurse and the optometrist. For the majority of patients their only visit to the hospital is to have surgery performed in the cataract unit in RVEEH with patients expressing a high level of satisfaction at having their eye care delivered at a location close to their home.

Glaucoma assessment clinics have been running in the Community since November 2021. The patient clinics are run by the optometrists with the scans being reviewed virtually by the CHO7 Consultant Ophthalmologist using the model developed by Ms Aoife Doyle. This allows for patients from the CHO7 catchment area to be transferred from the RVEEH clinics thus freeing up capacity in the hospital. Optometrists in CHO7 are also involved in training in virtual review and one of the optometrists is currently completing a professional certificate in glaucoma.

The purchase of a YAG/SLT laser machine has enabled delivery of laser clinics since May 2022. These include YAG laser for posterior capsule thickening which occurs in 20-50% of patients within 2-5 years of cataract surgery and Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty for open angle glaucoma.

The establishment of the linked electronic patient record between CHO 7 and RVEEH enables a structured and organised transfer of existing eligible stable patients from RVEEH to the care of the integrated eye care team in Kilnarnagh clinic. It will take time for the clinics to reach their full capacity.

Testing, consultation and examination are carried out by the optometrist and reviewed by the Consultant Medical Ophthalmologist. Any patients needing review with a consultant, nurse practitioner or specialist optometrist in the case of CHO7 can be referred seamlessly with automatic transfer of information and return of care to the stable clinic from the central hub where appropriate. 87% of patients were retained in CHO 7 with 7% transfer and only 6% were sent to RVEEH for review.

In the second phase of the transfer, the consultant glaucoma specialist (Ms A Doyle) together with the Advanced Nurse Practitioner (C. Liston) and the higher medical ophthalmology trainees, screened charts electronically, of over 850 patients in the long review waiting list for follow up clinics and transferred suitable patients to the CHO 7 glaucoma assessment optometrist provided clinic. Adequate screening pre-transfer maximizes efficiency by transferring only those patients expected to be suitable for retention in the virtual clinic model. This is usually 85% in the RVEEH model, avoiding unnecessary duplication of visits or the referral of excessively complex patients who would be immediately returned to the consultant or ANP clinic.

If staffing is increased in the CHO areas serving the wider RVEEH catchment area, it is expected to move the majority of stable care patients to the more appropriate community care setting over time. Optometrists in CHO 6 have already trained in key competency areas under the supervision of the glaucoma advanced nurse practitioner at RVEEH. Further efficiencies are expected as RVEEH develops the model of health care assistant (HCA) trained in assessment of visual fields, with one HCA already participating on site in RVEEH providing additional visual field assessment clinics and another in training, under supervision by the Director of Nursing at RVEEH. Sharing of this new grade of HCA in an eye technician role, trained to perform a range of eye testing would further enhance the provision of service within the IECT and allow optometrists to develop their skills in direct clinical care provision to a higher level in cataract, glaucoma and later in other specialist areas such as a medical retina.

Community based Medical Retina clinics delivered by Ms Olya Scannell, Consultant Medical Ophthalmologist, in conjunction with the optometrists have been in operation since October 2022 with transfer of suitable patients from RVEEH Medical Retina clinics and a plan to deliver an intravitreal injection service in CHO 7 which will have increased capacity when the ophthalmology service moves to a dedicated unit in the Russell Building in Tallaght in 2024.

Future plans include the addition of technicians to the team which will allow the Integrated Eye Care Team to focus on clinical work and will increase the capacity of

the service. There is also a plan developed in conjunction with RVEEH to set up a review clinic in the community for stable keratoconus patients who have undergone corneal cross-linking. This would involve capture of clinical information and imaging in the Kilnamanagh clinic with review virtually in RVEEH.

Staff training has commenced to introduce a similar glaucoma clinic in CHO6. These services are helping to more efficiently deliver care to people with glaucoma in the community and closer to home. It will also help to improve capacity for the hospital eye services to see the more complex and surgical patients and reduce waiting times, improving outcomes in glaucoma care through the collaboration of the hospital and community eye care services.

ICO National Education Series 2022

The below provides an overview of the National Education Series in 2022. The continuing education series aims to support service delivery by creating a forum for shared learning for all those involved in eye care in Ireland, including Doctors, Allied Health professionals, Nurses, Administrators and Managers.

Webinar for the Integrated Eye Care Team, 28 April 2022

The ICO, in collaboration with the Clinical Programme for Ophthalmology, hosted the fourth event in the National Education Series for the Integrated Eye Care Team (IECT) via webinar on Thursday, 28 April, 2022.

Discussion focused on the implementation of the IECT in HSE Community Healthcare East (CHO6) with presentations from Consultant Medical Ophthalmologists Dr. Mairíde McGuire and Dr. Sarah Gilmore on the challenges, learning points and future direction of ophthalmology services in the community.

The meeting was chaired by Prof. William Power, Clinical Lead for Ophthalmology.

The series is designed to inform stakeholders of the latest developments in the expansion of ophthalmic services, and to share examples and results from Community Healthcare Organisations (CHO's) where the reconfiguration of services is being implemented.

Priorities for the Integrated Eye Care Team include the management of children referred from the screening programme, collaborating with screeners to improve the accuracy of the referrals and managing adult patients with a focus on the areas of greatest patient demand, namely medical retina, glaucoma and the delivery of pre & post-operative cataract care.

Recording - Delivering Integrated Care in Ireland

To support the ongoing shared updates on the progress of the roll out of the integrated eye care teams, the ICO circulated a recording of the 'Delivering Integrated Care in Ireland' symposium from the ICO Annual Conference with members of the HSE eye care teams in June 2022.

At the Irish College of Ophthalmologists Annual Conference 2022 (16-18th May, Kilkenny), a dedicated symposium entitled 'Delivering Integrated Care in Ireland' provided an update on the progress of the Clinical Programme for Ophthalmology and implementation of the key recommendations contained in the government policy approved Model of Care document.

To support the ongoing shared updates on the Clinical Programme, the ICO circulated a recording of this session with members of the HSE integrated eye care team as the next in the ICO National Education Series update (summer 2022).

Keynote speakers and presentations from the session recording included:

"The National Clinical Programme for Ophthalmology: Supporting the Delivery of Integrated Care"

Prof Billy Power, Clinical Lead for Ophthalmology and Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital, Dublin

"Establishment of a Novel Governance Structure to Transform, Integrate and Deploy Regional Eye Care – the virtual Accountable Care Organisation (vACO)"

Prof David Keegan, Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, Mater Misericordiae University Hospital, Dublin and Clinical Lead, for Diabetic Retinopathy Screening.

"Eye Care in the non-Acute Setting"

Dr Margaret Morgan, Consultant Medical Ophthalmologist, Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital, Dublin and CHO7

"The Role of an Optometrist in a Multidisciplinary team."

Chríosa O'Connor, Optometrist, Mater Misericordiae University Hospital, Dublin

Legal and Administrative Information

Directors	Tim Fulcher John Paul Doris Maire McGuire Caroline Baily Sean Chen Eamonn O'Connell Aziz Ur Rehman Colm O'Brien Patricia Quinlan Elizabeth McElnea (Appointed 17 May 2022) Mark James (Appointed 17 May 2022) James O'Reilly (Appointed 17 May 2022)
Secretary	Brona Kavanagh
Charity Number	20028039
CHY Number	10781
Company Number	151473
Principal address	121 St Stephens Green Dublin 2 Co. Dublin Ireland
Registered office	121 St Stephens Green Dublin 2 Co. Dublin Ireland
Auditor	UHY Farrelly Dawe White Limited Unit 4A Fingal Bay Business Park Balbriggan Co. Dublin Ireland
Bankers	Bank of Ireland 39 St. Stephens Green East Dublin 2 Ireland
Solicitors	Cormac O Ceallaigh & Co. Solicitors 388 North Circular Road Phibsborough Dublin 7

APPENDIX 1



ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The directors present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Companies Act 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The principal activity is the running of a professional body for ophthalmologists and ophthalmic surgeons. It is responsible for setting and maintaining standards in ophthalmic training for young ophthalmologists and for continuing medical education for those in practice. The company provides a range of skills courses for trainees and for continuing education.

Achievements and performance

The College continued to oversee and deliver specialist training for ophthalmologists, both for those in training and for those in practice. The Programme of Speciality Training in Ophthalmology was formally accredited by the Medical Council in 2021 but this accreditation came with a number of conditions and recommendations that must be implemented. The implementation of the Medical Council conditions and recommendations requires that significant additional resources are allocated to specialty training. The funding for the Dean of Postgraduate Education has been increased from 0.4 WTE to 0.8 WTE for a period of three years to meet the requirements, with a further review planned at the end of that period. The College continued to support the delivery of the National Clinical Programme for Ophthalmology and to deliver a Professional Competence Scheme.

Principal risks and uncertainties

Having navigated our way through the Covid Pandemic of 2020 – 2021, The outbreak of the War in Ukraine in 2022 has brought great uncertainty to the Global Economy and the College has had to deal with the ever increasing costs and inflation. We have prudently managed all expenditure and on this basis the directors are satisfied the organisation can continue as a going concern. The College has a service level agreement with the HSE for the delivery of specialist training. The funding received through this does not cover the entire cost of the delivery of the specialty training programmes and is supplemented by the College from other funds. While this is feasible in the short to medium term, over the longer term reconsideration may be necessary. The College has continued to grow during 2022 but for continued growth, further administrative resources will be required.

Financial review

The surplus for the year after providing for depreciation and accounting for the decrease in fair value of investments amounts to €26,021 (2021: €124,000).

At the year end, the company has assets of €1,689,223 (2021: €1,727,240) and liabilities of €96,674 (2021: €160,712).

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee not having a share capital.

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Tim Fulcher	
John Paul Doris	
Kathryn McCreery	(Resigned 17 May 2022)
Joanne Kearney	(Resigned 17 May 2022)
Maire McGuire	
Caroline Baily	
Paul Connell	(Resigned 17 May 2022)
Sean Chen	
Eamonn O'Connell	
Aziz Ur Rehman	
Colm O'Brien	
Patricia Quinlan	
Elizabeth McElnea	(Appointed 17 May 2022)
Mark James	(Appointed 17 May 2022)
James O'Reilly	(Appointed 17 May 2022)

The secretaries who served during the financial year were:

Brona Kavanagh

Accounting records

The charity's directors acknowledge their responsibilities under sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014 to ensure that the charity keeps adequate accounting records. The following measures have been taken:

- employing qualified and/or experienced staff, and
- ensuring that sufficient charity resources are available for the task, and
- liaising with the charity's auditor.

The accounting records are held at the company's business premises, 121 St Stephens Green Dublin 2 Co. Dublin Ireland.

Auditor

In accordance with the company's articles, a resolution proposing that UHY Farrelly Dawe White Limited be reappointed as auditor of the company will be put at a General Meeting.

Post reporting date events

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

Charitable Status

The company holds a charitable status (CHY No 10781 RCN 20028039) and as such is exempt from corporation tax in accordance in accordance with Section 207 of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the directors has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

The directors' report was approved by the Board of Directors.

Tim Fulcher, *Director*

John Paul Doris, *Director*

Date: _____

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

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

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

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

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

The directors are responsible for ensuring that the company keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the company, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and surplus or deficit of the company to be determined with reasonable accuracy and enable them to ensure that the financial statements and Directors' Report comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be 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.

In so far as the directors are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information (information needed by the company's auditor in connection with preparing the auditor's report) of which the company's auditor is unaware, and
- the directors have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

By order of the Board of Directors

Tim Fulcher
Director

John Paul Doris
Director

Date: _____

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Irish College of Ophthalmologists (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish law and Financial Reporting Standard 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 state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102); 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 charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate. Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from 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 other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2014

- the information given in the directors' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within 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. The financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

The Companies Act 2014 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion, the requirements of any of sections 305 to 312 of the Act, which relate to disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions are not complied with by the Company. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the statement of directors' responsibilities, 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 charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the charitable 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.

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.

Thomas McDonagh

for and on behalf of UHY Farrelly Dawe White Limited

Chartered Certified Accountants

Statutory Auditor

Fingal Bay Business Park

Unit 4A, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin

Ireland

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

		Unrestricted funds 2022	Restricted funds 2022	Unrestricted funds 2021	Restricted funds 2021	Total 2021	Total 2020
	Notes	€	€	€	€	€	€
Income from:							
Charitable activities	2	323,981	417,866	741,847	115,436	400,222	515,658
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	3	201,447	403,935	605,382	110,113	358,467	468,580
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	9	(110,444)	-	(110,444)	76,922	-	76,922
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net movement in funds		12,090	13,931	26,021	82,245	41,755	124,000
Fund balances at 1 January 2022		1,449,958	116,570	1,566,528	1,367,713	74,815	1,442
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Fund balances at 31 December 2022		1,462,048	130,501	1,592,549	1,449,958	116,570	1,566,528
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022		2021	
		€	€	€	€
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		5,438		7,925
Investments	11		1,061,862		1,172,306
			<u> </u>		<u> </u>
			1,067,300		1,180,231
Current assets					
Debtors	12	96,399		108,366	
Cash at bank and in hand		525,524		438,643	
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>	
		621,923		547,009	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
	13	(96,674)		(160,712)	
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>	
Net current assets			525,249		386,297
			<u> </u>		<u> </u>
Total assets less current liabilities			1,592,549		1,566,528
			<u> </u>		<u> </u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds			130,501		116,570
Unrestricted funds			1,462,048		1,449,958
			<u> </u>		<u> </u>
			1,592,549		1,566,528
			<u> </u>		<u> </u>

The financial statements were approved by the Directors on _____.

Tim Fulcher
 Director

John Paul Doris
 Director

Company Registration No. 151473

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022		2021	
		€	€	€	€
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	20		88,056		169,947)
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(1,175)		-	
Purchase of investments		-		(250,000)	
		<hr/>		<hr/>	
Net cash used in investing activities			(1,175)		(250,000)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
			<hr/>		<hr/>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			86,881		(80,053)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			438,643		518,696
			<hr/>		<hr/>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			525,524		438,643
			<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Irish College of Ophthalmologists is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in Ireland. The registered office is 121 St Stephens Green, Dublin 2, Co. Dublin, Ireland..

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis in accordance with the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" issued by the Financial Reporting Council. The company has applied the recommendations contained in Charities SORP (FRS 102) effective since 1 January 2015.

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

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. 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 charity 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 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the directors in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Grants from governments and institutional donors, are recognised as income when the activities which they are intended to fund have been undertaken, the related expenditure incurred, and there is reasonable certainty of receipt.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1 Accounting policies

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

1.6 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:

Plant and equipment	12.5% straight line
Fixtures and fittings	12.5% straight line
Computers	33.33% 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 recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.8 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents 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.

1.10 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

1 Accounting policies

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations 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. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Employee benefits

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 charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.12 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 €	Restricted funds 2022 €	Total 2022 €	Total 2021 €
Membership subscriptions	74,640	-	74,640	66,480
Ongoing Professional Education	28,866	20,000	48,866	24,806
Professional Competence Scheme	27,070	-	7,070	18,350
Fellowship Grants	-	25,000	25,000	18,500
Specialist Training - HSE Income	-	271,548	271,548	245,404
Clinical Programme - HSE Income	-	81,318	81,318	81,318
Other income including International Programme	55,000	20,000	75,000	55,000
Other Income - (medical council)	5,800	-	5,800	,800
Annual Conference	132,605	-	132,605	-
Total	323,981	417,866	721,847	515,6581

3 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 €	Restricted funds 2022 €	Total 2022 €	Total 2021 €
Staff costs	62,623	190,499	253,122	233,732
Specialist training	37,119	85,959	123,078	135,540
Accreditation Project	-	54,808	54,808	-
Clinical Programme	-	31,502	31,502	31,672
Fellowship grants paid	-	25,000	25,000	18,500
Conference costs	69,980	-	69,980	-
College expenses	22,141	13,232	35,373	35,343
Audit fees	2,808	2,807	5,615	4,866
Legal & professional fees	2,986	-	2,986	4,152
Bank charges	128	128	256	233
Depreciation and impairment	3,662	-	3,662	,542
	201,447	403,935	605,382	468,580

4 Net movement in funds

	2022 €	2021 €
Net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting)		
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	3,662	4,542

5 Directors

None of the directors (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

6 Accreditation Project

	2022 €	2021 €
Three year Project: Year One Costs	54,808	-
	<u>54,808</u>	<u>-</u>

The Programme of Speciality Training in Ophthalmology was formally accredited by the Medical Council in 2021.

The implementation of the Medical Council conditions and recommendations requires additional resources. The budget for specialist training has been increased to reflect the increased resources for the Dean from 0.4 to 0.8 WTE.

7 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2022 Number	2021 Number
Administration	5	5
	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>

Employment costs

	2022 €	2021 €
Wages and salaries	220,162	209,805
Social security costs	24,281	21,792
Pension costs	8,679	2,135
	<u>253,122</u>	<u>233,732</u>

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was more than €60,000 is as follows:

	2022 Number	2021 Number
€60,000 to €70,000	-	-
€70,001 to €80,000	1	1
€80,000 to €90,000	-	-
€90,001 to €100,000	-	-
Over €100,000	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

8 Key management compensation

	2022 €	2021 €
Gross salary	192,711	191,605
Employers' pension contribution	8,679	2,135
	<u>201,390</u>	<u>193,740</u>

9 Net gains/(losses) on investments

	Unrestricted 2022 €	Total 2021 €
Fair value gains / (losses)	(110,444)	76,922
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and equipment €	Fixtures and fittings €	Computers €	Total €
Cost				
At 1 January 2022	135,360	17,907	25,308	178,575
Additions	-	-	1,175	1,175
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 December 2022	135,360	17,907	26,483	179,7505
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 January 2022	135,360	12,227	23,063	170,650
Depreciation charged in the year	-	1,894	1,768	3,662
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 December 2022	135,360	14,121	24,831	174,312
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Carrying amount				
At 31 December 2022	-	3,786	1,652	5,438
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 December 2021	-	5,680	2,245	7,925
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

11 Fixed asset investments

	Unlisted investments €
Cost or valuation	
At 1 January 2022	1,172,306
Valuation changes	(110,444)
	<u> </u>
At 31 December 2022	1,061,862
	<u> </u>
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2022	1,061,862
	<u> </u>
At 31 December 2021	1,172,306
	<u> </u>

12 Debtors

	2022	2021
Amounts falling due within one year:	€	€
Trade debtors	90,009	90,132
Other debtors	-	11,707
Prepayments and accrued income	6,390	6,527
	<u>96,399</u>	<u>108,366</u>

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2022	2021
		€	€
Taxation		15,758	16,430
Deferred income	14	32,600	96,900
Trade creditors		38,278	40,365
Other creditors		1,342	-
Accruals		8,696	7,017
		<u>96,674</u>	<u>160,712</u>

14 Deferred income

	2022	2021
	€	€
Other deferred income	32,600	96,900
	<u>32,600</u>	<u>96,900</u>

15 Statement of funds

	Balance 1 January 2022 €	Incoming resources €	Resources expended €	Transfers €	Balance 31 December 2022 €
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	1,449,958	323,981	(311,890)	-	1,462,049
Restricted funds					
Restricted funds	116,570	417,866	(403,935)	-	130,501
	<u>1,566,528</u>	<u>741,847</u>	<u>(715,825)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,592,550</u>

16 Financial commitments, guarantees and contingent liabilities

The company had no material contingent liabilities at the year end 31 December 2022.

17 Events after the reporting date

There were no significant events affecting the company since the year end 31 December 2022.

18 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2022 - none).

19 Status

The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of its being wound up while they are members or within one year thereafter for the payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before they ceased to be members and the costs, charges and expenses of winding up and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves such amount as may be required, not exceeding €1.00.

20 Cash generated from operations	2022	2021
	€	€
Surplus for the year	26,021	124,000
Adjustments for:		
Fair value gains and losses on investments		(76,922)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	3,662	4,542
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease in debtors	11,967	67,493
Increase in creditors	262	41,734
(Decrease)/increase in deferred income	(64,300)	9,100)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash generated from operations	88,056	169,947
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

21 Approval of financial statements

The directors approved the financial statements on _____.

IRISH COLLEGE OF OPHTHALMOLOGISTS

About the ICO

Established in 1992, the Irish College of Ophthalmologists (ICO) is the recognised training and professional body for medical and surgical eye doctors in Ireland.

The ICO is a registered Irish charity. We are committed to the advancement and improvement of eye health and patient safety and work to protect, enhance and promote the highest standards in the delivery of eye care.

The delivery of healthcare requires a lifelong commitment to learning and the ICO's goal is to provide and support education and learning for ophthalmologists in training, in practice and those who work alongside them as they deliver care to patients.



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