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# Link Credit Union **Meeting All Your Banking Needs**

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ANNUAL **REPORT 2021** Accounts & Notice of AGM

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LINK CREDIT UNION



ACCOUNTS & NOTICE OF AGM 2021

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# NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Due to the ongoing uncertainty posed by COVID-19 and in the interest of health & safety of our members, the Board of Link Credit Union Limited are holding our 2021 AGM by virtual means.

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Link Credit Union Limited will take place on **Thursday 16th December 2021 at 7pm via Zoom Webinar**.

# Members wishing to attend the Virtual AGM need to register before 5.30pm on Friday 10th December 2021 by sending an email to agm2021@linkcu.ie providing the following information:

- Name
- Membership Number
- Date of Birth

This information will be verified against the members records with the credit union. The same email address cannot be used for multiple registrations.

#### The following information is pertinent to this notice:

- Link Credit Union Limited will be using Zoom Webinar as the electronic platform to host the meeting.
- Closing date for registration is **5.30pm on Friday 10th December 2021**.
- The credit union will be verifying member details prior to invitations being sent, including the requirement to have up-to-date, acceptable photographic identification and address verification on file with the Credit Union.
- If information is not up to date, the credit union will notify you by email.
- Once the verification process is complete, a link to the Virtual AGM will be emailed to you by Tuesday 14th December. (Please ensure to check your junk and spam folders for this email).
- The relevant reports/minutes together with a Zoom tutorial will be available in the secure members area of our website, under documents, in advance of the meeting, this may allow some of the reports to be taken as read, if there are no objections. If you are not registered, please register at www.linkcu.ie
- All non-presenting participants will be muted and have their cameras switched off to allow the smooth running of the meeting. However, you can type a question to the Chairperson by clicking on the "Q&A" button of the screen, at any time during the meeting. We will endeavour to answer questions asked at the AGM, time permitting, but may come back to individual members after the AGM.
- Questions can be submitted ahead of the meeting to agm2021@linkcu.ie by Friday 10th December at 5.30pm.
- Elections for the position of Auditor, Board Oversight Committee and Board of Directors will take place. Voting will be conducted by way of online poll and each member will be asked to vote Yes/ No electronically for each candidate when instructed by the Chairperson. The votes will be tallied electronically and announced by the Chairperson.
- Members are not permitted to record the meeting.

Navid Nonagh David Donagh Hon Secretary



# AGM AGENDA

Thursday 16th December 2021 at 7pm

Standard Rules 96(4):

The business at annual general meetings of the members shall be:

- 1. The acceptance by the Board of Directors of the authorised representatives of members that are not natural persons;
- 2. Ascertain that a quorum is present;
- 3. Adoption of Standing Orders;
- 4. Reading and Approval (or correction) of the minutes of the last AGM;
- 5. Report of the Directors;
- 6. Report of the Board Oversight Committee;
- 7. Chairpersons Address;
- 8. Committee Reports;
  - a. Report of the Credit Committee;
  - b.Report of the Credit Control Committee;
  - c. Report of the Membership Committee;
  - d.Report of the Donations & Promotions Committee;
- 9. Auditors Report to the Members;
- 10. Consideration of Accounts;
- 11. Declaration of Dividend and Rebate of Interest;
- 12. Motions for Consideration;
- 13. Report of the Nominations Committee;
- 14. Appointment of Tellers;
- 15. Election of Auditor;
- 16. Election to fill vacancies on Board Oversight Committee;
- 17. Election to fill vacancies on Board of Directors;
- 18. Members Draw;
- 19. Any Other Business;
- 20. Announcement of Election Results;
- 21. Adjournment or Close of Meeting.

The members assembled at any annual general meeting may suspend the order of business upon two-thirds (2/3) votes of the members present at the meeting.



# **DIRECTORS & OTHER INFORMATION**

#### DIRECTORS

Michael Donohoe Chairperson Vice Chairperson Ian Primrose David Donagh Secretary **Frank Corbally** Ann Gray Hugh Lynch Rosemarie Lynch Jim Kearns Mary McMahon Paula Nolan **Rachael Roycroft Martin Smith** Patricia Wakely

Resigned July 2021

Resigned January 2021 Co-opted June 2021

Resigned June 2021 Co-opted January 2021

#### **BOARD OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Darragh Smith William Doyle Marie McCabe	Chair Resigned July 2021
CEO	Angela Rice
<b>Registered Office</b>	Main Street, Kingscourt, Co. Cavan.
Auditors	J.P Rundle & Co., Moore Hall, Ardee, Co. Louth.
Bankers	Bank of Ireland, Main Street, Bailieborough, Co. Cavan
	Intesa Sanpaolo Group Services, Filialw Financial Institutions, Via Langhirano, 1 43125 Parma, Italy.
Solicitors	Patrick J. Carolan & Co., Market Square, Kingscourt, Co. Cavan.



# MODEL STANDING ORDERS FOR CREDIT UNIONS

#### Virtual/Hybrid Annual General Meeting (ROI)

#### **1. VOTING**

 Each member is entitled to one vote irrespective of his/her shareholding, and only the first named member on joint accounts, in accordance with section 82(2) of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended). Since this year's AGM will be a virtual meeting, all voting will be by electronic means. Each member registered for and attending the virtual AGM, will be given the opportunity to exercise their vote electronically during the meeting.

#### 2. ELECTION PROCEDURE - ELECTRONIC VOTING

- 2. Following the announcement of nominations, attendees will be given the opportunity to vote electronically "Yes" or "No" for each candidate. Those in attendance will be given 20 seconds to record their vote. The mechanics of the electronic voting process will be explained in more detail at the AGM by the Chair. Elections shall be in the following order:
  - a. Elections for Auditor
  - b. Elections for membership of the Board Oversight Committee
  - c. Elections for membership of the Board of Directors
- **3.** The votes will be tallied electronically. When all elections have been completed and results become available, the Chair will announce the results.

#### **4-8 MOTIONS**

- 4. Members will be permitted to move motions from the floor but should give the credit union advance notice in order permit a smooth and efficient management of this process, as the meeting is being held remotely. Please send by email to agm2021@linkcu.ie before 5.30pm on Friday 10th December 2021.
- **5.** Members will be invited to submit questions to the board via "Q&A" button on the toolbar in the Zoom Webinar and the board will address these during the AGM.
- **6.** All reports to the membership must be proposed and seconded by members present at the AGM.
- **7.** A proposer of a motion may speak for such period as shall be at the discretion of the Chair of the meeting and shall have the right of reply before the motion is put to the meeting for a vote.
- **8.** The Chair shall have the absolute right to decide at any time when a motion has been sufficiently discussed.

#### 9-13 MISCELLANEOUS

- **9.** The Chair of the Board of Directors shall be the Chair of any general meeting, except where he/she is not available, in which case it shall be the Vice-chair, except where he/she is not available, in which case the board shall decide amongst themselves who shall act as Chair of any general meeting.
- **10.** The Chair may at his/her discretion, extend the privilege of the floor to any person who is not a member.
- **11.** Matters not covered by the Agenda may be introduced under "Other Business" at the discretion of the Chair.



- **12.** The Chair shall have the absolute right to decide at any time when a topic has been sufficiently discussed.
- **13.** No member shall have more than one vote on each question at any general meeting of the credit union or any adjournment thereof irrespective of his/her shareholding or the number of accounts in his/her name in the credit union provided, however, except in voting at elections, the presiding member shall have a second or casting vote in the event of equality of voting. Voting by proxy shall be allowed only when a member other than a natural person votes through a representative, who is a member of the group, duly authorised in writing for that purpose and accepted as such by the board of directors. Proxies must be received by 5.30pm on Friday 10th December 2021.

#### 14-15 SUSPENSION/ALTERATION OF STANDING ORDERS

- **14.** Any one of these Standing Orders or all of these Standing Orders may be suspended on a motion to this effect receiving a two-thirds majority of those present and entitled to vote.
- **15.** Standing Orders may be amended or altered at a general meeting and only if a motion to this effect has received a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.

#### **16 ADJOURNMENTS**

**16.** Adjournments of the AGM shall take place only in accordance with section 81(1) of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended)

#### **17-22 VIRTUAL MEETING ITEMS**

- **17.** All non-presenting participants will be muted and have their cameras switched off to allow the smooth running of the meeting.
- **18.** A member shall only address the meeting when called upon by the Chair to do so, when invited to contribute.
- **19.** All members are asked to utilise the "Q&A" button on the bottom of the toolbar in Zoom Webinar to ask questions.
- **20.** All members are reminded to conduct themselves in a professional manner. Please refrain from sharing any explicit, violent or inappropriate content.
- 21. Provision shall be made for the protection of the Chair from vilification (personal abuse).
- **22.** All members are asked to turn their mobile phone on silent as even the vibrate setting can cause disruptions.

# NOTICE OF **ELECTIONS**

#### Elections will be held to fill the following vacancies:

- Two vacancies on the Board of Directors
- Two vacancies on the Board Oversight Committee
- The position of Auditor

During the course of the year the Nomination Committee identified candidates to stand for the above positions and they have been assessed under the Fitness and Probity Regime, as required by the Central Bank, with satisfactory results. If you are interested in standing for the Board of Directors or Board Oversight Committee, please contact the Nominations Committee on: **volunteer@linkcu.ie** 



# DIRECTORS REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30th September 2021

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 30th September 2021.

#### **REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS**

The pandemic has resulted in unprecedented challenges for everyone. We have seen extreme measures taken to protect public health, which have triggered an extraordinary economic shock. For credit unions, like others, 2020 was a very challenging year, both operationally and financially. Those challenges persisted into 2021, as the pandemic continued. The full impact of the shock to the economy and financial system is not yet fully realised.

Given the continued risks and uncertainties associated with the virus, the near-term economic outlook remains uncertain. We continue to strengthen our operational and financial resilience, supported by robust risk management.

#### THE CREDIT UNION'S OBJECTIVES, POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

The principal objectives of the Credit Union involves the acceptance of members shares/savings and lending to members at a fair and reasonable rate of interest in accordance with legislation and criteria determined by the Credit Union itself. The principal risks and challenges facing the Credit Union are loan default; not lending a sufficient proportion of funds so that too much of the Credit Union's resources are tied up in investment products; poor performance of investments; and the risk that we will not have sufficient cash resources to meet day to day running costs and repay members savings when demanded (liquidity risk). These risks are managed by the Credit Union board so as to achieve an acceptable balance of growth and security for members' resources.

#### **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 employing accounting personnel with the appropriate expertise and by providing adequate resources to the financial function. The books of the Credit Union are maintained at the Credit Union's premises at Main Street, Bailieborough, Co. Cavan.

#### **POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS**

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

#### **AUDITORS**

The auditors, J.P. Rundle & Co, have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with Section 115 of the Credit Union Act 1997, as amended.

On behalf of the Credit Union Board

Michael Donohoe Michael Donohoe

Chairperson 28<sup>th</sup> October 2021 Vavid Vonagh David Donagh Secretary 28th October 2021



# STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS RESPONSIBILITIES

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:

- (i) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- (ii) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- (iii) prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the credit union will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Credit Union and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements are prepared in accordance with applicable Irish law and Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, including the standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, and in particular FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". They are 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.

On behalf of the Board of Directors

Michael Donohoe Michael Donohoe Chairperson 28<sup>th</sup> October 2021 Vavid Vonagh David Donagh Secretary 28th October 2021

# STATEMENT OF BOARD OVERSIGHT COMMITTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

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 in respect of which they are to have regard to, in relation to the board.

On behalf of the Board Oversight Committee

Darragh Smith Darragh Smith Chairperson 28th October 2021



# CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

I warmly welcome you all to our 2021 Annual General Meeting which is, once again, taking place virtually. 2021 was a significant year for Link Credit Union as it marked the 50th anniversary of the formation of Kingscourt Credit Union (now Link Credit Union). Unfortunately, we were unable to gather to mark this historic milestone, and to pay tribute to those visionary pioneers who came together to form what has become a vibrant credit union for the people of Kingscourt, Bailieborough, Moynalty and surrounding areas.

Sadly, April 2021 saw the passing of one of those visionary pioneers – Matt Donagh, who served on the first Board of Directors of Kingscourt Credit Union. We remember Matt and extend our sympathies to the Donagh family.

2021 was another challenging year for us all as we continued to grapple with the impact of Covid-19. While some restrictions remained in place to ensure the ongoing health, safety and wellbeing of our members and staff, Link Credit Union remained open and accessible to members. While our doors remain open, more and more members are now choosing to conduct their business online via our website or the CU Mobile App. Although we will continue to welcome members into our offices, our range of online services gives members the flexibility to conduct their business anytime and from anywhere, 24/7, 365 days of the year.

For the financial year 2020/2021 we achieved an overall surplus of  $\leq 259,402$ . While this is notably higher than last year's surplus of  $\leq 72,024$ , we continue to be mindful of the many challenges within the national and international economic environments. There is still much uncertainty regarding the trajectory of Covid-19, whilst the full impact of Brexit has yet to emerge.

Link Credit Union issued loans of €9,313,677 which is an increase of 3.9% on last year's figure of €8,963,797. While this signals a recovery of sorts, particularly in Quarters 3 and 4, there is still work to be done in order to sustain and build on this growth in the coming years as our economy continues to recover. It is also yet another reminder that Link Credit Union is capable of meeting your lending needs now and into the future, and with the automation of our loan application and draw down processes, borrowing from Link Credit Union has never been easier or more convenient.

Low to negative interest rates continue to impact on our return on investments which now stands at 0.63%. Consequently, the Board has once again taken the decision not to pay a dividend or interest rebate for the 2020/2021 financial year. This is in keeping with the prudent approach outlined at our AGMs, and in line with Central Bank's expectations.

Savings levels across the Credit Union movement have continued to rise throughout 2021. Saving levels in Link Credit Union have risen by a further  $\leq 8.8$  m in 2020/2021, now standing at  $\leq 96.2$ m. As signalled at our last AGM, the Board of Directors is monitoring the situation closely at the local and movement wide level to assess the continued appropriateness of our existing share cap of  $\leq 25,000$ . As always, we will communicate with you through our usual channels if any changes to this share cap are required.

On a personal level, as I conclude my term as Chairperson, I would like to thank the management and staff for their hard work, commitment and resilience in what has been a challenging year on many levels. In 2021 a number of staff members suffered the loss of close family members. We extend our sympathies to them and their families as they mourn the loss of their loved ones.



I would like to thank my fellow Directors and Board Oversight Committee members for their untiring support, commitment and dedication to Link Credit Union throughout 2021. I would especially like to acknowledge the contribution of Frank Corbally, a long-serving Director, who stood down from the Board in 2021. As Chairperson of Kingscourt Credit Union, Frank was a key player in the formation of Link Credit Union and served as the first Chairperson following the merger of Kingscourt, Bailieborough and St Mary's Moynalty Credit Unions. Sincere thanks are also due to Rosemarie Lynch, Paula Nolan and William Doyle who stood down from the Board of Directors and Board Oversight Committee during 2021. I would also like to welcome Rachael Roycroft and Jim Kearns who were co-opted on to the Board during the year. I want to convey a sincere thank you to Martin Smith, who is standing down at this AGM, for his untiring support of and commitment to Link Credit Union over the past number of years. I also wish those directors and Board Oversight Committee members standing for election this evening well and look forward to working with you all over the coming year.

Finally, thank you, the members, for your continued support and confidence in Link Credit Union and remember your Credit Union remains open for business and will continue serving your financial needs now and into the future.

Please continue to stay safe over the coming months.

Michael Donohoe Michael Donohoe Chairperson



# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF LINK CREDIT UNION LIMITED

#### **REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

#### **OPINION**

We have audited the Financial Statements of Link Credit Union Limited for the year ended 30th September 2021, which comprise the Income and Expenditure Account, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Reserves and Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 2. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish law and FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

#### IN OUR OPINION THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the Credit Union's affairs as at 30th September 2021 and of its income and expenditure and cash flows 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 described below 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 ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

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

#### CONCLUSION RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

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

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

#### **OTHER INFORMATION**

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

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Opinions on the 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 we considered were necessary for the purposes of our audit.
- In our opinion proper accounting records have been kept by the Credit Union, and
- The financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

#### **RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements**

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

In preparing for 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 and 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.

Further details relating to our work as auditor is set out in the Scope of Responsibilities Statement contained in the appendix of this report, which is to be read as an integral part of our report.

#### Purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

This 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 auditors' 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.

#### **Paul Rundle FCCA - Statutory Auditor**

#### For and on behalf of

#### J.P. Rundle & Co.

Chartered Certified Accountants and Registered Auditors, Moore Hall, Ardee, Co. Louth. 28<sup>th</sup> October 2021



# APPENDIX TO THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

#### Further information regarding the scope of our responsibilities as auditor

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

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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.



# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### Income & Expenditure Account

For the year ended 30th September 2021

Income		Schedule	2021 €	2020 €
Interest on members' loans		1	1,653,073	1,765,049
		2	.,	.,,,.
Other interest and similar inc	come	2	560,205	525,165
Net interest income			2,213,278	2,290,214
Other income		3	146,227	23,838
Total Income			2,359,505	2,314,052
Expenditure				
Salaries, pension and other v	-	4	887,692	896,877
Other management expense	S	4	1,290,349	1,295,613
Depreciation Net impairment losses/(gains	-)		80,645 (158,583)	74,155 (24,617)
on loans to members (note 5			(156,565)	(24,017)
Total Expenditure			2,100,103	2,242,028
Total Expenditure			2,100,103	2,242,028
Total Expenditure Statement of comprehensi	ve income		2,100,103	2,242,028
Statement of comprehensi			2,100,103 2021 €	2,242,028 2020 €
Statement of comprehensi	tember 2021		2021	2020
Statement of comprehensi For the year ended 30 <sup>th</sup> Sep	tember 2021		2021 €	2020 €
Statement of comprehensi For the year ended 30 <sup>th</sup> Sep Surplus for the financial year	e		2021 €	2020 €
<b>Statement of comprehensi</b> <b>For the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> Sep</b> Surplus for the financial year Other comprehensive incom	e ne for the year	_	<b>2021</b> € 259,402 -	<b>2020</b> € 72,024
Statement of comprehensi For the year ended 30 <sup>th</sup> Sep Surplus for the financial year Other comprehensive incom Total comprehensive incom On behalf of the Credit Unic Michael Donohoe Chairperson of the	e ne for the year		<b>2021</b> € 259,402 -	<b>2020</b> € 72,024

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# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### Balance Sheet

#### As at 30th September 2021

Assets		Notes	2021 €	2020 €
Cash and balances at ban Deposits and investments Deposits and investments Loans to members Less: Impairment of Bad a Members' overdrawn curr Tangible Fixed Assets Prepayments and Accrueo	– Cash Equivalents – other and Doubtful Debts rent accounts	6 7 9 10 15 12 13	3,550,229 14,521,870 78,827,866 18,510,838 (1,490,969) 525 724,480 93,122	2,520,934 11,836,591 72,560,309 19,010,189 (1,467,389) - 805,125 100,364
Total Assets			114,737,961	105,366,123
<b>Other Liabilities</b> Other Liabilities and Char Bank Overdraft	ges	14	404,626 201,212	248,353 134,092
			605,838	382,445
Members' Liabilities			,	,
Members' Savings Members' EFT Accounts Members' Current Accour	its	15 15 15	85,263,019 9,670,400 1,271,361	79,798,778 7,095,960 420,999
Total Liabilities			96,810,618	87,698,182
Members Resources/Res	serves			
Regulatory reserves Operational risk reserve MPCAS Reserve Other reserves   Retained - Realised reserves - Unrealised reserves	Earnings		12,129,156 500,000 200,000 5,098,187	11,629,156 500,000 200,000 5,338,785
Total Reserves			17,927,343	17,667,941
Total Liabilities and Reserves			114,737,961	105,366,123
On behalf of the Credit U Michael Donohoe Chairperson of the Board of Directors 28 <sup>th</sup> October 2021	nion Darragh Smith Chairperson of the B Oversight Committee 28 <sup>th</sup> October 2021		Angela Rice CEO 28 <sup>th</sup> October 202	21



# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**Statement of changes in reserves** For the year ended 30th September 2021

#### **MOVEMENT IN RESERVES**

	Regulatory Reserve €	MPCAS Reserve €	Operational Risk reserve €	Dividend Reserve €	Unallocated Surplus €	Total €
As at 1 October 2019	10,879,156	200,000	500,000	255,833	5,760,928	17,595,917
Surplus for the year Dividends paid during the year	-	-	-	-	72,024	72,024
Loan Interest rebate paid during the year Transfer between reserves	- 750,000		-		- (750,000)	-
Closing Balance at 30 September 2020	11,629,156	200,000	500,000	255,833	5,082,952	17,667,941
<b>Opening Balance</b> <b>at 1 October 2020</b> Surplus for the year Dividends paid during the year Loan Interest rebate paid during the year Transfer between reserves	<b>11,629,156</b> - - 500,000	200,000	<b>500,000</b> - - -	<b>255,833</b> - - -	<b>5,082,952</b> 259,402 - - (500,000)	<b>17,667,941</b> 259,402 - -
Closing Balance at 30th September 2021	12,129,156	200,000	500,000	255,833	4,842,354	17,927,343

- The Regulatory reserve of the credit union as a % of total assets as at 30 September 2021 was 10.57% (2020: 11.04%) which is in excess of the 10% required limit.
- In accordance with Section 45 of the Credit Union Act 1997 as amended Link Credit Union Limited put in place an Operational Risk Reserve. (This represents 0.44% of Total Assets)
- In accordance with Central Bank Requirements Link Credit Union Limited put in place an MPCAS Operational Risk Reserve. (This represents 0.17% of Total Assets)



# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**Cash Flow Statement** 

For the year ended 30th September 2021

Cash flows from operating activities	Notes	2021 €	2020 €
Operating Surplus Depreciation Impairment of bad and Doubtful debts	12 10	259,402 80,645 93,729	72,024 74,155 194,458
Net cash inflow from trading activities		433,776	340,637
New loans to members Repayment of members loans Dividend and interest rebate Net movement in other assets Net movement in other creditors Net movement in EFT accounts	9 9 15	(9,313,677) 9,742,879 - 7,242 156,273 2,574,440	(8,963,797) 9,714,233 - 178 (36,714) 1,885,173
Net movement in current accounts Net cash flows from operating activities	15	849,837 <b>4,450,770</b>	415,935 <b>3,355,645</b>
Cash flows from investing activities		1,100,170	0,000,010
Purchase of property, plant and equipment Net movement in investments	12	- (6,267,557)	(158,379) (4,252,859)
Net cash generated from investing activities		(6,267,557)	(4,411,238)
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b> New shares by members Repayment of shares	15 15	28,626,953 (23,162,712)	26,809,698 (22,869,757)
Net cash generated from financing activities		5,464,241	3,939,941
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		3,647,454	2,884,348
Cash and cash equivalents at 1st October		14,223,433	11,339,085
Closing cash and cash equivalents at 30th September		17,870,887	14,223,433



#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For year ended 30th September 2021

#### 1. LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Link Credit Union Limited is established under the Credit Union Act 1997, as amended. Link Credit Union Limited is registered with the Registrar of Credit Unions and is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. The principal place of business is Main Street, Kingscourt, Co. Cavan.

#### 2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Statement of compliance and basis of preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 (the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland). The financial statements are prepared on the historical cost basis except for the modification to a fair value basis for certain financial instruments as specified in the accounting policies below.

#### Currency

The financial statements are prepared in Euro, which is the functional currency of the Credit Union. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest Euro.

#### **Going concern**

The financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis. The directors of Link Credit Union Limited believe that this is appropriate as the Credit Union:

- is generating annual surpluses;
- · maintains an appropriate level of liquidity: and
- has reserves that are currently above the minimum requirements of the Central Bank.

#### Income

#### Interest on Members' Loans

Interest on loans to members is recognised using the effective interest method and is calculated and accrued on a daily basis.

#### Investment Income

Investment income is recognised on the accruals basis.

#### Other Income

Other income such as commissions receivable on insurance products and foreign exchange services arises in connection to specific transactions. Income relating to individual transactions is recognised when the transaction is completed.

#### **Government Grants**

Government grants are recognised at their fair value in the income and expenditure account where there is a reasonable assurance that the grant will be received and the credit union has complied with all attached conditions. Capital Grants received where the credit union has yet to comply with all attached conditions are recognised as a liability (and included in deferred income within creditors and accruals) and released to income when all attached conditions have been complied with. Government grants received are included in "other income" in the income and expenditure account. The revenue grant during the year relates to contributions towards employee costs.

#### Dividends to members and loan interest rebates

Dividends are made from current year's surplus or the dividend reserve set aside for that purpose. The board's proposed distribution to members each year is based on the Distribution Policy of the Credit Union.



The rate of dividend and loan interest rebate recommended by the Board of Directors will reflect:

- the risk profile of the Credit Union, particularly in its loan & investment books;
- the Board's desire to maintain a stable rather than a volatile rate of dividend each year; and
- members' legitimate dividend 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 the reserves to absorb unexpected shocks and still remain above the minimum regulatory requirements.

Link Credit Union Limited accounts for dividends and rebates of loan interest when members ratify such payments at the Annual General Meeting.

#### Taxation

The Credit Union is not subject to income tax or corporation tax on its activities as a Credit Union.

#### **Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets comprises items of property, plant and equipment, which are stated at cost, less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the asset.

Depreciation is provided to write off the cost of each item of property, plant and equipment, less its estimated residual value, on a straight line basis over its estimated useful life. The categories of property, plant and equipment are depreciated as follows:

Land	No Depreciation	
Buildings	50 years	2% Straight line
Fixtures & Fittings	5 years	20% Straight line
Computer	3 years	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 Income and Expenditure Account.

#### Impairment of tangible fixed assets

At each reporting date, Link Credit Union Limited reviews the carrying value of its tangible fixed 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). Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the Credit Union estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset for which the estimates of future cash flows have not been adjusted. If the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised immediately in the Income and Expenditure account.

Recognised impairment losses are reversed if, and only if, the reasons for the impairment loss have ceased to apply. Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but so that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying 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.

#### **Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and loans and advances to banks (i.e. cash deposited with banks and bonds) with maturity of less than or equal to three months.



#### **Financial instruments**

The Credit Union 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 when the Credit Union becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when, and only 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. Financial assets and liabilities are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into.

#### **Basic financial assets**

Basic financial assets are initially measured at the transaction price, including transaction costs, and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Basic financial instruments include the following:

#### Loans to members - Financial Assets

Loans to members 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.

#### Investments

Investments are accounted for differently depending on how the different investments are designated at the outset and based on meeting certain criteria. The Credit Union uses the following accounting methods:

a. Held at Amortised Cost

Investments 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. This effectively spreads out the return on such investments over time, but does take account immediately of any impairment in the value of the investment.

b. Investments at Fair Value

Investments held which are considered non-basic financial instruments under Section 11 of FRS 102 and investment in stock market shares (i.e. non-convertible preference shares and non-puttable ordinary shares or preference shares) are included in this category. They 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.

c. Central Bank Deposits

Credit Unions are obliged to maintain certain minimum deposits with the Central Bank but may also hold an excess over the regulatory minimum. The regulatory minimum deposits are technically assets of the Credit Union but to which the Credit Union has restricted access. The regulatory minimum portion will not ordinarily be returned to the Credit Union while it is a going concern and are separately identified in note 7. Funds held with the Central Bank in excess of the regulatory minimum requirements are fully available to the credit union and are therefore treated as cash equivalents and included with other on demand cash deposits with banks. The amounts held on deposit with the Central Bank are not subject to impairment reviews.

#### **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.



#### Impairment of financial assets

Link Credit Union Limited assesses, at each balance sheet date, if there is objective evidence that any of its financial assets are impaired. That means that as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows have been affected. In the case of impairment of loans to members, 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, during the course of the year, there is objective evidence that any individual loan is impaired, a specific loss will be recognised. Any impairment losses are recognised in the Income and Expenditure Account as the difference between the carrying value of the loan and the net present value of the expected cash flows. 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.

#### **De-recognition of financial assets**

Financial assets are de-recognised only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire or are settled, or when the Credit Union transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party. In the case of loans to members, loans are de-recognised when the right to receive cash flows from the asset have expired, usually when all amounts outstanding have been repaid by the member. Link Credit Union Limited does not transfer loans to third parties.

#### **Basic financial liabilities**

Basic financial liabilities are initially recognised at the transaction price, including transaction costs, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### Financial liabilities - members' shares

Member's shareholdings in Link Credit Union Limited 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.

#### Other payables

Other payables are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Other payables are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **De-recognition of financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are de-recognised when the obligations of the Credit Union specified in the contract are discharged, cancelled or expire.

#### **Employee benefits**

#### Pension scheme

Link Credit Union Limited participates 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. The scheme is a multi-employer Scheme and due to the nature of the Scheme, it is not possible for Link Credit Union Limited to separately identify its share of the Scheme's underlying assets and liabilities. Consequently, it accounts for the Scheme as a defined contribution plan.



#### Short term employee benefits

The cost of short term employee benefits, including holiday pay, are recognised as a liability and as an expense over the period they are earned.

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

#### Reserves

Reserves/retained earnings are the accumulated surpluses to date that have not been declared as dividends returnable to members. The 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.

#### Regulatory reserve

The Credit Union is required to maintain and establish a minimum Regulatory reserve of at least 10% of the assets of the Credit Union in accordance with Credit Union Act 1997 (Regulatory Requirements) Regulations 2016.

#### Operational risk reserve

Section 45(5)(a) of the 1997 Act 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 definition of operational risk is the risk of losses stemming from inadequate or failed internal processes, people and systems or from external events. Link Credit Union Limited uses the Basic Indicator Approach as set out in the operational risk measurements proposed under Basel II capital adequacy rules for banking institutions in calculating the Operational Risk Reserve which will at a minimum equal 15% of the average gross income for the previous three years. For any year which there was a deficit, this will be excluded from the calculation.

#### Dividend reserve, General reserve and unallocated surplus

The dividend reserve and unallocated surplus are the accumulated surpluses to date that have not been declared as dividends or loan interest rebate returnable to members or set aside to the Regulatory or Operational Risk reserves.

#### Unrealised reserves

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 as a dividend in accordance with the Central Bank direction. All other income is classified as 'realised'. A reclassification between unrealised and realised is made as investments come to within 12 months of maturity date.

#### 3. USE OF ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain accounting estimates. It also requires the Directors to exercise judgement in applying Link Credit Union Limited's accounting policies. The areas requiring a higher degree of judgement, or complexity, and areas where assumptions or estimates are most significant to the financial statements are disclosed below:

#### 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. The useful lives are regularly reviewed and changed if necessary to reflect current conditions. In determining these useful lives, technological change, patterns of consumption, physical condition and expected economic utilisation of the assets are considered. Changes in the useful lives can have a significant impact on the depreciation charge for the financial year.



#### Impairment losses on loans to members

The Credit Union's accounting policy for impairment of financial assets is set out in the accounting policies. 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. Credit risk is identified, assessed and measured with the emphasis on weeks in arrears and other observable credit risk metrics. Loan loss provisioning is monitored by the Credit Union, and the Credit Union assesses and approves its provisions and provision adequacy on a quarterly basis. Key assumptions underpinning the Credit Union's estimates of collective provisions for loans with similar credit risk characteristics and Incurred But Not Reported provisions (IBNR) are based on the historical experiences of the Credit Union along with the Credit Union's judgement of relevant conditions in the wider technological, market, economic or legal environment in which the Credit Union operates. If a loan is impaired, the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount of the loan and the present value of the expected cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate taking account of pledged shares and other security as appropriate. After a period of time, when it is concluded that there is no real prospect of recovery of loans/part of loans which have been subjected to a specific provision, the Credit Union writes off that amount of the loan deemed irrecoverable against the specific provision held against the loan.

#### Operational risk reserve

The directors have considered the requirements of the Credit Union Act 1997, as amended and have considered an approach to the calculation of the operational risk reserve based on the indicative guidance issued by the Central Bank.

#### 4. KEY MANAGEMENT REMUNERATION

The Directors of Link Credit Union Limited are all unpaid volunteers. Remuneration of the key management team for Link Credit Union Limited is as follows:

		2021 €	2020 €
	Short term employees benefits paid to key management Payments to defined contribution/benefit pension scheme	242,232 34,745	243,350 34,341
	Total key management personnel compensation	276,977	277,691
5.	NET IMPAIRMENT (GAINS)/LOSS ON LOANS TO MEMBERS	2021 €	2020 €
	Bad Debts recovered Impairment of loan interest reclassified as bad debt recoveries Movement in loan provisions for the year Loans charged off	(220,881) (31,431) 23,580 70,149	(184,457) (34,618) 116,855 77,603
	Net impairment (gains)/loss on loans to members	(158,583)	(24,617)
6.	CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	2021 €	2020 €
	Cash balances Deposits and investments cash equivalents	3,550,229 14,521,870	2,520,934 11,836,591
	Total cash & cash equivalents	18,072,099	14,357,525
	Deposits and investments included under cash and cash equiva	lents above :	are those with

Deposits and investments included under cash and cash equivalents above are those with maturity of less than or equal to 3 months.



7.	DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS	2021	2020
	The credit union has the following investments:	2021 €	2020 €
	Irish and EEA State Securities	2,323,200	1,324,743
	Accounts in Authorised Credit Institutions	72,543,375	63,156,063
	Bank bonds	13,643,363	12,149,496
	Other	3,034,298	7,056,831
	Central Bank deposits - regulatory minimum	805,500	709,767
	Other Central Bank deposits	1,000,000	-
	<b>Total deposits and investments</b> Less: Deposits and investment cash equivalents	<b>93,349,736</b> (14,521,870)	<b>84,396,900</b> (11,836,591)
	Deposits and Investments - Other	78,827,866	72,560,309

#### 8. DIVIDEND AND LOAN INTEREST REBATE

The dividends and loan interest rebate for the current and prior year periods are detailed below: **Paid during the year** 

#### There were no dividends or loan interest rebates paid in the years 2020 or 2021.

#### Proposed, but not recognised

There were no dividends or loan interest rebates proposed in the years 2020 or 2021.

The dividend and any loan interest rebate are formally proposed by the directors after the year end and are confirmed at an AGM of the members. As a result the proposed dividend for the current year does not represent a liability at the balance sheet date and the dividend included in the Statement of Reserves in the current year relates to dividends paid to members for the prior year.

9.	FINANCIAL ASSETS – LOANS TO MEMBERS	2021 €	2020 €
	As at 1 October Advanced during the year Repaid during the year Loans charged off during the year	19,010,189 9,313,677 (9,742,879) (70,149)	19,838,228 8,963,797 (9,714,233) (77,603)
	Gross loans and advances	18,510,838	19,010,189
	Impairment Losses		
	Individual financial assets Group of financial assets	(829,499) (661,470)	(795,463) (671,926)
	Loan Provision	(1,490,969)	(1,467,389)
	Net loans as at 30 September	17,019,869	17,542,800
10	). MOVEMENT IN IMPAIRMENT FOR DOUBTFUL DEBTS	2021 €	2020 €
	Opening impairment Bad debts incurred during the year Increase/decrease in impairment	1,467,389 (70,149) 93,729	1,350,534 (77,603) 194,458
	Closing impairment	1,490,969	1,467,389



The current impairment in the financial statements is €1,490,969 (2020: €1,467,389), a net movement of €23,580 and represents 8.05% (2020: 7.72%) of the total loan book. The provision for bad debts is analysed in note 11.

#### **11. CREDIT RISK DISCLOSURES**

The majority of Link Credit Union Limited's loans to members are unsecured, except that there are restrictions on the extent to which borrowers may withdraw their savings whilst loans are outstanding. A small number of loans are secured by property.

The Credit Union complies with Section 12 of the Credit Union Act 1997 (Regulatory Requirements) Regulations 2016. This regulation:

- restricts the concentration of lending by the credit union within certain sectors or to connected persons or groups (concentration limits);
- restricts the absolute amount of lending to certain sectors to a set percentages of the regulatory reserve (large exposure limit);
- restricts the loan duration of certain loans to specified limits (maturity limits); and
- requires specified lending practices to be in place where loans are made to certain sectors such as commercial loans, community loans or loans to another Credit Union.

The carrying amount of the loans to members represents Link Credit Union Limited's maximum exposure to credit risk. Where loans are not impaired it is expected that the amount repayable with be received in full. The following table provides information to the credit quality of loan repayments.

Gross Loans	2021	2021	2020	2020
Loans not impaired	€	%	€	%
Gross loans not impaired	14,179,225	76.60%	15,597,744	82.05%
GROSS LOANS IMPAIRED:				
Not past due	2,753,401	14.87%	1,851,953	9.74%
Up to 9 weeks past due	1,034,125	5.59%	960,571	5.05%
Between 10 and 18 weeks past due	133,822	0.72%	197,609	1.04%
Between 19 and 26 weeks past due	147,685	0.80%	124,216	0.65%
Between 27 and 39 weeks past due	86,796	0.47%	37,599	0.20%
Between 40 and 52 weeks past due	42,055	0.23%	79,425	0.42%
53 or more weeks past due	133,729	0.72%	161,072	0.85%
<b>Gross loans impaired</b>	<b>4,331,613</b>	<b>23.40%</b>	<b>3,412,445</b>	<b>17.95%</b>
TOTAL GROSS LOANS	18,510,838	100%	19,010,189	100%
Impaired Allowance	2021	2021	2020	2020
	€	%	€	%
Individual Loans	829,499	55.63%	795,463	54.21%
Group of Loans	661,470	44.37%	671,926	45.79%
Total carrying value	1,490,969	100%	1,467,389	100%

Factors that are considered in determining whether loans are impaired are discussed in Note 3, dealing with estimates.



#### **12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Land & Buildings	Fixtures & fittings	Computer equipment	Total
Cost	€	€	equipinent €	€
1 October 2020 Additions Disposals	752,476	221,637	407,112	1,381,225 - -
At 30 September 2021	752,476	221,637	407,112	1,381,225
DEPRECIATION				
1 October 2020 Charge for year Disposals	85,139 11,240	209,552 11,717 -	281,409 57,688	576,100 80,645
At 30 September 2021	96,379	221,269	339,097	656,745
NET BOOK VALUE				
30 September 2021	656,097	368	68,015	724,480
30 September 2020	667,337	12,085	125,703	805,125

# 13. PREPAYMENTS AND ACCRUED INCOME20212020€€€Sundry debtors and prepayments<br/>Accrued loan interest income55,39652,07037,72637,72648,294Total Prepayments & Accrued Income93,122100,364

#### **14. OTHER LIABILITIES**

14. OTHER LIABILITIES	2021	2020
	€	€
PAYE/PRSI Members' draw Creditors and accruals	17,493 385 386,748	18,114 20,751 209,488
Total Other Liabilities	404,626	248,353





#### **15. FINANCIAL LIABILITIES**

Members' Savings	2021 €	2020 €
As at 1 October 2020 Received during the year Repaid during the year	79,798,778 28,626,953 (23,162,712)	75,858,837 26,809,698 (22,869,757)
As at 30 September 2021	85,263,019	79,798,778
Members' EFT accounts	2021 €	2020 €
As at 1 October 2020 Received during the year Repaid during the year	7,095,960 22,003,444 (19,429,004)	22,083,502
As at 30 September 2021	9,670,400	7,095,960
Members' Current accounts	2021 €	2020 €
As at 1 October 2020 Received during the year Repaid during the year	420,999 5,633,368 (4,783,531)	5,064 1,642,566 (1,226,631)
	1,270,836	420,999
Members Overdrawn Current Accounts	525	-
As at 30 September 2021	1,271,361	420,999

#### **16. ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS DISCLOSURES**

#### 16a. Financial risk management

Link Credit Union Limited manages its members' shares and loans to members so that it earns income from the margin between interest receivable and interest payable. The main financial risks arising from Link Credit Union Limited's activities are credit risk, liquidity risk, market risk and interest rate risk. The Board 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 Link Credit Union Limited, resulting in financial loss to the Credit Union. In order to manage this risk the Board approves Link Credit Union Limited's lending policy, and all changes to it. All loan applications are assessed with reference to the lending policy in force at the time. Subsequently, loans are regularly reviewed for any factors that may indicate that the likelihood of repayment has changed.

The Credit Union's investments are also exposed to credit risk and the Credit Union mitigates the risk by only placing investments with financial institutions where the counter parties have strong credit ratings and using investment products authorised by the Central Bank.

Liquidity risk: Link Credit Union Limited'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 objective of the Credit Union's liquidity policy is to smooth the mismatches between maturing assets and liabilities and to provide a degree of protection against any unexpected developments that may arise. The Credit Union adheres on an ongoing basis to the minimum liquidity ratio and minimum short term liquidity ratio as set out in the Credit Union Act 1997 (Regulatory Requirements) Regulations 2016.

Market risk: Market risk is generally comprised of interest rate risk, currency risk and other price risk. Link Credit Union Limited conducts all of its transactions in Euro and does not deal in derivatives or commodity markets. Therefore Link Credit Union Limited is not exposed to any form of currency risk or other price risk.

Interest rate risk: Link Credit Union Limited's main interest rate risk arises from differences between the interest rate exposures on the receivables and payables that form an integral part of a Credit Union's operations. The Credit Union considers rates of interest receivable on investments and members' loans when deciding on the dividend rate payable on members' shares and on any loan interest rebate. Link Credit Union Limited does not use interest rate options to hedge its own positions.

#### 16b. Interest rate risk disclosures

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

	2021		2020	
	Amount	Avg Interest Rate	Amount	Avg Interest Rate
	€	€	€	€
Financial Assets				
Loans to members	18,510,838	9.22%	19,010,189	9.38%
Financial Liabilities				
Members' Savings	85,263,019	0.00%	79,798,778	0.00%

The 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.

#### 16c. Liquidity risk disclosures

All of Link Credit Union Limited's financial liabilities are repayable on demand except for some members' shares attached to loans. The Credit Union retains, at all times, liquid assets amounting to a minimum of 20% of unattached savings.

#### 16d. Fair value of financial instruments

Investments held which are considered non-basic financial instruments under Section 11 of FRS 102 are measured at fair value as set out in note 2 (Investments - b).

#### 16e. Capital

The Credit Union maintains sufficient reserves to buffer itself against any losses on its members' loans and its investments. The current regulatory reserves are in excess of the minimum requirement set down by the Central Bank.



#### **17. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS**

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

#### **18. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**

There is a contingent liability included in the letter of authority held by Bank of Ireland with regard to Credit Card Services in the sum of €5,000, Electronic Funds Transfer €50,000, Wages €60,000 and Visa Business Card €2,500.

#### **19. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS**

There were no capital commitments either contracted or approved by the Board at the year end.

#### **20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

	2021		2020	
	No of Loans	€	No of Loans	€
Loans advanced to related parties during the year	5	23,000	11	105,872
Total loans outstanding to related parties	17	131,123	20	186,866
Total provision for loans outstanding to related parties		6,572		11,837

The related party loans stated above comprise of loans to members of the board of directors, the management team and members of the family of the board of directors and the management team of Link Credit Union Limited.

The total loans outstanding to related parties represents 0.71% of the total loans outstanding at 30th September 2021 (2020 – 0.98%).

The total amount of shares held by related parties at the year end was  $\in$  104,215 (2020 -  $\in$  123,336).

#### **21. INSURANCE AGAINST FRAUD**

The Credit Union has insurance against fraud in the amount of €5,200,000 in compliance with Section 47 of the Credit Union Act 1997 as amended.

#### 22. NON-AUDIT SERVICES

It is a requirement that any non audit services provided by the auditor be described in the financial statements. The auditor has provided assistance to the directors in respect of the preparation of these financial statements.

#### 23. THE IRISH LEAGUE OF CREDIT UNIONS REPUBLIC OF IRELAND PENSION SCHEME

Link Credit Union Limited participates 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.

The scheme is a multi-employer Scheme and due to the nature of the Scheme it is not possible for Link Credit Union Limited to separately identify its share of the Scheme's underlying assets and liabilities. Consequently, it accounts for the Scheme as a defined contribution plan, in accordance with FRS 102.

The Pension's Act requires the trustees of the Scheme to assess whether it could meet a certain prescribed standard, known as the Minimum Funding Standard. This assesses whether, if the scheme was wound up on a specified theoretical valuation date, it could satisfy the Funding Standard at that date.

As part of the solvency assessment process, the Scheme actuary must carry out a separate valuation under the Minimum Funding Standard every 3 years and produce a funding certificate for submission to the Pensions Authority within 9 months of the effective date of the valuation. The purpose of the certificate is to certify whether or not the assets of the scheme at the effective date are sufficient to meet the liabilities of the scheme based on the assumption that the scheme was wound up at that date. The most recent Actuarial Funding Certificate was effective as at 1 March 2020 and it certified that the Scheme satisfied the funding standard.

An actuarial review of the fund is normally carried out every three years by the Scheme's independent, professionally qualified actuary. The actuarial review considers the past and future liabilities of the scheme. The last completed triennial actuarial review was carried out with an effective date of 29 February 2020. The principal actuarial assumption used in the valuation was the investment return in the years before members retire would be 1.25% higher than the annual salary increases. The market value of the scheme's assets at 29 February 2020 was €250m. The actuarial valuation disclosed a past service deficit of €41.8m at 29 February 2020 calculated under the Ongoing Actuarial Valuation method. This valuation method assumes that the Scheme will continue in existence for the foreseeable future. The assumptions used in the actuarial review to determine the past service deficit differ from the assumptions that would be used to determine the liabilities for defined benefit obligations under FRS102. Following the actuarial review, the same contribution as applied previously – 27.5% for pension plus 2.5% for risk benefits – was invoiced in February 2021. The principal employer and trustees have undertaken a review of the scheme and are in the process of considering a Section 50a application to the Pensions Authority which delivers benefits to scheme members while maintaining the existing contribution rate.

#### FRS 102 Accounting Requirements for multi-employer defined benefit plans

The Irish League of Credit Unions ("ILCU") and certain individual credit unions (henceforth "the Employers") participate in an industry-wide pension scheme for employees, The Irish League of Credit Unions Republic of Ireland Pension Scheme ("ILCU ROI Pension Scheme"). The ILCU ROI Pension Scheme is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme.

Financial Reporting Standard 102 ("The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland ") (FRS 102) provides accounting guidance in respect of accounting for multi-employer defined benefit pension plans.

FRS 102 paragraph 28.11 states that "if sufficient information is not available to use defined benefit accounting for a multi-employer plan that is a defined benefit plan, an entity shall account for the plan in accordance with paragraphs 28.13 and 28.13A as if it was a defined contribution plan and make the disclosures required by paragraphs 28.40 and 28.40A".



On 24 May 2019, the Financial Reporting Council("FRC") issued amendments to FRS 102 in respect of multi-employer defined benefit plans. These narrow-scope amendments responded to a current financial reporting issue regarding where to present the impact of an employer's transition from defined contribution accounting to defined benefit accounting; it shall be presented in other comprehensive income. The transition is required by FRS 102 when sufficient information about the multi-employer defined benefit plan becomes available for the employer to apply defined benefit accounting for the first time.

The FRC in their May 2019 publication "Impact Assessment and Feedback Statement Amendments to FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland Multi-employer defined benefit plans" state that these amendments will only affect entities that participate in multi-employer defined benefit plans, for which sufficient information to apply defined benefit accounting has not been available, but now becomes available. These amendments do not affect the accounting for the defined benefit plan before or after sufficient information becomes available, which is already clear in FRS 102, but only specify the accounting at the date of transition to defined benefit accounting. The effective date for these amendments is accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2020, with early application permitted.

The ILCU as one of the employers in the scheme has in conjunction with its external accounting advisors concluded that it is not appropriate for the ILCU to separately identify its share of the Scheme's underlying assets and liabilities for the following reasons:

Key Factor	Assessment
Assets not segregated	The fair value of the ILCU ROI Pension Scheme Assets can be determined. However, these assets are not segregated or tracked by contributing employers. There is no mechanism to allocate the assets to individual employers as contributions paid are pooled in a single fund and none of the contributing employers have separately segregated asset pools. Any methodology used to allocate scheme assets to individual employers (for the purpose of using defined benefit accounting) would be based on arbitrary measures (such as based on an allocation of liabilities). The allocation of assets (based on liabilities) would not represent the contribution profile of the individual employers. This is particularly relevant in the context of current contributions being based on the salary roll of active employees as opposed to the liability of that participating employer.
Common Contribution Rate	The ILCU is a participating employer in the ILCU ROI Pension Scheme and pays the same contribution rate applied to active members of 27.5% comprising employer contribution of 18.5% and employee contribution of 9% as other employers in the scheme. Effectively, this means that funding of the scheme is shared in proportion to the number of current active members in the scheme rather than reflecting a pattern of current and former members. As a result, this common contribution rate is not linked to the individual employer's liabilities in respect of their current and former employees.

Based on the assessment performed above the ILCU does not have sufficient information to separately and appropriately identify its share of the Scheme's underlying assets and liabilities. Consequently, the ILCU accounts for the Scheme as a defined contribution plan in accordance with FRS 102.



#### 24. PENSIONS

The Credit Union also operates a defined contribution scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Credit Union in an independently administered fund. Pension costs for the year amounted to &86,545 (2020 - &90,125).

#### **25. COMPARATIVES**

The comparative figures have been restated where necessary on a basis consistent with the current year presentation.

#### **26. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The financial statements were approved, and authorised for issue, by the Board on the 28th October 2021

Schedule 1 – Interest on members' loans	2021 €	2020 €
Closing accrued loan interest receivable Loan interest received in the year Opening accrued loan interest receivable	37,726 1,663,641 (48,294)	48,294 1,758,899 (42,144)
Total interest on members loans	1,653,073	1,765,049

Schedule 2 – Other interest income and similar income	2021	2020
	€	€
Investment Income Received Investment Income receivable within 1 year Investment Income receivable after 1 year	366,743 193,462 -	305,092 220,073 -
Total investment income	560,205	525,165

Schedule 3 – Other Income	2021 €	2020 €
Commission	7,233	11,876
Eccu Refund	47,930	-
Business Account income	1,203	5,262
Fees	212	246
Cash over	187	91
Government Grants	68,101	-
Other income	21,361	6,363
Total other income	146,227	23,838

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#### **Schedule 4 – Other Management Expenses**

	2021	2020
	€	€
Rent & Rates	4,561	8,309
Lighting, Heating and Cleaning	26,495	29,349
Repairs and Renewals	27,261	14,204
Printing, Stationery and Postage	26,234	56,324
Telephone	10,262	10,984
Donations and Sponsorship	16,339	14,532
ICB	5,528	5,096
Promotion and Advertising	49,774	16,638
Training Costs	15,868	13,810
AGM Expenses	27,011	17,828
Travel and Subsistence	1,559	5,810
Bank interest and charges	103,537	116,819
Audit Fee	20,355	22,000
General Insurance	38,811	34,980
LPLS and Death Benefit Insurance	221,594	295,642
Legal & Professional Fees	229,038	132,051
Computer Maintenance and Data Storage	248,391	266,938
Cash short	51	1,488
Miscellaneous Expenses	36,750	49,150
Affiliation Fees (Net)	27,548	28,605
SPS Contribution	8,651	10,696
SPS Repaid	5,022	6,968
Credit Institutions Resolution Fund Levy	26,884	27,167
Regulatory Levies	112,825	110,225
Total	1,290,349	1,295,613

# MOTIONS TO AMEND STANDARD RULES

#### Motion 1:

That this Annual General Meeting agrees to delete Rule 63(4) of the Standard Rules for Credit Unions (Republic of Ireland) to remove the requirement for credit unions to complete and return the Return of Officers form to the Irish League of Credit Unions.

#### Motion 2:

That this Annual General Meeting agrees to amend Rule 40(2) of the Standard Rules for Credit Unions (Republic of Ireland) to reduce the number of directors from 11 to 9.



# <text>

# HAVE YOU EVER BORROWED FROM US?



Now is your time to try! We are offering you a special reduced interest rate on your loan. The welcome loan applies to members who have never taken out a loan or have had no loan balance within the past 3 years.

> You can apply through online banking, upload your documents securely, digitally sign, drawdown and and have your loan funds automatically transferred to your account. There is no need to come into the office.

Loans are subject to approval. Terms and conditions apply. If you do not meet the repayments on your loan, your account will go into arrears. They may affect your credit rating which may limit your ability to access credit in the future. Link Credit Union Limited is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.



ACCOUNTS & NOTICE OF AGM 2021



# CAR DRAW BI-MONTHLY MEMBERS CAR DRAW



# WIN A CAR EVERY 2 MONTHS with Link Credit Union

Join our members draw for €60 per year (€10 per draw)\*

Car Draw Accounts:	2021	2020
Car Draw	€	€
Opening Balance 1st October Member Contributions Prizes	20,751 133,500 (153,866)	312 156,280 (135,841)
Closing Balance 30th September 2021	385	20,751
* Taura and Canditiana angle		

\* Terms and Conditions apply

# HAVE YOU MADE A NOMINATION?

A nomination on your account relates to the process for release of your funds in the event of your death. All members should consider completing an up to date nomination.

- The statutory maximum amount that can pass under a nomination is currently €23,000
- A nomination must be in writing you can get a nomination form in any of our offices or on our website
- A nomination is not revocable or variable by the terms of your will or a codicil to your will
- A nomination is automatically revoked when your nominee dies before you
- A nomination is automatically revoked by your subsequent marriage
- If your marital status changes (e.g. divorce or separation) you should review your nomination
- A person under 16 years of age cannot make a valid nomination
- You can check who your nominee is at any of our offices. If you need to change your nomination you can complete a new form and we will update your account
- Nomination Forms must be witnessed by a credit union official

## **ANNUAL REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP POLICY**

During the annual review of our Membership Policy, the Board has decided to make amendments to the signing age for members under the age of 16 years, in accordance with Rule 14 of the Standard Rules for Credit Unions.

Our current policy allows children from the age of 7 years, to have full access and control of their accounts, including signing membership application forms and withdrawals of funds. It has been agreed by the Board, that a more appropriate age would be 13 years. Until the child reaches the age of 13 years, a parent or guardian will be required to open the account and operate the account on the child's behalf.

This change will come into effect on 1st January 2022 and all members affected by this change were notified in writing.

### ARE YOUR ACCOUNT DETAILS UP TO DATE?

#### Don't lose access to your Account. We need your <u>up to date details on file.</u>

- Photo ID current driving licence or passport (ML10 form if you don't have either of these).
- Proof of Address utility bill/bank statement/ Government letter dated within the last 3 months.
- PPS number (if not already held on file) pay slip/ P45/Medical Card/Government Letter. We cannot accept the Public Services Card.









#### **DEATH BENEFIT INSURANCE\*\***

A member must retain a Share Account balance of  $\leq 25$  to be considered for this cover (additional T&Cs apply). The level of cover is currently  $\leq 1,300$ , and is provided to our Members at no additional cost. Payment will be made directly to the individual who settles the Members funeral costs.

#### **CENTRAL CREDIT REGISTER INFORMATION**



In line with the introduction of the new Central Credit Register Database, Link Credit Union Limited is obliged to obtain and report data relating to all loan applicants with a loan balance of €500 or more. Link Credit Union Limited is obliged to run a Central Credit Register enquiry on all loans of €2,000 and over. In order for Link Credit Union Limited to fulfil its regulatory requirements we must obtain proof of a members PPSN. Please note Link Credit Union Limited have strong controls in place to ensure sensitive data, such as your PPSN information, is protected.



#### **GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION**

Link Credit Union Limited is required to ensure that current and accurate information is recorded and retained for our members. You may be asked to provide us with up to date forms of identification, or proof of address to assist us in meeting this requirement, and we appreciate your support with this.



#### **ANNUAL AFFILIATION FEE TO ILCU**

After our AGM, the sum of €1 is debited from all adult members' Share Accounts, to meet this cost. Members will need to ensure that they maintain the Minimum Share requirements for DBI & LP/LS benefits\*\*.



#### MINIMUM SAVINGS REQUIREMENT

Members are required to maintain a minimum balance of €10 in their Share Account to retain membership of Link Credit Union Limited. If your share balance falls below this amount, your membership will cease and the account will be closed. By retaining this balance, the member may be eligible for Loan Protection & Life Savings cover\*.

#### LOAN PROTECTION & LIFE SAVINGS INSURANCE\*

Eligible members are provided with this cover, at no additional cost (T&C apply). The Loan Protection Insurance will cover the reducing balance of your loan account, in the event of your death and the Life Savings Insurance, will currently cover up to  $\leq$ 3,000 savings in the Credit Union.

#### **DORMANT ACCOUNTS**



If a members account has had no member-initiated transactions, for a period of 3 years, it will be flagged as Dormant. The member will be notified by letter, to their last known address on file. To re-activate the account the member must call into any Link Credit Union Limited office with up to date photographic ID, proof of address and evidence of their PPS No and must make a lodgement to their account. Please allow sufficient time to undertake this process at the counter.

ACCOUNTS & NOTICE OF AGM 2021

# **Christmas Opening Hours 2021**

20<sup>th</sup> December 21<sup>st</sup> December 22<sup>nd</sup> December 23<sup>rd</sup> December 24<sup>th</sup> December 25<sup>th</sup> December 28<sup>th</sup> December 30<sup>th</sup> December 31<sup>st</sup> December 31<sup>st</sup> December 1<sup>st</sup> January 3<sup>rd</sup> January 4<sup>th</sup> January 10-13.30 14.30-17.00 10-13.30 14.30-17.00 10-13.30 14.30-17.00 Closed Closed Closed 10-13.30 14.30-17.00 10-13.30 14.30-17.00 10-13:30 Closed Closed Normal Business Hours Normal Business Hours



Wishing all of our members a Happy Christmas & Peaceful New Year

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# Loan from Home

- Apply through online banking
- Upload your documents securely
- Digitally sign
- Drawdown electronically
- Have your loan funds automatically transferred to your account

Loans are subject to approval. Terms and Conditions apply. If you do not meet the repayments on your loan, your account will go into arrears. This may affect your credit rating which may limit your ability to access credit in the future. Link Credit Union Ltd is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.

# Introducing the NEW CuMobile App

Manage all your banking needs through our new Mobile App

Download now from



Available on the App Store

#### NEED TO GET IN TOUCH?

*∂* www.linkcu.ie
 info@linkcu.ie
 042-967 5000

#### **CONNECT WITH US**

(f) @linkcreditunion

@linkcreditunion

@LINK\_CU

