Grant Thornton

Financial Statements

The Football Association of Ireland

(a company limited by guarantee)

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

The Football Association of Ireland
(a company limited by guarantee)

Contents

Directors and Other Information

Directors	G. McAnaney (appointed 25 January 2020) R. Barrett (appointed 8 January 2020) D. Conway (resigned 25 January 2020) P. Cooke (appointed 27 July 2019) J. Earley (resigned 19 June 2019, appointed 27 July 2019, resigned 12 December 2019) J. Finnegan (appointed 27 July 2019) C. Guy (appointed 8 January 2020) M. Heraghty (appointed 27 July 2019) E. Joyce (appointed 8 January 2020) D. Moran (appointed 27 July 2019) J. O'Brien (appointed 27 July 2019) U. Scully (appointed 25 January 2020) R. Shakespeare (appointed 27 July 2019) R. Watt (appointed 20 July 2020)
Registered number	17081
Registered office	National Sports Campus Abbotstown Dublin 15
Independent auditor	Grant Thornton Chartered Accountants & Statutory Audit Firm 13-18 City Quay Dublin 2
Bankers	Bank of Ireland College Green Dublin 2
Solicitors	A. & L. Goodbody IFSC North Wall Quay Dublin 1 Mason Hayes & Curran South Bank House Barrow St Dublin 4

National Council Members

R. Barber
L. Bass
D. Bradley
T. Browne
N. Byrne
D. Cassin
P. Clarke
J. Cleary
M. Conlon
M. Connolly
T. Considine
P. Cooke
L. Counihan
N. Cronin
D. Cruise
A. Delaney
P. Dempsey
A. Doyle
C. Doyle
D. Dully
J. Earley
M. Farrell
J. Finnegan
T. Gains
S. Gilhooly
G. Gorman
J. Hackett
M. Hanley
A. Harkin
P. Harnett
E. Harrington
P. Harrington
J. Hayden
M. Hearns
N. Jordan
R. Kavanagh
S. Kavanagh
T. Kearney
D. Kelly
J. Kelly
S. Lambert
T. Leahy
M. Lynch
J. MacArdle
T. Martin
G. McAnaney
T. McAuley
C. McCarthy
J. McConnell
M. McDonald
B. McGinty
S. McGuinness
P. McHale
D. Moran
S. Moran
J. Morley
N. Morton
J. Murphy
P. O'Brien
S. O'Conaill
T. O'Dowd
N. O'Driscoll
N. O'Mahony
T. O'Mahony
J. O'Regan
G. Perry
J. Power
M. Price-Bolger
J. Rodgers
P. Ryan
U. Scully
F. Smith
P. Treanor
M. Wallace
P. Walsh
S. Weafer
C. Young

Chairperson's report

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

The chairperson presents his statement for the period.

No matter how you present it, 2019 will always be remembered as a watershed year for Irish football and for all those who serve the game as players, officials, volunteers, supporters, sponsors, parents and guardians across every village, town and city in Ireland.

This is my first opening address to an FAI Financial Report as chairperson of the Board of the Football Association of Ireland and it is fair to say that the attached 2019 accounts reflect a tumultuous year off the pitch for our game.

Many column inches have been written about the events of 2019 surrounding the FAI and you don't need me to itemise them again as we digest the financial implications of the winds of change that blew through the Association with the departure of the Chief Executive Officer, a major change at board level, a thorough evaluation of how we do our business and an examination of how we handle funds from the State and from the many sponsors who are our lifeblood.

We will recall 2019 as the year Irish football became accountable again and finally found a vision for the future through the pain of the past. Reports from the Governance Review Group, Mazars and KOSI have all highlighted the mistakes made and the changes that need to be implemented going forward, so many of which we have already instigated. Trust me, we are open to change and receptive to the reforms demanded by Government, UEFA, FIFA, our bankers and our members as proven by our National Council's approval to Constitutional and rule changes.

You will see from the attached financial statements how deep that pain runs throughout our game but I am confident, as we near the end of the most abnormal year in living memory, that Irish football will be the better for all of this.

As directors, we owe it to all our stakeholders to ensure our Association and our game never endures a year like 2019 again. As chairperson, I promise you I will do my best to fulfil that aim and I know each of my fellow directors shares that sense of purpose.

Every boy and girl in this country deserves an FAI that serves them well. They deserve international teams they can aspire to and be proud of. They are entitled to dream of a career in our domestic leagues. They demand fair play and respect from Irish football's ruling body and we must deliver that now.

Let the events of 2019 close the curtains on the past. Let us plan for a future full of hope and prosperity for our game.

To the dedicated staff across the FAI organisation, the gratitude of us all for your service and loyalty in the most trying of times. To all our stakeholders for everything they have done for Irish football in these COVID times, thank you.

As 2021 approaches, let us all work together to ensure our game and the FAI will rise again.

Roy Barrett

Roy Barrett
Chairperson of The Football Association of Ireland

Date: 6 December 2020

Directors' report

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements of The Football Association of Ireland ("the Association") for the financial year ended 31 December 2019.

Events during the financial year and since the financial year end date

In January 2020, the Association, along with the Irish Government, and in the presence of UEFA and Bank of Ireland, signed a Memorandum of Understanding ("MoU") which committed the Association to make a number of constitutional and other changes in 2020. The execution of this agreement allowed the Association to enter into a new loan facility of €24m with its bankers, Bank of Ireland, which was duly executed in March 2020. In addition, the Association was granted increased annual funding from Sport Ireland of €5.8m. The Government also agreed to provide an interest free loan to the Association amounting to the total licence fees payable to its joint venture, New Stadium Designated Activity Company, over the years 2020, 2021 and 2022, of €2.54m per year.

At an Extraordinary General Meeting ("EGM") held electronically on 31 August 2020, the FAI members voted to adopt the constitutional changes as proposed by the MoU, with provisions made to amend the current membership to a General Assembly and to allow members with greater than 10 years' service to seek reappointment subject to their terms concluding on or before 31 July 2022.

There have been a number of key changes to the Associations rules and constitution in 2019 and 2020. The most significant of these include:

1. The change in composition of the Board of Directors to include six independent and six non-independent members from 1 April 2021
2. Amendment of the Rules to confirm that the CEO will no longer be a member of the Board
3. The introduction and establishment of business committees
4. Increase in representation for Women's football
5. Independent Chairperson of the Board now chairs all Board Meetings
6. Adoption of an Electoral code for the conduct of elections at AGM and to carry out a "Fit and Proper" person assessment on all nominees for Committees and the Board.

At the beginning of 2019 the FAI had 6 standing committees. These committees were reviewed as part of the Governance Reform Group work in June 2019 and recommendations were received in relation to each committee. As a result a number of committees were re-calibrated and reformed or abolished. The Nominations Committee began its work in 2019 and has contributed to the identification and appointment of an Independent Chairperson, and 3 Independent Directors to the Board of the FAI. In 2020 it also identified and recommended to the Board the appointment of a permanent CEO. The committee structure continues to form part of the review of governance of the FAI and in August 2020 the members agreed a new committee structure, which aligns more appropriately with that of UEFA and will be presented to members in January 2021 for formal approval. Once agreed the work of these committees will be accelerated.

As noted in note 17 to the financial statements, bank loans of €28.3m as at 31 December 2019 (2018: €28.2m) are presented as current liabilities. This has arisen due to technical covenant breaches. The covenant breaches may have allowed for debt repayment to be requested on demand on the basis of the loan agreement in place. Subsequent to the year end the Association received covenant waivers from its bankers in relation to technical covenant breaches in 2019, however accounting standards deem this to be a non-adjusting subsequent event, hence require the bank debt to be presented in the financial statements as a current liability.

During 2019, following the Association's Board becoming aware of contracts entered into by the Association and the former CEO, including a series of allegations of historical transactions where business justification was uncertain, the Association engaged an external professional services firm to perform an investigation of specific historic transactions across the Association. This investigation was concluded in June 2020 and the final report was provided to An Garda Siochana.

In January 2020, the Association was served notice of the intention of Deloitte Ireland LLP to resign as its auditors. The Association appointed Grant Thornton as auditors in April 2020.

Directors' report (continued)

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

Coronavirus

The global Coronavirus pandemic presents a significant risk to the revenue streams of the Association. It is extremely difficult to fully assess the financial implications for the Association, its affiliates, clubs and leagues, and the country as it navigates through the uncertainty of the public health crisis. A number of variable income streams of the Association and its affiliates have been significantly impacted by the restrictions resulting in football matches being played behind closed doors.

The Association has considered a range of financial scenarios as it continues to navigate through the public health crisis and have put in place measures to manage the current cost base and increase liquidity. In addition, the Association has applied for vital funding through the Irish Government and Sport Ireland's Covid 19 Grant Scheme, and has been granted €13m, of which €2m relates to clubs underneath the FAI's stewardship. As a result of this financial support, the Board of Directors is confident the Association can continue to trade throughout this period of uncertainty and remain a going concern.

The Association was central in the creation of an Expert Medical Group which drove the pathway for a safe return to sport. This included piloting the Coronavirus testing of the players and support staff of the four SSE Airtricity League teams competing in UEFA competitions in the 2020/21 season. This assisted the roadmap for the safe return to football for all our clubs, leagues and affiliates. As part of the FAI's Safe Return to Play Protocol each club had to appoint a Covid 19 Compliance Officer. In addition, the Association's staff worked closely with its sponsor, Boots, to provide urgent medical and other supplies to those most vulnerable across the country during the public health crisis.

Governance

Throughout 2019 and 2020, the Association has been the subject of a number of reviews and agreements, namely the Governance Review Group Report, the KOSI Corporation audit and the Memorandum of Understanding, with each having key recommendations or conditions to be implemented in order to enhance the governance of the Association and secure vital funding to assist the Association continue its operations.

In total, there are 164 recommendations or conditions that the Association are committed to implementing. The most significant of these recommendations include:

1. Appointment of an Independent Chairperson and three independent Directors
2. The CEO is no longer a member of the Board
3. The positions of Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary removed
4. The Board uses private sessions as required
5. Introduction of a risk management framework
6. Appointment of an Audit Risk and Compliance Committee
7. Appointment of a dedicated company secretary
8. Board approval of all funding agreements
9. Provision for the co-option of members with required skillsets to committees
10. Development of a Financial Transformation plan
11. Development of a new Strategic plan for the Association
12. Implementation of tighter financial controls
13. Approval of a Procurement Policy and the appointment of a Procurement Unit
14. Introduction of Internal Audit

As of the date of signing these financial statements, 65 of these recommendations have been implemented.

Directors' report (continued)

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

Principal activities

The principal activity of the Association is the management and direction of Association Football throughout the Republic of Ireland.

Throughout 2019, the Association had a number of achievements and milestones in respect of the development of football across Ireland.

GRASSROOTS

The Association's Grassroots programmes continued to grow successfully throughout 2019. The Association achieved record participation numbers in its Summer Soccer Schools programme, with over 36,000 children participating.

The Association also achieved record participation in its Primary 5's programme with over 37,000 participants from 1,696 schools, and in its Primary Schools Futsal programme with 17,520 participants from 868 schools.

The Association ran 294 female participation programmes and events across the year with over 12,500 people taking part.

5 new Football For All clubs were launched in 2019 and 2 Football For All Summer Soccer Schools pilot camps were delivered.

50 Intercultural participation programmes were held with 1,800 people taking part.

The Association's first Club Development Conference took place with over 100 attendees with presentations from UEFA, the Association's friends at the Norwegian FA and some of the Association's own Grassroots clubs.

By the end of 2019, over 200 clubs were engaged in the Club Mark programme.

Colemanstown United FC from Galway were crowned FAI Grassroots Club of the Year.

Through the continued support of Local Authorities and funders, our Development Officers delivered on social inclusion programmes for specific target groups such as Walking Football, Late Night Leagues and after Schools sessions, among others.

INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL

Mick McCarthy's Senior Men's side finished third in UEFA EURO 2020 Qualifying Group D behind Denmark and Switzerland.

Vera Pauw replaced Colin Bell as manager of the Ireland Women's team. Pauw's side ended the year in a terrific position to qualify for their first UEFA Women's European Championships, and saw a record attendance of over 5,300 attend the 3-2 win over Ukraine.

Stephen Kenny's Men's Under-21s finished in fourth place at the Toulon Tournament. The side ended 2019 with an excellent 4-1 win against Sweden in Tallaght.

It was an impressive year for the Under-19 and Under-17 Men's teams. Tom Mohan's Under-19s reached the Semi-Finals of the UEFA Under-19 European Championships, where they were defeated by Portugal, in Armenia.

Directors' report (continued)
For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

Colin O'Brien's Under-17 Men's qualified for the UEFA Under-17 European Championships as hosts. Despite remaining unbeaten in Group A, the side did not qualify for the Quarter-Finals. The Netherlands defeated Italy in Tallaght Stadium in the Final.

The Women's Under-19 and Under-17 teams both reached the Elite Round, but were eliminated by the eventual semi-finalists Spain (Under-19) and winners Germany (Under-17) respectively. James Scott replaced Colin Bell in the Under-17 role in June.

LEAGUE OF IRELAND

The 2019 SSE Airtricity League Premier Division proved an exciting season. The 10 Premier Division Teams completed 180 games across 36 rounds with 431 goals scored. The Premier Division culminated with Dundalk FC retaining the title in what was a successful season adding both the Unite the Union Cup and EA Sports Cup to their ever-impressive trophy haul in recent times. The Extra.ie FAI Senior Cup brought all the drama of a Cup Final day under the bright lights of the Aviva Stadium. 33,111 were in attendance on the day, the second largest attendance since the FAI Senior Cup Final moved to the Aviva Stadium. The game was contested by the top two teams in the League, with Shamrock Rovers ending the 32-year drought and claiming the Extra.ie FAI Senior Cup after a dramatic penalty shoot out against Dundalk FC.

The SSE Airtricity League First Division saw 10 teams compete with Shelbourne FC crowned champions. There were 135 games across 27 rounds and 392 goals scored. The SSE Airtricity League First Division had a hotly contested Promotion/Relegation playoff battle over the 8-game series. After being pushed by Cabinteely and Longford Town during the season, the Promotion/Relegation Final pitted Drogheda United against Finn Harps. Over both legs, the teams were evenly matched and could only be separated by an extra-time winner completing the great escape for Finn Harps and ensuring survival in the Premier Division for the 2020 season.

The Só Hotels Women's National League saw 8 teams competing in a tightly contested title race with Peamount United claiming the league title after 21 rounds of games. Overall there were 84 games played across the division with 395 goals scored. Shelbourne and Wexford Youths were in hot pursuit of Peamount United throughout the season, however the Peas were eventually crowned champions with only two points separating them from Shelbourne.

Silverware was divided across the top three teams of the Women's National League with Shelbourne picking up the honours of Só Hotels Women's National League Cup beating Wexford Youths in the Final. While Wexford Youths retained the Só Hotels FAI Women's Senior Cup defeating Peamount United 3-2 in the Aviva Stadium on FAI Cup Final day.

Directors' report (continued)

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

Results for the financial year and state of affairs at the financial year end and review of the business

The results for the year and state of affairs at the financial year end are set out in the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Statement of Financial Position respectively.

Certain comparative amounts have been restated to reflect the correction of errors and changes in accounting policy. A detailed analysis of all prior year adjustments is given in Note 23 to the financial statements.

The following is a summary of the results for the current and prior financial year:

	2019	As restated 2018
	€	€
Operating deficit	(2,492,669)	(5,199,572)
Interest payable and similar expenses	(2,648,270)	(2,501,789)
	(5,140,939)	(7,701,361)

The Association was notified in 2019 of the Revenue Commissioners' intention to audit the Association which has resulted in the Association making voluntary prompted and unprompted disclosure statements to the Revenue. These statements disclosed significant underpayment of employment taxes and VAT liabilities.

Currently the affairs of the Association are under investigation by the Office of Director of Corporate Enforcement.

In September 2019, the Association agreed a settlement with the former CEO and Director of €462,000.

	2019
	€
(i) Payment in lieu of notice	90,000
(ii) Contribution of former CEO and Director pension fund	372,000
Total Amount	462,000

The payment of these amounts is in full and final settlement of liabilities of approximately €2.1m as at 31 December 2018, potentially due under two contracts to the former CEO and accrued for in the FY2018 financial statements under current and non-current liabilities. As a result, there was a credit of approximately €1.7m to wages and salaries expense in the current year.

Directors' report (continued)

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

Income and expenditure

Overall the Association’s turnover was €42.6m (2018 as restated: €46.3m).

During 2019, Sport Ireland assisted the financing of the grassroots department by allocating €1.4m in grants (2018: €2.9m) to the FAI’s football programmes.

The Association received sponsorship income of €7.6m in 2019 (2018: €8.0m).

The underlying retained deficit for the financial year was €5.1m (2018 as restated: deficit of €7.7m) after taking all income, expenditure, investment income, interest costs, amortisation and grants into account.

Statement of financial position

As at 31 December 2019 the Association had net liabilities of €5.7m, a deterioration of €5.1m from 2018. The Association had assets of just over €88.3m (2018 as restated: €92.3m) and bank and other borrowings of €42.9m (2018 as restated: €38.2m.)

The Association was notified in 2019 of the Revenue Commissioners’ intention to audit the Association. An external professional services firm was engaged to assist with a full review over the period 2015 to 2019, which has resulted in the Association making voluntary prompted, unprompted and self-correction disclosure statements to Revenue. The Directors believe these statements include adequate provisions to address the underpayment of employment taxes and VAT liabilities over that period.

Currently the affairs of the Association are under investigation by the Office of Director of Corporate Enforcement.

Principal risks and uncertainties facing the association

As at the date of approval of the financial statements, the current Directors have assessed the principal risks and uncertainties facing the Association as below;

The global Coronavirus pandemic presents a significant risk to the revenue streams of the Association. The significant impacts to date and the assessment of the future effects have been commented on above.

The Association is also dependent upon the income generated by the success of the Senior Men's International team by way of ticketing and commercial revenue to enable it to invest in all aspects of football throughout the country. Any reduction in revenue generated from the Senior International team may affect the level of investment in grassroots football.

As with other organisations the Association is conscious of the possible impact of business interruption from a cyberattack and the risks this poses to being able to continue to operate the Association on a day to day basis. Following an incident in June 2019 where the Association was the subject of a cyberattack, the Association has made significant investment in the technological infrastructure of the organisation. This has included; upgrading the Association’s server infrastructure, network switches, routers and firewalls, in-house Wi-Fi access, migration of in-house mail and file storage to secured cloud-based storage, and upgrading the corporate antivirus system.

Directors' report (continued)

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

Overall risk management framework

The Board of Directors introduced a Risk Policy on 19 August 2020. The purpose of the policy is to provide a framework for management to identify, assess and rate risks, and to develop strategies to deal with risks so as to provide reasonable assurance that the Association's strategic objectives will be achieved in accordance with the Association's risk appetite.

The risk management framework includes the following:

- Risk Identification
- Risk Assessment
- Risk Treatment
- Risk Monitoring and Reporting
- Risk Appetite
- Risk Escalation

The policy clearly sets out the responsibilities of the Board, the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee, the CEO, the Senior Leadership Team, the Chief Risk Officer and all staff.

Department risk registers have been developed as has a high level Corporate Risk Register which has been approved by the Board on the recommendation of the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee.

Funding and future challenges

The Association remains committed to securing immediate financing to support current working capital requirements. The Association acknowledges the success of centralised television deals negotiated through UEFA which have secured long term TV rights revenue streams which extend to 2022 and 2028, UEFA HatTrick Programme funding and commercial contracts. These revenues, allied to future income from the resale of premium seats, and our other ongoing revenue streams, provide a foundation for the continued financing of the Association's activities.

The Association, in conjunction with external advisors, drafted a business plan to ensure the future well-being of the Association. This business plan aligned with the adoption of the Governance Review Report. The business plan is regularly updated to assess the Association's ongoing funding requirements and to assist with the regular management of ongoing costs. The Association ensures funding received from public bodies and other funders are expended for the purposes intended.

Directors' report (continued)

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

Going concern

The Association's business activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development, performance and position are set out in the Directors' report.

The Association incurred a loss for the financial year of €5,140,939 (2018 as restated : €7,701,361) and as at end of the financial year had net liabilities of €5,673,150 (2018 as restated: €532,211) with net current liabilities of €69,745,571 (2018 as restated: €58,209,972). The net current liabilities excluding deferred income at the end of the financial year was €53,600,172 (2018 as restated: €46,563,472).

In March 2020, the Association finalised a new loan facility with its bankers, Bank of Ireland. This allowed the Association the ability to meet its liabilities as they fell due and continue as a going concern. Further information has been disclosed in the Directors' report.

In October 2020, the Association was approved a $5m USD interest free loan with FIFA. This loan was made available to member Associations by FIFA to help address losses incurred as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic and is repayable over 10 years commencing in 2022.

In November 2020, the Association was allocated €13m from the Covid 19 Relief Fund by Sport Ireland. €11m of this allocation is to address the loss of income and incremental expenditure incurred by the Association as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic and the balance of €2m to be allocated to clubs and leagues.

The Association has completed forecasting under a range of scenarios to assess its ability to continue as a going concern throughout the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic and beyond. These forecasts have been prepared on a prudent basis and indicate the Association's ability to meet its liabilities as they fall due. Having considered the above, the Directors have prepared these financial statements on a going concern basis.

Notwithstanding the above, the Directors appreciate that due to the ongoing public health crisis, and the impact this is having both globally and within Ireland, together with the inherent difficulties in predicting future cash inflows and expenditure, there remains a material uncertainty in respect of going concern for the foreseeable future.

Directors and secretary

The present membership of the Board of Directors is set out on page 1, including their date of appointment. On 26 March 2019 J. Delaney resigned as a director of the Association. On 15 April 2019, M. Cody and E. Murray re-signed from the Board of Directors. At the Annual General Meeting held on 27 July 2019, N. Fitzroy, P. Treanor, E. Naughton, M. Hanley, J. McConnell and N. O'Donoghue resigned from the Board of Directors. At an EGM on 25 January 2020, D. Conway resigned as a director and President of the Association.

In addition, the present National Council members are set out on page 2.

The Company Secretary at 31 December 2019 was Rea Walshe.

None of the directors, nor the secretary, held any interests in the company, in accordance with s329 of the Companies Act 2014.

Directors' report (continued)

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

Accounting records

The measures that the directors have taken to secure compliance with the requirements of sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014 with regard to the keeping of accounting records, are the employment of appropriately qualified accounting personnel and the maintenance of computerised accounting systems. The Association's accounting records are maintained at the Association's registered office at the National Sports Campus, Abbotstown, Dublin 15.

Statement on relevant audit information

Each of the persons who are Directors at the time when this Directors' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as the Director is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Association's auditor is unaware, and
- the Director has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Director in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Association's auditor is aware of that information.

Directors' compliance Statement

As noted above, certain tax obligations were not met during the 2019 financial year and preceding years and that led to non-compliance with the Association's relevant obligations under the Companies Act 2014. The Directors have subsequently put new controls and procedures in place.

The Directors have reassessed the compliance policy statement (as defined in section 225(3)(a) of the Companies Act 2014) and arrangements and structures are in place that are, in the Directors' opinion, designed to secure material compliance with the Association's relevant obligations under the Companies Act 2014.

The Directors confirm that these arrangements and structures were reviewed at a Board meeting on 4 March 2019 and again 5 December 2019. As required by Section 225(2) of the Companies Act 2014, the Directors acknowledge that they are responsible for the Association's compliance with the relevant obligations. In discharging their responsibilities under Section 225, the Directors relied on the advice both of persons employed by the Association and of persons retained by the Association under contract, who they believe have the requisite knowledge and experience to advise the Association on compliance with its relevant obligations.

Audit, risk and compliance committee

The Association has established a new Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee, which was adopted under the Governance Review Group Report, which will take over responsibility for monitoring the effectiveness of the Association's governance, risk management and internal control systems.

Directors' report (continued)
For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

Auditor

The auditor, Grant Thornton, was appointed during the financial year and will continue in office in accordance with section 383(2) of the Companies Act 2014.

This report was approved by the board and signed on its behalf.

Gerry McAnaney
President

Date: 6 December 2020

Roy Barrett
Chairperson

Directors' responsibilities statement

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

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

Irish company law requires the Directors to prepare the 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 Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

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 Association as at the financial year end date, of the profit or loss for that financial year and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting 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 Association will continue in business.

The Directors are responsible for ensuring that the Association keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the Association, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the Association to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and Directors' report comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Association and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Gerry McAnaney
President

Date: 6 December 2020

Roy Barrett
Chairperson

Independent auditor's report to the members of The Football Association of Ireland (a company limited by guarantee)

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Football Association of Ireland (a company limited by guarantee) , which comprise the Statement of comprehensive income, the Statement of financial position, the Statement of cash flows, the Statement of changes in equity for the financial year ended 31 December 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in the preparation of the financial statements is Irish law and accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'(Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland).

In our opinion, The Football Association of Ireland (a company limited by guarantee)'s financial statements:

- give a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the Association as at 31 December 2019 and of its financial performance and cash flows for the financial year then ended; and
- have been properly 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 'responsibilities of the auditor for the audit of the financial statements' section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of financial statements in Ireland, namely the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA) Ethical Standard concerning the integrity, objectivity and independence of the auditor, and the ethical pronouncements established by Chartered Accountants Ireland, applied as determined to be appropriate in the circumstances for the entity. 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.

Material uncertainty related to going concern

In forming our opinion, which is not modified, we draw attention to the disclosures made in the Director's report and note 1.2 in the financial statements concerning the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. The Association incurred a loss of €5.1m for the financial year ended 31 December 2019 and had net liabilities of €5.7m. These conditions indicate the existence of a material uncertainty which may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the Association will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The validity of this assumption, as stated in the Directors' Report and note 1.2 in the financial statements, depends on the continued support of the Association's bankers and various other supporting bodies and the Association's ability to return to sustainable operating performance in the future. The financial statements do not include any adjustments relating to the recoverability and classification of recorded asset amounts and classification of liabilities that might be necessary should the Association be unable to continue in existence.

Independent auditor's report to the members of The Football Association of Ireland (a company limited by guarantee) (continued)

Other matter

The financial statements of the Football Association of Ireland for the year ended December 31, 2018, were audited by a predecessor auditor. Their audit report was qualified on the basis of going concern and completeness of liabilities and was signed on 6 December 2019.

Other information

Other information comprises 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. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the 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 in the financial statements, 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by the Companies Act 2014

- 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 Association were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited.
- The financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.
- In our opinion the information given in the Directors' report is consistent with the financial statements. Based solely on the work undertaken in the course of our audit, in our opinion, the Directors' report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

Under the Companies Act 2014, we are required to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of Directors' remuneration and transactions specified by sections 305 to 312 of the Act have not been made. We have no exceptions to report arising from this responsibility.

Independent auditor's report to the members of The Football Association of Ireland (a company limited by guarantee) (continued)

Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Directors' responsibilities statement, management is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, including FRS102, and for such internal control as they determine 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, management is responsible for assessing the Association'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 management either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

Responsibilities of the auditor for the audit of the financial statements

The auditor's 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.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (Ireland), the auditor will exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. They will 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 of the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

Independent auditor's report to the members of The Football Association of Ireland (a company limited by guarantee) (continued)

Responsibilities of the auditor for the audit of the financial statements (continued)

- Conclude on the appropriateness of management'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 Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If they conclude that a material uncertainty exists, they are required to draw attention in the auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify their opinion. Their conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association 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 a true and fair view.

The Auditor shall 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 may be identified during the audit.

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

This report is made solely to the Association'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 Association'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 Association and the Association's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Stephen Murray
for and on behalf of
Grant Thornton
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Audit Firm
13-18 City Quay
Dublin 2

6 December 2020

Statement of comprehensive income

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

	Note	2019 €	As restated 2018 €
Turnover	3	42,606,400	46,263,147
Cost of sales		(29,987,660)	(32,100,100)
Gross profit		12,618,740	14,163,047
Administrative expenses		(15,111,409)	(19,362,619)
Operating deficit		(2,492,669)	(5,199,572)
Interest payable and similar charges	7	(2,648,270)	(2,501,789)
Deficit retained for the financial year		(5,140,939)	(7,701,361)

All amounts within the Statement of Comprehensive Income relate to continuing operations.

There was no other comprehensive income for 2019 (2018: €NIL).

The notes on pages 23 to 47 form part of these financial statements.

Statement of financial position

As at 31 December 2019

	Note		2019 €		As restated 2018 €
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	9		55,252,191		56,893,217
Tangible assets	10		2,712,525		2,723,370
Financial assets	11		24,021,502		24,021,503
			81,986,218		83,638,090
Current assets					
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	12	5,393,984		8,272,216	
Cash at bank and in hand	13	960,652		394,916	
		6,354,636		8,667,132	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(76,100,207)		(66,877,104)	
Net current liabilities			(69,745,571)		(58,209,972)
Total assets less current liabilities			12,240,647		25,428,118
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15		(17,913,797)		(25,960,329)
Net liabilities			(5,673,150)		(532,211)
Capital and reserves					
Capital reserve			29,775		29,775
Revenue reserves			(5,702,925)		(561,986)
Total deficit			(5,673,150)		(532,211)

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board:

Gerry McAnaney
President

Roy Barrett
Chairperson

Date: 6 December 2020

The notes on pages 23 to 47 form part of these financial statements.

Statement of changes in equity

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

	Capital reserves	Profit and loss account	Total equity
	€	€	€
At 1 January 2018 (as previously stated)	29,775	14,131,875	14,161,650
Prior year adjustments (Note 23)	-	(6,992,500)	(6,992,500)
At 1 January 2018 (as restated)	29,775	7,139,375	7,169,150
Comprehensive income for the financial year			
Deficit for the financial year (as restated)	-	(7,701,361)	(7,701,361)
At 1 January 2019	29,775	(561,986)	(532,211)
Comprehensive income for the financial year			
Deficit for the financial year	-	(5,140,939)	(5,140,939)
At 31 December 2019	29,775	(5,702,925)	(5,673,150)

The notes on pages 23 to 47 form part of these financial statements.

Statement of cash flows

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

	2019 €	As restated 2018 €
Cash flows from operating activities		
Deficit for the financial year	(5,140,939)	(7,701,361)
Adjustments for:		
Amortisation of intangible assets	1,656,384	1,748,346
Depreciation of tangible assets	394,364	540,470
Interest paid	2,648,270	2,501,789
Decrease in debtors	2,878,232	272,874
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(1,345,982)	8,502,308
Net cash generated from operating activities	1,090,329	5,864,426
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of intangible fixed assets	(15,358)	(129,528)
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(16,202)	(297,344)
Return of investment in joint venture	-	1,000,000
Net cash (used in)/generated from investing activities	(31,560)	573,128
Cash flows from financing activities		
Repayment of loans	-	(5,125,000)
Interest paid	(485,713)	(352,248)
New finance leases	(367,317)	-
Net cash used in financing activities	(853,030)	(5,477,248)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	205,739	960,306
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year	(402,801)	(1,363,107)
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of financial year	(197,062)	(402,801)
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of financial year comprise:		
Cash at bank and in hand	960,652	394,916
Bank overdrafts	(1,157,714)	(797,717)
	(197,062)	(402,801)

The notes on pages 23 to 47 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. They have all been applied consistently throughout the financial year and to the preceeding year.

1.1 General Information and Basis of Accounting

The Football Association of Ireland is a company limited by guarantee and without share capital incorporated in Ireland. The address of the registered office is given on page 1. The nature of the Association's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Directors' report on pages 6 to 12.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value, and in accordance with the Companies Act 2014 and Financial Reporting Standard 102, the financial reporting standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102") issued by the Financial Reporting Council.

The functional currency of The Football Association of Ireland is considered to be euro because that is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Association operates. The financial statements are presented in euro.

Certain comparative amounts have been restated to reflect the correction of errors and changes in accounting policy. A detailed analysis of all prior year adjustments is given in Note 23 to the financial statements.

1.2 Going concern

The Association's business activities, together with the factors likely to affect its future development, performance and position are set out in the Directors' report.

The Association incurred a loss for the financial year of €5,140,939 (2018 as restated : €7,701,361) and as at end of the financial year had net liabilities of €5,673,150 (2018 as restated: €532,211) with net current liabilities of €69,745,571 (2018 as restated: €58,209,972). The net current liabilities excluding deferred income at the end of the financial year was €53,600,172 (2018 as restated: €46,563,472).

In March 2020, the Association finalised a new loan facility with its bankers, Bank of Ireland. This allowed the Association the ability to meet its liabilities as they fell due and continue as a going concern. Further information has been disclosed in the Directors' report.

In October 2020, the Association was approved a $5m USD interest free loan with FIFA. This loan was made available to member Associations by FIFA to help address losses incurred as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic and is repayable over 10 years commencing in 2022.

In November 2020, the Association was allocated €13m from the Covid 19 Relief Fund by Sport Ireland. €11m of this allocation is to address the loss of income and incremental expenditure incurred by the Association as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic and the balance of €2m to be allocated to clubs and leagues.

The Association has completed forecasting under a range of scenarios to assess its ability to continue as a going concern throughout the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic and beyond. These forecasts have been prepared on a prudent basis and indicate the Association's ability to meet its liabilities as they fall due. Having considered the above, the Directors have prepared these financial statements on a going concern basis.

Notes to the financial statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

1.2 Going concern (continued)

Notwithstanding the above, the Directors appreciate that due to the ongoing public health crisis, and the impact this is having both globally and within Ireland, together with the inherent difficulties in predicting future cash inflows and expenditure, there remains a material uncertainty in respect of going concern for the foreseeable future.

1.3 Taxation

The Association has been granted sporting body status, and accordingly no charge to Corporation tax arises by virtue of Section 235 of the Taxes Consolidation Act, 1997.

1.4 Turnover

Turnover comprises the value of sales of goods and services in the normal course of business including gate receipts, sponsorship monies, subventions, marketing, commercial and miscellaneous income.

Turnover from marketing contracts is recognised rateably over the period of the contract or where a fair value can be attributed to an element of a contract when that element has been delivered. Subvention and grant income is recognised over the period when the related cost is recognised.

The Association receives annual grant funding from its governing bodies, FIFA, from the Forward initiative and UEFA, from the HatTrick initiative. Funding is split into two separate categories, annual funding to all Associations and investment income, which is a one-time drawdown available in each Forward or HatTrick period.

- The annual grant funding from both FIFA and UEFA is recognised on a straight line basis over the term to which it relates.

- One-time investment funding is recognised on a straight line basis unless it is specifically earmarked for a particular purpose in which case the income is released as the related expenditure is incurred.

Notes to the financial statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

1.5 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost, net of depreciation and any allowance for impairment. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, other than land, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a straight-line balance basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

Office, machinery furniture and equipment	10% – 33% per annum
Training grounds	10% per annum

Residual value represents the estimated amount which would currently be obtained from disposal of an asset, after deducting estimated costs of disposal, if the asset were already of the age and in the condition expected at the end of its useful life.

Assets held under finance leases, hire purchase contracts and other similar arrangements, which confer rights and obligations similar to those attached to owned assets, are capitalised as tangible fixed assets at the fair value of the leased asset (or, if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments as determined at the inception of the lease) and are depreciated over the shorter of the lease terms and their useful lives.

There is no charge of depreciation on the football grounds as, in the opinion of the Directors, the value of the assets relate primarily to land.

1.6 Intangible fixed assets

Intangible fixed assets are stated at cost net of amortisation and any allowance for impairment. Intangible fixed assets comprise of contributions to New Stadium DAC in respect of the construction of Aviva Stadium and software licences.

The stadium contributions are amortised on a straight line basis over a 50 year period in line with the estimated useful life of the stadium. Software licences are capitalised at their fair value and amortised on a straight line basis over the shorter of their estimated useful lives or licence duration from the date the software is available for use.

1.7 Financial assets

Financial assets consist of investments in joint venture undertakings together with other financial asset investments held at cost. Investments are carried at cost less provisions for any permanent diminution in carrying value below cost.

Notes to the financial statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

1.8 Financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Association becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Financial liabilities are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into.

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified at fair value through surplus or deficit, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar instrument.

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

Financial assets are derecognised when, and only when, a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are settled, b) the Association transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the Association, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

i. Investments

Investments are measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised through the Statement of Comprehensive Income. Where fair value cannot be measured reliably, investments are measured at cost less impairment.

Investments in joint ventures are measured at cost less impairment.

ii. Fair value measurement

The best evidence of fair value is a quoted price for an identical asset in an active market. When quoted prices are unavailable, the price of a recent transaction for an identical asset provides evidence of fair value as long as there has not been a significant change in economic circumstances or a significant lapse of time since the transaction took place. If the market is not active and recent transactions of an identical asset on their own are not a good estimate of fair value, the fair value is estimated by using a valuation technique.

Notes to the financial statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

1.9 Finance costs

Interest and similar costs are expensed to the Statement of Comprehensive Income over the period to which the loan financing relates. Where the financing related directly to the addition of a fixed asset, such costs were attributed to the related asset.

Finance costs associated with the raising of finance are netted against the related loan and amortised over the period of the loan. Where future contracted revenue cashflows are securitised, the resulting difference between the upfront proceeds and the gross value of the contract is recognised over the period of the related contract as a finance cost.

1.10 Pensions

Charges in respect of pension arrangements under a defined contribution pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income in the year to which they relate.

1.11 Foreign currency translation

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are recorded at actual exchange rates as at the date of the transaction. The monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the year-end are reported at the rates of exchange prevailing at the year-end. All exchange differences are dealt with in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

1.12 Operating leases: the Association as lessee

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to profit or loss on a straight line basis over the lease term.

1.13 Government grants

Grants are accounted under the accruals model as permitted by FRS 102. Grants relating to expenditure on tangible fixed assets are credited to profit or loss at the same rate as the depreciation on the assets to which the grant relates. The deferred element of grants is included in creditors as deferred income.

Grants of a revenue nature are recognised in the Statement of comprehensive income in the same period as the related expenditure.

1.14 Impairment of fixed assets and goodwill

Assets that are subject to depreciation or amortisation are assessed at each reporting date to determine whether there is any indication that the assets are impaired. Where there is any indication that an asset may be impaired, the carrying value of the asset (or cash-generating unit to which the asset has been allocated) is tested for impairment. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's (or CGU's) fair value less costs to sell and value in use. For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash flows (CGUs). Non-financial assets that have been previously impaired are reviewed at each reporting date to assess whether there is any indication that the impairment losses recognised in prior periods may no longer exist or may have decreased.

Notes to the financial statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

1.15 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

In the Statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Association's cash management.

2. JUDGEMENTS IN APPLYING ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

In the application of the Association's accounting policies, which are described in note 1, the Directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Critical accounting judgements include;

- the assessment of expected useful lives for fixed assets, both tangible and intangible. Depreciation and amortisation rates are set by reference to internal estimation of useful economic lives and benchmarking assets against externally available information.
- assessment of period over which revenue is recognised for contracts which span more than one accounting period and where multiple deliverables may form part of the contract.
- recoverability of debtors.

The key source of estimation is the determination of bad debt provisions at year end where such provisions include an estimation of future cashflows and where they may not reflect the eventual cash receipts.

During 2019 and 2020, the Association was subject to a Revenue audit. This has resulted in the Association making voluntary disclosures of underpaid employment taxes and VAT, and consequent interest and penalties to the Irish Revenue Commissioners, estimated at €3,577,909 across the years 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019. These potential liabilities have yet to be accepted by the Revenue authorities. The amounts provided are best estimates of the Directors based on the facts presented and after consultations with a professional services firm.

Notes to the financial statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

3. TURNOVER

An analysis of the Association's turnover is as follows:

	2019 €	As restated 2018 €
Match income	8,111,773	12,179,076
Commercial income	15,657,235	17,984,541
Grants & subvention income	8,225,334	7,648,505
Income from technical department courses	6,666,476	6,872,877
2019 UEFA U17s European Championships	2,268,936	-
Other income	1,676,646	1,578,148
	42,606,400	46,263,147

In addition to this revenue, the Association also received benefits from sponsors in the form of discounts and usage of sponsors' equipment. The value of this sponsorship is not reflected in the turnover figure.

All income arose in the Republic of Ireland.

Notes to the financial statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

3. TURNOVER (CONTINUED)

Grant funding included in grants & subvention income and income from technical department courses is as follows;

	2019 €	2018 €
During the year the Association received grant funding from:		
Sport Ireland (Note 4)	1,282,704	2,707,910
Sport Ireland for Women's National Team (Note 4)	148,000	195,000
Failte Ireland for Ireland's National Exhibition for Euro 2020	88,804	461,216
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Co Co for contribution to Football in the Community Development officer salaries	24,476	24,476
Dormant Account funding / ASPIRE programme	21,053	64,855
Football in the Community Officers funding	-	392,436
Department of Children and Youth Affairs	-	4,800
Ferrero for Move & Learn CSR Project Cork	-	18,000
Dublin City ETB for contribution to Development officer salaries	167,152	167,152
Limerick/Clare Eductional Training Board ("ETB") for contribution to Development officer salaries	98,310	98,311
Wexford/Waterford ETB for contribution to Development officers salary	24,937	24,937
Kildare/Wicklow ETB for contribution to Football in Community Development Officer salary	24,477	24,477
Cork ETB for 3rd level facilitator programme	16,246	16,246
Dublin City ETB for Summer Soccer School places	13,013	12,918
Kildare/Wicklow for Arklow 4 towns project	8,312	8,262
Longford/Westmeath ETB for programme costs	8,262	8,262
Louth/Meath ETB for programme cost	8,262	8,262
Wexford/Waterford ETB for programme cost	8,262	8,262
Dublin City ETB for Football in the Community - Late Night Leagues	7,641	-
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Co Co for Big Issue Street League Finals	2,156	2,155
Sligo/Leitrim/Mayo ETB for 3rd level Facilitator programme	-	8,122
Limerick & Clare ETB - Capital Grant	-	20,000
City of Dublin ETB/CDYSE - DCYA Capital Grant	-	7,500
	1,952,067	4,283,559

These grants have been expended for the purpose for which they were intended.

Notes to the financial statements
For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

4. SPORT IRELAND GRANT FUNDING

Grants received of €1,430,704 (2018: €2,902,910) from Sport Ireland during the financial year have been expended for the purpose for which they were intended by Sport Ireland.

The Sport Ireland grants are allocated across the following programmes:

	2019	2018
	€	€
Central & Regional Development Staff	774,204	1,120,000
Grassroots	422,500	740,000
Women's National Team	148,000	195,000
Player Development	86,000	400,410
Women in Sport	-	142,500
FAI Education	-	305,000
	1,430,704	2,902,910

Notes to the financial statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

5. EMPLOYEES

Staff costs, including Directors' remuneration, were as follows:

	2019 €	2018 €
Wages and salaries	9,494,278	13,241,183
Social insurance costs	1,114,658	1,516,052
Cost of defined contribution scheme	473,244	380,006
	11,082,180	15,137,241

The average monthly number of employees, including the Directors, during the financial year was as follows:

	2019 No.	2018 No.
Management	12	13
Administration and operations	187	187
	199	200

Included above are service related director bonus accruals (Notes 14 and 15) in 2018 of approximately €2.1m potentially due under two contracts to the former CEO. As a result of the settlement referred to below, there was a credit of approximately €1.7m to wages and salaries expense in the current year.

In September 2019, the Association agreed a settlement with the former CEO and Director of €462,000.

	2019 €
(i) Payment in lieu of notice	90,000
(ii) Contribution to former CEO and Director pension fund	372,000
Total Amount	462,000

Included in staff costs in 2019 is €524,500 (2018: €1,903,277) relating to the early termination of contracts.

Notes to the financial statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

6. DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION

	2019 €	2018 €
Executive Director's emoluments	397,577	994,668
Non-Executive Directors' emoluments	30,238	77,841
Executive Director's severance package	462,000	-
	889,815	1,072,509

7. INTEREST PAYABLE AND SIMILAR CHARGES

	2019 €	2018 As restated €
Interest payable on overdraft and loans payable	1,668,223	1,754,181
Unwinding of discount	172,727	281,818
Unwinding of discount on other creditors	456,916	287,766
Other loan interest payable	154,374	-
Interest and penalties on tax liabilities	196,030	178,024
	2,648,270	2,501,789

8. OPERATING DEFICIT

The operating deficit is arrived at after charging:

	2019 €	2018 As restated €
Executive Director's emoluments (including severance package)	859,577	994,668
Non-Executive Directors' emoluments	30,238	77,841
Tangible fixed asset depreciation	394,364	540,470
Intangible fixed assets amortisation	1,656,384	1,748,346
Operating lease charge - land and buildings	2,794,605	2,794,605
Grants to affiliates	3,256,491	3,406,829

Notes to the financial statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

8. OPERATING DEFICIT (CONTINUED)

	2019	2018
	€	€
Auditor's Remuneration (including VAT) is as follows:		
Audit of Association's financial statements	175,000	255,000
Tax and other non-audit advisory services	186,236	13,162
	361,236	268,162

9. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	Stadium Contributions	Software Licences	Total
	€	€	€
COST			
At 1 January 2019	69,376,193	2,068,127	71,444,320
Additions	-	15,358	15,358
Disposals/scrappage	-	(6,887)	(6,887)
At 31 December 2019	69,376,193	2,076,598	71,452,791
AMORTISATION			
At 1 January 2019	13,045,175	1,505,928	14,551,103
Charge for the financial year	1,399,525	256,859	1,656,384
Disposals/scrappage	-	(6,887)	(6,887)
At 31 December 2019	14,444,700	1,755,900	16,200,600
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 December 2019	54,931,493	320,698	55,252,191
At 31 December 2018	56,331,018	562,199	56,893,217

Notes to the financial statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Football Grounds €	Office Machinery, Furniture and Equipment €	Training Grounds €	Total €
COST OR VALUATION				
At 1 January 2019	958,073	4,031,758	2,077,409	7,067,240
Additions	11,597	371,922	-	383,519
Disposals/scrappage	-	(352,817)	-	(352,817)
At 31 December 2019	969,670	4,050,863	2,077,409	7,097,942
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 January 2019	-	3,681,779	662,091	4,343,870
Charge for the financial year	-	186,624	207,740	394,364
Disposals/scrappage	-	(352,817)	-	(352,817)
At 31 December 2019	-	3,515,586	869,831	4,385,417
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 December 2019	969,670	535,277	1,207,578	2,712,525
At 31 December 2018	958,073	349,979	1,415,318	2,723,370

Football Grounds represent the Association's interest in United Park in Drogheda, Ferrycarrig Park in Wexford, St. Colman's Park in Cobh, the FAI Centre of Excellence in Glanmire, Cork and Ray McSharry Park in Sligo. Training grounds represent the Association's interest in National Sports Campus and AUL sports ground in Dublin.

Included in Office Machinery, Furniture and Equipment are assets held under finance leases with a net book value of €353,519 (2018: €159,290). The depreciation charge on these assets amounted to €105,014 (2018: €109,174).

Notes to the financial statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

11. FINANCIAL ASSETS

	Unquoted investments €	Prize bonds €	As restated 2018 Investment in joint ventures €	As restated 2018 Total €
COST OR VALUATION				
At 1 January 2019 (as restated)	1	1,270	24,020,232	24,021,503
Amounts written off	(1)	-	-	(1)
At 31 December 2019	-	1,270	24,020,232	24,021,502

Notes to the financial statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

11. FINANCIAL ASSETS (CONTINUED)

New Stadium Designated Activity Company

(i) The Association holds 2 shares of €1 in New Stadium DAC (2018: 2 shares), representing a 50% interest in its issued share capital. New Stadium DAC was formed as a joint venture with the Irish Rugby Football Union to develop Aviva Stadium and has its registered address at Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2. The disclosure requirements in relation to New Stadium DAC as required by FRS 102, are as outlined below. The following details the Associations 50% share of each balance:

	2019 €'000	2018 €'000
Turnover	5,270	5,831
Operating loss	(1,739)	(1,485)
Loss after tax	(1,817)	(1,653)

	2019 €'000	2018 €'000
Fixed assets	158,254	161,620
Current assets	2,068	3,444
Liabilities due within one year	(1,307)	(2,170)
Liabilities due after one year	(81,012)	(83,074)
Net Assets	78,003	79,820

During the financial year New Stadium DAC charged the Association €3,847,457 (2018: €3,321,734), of which €2,544,605 (2018: €2,544,605) is an annual licence fee, in relation to use of the stadium and ancillary usage costs. This license fee is payable over the useful life of the stadium which has been determined as being 50 years. As at the financial year end, an amount of €1,308,934 (2018: €1,543,995) is payable by the Association to New Stadium DAC which is included in trade creditors and accruals.

During the financial year, the Association received €Nil (2018: €1,000,000) from New Stadium DAC which was treated as a return of investment.

Notes to the financial statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

11. Financial Assets (continued)

AUL - FAI Limited

(ii) The Association holds 100,000 ordinary shares in AUL-FAI Limited, which represents a 50% shareholding, a company incorporated to manage and develop the AUL complex in Clonshaugh, Co. Dublin. AUL-FAI Limited was formed as a joint venture with the Athletic Union Football League and has its registered address at Clonshaugh, Co. Dublin. The disclosure requirements in relation to AUL-FAI Limited as required by FRS102, are as outlined below. The following details the Association's 50% share of each balance:

	2019 €'000	2018 €'000
Turnover	167	158
Operating profit	213	7
Profit after tax	213	6

	2019 €'000	2018 €'000
Fixed assets	1,028	1,035
Current assets	27	20
Liabilities due within one year	(51)	(40)
Liabilities due after one year	(197)	(421)
Net Assets	807	594

During the financial year, the Association incurred rental fees for use of the facilities at the AUL Complex of €162,000 (2018: €162,000). As at the financial year end, an amount of €40,281 (2018: €40,281) is payable by AUL-FAI Limited to the Association which is included in debtors and prepayments.

Notes to the financial statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

12. DEBTORS

	2019	As restated 2018
	€	€
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade and other debtors	3,867,998	4,067,595
Prepayments	930,607	2,455,900
Accrued income	595,379	1,748,721
	5,393,984	8,272,216

Trade and other debtors are disclosed net of a provision for bad debts of €3,682,790 (2018: €1,903,359).

Trade and other debtors include bridging finance advanced to clubs and leagues to cover capital expenditure in advance of them receiving other financial aid and normal loans to clubs and leagues, the terms of which are specific to each individual loan.

There were no amounts included within debtors which were due after one year (2018: €254,082).

13. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2019	2018
	€	€
Cash at bank and in hand	960,652	394,916
Less: bank overdrafts	(1,157,714)	(797,717)
	(197,062)	(402,801)

Notes to the financial statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

14. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2019 €	As restated 2018 €
Bank overdrafts	1,157,714	797,717
Bank loans (Note 17)	28,349,310	28,223,735
Other loans (Note 17)	8,924,540	4,500,000
Trade creditors	11,558,901	7,930,206
Taxation and social insurance	4,149,919	3,208,507
Finance lease obligation (Note 16)	160,443	136,207
Creditors - grants	776,340	184,518
Accruals	4,877,641	9,535,428
Service-related director bonus	-	714,286
Deferred income	16,145,399	11,646,500
	76,100,207	66,877,104

OTHER TAXATION AND SOCIAL INSURANCE

	2019 €	2018 €
PAYE/PRSI	3,855,781	2,760,923
VAT	294,138	447,584
	4,149,919	3,208,507

Notes to the financial statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

15. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2019	As restated 2018
	€	€
Other loans (Note 17)	5,629,834	5,500,000
Finance lease obligations (Note 16)	266,548	75,511
Other creditors	-	6,043,084
Service-related director bonus	-	1,428,571
Deferred income	12,017,415	12,913,163
	17,913,797	25,960,329

Included in deferred income is €958,035 (2018: €1,928,636) of net revenue arising under a securitised sponsorship agreement where the net revenue was received upon commencement of the contract. Gross revenue from this contract is recognised rateably over the contract period with an implied interest charged to the income and expenditure account of €172,727 (2018: €281,818). In 2018, an amount of €6,000,000 was received in relation to a sponsorship agreement commencing in 2020.

16. FINANCE LEASE OBLIGATIONS

The Association's future minimum finance lease payments at the statement of financial position date were as follows:

	2019	2018
	€	€
Amount due within one year	160,443	136,207
Amount due between one and five years	266,548	75,511
	426,991	211,718

The lease liability is secured on the relevant leased assets.

Notes to the financial statements
For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

17. BANK AND OTHER LOANS

Analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	2019 €	As restated 2018 €
AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
Bank loans	28,349,310	28,223,735
Other loans	8,924,540	4,500,000
AMOUNTS FALLING DUE 1-2 YEARS		
Other loans	1,470,765	5,500,000
AMOUNTS FALLING DUE 2-5 YEARS		
Other loans	3,213,357	-
AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN 5 YEARS		
Other loans	945,712	-
	42,903,684	38,223,735

Bank loans of €28.3m (including related borrowing costs) as at 31 December 2019 (2018: €28.2m including related borrowing costs) are presented as current liabilities. This has arisen due to technical covenant breaches. The covenant breaches may have allowed for debt repayment to be requested on demand on the basis of the loan agreement in place. During or subsequent to the year the Association received covenant waivers from its bankers in relation to technical breaches relating to 2019.

Included in other loans is €8,500,000 (2018: €10,000,000) of advances received from UEFA in respect of future grant income. These advances are liable to interest at 3% to 4% per annum.

Included in other loans is a liability of €6,054,374 (2018 other creditors: €6,043,084) arising on an option agreement entered into with a sponsor in 2016. The interest chargeable to the income and expenditure account, at 5% was €154,374 (2018 implied interest: €287,766) (Note 7). In addition, €456,916 was charged to reverse the remaining loan discounting as a formal loan agreement was entered into in April 2019.

18. AFFILIATED BODIES

The activities of the Affiliated Bodies listed below are not incorporated in these financial statements as they are independently run bodies;

Colleges Football Association of Ireland
Defence Forces Football Association
F.A.I. Junior Council
F.A.I. Schools
Irish Soccer Referees' Society
Irish Universities Football Union
Schoolboys Football Association of Ireland

Notes to the financial statements
For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

19. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The total remuneration for key management personnel totalled €1,016,119 (2018: €994,688). Key management includes: Chief Executive Officer, General Manager and interim Chief Executive Officer.

Non-Executive Directors' emoluments totalled €30,238 (2018: €77,841). Non-Executive Directors are persons who perform their duties in a largely voluntary capacity and include President, Vice President, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Secretary and the Chairperson of the National League Executive Committee. There have been no emoluments paid or accrued since July 2019.

Remuneration and emoluments include salaries paid, honorarium and expenses incurred where there is a personal benefit.

Certain Directors have been nominated to the Board by affiliate members of the Association. Grants and other transactions to affiiliates, with which Directors are associated, totalled €336,106 (2018: €353,298) while income received from these affiliates amounted to €74,548 (2018: €66,900).

20. GUARANTEES

The Association is acting as guarantor in relation to finance provided to clubs. The maximum amounts guaranteed were €290,000 as at 31 December 2019 (2018: €235,166).

The Association has provided security and guarantees on loan balances encompassing charges over certain bank accounts, receivables, including future contracted receivables and first floating charge over the Association's property, assets and undertakings. The Association also issued a joint and several letter of undertaking in conjunction with the IRFU to secure a bank guarantee issued by New Stadium DAC, trading as Aviva Stadium, in favour of Iarnrod Eireann in the amount of €2,250,000.

21. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Association entered into a loan agreement with Oscar Traynor Coaching and Development Centre whereby the Association agreed to lend €40,000 per annum from 30 May 2014 until 30 May 2034. The total amount paid as at 31 December 2019 was €230,000 (2018: €190,000).

The Association has received funding and grants of €7,500,000 (2018: €8,500,000) from UEFA which are repayable on demand in certain circumstances including termination or suspension of UEFA membership or failure to comply with certain financial solvency obligations.

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases (land and buildings) and license fees payable to New Stadium DAC are as follows:

	2019	2018
	€	€
- within one year	2,794,605	2,794,605
- between one and five years	11,178,420	11,178,420
- after five years	43,984,513	46,758,285
	57,957,538	60,731,310

Notes to the financial statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

22. ANALYSIS OF NET DEBT/FUNDS

	1 January 2019 €	Cash movement €	Non-cash movement €	31 December 2019 €
Bank overdraft	(797,717)	(360,298)	-	(1,158,015)
Cash at bank and in hand	394,916	566,036	-	960,952
Debt	(38,223,735)	(4,679,949)	-	(42,903,684)
Finance leases	(211,718)	152,044	(367,317)	(426,991)
Net Debt	(38,838,254)	(4,322,167)	(367,317)	(43,527,738)

23. PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENTS

The following prior year adjustments have been summarised in the table following.

(i) In 2011, the Association entered into an agreement with UEFA to centralise its TV rights. The term of this agreement was to begin in July 2014 however a full 12 months of income was recognised in the financial statements for the financial year 2014. Opening reserves for 2018 have therefore been restated by reducing reserves by €4.63m to reflect the portion of income recognised between January and June of 2014 and also to ensure there is the correct deferred income balance in these financial statements to the end of the current contract in 2022.

ii) The Association receives funding from UEFA in relation to the co-hosting of Euro 2020. The Association has been accounting for these receipts, and corresponding expenditure, on its Statement of Financial Position. Adjustments have now been made to prior periods to reflect the expenditure that has been incurred in those periods with a matching amount released as income. There is no net effect from these adjustments to either the Statement of Financial Position or Statement of Comprehensive Income.

iii) The Association has previously recognised turnover from investment income from UEFA and FIFA by immediately releasing to the Statement of Comprehensive Income in the year the income is received. The Association has now adopted a change to this accounting policy to recognise income in a pattern consistent with the nature and purpose of this funding, which is further described in note 1.4 to these financial statements. This change in policy has resulted in an adjustment of €875,000 to the Statement of Comprehensive Income for 2018, €1,312,500 to the Statement of Financial Position for 2018 and €2,187,500 to the 2018 opening reserves.

iv) The Association received €175,000 in respect of a dividend in 2017 from its joint venture undertaking, New Stadium DAC. The €175,000 was released to the Statement of Comprehensive Income in 2017. New Stadium DAC did not have distributable reserves in its Profit and Loss acount and therefore this dividend should have been accounted for as a return of the Association's investment in the joint venture, reducing the carrying value of the financial asset. The opening reserves for 2018 have therefore been adjusted for as a return of investment by €175,000. An additional dividend of €1,000,000 was received in 2018 and was accounted for correctly.

v) The Association received an advance payment in 2018 in relation to a share of stadium naming rights. Imputed interest of €300,000 was charged incorrectly in 2018, which has now been adjusted.

Notes to the financial statements

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

23. PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENTS (CONTINUED)

vi) In 2018, commissions paid in relation to the sale of ten year tickets was classified as a reduction of deferred revenue. Appropriate classification of this balance is deemed to be a prepayment.

vii) The Association historically recognised amounts received from UEFA relating to TV and grant income, that were received in advance of the period to which they related, as deferred income. Interest of between 1.5% - 4% is charged on these amounts from the date that they are received until the commencement of the relevant funding period. At 31 December 2018, €6,000,000 of this income was received in advance of the period to which it applied. A prior year adjustment has been posted to reclassify these advances as other loans which the directors deem is a better reflection of the substance of the arrangement.

(viii) An amount due to the Association of €166,686 relating to the sale of match tickets has been reclassified from other debtors to trade debtors. The net effect on current assets is €NIL.

ix) The Association does not hold legal right of offset in relation to its bank accounts held with Bank of Ireland. As a result, a prior year adjustment has been posted to classify separately bank balances in overdraft from those with a positive balance at year end.

(x) The Companies Act 2014 does not provide guidance for separate classification of grants paid on the face of the Statement of Comprehensive Income. Grants to affiliates have thus been reclassified to administration expenses.

23. PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENTS (CONTINUED)

	Turnover	Expenses	Interest	Grants	Fixed assets	Current assets	Current liabilities	Non-current liabilities	Capital reserve	Revenue reserves
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
As previously stated	(44,824,905)	47,492,648	2,801,789	3,406,829	83,813,090	7,288,561	(62,356,033)	(23,460,329)	(29,775)	(14,131,875)
Adjustments										
UEFA TV rights (i)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(4,630,000)	-	-	4,630,000
UEFA EUROS (ii)	(563,242)	563,242	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HatTrick IV (iii)	(875,000)	-	-	-	-	-	(1,312,500)	-	-	2,187,500
Dividend (iv)	-	-	-	-	(175,000)	-	-	-	-	175,000
Sponsorship (v)	-	-	(300,000)	-	-	-	300,000	-	-	-
Reclassifications										
ISG Commission (vi)	-	-	-	-	-	983,655	(983,655)	-	-	-
Reclass of UEFA Debt (vii)	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,500,000	(2,500,000)	-	-
Match debtors from prepayments (viii)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Classification of bank (ix)	-	-	-	-	-	394,916	(394,916)	-	-	-
Grants from expenses to admin (x)	-	3,406,829	-	(3,406,829)	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(46,263,147)	51,462,719	2,501,789	-	83,638,090	8,667,132	(66,877,104)	(25,960,329)	(29,775)	(7,139,375)

Notes to the financial statements
For the financial year ended 31 December 2019

24. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

The global Coronavirus pandemic presents a significant risk to the revenue streams of the Association. It is extremely difficult to fully assess the financial implications for the Association, its affiliates, clubs and leagues, and the country as it navigates through the uncertainty of the public health crisis. A number of variable income streams of the Association and its affiliates have been significantly impacted by the restrictions resulting in football matches being played behind closed doors.

The Association has considered a range of financial scenarios as it continues to navigate through the public health crisis and have put in place measures to manage the current cost base and increase liquidity. In addition, the Association has applied for vital funding through the Irish Government and Sport Ireland's Covid 19 Grant Scheme, and has been granted €13m, of which €2m relates to clubs underneath the FAI's stewardship. As a result of this financial support, the Board of Directors is confident the Association can continue to trade throughout this period of uncertainty and remain a going concern.

The Association was central in the creation of an Expert Medical Group which drove the pathway for a safe return to sport. This included piloting the Coronavirus testing of the players and support staff of the four SSE Airtricity League teams competing in UEFA competitions in the 2020/21 season. This assisted the roadmap for the safe return to football for all our clubs, leagues and affiliates. As part of the FAI's Safe Return to Play Protocol each club had to appoint a Covid 19 Compliance Officer. In addition, the Association's staff worked closely with its sponsor, Boots, to provide urgent medical and other supplies to those most vulnerable across the country during the public health crisis.

25. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The board of Directors approved these financial statements for issue on 6 December 2020.