



**acjrd**

**ACJRD**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**2022**

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# 1. Executive Summary

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The Association for Criminal Justice Research and Development (ACJRD) has hosted a wide array of events and seminars during 2022. These included our 25th Annual Conference entitled “Gender Encounters in the Criminal Justice System: How does Gender impact Diverse Experiences” and the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Irish Criminal Justice Agencies Conference entitled “Race, Migration and the Criminal Justice System” which was a collaboration of the ACJRD, the Office of Director of Public Prosecutions, the Irish Youth Justice Service, The Probation Service, The Department of Justice and Equality, the Irish Prison Service, and An Garda Síochána. In April, the ACJRD hosted the 15th Annual Martin Tansey Memorial Lecture entitled “*Balancing the need for Due Process, Fair Trials and Systemic Efficacy: The Benefits & Challenges of Technological Improvements and Greater Efficiencies for the Criminal Justice System*”. The ACJRD also held Seminars at which attendees had the opportunity to contribute their opinions and share perspectives.

The Association continues to further current and future Research opportunities, maintains a membership base and several Working Groups. It also contributes to the criminal justice community in Ireland through its newsletters and continued memberships and relationships with other not-for-profit organisations who share common ground with the objectives of the ACJRD. The ACJRD and Northumbria University and Queen’s University Belfast collaboration on a UK-Irish Criminal Justice Cooperation Network (UK-Irish CJC Network), which began in 2018, hosted a webinar in January 2022 on “*Extradition post Brexit - Implementation of Part Three, Title VII of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA): Perspectives from the UK and Ireland*”.

All the above-mentioned activities have of course taken place during a challenging post-pandemic year. ACJRD staff have been developed a hybrid working model and some ACJRD meetings and events have remained online.

This report provides a summary of the events and activities for 2022 under the following headings: Events, Membership, Working Groups, Research Collaborations, Student Engagement, Newsletter, Commitment to Achieve Change, Governance, Strategy 2022 – 2025, Annual General Meeting and International Collaboration and Association Memberships.

Throughout the report are links to further information on the ACJRD website; [www.acjrd.ie](http://www.acjrd.ie)

## 2. Letter from the Chairperson

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2022 was a challenging year for ACJRD as it came out of the disruptive Covid 19 pandemic lockdown period and experienced the impact of 100% staff churn. The entire long-term staff cohort – one part-time manager and one part-time administrator, moved to new positions. ACJRD Council wishes to acknowledge their many years of loyal service and wish them the very best in their new careers.

Many Council members and their alternates stepped up to take on some organisational tasks, during the ensuing recruitment periods to ensure the delivery of the association's priority legal compliance and outputs. Their altruistic dedication is what sustains ACJRD and I want to recognise this exemplary commitment to duty, which is the very essence of a voluntary civil society Board of Directors and Charity Trustees.

The annual administration funding from the Department of Justice, the Irish Prison Service, the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth and the Probation Service is what sustains ACJRD, which is very grateful for that support. The Association informed by its vision, mission and values (outlined at p.5 of this report), aims to be of service to the entire criminal justice sector by speaking truth to power in its independent capacity.

In Quarter 4 of 2022, Council members, had a very effective Reflection and Review Day facilitated by Bob Semple, who focused minds on strategic and operational challenges, and the fostering of a culture of accountability and resilience. The outputs from that event culminated in the creation of an ambitious Strategic Plan for the subsequent three years. It envisages augmented structural development and an enhanced offering to our members, supported by our funders. We aim to proceed through our third decade as a multi-disciplinary civil society organisation that brings together all criminal justice stakeholders and organisations and individuals who interact with them. The future is bright and we at ACJRD look forward to it with optimism and excitement.





### 3. Legal and Administrative Details

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Organisation's Full Legal Name: Association of Criminal Justice Research and Development CLG

Title: Annual Report 2022

Dates of Reporting Period: 01/01/2022 – 31/12/2022

Company Number: 340129

Charity Number: 15012

Charity Registration Number: 20050573



Directors:

- Maura Butler
- Deirdre Manninger
- Pauline Shields
- Rowena Toomey
- David Sheenan (Resigned 7<sup>th</sup> October 2022)
- Gerry McNally (Resigned 7<sup>th</sup> October 2022)
- Yvonne Furey
- Tony O'Donovan
- Sophia Carey
- Donna Creaven
- Susan Leahy
- Ian O'Donnell
- Claire Hamilton
- Aoife McNicholl
- Ruth Penney (Appointed 24th May 2022)
- Una Doyle (Appointed 7th October 2022)

Registered Office: Coleraine House, Coleraine Street, Dublin 7 D07E8FX

Company Secretary: Deirdre Manninger

Chairperson: Maura Butler

Treasurer: Pauline Shields

Chief Executive Officer: Katie Prendergast (21<sup>st</sup> August 2023)

Board Committees      Governance, Strategic Design and HR & Business

Independent Auditor: Jon Byrne, Browne Murphy & Hughes.

Principle Bankers:      Bank Of Ireland, Glasnevin, Dublin 9

## 4. Vision, Mission, Value and Objectives

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**Our Vision:** is The Fair and Effective Operation of the Criminal Justice System

**Our Mission:** is to inform the collaborative development of effective evidenced-based policy and practice in criminal justice.

### Values statement.

- **Independence**
  - Seek, incorporate, and objectively represent the collective views of the membership.
- **Inclusiveness**
  - Embrace a broad multidisciplinary membership within and tangential to the criminal justice sector.
- **Engagement**
  - We deliver a multitude of events, facilitate expert groups, request member input at all levels and provide networking opportunities with a focus on sharing and disseminating.
- **Collaboration**
  - Work together with national and international actors and organisations on criminal justice initiatives and projects
- **Evidence-Based**
  - Emphasize the practical application of the findings of the best available current research.

### ACJRD Objectives

The main object for which the Company is established is to promote study and research in the field of criminal justice and related fields and disseminate results to advance education and benefit the community, by such means as conference, seminars, published papers, database of members' interests, and special interest study groups.



The subsidiary objects for which the Company is established are:

- to provide a forum where experienced personnel working in or having worked in the criminal justice system and associated professions can discuss, in an informal setting, problems and methods of working thereby assisting the advancement of community welfare, conflict resolution and reconciliation and, the integration of those who are disadvantaged;
- to develop a network of members who subscribe to these objectives;
- to promote the highest standards of practice by professionals working in and associated with the criminal justice system;
- to represent the collective views of its members; to build links with similar professional organisations in Ireland and abroad; and
- to raise public awareness of issues relating to children, young people and crime.

## 5. Strategy 2023- 2025

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The Council approved a new strategy for 2023-2025. To view a copy on the ACJRD Website please [click here](#).

New Developments include the previously mentioned re-design of the Association's website, the planned restructuring and expansion of the Working Groups, plans to establish a Research Hub and the formation of a mentoring service for members.

The Vision, Mission statements were updated, and a Values Statement was created; see the Vision, Mission, Value and Objectives section of this report.

## 6. ACJRD Events 2022

Below is a summary of ACJRD events during 2022. Please note the following outputs do not include the ACJRD Working Groups outputs which are profiled separately.

### MARTIN TANSEY MEMORIAL LECTURES

The ACJRD marks the contribution Martin Tansey made to criminal justice in Ireland, and to this association, with a memorial lecture each spring.

Information and papers from the lectures which have taken place since the inaugural event in 2008 can be found at:

[www.acjrd.ie/publications](http://www.acjrd.ie/publications)

### 15th Annual Martin Tansey Memorial Lecture, 20th April, 2022

The 15th Annual Martin Tansey Memorial Lecture was presented by Bruno Min Solicitor and Legal Director (UK & International) of Fair Trials. The lecture entitled "*Balancing the need for Due Process, Fair Trials and Systemic Efficacy: The Benefits & Challenges of Technological Improvements and Greater Efficiencies for the Criminal Justice System*" took place online on Thursday, 14th April 2022. This event was exceptionally well attended, and Bruno Min's lecture was very well received.

He was subsequently linked with the editor of the Probation Journal, which published a version of his lecture. ACJRD would like to thank Bruno Min and all who attended this event.



*Pictured above: Bruno Min, Solicitor via LinkedIn*

## 8th Annual ICJA Conference, 22nd June 2022: Race, Migration and the Criminal Justice system”.

This one day conference was a collaboration of the Department of Justice, Maynooth University, University College Dublin, Limerick University, Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Irish Prison Service, An Garda Síochána, The Probation Service, Policing Authority, Courts Service, Garda Síochána Inspectorate, Office of the Revenue Commissioners and the Association for Criminal Justice Research and Development (ACJRD). The collaborative lead partners for the 2022 ICJA Conference were Maynooth University University College Dublin and University of Limerick.

Plenary speakers at the conference were:

- **James Browne**, TD, Minister of State at the Department of Justice
- **Dr Mary Phelan**, Dublin City University
- **Alexander Ritzmann**, Senior Advisor, Counter Extremism Project
- **Dr Hindpal Singh Bhui**, University of Oxford
- **Caroline Haughey OBE KC**, Furnival Chambers London
- **Dr Joe Garrihy**, Maynooth University
- **Dr Lucy Michael**, Lucy Michael Research, Training and Consultancy
- **Megan Berry**, Traveller Outreach Maynooth University College

The conference programme also featured several Thematic Sessions. The '*Accommodating Refugees within our Welfare and justice systems*' Thematic Sessions was delivered by **Bulelani Mfaco**, Movement of Asylum Seekers in Ireland (MASI), **Kate Gillen**, Social Work Specialist, Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, and **Zoryana Pshyk**, Chairperson of Kildare Integration Network. The '*Cultural Diversity in the Criminal Justice system*' Thematic Sessions was delivered by **Seamus Beirne**, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Lead, Irish Prison Service, and **Yvonne Cooke**, Acting Executive Director of HR and People, An Garda Síochána, and **Lisa Anderson** and **Tony Swaine**, The Probation Service. The final Thematic Sessions (*insert title*) was delivered by **Catherine Cosgrave**, Managing Solicitor, Immigrant Council of Ireland, **Ifrah Ahmed**, Human Rights Advocate, Ifrah Foundation and **Shalom Binchy**, Solicitor.

A Panel discussion with **Dominika Tracz**, An Garda Síochána and **Sylvia Julius, and Tarisai May Chidawanyika** from Diversity in Law and on "*Addressing Diversity in the Criminal Justice System: Pathways to Success*" was chaired by Liam Herrick, Executive Director, Irish Council for Civil Liberties.

A report with the plenary speeches and summaries of the workshops will be uploaded on our website, when complete.

ACRJD would like to thank all the conference rapporteurs at this event.

ACJRD also thanks the workshop chair volunteers from the ACJRD Council.



*Pictured: Dominika Tracz , Sylvia Julius, Tarisai May Chidawanyika and Liam Herrick during the Panel Discussion.*

ACJRD 25th Annual Conference, 7th October 2022:  
“Gender Encounters in the Criminal Justice System:  
How does Gender impact Diverse Experiences?”



This conference featured the following speakers:

- **James Browne**, TD, Minister of State at the Department of Justice
- **Jim Dalton**, Crime and Criminal Justice, Central Statistics Office
- **Saoirse Brady**, Executive Director, Irish Penal Reform Trust
- **Dr Alexander Kondakov**, Assistant Professor, School of Sociology, UCD
- **Dr David Maguire**, Director of the Building Futures Project at the Prison Reforms Trust
- **Enda Kelly**, National Nurse Manager, Irish Prison Service
- **Ursula Fernée**, Assistant Principal Probation Officer, Probation Services

The conference programme also featured a number of Thematic Sessions delivered by **Danielle McKenna**, Manager and **Michael Byrne**, Youth Worker, Rialto Youth Project, **Grace Costigan**, BRIO Coordinator (SAOL Project), **Barry Owen**, Operations Manager and **Denise Coulahan**, Area Team Leader and Training and Employment officer, Irish Association for Social Inclusion Opportunities, **Dr Lynsey Black**, Assistant Professor, Maynooth University, **Danielle O’Sullivan**, Maynooth University, **Dr Lucy Baldwin**, Associate Professor, Durham University, **Yvonne Cooke**, Acting Executive Director of Human Resources and People Development, **Caoimhe Kiernan**,

Assistant Lecturer, Technological University Dublin, **Professor Amanda Haynes** and **Dr Jennifer Schweppe**, University of Limerick.

A Panel discussion with was chaired by **Maura Butler**, Chairperson of ACJRD.

The ACJRD would like to thank all the conference rapporteurs at this event.

ACJRD also thanks the workshop chair volunteers from the ACJRD Council.



## Seminar on "Extradition post Brexit - Implementation of Part Three, Title VII of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA): Perspectives from the UK and Ireland" – 10th January 2022



The ACJRD and UK-Irish Criminal Justice Cooperation Network's seminar '**Extradition post Brexit - Implementation of Part Three, Title VII of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA): Perspectives from the UK and Ireland**' was held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022. The seminar was hosted online.

This seminar was chaired by **Gemma Davies**, Associate Professor, Northumbria University and featured the following Speakers:

- **Anand Doobay**, Partner, Boutique Law LLP
- **John Fitzgerald**, Senior Counsel, Bar of Ireland
- **Declan Keating**, Senior Principal Prosecutor, Unit Head, International Unit, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
- **David McClean**, Principal Public Prosecutor, High Court and International, Public Prosecution Service Northern Ireland

This was a very successful seminar with more than 80 participants in attendance. These included representatives from: The Department of Justice, Office of the DPP, Public Prosecutions Service N.I., Crown Prosecution Service, Office of the Attorney General, The European Commission, The British Embassy Dublin, The Scottish Government, The Romanian National Probation Directorate, The Probation Service, Office of the Parliamentary Council to the Govt, An Garda Síochána, An Garda Síochána Inspectorate, The Revenue Commissioners, HM Revenue Commissioners, the Irish Prison Service and legal practitioners from all jurisdictions.

## Seminar on "Effecting Change: Learning from the experience of Oberstown" – 3rd March 2022

The ACJRD's seminar '**Effecting Change: Learning from the experience of Oberstown**' was held on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022. The seminar was hosted online.

ACJRD was very pleased to collaborate with **Professor Ursula Kilkelly**, Chairperson of the Board of Management, Oberstown Children Detention Campus, and **Pat Bergin**, former Director of Oberstown Children Detention Campus, and current Head of Service, National Forensic Mental Health Service, to deliver the online seminar "**Effecting Change: Learning from the experience of Oberstown**". This seminar was chaired by **Dr. Mary Rogan**, Associate Professor in Law, Trinity College Dublin.

Over a period of seven years, Pat Bergin as Director and Ursula Kilkelly as chair of the Board of Management had responsibility for delivering major change in the Irish youth justice system, specifically in Oberstown Children Detention Campus. Published by Bristol University Press, their book - Advancing the rights of children in detention; A model for international reform – documents this challenging and complex journey. It included the delivery of a major capital project, the amalgamation of existing services and resources and bringing about major improvements in the quality of care provided to children in detention. All of this led to the establishment of a modern child-centred detention facility, a leader of its kind internationally, and it enabled the ending of imprisonment of children in Ireland in line with national policy.

The aim of this event was to present the details of the change achieved in Oberstown and to highlight, for discussion, how the lessons learned could affect change elsewhere in the criminal justice system.

To view the slide presentation from this seminar, please [click here](#).



## 7. Membership

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Three categories of ACJRD membership were on offer in 2022: Student €25.00, Individual €35.00 and Organisational membership €155.00. Organisational membership is based on a flat rate: this includes all members of that organisation, with up to five members able to attend any one ACJRD event.

Benefits to ACJRD members include special rates on ACJRD conferences, seminars and other public events, publications on research and conference/seminar proceedings, priority bookings at all ACJRD events, circulation of the newsletter, the option to become involved in the ACJRD working groups and access to a range of peer networks.

32 Organisations, 34 Individuals and 4 Students held membership of ACJRD in 2022.

The Strategic Plan 2020-2022 envisioned the creation of a Mentoring Programme for younger members, matching with senior members acting as mentors. The Strategic Design sub-committee were charged with scoping a suitable structure.

## 8. ACJRD Working Groups

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The ACJRD currently has the following working groups in operation:

- Addiction
- Education
- Juvenile Justice
- Mental Health
- Reintegration
- Restorative Justice
- Economic Crime

At the Strategy Discussion and Training Day in 2018 the highest priority goal identified was to "*Complete a rationalisation of the Working Group structure.*". During 2020 a Strategic Design Sub-Committee was established, and it has continued to take on responsibility for strategic implementation work to include and assessment of what works well in the current Working Group structure and what might work better. At the September 2022 Reflection and Review Day, the development of the Working Groups remained a goal of ACJRD and the Strategic Design Sub-Committee who made a decision to rollover matters not completed during the 2020-2022 strategic plan timeline.

## 9. Research Collaborations

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### A Changing Landscape

In its formative days the ACJRD (then IASD) would commission research and or engage the services of researchers when the Association won a research tender. Nowadays ACJRD is often approached by third parties who require a civil society partner to engage in and or facilitate research that has been successfully tendered for, such as a Juvenile Sexual Offending Project (2019) and

Council Members engaged in discussions on the implementation of a Strategic Review that included a recalibration of how ACJRD could facilitate the criminal justice research community. It was agreed that our members would be best served by the Association facilitating both commissioners of research and individual researchers by forming a member-led Research Hub. The newly formed Strategic Design Sub-Committee has taken on responsibility for the scoping how this aim can be implemented in this new strategy.

### Juvenile Sexual Offending Project, 2019

ACJRD partnered with Dr Etain Quigley, Maynooth University, on the Juvenile Sexual Offending Project funded by the New Foundations IRC. This project aimed to develop a survey to collect data on officially reported cases and convictions, changes in the law and on state responses (diversion, programmes, sentencing etc.) to juvenile sexual offending. This project was successfully completed in completed in 2022.

Please also see Section 11 below, which outlines ACJRD's international collaborations.

## 10. Student Engagement

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### ACJRD Academic Sponsorship in Maynooth University

ACJRD continues its academic sponsorship with Maynooth University. Shauna Fox won the Maynooth University | ACJRD Prize for the Best Student in Criminal Law in 2022.

### Other Student Engagement

Jenny Finlay, a student from Maynooth University completed a six-week placement with ACJRD in 2022. She was a great asset to the organisation during her placement and we wish her well in her future career.

Students from Dublin City University, University of Limerick, Maynooth University and the Law Society of Ireland acted as rapporteurs at the ACJRD Annual Conference.

## 11. International Collaboration

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### ***The UK-Irish Criminal Justice Cooperation Network***

In 2018 the ACJRD began a collaboration with Northumbria University and Queen's University Belfast on a UK-Irish Criminal Justice Cooperation Network.



The UK-Irish Criminal Justice Cooperation Network is an initiative which is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council and led by Northumbria University in partnership with Queen's University Belfast and the Association for Criminal Justice Research and Development in Ireland. The funding commenced on 1st October 2018, and the project was initially intended to run for 18 months, and this timeline was extended during the pandemic lockdown. The Network brings together policymakers, practitioners and academics to share their vast range of expertise in considering the implications of Brexit for criminal justice cooperation between Ireland and the UK.

The Network comprises a core group of approximately sixty participants, and it delivered workshops where the Chatham House Rule<sup>1</sup> was applied. Ireland's Network members were nominated by the ACJRD, many of them from amongst our membership.

One Seminar was held in 2022.

- ***'Extradition post Brexit - Implementation of Part Three, Title VII of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA): Perspectives from the UK and Ireland.'***

A Conference was scheduled for April 2020 at Northumbria University, but unfortunately it had to be cancelled, due to the pandemic.

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<sup>1</sup> "When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed".  
<http://www.chathamhouse.org/about/chatham-house-rule>

Previous Events 2019-2021 included:

- "*Overview of Article 50 Negotiations Process and Principles and Policing Perspectives*", held on 11th January 2019, in the Law Society of Ireland, facilitated by ACJRD.
- "*The Changing Landscape in Criminal Justice: How to Keep the Lights On*" held on 10th April 2019, in Queen's University Belfast, facilitated by that university.
- "*UK-Irish Policing cooperation after Brexit: exploring European perspectives*" held on 29th November 2019, at the Law Society of Ireland, facilitated again by ACJRD.
- "*Policy Update re EU-UK negotiation progress*" on 17th September, 2020.
- "*Common Law and Prisoner Transfer in a post-Brexit Europe*" on 12th November 2020.

## 12. Commitment to Achieve Change - Submissions

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ACJRD makes appropriate submissions in satisfaction of its mission and vision in areas sourcing relevant researcher/report preparation expertise from the academy or legal profession and reviewed by Council members. The views expressed in ACJRD submissions are those of ACJRD in its independent capacity and are not those of the ACJRD members' organisations or their employers. All submissions made by the ACJRD are available on our website [www.acjrd.ie/services/development](http://www.acjrd.ie/services/development).

In January 2022 ACJRD made a submission to The Garda Síochána Inspectorate on '*The inspection into the effectiveness and efficiency of An Garda Síochána's response to domestic abuse*'. This submission can be read [here](#).

In April 2022, ACJRD made a submission to The Law Reform Commission on '*Compensating Victims of Crime*'. This submission can be read [here](#).

## 13. Governance

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In 2022 the ACJRD Council was comprised of representation from the following: Department of Justice and Equality, The Probation Service, the Irish Prison Service, the Office of the DPP, An Garda Síochána, the Garda Síochána Inspectorate, the Department of Children and Youth Affairs, the Revenue Commissioners, University of Limerick, Trinity College Dublin, the Policing Authority, the Courts Service, Maynooth University, University College Dublin and an independent Chairperson.

### The following ACJRD Council meetings took place during 2022:

18th January 2022, online

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022, online

29<sup>th</sup> March 2022, online

26<sup>th</sup> April 2022, online

24<sup>th</sup> May 2022, online

5<sup>th</sup> July 2022, online

6<sup>th</sup> September 2022, online

29<sup>th</sup> November 2022, online

6<sup>th</sup> December 2022, Hybrid Meeting at Department of Justice, St Stephens Green and online

### AGM 2022

The ACJRD Annual General Meeting was held online on Friday, 7th October 2022, following the close of our Annual Conference. At this meeting of ACJRD members the Association's Auditors, Browne Murphy and Hughes, presented the ACJRD audited accounts 2021 for adoption by members.

### Council Training

Board Roles and Responsibilities training was undertaken by new Council Members and during 2022. All serving Council members have completed this training as of 31.12.22.



## Council Sub-Committees:

Discrete aspects of Council work have been matched with individual Council Member expertise in the establishment of several sub-committees with a Council Member chairing each of them:

- Governance Sub-Committee
- Strategic Design Sub-Committee
- HR and Business Sub-Committee

## Charities Regulatory Authority Governance Code

Significant work has been undertaken by the Council and the Governance Sub-Committee to ensure compliance with the Charities Regulatory Authority (CRA) Governance Code. In 2022, ACJRD was fully compliant with the code and all CRA Requirements

## 14. Financial Statements

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The ACJRD engaged with Browne Murphy and Hughes Auditors for the purpose of preparing financial statements for 2022. The Statements can be viewed on our website.

### Treasurers Report

ACJRD's total income for 2022 was €88,512, of which €72,710 was core funding provided by the Dept. of Justice, Irish Prison Service, Probation Service and Dept. of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth. Membership fees and conference income were ACJRD's other main sources of income. ACJRD does not fundraise. Expenditure in 2022 was €71,566. This funded two part-time members of staff, office accommodation and other administrative costs, as well as costs associated with the delivery of ACJRD's mission and objectives as such as the annual ACJRD conference.

ACJRD maintains reserves at a level that is sufficient to fulfil its statutory obligations, in addition to funds equivalent to three months operating costs. Because of an increased level of reserve funding accumulated as a result of limited activity during the Covid pandemic, in late 2022 the Board approved the use of a portion of the reserve to fund future development of the organisation as described in the 2023-2025 Strategic Plan.

ACJRD would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thanks its funders for their ongoing support.

Pauline Shields

Treasurer

## 15. Association Memberships

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ACJRD is a member of the following organisations:

### ***The Wheel***

The Wheel is a support and representative body connecting community and voluntary organisations and charities across Ireland. Established in 1999, The Wheel has evolved to become a resource centre and forum for the community and voluntary sector. The ACJRD maintained its membership of the Wheel in 2020.

### ***The Irish Penal Reform Trust***

The Irish Penal Reform Trust (IPRT) is Ireland's leading non-governmental organisation campaigning for the rights of people in prison and the progressive reform of Irish penal policy. Established in 1994, IPRT has a well-established role as an independent voice in public debate on the Irish penal system. IPRT is committed to reducing imprisonment, respecting the rights of everyone in the penal system, and progressive reform of the penal system based on evidence-led policies. The ACJRD maintained its membership of the IPRT in 2020. IPRT has reciprocal membership with ACJRD.

## 16. Newsletter

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The ACJRD Newsletter is delivered via email to members and interested parties of the Association and is also available on the ACJRD website. The newsletter keeps members informed about current and forthcoming events and includes news from our members and developments in other agencies and relevant organisations.

As well as promoting the ACJRD, the Newsletter is designed to attract and encourage new members. This service is produced in-house and there are no printing or postage costs. It promotes the creation and development of an online community for the ACJRD.

A Summer newsletter was produced in 2022. Many "Items/Events of Interest" convened by agencies and organisations in the criminal justice and related sectors were also circulated to or membership during the year.

Should you wish to get involved with ACJRD and contribute to its work please contact us at [enquiries@acjrd.ie](mailto:enquiries@acjrd.ie) or visit our website [www.acjrd.ie](http://www.acjrd.ie).