

ACCOUNTS & NOTICE OF AGM 2022

ST. FRANCIS GREDIT UMITON

Virtual AGM to be held on Monday 5th December 2022 at 6pm

Get in touch

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- 🖂 info@stfranciscu.ie
- www.stfranciscu.ie

Branches

2 2 2 2

- Ennis Clarecastle Kildysart
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Credit Union Invocation

MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT OF THY PEACE, WHERE THERE IS HATRED, LET ME SOW LOVE, WHERE THERE IS INJURY, PARDON, WHERE THERE IS DOUBT, FAITH, WHERE THERE IS DESPAIR, HOPE, WHERE THERE IS DARKNESS, LIGHT, AND WHERE THERE IS SADNESS, JOY.

O DIVINE MASTER, GRANT THAT I MAY NOT SO MUCH SEEK TO BE CONSOLED AS TO CONSOLE, TO BE UNDERSTOOD AS TO UNDERSTAND, TO BE LOVED AS TO LOVE, FOR IT IS IN GIVING THAT WE RECEIVE, IT IS IN PARDONING THAT WE ARE PARDONED, AND IT IS IN DYING THAT WE ARE BORN TO ETERNAL LIFE.

Contents

Page

Notice of the Annual General Meeting	2
Notice of Elections	3
Order of Business	
Chairperson's Address	4-5
Directors' Report	6-7
Directors' Responsibilities Statement	8
Board Oversight Committee's Responsibilities Statement	8
Independent Auditor's Report	9-11
Income and Expenditure Account	12
Statement of Other Comprehensive Income	13
Balance Sheet	14
Statement of Changes in Reserves	15
Statement of Cash Flows	
Notes to the Financial Statements	17-32

Information not forming part of the audited financial statements

Schedules to the Income and Exp	penditure Account	
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Report of the Board Oversight Committee	35
Standing Orders for Credit Unions (Republic of Ireland)	36
Directors, Staff and Committee Members	37



Notice of Annual General Meeting

The 2022 Annual General Meeting of the members of St. Francis Credit Union Limited will take place via Zoom Webinar on Monday, 5th December 2022 at 6.00 p.m.

Members wishing to attend the Virtual AGM need to request an invitation to join and apply via email to: agm2022@stfranciscu.ie and include the following information in your email:

- Name
- Member Number
- Member address

The request for attendance must be received by close of business on 2nd December 2022.

The following information is pertinent to this notice.

- St Francis Credit Union will be using Zoom Webinar as the electronic platform for the meeting.
- To gain access to the meeting a member must request an invitation to the virtual meeting by emailing agm2022@stfranciscu.ie This request must be received by close of business on 2nd December 2022. Following the request for invitation the member will receive an invitation by email to join the meeting on 5th December at 6 p.m.
- The information required to request an invitation is your name, member number and address.
- The Credit Union will be verifying members details prior to issuing invitations.
- All non-presenting participants will be muted and have their cameras switched off to allow the smooth running of the meeting. However, you can type a question to the host by clicking on the "chat" button on the bottom of the screen.
- Elections for the position of Auditor, Board Oversight Committee and Board of Directors will take place.
- Voting will be conducted by way of Online Poll and Members will be asked to vote Yes/No
 electronically for the resolution or for each candidate when instructed by the Chairperson.
- Votes will be tallied electronically, verified by the Internal Auditor, and recorded by the meeting Secretary.
- This virtual AGM meeting will be recorded.



Notice of Elections

Elections will be held to fill:

- 4 vacancies on the Board of Directors
- 1 vacancy on the Board Oversight Committee
- The position of Auditor

Date: 7th November 2022

Signed: Martina Brennan, Secretary.

Order of Business

- 01. Acceptance of proxies by Board of Directors
- 02. Ascertainment that a quorum is present
- 03. Adoption of Standing Orders
- 04. Reading and approval of minutes of AGM 2021
- 05. Report of the Board of Directors
- 06. Consideration of accounts
- 07. Report of the Auditors
- 08. Report of the Board Oversight Committee
- 09. Declaration of dividend / rebate of interest (if any) & approval of ILCU affiliation fee
- 10. Report of the Credit Committee
- 11. Report of the Credit Control Committee
- 12. Report of the Membership Committee
- **13.** Report of the Promotion / Youth Committee
- 14. Report of the Investment Committee
- 15. Report of the Insurance Officer
- 16. Report of the Nominating Committee
- 17. Elections of Auditor, Board of Directors & Board Oversight Committee
- 18. Any other business
- 19. Announcement of election results
- 20. Members draw
- 21. Close of meeting
- ---- Please exercise your right as a member of the Credit Union and attend the Virtual A.G.M.
- Only those who have reached the age of 16 may participate in the business of the Virtual A.G.M.
- A draw will be held among the members attending the Virtual AGM.

The following proposals to be put to meeting by the board of directors

 That this annual general meeting agrees the affiliation fee of €1 per adult member (over 16 years) be paid to the Irish League of Credit Unions by deduction from member share accounts.

Chairperson's Address

For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

Welcome to the 56th Annual General Meeting of St. Francis Credit Union. On behalf of the Board of Directors of our Credit Union it is an honour to present to you our Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 30th September 2022.

The year 2022 has been a year of consolidation for St Francis Credit Union following the merger with Shannon Credit Union in September 2021. Our credit union operates from 9 offices and employs 46 professional staff and serving a membership of 46,000. The Board of Directors of the credit union prides itself in operating such a large efficient and compliant Clare based organisation.

The vision of our credit union is that we continue to strive to providing access to a broad range of financial services for the financial needs of our membership in a co-operative and professional manner. The business model we have adopted is the provision of face to face engagement with members whilst also providing efficient on-line banking services which are comparable to any of our main banks. With a number of banks leaving the Irish financial system and those remaining banks constantly changing their business modelling by ending face to face customer interaction whilst your credit union's unique personal services.

In October 2021, after many years of waiting, we launched our current account service, with a fully functional, internationally accepted Debit Card. The introduction of this service has been very timely given the exit of two major banks from the market. We have 2,000 current accounts open and the demand for this excellent service continues to grow. We have improved the level of our on-line service through loan application capability via our App and a document upload facility to improve the loan application process.

St Francis Credit Union continues to operate a risk based approach in all facets of our business. Some of the key risks facing our business in the coming twelve months include macroeconomic risks, (including inflation, risk of recession and energy poverty) cyber security risks, coronavirus risks, and geopolitical risk. The risk based approach adopted by the Board helps the credit union prioritise and focus on essential risks and apply preventative measures that re aligned to the nature of the risks.

During 2022 the value of loans advanced 6,057 loans to members to the value of €32.8m which is an increase of 15.1% when compared to 2021. The board and management teams are exceptionally happy with this level of lending given the competitive market we operate in. Our lending process is very streamlined and efficient and as well as underwriting and approving loans the lending team provide invaluable advice to members during the process. The other real importance of this increase in lending is that income generated from lending accounts for 78% of interest income of the credit union. Income generated from investments continued to be affected by the low interest rate environment in 2022 but this trend looks like reversing with recent interest rate increases by the European Central Bank.

We continue to deal with members who have fallen into financial difficulty with dignity. We continue to encourage members who are finding repaying their loans difficult to contact our staff who will work through solutions to the problems. We want to reassure members that we will work with those who find themselves in difficulty and make every effort to find a workable solution in their troubled times.

The surplus recorded for 2022 amounted to \notin 19k, reflecting the impact of the defined benefit pension scheme and SPS refund, which on a net basis amounted to a charge of \notin 998k. The surplus, excluding the aforementioned net charge, would have amounted to \notin 1.417m which is very comparable with the 2021 surplus. The defined benefit pension scheme has been closed to future accrual as of 31 March 2022.

The Credit Union is conscious of its status in the community and of its carbon footprint. We are currently renovating our office in Shannon Town including the installation of solar panels and exterior insulation to bring the office to an A energy rating and making the office self sufficient during summer for its power supply. A second energy saving project has commenced in our Ennis office. This project is at infancy stage but it is hoped that sufficient progress can be made to improve the energy efficiency of the office including installation of solar panels.

Although we are cautiously upbeat about our future performance, macroeconomic triggers will have a large say in the medium-term future of our Credit Union. It is important to point out that members should understand the role they play in ensuring our future viability by using our Credit Union to borrow and keep the flames of owner-controlled Credit Unions alive.

As you will see from our financials to be presented later in the meeting St. Francis Credit Union has performed very well in 2022. We used the opportunity to bolster our bad debt provisions, and transfer funds to our General Reserves. The balance sheet continues to show asset growth and strength in the reserve position of the Credit Union.

It was deemed prudent by the Board of Directors to not propose the payment of a dividend or interest rebate in 2022 given the economic conditions facing the sector.

Financials:

	2022	2021	% Change
Total Assets	€273.0m	€264.9m	3.06%
Loans Issued	€32.8m	€28.5m	15.1%
Loans Outstanding	€68.0m	€62.9m	8.11%
Total Income	€7.65m	€5.95m	28.6%
Members' Savings	€218.9m	€212.8m	2.87%
Total Realised Reserves	18.00%	18.49%	

We encourage our members to access their accounts and transact through our on-line portal. This on-line facility allows for on-line banking transfers, bill pay, e-statement availability, e-AGM reports, inter account transfers, external transfers, and account view. A mobile App is also available to download.

Distribution of Surplus:

Surplus per accounts	€419,077
Regulatory Reserve	€154,382
Operational Risk Reserve	€3,894
Realised Reserves	€18,136 00.40 005
Unrealised Reserves	€242,665
Total	€419,077

I wish to thank my fellow Directors, Board Oversight Committee, and other volunteers for their commitment to the Credit Union. I wish to thank our CEO, Louis Fay and all his staff for their excellent work and service to our members during 2022. I would also like to acknowledge the support and input of our auditors, investment advisors, legal advisors, internal auditor, ILCU staff and RCU staff for their support and help during the year.

Madeline A

Chairperson Madeline McCarthy

Declaration & Adoption of Social Finance Fund

The Board of Directors recommend that €18,136 be transferred from this year's surplus of €419,077 into a Social Finance Fund Reserve, administered by St. Francis Credit Union Ltd. This is in accordance with Section 44 of the Standard Rules for Credit Unions which allows for the setting up of a special fund for cultural, social, or charitable purposes, including community development.

Directors' Report

For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

The directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 30 September 2022.

Principal activity

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

Authorisation

The credit union is authorised as follows:

- Insurance, reinsurance or ancillary insurance intermediary under the European Union (Insurance Distribution) Regulations, 2018 (as amended).
- Investment Intermediaries (Restricted Activity Investment Product Intermediary) pursuant to Section 26 of the Investment Intermediaries Act, 1995 (as amended).
- Entitled under the European Union (Payment Services) Regulations 2018 to provide payment services.
- To act on behalf of a payment institution in providing payment services.

Business review

The directors acknowledge the results for the year and the year-end financial position of the credit union. The directors expect to develop and expand the credit union's current activities and they are confident of its ability to continue to operate successfully in the future

Dividends and loan interest rebates

The directors are not proposing a dividend or loan interest rebate in respect of the financial year ended 30 September 2022 (2021: The directors did not propose a dividend or loan interest rebate).

Principal risks and uncertainties

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

Credit risk

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

Lack of loan demand

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

Market risk

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

Liquidity risk

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

Operational risk

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

Global macro-economic risk

There is an economic and operational risk relating to rising inflation rates, disruption to global supply chains and a general uncertainty in the markets as a result of the pandemic and the on-going war in Eastern Europe.

Directors' Report (continued)

For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

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

Credit risk

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

Lack of loan demand

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

Market risk

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

Liquidity risk

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

Operational risk

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

Global macro-economic risk

The board of directors and management closely monitor the developments of rising inflation rates and disruption to global supply chains and markets, and continue to take appropriate actions to mitigate any possible adverse effects on the credit union.

Accounting records

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

Events after the end of the financial year

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

Auditors

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

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

Madeline

Madeline McCarthy Chairperson of the board of directors

Date: 7th November 2022

AHOM

Valerie Slattery Member of the board of directors



Directors' responsibilities statement

For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

The directors are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable Irish law and regulations. The directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (FRS 102).

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

In preparing those financial statements the directors are required to:

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

The directors are responsible for ensuring that the credit union keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the credit union, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and income and expenditure of the credit union to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) and enable the financial statements to be audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the credit union and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The directors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the credit union's website.

On behalf of the board of directors:

Jadelene

Madeline McCarthy Chairperson of the board of directors

Date: 7th November 2022

Valerie Slattery Member of the board of directors

Board oversight committee's responsibilities statement

For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

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

On behalf of the board oversight committee:

Awythe A. Hewet

Dwight Hewett Chairperson of the board oversight committee

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of St. Francis Credit Union Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of St. Francis Credit Union Limited, which comprise the income and expenditure account, the statement of other comprehensive income, the balance sheet, the statement of changes in reserves and the statement of cash flows for the financial year ended 30 September 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in the preparation of the financial statements is Irish law including the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) 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, St. Francis Credit Union Limited's financial statements:

- give a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland of the state of the credit union's affairs as at 30 September 2022 and of its income and expenditure and cash flows for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared so as to conform with the requirements of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended).

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) ('ISAs (Ireland)') and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'responsibilities of the auditor for the audit of the financial statements' section of our report. We are independent of the credit union in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard for Auditors (Ireland) issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and 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.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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 other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of St. Francis Credit Union Limited (continued)

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed on the other information, 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 Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended)

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

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

Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, including FRS 102, 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, the directors are responsible for assessing the credit union's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intends to liquidate the credit union or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

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 their 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. The auditor 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 their 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

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of **St. Francis Credit Union Limited (continued)**

that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the credit union's internal control.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the credit union's ability to continue as a going concern. If 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 credit union to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves a true and fair view.

The auditor communicates 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 credit union's members, as a body, in accordance with section 120 of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended). Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the credit union's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the credit union and the credit union's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Denise O'Connell FCA for and on behalf of **Grant Thornton** Chartered Accountants & Statutory Audit Firm Limerick

Date: 7th November 2022

Income and Expenditure Account

For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

	Schedule	2022 €	2021 €
Income			
Interest on members' loans		5,005,343	4,162,931
Other interest income and similar income	1	1,418,125	1,515,769
Net interest income		6,423,468	5,678,700
Other income	2	1,223,563	266,693
Total income		7,647,031	5,945,393
Expenditure			
Employment costs		2,158,767	1,816,097
Other management expenses	3	2,563,271	2,461,551
Pension funding deficit		2,111,820	-
Depreciation		212,922	228,090
Net impairment losses on loans to members	(note 5)	181,174	180,284
Total expenditure ST 🔲 D	ΛΝΟ	7,227,954	4,686,022
Surplus for the financial year		419,077	1,259,371

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

Valetie Slattery

Member of the Board of Directors: Valerie Slattery

Awyto H. Heve

Member of the Board Oversight Committee: Dwight Hewett

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CEO: Louis Fay

Date: 7th November 2022

Statement of Other Comprehensive Income

For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

	2022 €	2021 €
Surplus for the financial year Other comprehensive income	419,077 -	1,259,371 -
Total comprehensive income for the financial year	419,077	1,259,371

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

Valetie Slattern

Awits H. Hewet

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Member of the Board of Directors: Valerie Slattery

Date: 7th November 2022

Member of the Board Oversight Committee: Dwight Hewett

CEO: Louis Fay

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Balance Sheet As at 30 September 2022

	Notes	2022 €	2021 <i>€</i>
Assets	10100		
Cash and balances at bank		5,247,016	6,872,610
Deposits and investments – cash equivalents	7	42,779,440	34,114,902
Deposits and investments – other	7	162,069,652	165,693,835
Loans to members	8	68,018,593	62,923,968
Provision for bad debts	9	(7,937,462)	(7,604,136)
Members' current accounts overdrawn	14	5,542	-
Tangible fixed assets	10	2,198,943	2,319,049
Investments in associates	11	265,000	265,000
Debtors, prepayments and accrued income	12	334,545	328,399
Total assets		272,981,269	264,913,627
Liabilities			
Members' shares	13	216,093,666	212.785.379
Members' current accounts	14	2,843,668	-
Other liabilities, creditors, accruals and charges	15	4,311,241	2,825,358
Other provisions	16	37,123	8,260
Total liabilities		223,285,698	215,618,997
Reserves			
Regulatory reserve	18	27,975,058	27,475,058
Operational risk reserve	18	3,333,078	3,329,184
Other reserves			
- Realised reserves	18	17,840,328	18,185,946
- Unrealised reserves	18	547,107	304,442
Total reserves		49,695,571	49,294,630
Total liabilities and reserves		272,981,269	264,913,627

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

Valetie Slattery

Member of the Board of **Directors:** Valerie Slattery

Date: 7th November 2022

Awits H. Hewet

Member of the Board **Oversight Committee: Dwight Hewett**

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CEO: Louis Fay

Statement of Changes in Reserves For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

	Regulatory reserve €	Operational risk reserve €	Realised reserves €	Unrealised reserves €	Total €
As at 1 October 2020 Surplus for the	23,615,505	2,822,416	15,764,743	235,385	42,438,049
financial year Payment from reserves	229,061 -	209,397 -	761,994 (17,963)	58,919 -	1,259,371 (17,963)
Transfers of engagements Transfers between reserves	3,630,492 -	297,371 -	1,676,166 1,006	11,144 (1,006)	5,615,173 -
As at 1 October 2021	27,475,058	3,329,184	18,185,946	304,442	49,294,630
Surplus for the financial year	154,382	3,894	18,136	242,665	419,077
Payment from reserves Transfers between reserves	- 345,618		(18,136) (345,618)	-	(18,136) -
As at 30 September 2022	27,975,058	3,333,078	17,840,328	547,107	49,695,571

- The regulatory reserve of the credit union as a percentage of total assets as at 30 September • 2022 was 10.25% (2021: 10.37%).
- The operational risk reserve of the credit union as a percentage of total assets as at 30 . September 2022 was 1.22% (2021: 1.26%).

Statement of Cash Flows For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

	Notes	2022 €	2021 €
Opening cash and cash equivalents		40,987,512	24,344,929
Cash flows from operating activities Loans repaid by members Loans granted to members Interest on members' loans Other interest income and similar income Bad debts recovered and recoveries Other income Members' current accounts lodgements Members' current accounts withdrawals Operating expenses Movement in other assets and liabilities Net cash flows from operating activities	8 8 14 14	27,435,876 (32,781,896) 5,005,343 1,418,125 403,547 1,223,563 11,984,716 (9,146,590) (6,851,994) 1,508,600 199,290	23,773,360 (28,474,598) 4,162,931 1,515,769 470,363 266,693 - - (4,295,611) 381,092 (2,200,001)
Cash flows from investing activities Cash and investments introduced from transfers of engagements Fixed asset (purchases)/disposals Net cash flow from other investing activities Net cash flows from investing activities		(92,816) 3,624,183 3,531,367	22,744,390 (60,020) (13,146,394) 9,537,976
Cash flows from financing activities Members' shares received Members' shares withdrawn Net cash flow from financing activities Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		93,127,316 (89,819,029) 3,308,287 7,038,944	99,742,672 (90,438,064) 9,304,608 16,642,583
Closing cash and cash equivalents	6	48,026,456	40,987,512

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

1. Legal and regulatory framework

St. Francis Credit Union Limited is registered with the Registry of Credit Unions and is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. The registered office of the credit union is located at Friar's Walk, Clonroad Beg, Ennis, Co. Clare.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

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

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

The following principal accounting policies have been applied:

2.2 Statement of compliance

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

2.3 Going concern

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

2.4 Income

Interest on members' loans

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

Deposit and investment income

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

Other income

Other income is recognised on an accruals basis.

2.5 Cash and cash equivalents

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

2.6 Deposits and investments

Held at amortised cost

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

For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.6 Deposits and investments (continued)

Central Bank deposits

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

Investments at fair value

Investments designated on initial recognition as non basic are recognised at fair value. They are subsequently measured at fair value (market value) at the year-end date and all gains and losses are taken to the income and expenditure account.

2.7 Financial assets – loans to members

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

Loans are derecognised when the right to receive cash flows from the asset has expired, usually when all amounts outstanding have been repaid by the member.

2.8 Provision for bad debts

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

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

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

2.9 Tangible fixed assets

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

The credit union adds to the carrying amount of an item of fixed assets the cost of replacing part of such an item when that cost is incurred, if the replacement part is expected to provide incremental future benefits to the credit union. The carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised. Repairs and maintenance are charged to the income and expenditure account during the period in which they are incurred.

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

For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.9 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Freehold premises	2% straight line per annum
Office equipment	20% straight line per annum
Fixtures and fittings	10% straight line per annum
Computer equipment (software)	20% straight line per annum
Computer equipment (hardware)	25% straight line per annum
Motor vehicles	25% straight line per annum

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

2.10 Investments in associates

Investment in associates are accounted for at cost less impairment.

2.11 Impairment of assets

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

2.12 Other receivables

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

2.13 Financial liabilities – members' shares

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

2.14 Members' current accounts

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

2.15 Other payables

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

For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.16 Pension costs

St. Francis Credit Union Limited participates in an industry-wide pension scheme for employees (The Irish League of Credit Unions Republic of Ireland Pension Scheme) (the Scheme). This is a funded defined benefit scheme with assets managed by the Scheme's trustees. The ILCU is the principal employer of the Scheme and St. Francis Credit Union Limited is a participating employer. The Scheme is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme and there is insufficient information for the credit union to separately identify its share of the Scheme's underlying assets and liabilities. Consequently, the Scheme is currently accounted for as a defined contribution plan. If an agreement is entered into with the Scheme that determines how St. Francis Credit Union Limited will fund a past service deficit, the credit union shall recognise a liability for the contributions payable that arise from the agreement (to the extent that they relate to the deficit). Please refer to note 27 for further detail.

The credit union also operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the credit union in independently administered funds. Employer contributions to the scheme are charged to the income and expenditure account in the period to which they relate. The amount payable at the year end in respect of same was €Nil (2021: €Nil).

2.17 Holiday pay

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

2.18 Derecognition of financial liabilities

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

2.19 Regulatory reserve

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

2.20 Operational risk reserve

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

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

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

2.21 Other reserves

Other reserves are the accumulated surpluses to date that have not been declared as dividends returnable to members. The other reserves are subdivided into realised and unrealised. The credit union has established a social finance fund reserve to be used by the credit union for social, cultural and charitable purposes in accordance with section 44 of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) and this is included in realised reserves. In accordance with the Central Bank guidance note for credit unions on matters relating to accounting for investments and distribution policy, investment income that has been recognised but will not be received within 12 months of the balance sheet date is classified as unrealised and is not distributable. A reclassification between unrealised andrealised is made as investments come to within 12 months of the SPS refund receivable is also classified as unrealised and is not distributable. All other income is classified as realised.

For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.22 Distribution policy

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

The rate of dividends and loan interest rebates recommended by the board will reflect:

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

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

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

2.23 Taxation

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

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

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

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

The annual depreciation charge depends primarily on the estimated lives of each type of asset and, in certain circumstances, estimates of residual values. The directors regularly review these useful lives and charge them if necessary to reflect current conditions. In determining these useful lives management consider technological change, patterns of consumption, physical condition and expected economic utilisation of the assets. Changes in the useful lives can have a significant impact on the depreciation charge for the financial year. The net book value of tangible fixed assets subject to depreciation at the year end was \notin 2,198,943 (2021: \notin 2,319,049).

Provision for bad debts

The credit union's accounting policy for impairment of loans is set out in the accounting policy in note 2.8. The estimation of loan losses is inherently uncertain and depends upon many factors, including loan loss trends, credit risk characteristics in loan classes, local and international economic climates, conditions in various sectors of the economy to which the credit union is exposed, and, other external factors such as legal and regulatory requirements. The provision for bad debts in the financial statements at the year end was €7,937,462 (2021: €7,604,136) representing 11.67% (2021: 12.08%) of the total gross loan book.

Investments in associates

The investment in associates represents the credit union's investment in Metacu Management Designated Activity Company. This investment was made for operational purposes. The credit union holds 6.25% Redeemable A Ordinary shares in the company and through the terms of the shareholders agreement agreed between each of the participating credit unions, the credit union is deemed to have influence over the operations of this company. Therefore the investment has been accounted for as an investment in an associate.

Operational risk reserve

The directors have considered the requirements of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) and have developed an approach to the calculation of the operational risk reserve. In addition, the credit union has included in its operational risk reserve a Member Personal Current Account Service operational risk reserve, in accordance with Section 49(3) of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended). The operational risk reserve of the credit union at the year end was €3,333,078 (2021: €3,329,184).

For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

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

Pensions

St. Francis Credit Union Limited participates in an industry-wide pension scheme for employees (The Irish League of Credit Unions Republic of Ireland Pension Scheme). This is a funded scheme of the defined benefit type, with assets invested in separate trustee administered funds. Judgement is required to assess whether the credit union has sufficient information to enable it to account for the Scheme as a defined benefit plan. An assessment has been performed of the information currently available and St. Francis Credit Union Limited has determined that there is currently insufficient information available to provide an appropriate allocation of pension assets and liabilities due to the following:

- Scheme assets are not segregated or tracked by contributing employers. There is insufficient
 information to appropriately allocate the assets to individual employers as contributions paid are
 pooled in a single fund and none of the contributing employers have separately segregated asset
 pools.
- Orphan members are those members (including pensioners) who previously contributed to the scheme where their employer has paid an exit cost and as a result has no further liability to the scheme. A pension liability continues to exist for these individual members. There is uncertainty around where the obligation rests in respect of orphan members currently and into the future.
- The Funding Plan calculations are based on each employer's share of liabilities at a point in time. This does not infer that each employer is contributing towards its liabilities. The determination of the contribution rate is a point in time assessment and is not updated subsequently for changes in the employers' liability that may occur in the future. Subsequently, as the profile of the scheme continues to change, there will continue to be a natural cross subsidisation.

Consequently, St. Francis Credit Union Limited continues to account for the plan as a defined contribution plan.

Adoption of going concern basis for financial statements preparation

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

4. Key management personnel compensation

The directors of St. Francis Credit Union Limited are all unpaid volunteers. The key management personnel compensation is as follows.

2022	2021
€	€
872,812	867,863
115,274	134,321
988,086	1,002,184
	€ 872,812 115,274

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

5. Net impairment losses on loans to members

	2022 €	2021 €
Bad debts recovered	(334,930)	-
	· · · ·	(390,677)
Impairment of loan interest reclassed as bad debt recoveries	(68,617)	(79,686)
Movement in bad debts provision during the year	333,326	545,805
Loans written off during the year	251,395	104,842
Net impairment losses on loans to members	181,174	180,284
6. Cash and cash equivalents		
	2022	2021
Cook and belances at hereit	€	€
Cash and balances at bank	5,247,016	6,872,610
Deposits and investments – cash equivalents (note 7)	42,779,440	34,114,902
Total cash and cash equivalents	48,026,456	40,987,512
7. Deposits and investments		
	2022	2021
	€	€
Deposits and investments – cash equivalents	11 100 001	15 0 17 0 10
Accounts in authorised credit institutions (Irish and non-Irish based)		15,247,342
Irish and EEA state securities	1,007,120	1,005,620
Central Bank deposits	371,399	17,861,940
Total deposits and investments – cash equivalents	42,779,440	34,114,902
Deposits and investments – other		
Accounts in authorised credit institutions (Irish and non-Irish based)	97,637,450	104,291,763
Bank bonds	45,727,399	45,658,336
Irish and EEA state securities	16,778,923	13,771,544
Central Bank deposits	1,925,880	1,972,192
Total deposits and investments – other	162,069,652	165,693,835
Total deposits and investments	204,849,092	199,808,737
	204,043,032	155,000,707
8. Financial assets – loans to members		
	2022	2021
	€	€
As at 1 October Loans arising on transfer of engagements	62,923,968	51,264,553 7,063,019
Loans granted during the year	32,781,896	28,474,598
Loans repaid during the year	(27,435,876)	(23,773,360)
Gross loans and advances	68,269,988	63,028,810
Bad debts		
Loans written off during the year	(251,395)	(104,842)
As at 30 September	68,018,593	62,923,968

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

9. Provision for bad debts

	2022 €	2021 €
As at 1 October	7,604,136	6,355,905
Provisions arising on transfer of engagements Movement in bad debts provision during the year	333,326	702,426 545,805
As at 30 September	7,937,462	7,604,136
The provision for bad debts is analysed as follows:	2022	2021
	€	€
Grouped assessed loans	7,937,462	7,604,136
Provision for bad debts	7,937,462	7,604,136

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold premises €	Office equipment €	Fixtures & fittings €	Computer equipment €	Motor Vehicles €	Total €
Cost 1 October 2021 Additions	4,440,641	556,043 74,010	480,384 17,434	1,681,682 1,372	10,750 _	7,169,500 92,816
At 30 September 2022	4,440,641	630,053	497,818	1,683,054	10,750	7,262,316
Depreciation 1 October 2021 Charge for year	2,353,818 90,762	499,143 42,057	406,321 13,207	1,585,794 64,207	5,375 2,689	4,850,451 212,922
At 30 September 2022	2,444,580	541,200	419,528	1,650,001	8,064	5,063,373
Net Book Value At 30 September 2022 At 30 September 2021	1,996,061 2,086,823	88,853 56,900	78,290 74,063	33,053 95,888	2,686 5,375	2,198,943 2,319,049

For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

11. Investments in associates

	€
Cost At 1 October 2021 and 30 September 2022	265,000
Accumulated impairment At 1 October 2021 and 30 September 2022	
Net book value At 30 September 2022	265,000
At 30 September 2021	265,000

Interests in associate

The credit union has interests in the following associate:

			Proportion	Net	Profit or
	Registered	Type of	held	Assets	(loss)
Associate	Address	shares held	%	€	€
Metacu Management	14 Ely Place				
Designated Activity	Dublin 2	Redeemable			
Company	Ireland	A Ordinary	6.25%	4,030,007	4,607

The above financial information in respect of Metacu Management Designated Activity Company was extracted from the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021.

The effect of including this investment as if it had been accounted for using the equity method would be as follows:

	Share of net assets
At 1 October 2021 Share of profit/(loss) for the financial year after tax	€ 251,587 288
At 30 September 2022	251,875

12. Debtors, prepayments and accrued income

	2022 €	2021 €
Loan interest receivable Prepayments	133,559 89.604	132,384 196,015
Other debtors – SPS refund	111,382	-
As at 30 September	334,545	328,399

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

13. Members' shares

	2022	2021
As at 1 October Members' shares arising on transfer of engagements	212,785,379	€ 180,652,729 22,828,042
Received during the year Withdrawn during the year	93,127,316 (89,819,029)	99,742,672 (90,438,064)
As at 30 September	216,093,666	212,785,379
14. Members' current accounts		
	2022 €	2021 €
As at 1 October Lodgements during the year	- 11,984,716	-
Withdrawals during the year	(9,146,590)	
As at 30 September	2,838,126	
	No. of Accounts	Balance of Accounts
		€
Debit Credit	71 1,759	5,542 2,843,668
Permitted overdrafts	45	43,750

15. Other liabilities, creditors, accruals and charges

	2022 €	2021 €
Other liabilities, creditors, accruals and charges Pension funding deficit Prize draw balance	2,393,582 1,887,280 30,379	2,795,968 - 29,390
As at 30 September	4,311,241	2,825,358
16. Other provisions		
Holiday pay accrual	2022 €	2021 €
At 1 October Charged to the income and expenditure account	8,260 28,863	22,213 (13,953)
As at 30 September	37,123	8,260

For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

17. Financial instruments

17a. Financial instruments – measured at amortised cost

Financial assets	2022	2021
Financial assets measured at amortised cost	€ 2 <u>39,901,532</u>	€ 2 <u>31,270,530</u>
Financial liabilities	2022 €	2021 €
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	223,285,698	215,618,997

Financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise of cash and balances at bank, deposits and investments, loans, members' current accounts overdrawn, investments in associates and other debtors.

Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost comprise of members' shares, members' current accounts, other liabilities, creditors, accruals and charges and other provisions.

17b. Financial instruments – fair value measurements

FRS 102 requires fair value measurements to be disclosed by the source of inputs, using a three level hierarchy:

- Quoted prices for identical instruments in active market (level 1);
- Prices of recent transactions for identical instruments and valuation techniques using observable market data (level 2), and
- Valuation techniques using unobservable market data (level 3).

The table below sets out fair value measurements using the fair value hierarchy:

At 30 September 2022	CREDI Total €	Level 1 €	Level 2 €	Level 3 €
Accounts in authorised credit institutions	38,595,093		38,595,093	
Total	38,595,093		38,595,093	
At 30 September 2021	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Accounts in authorised	€	€	€	€
credit institutions	38,599,785		38,599,785	

There were no fair value adjustments recognised in the income and expenditure account for the year ended 30 September 2022 (2021: €nil).

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

18. Reserves

	Balance 01/10/2021	Appropriation of current year surplus	Payments from reserves / transfers between reserves	Balance 30/09/2022
	€	€	€	€
Regulatory reserve	27,475,058	154,382	345,618	27,975,058
Operational risk reserve	3,329,184	3,894	-	3,333,078
Other reserves Realised				
General reserve Social finance fund reserve	18,085,946 100,000	18,136	(345,618) (18,136)	17,740,328 100,000
Total realised reserves	18,185,946	18,136	(363,754)	17,840,328
Unrealised Interest on loans reserve Investment income reserve SPS refund reserve	132,384 172,058 -	1,175 130,108 111,382	- - -	133,559 302,166 111,382
Total unrealised reserves	304,442	242,665	-	547,107
Total reserves	49,294,630	419,077	(18,136)	49,695,571

For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

19. Credit risk disclosures

In line with regulatory requirements, the credit union:

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

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

		2022		2021
	€	%	€	%
Loans not impaired Total loans not impaired, not past due	58,358,272	85.80%	52,325,949	83.16%
not pust due	00,000,212	00.0070	02,020,040	00.1070
Impaired loans: Not past due Up to 9 weeks past due Between 10 and 18 weeks	5,516,477 2,514,378	8.11% 3.69%	6,357,495 2,213,201	10.10% 3.52%
past due	490,954	0.72%	653,610	1.04%
Between 19 and 26 weeks past due Between 27 and 39 weeks	307,837	0.45%	261,371	0.42%
past due Between 40 and 52 weeks	228,182	0.34%	335,845	0.53%
past due 53 or more weeks past due	S 107,328 495,165	0.16% 0.73%	84,500 691,997	0.13% 1.10%
Total impaired loans	9,660,321	14.20%	10,598,019	16.84%
Total loans	68,018,593	100.00%	62,923,968	100.00%

20. Related party transactions

20a. Loans	2022		2021	
	No. of Loans	€	No. of Loans	€
Loans advanced to related parties during the year	14	110,815	14	89,182
Total loans outstanding to related parties at the year end	28	260,999	27	255,339
Total provision for loans outstanding to related parties		24,495		24,901

The related party loans stated above comprise of loans outstanding to directors and the management team (to include their family members or any business in which the directors or management team had a significant shareholding). Total loans outstanding to related parties represents 0.38% of the total loans outstanding at 30 September 2022 (2021: 0.41%).

For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

20. Related party transactions (continued)

20b. Savings

The total amount of savings held by related parties at the year end was €756,681 (2021: €811,774).

21. Additional financial instruments disclosures

21a. Financial risk management

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

Credit risk: Credit risk is the risk that a borrower will default on their contractual obligations relating to repayments to the credit union, resulting in financial loss. In order to manage this risk the board of directors regularly reviews and approves the credit union's lending policy. Credit risk mitigation may include the requirement to obtain collateral as set out in the credit union's lending policies. Where collateral or guarantees are required, they are usually taken as a secondary source of repayment in the event of the borrower's default. The credit union maintains policies which detail the acceptability of specific classes of collateral. The principal collateral types for loans are: an attachment over members' pledged shares; personal guarantees; and charges over assets. The nature and level of collateral required depends on a number of factors such as the term of the loan and the amount of exposure. All loan applications are assessed with reference to the lending policy in force at the time. Subsequently loans are regularly reviewed for any factors that may indicate that the likelihood of repayment has charged.

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

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

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

21b. Liquidity risk disclosures

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

21c. Interest rate risk disclosures

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

	2022		2021	
	_	Average interest		Average interest
	€	rate %	€	rate %
Gross loans to members	68,018,593	7.81%	62,923,968	7.94%

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

For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

22. Dividends and loan interest rebate

The following distributions were made during the year:

	2022		2021	
	%	€	%	€
Dividend on shares				
Loan interest rebate	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	

The directors are not proposing a dividend or loan interest rebate in respect of the financial year ended 30 September 2022 (2021: The directors did not propose a dividend or loan interest rebate).

23. Events after the end of the financial year

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

24. Insurance against fraud

The credit union has Insurance against fraud in the amount of €5,200,000 (2021: €5,200,000) in compliance with Section 47 of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended).

25. Capital commitments

The credit union had capital commitments at 30 September 2022 pertaining to refurbishment works to the Shannon office in the amount of €234,460.

26. Comparative information

Comparative information has been reclassified where necessary to conform to current year presentation.

For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

27. The Irish League of Credit Unions Republic of Ireland Pension Scheme

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

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

At the date of closure of the scheme, there was a past service deficit which was allocated to each participating credit union based on the total benefits earned by staff in each credit union. St. Francis Credit Union Limited's allocation of that past service deficit is €1,930,200. This amount together with associated costs and interest totalling €2,111,820 is included in the income and expenditure account for the financial year ended 30 September 2022. St. Francis Credit Union Limited has entered a 10 year funding plan to pay the deficit of which the first year was paid in 2022.

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

If credit unions exit the Scheme, they are required to pay to the trustees the exit amount which the trustees determine is required to fund benefits in respect of their active, deferred and pensioner members on a "no risk" basis. The exiting credit union thereby settles any liability they have to contribute to the Scheme in the future

28. Approval of financial statements

The board of directors approved these financial statements for issue on 7 November 2022.

Schedules to the Income and Expenditure Account

For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

The following schedules do not form part of the statutory financial statements which are the subject of the Independent Auditor's Report on pages 9 to 11.

Schedule 1 – Other interest income and similar income

	2022 €	2021 €
Investment income received/receivable within 1 year Investment income receivable outside of 1 year	1,288,017 <u>130,108</u>	1,456,850 58,919
Total per income and expenditure account	1,418,125	<u>1,515,769</u>

Schedule 2 – Other income

		2022 €	2021 €
Commission and fees Rental income ECCU rebate MPCAS income SPS refund		66,822 6,000 16,336 20,584 1,113,821	31,632 6,000 229,061 - -
Total per income and expend	liture account	1,223,563	266,693

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Schedules to the Income and Expenditure Account

(continued) For the financial year ended 30 September 2022

Schedule 3 – Other management expenses

	2022 €	2021 €
Rent and rates	45,361	23,586
Lighting, heating and cleaning	76,382	52,379
Repairs and maintenance contracts	44,882	82,654
Printing and stationery	47,713	35,894
Postage and telephone	107,791	79,301
Promotion, advertising and donations	122,871	74,095
Training costs	23,211	22,540
AGM, chapter and other meeting expenses	63,591	87,564
Travel and subsistence	24,162	22,384
Audit fee	35,055	36,285
Board oversight committee expenses	520	410
General insurance	91,742	77,218
Share and loan insurance	619,601	493,633
Legal and professional fees	108,377	394,840
Computer maintenance	217,397	238,465
Miscellaneous office expenses	41,088	30,606
Death benefit insurance	241,254	176,652
Affiliation fees CREDIT UNION	14,954	12,392
SPS contribution	17,480	14,490
Bank & CCR charges	163,820	135,479
Social fund reserve expenditure	18,136	17,963
Part utilisation of the social fund reserve	(18,136)	(17,963)
Regulatory levies	378,483	370,684
MPCAS expenses	77,536	-
Total per income and expenditure account	2,563,271	2,461,551

Report of the Board Oversight Committee

In compliance with the *Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended) (the Act)* which requires every credit union to have a Board Oversight Committee (BOC), St Francis Credit Union has a three member BOC and each of these Committee members meets the membership criteria. All members of the BOC have attended mandatory professional training in order to meet the Fitness & Probity Regulations for credit unions.

Immediately following the 2021 Annual General Meeting, the BOC chaired a meeting of the newly elected Board for the election of Officers to the Principal Posts, as well as to the vacant positions on the Nominating Committee. During its 2022 term of office, the BOC held a minimum of one meeting in every month and kept minutes of all meetings.

Legislation instructs the BOC to assess whether the Board has operated in accordance with Parts IV and IVA of the Act, and any regulations made thereunder, and to communicate to the Members at the Annual General Meeting its assessment of the Board of Directors' performance. The BOC is pleased to submit this written report to the Members at the 2022 AGM on the results of its reviews of the Board's compliance with relevant laws, governing documents and Rules, as well as the requirements of all regulatory bodies.

The BOC was allowed unrestricted access to all meetings of the Board of Directors and its sub committees, as well as to all books and documents at St Francis Credit Union. Throughout the year, the BOC effectively monitored and examined the internal control systems and procedures, and produced evidence which demonstrated that the roles, responsibilities, and duties of the Board of Directors were fulfilled. An assessment document was used by the BOC which identified all relevant statutory obligations of the Board of Directors and all the BOC's opinions were validated. In accordance with Section 76O(1)(b) of the statutory obligations, the assessment evidence and the agreed actions were discussed with the Directors at Review Meetings held in May, July, September and November, and a written report of these Review Meetings was submitted to the Board.

As a result of our examinations, we are confident that the Board of St Francis Credit Union has acted in the best interest of its Members by maintaining the strategic objectives of the Credit Union. The Board of Directors and the management met as required during the past year and made well considered decisions in order to protect the interests of its membership and continues to give good governance. At this time, the BOC would like to commend the Board of Directors, the CEO Louis Fay, the staff, and the volunteers who all performed their duties effectively, efficiently and with sincerity, and to thank all these individuals for their assistance and complete co-operation whilst we carried out our duties.

Catherine Brigdale, Nancy Creech and Dwight Hewett SFCU Board Oversight Committee

Standing Orders for Credit Unions for Virtual AGM (Republic of Ireland)

1. Voting

 Each member shall be entitled to one vote irrespective of his/her shareholding, in accordance with section 82(2) of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended).

Since this year's AGM will be a virtual meeting, voting on motions and elections will be by electronic means. Each member will be given the opportunity to exercise their vote electronically during the meeting.

2. Election Procedure - Electronic Voting

- 2. Following the announcement of nominations attendees will be given the opportunity to vote electronically "Yes" or "No" for each candidate. Those in attendance will be given 30 Seconds to record their vote. The mechanics of the electronic virtual voting process will be explained in more detail at the AGM by the Chair. Elections shall be in the following order:
 - a) nominations for auditor
 - b) nominations for members of the board oversight committee
 - c) nominations for directors.

The votes will be tallied electronically and verified by our Internal Auditor. When all elections have been completed and results become available the chair will announce the results.

3 - 4 Motions

 Due to the specific difficulties we are facing in holding an Annual General Meeting this year due to Covid-19, the purpose of this year's AGM is to deal with the essential business of the credit union.

This includes reporting to members on the financial status of the credit union, declare a dividend/ interest rebate, and elect officers. Any other non-urgent matters will be dealt with at next year's AGM.

As such, there will be no motions from the floor due to the difficulties in managing same remotely.

Members will be invited to submit questions to the board via "Chat" button on the toolbar in the Zoom Webinar and the board will address these during the AGM.

4. The Chairperson's decision on any matter relating to these Standing Orders or interpretation of same shall be final.

5 - 9 Miscellaneous

5. The Chairperson of the credit union shall be the Chairperson of any general meeting, except where

he/she is not available, in which case it shall be the Vice-Chair, except where he/she is not available, in which case the Board shall decide amongst themselves who shall act as Chair of any general meeting.

- The Chairperson may at his/her discretion, extend the privilege of the floor to any person who is not a member.
- 7. Matters not covered by the Agenda may be introduced under "Other Business" at the discretion of the Chairperson. At a virtual AGM in the current circumstances, this may not be practical, however, the option may be invoked if required.
- The Chairperson shall have a second or casting vote in addition to his/her own vote on matters other than voting at elections where there is an equality of votes (Standard Rule 99(1)).
- 9. Any matter to be decided upon by a vote at the AGM shall, unless otherwise expressly provided for by law or the rules be decided upon by majority vote.

10. Adjournments

10. Adjournments of the AGM shall take place only in accordance with sections 81(1) and 80A of the Credit Union Act, 1997 (as amended).

11-17 Virtual Meeting Items

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

Directors, Staff and Committee Members

Board of Directors

Madeline McCarthy (Chairperson), Martina Brennan, Owen Broderick, Kevin Collins, Michael Gallagher, Vincent Guilfoyle, Marian Hannon, Michael Horgan, Tony Hegarty, Oliver O'Regan, Valerie Slattery.

Audit Committee

Martina Brennan, Michael Horgan, Madeline McCarthy.

Board Oversight Committee

Catherine Brigdale, Nancy Creech, Dwight Hewett.

Credit Committee

Frank Barry, Owen Broderick, Kevin Collins, Mary Killeen, Margaret Mulvey, Valerie Slattery, Philip Twigg.

Credit Control Committee

Michael Gallagher, John Egan, Tim Hurley.

Information Technology Committee John Egan, Louis Fay, Sean Healy,

Raymond O'Mahony.

Investment Committee

Tony Hegarty, John Hogan, Gillian Crowe, Louis Fay, Sean Healy, Raymond O'Mahony.

Membership Committee

Vincent Guilfoyle, Niamh Considine, Gillian Crowe, Fiona Doyle, Louis Fay, Thomas Healy, Barbara Maher, Raymond O Mahony, Pat Sheehan, Ann Sweeney.

Nomination Committee

Owen Broderick, Marian Hannon, Valerie Slattery.

Promotion Committee

Vincent Guilfoyle, Oliver O'Regan, Mark Coleman, Louis Fay, Valerie Slattery.

Risk Committee

Marian Hannon, Tony Hegarty, Valerie Slattery,

AML Committee

Louis Fay Sean Healy, Yvonne Moloney, Aine O'Dwyer, Aileen Talty.

Staff

Damien Browne, Michelle Clancy, Niamh Considine, Gillian Crowe, Sally Cunningham, Helen Curtin, Aoife Daly, Robert Daly, Mandy Danaher, Fiona Doyle, Olivia Dullaghan, John Egan, Louis Fay, Olivia Gallagher, Neil Greer, Sean Healy, Thomas Healy, Aileen Hennessey, Declan Honan, Tim Hurley, Gurinder Kaur, Margaret Keane, Sinead Kilkelly, Elaine King, Clare Lyons, Barbara Maher, Noel McGough, Rachel McMahon, Justin Molloy, Eileen Moloney, Yvonne Moloney, David Noble, Raymond O Mahony, Aine O'Dwyer, Emma O'Connell, Caroline Power, Gary Roche, Lisa Roddy, Monica Ryan, Pat Sheehan, Angel South, Ann Sweeney, Aileen Talty, Nora Tiernan, Alice Woods.

Internal Auditor

MOET Accountants, Suite 21, Whitethorns, Castletroy, Limerick.

Auditor

Grant Thornton, Mill House, Henry Street, Limerick.

Solicitors

John Halpin, Kerin Hickman & O'Donnell, Bindon Street, Ennis, Co Clare.

Bankers

- AIB Bank Plc, Bank Place, Ennis.
- AIB Bank Plc, Town Centre, Shannon.
- Bank of Ireland, Bank Place, Ennis, Co Clare.
- Bank of Ireland, Shannon Industrial Estate, Shannon, Co Clare.
- Intesa San Paulo, 3 Harbour Master Place, Dublin 1.

Investment Advisors

 Goodbody Stockbrokers, Ballsbridge Park, Dublin 4.

Investment Managers

- BCP, 71 Leeson Street Upper, Ranelagh, Dublin 4
- Goodbody Stockbrokers, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.
- Investec, Georges Dock, IFSC, Dublin 1.
- Permanent TSB International Financial Services Centre, Dublin.
- Davy, 49 Dawson Street, Dublin 2.



Members can achieve this by Registering for Online Access by logging on to **www.stfranciscu.ie**

Once you have registered, update your preferences on eAGM & eStatements Communication.

This will help your credit union SAVE COSTS & REDUCE CARBON FOOTPRINT!

Get in touch

065 682 8305
 info@stfranciscu.ie
 www.stfranciscu.ie

Branches

Ennis, Clarecastle, Kildysart, Kilmihil, Lissycasey, Newmarket-On-Fergus, Shannon, Sixmilebridge & Tulla

Connect

Credit Unions in the Republic of Ireland are regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.