



THE MESSAGE TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

Company Limited by Guarantee

Company Registration Number 03961183

Registered Charity Number 1081467

Scottish Registered Charity Number SC045838

THE MESSAGE TRUST

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

The Board of Trustees

C. Hardicre - Resigned 30 Sept 2021
R. D. White
J. A. Wainwright
D. I. Moore - Resigned 30 Sept 2021
A. C. Leahey
G. J. Haynes (Chairman)

Company Secretary

I. Rowbottom

Chief Executive Officer

A. Hawthorne OBE

Registered Office

Lancaster House
Harper Road
Sharston
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Lancashire
M22 4RG

External Auditors

Beever and Struthers
St George's House
215-219 Chester Road
Manchester
M15 4JE

Bankers

National Westminster Bank PLC
34 High Street
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Cheshire
SK8 1AF

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 August 2021.

The Message Trust is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed by its memorandum and articles of association. Charity number 1081467. Company number 03961183. On 27 July 2015 The Message Trust became a cross-border charity registered with the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) Charity number SC045838. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The Message was formed in 1991 with one full-time member of staff, who worked mainly within secondary schools in the Greater Manchester area. This work developed with the formation of a dance music band, The World Wide Message Tribe who became one of Europe's most popular Christian Music groups. The formation of Eden teams working in the toughest parts of the city of Manchester and the development of the Community Grocery stores and many other projects have added rapid growth with the work now becoming a significant organisation employing an average of 137 paid staff (2020: 131) with an annual income of £7.6 million (2020 £6.0 million).

The organisation was initially set up as the Message to Schools Trust but, with the growth and increasing number of opportunities opening up, all the activities, assets and liabilities were transferred to a new trust, The Message Trust, with effect from 31 August 2000. The new Trust, a company limited by guarantee, was incorporated on 30 March 2000 but did not become active until 31 August 2000 when it took over the operations of the old trust.

These objects are being worked out in eight main areas:

- Partnering with local churches, local authorities, schools, the police and other agencies to provide new opportunities and positive experiences for disadvantaged, deprived and marginalised young people throughout the United Kingdom.
- Producing quality Christian music and educational resources. Live music bands, printed materials, the internet and multi-media are all used to communicate Christianity to young people in ways that are relevant to today's youth culture and perspectives.
- Community-based 'Eden' youth teams advancing the work of The Message through partnerships with local churches. Our goal is to see Eden "Hubs" across the UK, each one situated in one of the country's social deprivation "hotspots" and planting Eden Partnerships throughout their region. Each Eden Partnership would employ full-time and volunteer youth and community workers that would positively impact the people in those areas irrespective of religion, colour or background.
- Providing regular, long-term, accredited education courses alongside friendship and care to young prisoners in Young Offenders' Institutions through our Message in Prisons team using drama, music, video and other activities.
- Providing Christian training to young people, youth workers and others through "Message Academy" and "Advance" as well as a range of training courses in music and dance through the "Genetik Sessions".

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BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES (continued)

- Providing regular, long-term mobile youth centres in urban areas where teenagers have nowhere to go through our “Message Buses” (formerly known as Eden Buses), fully equipped with the latest video game technology and staffed by trained and skilled professional youth workers.
- Through its subsidiary charity, offering employment, training and housing to ex-offenders through the “Message Enterprise Centre” and “The Oaks”.
- Establishing the Community Grocery stores to support families in need.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The directors of the charitable company (“the charity”) are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

The Trustees’ recruitment is by personal contact of existing Trustees. They are then elected by the Board of Trustees in consultation with the Chief Executive, on the basis of their expertise, wisdom and advice that they can bring to the Management and Administration of the Trust. Training and induction are provided to new Trustees as appropriate.

The Board of Trustees has a variety of experience including both Christian ministry and commercial business skills. They meet quarterly to oversee the vision and strategies of the charity. Executive Directors have been appointed by the Trustees to oversee the day-to-day operations of the charity. The Board is accountable to the Charity Commission for the careful use of charitable and other public funds provided in a variety of forms, and for the achievement of appropriate performance standards in service delivery. The Board also undertakes at least one additional annual away-day for the purposes of further developing The Message Mission and Vision, and to concentrate on continuous improvement in performance.

With the growth of activities of the Trust an increasing level of expertise is required on a day-to-day basis and an established senior management team is in place that is capable of running the affairs of the Trust. The Trust's senior management team is the Executive Board, headed by the Chief Executive, Mr A Hawthorne. The Executive Board meets monthly, and its members are both jointly and individually accountable via the Chief Executive to the Board of Trustees.

Day-to-day management matters are further scrutinised by a cross-functional team of internal departmental managers, who meet on a monthly basis. This latter group’s work is fed into the Executive process whenever a more significant matter of policy or other key decision-making arises.

The Trustees remain committed to the policy of utilising music bands as one of the most effective ways to communicate the Gospel to young people. Our goal continues to be to present the Christian message and lifestyle in ways that are relevant to today’s youth.

Eden teams also remain one of the primary ways that the Trustees seek to ground the work of The Message with both local churches and the communities. Our goal is to see Eden teams with full-time and volunteer youth and community workers established in the most deprived neighbourhoods of the UK, positively impacting the people in those areas irrespective of religion, race or background.

The Message recognises the importance of our staff and aims to help them to develop their potential, improve their skills and gain greater job satisfaction.

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RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk awareness is integral to the Trust's overall management effectiveness. All Executive Team members and Managers with the assistance of their teams carry out regular reviews of risks affecting their areas of the Trust's activity, including risks surrounding the current Covid-19 pandemic, see the going concern note on page 53 for further details. Wherever possible the Risk is quantified and financial values and other qualitative assessments of risk assigned, including recognition of consequential effect. Executive and Board of Trustee status reports detail any changes to the overall levels of risk, particularly when introducing a new activity.

The Board of Trustees consider the consolidated impact of all risks annually, recognising that some risk is positive and beneficial in assisting the organisation to stretch and grow, particularly in terms of innovation. A standardised risk analysis and mapping procedure assists the Trust to identify, evaluate and rank any special risk and audit needs or manage any corrective action required, taking into account the impact and likelihood and the known strengths and weaknesses of internal controls.

Operationally the activity of The Message Trust is split into two parallel functions: **Mission and Support.**

Mission encompasses staff and volunteers with regular or frequent face to face contact with young people and / or vulnerable adults and their families. Each of the mission project areas and departments has its own branded identity as follows:

The Community Grocery stores (enabling families to buy groceries at an affordable price, whilst also offering support to its membership, through training courses and advisory services), Message Bus (mobile youth centres), Eden (missions teams in urban communities), Advance (evangelists' movement), Message to Prisons (working with prisoners and young offenders), Message Academy (training initiatives) and educational ministry teams: BrightLine (rock group), Vital Signs (hip-hop group), Galactus Jack (electronic dance music DJ), SoulBox (soul, rap & beatbox group), Amongst Wolves (pop-rock group), OTC (rap and afro-pop group), Respect Me (relationships & self-esteem education team), Enable (seen and unseen disabilities team) as well as The Message Enterprise Centre (MEC), which in turn houses the Mess Café, (Shine Hair & Beauty closed in August 2020), Wedding Angels, MEC Buildings team, The Oaks and MEC Property business.

Support encompasses staff and volunteers, mostly working behind the scenes. These activities are structured departmentally as follows: Administration, Operations (including fleet and facilities management), Finance, Communications, Partnerships and the Executive Leadership team.

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Summary of Mission priorities:

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities.

Our mission is to demonstrate and explain the Christian faith to young people and adults in very practical and relevant ways using a variety of means including educational work in high schools, young offender institutions and prisons, relational and recreational work in community centres, churches and outdoors. We have a particular concern for urban youth and adults from deprived or socially excluded backgrounds who do not receive the same opportunities as those growing up in the wealthier suburbs.

The Message Trust's Executive leadership team seek to achieve these Mission priorities by motivating staff and volunteers with a compelling vision and supporting them within a robust management framework.

We ensure our volunteers have comprehensive support for their roles through appropriate policies and procedures, clarifying the extent of their remit and providing checks and balances in relation to the key areas of the Management & HR Strategy.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The Message Group: 2020–21 in review

Whilst the continuation of Covid-19 restrictions and the associated lockdowns in 2020 -21 meant that physical access to establishments such as schools and prisons was limited for a period of time it did not stop the ministry activity, as we adapted our methods of delivery. Alongside this the pandemic presented significant opportunities for our work to grow into new areas of ministry and into new locations. This growth was matched by an ongoing development of our processes and teams to support and resource our work.

This report includes just a few highlights of our work with the hardest-to-reach young people during 2020–21.

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

IMPACT OF COVID-19

As you'll see from this report Covid-19 and the associated national lockdowns and restrictions continued to impact activity throughout 2020 – 2021.

Whilst some of our planned activity was unable to progress or had to be rescheduled, The Message Trust did not shift from its central vision of sharing the good news of Jesus with people and communities in word and deed, and new ways of delivering activity as well as new opportunities for mission were developed and implemented.

Creative mission continued online giving the opportunity to reach more young people than ever before, in-person events moved online too drawing the largest audiences and brand-new resources for schools to use as part of their home school provision were launched.

The impacts of Covid-19 have been felt acutely by the UK's poorest neighbourhoods. Our Eden teams who were already on the ground in the communities immediately began to change their plans and serve their neighbours in need in new ways (see pages 14 and 15 – Community Grocery Stores).

Partnerships developed through the meal delivery project saw our team also undertake a week of social action mission in Wythenshawe called 'Love Wythenshawe' during August 2021 where they cleared streets of litter, tidied residents' gardens, undertook large scale projects transforming the gardens of two families and as we worked got to chat to people about Jesus and pray with them.

CREATIVE MISSION

This year saw the ways in which creative mission was delivered continue to be adapted, in order to keep reaching young people during the pandemic and associated restrictions, before relaunching face-to-face mission and schools work. Our six bands and education teams delivered lessons, assemblies and performances in schools and venues throughout the UK as well as online.

BrightLine, Vital Signs, Amongst Wolves, SoulBox, OTC and Galactus Jack use music and personal stories to deliver RE and PSHE lessons in schools, and at evening performances share the life-changing gospel of Jesus Christ. Respect ME delivers a programme of school lessons covering such topics as self-esteem, bullying, sex and relationships and abuse.

Lockdown and Covid-19 restrictions on schools and gatherings saw creative mission move online, with bands and teams creating concerts, TV shows, lessons and resources for young people and schools and to access through our [Message Live](#) platform and [Respect Me](#) website. Through these channels thousands of young people heard about the love and hope of Jesus in relevant ways.

As part of Message Live, Respect ME lessons broadcast series two and three of their online weekly shows, via The Message Trust YouTube channel, The Message Today, which were designed to address the key issues young people were facing in lockdown this year. Tackling issues such as mental health, grief and living online the videos doubled up as resources that could be used by schools in their online and in-person teaching programmes.

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CREATIVE MISSION (continued)

In October 2020 the in-person Higher Tour planned for Cambridgeshire, **Higher Cambs**, also moved online. Personalised resources including online lessons and assemblies on resilience and wellbeing and prejudice and discrimination were created for 29 schools and viewed over 700 times by young people. On the two Friday evenings of the tour, live streamed events were broadcast for young people and featured music from Message bands, games, Youth Group wars and a clear gospel presentation. There have been over 2,000 views of Higher Cambs Live events. As young people responded to the gospel or indicated that they wanted to find out more about Christianity they were invited to take part in the online discipleship sessions. Eight sessions were streamed over YouTube hosted by a local youth worker and Message band members. Each of these discussed topics such as the Bible, what is prayer and telling friends about Jesus. These sessions have had over 300 views.

The level of engagement with the Friday night events led to the launch of [Higher Life](#) in early 2021. This monthly online magazine style show features our creative mission teams sharing their faith through music, stories, challenges and talks. Each month as young people as have logged on, we've seen them responding to the gospel.

As restrictions eased opportunities to head back into school and take part in face-to-face mission events and gigs have started to open up, and we have seized these each of these. Whilst also continuing with online events and discipleship through Message Live.

The role of **Brightline** has changed slightly this year. Whilst the band still take part in creative missions online, through Message Live and at performances and gigs, the team members have also begun to take on other roles within The Message that will see them playing key roles in other areas of creative mission in the future.

Vital Signs continued to work with a particular focus on prisons, crisis education centres and pupil referral units (PRUs). Creatively, [Vital Signs](#) continued developing music and writing songs focused on life transformation for other artists to record. A copy of Vital Signs music with gospel-filled tracks was distributed to every prisoner in England and Wales that wanted it.

Amongst Wolves involvement within missions and schools work continued to increase this year. The band were heavily involved in the online Higher Cambs tour as well as Message Live and Higher Live. The band have also dedicated time to creating new music as the new line-up. Their singles Golden (Remix) and Voices proved instantly popular. To coincide with the release of Voices the band ran an online campaign **#ChooseToLive** that encouraged people to flood social media with messages of hope and encouragement that would reach out to people in their darkest months, whilst also pointing people to the love and hope of Jesus. The impact of the campaign was significant. Just one of the people Amongst Wolves were contacted by was Louise (name changed) who was finding she was spending most of her days in tears and shared how she was getting overwhelmed by thoughts of ending her life. One night, despite never using Instagram or following Amongst Wolves on their social media, Louise opened Instagram on her phone and the first thing she saw was the #ChooseToLive campaign. As she explored further, Louise was encouraged by the messages of hope she saw and now believes God used that moment to speak to her and remind her that He is always there. She's then began chatting with the team, getting the support she needs and is keen to find out more about Jesus' love for her. Further new music is planned for release during 2020/21.

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CREATIVE MISSION (continued)

SoulBox's have played a key role in the production of content for Message Live and in the online Higher Cambs tour and Higher Live events. The bands line-up underwent a change this year with Jon Sewell moving onto another role. A decision to relaunch the band as a duo was taken and they have spent time in the studio writing and producing new music that will be released in 2021/22.

OTC (Outta The Cage) continued creating gospel-centred content that is engaging to young people this year, releasing it online whilst also sharing it face-to-face with young people. Now in their second year as a band, **OTC** have been busy producing music and have released four tracks this year – I Win, Reaching Out, Down and Covered in Gold. Further releases are planned throughout 2021/22 as well as live performances for the band.

Galactus Jack has taken opportunities to perform at events and online as these have arisen. Ben Jack's focus has continued to shift towards his leadership of Advance: The Message Evangelists Movement which has groups growing and developing across the globe (see page 11 for full information about Advance Groups and its growth this year).

The work of **Respect ME** continued to grow this year with tens of thousands of young people being equipped, empowered and built up through lessons, courses and online resources. As schools shut due to Covid-19, opportunities to share lessons in person were not available so the team repurposed and launched a new online resource for schools and youth groups - The Message Today. Exploring the hot topics young people are facing during lockdown and a global pandemic, The Message Today are weekly 30-minute lessons packed full of stories, stats and hope that are given to schools and broadcast through Message Live. Covering issues such as mental health, living online and grief, The Message Today and its accompanying discussion questions are being used regularly in classes and groups, giving opportunities to connect with schools and young people we've not previously worked with.

Creative Mission: Outcomes against our 2020 – 2021 goals

- **Continue developing online mission opportunities to share the gospel with young people**
Achieved – this year our online creative mission output has continued to increase with teams producing content that shares the gospel across Message Live, The Message Today, Higher Live, their YouTube channels and through partnership with other ministries such as Spring Harvest, Scripture Union and CreationFest.
- **Investigate and develop opportunities to take The Higher Tour online**
Achieved – the online Higher Cambs tour ran in October 2020 and opportunities for future tours will be investigated as opportunities arise.
- **Double the number of monthly listeners across all platforms**
Ongoing – whilst this goal has not been achieved, two creative mission teams have not been able to produce the same volume of new music they had previously to generate listeners. Brightline have only released one new track and SoulBox, due to personnel changes, have spent the majority of the year readjusting to becoming a two-piece band, writing, recording and producing new music for release in 2021/22.
- **Increase the subscribers to each creative mission teams' YouTube channel by at least 50%**
Ongoing – subscriber numbers to all channels have grown in 2020/21 however not by the anticipated 50%. Engagement on each channel has increased significantly however with more people watching content than before, despite subscription.

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CREATIVE MISSION (continued)

- **Produce and release eight new music tracks**

Achieved – nine tracks were released between September 2020 and August 2021 these were Darren Shahlavi (Vital Signs), I Win (OTC), Golden (Remix) (Amongst Wolves), Voices (Amongst Wolves), Reaching Out (OTC), Down (OTC), Lonely (Brightline), Covered in Gold (OTC) and Wait Right Here (Message Worship).

PRISONS

With national restrictions associated with Covid-19 in place for the first portion of the year and access to prisons restricted new ways of delivering prison ministry developed. During the first lockdown (March 2020) we began a letter writing campaign and this has continued into 2020/21. Through letter writing we've built relationships and encouraged prisoners we currently worked with as well as with those we'd not previously worked with. Prison radio also continued to give us a new way to connect with men and women. Each week we've been broadcasting a Message show into cells in Wales reaching 1,600 prisoners and on one Sunday in Autumn 2020 this show went national giving every prisoner in the country the chance to hear the good news of Jesus boldly proclaimed through music from our bands, testimonies, a Bible slot and prayer. They were then able to explore more about Christianity through our Message in Prisons team and prison chaplains.

Each week, we've also delivered resource packs giving hope into prisons each week. This was further extended at Christmas 2020 through the 'Gift of Hope' project which saw 4,500 men and women receive resources and Bibles. Every prisoner in England and Wales also had the chance to receive a copy of our gospel-filled music this year, as Vital Signs CDs were distributed into prisons across the country.

In London, our prisons outreach worker used the fact the young adults she works with were spending more time in their cells, due to Covid restrictions, to run an in-cell art competition. In this she asked them to think about the question 'what gives you peace' and to create a piece of art in response to this. It was amazing to see how faith is such a rock for some of the young men during challenging times, and opened up conversations. Pieces of the artwork were later displayed at Neal Street Espresso – our enterprise coffee shop in London.

As lockdowns eased face-to-face work has recommenced alongside the letter writing and radio shows. This has seen members of the Message in Prisons team heading back into prison delivering chapel services, Alpha and the4points courses that give people a chance to explore Christianity for themselves, as well as mentoring support, music classes and much more.

We've continued to work closely with the Message Enterprise Centre, so that we can refer those leaving prison to The Oaks (supported housing) and our enterprise businesses.

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PRISONS (continued)

Message in Prisons: Outcomes against 2020/21 goals

- **Relaunch work in all seven of our existing prisons**
Ongoing – prisons work has recommenced in five prisons. The restart of activity in the remaining was delayed due to staff vacancies that are currently being filled.
- **Launch new work in one new prison**
Ongoing – the agreement to begin work in a new prison is in place however the commencement of this is awaiting the signing of the SLA agreement with the prison.
- **Give access to our music to every prisoner in the country**
Achieved – CDs containing The Message Trust music were distributed to every prisoner in England and Wales who wished to receive it.
- **Share the gospel with 4,000 prisoners through Christmas**
Achieved – Gift of Hope packs containing a Christmas gift, card and gospel booklet were distributed to 4,500 at Christmas 2020.
- **Lead 75 people to Jesus for the first time**
Achieved – this year we have seen 150 prisoners respond to the gospel and decide to follow Jesus for the first time.

ADVANCE: THE MESSAGE EVANGELISTS MOVEMENT

In 2019/20 we saw Advance Groups grow at their fastest rate ever, both here in the UK and overseas, a trend that has continued this year. Advance Groups are now established in 68 different nations across the globe, with groups being found in every continent apart from Antarctica.

In January 2021, we held our first ever Global Advance Day. On that day alone we saw 500 new groups launch across the world, training and equipping men and women in their evangelism.

As part of our ongoing commitment to resource people in their evangelism we continued to translate the Advance Group Mentoring Guide into different languages so that it can be distributed and used around the globe. Alongside this a new podcast series that regularly publishes episodes designed to equip and resource people in their evangelism began in July 2021 and is being downloaded globally.

Advance: Outcomes against our 2020–21 goals

- **Have 300 groups established in the UK**
Ongoing – the number of groups across the UK is currently around 200 with more in development and enquiries about establishing new groups being continually received.
- **Have 700 groups established globally across 50 nations**
Achieved – the rate of global growth means that the precise number of groups across the globe is unknown at present, however groups are now established and running in 68 different nations.
- **Translate the Advance Groups Mentoring Guide into 18 languages**
Achieved – 18 different language translations of the Advance Groups Mentoring Guide have been produced this year.

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COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

Eden

Eden, our flagship programme working in deprived communities, continued to be effective this year and our teams continued to work day-in, day-out to achieve real transformation in their local communities.

As research and news reports have highlighted the poorest in our society have been disproportionately impacted by Covid-19 and the associated lockdowns both financially, physically and emotionally. It's here in the heart of many of these communities that our Eden teams are living and working so they were perfectly positioned to begin offering vital support immediately. From day one of the first lockdown right through to those in 2021 food parcels were given out, homecooked meals prepared, and shopping and prescriptions delivered, whilst telephone befriending services reduced the isolation people were feeling.

In Gurnell Grove, London, Covid saw our Eden team reaching out to their neighbours in new and innovative ways. From making kids activity packs and dropping off lunch boxes to providing shopping for those who are vulnerable and shielding, they've used every chance possible to build relationships with the community. As well as the day-to-day support they've run activities online for local residents including weekly sing-a-longs and monthly bingo clubs!

Through this they've been able to get to know many people they've not connected with before. Arnav (name has been changed) is another resident the team have been able to support during this time. Living alone and struggling with his mental health our team were sometimes the only people Arnav would get to see and speak to all week! Over the weeks they got to know him more and befriended him. They now regularly visit Arnav, helping him with repairs around his house whenever they can. But as well as practical support they've been able to share Jesus' love with him too. Word and deed going hand-in-hand.

This year also saw five new Eden teams launched – four here in the UK and one in Germany. Eden Sonnennberg-Chemnitz is our first Eden team in Germany, planted into a community known as one where people are battling poverty. In the UK new teams were launched in Blackpool, Stockport, Nottingham and Manchester.

The Proximity conference stayed online as a one-day event for 2021 in May 2021. Entitled 'Mobilise' and focused on how we need to move our urban mission forward in the face of a global pandemic so that we can continue to reach those on the margins of society with the good news of Jesus. Speakers included Bob Ekblad, Rachel Gardner, Josh Smedley, Sam Ward, Andy Hawthorne and Sarah Small also all shared teaching as well as equipping those watching for their urban mission.

As at previous conferences, funds were raised to finance the brand-new Eden team in Nottingham.

Work to address the challenging nature of recruitment is ongoing with a strategy being rolled out to see recruitment owned and championed at every level of the movement – national, regional and local.

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COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION (continued)

Eden: Outcomes against our 2020 – 2021 goals

- **To launch eight new Eden teams including one international team**
Ongoing – six new Eden teams including an international team in Chemnitz, Germany have been launched in 2020/21, as well as some Eden teams being relaunched. The UK teams that have been launched are Eden Central Drive (Blackpool), Eden Parkfield and Ox (Stockton), Eden Top Valley (Nottingham) and Eden Wythenshawe Park (Manchester). Ongoing Covid restrictions have seen the launch of some teams planned for this year delayed slightly, however we still plan to continue with these launches as soon as we can over the coming year.
- **Recruit 80 new team members**
Ongoing – recruitment has remained a challenge this year with 27 team members recruited. Work to build recruitment further is planned for 2021/22.
- **Hold an online Proximity Conference**
Achieved – Mobilise, the online Proximity Conference was held on 7 May 2021.

MESSAGE BUS

Whilst Covid-19 restrictions on gathering sizes and social distancing made it operationally impossible to run bus ministry for a proportion of this year, it did not stop us working on extending this area of our work. Connections with new churches and communities were made into which we will run bus projects over the coming year. In addition to this our fleet grew with the addition of the refurbished Midlands Bus following the successful securing of funding in 2019/20. The New Midlands bus is our highest specification mobile youth centre to date through which we will engage with young people across Coventry and Warwickshire and share the gospel with them.

As restrictions eased Message Buses were back out on the road. Over summer 2021 they were out supporting Love Where U Live mission in Wales and the North West, at youth events and running summer programmes. Plans to relaunch 10:10 bus projects across Scotland are also in development.

Message Bus: Outcomes against our 2020 – 2021 goals

- **Relaunch bus ministry as soon as Covid-19 restrictions allow**
Achieved – the Message Buses were back on mission as soon as they were allowed and busy with bookings in all of the hubs where we have Bus Managers in place.
- **Launch bus ministry in Coventry and Warwickshire**
Achieved – the refurbishment of the Midlands Bus which will operate in Coventry & Warwickshire is now completed. Recruitment for a Bus Manager is ongoing however in the meantime other volunteers and staff members are trained to operate it.
- **Continue recruitment of volunteers to serve on bus teams**
Achieved – our recruitment of volunteers for the bus teams is ongoing and has been slowed slightly by the fact we were unable to show the buses operating to potential volunteers during Covid restrictions. In spite of this new volunteers have been added to the bus team.

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COMMUNITY GROCERY STORES

The first lockdown in March 2020 saw the kitchen of one of our enterprise businesses – the Mess Café – repurposed into a production and distribution centre for meals to those in need/shielding. As 60,000 meals were delivered we developed an awareness of the need for our nation's poorest families to have access to affordable food, we couldn't stand by and do nothing so the idea of the Community Grocery stores was born.

In September 2020, the first Community Grocery store was launched in Sharston in providing members with the food they need for their families, coupled with support through a range of courses and services, such as job clubs, counselling and debt advice. In addition, there are also opportunities for members to learn more about Christianity.

With food donated by suppliers and producers, who need to redistribute food that would otherwise go to waste, the cost of membership is kept low for members. An annual membership costs just £5 giving members the opportunity to come and shop in store for just £3 per visit, as well as access to all the associated courses and support. On average members save £30 on the cost of their food shop each visit.

Demand for membership was significant and by December 2020 we were feeding 2,000 members and their families through the Sharston store. Given the level of need across the UK, plans to rapidly replicate the Community Grocery stores around the country in partnership with local churches were developed.

During the rest of 2020/21 another eight Community Grocery stores were launched in Bolton, Sheffield, Ragworth, Hexham, Wigan, Salford, Redcar and Netherton. Between them serving 8,600 members and 69,253 shopping trips, whilst also saving 850 tonnes of food from going to waste.

Mission and sharing the Christian faith in word and deed is at the heart of the Community Grocery stores and through this we are seeing lives transformed.

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COMMUNITY GROCERY STORES (continued)

Community Grocery: Outcomes against our 2020 – 2021 goals

- **To open another 6 Community Grocery stores across the UK**

Achieved – From September 2020 – August 2021 eight further Community Grocery stores were opened in Bolton, Sheffield, Ragworth, Hexham, Wigan, Salford, Redcar and Netherton each of them helping alleviate food poverty in their community by providing affordable food to local people.

- **To save 1,000 tonnes of surplus food from going to landfill**

Ongoing – a total of 850 tonnes of food was saved from landfill in 2020/21

- **To have 5,000 members of our Community Grocery stores nationwide**

Achieved – in August 2021 the Community Grocery stores had 8,600 signed up and using the nationwide stores.

- **Host community events for our grocery members at each location (as restrictions allow)**

Achieved - monthly acoustic music evenings are hosted at the Sharston Community Grocery with partner churches hosting events throughout all other locations that grocery members are invited to.

- **For each grocery to have a full weekly schedule of support services**

Achieved - over 25 courses are currently offered through the Community Grocery. At least one courses is offered per week in each store with many building on this, and five courses per week being offered in some stores.

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THE MESSAGE ACROSS THE UK

Growth of mission saw our existing hub team in the Midlands divided into two separate hubs – one for East Midlands and one for West Midlands – this year in order to maximise and seize the opportunities on offer. We now have teams operating in the North West, North East, Scotland, Wales, London, East Midlands, West Midlands and Yorkshire & Lincolnshire. In each location our opportunities to reach out into schools, communities and prisons grew. Our continued approach of devolving work to hub teams is proving successful, increasing innovation with each hub identifying opportunities for new and exciting mission activities in their schools, prisons and local communities, as well as Eden teams and church partnership within their area.

London

With the expansion of prisons, schools and enterprise work in the capital our work in London has continued to grow this year. Having opened Neal Street Espresso, our enterprise coffee shop in Covent Garden, just prior to the first lockdown this had to remain closed in line with restrictions for a portion of the year. However, as soon as rules allowed this reopened with our first enterprise team member in the capital who will be offered employment, training and discipleship over two years. Since reopening Neal Street Espresso has proven a hit in the local area, with visitor numbers continually growing throughout the year. This year also the function space began to be rented out for meetings and events providing another income stream at Neal Street Espresso.

Even though it could not operate as a coffee shop during lockdowns, Neal Street Espresso did not sit empty and in partnership with a local church was used as a centre for homeless outreach during lockdowns.

Schools work and relationships with schools in London was able to be built further this year. A new schools lesson focused on Race, Culture and Faith was a new developed by the London Schools Worker as a resource that can be delivered online or in person. Opportunities to deliver this in school were some of the first face-to-face lessons the team was able to run post lockdown.

Covid-19 has seen our Eden Gurnell Grove team in London reaching out to their neighbours in new and innovative ways. From making kids activity packs and dropping off lunch boxes to providing shopping for those who are vulnerable and shielding, they've used every chance possible to build relationships with the community.

Advance Youth events that equipped and empowered young people to share their faith with their friends continued this year both online and in person and were well attended. Alongside, the Advance Youth team ran three days of mission in August 2021 called The Scattering which challenged young people in their evangelism and gave them the chance to put what they had learnt into practice. Over three days the young people headed onto the streets of London with the hub team and saw prayers answered as they talked to people, and their faith grow in the process.

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THE MESSAGE ACROSS THE UK (continued)

London: Outcomes against our 2020 – 2021 goals

- **Employ an additional team at Neal Street Espresso**
Achieved – a full-time team member has joined Neal Street Espresso
- **Launch one new Eden Team**
Ongoing – discussions associated with this were impacted by Covid-19 and the associated restrictions
- **Relaunch the Message Bus in London**
Ongoing – the post of London Bus Manager became vacant during Covid. The recruitment of a new Bus Manager is ongoing and as soon as it is completed bus ministry will relaunch in the capital.
- **Develop and launch a new schools lesson on diversity**
Achieved – a lesson on Race, Culture and Faith was launched in June 2021 and is available as either an online resource or to be delivered in person.
- **Launch a new Advance Youth hub**
Achieved – Advance Youth hubs are now running in London and the North East hosting monthly events that encourage young people in their evangelism.
- **Run 'Advance The Scattering'**
Achieved – running a week-long mission was not possible due to logistics associated with Covid-19, but out of this came the opportunity to run locally focused missions across the UK. New 'Advance The Scattering' resources were developed and three days of mission run in London and elsewhere in the country.
- **Launch a Community Grocery store in London**
Ongoing – discussions with potential partner churches as well as the search for a suitable location continue with a view to launching a Community Grocery store in London over the coming year.
- **Investigate opportunities for launching an Oaks house in the capital**
Achieved – We investigated a potential building in London but concluded that it would be too costly to launch an Oaks house in London at this time.
- **Continue supporting existing Eden Teams**
Achieved – we continue to support our Eden teams in their urban mission.

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THE MESSAGE ACROSS THE UK (continued)

Central and East (now Yorkshire and Lincolnshire)

Eden teams continued serving communities across the hub area this year. As they delivered meals, ran baby banks to redistribute vital produce and provided practical and emotional support to their neighbours they had significant opportunities to share the gospel with those they met. To continue building awareness of Eden across the region as well as ensuring we are supporting our teams effectively an Eden Development Manager joined the hub team this year.

In March 2021 The Foundation Community Grocery opened in Sheffield in partnership with C3 Hope. Providing affordable food to local people whilst also providing outreach opportunities to share the Christian faith, the store has attracted a large number of members from across the local area who are shopping regularly.

Plans to bring a new enterprise centre to Yorkshire at Woodseats Baptist Church have continued. Refurbishment work has begun in earnest this year, with plans about the launch of enterprise developing alongside this.

Central and East: Outcomes against our 2020 – 2021 goals

- **Deliver Higher Lincolnshire in June 2020, visiting 9 schools**
Impacted by Covid-19 – due to ongoing restrictions and the impact these had on learning for pupils' delivery of this tour was not possible a decision to cancel it had to be taken.
- **Launch one new Eden team**
Achieved – Eden Top Valley was launched in 2020/21 following development with the hub team. The realignment of hub boundaries means that this team now sits within the East Midlands hub areas.
- **Recruit an Outreach Worker to work in a partner HMP/YOI**
Achieved – a Prison Outreach Worker was employed in September 2020 and has been working in the prison and with the prisoners/young offenders since then.
- **Secure new premises to base the enterprise centre and finalise business model**
Achieved – renovation work at Woodseats Baptist Church has begun and this will be the home of the new enterprise centre once completed.
- **Embed Respect ME and Message Bus ministries into the hub's rhythm of mission**
Achieved – teams are now fully operational as mission teams.

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THE MESSAGE ACROSS THE UK (continued)

North East

The relationships the North East hub team have built with local churches and partners have begun developing into opportunities for mission and activity across the region, despite the pandemic.

In partnership with local churches, three Community Grocery stores were opened in the North East in early 2021 in Ragworth, Hexham and Redcar. Through these we have not only stopped members and their families going hungry, but many have also wanted to discover more about the Christian faith and have responded to the gospel. Around two thirds of the Sunday morning congregation of Hexham Community Church, our partner for one of the grocery stores, are now Community Grocery members who weren't connected with church before the opening.

Eden Hexham was relaunched in August 2021 with a new team leader who has immediately mobilised the team to serve the community and develop ways in which they can be served.

Other highlights this year include the hosting of an online Rebuilding Lives conference that equipped those involved in prison ministry whilst also sought to get more people involved in the work taking place in prisons mission. As well as this, Advance Groups have continued to grow across the North East and a new Advance Youth hub has been launched.

North East: Outcomes against our 2020 – 2021 goals

- **Launch two new Eden teams**
Achieved – Eden Redcar and Eden Hexham were both launched in the year in partnership with local churches.
- **Launch Advance Groups in Wearside**
Achieved - Advance Groups have continued to grow during the year.
- **Open Message Community Groceries within the hub area**
Achieved – three Community Grocery stores have been opened during the year, as described above.
- **Launch an Advance Youth hub**
Achieved – this was launched in 2020-21. We started to run monthly Advance Youth events, which are now an ongoing feature of the ministry.
- **Run an online Rebuilding Lives conference**
Achieved – this was one of the highlights this year which we now hope to repeat in 2021-22.

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THE MESSAGE ACROSS THE UK (continued)

North West

The Message Trust has always had a presence in Manchester with our headquarters being in the city and a significant amount of schools work, Eden work, prisons work and mission work developing from this. However, 2020/21 was the second year of having a hub team dedicated to the North West operating.

Eden has remained a priority for the hub team, making sure that teams are equipped and supported as they reach their communities with the gospel in word and deed. This saw the employment of an Eden Development worker in the hub, who in partnership with the central team has played a key role in growing Eden in the hub area too with the launch of Eden Wythenshawe Park and Eden Central Drive this year.

Bus ministry has recommenced across the hub area with the North West Message Bus playing a key role in local Love Where U Live missions this summer as well as running sessions in partnership with local churches.

Opportunities to work with Greater Manchester Police (GMP), to help address the issue of knife crime have emerged and continue to be developed with a plan to roll-out the No More Knives Tour in partnership with the police, Councils and local churches in 2021/22. Development work for the tours began this year and each will see our missions team head into schools delivering lessons warning young people about the dangers of knife crime and equipping them with the skills and knowledge they need to say no to knives and discover their full value and identity. Each tour will culminate in an evangelistic gig.

Genetik Sessions continues to provide weekly workshops in dance, music production, drums, singing and guitar for young people aged 7 plus to explore and express their God-given potential. This year sessions have run online and in-person (depending on restrictions). The team also ran a summer school. We continue to be encouraged by all the stories of how young people's self-confidence and self-esteem has been built through the sessions, as well as how they have heard the gospel through these.

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THE MESSAGE ACROSS THE UK (continued)

North West: Outcomes against our 2020 – 2021 goals

- **Recruit a replacement Hub Operations Manager**
Achieved – a new North West Operations Co-ordinator has been appointed.
- **Recruit an Enable/ Respect ME Tutor**
Impacted by Covid-19 – given uncertainties associated with the level of schools work due to Covid-19 a decision to delay this appointment was made.
- **Recruit a replacement Bus Manager and undertake mission activity**
Achieved – a new bus manager for the North West was appointed in May 2021 and has regularly been engaged in mission activity with partners and local churches.
- **Investigate opportunities to launch Advance Youth**
Ongoing – discussions associated with this continue with the central Advance team.
- **Continue developing and supporting Eden teams**
Achieved – a new Eden development worker was employed to ensure that the hub team could fully support existing teams, whilst also helping with the development of new teams too.
- **Continue developing Genetik Sessions**
Achieved – Genetik Sessions has remained popular this year, with a growing number of young people associated with the Sharston Community Grocery starting to attend. Activity this year has included weekly sessions (online and in-person) and a summer school.
- **Continue with the No More Knives tour once schools reopen to visitors**
Impacted by Covid-19 – the tour has been developed and arrangements in place with schools and the police however given the ongoing restrictions the tour dates have been delayed until 2021/22.
- **Begin building relationships and partnerships for ahead of Festival Manchester 2022**
Ongoing – work recruiting partner churches has begun with many already signed up. This will continue right up until Festival Manchester 2022 in July 2022.

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THE MESSAGE ACROSS THE UK (continued)

FESTIVAL MANCHESTER

Partnering with the Luis Palau Association, hundreds of local churches and businesses we are planning the North West's biggest Christian mission in a generation in July 2022, called Festival Manchester 2022. Taking place in Wythenshawe Park from 1 – 3 July 2022, the festival will share the gospel with people in word and deed. Extreme sports, music gigs, fun fair and a beach are just some of the things hoped to encourage 100,000 to the festivals over the three days.

In the build-up to the festival weekend it is planned that a schools tour will run engaging young people, 200 social action projects will run across Greater Manchester and multiple build up events will take place. As part of Festival Manchester we are partnering with Home for Good to raise the profile of fostering and adoption amongst Christian families and Compassion to raise the profile of child sponsorship in the developing world.

This year work building relationships with local churches has begun, with a view to them becoming partner churches. Following a church leader launch in June 2021, over 100 churches had signed up to be part of Festival Manchester.

Since then activity to raise awareness of the festival has begun to build, and a business vision evening is being planned for October 2021 to inform the business community about the festival and raise further funds for it.

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THE MESSAGE ACROSS THE UK (continued)

The Midlands

The Midlands hub team continue to build relationships with churches and schools maximising opportunities for mission wherever possible. Significant growth of opportunities for mission led the hub team being divided into two in May 2021 to create the East Midlands hub and the West Midlands hub. Through these new hub teams opportunities for mission will be deepened and realised over the coming years.

In 2020/21 the hub team partnered with central The Message team to help deliver two online youth conferences that engaged youth groups across the UK, encouraging the young people in their faith and equipping them for mission. Speakers at the event included Rachel Gardener, Mo Timbo and Aaron Routledge and it was viewed 1,000 times online. Building on the success of this a second online conference was hosted in May 2021 with a range of national speakers including Canon J. John, Andy Hawthorne and Mike Pilavachi. This conference was viewed 4,000 online.

Three Love Where U Live missions, where teams practically serve communities by completing tasks such as litter picking and garden makeovers were held in Walsall giving teams the opportunity to show the love of Jesus in word and deed. Through these conversations we got to chat to neighbours about the gospel and pray with them. Our Eden Whitmore Reans team continues to bring change to the lives of their neighbours and community.

Refurbishment of the Midlands Message Bus was completed and from October 2021 the bus began to be showcased to churches and potential partners.

The Midlands: Outcomes against our 2020 – 2021 goals

- **To launch the Message Bus for Coventry and Warwickshire**
Ongoing – funding for the Midlands Message Bus has been secured, a bus purchased, and the refurbishment work completed. The launch of missional activity has delayed by Covid-19.
- **Employ a part-time creative missions worker**
Impacted by Covid-19 – development of creative mission within the hub is ongoing however due to Covid-19 restrictions the employment of someone into this role was paused. It is now hoped this role will be filled during 2021/22.
- **Launch one new Eden team in the hub area**
Ongoing - planned development of the team and timescales associated with this were impacted by Covid-19 and the restrictions associated with this.
- **Run six Love Where U Live missions across the Midlands**
Ongoing – three Love Where U Live Missions were held in the year with a further two missions planned for 2021-22
- **Launch one new community grocery**
Ongoing – Lincoln Community Grocery and Telford Community Grocery were launched in October 2021 and November 2021 respectively, one in the East Midlands and one in the West Midlands Hub.
- **Run an online youth conference in 2021**
Achieved – the June 2020 conference was postponed until October 2020, due to the national lockdowns, but was then held online, followed by a second online conference in May 2021, which received 4,000 online views.

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THE MESSAGE ACROSS THE UK (continued)

Scotland

The team used the partnerships they have built this year to run a Love Where U Live mission event in the Gorbals, Glasgow. Over the mission days the team of volunteers were involved in serving the local community practically and in ways that would benefit them. As they did this in partnership with the local church, they got to share the gospel with those they met and offer to pray for them. Given the impact the mission had on the people they met, it is planned to run further Love Where U Lives across Scotland over the coming years.

With in person schools work not deliverable for a much of the year due to the national Covid-19 restrictions in place, the team partnered with SU Scotland to run an online event that helped them continue to connect with young people, encourage them in their faith as well as share the gospel. Through this event the lives of young people were impacted and awareness of The Message Trust was raised too.

The team have also invested time in building connections and partnerships with local churches and schools ahead of relaunching bus ministry and schools work in 2021/22.

Scotland: Outcomes against our 2020 – 2021 goals

- **Launch one new Eden team**
Ongoing - due to the longer time period needed to recruit team members and the restrictions associated with Covid-19 the timescale for the launch of the teams was updated to be 2021/22.
- **Launch one Community Grocery within the hub area**
Ongoing – a partner church and location for Scotland's first Community Grocery have been identified however due to the length of time that was needed to identify the correct building for the store the opening is now scheduled for 2021/22.
- **Run a Love Where U Live mission**
Achieved – a mission was run in the Gorbals area of Glasgow at Christmas 2020.
- **Hold an online mission event in partnership with SU Scotland**
Achieved – the event was successfully run in 2020/21.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

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THE MESSAGE ACROSS THE UK (continued)

Wales

The team have continued connecting with young people and sharing the gospel despite ongoing lockdowns and restrictions in place. The regular LIFT events that the team ran for young people across Wales moved online as bi-monthly events. The evenings filled with music from Message bands, games, giveaways and the gospel shared the love and hope of Jesus with teens not only in Wales but moving them online allowed a larger audience to connect with these. At the same time, the team also continued with their Honest Conversations video series which tackled some of the tough issues young people were facing during the pandemic from a Christian perspective.

The Wales team have run three social action missions across South Wales where in word and deed they shared the gospel with their neighbours. In total over 70 gardens have been transformed in communities, 2,800 hours of work have been done and there have been multiple opportunities to share the gospel with those we've met, pray with them and tell them about what's going on in the local church.

In December 2020 the team also ran seven nights of pop-up carol outreach across 70 streets in South Wales. Through this they shared the real meaning of Christmas with over 2,000 people and blessed 100 families in East Cardiff by giving them Christmas hampers.

Prisons work has also continued to develop this year with a prison radio show going out every week to 1,600 men. In person work was able to restart this year too with weekly Bible studies and Alpha courses being some of the first work to restart. In 2021/22 we plan to extend prisons work in Wales following approval to begin work in a new prison.

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THE MESSAGE ACROSS THE UK (continued)

Wales: Outcomes against our 2020 – 2021 goals

- **Maintain and strengthen existing Eden teams and continue exploring potential new teams**
Ongoing – this year Eden Blaen-Y-Maes became operationally non-viable, however Eden Treforfa has remained strong and supported by the hub team. Positive conversations with partner churches about the launch of new Eden teams are ongoing.
- **Re-start Message bus sessions as soon as Covid-19 restrictions allow**
Achieved – the bus was out running a number of one-off events in summer 2020 and has since been running regular weekly sessions.
- **Re-engage with school's once Covid-19 restrictions allow**
Achieved – connections with schools continued to be built during restrictions and schools day are booked in for 2021/22. To build schools work further a new schools/youth worker joined the team.
- **Provide online resources to schools across Wales through Respect Me online sessions**
Achieved – Respect ME's online sessions – The Message Today – have been distributed to schools in addition to this Honest Conversation a YouTube series, talking with young people about topical issues they face during the pandemic has continued.
- **Run 6 LIFT online events, plus plan for live versions as soon as restrictions allow**
Achieved – run as online events with a programme of in-person events in place for 2021/22 should restrictions allow.
- **Deliver weekly prison radio gospel programmes and re-start in-person sessions when allowed**
Achieved – in-person sessions have recommenced this year. A prison radio show sharing the gospel was broadcast weekly during restrictions and beyond. Continue maintaining a strong presence in Cardiff through the Cardiff Street Pastors - Friday night shifts restarted in March 2021. New Street pastor co-ordinator appointed in August 2021. Saturday shifts & Night base restarted in September. Recruitment for new training course starting in January 2022.
- **Run 6 'Love Where U Live' missions across South Wales**
Ongoing – Covid-19 restrictions meant that three Love Where U Live missions could be run in 2020/21.
- **Begin exploring a Community Grocery in South Wales, identifying potential partner churches**
Achieved - positive connections have been built and conversations about the opening of a Community Grocery are ongoing.
- **Run creative one-off outreach projects at Christmas 2020, Easter 2021, and Summer 2021, in partnership with local churches**
Ongoing – At Christmas 2020 the team ran seven nights of pop-up carols outreach event across 70 streets, preaching gospel to over 2,000 people. The lockdown in Wales meant that no Easter mission could be held, but in Summer 2021 two Love Where U Live projects were held.

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THE MESSAGE ACROSS THE UK (continued)

Andy Hawthorne OBE

Andy's speaking engagements throughout the year, both in person and online, continued to expose our work to a wider audience and inspire our staff and ministry partners. Alongside this he continued broadcasting weekly teaching online through Message Live extending the reach of the ministry even further.

Despite the restrictions this year, Andy undertook speaking engagements, in person and online, at churches, national events and conferences, as well as internationally representing The Message one each occasion.

Sam Ward

Sam Ward continued in his role of Director of Ministry this year, with a broad remit to grow our work through Eden, Creative Mission, the Proximity Network, Community Grocery stores and UK expansion.

Sam's speaking engagements continued at churches across the UK and at larger events, including the online Proximity Conference and New Wine online in August 2021. He has also continued to broadcast regular teaching online through Message Live.

Priority of Prayer

A rhythm of daily, weekly and monthly prayer lies at the heart of our life together as a ministry. At the beginning of each day a half hour daily prayer time (one hour on Tuesdays) is mandatory for all staff as a key time to reflect and refuel. We also encourage all staff to spend at least an additional half-hour in prayer during a weekly time in our prayer room from 12 to 3pm on Tuesdays.

Our all-staff monthly prayer days have become increasingly essential for keeping up with news from across the ministry, especially as God continues to open doors in the wider UK and abroad. These continued in person until March 2020 and then moved online as Covid-19 restrictions were implemented. We often invite special guests to speak or contribute to Prayer Day: this year our guests included John Kirkby, Amy Orr-Ewing, Cathy Madavan and Andrew & Wendy Palau plus many other great communicators

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OPERATIONS AND MINISTRY SUPPORT

Staff

The Message Trust and the Message Enterprise Centre employed an average of 137 personnel in the year (2020: 131) in total across the group. This average includes full-time and part-time staff.

Volunteers

Volunteers play a key role in helping us deliver both our front-line missional work and behind-the-scenes support. Commitments this year ranged from full-time volunteer work based in our offices to ad-hoc volunteer support at events. Across the year, in the region of 12,000 hours (2020: 11,100 hours) were freely given in support of our activities.

Creative, Communications, Facilities and IT

We continued to undertake facilities projects across our HQ buildings and hub offices and were responsible for the shop fit and maintenance of each Community Grocery store. The continuation of the national lockdowns and Covid-19 restrictions impacted significantly upon the team and their requirements to make facilities Covid secure.

Our in-house design and communications department were instrumental in the promotion and marketing of the Community Grocery stores in each community they are serving, this resulted in a significant amount of local and national press coverage about the work and the benefits it brings to members lives. They also continued to deliver supporter communications throughout the year, including editions of Flow magazine, supporter prayer and fundraising updates, a suite of websites, and email and social media campaigns. Alongside this, a proactive communications strategy highlighting the work of The Message Trust within the local and national media continues to be implemented. Our focus on supporter engagement continues with opportunities to increase engagement, especially across digital platforms being fully utilised. Beyond supporter communications, the team delivered video content for live events and digital platforms, album artwork and music videos.

Finance

Our Chief Financial Officer, Sam Peach-Barnes has continued to develop the organisations financial controls, efficiency and engagement with management. New financial systems and processes are being implemented to support the continued growth of the Charity, particularly around the launch of the new Community Grocery stores and distribution centres across the country, as well as the recruitment of new staff in the Finance team in order to maintain the levels of support across the organisation.

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PARTNERSHIPS

Supporter Events and Fundraising

With the national lockdowns due to Covid-19, our large fundraising events and local hub fundraising events had to be cancelled and like many other charities, we lost out on income from these events but also from a number of our regular donors who found themselves unexpectedly in a different financial position.

We made a decision to take our Proximity Conference online with some great speakers and gained new regular supporters plus a number of one-off gifts towards the launch of Eden Central Drive, Blackpool and began to seek the Lord about which direction we needed to take things in this season. During Covid we launched the Lockdown Hunger Project, Message Live and the Community Grocery which you can read more about on pages 14-15.

In January 2020 we employed a Donor Care Co-ordinator to focus on developing and deepening our engagement with our supporters and helping to lower our attrition rate.

We used the services of Chell Perkins Ltd, as professional fundraisers acting on behalf of The Message Trust for grant funding applications, in 2020-21. Chell Perkins Ltd is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and we monitor their activities on behalf of The Message Trust on a monthly basis. The Message Trust is also registered with the Fundraising Regulator and as such subscribes to The Code of Fundraising Practice along with its 4 core values to be legal, open, honest and respectful. Anyone considered to be vulnerable and our Community Grocery members are not contacted by The Message for fundraising purposes, and flagged as such on our contact database, to prevent this happening. The charity and its agent have not received any formal complaints in the last year about its fundraising activities.

Although we saw a decline in our new regular supporter donor growth this season, we did see an increase in people signing up to our database, to be regularly contacted by The Message, when compared to previous years. This is positive going forwards in terms of our supporter pipeline.

Supporter Events and Fundraising: Outcomes against our 2020 - 2021 goals

- **To add new or increased regular gifts**
Ongoing - due to the events of the year, but we have plans to continue to build this over the coming year
- **Aim for a donor attrition rate of 11%**
Ongoing - unfortunately due to the prevailing conditions and uncertainty donors face with their finances we are now working towards an attrition rate of 12% for 2021-22.

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PARTNERSHIPS (continued)

Sharing our resources

Our commitment to helping others around the world who share our heart for the poor and unreached is expressed through our tithe fund. We tithe a proportion of our unrestricted charitable income and give it to other organisations and charities who share similar objectives to The Message Trust.

Our giving (the Direct Costs given to Other Projects) in 2020-21 totalled **£717,690** (2019-20 £462,685) from our Tithe fund.

Compassion UK received **£35,280** (2019-20 £31,055) for child sponsorship in Haiti; and £Nil (2019-20 £4,165) for prisons ministry.

We continued our support of **Life Association** (a related party link with Simon Hawthorne) through a gift of **£14,383** (2019-20 £16,883) to help provide schooling for Dalit orphans in Machilipatnam, India. **£6,000** was given to **Press Red** who are making a stand against the violence suffered by girls and women worldwide (a related party link with Michelle Hawthorne) (2019-20 £7,500). **£10,000** was given to **Ignite** (a related party) to support their ministry in India (2019-20 £42,500) and £3,000 to Ignite Big Idea in the UK (2019-20 £3,000).

We also gave **significant gifts** to the following projects £13,200 to Good Shepherd Children's Orphanage in Haiti (2019-20 £13,200); £2,940 to CRMI (2019-20 £8,335) for child sponsorship in Uganda, plus £30,000 (2019-20 £20,000) to help build a church in Bombo, Uganda and £1,300 for their chicken farm helping people find work in Uganda (2019-20 £5,000), with £5,000 for the work of Advance in Uganda through CRMI and £5,000 for the general work of CRMI. £12,350 was given to support Potters House Church, Hull, led by Mo Timbo (2019-20 £12,000).

New projects supported this year included Christmas Hampers £64,207 for our Community Grocery members; Embassy Bus £11,000 providing emergency accommodation for those living on the streets in Manchester; £14,994 for Barnabas for Prisons work in Haiti; £10,000 to Good Samaritans Pakistan for work in the boys school; Christ Church Pennington - £10,000 to support the work with Christians Against Poverty in their church; Shining Faces £10,000 to support their Orphanage in India and St James & Emmanuel £20,000 for work with their Farsi group.

One off gifts were given last year, but not repeated this year, to El Shaddai TV for international work with Advance groups (2019-20 £10,000); to Egyptian Mission to help with relocation costs, connected with the Advance projects in Egypt (2019-20 £13,000); to Foreningen Be Free for community work in Denmark (2019-20 £10,000); to CRM Manchester (2019-20 £23,065) helping to provide jobs for destitute women in the slums in Kampala.

There were also continued support for Manchester House of Prayer for their prayer ministry £12,751 (2019-20 £12,433).

Other gifts to our **Message partners** in the UK and beyond from Other Projects (per note 5) included £27,688 to Message Germany (2019-20 £23,864); £15,769 to Message Canada (2019-20 £25,416); £6,500 to Eden Westwood, Oldham (2019-20 £12,000); £235,000 to Message South Africa (2019-20 £6,893) and £4,000 to Eden Buttershaw (2019-20 £8,000). Last year one off gifts were given, but not repeated this year, to Eden Bow (2019-20 £3,000); Eden Dagenham (2019-20 £5,000); and Eden Farnworth (2019-20 £2,500); with new gifts this year of £2,000 to Eden Whitmore Reans and £1080 to Eden Easterside

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YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

MEC - OUR BUSINESSES

This year The Message Enterprise Centre continued with its apprenticeship model for training, aiming to maximise skills development and financial sustainability for our team members. Graduations for team members on the two-year programme that had to be postponed from 2019/20 took place. There were 3 graduations this year. The opening of the Community Grocery in Wythenshawe created new team member roles both in store and in logistics.

The Mess Café reopened following lockdowns with the necessary health and safety arrangements in place. The opening of the Community Grocery next to the café, coupled with growing awareness of what is on offer, has seen its popularity continue to grow, and the footfall to build. There were further opportunities to ensure the Café's efficiency improved, helping to reduce costs.

September 2020 saw the MEC open a **Community Grocery** in Wythenshawe. The first lockdown in March 2020 saw the kitchen of the Mess Café repurposed into a production and distribution centre for meals to those in need/shielding. As 60,000 meals were delivered, we developed an awareness of the need for our nation's poorest families to have access to affordable food, we couldn't stand by and do nothing so the idea of the Community Grocery was born.

The Community Grocery is supplied through partnerships we have established with supermarkets and food suppliers for the redistribution of surplus food. For £3 per shop each member gets to do a full shop up to three times a week, that will keep their families fed. The financial modelling has shown that once the initial shop fit has been undertaken (funded through planned fundraising activities) the grocery store business model can be self-sustaining. We believe Community Grocery stores could be significant in helping to feed our nation's poorest families. Coupled with providing food, grocery members also have access to a range of courses and services, such as job clubs, counselling, debt advice and opportunities for members to learn more about Christianity. Demand for membership was significant with 2,300 members now signed up at the Wythenshawe store. Growing food poverty across the UK led to demand for further Community Grocery stores, so in partnership with local churches a further eight stores were launched by The Message Trust in 2020/21 (see pages 14-15) with plans to launch another seven stores in 2021/22.

The **MEC Events** business had to remain closed throughout the national lockdowns and the continued Covid-19 restrictions have impacted on the number of room bookings The Venue has secured and upon the profitability of the MEC Events business. As restrictions eased and larger scale gatherings were permitted, the MEC Events began hosting events such as live acoustic music nights again. Current tenants within the office space include the charity 'Gospel for Asia' and a community interest company 'OurBoards' (from January 2020 to November 2021).

THE MESSAGE TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

MEC - OUR BUSINESSES (continued)

The work of **MEC Building Services** has focused primarily on refurbishment and development projects this year, with the team undertaking projects both for The Message, the shop fitting of Community Grocery stores and the refurbishment of the MEC's rental properties. The team were involved in the fit out of all nine Community Grocery stores that opened September 2020 – August 2021 as well as continued work on the Sheffield Enterprise Centre in Woodseats.

Our **MEC Property Management** grew with the addition of one new property to our portfolio this year, bringing the total number of properties to 12. Message Academy students were housed in MEC properties, with properties also being rented to Message Academy graduates, team members, families who are connected to our Eden teams, as well as some employees of The Message Trust.

Wedding Angels has maintained its presence this year. Our partnerships with local churches have continued and the growth of the wedding offer within the events business has seen a number of Wedding Angels customers decide to hold their wedding within the MEC. Whilst the national lockdown has impacted upon Wedding Angels' trade, demand for their services remains and plans to further strengthen and develop the business once Covid-19 restrictions ease have been identified.

As partnerships across the UK grow, our vision to expand our enterprise work into other areas of the UK, offering training and discipleship opportunities to team members remains. This ambition was realised in 2019/20 with the opening of **Neal Street Espresso**, our speciality coffee shop in Covent Garden, however two weeks after opening the UK Covid-19 lockdown was announced, causing the Café to close for an extended period. This year the coffee shop has been able to reopen its doors to visitors, residents and workers in Covent Garden and the quality of its coffee and food proved instantly popular. The scale of the Café's offering is being carefully managed to ensure operations match demand and current government restrictions and guidelines for businesses, are being closely followed. As part of Neal Street Espresso's offer a function space was created and this is being rented out for meetings and events this year, providing another income stream and introducing our enterprise work to a wider audience.

MEC Community Grocery: Outcomes against our 2020 – 2021 goals

- **To launch the first Community Grocery in Wythenshawe**
Achieved – the Community Grocery was launched in Sharston (Wythenshawe) in September 2020 and was quickly feeding 1,000 members a week, with this figure growing to 2,300 by the end of the year.
- **Host monthly community events for our grocery members**
Achieved – as soon Covid-19 restrictions allowed a programme of monthly events for Community Grocery members and the local community was launched. This includes Thursday Night Live (a monthly live acoustic music evening) and church events.
- **To have a full weekly schedule of support services**
Achieved – support courses including Alpha (a course where members can explore Christianity), cooking classes, CAP job club, CAP money management, CAP life skills and legal advice are offered in store for members each week.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

MEC - OUR BUSINESSES (continued)

MEC Businesses: Outcomes against our 2020 – 2021 goals

- **To reopen our café & catering business and return to an average 100 customers a day**
Ongoing – the business reopened following the national lockdowns and is currently averaging between 70 and 80 customers a day. A figure that is building.
- **To reopen Neal Street Espresso and employ one additional team member**
Achieved – Neal Street Espresso has reopened and is consistently seeing income and visitor numbers increase week on week.
- **To reopen our events and conferencing business and bring the room rentals income back to over £5,000 a month**
Impacted by Covid – given the impact of Covid-19 restrictions on the events and conferencing business room rental income has continued to be suppressed this year, however the rooms have not sat empty and have been made available for support courses being run by the Community Grocery.
- **To refurbish a further 5 houses**
Impacted by Covid – due to the ongoing pandemic restrictions and growth in the number of Community Grocery stores, only one residential property was refurbished in 2020/21.

MEC - SUPPORT AND DISCIPLESHIP

Discipleship continues to be at the heart of our work. Our discipleship programme focused on support and the development continues to prove successful.

The Oaks, our supported house in Wythenshawe, continues to be a hub for its community, being used for Alpha courses, outreach events and Bible studies for both residents and non-residents, in person and online. The residents have been actively sharing the stories of how their lives have been transformed in churches, sometimes online, as well as at local, regional and national events, gaining confidence in the process. We had six residents in The Oaks during the year (2020: six). A strategy aimed at reducing the vacancy rate in The Oaks continues to be in place and potential new residents have been identified, once the Oaks has been refurbished in 2022.

The Oaks: Outcomes against our 2020 - 2021 goals

- **Reduce The Oaks vacancy rate by developing new referral partners**
Ongoing – The Oaks team have spoken at multiple conferences highlighting the support and opportunities offered by them, as well as presented literature about the home and support available to every prison chaplain in the UK.

MEC Recruitment pipeline: Outcomes against our 2020 - 2021 goals

- **To take on a further eight apprentices through our cafés, building maintenance and grocery enterprises, including apprentices in Community Grocery stores outside of Manchester**
Ongoing – the speed at which new team members could be recruited was impacted by Covid-19 restrictions, as several of the businesses were unable to fully operate during the national lockdowns. This year we took on an additional six apprentices, including newly created roles within the Community Grocery. We also placed an additional four people on the Government's Kick Starter programme and have vacancies for another 12 in 2021/22.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

MEC - SUPPORTER EVENTS AND FUNDRAISING

Our ability to hold business network dinners was impacted by Covid-19 restrictions this year. However, we continue to fundraise and have a pipeline of people who would love to join our networking programme, once it is relaunched.

Many businesses and organisations have chosen to support the Message Enterprise Centre during the past year, and we are very grateful to them all. One example of the relationships in place is Mowgli Street Food, where we are one of their ten chosen 'House Charities' for their charitable trust.

Supporter events and fundraising: Outcomes against our 2020 - 2021 goals

- **Recruit 50 new staff personal supporters**
Ongoing – we added 25 new personal supporters this year but are encouraged by initial indications that this will increase further in 2021/22
- **Fundraise positions for up to 5 team members**
Achieved - we currently support seven team members.

CHARITABLE GIVING

Following a further change in policy, our charitable giving this year totalled £2,571 (2020: £3,233) and was distributed in the following ways, to organisations or individuals who share similar objectives to The Message Enterprise Centre:

- Legal Fees £Nil (2020: £2,300 sponsoring an application for an Apprentice to be given the right to work in this country).
- Wedding Gifts to Apprentices - £1,000 (2020: £Nil)
- Hardship funding to support those in need - £713 (2020: £Nil)
- Other gifts to Apprentices - £858 (2020: £933)

THE MESSAGE TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

GROUP FINANCIAL REVIEW

The 2021 accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice) (second edition – October 2019) Accounting and Reporting by Charities: applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), effective from 1 January 2019.

The Trustees have taken the opportunity to review all The Message's key accounting policies to ensure that they continue to be in accordance with the requirements of the Charities SORP (FRS 102) and best accounting practice.

Whilst these steps have resulted in enhanced disclosures in the financial statements, it has not been necessary to make any significant amendments to key accounting policies.

Review of the year

Despite the significant challenges of the pandemic, this year has still managed to be one of growth for The Message Group, which saw its baseline income rise to £7.6m (2020: £6.0m), a highly positive outcome in the context of the year. Costs also grew to £7.1m (2020: £6.1m), as the charity aimed to deliver on last year's plans and also initiated new projects in response to the pandemic. This resulted in a net income of £0.5m (2020: net expenditure £0.1m) which will be used to invest in growth as projected by the Trustees in the annual budget.

The growth in income was in part thanks to a significant gift of £1.5m in November (2020: £1m), part of a multi-year pledge to the Charity. Investment in the expansion of our Hub and Missions teams, as well as large scale projects such as the Community Grocery stores was also in progress, reflecting the intentions of the Trustees, as stated in the 2018/19 report, to spend some of its reserves in order to expand the reach of the Charity further around the UK and build capacity in priority areas.

The financial year was also impacted by the global Covid-19 pandemic, which affected some aspects of the Charity's planned activities and outcomes. Financially, the pandemic meant that many of our regular fundraising and income generating activities/events could no longer proceed following the lockdown and government restrictions.

As in the year 2019/20 we were not able to organise The Urban Heroes awards, as well as other regular fundraising activities, such as speaking visits in Churches and sponsored events. We were also unable to continue some of our income generating activities in Schools, Prisons and local communities.

The Trustees mitigated this loss of income through a range of immediate cost reductions, most of which are temporary and reversible, in order to protect the Charity from financial loss. These included the temporary closure of our Headquarters at Lancaster Campus in Sharston, restrictions on global and local travel for all staff. Additionally, a number of staff were placed on temporary furlough from as they were not able to fulfil their usual roles due to the closure of Schools and Prisons and the government restrictions on movement and contact with other people. The Charity therefore benefitted from the Government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, meaning that redundancies were avoided for the vast majority of our staff, for which we are truly grateful.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

GROUP FINANCIAL REVIEW (continued)

Income and Expenditure

The Message continues to rely on voluntary income as its principal source of funding. Total income from Donations and Legacies, including Gift Aid amounted to £6.7m (2020: £5.3m).

Gifts from Trust and Foundations increased to £968k (2020: £940k) which constitutes 14.5% (2020: 17.7%) of Donations. Gifts from individuals (including Gift Aid) increased to £2,122k providing – 31.7% of Donations (2020: £1,680k – 31.7%). Gifts via Stewardship/CAF were £2,062k – 30.8% (2020: £1,326k – 25%), while income from other organisations - Churches, Ministries and Business Supporters provided £443k – 6.6% (2020: £404k – 7.6%), income from Sponsored Events raised £20k – 0.3% (2020: £14k – 0.3%) whilst other sources including Grants and Legacies this year provided £1,082k – 16.1% (2020: £941k – 17.7%), of which Government Grants (from the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme) were £503k – 7.5% (2020: £789k – 14.9%).

Income from Other trading activities, which support the charity, decreased further to £11k in 2021 due to Covid restrictions (2020: £26k).

The cost of Raising Funds in the financial statements amounted to £347k in 2021 (2020: £221k), as per Note 4a.

Other funds were generated through Charitable Activities, most notably Project Income (including the various Eden Partnerships and Prison projects) £210k (2020: £83k); Message Academy £31k (2020: £21k), Business Income from the Enterprise Businesses £207k (2020: £206k); Rental Income £235k (2020: £168k) and Events £8k (2020: £42k). Please note: The Message Academy is not an exclusively commercial operation, as the Trustees encourage both the training and facility to be used by the community.

Governance

The £23k (2020: £14k) governance includes the expenses associated with Trustee Board meetings, Trustee elections, maintaining our constitution, external audit and core executive management.

Net Surplus in the Year

The total income exceeded expenditure in the year by £1,362k (2020: (£73k) net deficit) mainly due to the gains on revaluation of Fixed Assets £871k and to the Separate material item of income. Hence in 2021 we have Net income of £1,215k (2020: Net expenditure (£120k)) within unrestricted funds and Net expenditure of £724k (2020: Net income £48k) within restricted funds, after transfers and other recognised gains.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

GROUP FINANCIAL REVIEW (continued)

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2021 remained strong ensuring that the charity has the assets required to deliver its commitments to the community.

The additions to fixed assets for the group amounted to £381k (2020: £397k), of which additions for the Message Trust comprised of **Operational Equipment** - £106k (2020: £25k) which includes camera and video equipment; an electric car charging point; Stage Piano and Lighting for our Ministry teams with the majority spent on Freezers, Fridges and Storage Containers for the new Community Grocery stores; **Fixtures and Fittings** - £85k (2020: £32k) was spent on laptops and new office furniture with the majority spent on Refurbishing the Reception area at Lancaster House; **Motor Vehicles** - £141k (2020: £96k) was mostly spent on refurbishing buses for Message Midlands and Message Wales; the additions to **Buildings** - £49k includes the refurbishment costs for Woodseats in Yorkshire (2020: £141k). New **MEC Enterprise Equipment** cost £10k (2020: £30k) – consisting of a new a new Boiler - £6k; plus £4k on other essential items of equipment for our businesses, of which £3k related to equipment for the Community Grocery stores which was transferred during the year from The Message Enterprise Centre to The Message Trust.

Subsidiary undertakings

The Message Trust established a second subsidiary charitable company, in 2012, The Message Enterprise Centre (MEC), which is included in the consolidated accounts.

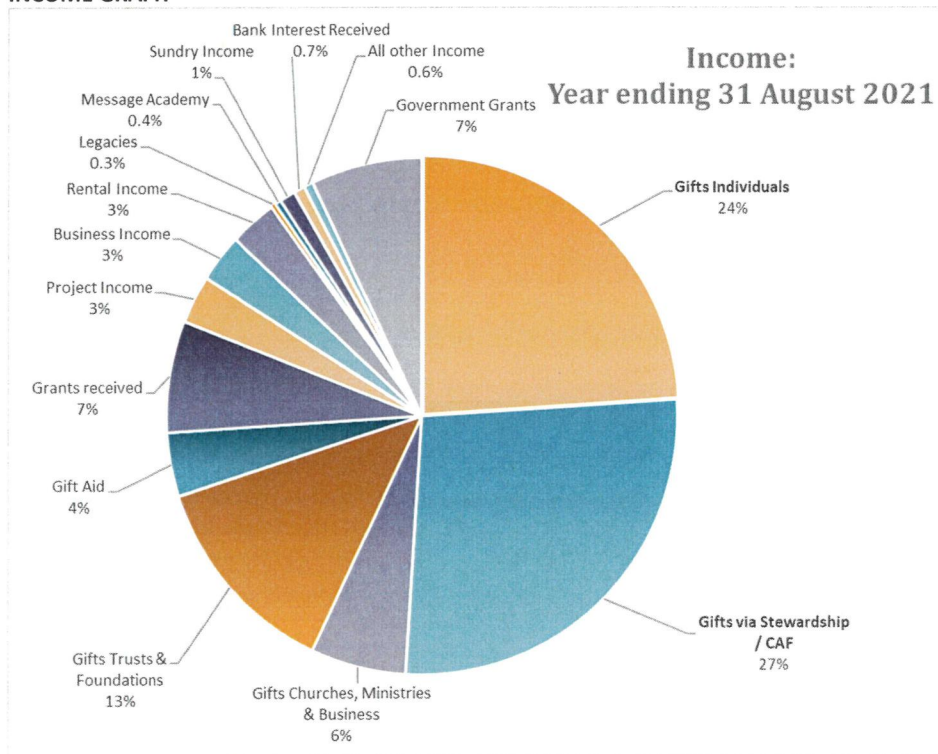
During 2013 The Message Trust established an associate – Eden Network Merseyside, which became a registered charity on 8 July 2013.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

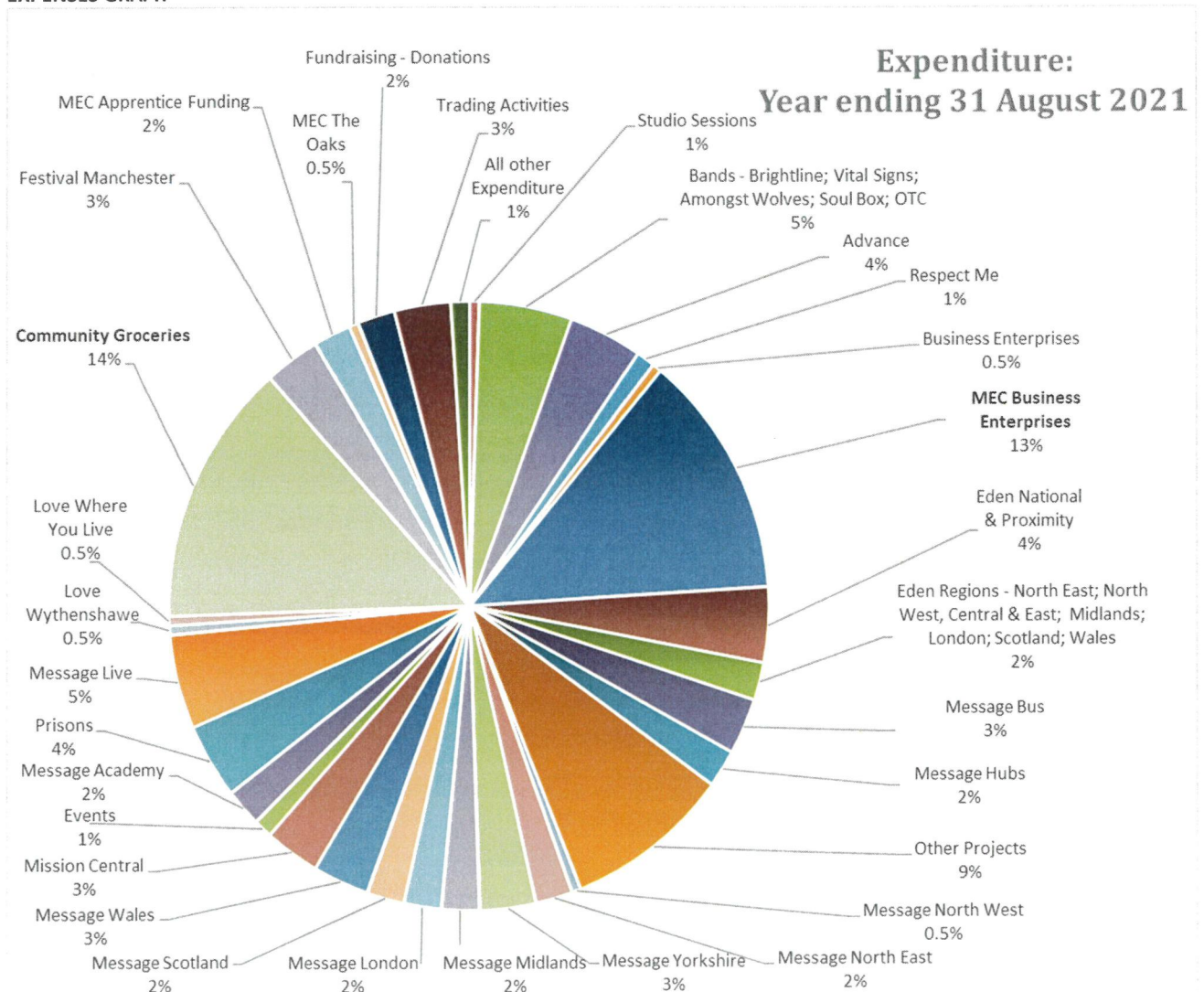
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

INCOME GRAPH



EXPENSES GRAPH



THE MESSAGE TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

Investment Powers and Policies

The Trustees have the power to invest surplus funds of the charity in investments, securities and property as they think fit. The current policy of the Trustees is to invest funds not immediately required by the charity into a range of Treasury, Capital Bond and Deposit accounts which bear competitive rates of interest. The Trustees consider the social, environmental and ethical impact of the investment, before placing any new funds with a third party. This policy is reviewed periodically by the Trustees.

Reserves

The Trustees have adopted a reserves policy which they consider appropriate, to ensure the continuing ability of both The Message Trust and the Group to meet its objectives and obligations.

The total funds held by the Group at 31 August 2021 are £8,561,295 (2020: £7,199,225), of which £616,482 (2020: £391,656) are restricted and not available for the general purposes of the charitable group.

In order to be prudent, the Message Trust aims to accumulate, in general reserves, an amount equivalent to at least one month's staff costs, approx. £449k (2020: £290k). This is our minimum base level for reserves, however, given the degree of uncertainty in the economic climate at present we are currently holding reserves above this level. The amount of General Funds, excluding restricted and designated funds and fixed assets, freely available to spend on any of the charity's purposes as at 31 August 2021 was £1,582,126 (2020: £803,551) which is £1,133k (2020: £513k) in excess of the minimum reserves set out in our reserves policy.

We recognise that the long-term economic consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic are still uncertain, and therefore the Trustees have set revised financial budgets for the coming year, which include some cost reductions. Fundraising activities have also been repurposed for the current climate; online campaigns, dinners and direct mailings are proving hugely successful for the Charity post year-end. With this in mind, the Trustees have judged it appropriate to maintain the amount held in general reserves in line with this policy. Further details of the financial planning reviewed by the Trustees are in the going concern note on page 53.

The Message Trust also received a significant donation last year, as shown in the Separate Material Item of Income, which the Trustees have designated to specific funds for launching several new projects (see Note 18 for further details).

The Trustees have therefore designated funds to underwrite a series of new projects and future mission projects over the next 5 years. The Group has unrestricted funds at 31 August 2021, totalling £7,944,813 (2020: £6,807,569), of which £3,217,593 (2020: £3,949,452) has been designated for underwriting new and future mission projects by The Message Trust, and a further £3,045,086 (2020: £2,054,566) by The Message Enterprise Centre. A significant proportion of these designated funds are held in the form of buildings and other fixed assets, which are an ongoing resource for future mission projects across the group. The designated fund for Future Mission Projects can only be realised by disposing of £1,613,010 (2020: £1,197,542) the amount of tangible fixed assets and investment properties held by The Message Trust at 31 August 2021, whilst The Message Enterprise funds rely on the separate disposal of £2,813,315 (2020: £2,019,741) the amount of tangible fixed assets and investment properties held by The Message Enterprise Centre. Therefore, the total held by the Group for Future Mission Projects in the form of buildings and other fixed assets is £4,426,325 (2020: £3,217,283).

THE MESSAGE TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

Grant making Policy

Grants are made to Eden Partners or to designated individuals directly associated with those Partnerships. Currently there are 29 partnerships in the UK (2020: 19 partnerships) in receipt of grants and work is ongoing to establish others. Part of the aims of The Message Trust are achieved through these partnerships, which employ full-time and volunteer youth and community workers. These workers seek to positively impact the people in their area, irrespective of religion, colour or background.

Student bursaries are also made to Message Academy students, who would otherwise not be able to finish their course. The Message Academy fulfils the objectives of the charity by providing training courses to Christian youth workers and others.

Remuneration Policy

The remuneration policy seeks to balance our Christian values and the need to attract and retain staff with appropriate qualifications and skills.

Our minimum wage is based on the Living Wage as set by the Living Wage Foundation, which is higher than the National Living wage as regulated by HMRC. Pay scales are benchmarked against similar jobs in the North West and a London weighting is applied where appropriate. We review the retail price and consumer price indices for inflation on an annual basis, before deciding upon any annual increments for inflation. Individual staff salaries are reviewed annually, with mid-term reviews every 6 months. The Executive pay is set within the same pay grade structure. The Trustees set and approve the salary for the Chief Executive, and other members of the Executive. Details regarding employees with salaries above £60,000 can be found in note 7 of the Financial Statements.

Social Investment Policy

In order to provide appropriate affordable housing for our Message Academy Students during their one-year course, as well as providing refurbishment and building maintenance opportunities for our Message Enterprise Building Team Members the charity has adopted a policy of investing in local Wythenshawe properties, rather than renting properties from local landlords. This policy started in 2016.

The Message Enterprise Centre continues to hold an investment in The Oaks – in order to provide supported accommodation and offer a discipleship programme to those seeking to rebuild their lives. This building is currently being maintained by the Message Enterprise Building Team.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Trustees have identified four principal risk areas for both The Message Trust and its subsidiary The Message Enterprise Centre. These cover potential risks to the reputation of both charities, financial sustainability, safeguarding of young people & vulnerable adults, and cyber security, arising from both internal and external factors. The principal financial sustainability risks present at the year-end are related to the economic consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic and the potential impact on income for The Message Trust, which are discussed in more detail in the going concern note on page 53. The Trustees have also adopted a number of measures to counter each of these risks, to reduce the likelihood that they will adversely affect the charity. These strategies are reviewed periodically to ensure they remain effective and are considered sufficient measures to protect the charitable group, its staff, and beneficiaries from significant harm.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Goals for 2021-22

Our teams set the following objectives, for the next financial year, during the continuing Covid-19 pandemic. We will therefore keep these plans under review over the coming months, in the light of government guidance and requirements to shut certain types of business and avoid certain activities. However, we are still aiming to complete these goals over the next year.

Creative Mission

- To reach 180,000 young people with the gospel through schools work in 250 schools
- To give at least 18,000 young people repeated opportunities to respond to the gospel at evangelistic gigs, following on from schools work
- Have 250,000 views of our creative mission teams digital output
- Produce and release sixteen new music tracks along with four worship singles
- Have 2 million streams on music platforms

Advance

- Have Advance Groups established in 100 nations
- Hold the second Global Advance Day
- Launch the new three-year Advance Groups Mentoring Guide and translate it into 6 languages
- Have 75 Advance Ambassadors across the globe
- Share news of the impact of Advance Groups through a Year of Stories

Eden

- Launch 10 new Eden teams
- Recruit 80 new team members
- Hold an Eden Teams Day conference
- Hold a two-day Proximity National Urban Mission Conference

Message Bus

- Recruit and train bus managers for the London & Midlands Message Buses
- Build on the success of the relaunched bus ministries in the hubs and develop more churches partnerships for bus ministry
- Investigate opportunities to develop our current bus fleet with the possibility of replacing one of our current older buses in the future

Message in Prisons

- Continue working in current five prisons, relaunching work, in remaining three prisons
- Launch three new prison projects
- Recruit and train eight new outreach workers to fill current vacancies and new ones
- Recruit and train a member of operational staff to support and enable our current growth
- Lead 500 people to Jesus for the first time

THE MESSAGE TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS (continued)

London

- Launch one new Eden Team
- Continue support for existing Eden Teams
- Fill the vacant post of London Bus Manager
- Relaunch the Message Bus in London
- Launch a Community Grocery store in London

Yorkshire & Humberside (previously Central and East)

- Complete renovations of the new enterprise centre at Woodseats Baptist Church
- Recruit replacement a Schools Outreach Worker
- Recruit an enterprise and discipleship lead
- Continue developing opportunities for enterprise in the Yorkshire hub ahead of launching activity in 22/23
- Launch one Community Grocery store
- Launch one new Eden Team

North East

- Launch two new Eden teams
- Open three new Community Grocery stores and a distribution warehouse within the hub area
- Run schools work in 10 North East schools
- Hold two outreach events for young people featuring Message creative mission bands
- Continue running monthly Advance Youth events and have 20 young people involved in Advance The Scattering 2022
- Run an online Rebuilding Lives Conference

North West

- Launch three new Eden teams
- Continue developing Genetik Sessions.
- Run Message Bus work from the North West bus 4 nights a week
- Book 50 dates in schools for Respect ME
- Book and deliver three No More Knives tours
- Assist with the booking of schools for the Festival Manchester 2022 schools tour.
- Finance the Festival Manchester 2022 Women's Outreach events and have 700 people attend the events

Midlands

- Launch the Midlands Message Bus for Coventry and Warwickshire
- Employ a part-time Creative Missions worker
- Launch one new Eden team in hub areas
- Launch three Community Grocery stores in the hub area
- Run one No More Knives schools tour
- Run two Love Where U Live missions

THE MESSAGE TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS (continued)

Wales

- Launch WILD Youth Group Tour and run at least 20 sessions, sharing the gospel with over 2,000 young people in the first year
- Launch one Community Grocery store
- Start prison ministry in one new prison
- Launch one new Eden team in Wales
- Reach over 10,000 people with the gospel through various outreach and ministries

Scotland

- Relaunch 10:10 bus projects
- Launch a new Eden team in Dumbarton
- Relaunch schools work in Scotland
- Run the youth programme at ReFuel 2022
- Run mission weeks in partnership with SU

Supporter events and fundraising

- Aim for a donor attrition rate of 12%
- To add 500 new or increased gifts

Community Grocery

- To open another 7 Community Grocery stores across the UK
- To have 20,000 members of our Community Grocery stores nationwide
- Deliver 4,000 hours of support courses
- Redistribute 5,000,000 meals to members
- To open a larger distribution warehouse in the North East & North West.
- To develop a surplus food partnership with a regional or national supermarket.

Festival Manchester

- Hold Festival Manchester 1st - 3rd July 2022 and see tens of thousands of people from across the North West attend.
- Hold build-up events, including October fundraiser and Church Prayer and Worship event.
- Hold separate evangelistic outreach events for Women, Business and Civic leaders, people experiencing homelessness, sex workers.
- Prisons outreach in at least 4 institutions.
- Facilitate at least 200 social action projects across the North West.
- Schools evangelistic mission in at least 65 Schools across the North West.
- Facilitate a significant reduction in the number of children and young people on the Social Services Fostering and Adoption register.
- Engage with children in at least 40 Schools to perform in the choir during the Festival Weekend and see at least 5 legacy community choirs formed.
- Plant 5,000 trees to benefit the environment and help off-set the carbon footprint of the festival.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS (continued)

MEC Businesses

- To average 100 customers a day in the Mess Café
- To average 125 Customers a day in Neal St
- To launch a new social enterprise located in the Message Enterprise Centre
- To host 24 external full prices events
- To refurbish a further 3 houses

MEC The Oaks

- Refurbish The Oaks, with a view to renting it to Message Academy students
- Take on five new residents in The Oaks
- Reduce The Oaks vacancy rate

MEC Recruitment Pipeline

- To take on a further 3 enterprise team members

MEC Supporter events and fundraising

- Recruit 50 new staff personal supporters
- Fundraise positions for up to 5 team members

DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

The directors of the charitable company ("the charity") are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

The trustees serving during the year and since the year-end were as follows:

C. Hardacre (resigned 30 Sept 2021)
D.I. Moore (resigned 30 Sept 2021)

G.J. Haynes
J.A. Wainwright

A.C. Leahey
R.D. White

RELATED PARTIES

A summary of transactions with related parties is set out in note 17 of the financial statements.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also directors of The Message Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the group at the end of the year and of the income and expenditure for the year then ended.

In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies, as described on pages 53 to 57, and then apply them on a consistent basis, making judgements and estimates that are prudent and reasonable. The trustees must also prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operations.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees also confirm that:


- as far as they are aware there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware; and
- they have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as Trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 23rd May 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Date: 23rd May 2022



Gordon Haynes (Chairman)

THE MESSAGE TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MESSAGE TRUST

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Message Trust 'the parent charitable company' and its subsidiary "the group" for the year ended 31 August 2021 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities including the Consolidated Income and Expenditure Account, the Consolidated and Parent Charitable Company Balance Sheets, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2021 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulations 6 and 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, (as amended in 2010).

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and parent charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

THE MESSAGE TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MESSAGE TRUST (Continued)

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report or the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MESSAGE TRUST (Continued)

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 45, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company'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 trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) 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.

We have been appointed as auditor under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with the Acts and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's web-site at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

In identifying and addressing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We obtained an understanding of laws, regulations and guidance that affect the charitable company, focusing on those that had a direct effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on its operations. Key laws, regulations and guidance that we identified included the Companies Act 2006, tax legislation, health and safety legislation, Charities Act England & Wales, Charities Act Scotland and employment legislation.
- We enquired of the Trustees and reviewed correspondence and Trustee meeting minutes for evidence of non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations. We also reviewed controls the Trustees have in place, where necessary, to ensure compliance.
- We gained an understanding of the controls that the Trustees have in place to prevent and detect fraud. We enquired of the Trustees about any incidences of fraud that had taken place during the accounting period.
- The risk of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations was discussed within the audit team and tests were planned and performed to address these risks. We identified the potential for fraud in the following areas: the recognition of income in the correct period including the correct treatment of the accrual and deferral of income.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MESSAGE TRUST (Continued)

- We reviewed financial statements disclosures and supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above.
- We enquired of the Trustees about actual and potential litigation and claims.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that might indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud due to management override of internal controls we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates were indicative of a potential bias.

Due to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations and cannot be expected to detect all fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the parent charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006, and to the parent charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Regulation 10 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the parent charitable company's members and trustees 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 parent charitable company, parent charitable company's members as a body and the parent charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Beever and Struthers

Sue Hutchinson FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of
BEEVER AND STRUTHERS
Statutory Auditor
St George's House
215/219 Chester Road
Manchester M15 4JE

Date: 27.5.2022

THE MESSAGE TRUST

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
INCOME					
Donations and Legacies	3a	4,423,653	2,273,274	6,696,927	5,305,286
Income from Charitable activities	3b	806,622	3,000	809,622	592,837
Income from Other trading activities	3c	10,849	-	10,849	26,184
Investment Income	3d	52,261	-	52,261	57,729
TOTAL INCOME		5,293,385	2,276,274	7,569,659	5,982,036
EXPENDITURE					
Raising Funds	4a	347,212	-	347,212	221,421
Charitable Activities	4b	3,730,746	3,000,690	6,731,436	5,887,467
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		4,077,958	3,000,690	7,078,648	6,108,888
Net Income / (Expenditure) before Investment gains		1,215,427	(724,416)	491,011	(126,852)
Net gains on investments		871,059	-	871,059	54,240
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE)		2,086,486	(724,416)	1,362,070	(72,612)
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE TRANSFERS		2,086,486	(724,416)	1,362,070	(72,612)
Transfers between Funds	18	(949,242)	949,242	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		1,137,244	224,826	1,362,070	(72,612)
Total Funds Brought Forward		6,807,569	391,656	7,199,225	7,271,837
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		7,944,813	616,482	8,561,295	7,199,225

The charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above.

All of the activities of the charity are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 53 to 73 form an integral part of these financial statements.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

CONSOLIDATED & CHARITY BALANCE SHEETS

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021

	Note	The Message Group 2021 £	The Message Group 2020 £	The Message Trust 2021 £	The Message Trust 2020 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible fixed assets	11	766,326	562,065	633,010	389,211
Investments	12	3,660,000	2,655,218	985,000	813,331
		<u>4,426,326</u>	<u>3,217,283</u>	<u>1,618,010</u>	<u>1,202,542</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	13	87,044	58,929	72,403	47,607
Debtors	14	314,883	307,445	227,374	247,163
Cash at bank and in hand	15	4,340,166	4,045,283	4,062,722	3,846,132
		<u>4,742,093</u>	<u>4,411,657</u>	<u>4,362,499</u>	<u>4,140,902</u>
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	16	(607,124)	(429,715)	(574,410)	(362,185)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>4,134,969</u>	<u>3,981,942</u>	<u>3,788,089</u>	<u>3,778,717</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>8,561,295</u>	<u>7,199,225</u>	<u>5,406,099</u>	<u>4,981,259</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>8,561,295</u>	<u>7,199,225</u>	<u>5,406,099</u>	<u>4,981,259</u>
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Restricted Income Funds	18a	616,482	391,656	536,373	258,180
Unrestricted Income Funds	18b	7,944,813	6,807,569	4,869,726	4,723,079
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>8,561,295</u>	<u>7,199,225</u>	<u>5,406,099</u>	<u>4,981,259</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The notes on pages 53 to 73 form an integral part of these financial statements, which were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 23rd May 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



Robert White, Trustee



Gordon Haynes, Trustee

Company Registration Number 03961183

THE MESSAGE TRUST

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT of CASH FLOWS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

Cash flows from operating activities	£	£
Net movement in funds	1,362,071	(72,612)
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items		
Depreciation	174,263	148,205
(Profit) on disposal of tangible fixed assets	(2,173)	(1,313)
Loss on disposal of intangible fixed assets	-	520
Investment Income	(52,261)	(57,729)
(Increase) in valuation of investments	(871,059)	(54,240)
	<u>610,840</u>	<u>(37,169)</u>
Working capital adjustments		
(Increase) / decrease in stocks	(28,114)	21,584
(Increase) in debtors	(58,247)	(27,458)
Increase in creditors	153,966	59,150
Increase in deferred income	23,442	32,581
Net cash flows from operating activities	<u>701,888</u>	<u>48,688</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Interest receivable and similar income	52,261	57,729
Proceeds of sale of tangible fixed assets	4,485	1,313
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(380,834)	(396,600)
Purchase of investments	(133,724)	(542,422)
Sale of investment	-	1,000,000
Net cash flows from investing activities	<u>(457,812)</u>	<u>120,020</u>
Cash flows from financing activities		
(Repayment) of loans and borrowings	-	(75,000)
Net cash flows from financing activities	<u>-</u>	<u>(75,000)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	244,076	93,708
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September	<u>4,045,283</u>	<u>3,951,575</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August	<u><u>4,289,358</u></u>	<u><u>4,045,283</u></u>
Cash at Bank and in hand	15 <u><u>4,340,166</u></u>	<u><u>4,045,283</u></u>

All the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the two periods above.

The notes on pages 53 to 73 form an integral part of these financial statements.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice) (second edition – October 2019) Accounting and Reporting by Charities: applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective from 1 January 2019, with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 and with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. The Charity exists for the benefit of the public through the promotion of Christian values and spiritual development, providing education, mentoring and enterprise services, in particular to those who have poor employment potential.

Financial statements

The financial statements are presented in GBP and rounded to the nearest £. The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the charity is responsible in law.

Group financial statements

These financial statements consolidate the results of the charity and its wholly owned subsidiaries The Message Trading Company Limited and The Message Enterprise Centre on a line-by-line basis, up to 31 August 2021. A separate Statement of Financial Activities, or income and expenditure account and Statement of Cash Flows for the charity itself is not presented, because the charity has taken advantage of the exemptions afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006. The results of the parent charity are detailed in note 9.

It is the charity's policy to write off any deficit on consolidation to reserves.

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the trust is responsible in law.

Disclosure exemptions

The parent charity satisfies the criteria of being a qualifying entity as defined in FRS 102. As such advantage has been taken of the following reduced disclosures available under FRS 102:

- No cash flow has been presented for the parent charity

Going concern

The Trustees of the Group consider that there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that cast significant doubt on the ability of the Message Trust to continue to operate as a going concern. This conclusion has been reached after reviewing the Charity's financial position, the levels of reserves and cash, including general funds available to the Charity, and the two-year financial forecast. The Trustees have considered the impact of the current Covid-19 pandemic in their assessment and they are confident that the group will continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future.

The Message Enterprise Centre continues to have the full support of its parent charity – The Message Trust, having all its trustees in common with the parent charity.

Judgements

The Trustees have based the Group's investment property valuations on observable market prices, adjusted if necessary for any difference in the nature, location or condition of the specific asset, combined with comparison to movements in Housing Price Indices since their last independent professional valuation – see note 12 for details.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

INCOME

Recognition of income

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- it is more likely than not that the Trustees will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by the Charities SORP (FRS 102) or FRS 102.

Donations and Grants

Donations and grants are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 Charities SORP (FRS102)).

In the case of performance related grants, income is only recognised to the extent that the charity has provided the specified goods or services as entitlement to the grant only occurs when the performance related conditions are met (5.16 Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

Income is deferred only when there are conditions to fulfil before becoming entitled to it and where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Legacies

Legacies are included in the SOFA when receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

Contractual income

This is only included in the SoFA once the charity has provided the related goods or services.

Donated goods

Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.

The cost of any stock of goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries is deemed to be the fair value of those gifts at the time of their receipt and they are recognised on receipt. In the reporting period in which the stocks are distributed, they are recognised as an expense at the carrying amount of the stocks at distribution.

Donated goods for resale are measured at fair value on initial recognition, which is the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale and recognised in 'Income from other trading activities' with the corresponding stock recognised in the balance sheet. On its sale the value of stock is charged against 'Income from other trading activities' and the proceeds from sale are also recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'

Goods donated for on-going use by the charity are recognised as tangible fixed assets and included in the SoFA as incoming resources when receivable.

Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as income from donations when receivable.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

Donated services and facilities

Donated services and facilities are included in the SoFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably.

Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with an equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SoFA.

Volunteer help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the Trustees' annual report.

Income from interest and royalties

This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.

Settlement of insurance claims

Insurance claims are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met and are included as an item of other income in the SoFA.

Investment gains and losses

This includes any realised or unrealised gains or losses on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

EXPENDITURE and LIABILITIES

Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Governance and support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Grants with performance conditions

Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.

Grants payable without performance conditions

Where there are no conditions attaching to the grant that enables the donor charity to realistically avoid the commitment, a liability for the full funding obligation is recognised.

Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

Provisions for liabilities

A liability is measured on recognition at its historical cost and then subsequently measured at the best estimate of the amount required to settle the obligation at the reporting date.

Basic financial instruments

The charity accounts for basic financial instruments on initial recognition at cost. Subsequent measurement is at fair value (their market value).

THE MESSAGE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

ASSETS

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000 (Prior to 1 September 2020, if they cost at least £500). They are valued at cost.

Depreciation is provided in equal annual instalments over the estimated useful lives of the assets and is calculated on the cost or valuation of the assets.

The following annual rates are used:

Buildings – Log Cabin	5%
Other Buildings	10%
Leasehold Property	20%
Operational Equipment	25%
Fixtures and Fittings	25%
Motor Vehicles	25%

Depreciation is first charged in the quarter following acquisition and up to the month of disposal.

No provision is made for the increased cost of tangible fixed assets.

Investments

Fixed asset investments are valued at initially at cost and subsequently at fair value (their market value) at the year end, unless fair value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment.

Investments held for resale (or pending their sale) and cash and cash equivalents with a maturity date of less than 1 year are treated as current asset investments

Investment properties

Investment properties are carried at fair value, derived from the current market prices for comparable real estate determined by external valuers, with properties being valued on a rolling basis every five years. The valuers use observable market prices, adjusted if necessary for any difference in the nature, location or condition of the specific asset. Changes in fair values are recognised in profit or loss.

Stocks and work in progress

Stocks held for sale as part of non-charitable trade are measured at the lower of cost or net realisable value. Cost is determined using the First-in, First-out (FIFO) methodology.

Goods or services provided as part of a charitable activity are measured at net realisable value based on the service potential provided by items of stock.

Work in progress is valued at cost less any foreseeable loss that is likely to occur on the contract.

Debtors

Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

Funds

Funds held by the charity are either:

Unrestricted general funds

These are funds that can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

Designated funds

These are unrestricted funds that have been earmarked for a particular project. This designation is for administrative purposes only and does not restrict the Trustees' discretion to apply the fund within the objects of the charity.

Restricted funds

These are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in equal annual instalments over the term of the lease.

Pension costs and other benefits

The pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contributions payable by the company during the period in accordance with FRS 102. The charity provides a defined contribution scheme for staff.

2. LEGAL STATUS OF THE CHARITY

The Message Trust charity is a private company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently has no share capital. The registered office is Lancaster House, Harper Road, Manchester, M22 4RG. The liability of each member in the event of winding-up the company is limited to £1.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

3. INCOME

The Message - Group	Unrestricted Funds Total £	Restricted Funds Total £	TOTAL 2021 £	Unrestricted Funds Total £	Restricted Funds Total £	TOTAL 2020 £
3a Donations and Legacies						
Gifts Individuals	1,296,622	501,170	1,797,792	999,172	421,074	1,420,246
Gifts via Stewardship / CAF	1,730,015	332,285	2,062,300	1,151,332	175,016	1,326,348
Gifts Churches, Ministries & Business	175,042	267,629	442,671	143,305	260,810	404,115
Gifts Trusts & Foundations	492,692	475,500	968,192	518,936	420,667	939,603
Government Grants	264,569	238,960	503,529	397,947	391,176	789,123
Gift Aid	261,011	63,033	324,044	198,599	61,566	260,165
Gifts in Kind	7,480	-	7,480	170	-	170
Grants received	181,926	366,107	548,033	22,267	110,119	132,386
Sponsored Events	5,388	14,443	19,831	5,844	8,003	13,847
Legacies	8,908	14,147	23,055	5,648	13,635	19,283
	<u>4,423,653</u>	<u>2,273,274</u>	<u>6,696,927</u>	<u>3,443,220</u>	<u>1,862,066</u>	<u>5,305,286</u>
3b Income from Charitable Activities						
Project Income	207,223	3,000	210,223	83,382	-	83,382
Message Academy	30,530	-	30,530	20,600	-	20,600
Business Income	207,476	-	207,476	206,146	-	206,146
Rental Income	234,967	-	234,967	167,993	-	167,993
Event Income	8,216	-	8,216	41,077	1,067	42,144
Royalties	-	-	-	105	-	105
Sundry Income	118,210	-	118,210	70,772	1,695	72,467
	<u>806,622</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>809,622</u>	<u>590,075</u>	<u>2,762</u>	<u>592,837</u>
3c Income from Other trading activities						
Merchandise Sales	6,830	-	6,830	16,000	-	16,000
Training Sales	-	-	-	(257)	-	(257)
Fundraising Events	40	-	40	749	100	849
Speakers Gifts	1,517	-	1,517	7,169	-	7,169
Other Sales Income	2,462	-	2,462	2,423	-	2,423
	<u>10,849</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,849</u>	<u>26,084</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>26,184</u>
3d Investment Income						
Bank Interest Received	52,261	-	52,261	57,729	-	57,729
	<u>52,261</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52,261</u>	<u>57,729</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>57,729</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>5,293,385</u>	<u>2,276,274</u>	<u>7,569,659</u>	<u>4,117,108</u>	<u>1,864,928</u>	<u>5,982,036</u>

Many volunteers give freely of their time in the service of our Lord for the Trust, the value of which is unquantifiable.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

4. EXPENDITURE

	Staff £	Deprecia tion £	Project Costs £	Total Direct Costs	Staff £	Deprecia tion £	Other Support Costs £	Total Support Costs £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
4a Raising Funds										
Fundraising - Donations	46,150	-	102,981	149,131	-	-	-	-	149,131	176,014
Fundraising - Events	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,982
Trading Activities	-	-	198,081	198,081	-	-	-	-	198,081	38,546
	46,150	-	301,062	347,212	-	-	-	-	347,212	220,542
Investment Management Costs										
Interest Payable	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	879
	46,150	-	301,062	347,212	-	-	-	-	347,212	221,421

4b Charitable Activities

Unrestricted Funds

Eden Regions	-	-	40,078	40,078	10,793	1,097	4,565	16,455	56,533	16,938
Eden London	-	-	5,000	5,000	-	-	-	-	5,000	6,000
Message Bus	33,380	-	354	33,734	10,793	1,097	6,005	17,895	51,629	51,520
Message Hubs	69,371	1,056	260	70,687	21,586	2,194	12,010	35,790	106,477	101,689
Mission Central	82,550	1,190	6,463	90,203	53,967	5,483	30,023	89,473	179,676	7,795
Events	17,887	5,618	30,772	54,277	21,594	2,188	12,722	36,504	90,781	110,053
Message Academy	42,681	-	49,706	92,387	32,380	3,290	18,014	53,684	146,071	122,342
Studio Sessions	15,774	1,458	677	17,909	10,793	1,097	6,005	17,895	35,804	45,684
Message Bands	203,352	786	13,590	217,728	64,759	6,581	36,029	107,369	325,097	473,526
Advance	126,334	-	46,719	173,053	53,967	5,483	30,023	89,473	262,526	204,645
Respect Me	9,147	282	15,482	24,911	10,793	1,097	6,005	17,895	42,806	63,677
Enable	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33,304
Proximity	2,159	-	1,212	3,371	10,793	1,097	6,005	17,895	21,266	82,858
Message Live	116,626	733	77,362	194,721	75,554	7,677	42,032	125,263	319,984	72,457
Love Wythenshawe	-	-	10,682	10,682	-	-	-	-	10,682	18,115
Community Grocery	-	5,889	-	5,889	215,868	21,933	120,093	357,894	363,783	-
Festival Manchester	38,505	-	75,434	113,939	43,174	4,387	24,019	71,580	185,519	-
Message Community Church	-	-	2,589	2,589	-	-	-	-	2,589	-
Other Projects	-	-	620,764	620,764	-	-	-	-	620,764	352,436
Business Enterprises	-	-	364	364	-	-	-	-	364	-
MEC Business Enterprises	224,786	46,450	479,300	750,536	128,826	610	-	129,436	879,972	872,955
Governance	-	-	23,423	23,423	-	-	-	-	23,423	13,705
	982,552	63,462	1,500,231	2,546,245	765,640	65,311	353,550	1,184,501	3,730,746	2,649,699
Total Expenditure Unrestricted	1,028,702	63,462	1,801,293	2,893,457	765,640	65,311	353,550	1,184,501	4,077,958	2,871,120

THE MESSAGE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

4b Charitable Activities

Restricted Funds

	Staff	Deprecia	Project	Direct	Staff	Deprecia	Other	Total	Total	Total
	£	tion	Costs	Costs	£	tion	Support	Support	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£	Costs	Costs	£	£
Eden National	91,576	-	28,971	120,547	43,174	4,387	24,019	71,580	192,127	175,090
Eden Manchester	-	-	19,368	19,368	10,793	1,097	6,005	17,895	37,263	31,631
Eden Yorkshire	-	-	11,051	11,051	-	-	720	720	11,771	33,602
Eden North West	-	-	8,631	8,631	-	-	-	-	8,631	-
Eden North East	-	-	7,813	7,813	-	-	-	-	7,813	33,324
Eden West Midlands	-	-	7,890	7,890	-	-	-	-	7,890	13,236
Eden London	20,062	-	5,276	25,338	10,793	1,097	6,005	17,895	43,233	44,351
Eden Scotland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,000
Eden Wales	-	-	22,594	22,594	10,793	1,097	6,005	17,895	40,489	87
Message Bus	68,587	250	45,877	114,714	43,174	4,387	24,019	71,580	186,294	301,582
Message North West	18,947	-	3,041	21,988	10,793	1,097	6,005	17,895	39,883	120,770
Message North East	78,528	-	13,738	92,266	32,380	3,290	18,014	53,684	145,950	125,213
Message Yorkshire	119,211	273	17,940	137,424	43,174	4,386	24,020	71,580	209,004	263,855
Message Midlands	82,831	-	20,815	103,646	43,173	4,387	24,019	71,579	175,225	167,315
Message London	54,835	-	11,879	66,714	21,587	2,193	12,009	35,789	102,503	265,123
Message Scotland	70,726	-	12,407	83,133	32,380	3,290	18,014	53,684	136,817	142,554
Message Wales	114,127	-	52,297	166,424	53,967	5,483	30,023	89,473	255,897	272,710
Mission Central	55,761	-	240	56,001	-	-	-	-	56,001	169,105
Events	677	-	-	677	-	-	-	-	677	893
Higher	-	-	3,567	3,567	-	-	-	-	3,567	231,830
Message Academy	-	-	5,790	5,790	-	-	-	-	5,790	6,548
Studio Sessions	1,422	-	-	1,422	-	-	-	-	1,422	1,422
Message Bands	-	-	5,820	5,820	-	-	-	-	5,820	12,060
Advance	-	-	2,568	2,568	-	-	-	-	2,568	49,303
Respect Me	21,502	-	-	21,502	-	-	-	-	21,502	33,701
Enable	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,584
Prisons	187,966	-	17,286	205,252	64,760	6,580	36,028	107,368	312,620	351,165
Proximity	16,045	-	-	16,045	-	-	-	-	16,045	-
Message Live	25,806	-	-	25,806	-	-	-	-	25,806	93,598
Love Wythenshawe	-	-	9,783	9,783	10,793	1,097	6,005	17,895	27,678	18,248
Love Where You Live	7,040	-	11,675	18,715	-	-	-	-	18,715	-
Community Grocery	256,659	-	387,052	643,711	-	-	-	-	643,711	-
Festival Manchester	-	-	6,451	6,451	-	-	-	-	6,451	-
Message Community Church	-	-	2,721	2,721	-	-	-	-	2,721	-
Street Pastors	13,348	-	949	14,297	-	-	-	-	14,297	48,575
Business Enterprises	7,400	-	31,395	38,795	10,793	1,097	6,005	17,895	56,690	3,974
MEC Neal Street Café	23,338	-	-	23,338	-	-	-	-	23,338	80,607
MEC Apprentice Funding	128,928	-	932	129,860	-	-	-	-	129,860	109,081
MEC The Oaks	24,621	-	-	24,621	-	-	-	-	24,621	23,549
Other Restricted	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,082
Total Restricted Funds (*)	1,489,943	523	775,817	2,266,283	442,527	44,965	246,915	734,407	3,000,690	3,237,768
(*) includes Grants see note 5										
Total Expenditure Restricted	1,489,943	523	775,817	2,266,283	442,527	44,965	246,915	734,407	3,000,690	3,237,768
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	2,518,645	63,985	2,577,110	5,159,740	1,208,167	110,276	600,465	1,918,908	7,078,648	6,108,888

THE MESSAGE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

5. GRANTS - Payable in furtherance of the charity's objects

Grants given to Organisations:		Total		Total
Partnerships - Overseas	2021	2021	2020	2020
	£	£	£	£
Advance	39,256		62,759	
Message Canada	26,416		25,416	
Message Germany	20,983		23,864	
Message South Africa	235,000		6,893	
Total Partnership Grants	321,655		118,932	
Eden Teams - UK				
Eden Teams Manchester				
Eden Farnworth	12,525		15,025	
Eden Westwood	6,500		12,000	
Eden Falinge	-		4,660	
Eden Islington	5,000		-	
Eden Partington	1,260		-	
Eden Merseybank	450		-	
Eden Openshaw	840		-	
Eden Central Drive	5,000		-	
Eden Wytheshawe Park	25,473		-	
		57,048		31,685
Eden Merseyside				
Eden Netherton	10,825		-	
		10,825		-
Eden Teams Midlands				
Eden St Giles	750		-	
Eden Whitmore Reans	14,390		13,150	
Eden Walsall	5,370		3,000	
		20,510		16,150
Eden Teams North East				
Eden Easterside	2,160		-	
Eden Ragworth	330		-	
Eden Redcar	12,525		-	
Eden Mill Lane, Stockton	7,537		15,074	
Eden Hexham	2,225		4,000	
		24,777		19,074
Eden Teams Scotland				
Eden Hill Head	-		7,000	
		-		7,000
Eden Teams Wales				
Eden Tremorfa	750		3,500	
Eden Blaen-y-maes	23,794		-	
		24,544		3,500
Eden Teams London				
Eden Bow	-		3,000	
Eden East Finchley	-		5,000	
Eden Farley Hill	-		5,000	
Eden Dagenham	-		15,000	
Eden Gurnell Grove	5,000		6,000	
		5,000		34,000
Eden Teams Yorkshire				
Eden Buttershaw	5,000		8,000	
Eden Fir Vale	2,093		1,250	
Eden West Bowling	10,642		15,203	
		17,735		24,453
Total Eden Team Grants	160,439		135,862	
Luis Palau Association (Festival Manchester)	60,000		-	
Hope City Church (Community Grocery)	15,500		-	
Total Grants given to Organisations	557,594		254,793	
Grants to Individuals:				
Bursaries				
Message Academy Student Bursaries	5,290		800	
Genetik Session Student Bursaries	-		500	
	5,290		1,300	
Total Grants:	562,884		256,093	

The Message Trust works in partnership with, and makes grants to, autonomous Eden Partners, who look to The Message Trust for support and guidance on best practice in work with young people.

These grants are included within Project Costs across several activities in Note 4 above, including Eden Teams – Restricted and Unrestricted Funds, Other Projects and Message Hubs.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

6. NET INCOME

This is stated after charging / (crediting):

	2021 £	2020 £
Auditors' remuneration	14,903	13,100
Amortisation of goodwill	-	2,862
Depreciation of owned assets	174,263	148,394
Loss on disposal of assets	1,384	1,438
Profit on disposal of assets	(789)	(125)
Rentals under operating leases		
Building lease	33,000	33,000
Academy & other accommodation Leases	75,119	27,266
Hire of motor vehicles & equipment	94,146	91,553

7. INFORMATION REGARDING TRUSTEES AND EMPLOYEES

	2021 £	2020 £
Employee costs during the year:		
Wages and salaries	3,221,406	3,152,128
Social security costs	294,838	282,603
Pension costs	210,568	177,992
	<u>3,726,812</u>	<u>3,612,723</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including the Executive Directors) employed by the group during the year was as follows:

	No.	No.
Average number of staff employed:		
Charitable Activities	86	85
Cost of Generating Funds	15	5
Governance / Management	4	4
Others - Support	32	37
	<u>137</u>	<u>131</u>
Employee costs during the year:		
Employee earning £60,000 - £70,000	3	1
Employee earning £70,001 - £80,000	-	-

Amounts paid or Reimbursed to Trustees in their capacity as Trustees - £Nil (2020: £Nil)

The key management personnel are defined as the Trustees, CEO and other Executive Directors in office during the year. Their total remuneration for the year was £332,053 (2020 £276,264).

THE MESSAGE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

8. TAX ON SURPLUS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES

	2021	2020
	£	£
Corporation tax based on the results of the Trading Company for the year at Nil% (2020: Nil%)	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

The Message Trust is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation on its charitable activities.

9. FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF THE CHARITY

As permitted by Section 408 of the Companies Act 2006, the income and expenditure account of the parent company is not presented as part of these financial statements. The parent company's gross income for the year was £6,857,597 (2020: £5,277,535) and the net income for the year amounted to £424,916 (2020: (£496,303) net expenditure)

10. INVESTMENTS IN SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES

a. COMMERCIAL TRADING OPERATIONS AND INVESTMENT IN TRADING SUBSIDIARY

The wholly owned trading subsidiary, The Message Trading Company Limited, company number 03863509, which is incorporated in the United Kingdom, aims to pay all its profits to the charity by gift aid. The charity owns the entire issued share capital of 5,000 ordinary shares of £1 each. The Trading Company did not trade, due to COVID, in the year 2021 (& in the year 2020).

The net assets of the trading subsidiary are £5,000 (2020: £5,000).

b. THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

The Message Enterprise Centre is a charitable company and a wholly owned subsidiary of The Message Trust. The Message Enterprise Centre accounts are consolidated in the group accounts of The Message Trust. The, separately filed, accounts of The Message Enterprise Centre, are available to view on The Charity Commission web-site – Registered Charity Number 1147287 and Company Number 07892774.

The gross income for the year of The Message Enterprise Centre is £1,340,858 (2020: £1,475,642) and the net movement in funds for the year is £937,153 (2020: £423,689). The total funds held by the subsidiary charity at 31 August 2021 is £3,125,195 (2020: £2,188,042)

The Message Enterprise Centre holds investments at 31 August 2021 totalling £2,680,000 (at 31 August 2020: £1,846,887), namely The Oaks and currently 11 Other Residential Properties (2020: 10 Other Properties). The Oaks investment property opened in 2016 providing a residential support programme for up to 8 residents. In total the Oaks and Residential Properties housed 29 people (2020: 21 people), including 14 Message Academy students; 1 Academy graduate; 10 Message staff and 4 MEC Team members. (2020: 10 Message Academy students, 4 Academy graduates; 2 Message staff and 5 MEC Team members) and are maintained by the MEC Building Services Team.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

The Message - Group		Buildings	Operational Equipment	Fixtures & Fittings	Motor Vehicles	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
Cost	at 1 September 2020	217,924	278,080	241,653	566,277	1,303,934
	Additions	49,182	106,016	84,849	140,787	380,834
	Disposals	-	(13,981)	(9,585)	(31,827)	(55,393)
	at 31 August 2021	<u>267,106</u>	<u>370,115</u>	<u>316,917</u>	<u>675,237</u>	<u>1,629,375</u>
Depreciation	at 1 September 2020	15,995	195,743	193,092	337,039	741,869
	Additions	33,202	36,321	21,596	83,142	174,261
	Disposals	-	(13,053)	(9,585)	(30,443)	(53,081)
	at 31 August 2021	<u>49,197</u>	<u>219,011</u>	<u>205,103</u>	<u>389,738</u>	<u>863,049</u>
Net Book Value	at 31 August 2021	<u>217,909</u>	<u>151,104</u>	<u>111,814</u>	<u>285,499</u>	<u>766,326</u>
	at 31 August 2020	<u>201,929</u>	<u>82,337</u>	<u>48,561</u>	<u>229,238</u>	<u>562,065</u>
The Message Trust - Company		Buildings	Operational Equipment	Fixtures & Fittings	Motor Vehicles	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
Cost	at 1 September 2020	77,296	196,786	213,718	558,568	1,046,368
	Additions	49,182	98,687	84,849	140,787	373,505
	Disposals	-	(13,981)	(9,585)	(31,827)	(55,393)
	at 31 August 2021	<u>126,478</u>	<u>281,492</u>	<u>288,982</u>	<u>667,528</u>	<u>1,364,480</u>
Depreciation	at 1 September 2020	1,932	157,042	166,258	331,925	657,157
	Additions	5,077	19,365	21,212	81,548	127,203
	Disposals	-	(12,862)	(9,585)	(30,443)	(52,890)
	at 31 August 2021	<u>7,009</u>	<u>163,545</u>	<u>177,885</u>	<u>383,030</u>	<u>731,470</u>
Net Book Value	at 31 August 2021	<u>119,469</u>	<u>117,947</u>	<u>111,097</u>	<u>284,498</u>	<u>633,010</u>
	at 31 August 2020	<u>75,364</u>	<u>39,744</u>	<u>47,460</u>	<u>226,643</u>	<u>389,211</u>

THE MESSAGE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

12. INVESTMENTS

	The Message Group 2021 £	The Message Group 2020 £	The Message Trust 2021 £	The Message Trust 2020 £
Investment Properties				
The Oaks	650,000	420,887	-	-
Other Residential Properties	2,030,000	1,426,000	-	-
Message Enterprise Centre	980,000	808,331	980,000	808,331
	<u>3,660,000</u>	<u>2,655,218</u>	<u>980,000</u>	<u>808,331</u>
 Investment in Trading Company	 <u>-</u>	 <u>-</u>	 <u>5,000</u>	 <u>5,000</u>
 Total	 <u>3,660,000</u>	 <u>2,655,218</u>	 <u>985,000</u>	 <u>813,331</u>

Investment Property Analysis:

	The Message Group £	The Message Trust £
Valuation		
At 1 September 2020	2,655,218	808,331
Revaluation in the year	871,059	171,669
Additions in the year	133,723	-
At 31 August 2021	<u>3,660,000</u>	<u>980,000</u>

As at 31 August 2021 The Message Group owns thirteen Investment Properties (2020: twelve properties). Twelve of these Investment Properties were revalued by Longden & Cook, members of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors as at 31 August 2021, following an inspection on 13th October 2021, including the twelfth property which was purchased in April 2021. The Message Enterprise Centre was revalued by Roger Hannah Limited, members of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors as at 17th September 2021, following an inspection on 5th November 2021.

The Trustees consider all these properties are carried in the Balance Sheet at their fair value as at 31 August 2021, given these valuations were carried out within 3 months of the year end and the lack of sales of similar properties within the immediate area, to suggest a different valuation. The Trustees have a policy of using professional independent valuers to revalue investment properties on a rolling basis every 5 years.

On an annual basis, the Trustees review these valuations for any significant changes in the local property market and any impairment in the properties and will make adjustments as necessary.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

13. STOCKS

	The Message Group 2021 £	The Message Group 2020 £	The Message Trust 2021 £	The Message Trust 2020 £
Stocks of goods for resale	<u>87,044</u>	<u>58,929</u>	<u>72,403</u>	<u>47,607</u>

14. DEBTORS

	The Message Group 2021 £	The Message Group 2020 £	The Message Trust 2021 £	The Message Trust 2020 £
Trade debtors	81,810	78,880	42,490	69,759
Prepayments	124,185	106,186	101,837	92,709
Accrued income	54,434	52,271	41,483	52,271
Other debtors	54,454	70,108	41,564	32,424
	<u>314,883</u>	<u>307,445</u>	<u>227,374</u>	<u>247,163</u>

15. CASH AT BANK & IN HAND

	The Message Group 2021 £	The Message Group 2020 £	The Message Trust 2021 £	The Message Trust 2020 £
Cash at Bank and in Hand				
Reserve Accounts	3,720,114	3,923,114	3,615,210	3,774,653
Current Accounts	618,975	121,374	447,005	71,176
Cash	1,077	795	507	303
	<u>4,340,166</u>	<u>4,045,283</u>	<u>4,062,722</u>	<u>3,846,132</u>

THE MESSAGE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

16. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	The Message Group 2021 £	The Message Group 2020 £	The Message Trust 2021 £	The Message Trust 2020 £
Trade Creditors	279,877	165,074	247,612	142,245
Amounts due to Group undertakings	-	-	76,966	30,956
Accruals and Deferred income	167,633	139,125	120,741	81,763
Taxation and Social Security	91,833	86,887	79,224	75,361
Other Creditors	67,781	38,629	49,867	31,860
	<u>607,124</u>	<u>429,715</u>	<u>574,410</u>	<u>362,185</u>

Included in accruals and deferred income – Message Group £167,633 (2020 £139,125) and Message Trust £120,741 (2020 £81,763) - is respectively deferred income of:

Deferred Income

	2021 £	2020 £	2021 £	2020 £
Deferred income brought forward	58,805	26,224	49,615	21,171
Income released in the year	(165,820)	(391,998)	(114,665)	(376,943)
Added in the year	189,262	424,579	141,745	405,387
Deferred income carried forward	<u>82,247</u>	<u>58,805</u>	<u>76,695</u>	<u>49,615</u>

Deferred income consists of grants and fees received in advance of projects and courses taking place after the year end. The resources are held as a liability until the charity becomes entitled to the income when the project or course takes place, at which point the income is released and recognised as an incoming resource.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

17. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Message Enterprise Centre sold goods and services to the value of £98,183 (2020: £72,261) at cost to The Message Trust (Parent Charity) during the year and bought goods and services to the value of £22,768 (2020: £25,191) from The Message Trust. Appropriate expenses totalling £80,781 in 2021 (wages, premises costs, etc) were recharged from The Message Trust (Parent Charity) to The Message Enterprise Centre at cost (2020: £83,801). The Message Trust received £30,000 (2020: £30,000) in rent from The Message Enterprise Centre for the building in which they operate and paid £42,300 (2020: £23,400) in rent to The Message Enterprise Centre for the academy students' accommodation in property which is owned or leased by The Message Enterprise Centre for rental purposes. The Message Trust donated £517,428 (2020: £654,070) to the Message Enterprise Centre for general funds and future Message Enterprise projects. As at 31 August 2021, The Message Trust owed The Message Enterprise £71,967 (2020: £25,956).

During the year gifts totalling £14,383 (2020: £16,883) were given to the Life Association, providing schooling for 50 poor children in India. These are related party transactions as Simon Hawthorne, Director of the Life Association is a close relative of Andy Hawthorne, Chief Executive of The Message Trust.

Gifts totalling £13,000 were given to Ignite (Big Ideas) (2020: £45,500). These are related party transactions as Ian Rowbottom Executive Director of Operations is also a Trustee of the charity Ignite (Big Ideas).

During the year Michele Hawthorne, Andy Hawthorne's wife, was paid £11,908 (2020: £10,978) for networking, fundraising, providing hospitality and work on UK & international assignments with Andy.

The Message Trust gave £6,000 to Press Red who are making a stand against the violence suffered by girls and women worldwide (2020 £7,500). Press Red is a related party as both Michelle Hawthorne and Colin Hardacre are trustees of Press Red.

In 2019-20 the Message Trust invoiced Christ Church Pennington for a number of Message Bus sessions between October and December 2019 totalling £2,400. Due to COVID these bus sessions did not restart again until October 2021.

In addition to these transactions above, the Trustees, their related party companies and their charities (Boodle & Dunthorne Limited (trading as Boodles), Axon Moore Group Ltd, Open Hands Open Heavens, Christ Church Pennington and Issachar Foundation), collectively gave The Message Trust, including gift aid, **£75,385**, of which £38,250 was given for the new Community Grocery stores (2020: £60,896 of which £10,000 was given for the Norway Cycle Challenge, which was postponed due to Covid-19).

A further £1,500 including gift aid (2020: £10,875) was collectively given by the Trustees to The Message Enterprise.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

18. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS

	Balance at 31/08/2020	Movement in Resources		Transfers Between Funds	Gains on Revaluation Fixed Assets	Balance at 31/08/2021
	£	Incoming £	Outgoing £	£	£	£
18a. Restricted Funds						
Eden National	21,827	140,590	(192,127)	51,827	-	22,117
Eden Manchester	16,705	54,474	(37,263)	4,884	-	38,800
Eden Merseyside	8,127	(6,299)	-	(828)	-	1,000
Eden Yorkshire	107,589	3,145	(11,771)	-	-	98,963
Eden North West	3,575	5,969	(8,631)	15,036	-	15,949
Eden North East	(14,021)	9,977	(7,813)	-	-	(11,857)
Eden West Midlands	(10,620)	2,893	(7,890)	11,111	-	(4,506)
Eden London	13,368	14,206	(43,233)	15,659	-	-
Eden Scotland	-	400	-	-	-	400
Eden Wales	(27)	56,154	(40,489)	11,202	-	26,840
Message Bus	2,497	156,079	(186,294)	27,718	-	-
Message North West	12,672	5,393	(39,883)	34,490	-	12,672
Message North East	-	15,344	(145,950)	130,606	-	-
Message Yorkshire	22,980	177,182	(209,004)	18,225	-	9,383
Message Midlands	-	23,134	(175,225)	152,091	-	-
Message London	-	46,914	(102,503)	55,589	-	-
Message Scotland	-	27,474	(136,817)	109,343	-	-
Message Wales	252	69,512	(255,897)	186,133	-	-
Mission Central	-	56,001	(56,001)	-	-	-
Events	-	677	(677)	-	-	-
Higher	(1,564)	42,905	(3,567)	5,465	-	43,239
Message Academy	-	3,073	(5,790)	2,717	-	-
Studio Sessions	-	1,422	(1,422)	-	-	-
Message Bands	-	5,820	(5,820)	-	-	-
Advance	-	2,568	(2,568)	-	-	-
Respect Me	-	21,502	(21,502)	-	-	-
Enable	7,159	2,973	-	-	-	10,132
Prisons	4,732	158,375	(312,620)	149,513	-	-
Proximity	45,292	544	(16,045)	-	-	29,791
Message Live	16,622	9,184	(25,806)	-	-	-
Love Wythenshawe	(1,108)	36,567	(27,678)	5	-	7,786
Love Where You Live	-	18,715	(18,715)	-	-	-
Community Grocery	-	952,471	(643,711)	(73,096)	-	235,664
Festival Manchester	-	6,451	(6,451)	-	-	-
Message Community Church	-	2,721	(2,721)	-	-	-
Street Pastors	-	5,617	(14,297)	8,680	-	-
Business Enterprises	2,123	150	(49,290)	47,017	-	-
MEC Enterprises	2,000	7,873	(7,400)	-	-	2,473
MEC Neal Street Espresso	-	28,000	(23,338)	-	-	4,662
MEC Apprentice Funding	129,011	68,582	(129,860)	-	-	67,733
MEC The Oaks	2,465	27,397	(24,621)	-	-	5,241
MEC Wythenshawe Properties	-	14,146	-	(14,146)	-	-
	391,656	2,276,274	(3,000,690)	949,242	-	616,482

THE MESSAGE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

18. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS (continued)

	Balance at 31/08/2020 £	Movement in Resources		Transfers Between Funds £	Gains on Revaluation Fixed Assets £	Balance at 31/08/2021 £
		Incoming £	Outgoing £			
18b. Unrestricted Funds						
General Fund	803,551	3,268,068	(1,808,570)	(680,923)	-	1,582,126
Designated Funds:						
- Eden Teams	22,852	52,671	(61,533)	29,896	-	43,886
- Message Bus	-	11,414	(51,629)	40,215	-	-
- Respect Me	10,718	47,806	(42,806)	(14,527)	-	1,191
- Other Associates	34,899	-	-	(5,179)	-	29,720
- Festival Manchester	500,000	38,792	(185,519)	-	-	353,273
- Community Grocery	500,000	660,909	(363,783)	(500,872)	-	296,254
- New Higher Tour	-	18,865	-	-	-	18,865
- New Mission Teams	57,048	-	(57,048)	-	-	-
- New Eden Teams	550,000	-	(37,998)	(292,002)	-	220,000
- New Proximity Network	1,451	-	(1,451)	-	-	-
- New Prisons Teams	76,451	-	(65,621)	-	-	10,830
- New Message Buses	149,492	-	(130,071)	-	-	19,421
- New Regional Hubs	40,067	-	(5,924)	-	-	34,143
- New Premises	100,000	-	(43,000)	-	-	57,000
- New Advance Groups	97,095	-	(97,095)	-	-	-
- New International Projects	70,000	-	-	-	-	70,000
- New Investment Properties	441,829	-	(208,035)	216,206	-	450,000
- Neal Street Espresso	100,008	-	-	(100,008)	-	-
- Future Mission Projects - Trust	1,667,004	-	-	243,798	-	1,910,802
- Revaluation Reserve - Trust	(469,462)	-	-	-	171,670	(297,792)
- Message Enterprise Centre	2,054,566	1,194,860	(917,875)	14,146	699,389	3,045,086
- Other Projects	-	-	-	100,008	-	100,008
	6,807,569	5,293,385	(4,077,958)	(949,242)	871,059	7,944,813
	7,199,225	7,569,659	(7,078,648)	-	871,059	8,561,295

The Transfer of Funds from Unrestricted to Restricted, relates to support for Restricted Projects. Eden North East and Eden West Midlands are currently in deficit. The Trustees are aware that there is regular giving coming into these funds, which has continued post year end, and have therefore set fundraising targets to reduce these deficits over the next three to five years.

The various Eden projects comprise teams of youth workers who regularly work within Secondary schools (e.g. taking RE lessons, assemblies, lunch clubs) preparing the groundwork for visits by the Message Bands, and other Christian bands, as well as being attached to a local church where they continue with after school activities. Since 1 September 2010, all these projects have operated through a partnership arrangement, with The Message Trust providing support and training, initially over a three-year period.

A number of gifts are received in the year restricted for the Eden work but not for a single specified project. These are accumulated in the Eden National Fund and then reallocated to specific Eden Projects at the end of the year as the Trustees see fit.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

18. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS (continued)

In 2021 £384,912 (2020: £176,554) was received by way of donations and personal support for employees who work in non-restricted areas of ministry, e.g. Bands, Advance, etc. The gifts received have been fully utilised by way of a contribution to the salaries and associated costs of the individual employees specifically supported. They are shown within the restricted income and expensed within the restricted Outgoing, in order to cover their salary costs paid from General Funds.

During the year £243,798 (2020: £147,610) was designated to Future Mission Projects for The Message Trust. This is a designated fund to cover the costs of Future Mission Projects, arising over the next five years.

The Trustees have designated in total the equivalent of The Message Trust's Net Book Value of Fixed assets and Investment Properties for future mission projects, which totals £1,613,010 at 31 August 2021 (2020: £1,197,542).

Other transfers have arisen in order to increase the number of Investment Properties in the coming year through the purchase and capitalisation of new assets totalling £216,206 (2020: £250,000). Some funds designated last year for new projects like the Community Grocery stores, Eden Teams and Neal Street Espresso have this year been re-allocated to cover project costs within the Message Hubs. The net transfers total (£676,676) (2020: (£261,724)).

In addition, at the end of 2021 the Trustees have designated a net total of £50,405 (2020: undesignated (£17,915)) between General Funds and Other Designated Funds – Eden Teams, Message Bus, Respect Me and Other Associates for future projects over the next three years, as priorities change.

The Message Bus fund relates to the activities around our fleet of Message buses. Over the last six years several buses have been purchased and refurbished, as they are repurposed for our work with youth people. The refurbishment costs of the buses have been capitalised and charges are made for depreciation over the useful life of the buses.

The Message Buses, which are fitted with the latest in sound and visual technology, combine two roles. Firstly, providing Christian teaching and secondly, as a fun area for young people to engage in various activities and play on the game consoles on the buses. They would normally work alongside the Eden teams across England, Scotland and Wales.

Restricted Funds held by Message Yorkshire £9,383 (2020: £22,980) are for projects in the next financial year, e.g. Woodseats Project. Eden Yorkshire funds £98,963 (2020: £107,589) will go towards funding a 3-year Eden partnership, whilst other Eden Funds are held for existing projects. Higher Funds £43,239 are for future higher projects as they have been put on hold because of the pandemic. Proximity funds £29,791 (2020: £45,292) are for supporting the Proximity Network. MEC Apprentice funding £67,733 (2020: £129,011) is held to support existing apprentices over a 2-year period and to provide some initial funding for new apprentices in the future.

THE MESSAGE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

19. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Tangible Fixed Assets £	Intangible Assets / Investments £	Net Current Assets £	Creditors Due after One Year £	2021 TOTAL £	2020 TOTAL £
Restricted Funds						
Eden National	-	-	22,117	-	22,117	21,827
Eden Manchester	-	-	38,800	-	38,800	16,705
Eden Merseyside	-	-	1,000	-	1,000	8,127
Eden Yorkshire	-	-	98,963	-	98,963	107,589
Eden North West	-	-	15,949	-	15,949	3,575
Eden North East	-	-	(11,857)	-	(11,857)	(14,021)
Eden West Midlands	-	-	(4,506)	-	(4,506)	(10,620)
Eden London	-	-	-	-	-	13,368
Eden Scotland	-	-	400	-	400	-
Eden Wales	-	-	26,840	-	26,840	(27)
Message Bus	-	-	-	-	-	2,497
Message North West	-	-	12,672	-	12,672	12,672
Message Yorkshire	-	-	9,383	-	9,383	22,980
Message Wales	-	-	-	-	-	252
Higher Tour	-	-	43,239	-	43,239	(1,564)
Enable	-	-	10,132	-	10,132	7,159
Prisons	-	-	-	-	-	4,732
Proximity	-	-	29,791	-	29,791	45,292
Message Live	-	-	-	-	-	16,622
Love Wythenshawe	-	-	7,786	-	7,786	(1,108)
Community Grocery	-	-	235,664	-	235,664	-
Business Enterprises	-	-	-	-	-	2,123
MEC Enterprises	-	-	2,473	-	2,473	2,000
Neal Street Espresso	-	-	4,662	-	4,662	-
MEC Apprentice Funding	-	-	67,733	-	67,733	129,011
MEC The Oaks	-	-	5,241	-	5,241	2,465
	-	-	616,482	-	616,482	391,656
Unrestricted Funds	766,325	3,660,000	3,518,488	-	7,944,813	6,807,569
	<u>766,325</u>	<u>3,660,000</u>	<u>4,134,970</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,561,295</u>	<u>7,199,225</u>

20. PENSIONS

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme on behalf of its employees. All contributions due have been fully paid.

21. CONTINGENCIES

The Trustees have confirmed that there were no contingent liabilities which should be disclosed at 31 August 2021 (2020: £Nil).

THE MESSAGE TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2021

22. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At 31 August 2021 the total of future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

The Message - Group	2021 Land and Buildings £	2021 Other £	2020 Land and Buildings £	2020 Other £
Leases which expire:				
Not later than one year	42,672	106,177	23,856	18,378
Later than one year and not later than five years	-	14,861	33,000	49,186

The Message Trust - Company	2021 Land and Buildings £	2021 Other £	2020 Land and Buildings £	2020 Other £
Leases which expire:				
Not later than one year	42,672	106,177	23,856	18,378
Later than one year and not later than five years	-	14,861	33,000	40,738

23. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

At 31 August 2021 there was an outstanding capital commitment of £145,000 for the purchase of an investment property. This was purchased in the first quarter of 2021-2022.

	2021 £	2020 £
Investment Properties	145,000	-
	145,000	-

24. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT

	At 01/09/2020 £	Cashflows £	At 31/08/2021 £
Cash	4,045,283	294,883	4,340,166
Loans due < 1 year	-	-	-
	4,045,283	294,883	4,340,166