

LUTON COUNCIL OF FAITHS

# Annual Report 2024-2025



The Queen's Award  
for Voluntary Service

Charity no: 1089850

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## Chair Message

I am proud to present this year's Annual Report—a reflection on a year marked by deep global turbulence, national uncertainty, and local resilience. Our community has once again demonstrated its remarkable capacity to stand together in times of crisis, and to choose peace when division threatened to take hold.

This year, we have been witness to horrific scenes in the Middle East, as the conflict between Israel and Palestine intensified. The suffering endured by civilians, the devastating loss of life, and the ripple effects on diaspora communities around the world have deeply impacted many in Luton. As a town with close ties to both the region and its people, these events have not felt distant—they have been personal, painful, and profoundly emotional.

Equally troubling were the events in Southport earlier this year, where, in the wake of unspeakable tragedy, unrest spread across towns and cities in the UK. We saw how the sorrow of a grieving community was hijacked by those with agendas of hatred—far-right extremists who stirred racial tensions, targeted minority groups, and unleashed violence under the guise of protest. The images from Southport shook the nation. They were a sobering reminder of how quickly fear can be manipulated, how fast misinformation can spread, and how fragile peace can be when it is taken for granted.

But in Luton, something different happened!

Despite facing the same national tensions, the same social media misinformation, and the same risks of community unrest, our town responded with extraordinary unity, compassion, and calm. Faith leaders from every tradition, community activists, civic authorities, Bedfordshire Police, and ordinary residents stepped forward—not with anger, but with solidarity. We gathered in prayer vigils, stood shoulder to shoulder at places of worship, opened our doors, shared our grief, and reaffirmed a message that could not be clearer: Luton will not be divided. Luton is a town of peace.

This response didn't come from nowhere. It is the result of years of deliberate investment in trust, dialogue and cooperation. It is the fruit of the tireless work of groups like GRASSROOTS, the Luton Council of Faiths, Near Neighbours, local councillors, and our many schools and community organisations. Their continuous efforts to strengthen cohesion, facilitate honest conversations, and prepare for moments of tension meant that when pressure came, we were not caught off guard—we were ready to meet it, together.

Throughout this year, events such as the Annual Peace Walk, our faith leaders school engagements, faiths and cultural festivals and international partnerships have deepened our sense of shared identity. Our diversity is not a source of weakness—it is one of our greatest strengths.

Let me be clear: we are not immune to the world's conflicts. But we have shown that, with resolve, cooperation and courage, we can respond to them in a way that heals rather than harms. We can hold space for grief on all sides, we can denounce hate unequivocally, and we can still choose the path of peace and justice—without fear or favour.

To all those who have played their part this year—whether in schools, places of worship, local services, youth projects, food banks or forums—thank you. You are the reason Luton did not fall into division when so many others did.

Let this report be a record not just of what we did, but of who we are: a resilient, compassionate and united town, working together for a better tomorrow

Prof Zafar Khan  
Chair, Luton Council of Faiths

# Numbers talk

## Impact shots

### A year with unique challenges

With 2 part-time staff and increasing financial strains, along with the demand of each year's unique and unpredictable challenges, it makes it incredibly hard to keep with demand. The data below gives insight into the volume of work and response through our ongoing activities, extensive networking, and engagement.



# 100+

Faith and cultural  
Community activities  
directly and indirectly  
supported activities

# 50+

Over 50 Community and  
confidential meetings  
and mediation

# 200

volunteers engaging on  
various projects with 75  
ongoing active volunteers

# 150+

promotional events of  
various faith communities  
and partners

# 4000+

School Children engaged  
on our programme

# 52

Weekly published News  
articles in Luton News and  
200+ social media posts



## Our Year Activities and community engagements

| Category                      | Activity / Event  | Frequency / Count  | Purpose / Outcome  |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------------|--|
| <b>Stakeholder Engagement</b> | Faith & community leaders' meetings with public sector stakeholders                                       | 32 meetings        | Addressed local concerns, misinformation, and responses to national                                  |
| <b>Conflict Mitigation</b>    | Meetings regarding Israel-Palestine conflict impact   | Ongoing            | Mitigated interfaith tensions, promoted dialogue.  |
| <b>Crisis Response</b>        | Incident response to mosque banner defacement, Southport riots  | 2 key events       | Brought together police, faith leaders, and council to calm tensions and show                        |
| <b>Interfaith Events</b>      | Ramadan Iftars (Unity Iftar, Iftar Under the Stars, Women's Iftar, Big Iftar)                             | 4 major events     | Promoted interfaith understanding, hospitality, and cultural sharing                                 |
|                               | Religious celebrations: eg. Eid Festivals, Easter Christmas, Navrati, Diwali, Chanukkah, Nawruz, Gurpurb) | 10+ festivals      | Strengthened community celebration and inclusion. Fostered interfaith respect and public celebration |
|                               | Sinhalese New Year & Lord Buddha Day celebrations   | 2 inaugural events | First-time celebrations showcasing inclusion of newer ethnic communities                             |
|                               | Visits to places of worship by Christian leaders  | 2 visits           | Strengthened interfaith and intercultural dialogue   |
|                               | Annual Peace Walk (28th year)   | One Annual event   | 150+ attendees; promoted peace, hospitality, and unity across faiths                                 |
|                               | Inter Faith Week Commemoration  | 1 event            | Explored winter religious festivals and traditions   |

## Our Year Activities and community engagements

|   |  |                |  |
|---|--|----------------|--|
| <b>Major Civic/Community Events</b>     | HM Lord Lieutenant Thanksgiving Service, Royal Foundation Carol Service, Justice Service | 3 services     | Strengthened civic and faith partnerships                                    |
|   | Black History Month & Windrush Events  | 2 major events | Celebrated heritage and contributions of African-Caribbean communities       |
|   | Anniversary Events (Churches, Community Gardens)   | 4 events       | Celebrated local institutional milestones                                    |
|   | Community Cultural Festivals: Turk Fest, Desi Fest, Diverse Fest, East Fest              | 4+ festivals   | Promoted multiculturalism and social cohesion                                |
|   | Peace Light Service, Remembrance Service, World Religion Day                             | 3 observances  | Promoted shared values, remembrance, and religious literacy                  |
| <b>Educational Engagement</b>           | School workshops – "How to Make Our Town More Respectful", Character and Virtues         | 30 sessions    | Engaged youth in dialogue about respect, tolerance, and community spirit     |
| <b>Food Aid &amp; Charitable Giving</b> | Foodbank donation drives via faith and community events                                  | Ongoing        | Support Luton Foodbank   |
| <b>Special Commemorations</b>           | Luton COVID Memorial – 5th Anniversary   | 1 event        | Honoured local loss, resilience and recovery                                 |
| <b>Inclusive Language &amp; Culture</b> | International Mother Language Day, Edible High Town 5th Anniversary                      | 2 events       | Promoted linguistic diversity, environmental action, and neighbourhood pride |
| <b>Fairtrade Awareness</b>              | Cake Baking Competition  | 1 event        | Raised awareness of ethical consumption and Fairtrade                        |

## Impact Report

# Faith Leaders School Assemblies Pannel



### — Case Study 1

#### Overview:

In alignment with the Luton 2040 vision to become a child-friendly town, our faith and community engagement team developed and delivered a series of interactive workshops titled “How to make our town more respectful?” These workshops brought together representatives from different faiths to engage with young people in local schools, encouraging understanding, empathy, and civic responsibility.

#### Activities Undertaken:

- Delivered interactive panel workshops in multiple schools, featuring faith and community leaders from diverse backgrounds.
- Focused discussions on shared values such as respect, empathy, fairness, and love, highlighting how these are embedded in various faith traditions and cultures.
- Promoted open dialogue through a “Q Time” format, allowing pupils to ask honest questions about faith, values, and living together in a diverse society.
- Used storytelling and lived experiences to inspire young people to be agents of positive change in their communities.

#### Impact:

These sessions were a powerful example of values-based education, giving over 4000 children the opportunity to explore diversity in a safe, respectful environment. The presence of multiple faith voices showed unity in action and inspired many young people to reflect on their own role in promoting harmony in their schools and neighbourhoods. Pupils gained confidence, knowledge, and curiosity—key ingredients for developing a generation that embraces inclusion. Teachers and school staff also praised the workshops for their real-world relevance and emotional resonance.

#### Young People’s Voices:

*“I liked seeing all the different people from different religions. It was very interesting.”*

*“It was great that even though they didn’t all agree and had different opinions, they still showed each other respect.”*

*“I found out about some new religions that I had never heard of before.”*

*“You encouraged us all to become better human beings, and make our town and our world a better place for all.”*

#### Staff Feedback:

*“It was a super example of harmony and peace in Luton.”*

*“It was great, the pupils and staff got a lot from it. It is so good that these opportunities are available to our pupils.”*

## Impact Report

# School Interfaith Workshop

## — Case Study 2



### Overview:

For the third consecutive year, Foxdell Primary School successfully hosted its annual Interfaith Workshop, bringing together pupils, parents, teachers, and faith leaders under one roof to creatively explore and celebrate the beliefs and practices of Luton's diverse faith communities.

Held across both the Infant and Junior sites, the workshop reflected the school's ongoing commitment to inclusive learning, interfaith dialogue, and cultural literacy. The event was once again warmly embraced by the school community and wider faith partners, reinforcing Foxdell's leadership in fostering respect and understanding across generations.

### Activities Undertaken:

- Islamic calligraphy workshops led by community artists
- Easter egg painting and Christian symbolism explained by clergy
- Presentation of Jewish artefacts and traditions by faith leader Mr Brian Green
- Sharing Sikh beliefs and values with pupils and families
- Creation of colourful Rangoli floor designs and discussion of Hindu festivals

The theme "Get Creative with Religion" enabled families to interact with faith in accessible and imaginative ways, fostering both curiosity and deeper understanding. All workshops were designed to be child-friendly, culturally sensitive, and interactive, ensuring inclusivity across age groups and religious backgrounds.

### Impact:

Participation: Over 200 children and 100+ parents engaged across both school sites

Intergenerational Learning: Parents and children learned together, deepening mutual respect and cultural understanding

Faith Literacy: Pupils gained first-hand insight into five world religions through hands-on activities and storytelling while engaging with local faith leaders

Community Building: Strengthened relationships between the school and local faith communities

Model for Others: Inspired other schools in Luton to adopt similar interfaith engagement models

### Voices from the Workshop:

"I am learning alongside my child." – Parent

"With the current issues around the world, isn't it lovely that we can sit together and learn about each other's faith?" – Parent

**Key:** We are extremely proud that Foxdell was given a good rating in their last OFSTED inspection with this activity highlighted.



## Impact Report

# Community & School Arts

### — Case Study 3



#### Overview:

In alignment with the Luton 2040 vision to become a child-friendly town, our faith and community engagement team developed and delivered a series of interactive workshops titled “How to make our town more respectful?” These workshops brought together representatives from different faiths to engage with young people in local schools, encouraging understanding, empathy, and civic responsibility.

#### Activities Undertaken:

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- Focused discussions on shared values such as respect, empathy, fairness, and love, highlighting how these are embedded in various faith traditions and cultures.
- Promoted open dialogue through a “Q Time” format, allowing pupils to ask honest questions about faith, values, and living together in a diverse society.
- Used storytelling and lived experiences to inspire young people to be agents of positive change in their communities.

#### Impact:

These sessions were a powerful example of values-based education, giving over 4000 children the opportunity to explore diversity in a safe, respectful environment. The presence of multiple faith voices showed unity in action and inspired many young people to reflect on their own role in promoting harmony in their schools and neighbourhoods. Pupils gained confidence, knowledge, and curiosity—key ingredients for developing a generation that embraces inclusion. Teachers and school staff also praised the workshops for their real-world relevance and emotional resonance.

#### Young People’s Voices:

*“I liked seeing all the different people from different religions. It was very interesting.”*

*“It was great that even though they didn't all agree and had different opinions, they still showed each other respect.”*

*“I found out about some new religions that I had never heard of before.”*

*“You encouraged us all to become better human beings, and make our town and our world a better place for all.”*

#### Staff Feedback:

*“It was a super example of harmony and peace in Luton.”*

*“It was great, the pupils and staff got a lot from it. It is so good that these opportunities are available to our pupils.”*

# Peace Walk

## — Case study 4



### Overview:

Now in its 28th year, Luton's Annual Peace Walk continues to be the town's most popular and unifying multi-faith event. Held on 21st September 2024, the walk brought together more than 150 residents of all ages and backgrounds, demonstrating the town's deep commitment to peace, unity, and interfaith understanding.

Coinciding with the UN International Day of Peace, the walk offered a powerful reminder of the values that underpin community harmony, particularly against the backdrop of recent national unrest and riots witnessed across parts of the UK. In contrast, Luton remained peaceful, an achievement credited to the solidarity, mutual respect, and active cooperation among its diverse communities.

### Activities Undertaken:

The Peace Walk took participants on a guided journey to three major places of worship in Lewsey: Great welcoming and hospitality from the following hosts:

- Zakariya Mosque, Beadlow Road
- St Martin de Porres Catholic Church
- St Hugh's Church of England
- Peace Artwork for Keech Trail- Hare and Tortise

The event was also graced by several prominent dignitaries, including: HM Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire, Susan Lousada; The Mayor of Luton, Cllr Tahmina Saleem; The Church of England Bishop of Bedford, Rt. Revd. Richard Atkinson; and The Chair of UNA Luton & Deputy Lieutenant, Dr Nazia Khanum. Messages of support were also received from Luton MPs Sarah Owen and Rachel Hopkins, recognising the walk as a model of community strength and pride.

### Impact:

**Diversity:** 150+ participants of all ages and backgrounds attended reflecting Luton's diversity.

**Legacy:** 4 different primary schools across Town joined the event leaving a positive memory for our young generation in how they perceive their town and people of different background.

**Faith Integration:** Three different faith venues actively participated, enhancing interfaith understanding.

**Public Leadership:** Strong endorsement from local civic and faith leaders boosted public confidence.

**Civic Resilience:** Showcased Luton's peaceful response amidst national unrest and riots.

**Social Cohesion:** Reinforced relationships between communities, faiths, and public institutions.

**Positive Messaging:** Positive display of a spectacle of unity while walking the high streets of Luton.

Quotes from leaders and MPs amplified a narrative of unity, respect, and shared humanity.



# Peace Walk

## Highlights



**Peace Banana**



**Zakariya Mosque**



**St Martin De Poress Church**



**St Hughes CoFE**



**Our Young School Peace Ambassadors**

# Responding to Southport National Tragedy

## Case Study 5



### Overview:






In the wake of the harrowing tragedy in Southport, where the lives of innocent children were lost, towns and cities across the UK experienced a ripple effect of fear, unrest, and trauma fuelled by racism and fake information. The summer that followed was marked by some of the ugliest riots seen in recent times. Luton, like many others, was not immune to the tensions and misinformation that spread in the aftermath. Recognising the urgent need for calm, connection, and coordinated community leadership, we mobilised faith leaders, community voices, and public sector partners to protect the social fabric of our town and provide emotional support to those impacted while dealing with some hate mails.

### Activities Undertaken:

- Convened faith and stakeholder meetings, many specifically to address the fallout of the riots and heightened public anxiety following the Southport tragedy.
- Used these meetings to fact-check and counter misinformation, and to develop shared messaging around peace, solidarity, and mutual responsibility.
- Created a series of inspiring videos with local people as neighbours living side by side.
- Acted as the first point of contact for many faith leaders needing guidance or support in their own communities during a volatile and emotionally-charged period.
- Facilitated confidential listening and mediation sessions to de-escalate tensions and strengthen inter-community trust.
- Mentored and empowered faith leaders to be visible and vocal champions of unity even when national headlines risked inflaming division.

### Impact:

In a time of deep national mourning and growing social unrest, these efforts provided a lifeline of stability, calm, and reassurance for local communities in Luton. Our work was instrumental in:

-  Reducing fear and community anxiety,
-  Preventing the spread of hate narratives,
-  Fostering resilience and mutual trust in our town's diverse population,
-  Preserving the social cohesion so vital to Luton's long-term vision 2040
-  No harm happened in Luton

By collaborating closely with Luton Borough Council's Social Justice Unit and working directly with the Leader of the Council, Bedfordshire Police and key civic officers, we ensured that both faith and public sector leaders were aligned and mutually informed in their efforts to protect and support Luton's communities during one of the most sensitive and volatile periods in recent memory.



Making Peace Viral

# Hate Mails admist SouthPort tension

We will kill all the fucking  
brown Muslims in luton

Inbox



to me ^

From [redacted]@gmail.com

To masjidbilal.uk@gmail.com

Date 6 Aug 2024, 11:43



Standard encryption (TLS).

[See security details](#)

You brown insects will be all exterminated soon. We now have Jewish supporters and TOGETHER will finish you Islamic PIGS.

WE HATE ALLAH AKBAR AND WILL PUT OUR  
PENISES TO HIS MOUTH!  
WE SO BADLY DISRESPECT FUCKING BROWN SKIN  
ALLAH AKBAR THAT WE LITERALLY PUT OUR CUM  
IN HIS MOUTH EVERY FUCKING DAY!!



to me ^

From [redacted]@gmail.com

To office@hockwellringmasjid.org.uk

Date 6 Aug 2024, 15:31



Standard encryption (TLS).

[See security details](#)

Allah akbar is fucking loser who was fucked by pig, therefore you all fucking brown skin insects will be exterminated soon. Luton will be burn. All your fucking mosques will be burned to the ground-WHIE BRITISH GROUND!

Making Peace Viral

# Videos of how locals live in harmony despite differences

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**Christian & Muslim**



**Mosque & Church leaders**



**Muslim, Hindu and Christian**



**Muslim and Hindu**



**Sikh and Christian**



# Keech Trail

## Hare and Tortoise

### Peace Artwork

The Keech Hospice Care Short Tail Trail—commonly described as the "Keech Trail"—is Luton's largest free public arts initiative. Coordinated in partnership with Luton Council of Faiths (LCoF), Keech Hospice Care and Wild in Art, it took place from July 6 to September 12, 2024, featuring 90 colourful hare and tortoise sculptures across the town

LCoF sponsored four sculptures (at a cost of £5,000) raised from different faiths communities and places of worship. This was also used as community art projects in schools

This initiative followed earlier LCoF-supported art trails, including the Peace Walk's supporting artwork competition



### Impact

The Keech/Hare & Tortoise Trail exemplifies Luton Council of Faiths' continued leadership in social cohesion, and interfaith engagement in arts. Through creativity and collective action, the project not only raised vital funds for hospice care but also reinforced community bonds, cultural pride, and active civic participation. Over 100 people engaged on this project including schools.



# Luton Council of Faiths

## Statement of Financial Activities For the Period Ended 31st March 2025

|  | Notes | Unrestricted funds 2025 | Restricted income funds 2025 | Endowment Funds 2025 | Total funds 2025 | Total funds 2024 |
|--|-------|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Incoming resources</b>                                    |       |                         |                              |                      |                  |                  |
| <b>Income and endowments from:</b>                           |       |                         |                              |                      |                  |                  |
| - Donations and legacies                                     |       | 4,145                   | -                            | -                    | 4,145            | 4,786            |
| - Investments  |       | -                       | -                            | -                    | -                | -                |
| - Charitable activities                                      | 6     | 5,277                   | 45,714                       |                      | 50,991           | 47,423           |
| - Other Income   |       | -                       | 3,480                        |                      | 3,480            | -                |
| <b>Total incoming resources</b>                              |       | <b>9,422</b>            | <b>49,194</b>                | <b>-</b>             | <b>58,616</b>    | <b>52,209</b>    |
|  |       |                         |                              |                      |                  |                  |
| <b>Resources expended</b>                                    |       |                         |                              |                      |                  |                  |
| <b>Expenditure on:</b>                                       | 4-10  |                         |                              |                      |                  |                  |
| Raising funds  |       | -                       | -                            | -                    | -                | -                |
| Costs of generating voluntary income                         |       | -                       | -                            | -                    | -                | -                |
| Fundraising trading costs                                    |       | -                       | -                            | -                    | -                | -                |
| Investment management costs                                  |       | -                       | -                            | -                    | -                | -                |
| Other Charitable activities                                  |       | 7,890                   | -                            | -                    | 7,890            | 6,470            |
| Charitable activities including Governance and support costs |       | -                       | 51,148                       | -                    | 51,148           | 51,230           |
| Other expenditure  |       | 25                      | -                            | -                    | 25               | 198              |
|  |       |                         |                              |                      |                  |                  |
| <b>Total expenditure</b>                                     |       | <b>7,915</b>            | <b>51,148</b>                | <b>-</b>             | <b>59,063</b>    | <b>57,898</b>    |
|  |       |                         |                              |                      |                  |                  |
| <b>Net Movement in Funds</b>                                 |       | <b>1,507</b>            | <b>(1,954)</b>               | <b>-</b>             | <b>(447)</b>     | <b>(5,689)</b>   |
|  |       |                         |                              |                      |                  |                  |
| <b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>                               |       |                         |                              |                      |                  |                  |
| Total funds brought forward                                  |       | 39,003                  | (13,389)                     | -                    | 25,614           | 31,103           |
|  |       |                         |                              |                      |                  |                  |
| <b>Total funds carried forward</b>                           |       | <b>40,510</b>           | <b>(15,343)</b>              | <b>-</b>             | <b>25,167</b>    | <b>25,614</b>    |
|  |       |                         |                              |                      |                  |                  |



**Luton Council of Faiths  
Balance Sheet  
As at 31ST March 2025**

|  | Notes | Unrestricted funds 2025 | Restricted income funds 2025 | Endowment Funds 2025 | Total this year 2025 | Total this year 2024 |
|--|-------|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b><u>Fixed Assets</u></b>                     |       |                         |                              |                      |                      |                      |
| Tangible Assets                                |       | -                       | -                            | -                    | -                    | -                    |
|  |       |                         |                              |                      |                      |                      |
| <b>Total Fixed Assets</b>                      |       | -                       | -                            | -                    | -                    | -                    |
|  |       |                         |                              |                      |                      |                      |
| <b><u>Current Assets</u></b>                   |       |                         |                              |                      |                      |                      |
| Debtors  | 11    |                         | -                            | -                    | -                    | -                    |
| Cash at bank and in hand                       |       | 26,987                  |                              | -                    | 26,987               | 27,521               |
|  |       |                         |                              |                      |                      |                      |
| <b>Total current assets</b>                    |       | 26,987                  |                              | -                    | 26,987               | 27,521               |
|  |       |                         |                              |                      |                      |                      |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year | 12    | (1,819)                 | -                            | -                    | (1,819)              | (1,907)              |
|  |       |                         |                              |                      |                      |                      |
| <b>Net current assets</b>                      |       | <u>25,167</u>           | =                            | -                    | <u>25,167</u>        | <u>25,614</u>        |
|  |       |                         |                              |                      |                      |                      |
|  |       |                         |                              |                      |                      |                      |
|  |       |                         |                              |                      |                      |                      |
| <b><u>Funds of the Charity</u></b>             |       |                         |                              |                      |                      |                      |
| <u>Unrestricted funds</u>                      |       | <u>40,510</u>           |                              |                      | <u>40,510</u>        | <u>39,003</u>        |
| <u>Restricted Income funds</u>                 |       |                         | <u>(15,343)</u>              |                      | <u>(15,343)</u>      | <u>(13,389)</u>      |
| <u>Endowment funds</u>                         |       |                         |                              | -                    | -                    | -                    |
|  |       |                         |                              |                      |                      |                      |
| <b>Total funds</b>                             |       | <u>40,510</u>           | <u>(15,343)</u>              |                      | <u>25,167</u>        | <u>25,614</u>        |

# **We couldn't have done it without your generous support.**

**Thank you to all our donors especially Luton  
Rising, partners and volunteers!**



**Contact:**

[info@lutonfaiths.org](mailto:info@lutonfaiths.org)

01582 416946

[WWW.lutonfaiths.org](http://WWW.lutonfaiths.org)

Registered charity number: 1089850

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**LUTON COUNCIL OF FAITHS  
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2025**

**Luton Council of Faiths**  
**Period Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**  
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LUTON COUNCIL OF FAITHS  
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2025



**Luton Council of Faiths**  
**Charity Information as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

**Charity name**

Luton Council of Faiths

**Charity number**

1089850

**Principal address**

47 High Town Road

Luton

Bedfordshire

LU2 0BW

**Trustees**

Mr Zafar Khan – Chairperson

Mrs Gulie Butcher – Vice Chair

Mr Kishore Kaler – Outgoing Treasurer (Resigned on 15<sup>th</sup> Jul'24)

Mr Thakor Morarji – Incoming Treasurer (Appointed on 17<sup>th</sup> Sep'24)

Mr Dhansukh Panchal (Resigned on 15<sup>th</sup> Jul'24)

Mrs Ulrike Hunt (Appointed on 15<sup>th</sup> Jul'24)

Mr Yogesh Mistry

**Bankers**

The Co-operative Bank

PO Box 250, Delf House

Southway

Skelmersdale

WN8 6WT

Lloyds TBS Bank Plc

60 George Street

Luton

Bedfordshire

LU1 2BB

**Independent examiner**

I. Hussain & Co Limited

Chartered Accountants and Business advisors

11 George Street West

Luton

Bedfordshire

LU1 2BJ



History, objectives and activities of the Charity

On constitution it was believed the multicultural cohesion of the religious and cultural communities in Luton required addressing. The charity began with an initial grant. Both the initial grant and subsequent grants since have been under the terms which allow the trustees to either retain the amounts as capital or to spend them.

The objectives of the charity include;

- a) To bring together members of the different faith communities in Luton for deeper dialogue and co-operation
- b) To increase understanding and trust between different faiths, building on common ground between them yet respecting the unique contribution which each brings
- c) To work towards greater social cohesion and community integration in Luton
- d) To see inter faith co-operation as linking into global co-operation between faiths and cultures for the creation of a better world

Management and Governance arrangements

The constitution provides for a minimum of five trustees. Where there is a requirement for new trustees, these would be identified and appointed by the remaining trustees, subject to the approval by AGM. The chair of the trustees is responsible for the induction of any new trustee which involves awareness of a trustee's responsibility, the governing document, administrative procedures, the history and philosophical approach of the charity. The trustees have taken steps to identify major risks to which the charity is exposed and systems have been established to mitigate those risks.

Achievements and Performance of the Charity

**Annual Report Summary April 2024 – March 2025**

This year's Annual Report is a reflection on a year marked by deep global turbulence, national uncertainty, and local resilience. Our community has once again demonstrated its remarkable capacity to stand together in times of crisis, and to choose peace when division threatened to take hold.

This year, we have been witness to horrific scenes in the Middle East, as the conflict between Israel and Palestine intensified. The suffering endured by civilians, the devastating loss of life, and the ripple effects on diaspora communities around the world have deeply impacted many in Luton. As a town with close ties to both the region and its people, these events have not felt distant—they have been personal, painful, and profoundly emotional.

Equally troubling were the events in Southport earlier this year, where, in the wake of unspeakable tragedy, unrest spread across towns and cities in the UK. We saw how the sorrow of a grieving community was hijacked by those with agendas of hatred—far-right extremists who stirred racial tensions, targeted minority groups, and unleashed violence under the guise of protest. The images from Southport shook the nation. They were a sobering reminder of how quickly fear can be manipulated, how fast misinformation can spread, and how fragile peace can be when it is taken for granted.

But in Luton, something different happened!



Despite facing the same national tensions, the same social media misinformation, and the same risks of community unrest, our town responded with extraordinary unity, compassion, and calm. Faith leaders from every tradition, community activists, civic authorities, Bedfordshire Police, and ordinary residents stepped forward—not with anger, but with solidarity. We gathered in prayer vigils, stood shoulder to shoulder at places of worship, opened our doors, shared our grief, and reaffirmed a message that could not be clearer: Luton will not be divided. Luton is a town of peace.

This response didn't come from nowhere. It is the result of years of deliberate investment in trust, dialogue and cooperation. It is the fruit of the tireless work of groups like GRASSROOTS, the Luton Council of Faiths, Near Neighbours, local councillors, and our many schools and community organisations. Their continuous efforts to strengthen cohesion, facilitate honest conversations, and prepare for moments of tension meant that when pressure came, we were not caught off guard—we were ready to meet it, together.

Throughout this year, events such as the Annual Peace Walk, our faith leaders school engagements, faiths and cultural festivals and international partnerships have deepened our sense of shared identity. Our diversity is not a source of weakness—it is one of our greatest strengths.

Let us be clear: we are not immune to the world's conflicts. But we have demonstrated that, with resolve, cooperation and courage, we can respond to them in a way that heals rather than harms. We can hold space for grief on all sides, we can denounce hate unequivocally, and we can still choose the path of peace and justice.

To all those who have played their part this year—whether in schools, places of worship, local services, youth projects, food banks or forums—thank you. You are the reason Luton did not fall into division when so many others did.

Let this report be a record not just of what we did, but of who we are: a resilient, compassionate and united town, working together for a better tomorrow.

### **A Year with Unique Challenges**

With 2 part-time staff and increasing financial strains, it makes it incredibly hard to keep with demands of each year's unique and unpredictable challenges. The data below gives insight into the volume of work and response through our ongoing activities, extensive networking, and engagement.

- Over 50 confidential meetings of community mediation were held
- Over 100 faith and cultural community activities include directly & indirectly supported activities
- Over 150 events of various faith communities and partners were promoted and supported
- Over 4000 School Children engaged in our various programmes and activities
- 52 weekly published news articles in Luton News & over 200 social media posts

### **Our Activities and community engagements during the year have included**

- 32 Stakeholder Engagement meetings with faith & community leaders addressing local concerns, misinformation, and responding to national & local issues
- Conflict Mitigation meetings regarding Israel-Palestine & other international conflicts, mitigating ongoing interfaith tensions, and promoting dialogue



- Crisis Response included
  - responding to an incident of mosque banner defacement, and
  - responding to the summer riots after Southport killings of innocent children by bringing together police, faith leaders, and council to calm tensions and show resilience
- Interfaith Events included
  - Ramadan Iftars (Unity Iftar, Iftar Under the Stars, Women's Iftar, Big Iftar) 4 major events promoted interfaith understanding, hospitality, and cultural sharing
  - Religious Festive Celebrations e.g. Eid, Easter, Christmas, Navratri, Diwali, Chanukkah, Nawruz, Gurburb etc. strengthened community inclusion and fostered interfaith respect and public celebration
  - Sinhalese New Year & Lord Buddha Day celebrations were 2 first-time celebrations & inaugural events showcasing inclusion of newer ethnic groups and communities
  - Two visits to places of worship by overseas Christian leaders facilitated by GRASSROOTS helped in strengthening interfaith and intercultural dialogue in our town
  - Annual Peace Walk (28th year) attracted over 150 attendees and the event promoted peace, hospitality, and unity across faiths
  - Inter Faith Week Commemoration event explored winter religious festivals
- Major Civic/Community Events
  - HM Lord Lieutenant Thanksgiving Service, The Royal Foundation Carol Service, and The High Sheriff Justice Service – all 3 services strengthened civic and faith partnerships
  - Black History Month & Windrush events celebrated heritage and contributions of African-Caribbean communities
  - 4 Anniversary Events (Churches, Community Gardens) celebrated local community projects and institutional milestones
  - Community Cultural Festivals: Turk Fest, Desi Fest, Diverse Fest, East Fest – all promoted multiculturalism and social cohesion
  - Peace Light Service, Remembrance Service, World Religion Day observance promoted shared values, remembrance, and religious literacy
- Educational Engagement
  - Over 30 School workshops on "Making Our Town Respectful", and Character and Virtues sessions engaged youth in dialogue about respect, tolerance, and community spirit
  - A Special Commemoration event Luton COVID Memorial Service marked 5th Anniversary of the pandemic and acknowledged local loss, resilience and recovery
- International Mother Language Day, Edible High Town 5th Anniversary events promoted linguistic & cultural diversity, environmental action, and neighbourhood pride



## Impact Report – Case Study 1 – School Assemblies led by a panel of Faith & Community Leaders

In alignment with the Luton 2040 vision to become a child-friendly town, our faith and community engagement team developed and delivered a series of interactive workshops titled “How to make our town more respectful?” These workshops brought together representatives from different faiths to engage with young people in local schools, encouraging understanding, empathy, and civic responsibility.

Activities undertaken included the delivery of interactive panel workshops in multiple schools, featuring faith and community leaders from diverse backgrounds, focussing discussions on shared values such as respect, empathy, fairness, and love, and highlighting how these are embedded in various faith traditions and cultures. It promoted open dialogue through a “Q Time” format, allowing pupils to ask honest questions about faith, values, and living together in a diverse society. We used storytelling and lived experiences to inspire young people to be agents of positive change in their communities. Some of the positive comments we received from the young people from different schools are mentioned below;

- *“I liked seeing all the different people from different religions. It was very interesting.”*
- *“It was great that even though they didn't all agree and had different opinions, they still showed each other respect.”*
- *“I found out about some new religions that I had never heard of before.”*
- *“You encouraged us all to become better human beings, and make our town and our world a better place for all.”*

### Staff Feedback:

- *“It was a super example of harmony and peace in Luton. It was great. The pupils and staff got a lot from it. It is so good that these opportunities are available to our pupils.”*

## Impact Report – Case Study 2 – School Interfaith Workshop

For the third consecutive year, Foxdell Primary School successfully hosted Interfaith Workshop, bringing together pupils, parents, teachers, and faith leaders under one roof to creatively explore and celebrate the beliefs and practices of Luton’s diverse faith communities.

Activities undertaken included Islamic calligraphy workshops led by community artists, Easter Egg painting and Christian symbolism explained by the clergy, presentation of Jewish artefacts and traditions by faith leader Mr Brian Green. It fostered intergenerational learning as parents and children learnt together, deepened mutual respect and enhanced their cultural understanding and faith literacy by gaining first-hand insights into five world major religions through hands-on activities and storytelling while also engaging with local faith leaders. It was a wonderful example of community building and strengthening relationships between the school and local faith communities. It is now being used as a model of interfaith engagement for other schools in Luton. Some of the positive comments we received from the parents are mentioned below;

- ☐ “I am learning alongside my child.”
- ☐ “With the current issues around the world, isn’t it lovely that we can sit together and learn about each other’s faith”



We are extremely proud that Foxdell School was given a good rating in their last OFSTED inspection with this activity highlighted.

### **Impact Report – Case Study 3 – Peace Walk & Peace Art Work**

Luton's 28th Annual Peace Walk was held on 21st September 2024. It continues to be the town's most popular and unifying multi-faith event. It brought together more than 150 residents of all ages and backgrounds, demonstrating the town's deep commitment to peace, unity, and interfaith understanding. Coinciding with the UN International Day of Peace, the walk offered a powerful reminder of the values that underpin community harmony, particularly against the backdrop of recent national unrest and riots witnessed across parts of the UK. In contrast, Luton remained peaceful, an achievement credited to the solidarity, mutual respect, and active cooperation among its diverse communities.

Activities undertaken included the participants going on a guided journey to three different places of worship in Lewsey, experiencing great welcome and hospitality from the Zakariya Mosque, St Martin de Porres Catholic Church, and St Hugh's Church of England. It promoted faith integration as three different faith venues actively participated and hosted people from diverse backgrounds.

LCoF also sponsored four sculptures (at a cost of £5,000) raised from different faiths communities and places of worship to support the Keech Hospice Hare and Tortoise Short Tail Trail. These sculptures were then used as community art projects in schools. In fact, it brought together 4 different primary schools from across the town to join the Peace Walk event leaving a lasting positive memory for our young generation in how they perceive their town and people of different backgrounds.

### **Conclusion:**

All these activities exemplify Luton Council of Faiths' continued leadership in strengthening social cohesion, and interfaith engagement. Through creativity and collective action, several of our projects have not only raised vital funds for charities like Luton Food Bank and Keech Hospice but also reinforced community bonds, cultural pride, and active civic participation. With a strong endorsement from our local civic and faith leaders boosting public confidence and civic resilience, our events and activities have contributed significantly in enhancing interfaith understanding and leadership. It reinforced relationships between communities, faiths, and public institutions, and created opportunity for a positive display of a spectacle of unity.



## Financial review and reserves

The net incoming resources for the year was a deficit of £447 (2024 – deficit of £5,689). At the end of the financial year the reserves were £40,510 (2024 - £39,003) of unrestricted funds and a deficit of £15,343 (2024 – deficit of £13,389) of restricted funds. The adequacy of the reserves policy is reviewed annually. The trustees are satisfied that reserves are presently more than adequate to meet future expenditure. The Trustees have a policy of aiming to retain reserves equivalent to six months' average expenditure. This is due to the uncertain nature of funding received. The total reserve funds at the year-end were £25,167.

## Future plans

The trustees intend to continue provide relief in a similar manner as before.

## Statement of trustees' responsibilities

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare the financial statements for each financial year which show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and its financial activities for that year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

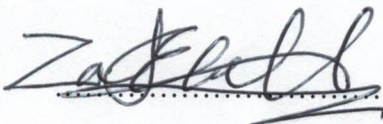
- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operational existence.

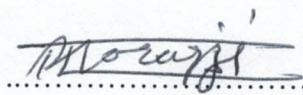
The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## Independent examiner

The trustees intend to ask the existing accountants to undertake the independent examination of the trust in the following year.

Signed on behalf of the trustees

..... Mr Zafar Khan – Chairperson

..... Mr Thakor Morarji– Treasurer

Date: 1806025



**Luton Council of Faiths**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**For the Period Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

|  | Notes | Unrestricted funds 2025 | Restricted income funds 2025 | Endowment Funds 2025 | Total funds 2025 | Total funds 2024 |
|--|-------|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Incoming resources</b>                                    |       |                         |                              |                      |                  |                  |
| <b>Income and endowments from:</b>                           |       |                         |                              |                      |                  |                  |
| - Donations and legacies                                     |       | 4,145                   | -                            | -                    | 4,145            | 4,786            |
| - Investments  |       | -                       | -                            | -                    | -                | -                |
| - Charitable activities                                      | 6     | 5,277                   | 45,714                       |                      | 50,991           | 47,423           |
| - Other Income   |       | -                       | 3,480                        |                      | 3,480            | -                |
| <b>Total incoming resources</b>                              |       | <b>9,422</b>            | <b>49,194</b>                | <b>-</b>             | <b>58,616</b>    | <b>52,209</b>    |
| <b>Resources expended</b>                                    |       |                         |                              |                      |                  |                  |
| <b>Expenditure on:</b>                                       | 4-10  |                         |                              |                      |                  |                  |
| Raising funds  |       | -                       | -                            | -                    | -                | -                |
| Costs of generating voluntary income                         |       | -                       | -                            | -                    | -                | -                |
| Fundraising trading costs                                    |       | -                       | -                            | -                    | -                | -                |
| Investment management costs                                  |       | -                       | -                            | -                    | -                | -                |
| Other Charitable activities                                  |       | 7,890                   | -                            | -                    | 7,890            | 6,470            |
| Charitable activities including Governance and support costs |       | -                       | 51,148                       | -                    | 51,148           | 51,230           |
| Other expenditure  |       | 25                      | -                            | -                    | 25               | 198              |
| <b>Total expenditure</b>                                     |       | <b>7,915</b>            | <b>51,148</b>                | <b>-</b>             | <b>59,063</b>    | <b>57,898</b>    |
| <b>Net Movement in Funds</b>                                 |       | <b>1,507</b>            | <b>(1,954)</b>               | <b>-</b>             | <b>(447)</b>     | <b>(5,689)</b>   |
| <b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>                               |       |                         |                              |                      |                  |                  |
| Total funds brought forward                                  |       | 39,003                  | (13,389)                     | -                    | 25,614           | 31,103           |
| <b>Total funds carried forward</b>                           |       | <b>40,510</b>           | <b>(15,343)</b>              | <b>-</b>             | <b>25,167</b>    | <b>25,614</b>    |

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these accounts.



# Luton Council of Faiths

## Balance Sheet

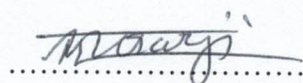
As at 31<sup>ST</sup> March 2025

|  | Notes | Unrestricted funds 2025 | Restricted income funds 2025 | Endowment Funds 2025 | Total this year 2025 | Total this year 2024 |
|--|-------|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b><u>Fixed Assets</u></b>                     |       |                         |                              |                      |                      |                      |
| Tangible Assets                                |       | -                       | -                            | -                    | -                    | -                    |
| <b>Total Fixed Assets</b>                      |       | -                       | -                            | -                    | -                    | -                    |
| <b><u>Current Assets</u></b>                   |       |                         |                              |                      |                      |                      |
| Debtors  | 11    |                         | -                            | -                    | -                    | -                    |
| Cash at bank and in hand                       |       | 26,987                  |                              | -                    | 26,987               | 27,521               |
| <b>Total current assets</b>                    |       | 26,987                  |                              | -                    | 26,987               | 27,521               |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year | 12    | (1,819)                 | -                            | -                    | (1,819)              | (1,907)              |
| <b>Net current assets</b>                      |       | <u>25,167</u>           | <u>=</u>                     | <u>-</u>             | <u>25,167</u>        | <u>25,614</u>        |
| <b><u>Funds of the Charity</u></b>             |       |                         |                              |                      |                      |                      |
| Unrestricted funds                             |       | 40,510                  |                              |                      | 40,510               | 39,003               |
| Restricted Income funds                        |       |                         | (15,343)                     |                      | (15,343)             | (13,389)             |
| Endowment funds                                |       |                         |                              | -                    | -                    | -                    |
| <b>Total funds</b>                             |       | 40,510                  | (15,343)                     |                      | <u>25,167</u>        | <u>25,614</u>        |

Approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:

 ..... Mr Zafar Khan - Chairperson

Date: 18/06/2025

 ..... Mr Thakor Morarji- Treasurer

Date: 18/06/2025



**Luton Council of Faiths**  
**Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

1. Accounting policies

- a) The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and with the Charities Act 2011.
- b) Recognition of Income – there are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources and monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.
- c) Investment income is recorded when receivable
- d) All expenditure is included in the accounts on an accrual basis. Irrecoverable VAT is charged to the SOFA as incurred.
- e) The restricted funds of the charity are expendable funds which is regularly increased or retained as capital at the trustees' discretion.
- f) All capital related expenditure costing more than £750 is capitalised. Depreciation on fixtures and fittings is charged on a straight line basis over 5 years.

2. Taxation

Luton Council of Faiths is a registered charity and accordingly is exempt from taxation on its income and gains where they apply to charitable purposes.

3. Restricted

The restricted donations in the current year and the previous year represent income mainly from Grants but also from donations to the Luton Council of Faiths restricted funds only.

4. Analysis of employees costs

|                   | 2025   | 2024   |
|-------------------|--------|--------|
|                   | £      | £      |
| Salaries and PAYE | 30,000 | 30,000 |
| Employers NIC     | -      | -      |
| Total             | 30,000 | 30,000 |

The number of full-time employees during the year was one and there were no average part time members of staff.

5. Related Party transactions

None of the trustees were paid any remuneration or expenses by the charity during the year (2024 £nil)



## 6. Analysis of Income from Charitable activities

|  | 2025<br>Unrestricted | 2025<br>Restricted | Total 2025    | Total 2024    |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|
|  | £                    | £                  | £             | £             |
| Bedfordshire & Luton Community Foundation and the Luton Rising-Community Investment Fund | -                    | 45,714             | 45,714        | 47,423        |
| Luton Borough council contributions  | 5,277                | -                  | 5,277         | -             |
| Other donations  | 4,145                | -                  | 4,145         | 4,786         |
| Total  | <u>9,422</u>         | <u>45,714</u>      | <u>55,136</u> | <u>52,209</u> |

## 7. Analysis of Other income

|                                     | 2025<br>Unrestricted | 2025<br>Restricted | Total 2025   | Total 2024 |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------|------------|
|                                     | £                    | £                  | £            | £          |
| Church Urban Fund – Near Neighbours | -                    | 3,480              | 3,480        | -          |
| Total                               | -                    | 3,480              | <u>3,480</u> | -          |

## 8. Analysis of Charitable expenditure

The charity has undertaken direct activity to meet its charitable purposes. The following is the analysis of the charity's direct expenditure:

|                                    | 2025<br>Unrestricted | 2025<br>Restricted | 2025<br>Total | 2024<br>Total |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                    | £                    | £                  | £             | £             |
| Books Resources                    | -                    | -                  | -             | -             |
| Other Events, Programmes and items | 7,890                | -                  | 7,890         | 6,470         |
| Total                              | 7,890                | -                  | 7,890         | 6,470         |



9. The resources expended by the charity include:

|                            | 2025 | 2025 |
|----------------------------|------|------|
| Independent examiner's fee | 600  | 600  |
| Total                      | 600  | 600  |

10. Other resources expended by the charity include:

|                                 | 2025<br>Unrestricted | 2025<br>Restricted | 2025<br>Total | 2024<br>Total |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                 | £                    | £                  | £             | £             |
| Near Neighbours                 | -                    | -                  | -             | -             |
| Charitable giving and donations | 25                   | -                  | 25            | 198           |
| <u>Total</u>                    | <u>25</u>            | <u>-</u>           | <u>25</u>     | <u>198</u>    |

11. Governance and Support costs

Support costs, consisting of the rent and rates and staff salaries are split between charitable activity and governance on an actual or equal estimated basis. This is because it is difficult to estimate the expense attributable to each activity. Support costs apportioned to the different aims of the charity are shown in the note below.

|                                    | Basis of<br>Apportionment | 2025<br>£    | 2025<br>£     | 2025<br>£     | 2024<br>£     |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                    |                           | Unrestricted | Restricted    | Total         | Total         |
| Office costs                       | Actual                    | -            | 3,662         | 3,662         | 2,001         |
| Subscriptions                      | Actual                    | -            | 33            | 33            | 80            |
| Travelling and general expenditure | Actual                    | -            | 688           | 688           | 655           |
| Equipment                          | Actual                    | -            | 42            | 42            | 1,684         |
| Salaries and staff costs           | Actual                    | -            | 30,001        | 30,001        | 30,087        |
| Pensions                           | Actual                    | -            | 2,100         | 2,100         | 2,100         |
| Grass roots                        | Actual                    | -            | 12,000        | 12,000        | 12,000        |
| Insurance                          | Actual                    | -            | 730           | 730           | 724           |
| Telephone                          | Actual                    | -            | 900           | 900           | 660           |
| Professional                       | Actual                    | -            | 772           | 772           | 772           |
| Advertising and publicity          | Actual                    | -            | 220           | 220           | 216           |
| Volunteering                       | Actual                    | -            | -             | -             | 338           |
| <u>Total</u>                       |                           | <u>-</u>     | <u>51,148</u> | <u>51,148</u> | <u>51,230</u> |



Tangible Fixed Assets

There were no movements or any tangible fixed assets currently held by the Charity during the year.

12. Analysis of Debtors.

|                  | 2025 |  | 2024 |
|------------------|------|--|------|
| Restricted funds | -    |  | -    |
| Total            | -    |  | -    |

13. Analysis of Creditors

|                            | 2025         |  | 2024         |
|----------------------------|--------------|--|--------------|
| Independent examiner's fee | 600          |  | 600          |
| PAYE                       | 1,219        |  | 1,307        |
| Total                      | <u>1,819</u> |  | <u>1,907</u> |

## Independent examiner's Report to the Trustees of Luton Council of Faiths

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 which are set out on pages 8 to 15.

### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true or fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### Independent examiner's statement

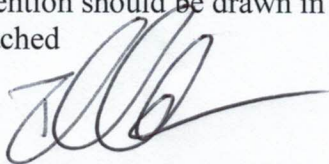
In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep proper accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the account to be reached.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



I Hussain and Co Limited  
Chartered Accountants and Business advisors  
11 George Street West  
Luton  
Bedfordshire  
LU1 2BJ



Registered charity number: 1089850

|        |                                   |
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**LUTON COUNCIL OF FAITHS  
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2025**

**Luton Council of Faiths**  
**Period Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**  
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LUTON COUNCIL OF FAITHS  
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2025



**Luton Council of Faiths**  
**Charity Information as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

**Charity name**

Luton Council of Faiths

**Charity number**

1089850

**Principal address**

47 High Town Road

Luton

Bedfordshire

LU2 0BW

**Trustees**

Mr Zafar Khan – Chairperson

Mrs Gulie Butcher – Vice Chair

Mr Kishore Kaler – Outgoing Treasurer (Resigned on 15<sup>th</sup> Jul'24)

Mr Thakor Morarji – Incoming Treasurer (Appointed on 17<sup>th</sup> Sep'24)

Mr Dhansukh Panchal (Resigned on 15<sup>th</sup> Jul'24)

Mrs Ulrike Hunt (Appointed on 15<sup>th</sup> Jul'24)

Mr Yogesh Mistry

**Bankers**

The Co-operative Bank

PO Box 250, Delf House

Southway

Skelmersdale

WN8 6WT

Lloyds TBS Bank Plc

60 George Street

Luton

Bedfordshire

LU1 2BB

**Independent examiner**

I. Hussain & Co Limited

Chartered Accountants and Business advisors

11 George Street West

Luton

Bedfordshire

LU1 2BJ



## **Luton Council of Faiths** **Trustees Annual Report**

### **History, objectives and activities of the Charity**

On constitution it was believed the multicultural cohesion of the religious and cultural communities in Luton required addressing. The charity began with an initial grant. Both the initial grant and subsequent grants since have been under the terms which allow the trustees to either retain the amounts as capital or to spend them.

The objectives of the charity include;

- a) To bring together members of the different faith communities in Luton for deeper dialogue and co-operation
- b) To increase understanding and trust between different faiths, building on common ground between them yet respecting the unique contribution which each brings
- c) To work towards greater social cohesion and community integration in Luton
- d) To see inter faith co-operation as linking into global co-operation between faiths and cultures for the creation of a better world

### **Management and Governance arrangements**

The constitution provides for a minimum of five trustees. Where there is a requirement for new trustees, these would be identified and appointed by the remaining trustees, subject to the approval by AGM. The chair of the trustees is responsible for the induction of any new trustee which involves awareness of a trustee's responsibility, the governing document, administrative procedures, the history and philosophical approach of the charity. The trustees have taken steps to identify major risks to which the charity is exposed and systems have been established to mitigate those risks.

### **Achievements and Performance of the Charity**

#### **Annual Report Summary April 2024 – March 2025**

This year's Annual Report is a reflection on a year marked by deep global turbulence, national uncertainty, and local resilience. Our community has once again demonstrated its remarkable capacity to stand together in times of crisis, and to choose peace when division threatened to take hold.

This year, we have been witness to horrific scenes in the Middle East, as the conflict between Israel and Palestine intensified. The suffering endured by civilians, the devastating loss of life, and the ripple effects on diaspora communities around the world have deeply impacted many in Luton. As a town with close ties to both the region and its people, these events have not felt distant—they have been personal, painful, and profoundly emotional.

Equally troubling were the events in Southport earlier this year, where, in the wake of unspeakable tragedy, unrest spread across towns and cities in the UK. We saw how the sorrow of a grieving community was hijacked by those with agendas of hatred—far-right extremists who stirred racial tensions, targeted minority groups, and unleashed violence under the guise of protest. The images from Southport shook the nation. They were a sobering reminder of how quickly fear can be manipulated, how fast misinformation can spread, and how fragile peace can be when it is taken for granted.

But in Luton, something different happened!



Despite facing the same national tensions, the same social media misinformation, and the same risks of community unrest, our town responded with extraordinary unity, compassion, and calm. Faith leaders from every tradition, community activists, civic authorities, Bedfordshire Police, and ordinary residents stepped forward—not with anger, but with solidarity. We gathered in prayer vigils, stood shoulder to shoulder at places of worship, opened our doors, shared our grief, and reaffirmed a message that could not be clearer: Luton will not be divided. Luton is a town of peace.

This response didn't come from nowhere. It is the result of years of deliberate investment in trust, dialogue and cooperation. It is the fruit of the tireless work of groups like GRASSROOTS, the Luton Council of Faiths, Near Neighbours, local councillors, and our many schools and community organisations. Their continuous efforts to strengthen cohesion, facilitate honest conversations, and prepare for moments of tension meant that when pressure came, we were not caught off guard—we were ready to meet it, together.

Throughout this year, events such as the Annual Peace Walk, our faith leaders school engagements, faiths and cultural festivals and international partnerships have deepened our sense of shared identity. Our diversity is not a source of weakness—it is one of our greatest strengths.

Let us be clear: we are not immune to the world's conflicts. But we have demonstrated that, with resolve, cooperation and courage, we can respond to them in a way that heals rather than harms. We can hold space for grief on all sides, we can denounce hate unequivocally, and we can still choose the path of peace and justice.

To all those who have played their part this year—whether in schools, places of worship, local services, youth projects, food banks or forums—thank you. You are the reason Luton did not fall into division when so many others did.

Let this report be a record not just of what we did, but of who we are: a resilient, compassionate and united town, working together for a better tomorrow.

### **A Year with Unique Challenges**

With 2 part-time staff and increasing financial strains, it makes it incredibly hard to keep with demands of each year's unique and unpredictable challenges. The data below gives insight into the volume of work and response through our ongoing activities, extensive networking, and engagement.

- Over 50 confidential meetings of community mediation were held
- Over 100 faith and cultural community activities include directly & indirectly supported activities
- Over 150 events of various faith communities and partners were promoted and supported
- Over 4000 School Children engaged in our various programmes and activities
- 52 weekly published news articles in Luton News & over 200 social media posts

### **Our Activities and community engagements during the year have included**

- 32 Stakeholder Engagement meetings with faith & community leaders addressing local concerns, misinformation, and responding to national & local issues
- Conflict Mitigation meetings regarding Israel-Palestine & other international conflicts, mitigating ongoing interfaith tensions, and promoting dialogue



- Crisis Response included
  - responding to an incident of mosque banner defacement, and
  - responding to the summer riots after Southport killings of innocent children by bringing together police, faith leaders, and council to calm tensions and show resilience
- Interfaith Events included
  - Ramadan Iftars (Unity Iftar, Iftar Under the Stars, Women's Iftar, Big Iftar) 4 major events promoted interfaith understanding, hospitality, and cultural sharing
  - Religious Festive Celebrations e.g. Eid, Easter, Christmas, Navratri, Diwali, Chanukkah, Nawruz, Gurburb etc. strengthened community inclusion and fostered interfaith respect and public celebration
  - Sinhalese New Year & Lord Buddha Day celebrations were 2 first-time celebrations & inaugural events showcasing inclusion of newer ethnic groups and communities
  - Two visits to places of worship by overseas Christian leaders facilitated by GRASSROOTS helped in strengthening interfaith and intercultural dialogue in our town
  - Annual Peace Walk (28th year) attracted over 150 attendees and the event promoted peace, hospitality, and unity across faiths
  - Inter Faith Week Commemoration event explored winter religious festivals
- Major Civic/Community Events
  - HM Lord Lieutenant Thanksgiving Service, The Royal Foundation Carol Service, and The High Sheriff Justice Service – all 3 services strengthened civic and faith partnerships
  - Black History Month & Windrush events celebrated heritage and contributions of African-Caribbean communities
  - 4 Anniversary Events (Churches, Community Gardens) celebrated local community projects and institutional milestones
  - Community Cultural Festivals: Turk Fest, Desi Fest, Diverse Fest, East Fest – all promoted multiculturalism and social cohesion
  - Peace Light Service, Remembrance Service, World Religion Day observance promoted shared values, remembrance, and religious literacy
- Educational Engagement
  - Over 30 School workshops on "Making Our Town Respectful", and Character and Virtues sessions engaged youth in dialogue about respect, tolerance, and community spirit
  - A Special Commemoration event Luton COVID Memorial Service marked 5th Anniversary of the pandemic and acknowledged local loss, resilience and recovery
- International Mother Language Day, Edible High Town 5th Anniversary events promoted linguistic & cultural diversity, environmental action, and neighbourhood pride



## Impact Report – Case Study 1 – School Assemblies led by a panel of Faith & Community Leaders

In alignment with the Luton 2040 vision to become a child-friendly town, our faith and community engagement team developed and delivered a series of interactive workshops titled “How to make our town more respectful?” These workshops brought together representatives from different faiths to engage with young people in local schools, encouraging understanding, empathy, and civic responsibility.

Activities undertaken included the delivery of interactive panel workshops in multiple schools, featuring faith and community leaders from diverse backgrounds, focussing discussions on shared values such as respect, empathy, fairness, and love, and highlighting how these are embedded in various faith traditions and cultures. It promoted open dialogue through a “Q Time” format, allowing pupils to ask honest questions about faith, values, and living together in a diverse society. We used storytelling and lived experiences to inspire young people to be agents of positive change in their communities. Some of the positive comments we received from the young people from different schools are mentioned below;

- *“I liked seeing all the different people from different religions. It was very interesting.”*
- *“It was great that even though they didn't all agree and had different opinions, they still showed each other respect.”*
- *“I found out about some new religions that I had never heard of before.”*
- *“You encouraged us all to become better human beings, and make our town and our world a better place for all.”*

### Staff Feedback:

- *“It was a super example of harmony and peace in Luton. It was great. The pupils and staff got a lot from it. It is so good that these opportunities are available to our pupils.”*

## Impact Report – Case Study 2 – School Interfaith Workshop

For the third consecutive year, Foxdell Primary School successfully hosted Interfaith Workshop, bringing together pupils, parents, teachers, and faith leaders under one roof to creatively explore and celebrate the beliefs and practices of Luton’s diverse faith communities.

Activities undertaken included Islamic calligraphy workshops led by community artists, Easter Egg painting and Christian symbolism explained by the clergy, presentation of Jewish artefacts and traditions by faith leader Mr Brian Green. It fostered intergenerational learning as parents and children learnt together, deepened mutual respect and enhanced their cultural understanding and faith literacy by gaining first-hand insights into five world major religions through hands-on activities and storytelling while also engaging with local faith leaders. It was a wonderful example of community building and strengthening relationships between the school and local faith communities. It is now being used as a model of interfaith engagement for other schools in Luton. Some of the positive comments we received from the parents are mentioned below;

- ☐ “I am learning alongside my child.”
- ☐ “With the current issues around the world, isn’t it lovely that we can sit together and learn about each other’s faith”



We are extremely proud that Foxdell School was given a good rating in their last OFSTED inspection with this activity highlighted.

### **Impact Report – Case Study 3 – Peace Walk & Peace Art Work**

Luton's 28th Annual Peace Walk was held on 21st September 2024. It continues to be the town's most popular and unifying multi-faith event. It brought together more than 150 residents of all ages and backgrounds, demonstrating the town's deep commitment to peace, unity, and interfaith understanding. Coinciding with the UN International Day of Peace, the walk offered a powerful reminder of the values that underpin community harmony, particularly against the backdrop of recent national unrest and riots witnessed across parts of the UK. In contrast, Luton remained peaceful, an achievement credited to the solidarity, mutual respect, and active cooperation among its diverse communities.

Activities undertaken included the participants going on a guided journey to three different places of worship in Lewsey, experiencing great welcome and hospitality from the Zakariya Mosque, St Martin de Porres Catholic Church, and St Hugh's Church of England. It promoted faith integration as three different faith venues actively participated and hosted people from diverse backgrounds.

LCoF also sponsored four sculptures (at a cost of £5,000) raised from different faiths communities and places of worship to support the Keech Hospice Hare and Tortoise Short Tail Trail. These sculptures were then used as community art projects in schools. In fact, it brought together 4 different primary schools from across the town to join the Peace Walk event leaving a lasting positive memory for our young generation in how they perceive their town and people of different backgrounds.

### **Conclusion:**

All these activities exemplify Luton Council of Faiths' continued leadership in strengthening social cohesion, and interfaith engagement. Through creativity and collective action, several of our projects have not only raised vital funds for charities like Luton Food Bank and Keech Hospice but also reinforced community bonds, cultural pride, and active civic participation. With a strong endorsement from our local civic and faith leaders boosting public confidence and civic resilience, our events and activities have contributed significantly in enhancing interfaith understanding and leadership. It reinforced relationships between communities, faiths, and public institutions, and created opportunity for a positive display of a spectacle of unity.



## Financial review and reserves

The net incoming resources for the year was a deficit of £447 (2024 – deficit of £5,689). At the end of the financial year the reserves were £40,510 (2024 - £39,003) of unrestricted funds and a deficit of £15,343 (2024 – deficit of £13,389) of restricted funds. The adequacy of the reserves policy is reviewed annually. The trustees are satisfied that reserves are presently more than adequate to meet future expenditure. The Trustees have a policy of aiming to retain reserves equivalent to six months' average expenditure. This is due to the uncertain nature of funding received. The total reserve funds at the year-end were £25,167.

## Future plans

The trustees intend to continue provide relief in a similar manner as before.

## Statement of trustees' responsibilities

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare the financial statements for each financial year which show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and its financial activities for that year. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:


- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operational existence.

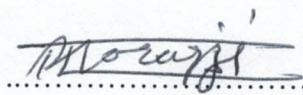
The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## Independent examiner

The trustees intend to ask the existing accountants to undertake the independent examination of the trust in the following year.

Signed on behalf of the trustees

..... Mr Zafar Khan – Chairperson

..... Mr Thakor Morarji– Treasurer

Date: 1806025



**Luton Council of Faiths**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**For the Period Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

|  | Notes | Unrestricted funds 2025 | Restricted income funds 2025 | Endowment Funds 2025 | Total funds 2025 | Total funds 2024 |
|--|-------|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Incoming resources</b>                                    |       |                         |                              |                      |                  |                  |
| <b>Income and endowments from:</b>                           |       |                         |                              |                      |                  |                  |
| - Donations and legacies                                     |       | 4,145                   | -                            | -                    | 4,145            | 4,786            |
| - Investments  |       | -                       | -                            | -                    | -                | -                |
| - Charitable activities                                      | 6     | 5,277                   | 45,714                       |                      | 50,991           | 47,423           |
| - Other Income   |       | -                       | 3,480                        |                      | 3,480            | -                |
| <b>Total incoming resources</b>                              |       | <b>9,422</b>            | <b>49,194</b>                | <b>-</b>             | <b>58,616</b>    | <b>52,209</b>    |
| <b>Resources expended</b>                                    |       |                         |                              |                      |                  |                  |
| <b>Expenditure on:</b>                                       | 4-10  |                         |                              |                      |                  |                  |
| Raising funds  |       | -                       | -                            | -                    | -                | -                |
| Costs of generating voluntary income                         |       | -                       | -                            | -                    | -                | -                |
| Fundraising trading costs                                    |       | -                       | -                            | -                    | -                | -                |
| Investment management costs                                  |       | -                       | -                            | -                    | -                | -                |
| Other Charitable activities                                  |       | 7,890                   | -                            | -                    | 7,890            | 6,470            |
| Charitable activities including Governance and support costs |       | -                       | 51,148                       | -                    | 51,148           | 51,230           |
| Other expenditure  |       | 25                      | -                            | -                    | 25               | 198              |
| <b>Total expenditure</b>                                     |       | <b>7,915</b>            | <b>51,148</b>                | <b>-</b>             | <b>59,063</b>    | <b>57,898</b>    |
| <b>Net Movement in Funds</b>                                 |       | <b>1,507</b>            | <b>(1,954)</b>               | <b>-</b>             | <b>(447)</b>     | <b>(5,689)</b>   |
| <b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>                               |       |                         |                              |                      |                  |                  |
| Total funds brought forward                                  |       | 39,003                  | (13,389)                     | -                    | 25,614           | 31,103           |
| <b>Total funds carried forward</b>                           |       | <b>40,510</b>           | <b>(15,343)</b>              | <b>-</b>             | <b>25,167</b>    | <b>25,614</b>    |

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these accounts.



# **Luton Council of Faiths**

## **Balance Sheet**

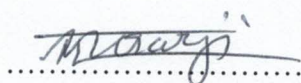
**As at 31<sup>ST</sup> March 2025**

|  | Notes | Unrestricted funds 2025 | Restricted income funds 2025 | Endowment Funds 2025 | Total this year 2025 | Total this year 2024 |
|--|-------|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b><u>Fixed Assets</u></b>                     |       |                         |                              |                      |                      |                      |
| Tangible Assets                                |       | -                       | -                            | -                    | -                    | -                    |
| <b>Total Fixed Assets</b>                      |       | -                       | -                            | -                    | -                    | -                    |
| <b><u>Current Assets</u></b>                   |       |                         |                              |                      |                      |                      |
| Debtors  | 11    |                         | -                            | -                    | -                    | -                    |
| Cash at bank and in hand                       |       | 26,987                  |                              | -                    | 26,987               | 27,521               |
| <b>Total current assets</b>                    |       | 26,987                  |                              | -                    | 26,987               | 27,521               |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year | 12    | (1,819)                 | -                            | -                    | (1,819)              | (1,907)              |
| <b>Net current assets</b>                      |       | <u>25,167</u>           | <u>-</u>                     | <u>-</u>             | <u>25,167</u>        | <u>25,614</u>        |
| <b><u>Funds of the Charity</u></b>             |       |                         |                              |                      |                      |                      |
| Unrestricted funds                             |       | 40,510                  |                              |                      | 40,510               | 39,003               |
| Restricted Income funds                        |       |                         | (15,343)                     |                      | (15,343)             | (13,389)             |
| Endowment funds                                |       |                         |                              | -                    | -                    | -                    |
| <b>Total funds</b>                             |       | 40,510                  | (15,343)                     |                      | <u>25,167</u>        | <u>25,614</u>        |

Approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:

 ..... Mr Zafar Khan - Chairperson

Date: 18/06/2025

 ..... Mr Thakor Morarji- Treasurer

Date: 18/06/2025



**Luton Council of Faiths**  
**Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

1. Accounting policies

- a) The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and with the Charities Act 2011.
- b) Recognition of Income – there are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources and monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.
- c) Investment income is recorded when receivable
- d) All expenditure is included in the accounts on an accrual basis. Irrecoverable VAT is charged to the SOFA as incurred.
- e) The restricted funds of the charity are expendable funds which is regularly increased or retained as capital at the trustees' discretion.
- f) All capital related expenditure costing more than £750 is capitalised. Depreciation on fixtures and fittings is charged on a straight line basis over 5 years.

2. Taxation

Luton Council of Faiths is a registered charity and accordingly is exempt from taxation on its income and gains where they apply to charitable purposes.

3. Restricted

The restricted donations in the current year and the previous year represent income mainly from Grants but also from donations to the Luton Council of Faiths restricted funds only.

4. Analysis of employees costs

|                   | 2025   | 2024   |
|-------------------|--------|--------|
|                   | £      | £      |
| Salaries and PAYE | 30,000 | 30,000 |
| Employers NIC     | -      | -      |
| Total             | 30,000 | 30,000 |

The number of full-time employees during the year was one and there were no average part time members of staff.

5. Related Party transactions

None of the trustees were paid any remuneration or expenses by the charity during the year (2024 £nil)



## 6. Analysis of Income from Charitable activities

|  | 2025<br>Unrestricted | 2025<br>Restricted | Total 2025    | Total 2024    |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|
|  | £                    | £                  | £             | £             |
| Bedfordshire & Luton Community Foundation and the Luton Rising-Community Investment Fund | -                    | 45,714             | 45,714        | 47,423        |
| Luton Borough council contributions  | 5,277                | -                  | 5,277         | -             |
| Other donations  | 4,145                | -                  | 4,145         | 4,786         |
| Total  | <u>9,422</u>         | <u>45,714</u>      | <u>55,136</u> | <u>52,209</u> |

## 7. Analysis of Other income

|                                     | 2025<br>Unrestricted | 2025<br>Restricted | Total 2025   | Total 2024 |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------|------------|
|                                     | £                    | £                  | £            | £          |
| Church Urban Fund – Near Neighbours | -                    | 3,480              | 3,480        | -          |
| Total                               | -                    | 3,480              | <u>3,480</u> | -          |

## 8. Analysis of Charitable expenditure

The charity has undertaken direct activity to meet its charitable purposes. The following is the analysis of the charity's direct expenditure:

|                                    | 2025<br>Unrestricted | 2025<br>Restricted | 2025<br>Total | 2024<br>Total |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                    | £                    | £                  | £             | £             |
| Books Resources                    | -                    | -                  | -             | -             |
| Other Events, Programmes and items | 7,890                | -                  | 7,890         | 6,470         |
| Total                              | 7,890                | -                  | 7,890         | 6,470         |



9. The resources expended by the charity include:

|                            | 2025 | 2025 |
|----------------------------|------|------|
| Independent examiner's fee | 600  | 600  |
| Total                      | 600  | 600  |

10. Other resources expended by the charity include:

|                                 | 2025<br>Unrestricted | 2025<br>Restricted | 2025<br>Total | 2024<br>Total |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                 | £                    | £                  | £             | £             |
| Near Neighbours                 | -                    | -                  | -             | -             |
| Charitable giving and donations | 25                   | -                  | 25            | 198           |
| <u>Total</u>                    | <u>25</u>            | <u>-</u>           | <u>25</u>     | <u>198</u>    |

11. Governance and Support costs

Support costs, consisting of the rent and rates and staff salaries are split between charitable activity and governance on an actual or equal estimated basis. This is because it is difficult to estimate the expense attributable to each activity. Support costs apportioned to the different aims of the charity are shown in the note below.

|                                    | Basis of<br>Apportionment | 2025<br>£    | 2025<br>£     | 2025<br>£     | 2024<br>£     |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                    |                           | Unrestricted | Restricted    | Total         | Total         |
| Office costs                       | Actual                    | -            | 3,662         | 3,662         | 2,001         |
| Subscriptions                      | Actual                    | -            | 33            | 33            | 80            |
| Travelling and general expenditure | Actual                    | -            | 688           | 688           | 655           |
| Equipment                          | Actual                    | -            | 42            | 42            | 1,684         |
| Salaries and staff costs           | Actual                    | -            | 30,001        | 30,001        | 30,087        |
| Pensions                           | Actual                    | -            | 2,100         | 2,100         | 2,100         |
| Grass roots                        | Actual                    | -            | 12,000        | 12,000        | 12,000        |
| Insurance                          | Actual                    | -            | 730           | 730           | 724           |
| Telephone                          | Actual                    | -            | 900           | 900           | 660           |
| Professional                       | Actual                    | -            | 772           | 772           | 772           |
| Advertising and publicity          | Actual                    | -            | 220           | 220           | 216           |
| Volunteering                       | Actual                    | -            | -             | -             | 338           |
| <u>Total</u>                       |                           | <u>-</u>     | <u>51,148</u> | <u>51,148</u> | <u>51,230</u> |



## Tangible Fixed Assets

There were no movements or any tangible fixed assets currently held by the Charity during the year.

### 12. Analysis of Debtors.

|                  | 2025 |  | 2024 |
|------------------|------|--|------|
| Restricted funds | -    |  | -    |
| Total            | -    |  | -    |

### 13. Analysis of Creditors

|                            | 2025         |  | 2024         |
|----------------------------|--------------|--|--------------|
| Independent examiner's fee | 600          |  | 600          |
| PAYE                       | 1,219        |  | 1,307        |
| Total                      | <u>1,819</u> |  | <u>1,907</u> |

## Independent examiner's Report to the Trustees of Luton Council of Faiths

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 which are set out on pages 8 to 15.

### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true or fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### Independent examiner's statement

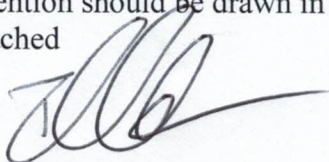
In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep proper accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the account to be reached.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



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