

**Urban Expression
Financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

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**Urban Expression
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

Full name Urban Expression

Charity Number 1090734

Principal address

21 Forest Hill Road
London
SE22 0SG

Trustees

Andy Dorton (chair)
Dirk Uitterdijk
Emma Macintosh
Bev Thomas
Keith Lewis (treasurer)
Jen Johnson
Rachel Meyrick

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank

Independent examiner

Daryl Denson ACMA
Employee of VAST
The Dudson Centre
Hope Street
Hanley
Stoke on Trent
ST1 5DD

Urban Expression Trustees' annual report for the year ended 31 December 2024

Objectives and activities

The objectives of the charity are:

- To advance the Christian faith in London and in such parts of the United Kingdom as the trustees may from time-to-time think fit by recruiting, equipping, deploying, and supporting teams which will pioneer innovative and relevant expressions of the Christian Church.
- To fulfil such other purposes which are exclusively charitable in the law of England and Wales and are connected with the charitable work of the Trust.

Structure, Governance and Management

Urban Expression is a registered charity, governed by declaration of trust executed on the 8 October 2001 as amended 11 June 2008 and by deeds of variation dated 21 April 2010 and 12 July 2010.

Funds transferred into the organisation

During the period CURBS (Children in Urban Situations) and Urban Life were absorbed into the organisation

Public Benefit

Urban Expression has continued to recruit, equip, deploy and network mission partners in economically deprived and other marginalised neighbourhoods in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. A small team of coordinators is primarily responsible for supporting these mission partners.

Coastal Expression, which operates under the auspices of Urban Expression, has continued to develop and has hosted online and in-person events for pioneers in coastal communities.

We have continued to run the Crucible course, especially in partnership with The Methodist Church. We have also continued to run the Black Light course in partnership with the Ascension Trust. With our partners, Urban Life, we have facilitated Communities of Practice to enable participants in these courses to embed what they have learned in their ongoing practice.

We have provided coaching for pioneers working under the auspices of the Church at the Margins initiative of The Methodist Church.

In 2023 we absorbed CURBS (Children in Urban Situations) and Urban Life under the umbrella organisation of Urban Expression, although both of these projects maintain their own unique areas of focus within the overall objectives of Urban Expression. We are working on creating a more holistic mission agency, which offers support, training and opportunities for ongoing learning both for those new to the organisation and those who have been connected to UE for some time.

Our trustees have continued to meet four times a year in order to oversee the activities of the Trust. The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

**Urban Expression
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

Summary of achievements and performance

We have had some new mission partners join Urban Expression, so we now have more mission partners in more locations than ever before. Our mission partners are involved in a wide range of incarnational mission activities, including church planting.

We gathered for our annual Community Weekend in June, attended by nearly 80 people. There were also regional gatherings in the north and south of England, as well as in Scotland enabled mission partners in these areas to connect with each other. In common with many other organisations post-pandemic, we are increasingly connecting online, but we value in-person gatherings.

The Black Light course has proved very popular and has continued to attract good numbers from many contexts. Feedback has been very encouraging.

With the addition of CURBs and Urban Life, we feel excited about the possibilities for more joined up mission and reflection on best practice. We believe that we will be able to offer mission partners, and grassroots leaders more opportunities for learning from others who are pioneering in marginalised and deprived communities.

Financial review: The organisation's policy on reserves

The charity reserves policy guidelines are to set aside funds to cover statutory redundancy payments with an additional amount to cover six months operating costs.

The total unrestricted free reserves held at the year-end were £70,262 (2023: £91,600).

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

Signed next Date 30.8.2025

Name Andrew Dorton

Position Chair of Trustees

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of
Urban Expression ("The Trust")
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2024.

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").


I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- Accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with the records; or
- The accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirements that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

Signed  Date 23/10/2025
Daryl Denson ACMA
VAST

Urban Expression
Receipts & payments account
for the year ended 31 December 2024


	2024 £	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Receipts				
Donations	2,081	5,779	7,860	55,472
Black light Income	-	1,680	1,680	3,642
Crucible Income	-	1,333	1,333	699
Grants Received	47,795	40,575	88,370	99,726
Events	-	-	-	2,887
Gift Aid	-	833	833	5,048
Sales	-	261	261	323
Services Level Agreements	980	-	980	1,360
Community Weekend	-	2,077	2,077	-
Urban Life	3,609	600	4,209	-
Other	30	33	63	1,128
Total receipts	54,495	53,171	107,666	170,285
Payments				
Staff Costs	55,637	17,934	73,571	64,380
Crucible Fees	7	900	907	972
Accommodation	-	-	-	1,847
BL Speaker Fees	-	1,325	1,325	1,225
Travel and Subsistence	2,759	869	3,628	5,404
Administration	910	5	915	2,091
Room Hire Meetings	370	2,455	2,825	481
Training Events	80	14	94	948
Publicity	50	-	50	251
Insurance	788	-	788	650
Payroll Fees	367	-	367	509
Community Weekend	84	9,308	9,392	11,093
Self Employed Costs	7,186	4,765	11,951	5,929
Legal and Professional Fees	-	-	-	450
Purchases	-	218	218	200
Other Costs	685	500	1,185	1,503
Trustee Reimbursement	325	-	325	-
Independent Examiner's fee	-	-	-	418
Total payments	69,248	38,293	107,541	98,351
Net receipts/(payments)	(14,753)	14,878	125	71,934
Transfers between funds	(9,539)	9,539	-	-
Cash funds brought forward	94,554	42,851	137,405	65,471
Cash funds carried forward	70,262	67,268	137,530	137,405

**Urban Expression
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
at 31 December 2024**

	2024	2023
Cash assets	£	£
Current account	123,493	122,578
Savings account	14,037	14,037
Paypal	-	790
	<u>137,530</u>	<u>137,405</u>

Liabilities		
Independent Examiner's Fee	438	438
	<u>438</u>	<u>438</u>

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the organisation by:

Signed  Date 24/10/2025

Name Andrew Dorton

Position Chair of Trustees

Urban Expression
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2024

1. Receipts & payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the organisation during the financial year. In this context “cash” includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

2. Creditors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accountancy	-	438
	-	438

3. Trustees’ remuneration

No trustees received remuneration during the period. The number of trustees who were reimbursed expenses was £0 (2023: £0).

4. Movement of Funds

	Opening balance	Receipts	(Payments)	Transfer	Closing balance
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds					
BMS	-	-	-	-	-
EMBA	-	-	-	-	-
YBA	-	-	-	-	-
Other	1,996	-	-	-	1,996
A.S.Charitable Trust	1,015	-	-	-	1,015
Coastal Expression	14,735	21,174	(8,449)	-	27,460
Rural Ministries	2,388	-	-	-	2,388
Mennonite Grant	544	-	-	-	544
Community Weekend	-	2,077	(10,128)	8,051	-
AM Network	-	4,742	(3,992)	-	750
BL Project	3,636	-	(1,185)	-	2,451
Black Light	1,772	1,680	(1,575)	-	1,877
BU Mission Fund	8,131	8,384	-	-	16,515
Coaching for Methodists	480	-	(480)	-	-
Crucible	-	1,333	(986)	-	347
Curbs	2,578	7,212	(3,313)	-	6,477
HEBA	171	6,308	(7,967)	1,488	-
Urban Life	5,405	-	0	-	5,405
Books	-	261	(218)	-	43
	42,851	53,171	(38,293)	9,539	67,268
	Opening balance	Receipts	(Payments)	Transfer	Closing balance
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General Funds	94,554	54,495	(69,248)	(9,539)	70,262
	94,554	54,495	(69,248)	(9,539)	70,262
Total funds	137,405	107,666	(107,541)	-	137,530

**Urban Expression
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

5. Purposes of Restricted Funds

Coastal Expression – funding given specifically for the Coastal Expression initiative.

Rural Ministries provided funding to support the work of a coordinator particularly on the Crucible course

Mennonite Grant - provided funding for a coordinator role.

Community Fund - grants given to subsidise the annual community weekend.

AM Network – providing funding towards a coordinator salary

BL Project – project funding

Black Light – monies ring-fenced for the Black Light Course

BU Mission Fund – grant funding to support coordinator time to deliver the Impact Report project

Crucible Course – monies ring-fenced for the Crucible Course

Curbs – monies allotted to the Curbs initiative

HEBA – grant funding support for the Midlands region Coordinator's salary

Urban Life – ring-fenced funding for the Urban Life initiative

Books – from the sale of books