

**Charity number: 1096617**

**The Guild of Our Lady of Good Counsel**  
**Trustees' report and financial statements**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2024**

# **The Guild of Our Lady of Good Counsel**

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# **The Guild of Our Lady of Good Counsel**

## **Legal and administrative information**

<b>Charity number</b>	1096617
<b>Registered office</b>	15 Maple Grove London NW9 8RD
<b>Trustees</b>	Mrs Clare McCullough (Chairman) Alan Ashfield Mrs Sarah Bignell Mrs. Marguerita Carroll (Treasurer) Fr Stephen Boyle
<b>Accountants</b>	Andrew Passer FIFA 20 Sunningdale Close Stanmore Middlesex HA7 3QL
<b>Bankers</b>	HSBC 59- 61 The Mall Stratford Centre Stratford London E15 1XF
<b>Solicitors</b>	Pothecary, Witham Weld Solicitors 70 St George's Square London SW1V 3RD

## **The Guild of Our Lady of Good Counsel**

### **Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024**

The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 1.

#### **Structure, governance and management**

The charity is governed by five Trustees. The trustees are appointed every four years at the Charity's AGM and the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer constitute the Officers. The trustees meet four times a year to consider strategic issues and policies affecting the Charity. Further meetings of the Trustees can be called as required. The Trustees ensure that they have taken the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance into account when making any decision it is relevant to.

#### **Objectives and activities**

*The charity's principal objectives are as follows:*

The provision of education, instruction and information on the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church particularly in relation to sexual morality and life issues.

The relief in cases of need, hardship or distress of women who are pregnant or are mothers, and of their families and dependants.

The provision of financial support to organisations which assist women who are pregnant or are mothers by providing them with services such as financial assistance, counselling, support, information, safe-houses, accommodation, education, employment, baby-sitting, and services which assist women in continuing their pregnancies, provided that all such services are in accordance with the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church.

#### **Achievements and performance**

The Guild this year has been able to provide grants of £224,790 (2023 £195,040) to organisations which provide appropriate ongoing support and advice and information to expectant and new Mothers. We have also provided £97,876 (2023 £99,363) worth of grants to individual Mothers in the most difficult of circumstances. Finally, we have provided thousands of pounds worth of baby clothes, milk, nappies and new and used baby equipment. We continue to increase the amount of financial support and vouchers we provide because of the increased cost of living.

#### **Financial review**

Total income increased from £329,245 last year to £542,985 this year, whilst our charitable expenditure increased by £89,616 from £413,759 to £502,375. The Trustees are happy to report that we still have a healthy cumulative surplus of £1,266,867 to be carried forward for future years. We continue to assist other charities, councils and social services departments by keeping expectant and new Mothers in accommodation through helping with their rent, and we also provide financial support, maternity goods and assistance in the home or with temporary childcare solutions for Mothers with little or no access to public funds. Our Internship (Voluntary Worker) Programme continues to provide training which we hope will give volunteers the ability and incentive to spread this work more widely.

#### **Plans for future periods**

We are growing our baby bank, as well as considering developing more help with accommodation as homelessness amongst our beneficiaries seems to be increasing.

## **The Guild of Our Lady of Good Counsel**

### **Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024**

#### **Statement of trustees' responsibilities**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year. In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material 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 operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. 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. The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty in section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

On behalf of the board

Mrs Clare McCullough (Chairman)

**Trustee**

27 January 2025

## **The Guild of Our Lady of Good Counsel**

### **Independent examiner's report to the trustees on the unaudited financial statements of The Guild of Our Lady of Good Counsel.**

I report on the accounts of The Guild of Our Lady of Good Counsel for the year ended 31 March 2024 set out on pages 2 to 12.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent examiner**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, you consider that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act), does not apply and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act, as amended; to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, as amended; and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's statement**

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 the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (i) 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 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Acthave not been met; or
- (ii) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Andrew Passer FIFA**

**Independent examiner**  
**27 January 2025**

# The Guild of Our Lady of Good Counsel

## Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
<b>Incoming resources</b>				
Incoming resources from generating funds:				
Voluntary income	2	497,744	497,744	327,737
Activities for generating funds	3	45,170	45,170	-
Investment income	4	71	71	1,508
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>542,985</u>	<u>542,985</u>	<u>329,245</u>
<b>Resources expended</b>				
Costs of generating funds:				
Fundraising trading:				
cost of goods sold and other costs	5	30,150	30,150	732
Charitable activities	6	468,872	468,872	403,522
Governance costs	8	3,353	3,353	9,505
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<u>502,375</u>	<u>502,375</u>	<u>413,759</u>
 Total funds brought forward		 <u>1,226,257</u>	 <u>1,226,257</u>	 <u>1,310,771</u>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>1,266,867</u>	<u>1,266,867</u>	<u>1,226,257</u>

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form an integral part of these financial statements.

## The Guild of Our Lady of Good Counsel

### Balance sheet as at 31 March 2024

		2024		2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	12		1,175,172		1,203,908
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	13	27,022		33,036	
Cash at bank and in hand		84,544		12,274	
		<u>111,566</u>		<u>45,310</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	14	<u>(1,871)</u>		<u>(4,961)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>109,695</u>		<u>40,349</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			1,284,867		1,244,257
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	15		<u>(18,000)</u>		<u>(18,000)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>			<u>1,266,867</u>		<u>1,226,257</u>
<b>Funds</b>	16				
Unrestricted income funds			<u>1,266,867</u>		<u>1,226,257</u>
<b>Total funds</b>			<u>1,266,867</u>		<u>1,226,257</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 27 January 2025 and signed on its behalf by

**Mrs Clare McCullough (Chairman)**  
Trustee

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form an integral part of these financial statements.



# **The Guild of Our Lady of Good Counsel**

## **Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024**

### **1. Accounting policies**

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and the preceding year.

#### **1.1. Basis of accounting**

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (FRSSE)

#### **1.2. Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable. Grants where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included.

Gifts donated for resale are included as incoming resources within activities for generating funds when they are sold.

Income from investments is included in the year in which it is receivable.

Legacies are included when the charity is advised by the personal representative of an estate that payment will be made or property transferred and the amount involved can be quantified.

#### **1.3. Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income including events.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Fund raising costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and do not include the costs of disseminating information in support of the charitable activities.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management.

# The Guild of Our Lady of Good Counsel

## Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

### 1.4. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Land and buildings	-	Straight line over 50 years
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	-	20% straight line

### 2. Voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
General Donations	188,991	188,991	156,829
Donations via gift aid	175,375	175,375	130,945
Gift aid tax recovered	43,781	43,781	32,586
Other donations	4,227	4,227	1,289
Legacies	85,370	85,370	6,088
	<u>497,744</u>	<u>497,744</u>	<u>327,737</u>

### 3. Activities for generating funds

	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Fundraising events	45,170	45,170	-
	<u>45,170</u>	<u>45,170</u>	<u>-</u>

### 4. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Other interest receivable	71	71	1,508
	<u>71</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>1,508</u>

### 5. Fundraising trading

	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Fundraising events	30,150	30,150	732
	<u>30,150</u>	<u>30,150</u>	<u>732</u>

# The Guild of Our Lady of Good Counsel

## Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

### 6. Costs of charitable activities - by fund type

	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Grants to GCN London	224,790	224,790	195,040
Interns	8,392	8,392	11,606
Grants to mothers	99,363	99,363	97,876
Building expenses	50,354	50,354	44,080
Support costs	85,973	85,973	54,920
	<u>468,872</u>	<u>468,872</u>	<u>403,522</u>

### 7. Costs of charitable activities - by activity

	Activities undertaken directly £	Grant funding activities £	Support costs £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Grants to GCN London	-	224,790	-	224,790	195,040
Interns	8,392	-	-	8,392	11,606
Grants to mothers	-	99,363	-	99,363	97,876
Building expenses	50,354	-	-	50,354	44,080
Support costs	283	-	85,690	85,973	54,920
	<u>59,029</u>	<u>324,153</u>	<u>85,690</u>	<u>468,872</u>	<u>403,522</u>

### 8. Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Professional - Accountancy fees	2,102	2,102	3,607
Professional - Legal fees	1,200	1,200	5,898
Interest - Bank loans & overdraft	51	51	-
	<u>3,353</u>	<u>3,353</u>	<u>9,505</u>

# The Guild of Our Lady of Good Counsel

## Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

### 9. Analysis of support costs

	Unrestricted Funds	2024 Total	2023 Total
	£	£	£
Staff costs	31,968	31,968	19,516
Telephone	3,164	3,164	3,271
Printing, postage and stationery	27,059	27,059	27,587
Depreciation and impairment	2,142	2,142	1,662
Bank charges	1,419	1,419	987
Other costs	19,938	19,938	1,797
	<u>85,690</u>	<u>85,690</u>	<u>54,820</u>

### 10. Employees

Employment costs	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	<u>31,968</u>	<u>19,516</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 (2023 : None).

#### Number of employees

The average monthly numbers of employees (including the trustees) during the year, calculated on the basis of full time equivalents, was as follows:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Administration	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>

### 11. Trustees' emoluments

None of the trustees were paid any remuneration or expenses during the year (2018 - £nil)

# The Guild of Our Lady of Good Counsel

## Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

12. Tangible fixed assets	Land and buildings freehold	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
	£	£	£
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 April 2023	1,369,797	40,413	1,410,210
Additions	-	803	803
At 31 March 2024	<u>1,369,797</u>	<u>41,216</u>	<u>1,411,013</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 April 2023	169,591	36,711	206,302
Charge for the year	27,397	2,142	29,539
At 31 March 2024	<u>196,988</u>	<u>38,853</u>	<u>235,841</u>
<b>Net book values</b>			
At 31 March 2024	<u>1,172,809</u>	<u>2,363</u>	<u>1,175,172</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>1,200,206</u>	<u>3,702</u>	<u>1,203,908</u>

  

13. Debtors	2024	2023
	£	£
Other debtors	<u>27,022</u>	<u>33,036</u>

  

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	955	4,349
Other creditors	916	612
	<u>1,871</u>	<u>4,961</u>

  

15. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	2024	2023
	£	£
Other loan	<u>18,000</u>	<u>18,000</u>

## The Guild of Our Lady of Good Counsel

### Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

#### 16. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Total funds £
Fund balances at 31 March 2024 as represented by:		
Tangible fixed assets	1,175,182	1,175,182
Current assets	111,566	111,566
Current liabilities	(1,871)	(1,871)
Long-term liabilities	(18,000)	(18,000)
	<u>1,266,877</u>	<u>1,266,877</u>

#### 17. Unrestricted funds

	2023 £	Incoming resources £	Outgoing resources £	2024 £
Unrestricted Funds	<u>1,226,257</u>	<u>542,985</u>	<u>(502,375)</u>	<u>1,266,867</u>

#### Purposes of unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds may be used for any purpose deemed by the trustees to comply with the objects of the charity