GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

England & Wales · Charity number 1123831

Details

Other names	SWINDON FAMILY CHURCH
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Company number	06541956
Registered	2008-04-23
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Gateway Church Stonehill Green Westlea Swindon SN5 7AR
Phone	01793526130
Email	info@gcswindon.org.uk
Website	www.gatewaychurchswindon.org.uk

Activities

Objects: 1 TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATEMENT OF BELIEFS IN SUCH WAYS AND IN SUCH PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OR THE WORLD AS THE TRUSTEES FROM TIME TO TIME MAY THINK FIT.2 TO RELIEVE SICKNESS AND FINANCIAL HARDSHIP AND TO PROMOTE AND PRESERVE GOOD HEALTH BY THE PROVISION OF FUNDS, GOODS OR SERVICES OF ANY KIND, INCLUDING THROUGH THE PROVISION OF COUNSELLING AND SUPPORT IN SUCH PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OR THE WORLD AS THE TRUSTEES FROM TIME TO TIME MAY THINK FIT;3 TO ADVANCE EDUCATION IN SUCH WAYS AND IN SUCH PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OR THE WORLD AS THE TRUSTEES FROM TIME TO TIME MAY THINK FIT.

Activities: Gateway Church Swindon aims to be a continuously growing community of Christian believers who are making a significant spiritual contribution locally, nationally and internationally.

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Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, SWINDON AND SOUTH AFRICA
- Burundi
- Swindon

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£545,014	£569,297	£152,102	14
2024-03-31	£536,764	£487,795	£176,385	9
2023-03-31	£481,960	£577,340	-	-
2022-03-31	£570,610	£626,892	£222,796	12
2021-03-31	£584,512	£483,319	£279,078	12

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
MARK KEVIN OWEN ACA	Chair	
Andrew Edward Colin Neale		2019-12-11
Hyeladzira Paul Thahal		2024-02-12
Mallika Ebenezar		2019-12-11
NIGEL JEREMY HOWARTH		
Thomas Edward Halliwell		2024-01-23

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GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

England & Wales - Charity number 1123831

Accounts

GATEWAY
CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2025

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2025

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GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2025

Company Information

Charity Name	Gateway Church Swindon
Company Registration Number	06541956
Charity Registration Number	1123831
Governing Document	Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 21/03/2008
Trustees	Mark Owen (Chair) Nigel Howarth Andrew Neale Mallika Ebenezar Thomas Halliwell Hyeladzira Thahal Colin Thornton (resigned 09/10/2025)
Company Secretary	Nigel Howarth
Registered Address	The Trinity Centre Stonehill Green Westlea Swindon Wiltshire SN5 7AR
Senior Management Team	Nigel Howarth (Chief Executive and Team Leader) Al Cotton (Elder) Callum Lympany (Elder) Robert Sinclair (Elder) Colin Thornton (resigned 09/10/2025)
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC Barclays Business Centre 10-14 High Street Swindon Wiltshire SN1 3ED
Independent Examiner	Nick Spear ACCA Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage London EC1Y 8AB

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2025

Trustees' Report

1. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

1.1. Structure

Gateway Church Swindon ('GCS') was incorporated in March 2008 as a company limited by guarantee and is the successor charity to Swindon Family Church.

GCS is a diverse Christian church based in Swindon, Wiltshire. It is part of Regions Beyond, an international network of churches overseen by Fusi Mokoena, and is part of the Newfrontiers family of churches. It is also a member of the Evangelical Alliance. No external party, including the Evangelical Alliance, Newfrontiers and Regions Beyond, took decisions or had voting rights in the governance of GCS.

1.2. Governance

The charity is governed by the trustees, who are appointed for the skills and experience that they may offer in contributing to the governance of the charity. Trustees must subscribe and adhere to, in belief and lifestyle, the statement of beliefs set out in the memorandum and articles of association and are typically invited from existing church members.

The trustees have adopted a policy for the induction and training of new trustees, including providing each trustee with the following:

- A copy of the governing documents,
- The most recent annual report and accounts,
- Current job description for trustee or trustee chair (as appropriate),
- A copy of appropriate Charity Commission publications.

New trustees are made aware of the charity's professional advisors, accountants and any current issues. They are also made aware of the organisational management structure, employees and their responsibilities. They are given the opportunity to meet staff members to be appraised of matters of current activities.

The trustees meet at least four times a year, where aims, strategies and policies for achieving the charity's responsibilities and objectives are agreed and reviewed regularly. The trustees have overall legal and financial responsibility for the charity.

The trustees have appointed a senior management team, who have been given delegated responsibility for the spiritual and strategic direction of the church. The senior managers, together with other staff, also meet regularly and deal with the day-to-day management and running of the activities. Senior managers report to the trustees on the progress of activities, performance results and plans.

Trustees' Report

The trustees agree on the salary structure for all staff employed by the charity, which includes the senior management team. All staff have contracts and job descriptions and are paid commensurate with the level of responsibility that they hold. The salary structure is reviewed annually.

As at 31 March 2025, the charity had seven trustees and five elders, who formed the senior management team. Since the year-end, however, there has been a change in the senior management team, so that Nigel Howarth is now the Chief Executive and Team Leader. Colin Thornton has also resigned from his position as a trustee and elder (member of the senior management team).

1.3. Risk Management

The trustees have recognised the importance of assessing and managing the risk associated with the charity's objectives and have overall responsibility for determining risk management policy, defining what is required and methods of how risks are identified, assessed, handled, reviewed and reported. The senior management team have responsibility for implementing and maintaining systems consistent with this policy. The charity has a set of comprehensive policy and procedure documents in place to ensure on-going identification and management of risks. A system has been implemented whereby potential risks are considered, categorised (financial, external, operational, governance, and legal, regulatory and compliance risks), graded by the likelihood of occurrence and impact and the results recorded in the risk register. The system continues with procedures to mitigate those risks, by minimising the likelihood and any potential impact should those risks materialise, and report and review outstanding medium or high rated risks.

The trustees and the senior management team regularly review progress against budgeted financial plans and non-financial criteria. Accounts are prepared every month so that financial risks can be identified early and appropriate action taken. While it is recognised that the procedures do not provide absolute assurance against loss or material misstatements, the trustees are of the opinion that proper systems of risk management and control are in place within the charity.

1.4. Other Policies and Procedures

The trustees have established, and regularly review, policies on the following:

- Safeguarding for children and young people, and adults at risk of harm,
- Health and safety and related legislation.
- Data protection and related legislation.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2025

Trustees' Report

2. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

2.1. Objectives

The objects of GCS, as stated in the memorandum and articles of association, are as follows:

- To advance the Christian faith in accordance with the statement of beliefs in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees from time to time may think fit.
- To advance education in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees from time to time may think fit.
- To relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind, including through the provision of counselling and support in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees from time to time may think fit.

2.2. Vision & Mission

The trustees note that the Church is not a building, but a gathering of ordinary people of different ages and backgrounds, whose lives have been changed by Jesus Christ, the Son of God. The New Testament reveals the Church as a community of people, properly taught and cared for, who by loving and serving Jesus Christ, were also committed to love and care for each other and to be a blessing to the area in which they lived. GCS, its trustees, elders, and members, are committed to the continuation of those New Testament principles. GCS is not alone in this; it is one of many churches in the area, country, and all over the world who are inviting people to re-discover the excitement of knowing Jesus Christ.

The vision of GCS is to see Swindon come to life in God. We will do this by giving ourselves away through equipping, sending, partnering, & resourcing.

2.3. Values

The Trustees and elders have sought to work out how best to express the vision in the context of week-to-week church activities, values and life. The following ten value statements aim to summarise what GCS prioritises and strives for, as it works out its vision of seeing Swindon come to life in God:

- **We're scattered servants on mission in our communities.** God sends. He sent his Son into the world to save, and Jesus has passed on that mission to us (Matthew 28:19). That means we don't focus on doing things 'our way', but instead we encourage each other to serve where we live and be the Church in our community.
- **We're here for one another's success.** We sacrifice our own time, finance, profile, and success in order that others will benefit. This means we want to equip each person, including our children and young people, to be as effective as possible in the areas Jesus has called them to.

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Trustees' Report

- **We're part of a bigger story.** We believe that where trust and unity exist, God moves. Hope for Swindon is found in the unity of his followers. So, we seek to actively support, work with, and love other churches in Swindon, the UK, and across the world. Love and unity on display in the Church is one of our most effective tools.
- **We reflect the diversity of our town & we proclaim the diversity of God's Kingdom.** We're intentional about raising up leaders from other cultures, other social backgrounds, male and female, young and old. We want to learn to serve and love those from different backgrounds better. Society longs for unity and inclusion, but it lacks the power to achieve it. What society is unable to do, God is able to do through the power of the gospel and His Spirit.
- **We go above and beyond to do the impossible.** One of the characteristics of a Christian is that we reflect God's extravagant generosity. Faith-filled generosity allows the disadvantaged to be cared for, the gospel to be preached, and the Church family to be strengthened. We want to be known for our generosity – as those who contribute and not just consume.
- **We're fuelled by the Spirit and faithful to the Word.** We desire that every Christian live in the fullness of life in the Spirit, for the full range of spiritual gifts we read about in the Bible to be exercised amongst us, and for all people to know they are a valued member of the Church and have something to contribute. We're also committed to the faithful preaching and teaching of the Bible and aim to shape all we are and do by it.
- **We're created for community.** The Church is not a club or a business, but a new kind of family. We therefore pursue community-forming activities and gather together regularly. We train, raise, and release men and women into leadership. We also value the importance of biblical eldership – a team of men who seek to father the local church through their leadership. We also delight in the natural expressions of family. We guard biblical marriage and see the raising of children as a responsibility that isn't just for parents but for the entire church community. We also celebrate the gift of singleness and seek to hold it in the same high esteem as the New Testament.
- **We're motivated by grace.** We are a people of grace, because God has poured out his grace upon us. We want to be a Church that expresses God's grace to one another and to the world around us. Freely we've received, so freely we will give. We're a community with a wide front door for anyone to come through, knowing that Jesus ate with the people his society despised. We want to live in the same way, so no matter where people have come from, their background or life circumstances, we want them to encounter the love and grace of Jesus.
- **We're here for the city.** God has placed us in Swindon and all we are and do seeks to bring about the transformation of our town. So, we encourage people to serve in every area of society, seeking its blessing and transformation – whether it's local government, business, healthcare, charity, or something else – knowing that they bring the grace and love of Jesus with them as they serve.
- **We seek to make the last the first.** We seek to continue the directive of the New Testament to 'remember the poor', knowing that we serve a God who 'raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people' (Psalm 113:7-8).

Trustees' Report

2.4. Significant Activities

The significant activities, programmes and projects used by GCS are:

Sunday Gatherings
The focus of Sunday gatherings is to gather together before God in worship, to open the Bible together, to teach, share communion, baptise new believers, and encourage and pray for one another. All are welcome to join a Sunday gathering, whether church members, their families, or visitors.

Groups
Groups are a support network enabling (primarily) those connected to GCS to find community, support, care, and help.

Children and Youth Work
GCS provides different age group meetings on a Sunday and at other points throughout the week for children and young adults. We subsidise the cost of the Newday summer camp for those young adults who attend.

Safeguarding Training
We continue to provide ongoing training in safeguarding for those in GCS working with children and young people, as well as those working with adults with care and support needs.

WAY
WAY is a young-person-led initiative, developing projects to bring lasting change in the lives of young people and their communities. A separate charity has now been established for this activity, and staff and projects were transferred from GCS in February 2025.

Good News for Swindon
We continue to be actively involved with Good News for Swindon, a network of churches in the town, seeking to work together for the good of Swindon. Nigel Howarth leads the Good News for Swindon network.

Outreach Activities
Two employees of GCS give a significant proportion of their employed time to leading and supporting various projects, unity initiatives, and churches around the town. We continue to employ two individuals part-time to work as pastor and outreach worker for another local church in the town, Penhill Community Church. Additionally, GCS set a budget of 'giving away' an equivalent of 10% of its unrestricted income for the purposes of local and international mission – whether through grant-funding, employment, etc. At the year-end, the final figure was slightly under at 9.7% of total unrestricted funds.

2.5. Public Benefit

In planning the activities of the charity, the Trustees have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

2.6. Volunteers

Much of the work of GCS continues to be dependent on the unpaid services of church members. The trustees recognise the essential resource provided by the many people within GCS who freely give of their time and would like to continue to acknowledge and thank them. We cannot attempt to place a value on the immensely significant contribution that our volunteers make, and we are grateful to them for their time and commitment.

2.7. Grant-Making Policy

Grants are made by the charity to both external organisations and individuals, as part of achieving its activities and objectives. Grants and gifts are considered on the basis of need and fulfilment of the charitable objectives. There are no upper or lower limits of support.

Trustees' Report

3. ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

3.1. Building a Family of Believers

The church continues to hold public gatherings, where through singing, communion, prayer and teaching the Bible, we encourage people to live as disciples of Jesus. These gatherings also provide an opportunity for individuals to share personal testimony, respond to the claims of the Christian faith, and for new believers' baptisms.

The Sunday gatherings have activities of worship for all ages, not just adults. There is children's work for ages 2-4, 5-8, and 9-11, as well as youth work for those aged 11-18, and a space for parents of 0-2s to bring their children and connect with others. The children's team enjoy serving the children through games, worship, bible teaching, and exploring creativity in arts and craft. Good numbers of children are attending each week and the children's team leaders continue to work hard at building and developing the teams. In each of the groups, we have bright and varied curriculums which are age appropriate. Our children's work is structured to encourage the best from the children and help parents feel comfortable leaving their children in our care. Part of this is a continued commitment to safeguarding children and training our volunteers in safeguarding best practice.

As well as the age-related groups meeting on Sunday mornings, young adults (11-18) continued to meet during the week on a regular basis. During the year, we took 46 young adults to the Newday festival. In the summer of 2025, since the year-end, we took another 49 young adults.

There are many opportunities which allow most in the congregation to have some involvement in expressing their Christian faith practically as they work together and serve others. This could be through being part of the Welcome Team serving on a Sunday, working as part of the Worship Team, working with Authentic (our youth ministry) on a weekday night, or through volunteering with others we work with in the town.

Through the groups meeting at various points throughout the week, relationships continue to grow and gifts are developed as members care for and encourage one another. Groups provide an opportunity for individuals form the diverse backgrounds at GCS to meet together, often in homes, but also at the building we use. Some groups have a more specific focus when meeting together, such as a morning group for mothers and toddlers or a writing group, while others provide an opportunity to form relationships, care for one another practically, and encourage each other in faith. The group for students and twenties continues to thrive.

A number from different churches across the town continue to meet on Zoom to pray early every week day. We gather to pray every Sunday before the public meeting, as well as a number of other times each month. We joined in with Thy Kingdom Come, a global ecumenical period of prayer started by the Church of England. In January 2025, we also held a month of prayer where approximately 80% of church members attended prayer gatherings.

Trustees' Report

3.2. Serving and Influencing Swindon

GCS continues to employ an individual to work as a pastor for Penhill Community Church, with other churches in the town contributing towards his salary. Additionally, we employ another individual to work as an Outreach Worker in the Penhill area, funded by Penhill Community Church.

We believe that Penhill Community Church is a model for planting churches into the town and surrounding areas, with churches from different denominations and traditions in Swindon sending people to help plant it, as well as providing finance in different forms, whether for building renovations or the employment of staff. We believe that this clearly expresses the unity that Jesus desires for his church. Conversations about how we can facilitate similar church plants in the future remain ongoing.

This year, we employed a number of individuals to work on the young-person-led initiative, named WAY, aiming to support young people across the town, particularly with five areas of impact: increased engagement in education, reduced hospital admissions, reduced incidents of violence and crime, sustained employment, and improved mental health and wellbeing. Grant-funding was received from a number of organisations to facilitate this. The project manager spent much of his time facilitating three areas of ongoing provision: meeting young people in crisis moments at the Accident and Emergency service at Great Western Hospital; providing ongoing, long-term mentoring in young people's lives; and equipping young people to lead on shaping change in their own communities. As of February 2025, all staff and projects related to WAY were moved to a separate charity, WAY UK, to further facilitate the work in the town. We were able to give WAY UK a £12,000 grant in the year to help fund their ongoing work in the town.

Additionally, we were able to continue financially supporting Safe Families, a charity supporting children, young people, and families in Swindon and across the UK.

3.3. Taking the Gospel to the Ends of the Earth

We continue to actively develop links within Regions Beyond, the international network of churches overseen by Fusi Mokoena and part of the Newfrontiers family. This included making a number of grants to Regions Beyond to facilitate their work in church-planting and serving those in need across the world. Nigel Howarth serves as a trustee of Regions Beyond UK. We were also able to financially support a Regions Beyond church in Birmingham and give a small amount to support a Regions Beyond church in South Africa. Additionally, members of the senior management team attended regular meetings with other elders and leaders from Regions Beyond churches in the West of the UK.

Links with Burundi and City Gate Church in Bujumbura remain strong. We were able to take up another special offering to continue grant-funding part of an ongoing project led by Hope for Tomorrow Global, a UK charity that facilitates much of the work in Burundi that we have an ongoing partnership with. These funds have been transferred since the year-end.

Additionally, we were able to continue financially supporting Gather Movement (Transforming Places CIO), a movement of over 8000 churches and charities in over 150 towns and cities that are working together to foster transformation in the places they are based.

Trustees' Report

4. FINANCIAL REVIEW

4.1. Overview

The year ended 31 March 2025 had a deficit in unrestricted funds. The purpose of each fund and the classification of balances between 'unrestricted/designated' and 'restricted' are described in Note 1 to the Accounts, with further analysis in the subsequent Notes.

Incoming resources to the General Fund during the year ending 31 March 2025 amounted to £390,334, which represents a marginal increase on the previous year. Income from donations was £309,321; a 2.1% increase from the previous year. Total expenditure on general activities amounted to £338,877, a 1.8% increase in expenditure from last year.

Transfers from the General Fund to restricted funds amount to £57,794 resulting in a General Fund balance at the year-end of £98,372. £7,762 of the balance consisted of fixed assets.

4.2. Restricted Funds

There are 11 restricted funds. The Burundi Fund, International Mission Fund, Local Mission Fund, Building Fund, Interns Fund, WAY Fund, Welfare Fund, and four new funds for this financial year – the Newday Fund, the Events Fund, the GN4S Fund, and the Christmas Toy Appeal Fund.

In the Burundi Fund, the specified income of £14,050 was taken through special offerings and includes Gift Aid recoverable. The Burundi Fund received no transfer of funds from the General Fund. There was no in-year expenditure, and the fund balance at the year-end was £14,788.

The International Mission Fund received £844 of specified income for the year, taken through a small special offering. It received a transfer of £11,998 from the General Fund, equivalent to 3.1% of General Fund income. Total resources of £12,800 were disbursed during the year, and the fund balance at the year-end was £44.

The Local Mission Fund received total income of £16,379, which includes Gift Aid recoverable and grant income. It received a transfer of £22,203 from the General Fund, equivalent to 5.7% of General Fund income. Total resources of £38,557 were disbursed during the year, along with a fund transfer of £2,431 to other restricted funds, and the fund balance at the year-end was £13,180.

The Building Fund received specified income of £325 during the year, which includes Gift Aid recoverable. It received no transfer of funds from the General Fund. Expenditure amounted to £2,863 during the year, and the fund balance at the year-end was £317.

The Interns Fund received specified income of £21,149 during the year, including gift aid recoverable, which was taken through special offerings. It received a transfer of £10,000 from the General Fund, equivalent to 2.6% of General Fund income. Resources expended amounted to £36,981, resulting in a year-end fund balance of £5,239.

The WAY Fund received income of £69,839, including grant income. It received no transfer of funds from the General Fund. Total resources expended amounted to £94,547, resulting in a year-end fund balance of £0.

The Welfare Fund received income of £938 during the year, including gift aid recoverable. It received a transfer of £1,440, equivalent to 0.4% of General Fund income. Resources expended amounted to £3,535, resulting in a year-end fund balance of £15,558.

The Newday Fund received specified income of £14,455 during the year, including gift aid recoverable, some of which was taken through special offerings. It received a transfer of £1,973 from the General Fund, equivalent to 0.5%. Resources expended amounted to £16,428, resulting in a year-end fund balance of £0.

The Events Fund received income of £7,883 during the year. It received a transfer of £100 from the Local Mission Fund, and a transfer of £6,477 from the General Fund, equivalent to 1.7% of General Fund income. Total resources expended amounted to £14,407, resulting in a year-end fund balance of £53.

The GN4S Fund received income of £325 during the year. It received a transfer of £3,701 from the General Fund, equivalent to 0.9% of General Fund income. Total resources expended amounted to £4,026, resulting in a year-end fund balance of £0.

The Christmas Toy Appeal Fund received income of £8,495 during the year. It received a transfer of £2,331 from the Local Mission Fund, but no transfer of funds from the General Fund. Total resources expended amounted to £6,276, resulting in a year-end fund balance of £4,550.

4.3. Principal Funding Sources

GCS relies heavily on the generosity of the church members to fund its activities. The total of all donations (including in restricted funds) was £346,400.

Grant income of £99,155 was another large source of funding.

4.4. Reserves Policy

The Trustees have set a policy of retaining reserves sufficient for the foreseeable needs of the charity. At the year-end, the contractual obligations to future expenditure were the Trinity Centre lease (originally, a 3-year-term from October 2023, with break clauses after 1 and 2 years; £34,000 per annum plus associated costs) and regular commitments under contracts of employment. The majority of the charity's commitments will continue to be met out of current income.

The Trustees believe that an amount equivalent to a minimum of three to four months gross expenditure in general reserves is needed. This will provide for regular fluctuation in income and expenditure throughout the year.

The total value of all general reserves at 31 March 2025 was £98,372, of which £7,762 consisted of fixed assets. The general fund expenditure budget for the 2025-26 year is approximately £433,201. Based on the above, ongoing reserves of between £108,300 and £144,400 are appropriate.

While the charity has moved back out of policy at the end of the year, the deficit was smaller than expected during the year. With a small surplus budgeted for the 2025-26 year, the charity does not expect to move within policy in the upcoming year, but action is being taken to encourage greater gift aid giving where possible.

4.5. Pensions

The charity offers membership of a stakeholder pension scheme to all qualifying employees and pays an amount of 8% of the employee's salary into the scheme on a monthly basis.

GCS does not operate a defined benefit or final salary scheme.

Trustees' Report

5. PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

This year ended with a deficit of £6,337.

The budget to March 2026 indicated a small surplus of £391. Action is being taken to encourage greater gift aid giving to help bring reserves back within policy.

Because we have a healthy remaining balance in the Welfare Fund, we are prepared to continue supporting those who are in financial need, both within the church and wider in Swindon, over this coming year with the continued cost-of-living crisis and increases to household bills.

In light of the reserves position, our revised intention to 'give away' only a budgeted 10% of general income, plus any restricted income raised from special offerings, will remain for 2025-26. This will continue to be reviewed on an annual basis until reserves are in a stronger and more stable position and we are able to increase again how much we can 'give away' in grant funding to other organisations to a similar position as in previous years.

6. 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).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a 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 that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

They are also reponsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2025

Trustees' Report

7. APPROVAL

This report, which has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies, was approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



.....

Nigel Howarth – Trustees

Dec 10, 2025

.....

Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Gateway Church Swindon ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2025 on pages 16 to 29 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 19-21.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies. I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

- Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- The accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act, other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Nick Spear
Nick Spear (Dec 16, 2025 14:20:37 GMT)

Nick Spear ACCA
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Date: Dec 16, 2025

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2025

Statement of Financial Activities

Summary Income and Expenditure Account

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Restricted Funds 2025 £	**Total Funds 2025 £**	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:							
Donations and Legacies	4	384,047	136,410	**520,457**	361,170	147,000	508,170
Charitable Activities	5	2,900	17,933	**20,833**	23,311	0	23,311
Investment Income	6	1,622	0	**1,622**	1,086	0	1,086
Other Income	7	1,765	337	**2,101**	4,198	0	4,198
TOTAL INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		390,334	154,680	**545,014**	389,764	147,000	536,764
EXPENDITURE ON:							
Charitable Activities	8	(338,877)	(230,420)	**(569,297)**	(332,781)	(155,014)	(487,795)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		(338,877)	(230,420)	**(569,297)**	(332,781)	(155,014)	(487,795)
NET INCOMING (OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		51,457	(75,740)	**(24,283)**	56,983	(8,014)	48,970
Transfers Between Funds	3	(57,794)	57,794	**0**	(37,478)	37,478	0
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(6,337)	(17,946)	**(24,283)**	19,505	29,465	48,970
FUND BALANCES:							
At 31 March 2024		104,708	71,677	**176,385**	85,202	42,212	127,414
Net movement in funds		(6,337)	(17,946)	**(24,283)**	19,505	29,465	48,970
At 31 March 2025		98,372	53,730	**152,102**	104,708	71,677	176,385

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account required by the Companies Act 2006.

The notes on pages 19 to 29 form part of these accounts.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2025

Balance Sheet

At 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2025	2024
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	10	7,762	2,962	**10,724**	12,284
		7,762	2,962	**10,724**	12,284
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	11	64,900	57,392	**122,292**	92,966
Cash at Bank and in Hand	12	33,944	2,224	**36,168**	123,515
		98,844	59,616	**158,461**	216,481
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(8,233)	(8,849)	**(17,083)**	(52,381)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		90,611	50,767	**141,377**	164,101
NET ASSETS		98,372	53,730	**152,102**	176,385
FUNDS					
General Fund		98,372	0	**98,372**	104,708
Specific Funds					
Burundi Fund	3	0	14,788	**14,788**	738
International Mission Fund	3	0	44	**44**	2
Local Mission Fund	3	0	13,180	**13,180**	15,586
Building Fund	3	0	317	**317**	2,855
Interns Fund	3	0	5,239	**5,239**	11,071
WAY Fund	3	0	0	**0**	24,709
Welfare Fund	3	0	15,558	**15,558**	16,717
Newday Fund	3	0	0	**0**	0
Events Fund	3	0	53	**53**	0
GN4S Fund	3	0	0	**0**	0
Christmas Toy Appeal Fund	3	0	4,550	**4,550**	0
TOTAL FUNDS		98,372	53,730	**152,102**	176,385

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 however, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011, the accounts have been examined by an independent examiner and their report has been included in these financial statements.

The directors (who are the charitable company's trustees for the purposes of charity law) acknowledge their responsibilities for:

a. ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

b. preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its net income or expenditure for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on Dec 10, 2025 by:

NJHowarth

NJHowarth (Dec 10, 2025 10:47:41 GMT)

Nigel Howarth

Company number: 06541956

Charity number: 1123831

The notes on pages 19 to 29 form part of these accounts.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2025

Statement of Cash Flows

	2025 £	2024 £	Note
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(82,466)	33,945	a
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	1,622	1,086	
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment	0	4,020	
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(10,494)	(6,330)	
Disposal of tangible fixed assets	3,990	0	
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(4,882)	(1,224)	
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	0	0	
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	(87,348)	32,721	
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	123,515	90,794	b
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	36,168	123,515	b

Analysis of changes in net debt:

Note a: Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(24,283)	48,970
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	8,063	6,017
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(1,622)	(1,086)
Loss/(profit) on the sale of fixed assets	0	(4,020)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(29,326)	(39,872)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(35,298)	23,937
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(82,466)	33,945

Note b: Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash in hand	36,168	123,515
Total cash and cash equivalents	36,168	123,515

Notes to the Accounts

1. STATUTORY INFORMATION

The charity is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom. The company's registered number and registered office can be found on the Company Information page.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention.

These financial statements 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 United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)' ('the Charities SORP'), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ('FRS 102'), with the Companies Act 2006, and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The following accounting policies have been adopted in the preparation of the financial statements:

2.1. Going Concern

The trustees (who are the charitable company's directors for the purposes of company law) have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular, the trustees have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income and/or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The trustees have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

2.2. Income and Expenditure Recognition

- Income received through general offerings, gift aid and other occasional gifts is recognised when received by the church.
- Gift Aid recoverable in respect of donations under gift aid is accrued during the year in which the income arises – any amount of tax not reclaimed and recovered by the year end is included in debtors.
- Interest income is recognised when it is earned.
- Expenditure is recognised as it is incurred.
- Grants and donations payable are taken into account when they are paid.

SORP requires charities with income over £500,000 to allocate costs to the various activities undertaken by the charity. The nature of the work of the church is considered to be so integrated that the core charitable activity costs are considered to be for the one activity. The support costs attributable to fundraising activity are considered minimal.

2.3. Fund Accounting

All general, unspecified income and general routine costs are managed through the General Fund. In addition, a number of specific funds have been established in line with the activities of the charity, as noted below. These specific funds comprise a 'designated' element (the net funding via transfers from the General Fund) and a 'restricted' element (the net funding of direct income, less direct costs, plus transfers via the 'designated' element).

The specific funds are:

- **Burundi Fund**. Support of mission activity undertaken in Burundi by individuals or other institutions.
- **International Mission Fund**. Support of mission activity undertaken internationally by individuals or other institutions, excluding mission activity in Burundi.
- **Local Mission Fund**. Support of mission activity undertaken locally and nationally by individuals or other institutions.
- **Building Fund**. This fund was created following a special offering taken up by GCS in a prior financial year to facilitate upgrading the building we lease to make it more suitable for use as a church and by the community.
- **Interns Fund**. A restricted fund enabling the part-time employment of a number of interns to serve the church and the wider community.
- **WAY Fund**. This fund was created to facilitate a young-person-led initiative, developing projects to bring lasting change in the lives of young people and their communities in Swindon. A separate charity has been established for this activity, WAY UK, and GCS has now transferred staff and projects over to the new entity.
- **Welfare Fund**. Support of members of the church, associated parties, or those in the local community who are in need.
- **Newday Fund**. This fund was created to better facilitate the annual trip to the Newday festival of a number of young people at Gateway.
- **Events Fund**. This fund was created to help the charity better track income and expenditure related to repeat and one-off events.
- **GN4S Fund**. This fund was created to facilitate the charities role in leading and enabling the Good News for Swindon church network in the town.
- **Christmas Toy Appeal Fund**. This fund was created to facilitate the Christmas Toy Appeal that happens each year in Swindon.

Notes to the Accounts

2.4. Fixed Assets and Depreciation

- Expenditure on equipment costing in excess of £500 is capitalised and depreciated on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life.
- Most equipment (musical, public address and office equipment, and furniture and fittings) is assumed to have a life of 5-7 years. IT systems and software are assumed to have a life of 3 years.
- Vehicles are assumed to have a life of 7 years.

2.5. Future Commitments

- The church has a contractual obligation to future expenditure under it's, originally, 3-year lease with the Bible Society. The lease was agreed in October 2023 and has break clauses for both parties after 1 and 2 years.
- The only other commitments are those under contracts of employment.

2.6. Pension Costs

The charity operates a defined contribution scheme for its employees. Pension premiums are charged as they are paid.

2.7. Taxation

Gateway Church Swindon is a registered charity and is exempt from taxation under the Income and Corporation Taxes Acts.

2.8. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The trustees do not consider that there are any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

Notes to the Accounts

3. RESTRICTED FUNDS

		Burundi Fund	International Mission Fund	Local Mission Fund	Building Fund	Interns Fund	WAY Fund	Welfare Fund	Newday Fund	Events Fund	GN4S Fund	Christmas Toy Appeal Fund	**2025**	2024
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	**£**	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:														
Donations and Legacies	4	14,050	844	16,379	325	21,149	69,502	938	4,730	0	0	8,495	**136,410**	147,000
Charitable Activities	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9,725	7,883	325	0	**17,933**	0
Other Income	7	0	0	0	0	0	337	0	0	0	0	0	**337**	0
TOTAL INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		14,050	844	16,379	325	21,149	69,839	938	14,455	7,883	325	8,495	**154,680**	147,000
EXPENDITURE ON:														
Charitable Activities	8	0	(12,800)	(38,557)	(2,863)	(36,981)	(94,547)	(3,535)	(16,428)	(14,407)	(4,026)	(6,276)	**(230,420)**	(155,014)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		0	(12,800)	(38,557)	(2,863)	(36,981)	(94,547)	(3,535)	(16,428)	(14,407)	(4,026)	(6,276)	**(230,420)**	(155,014)
NET INCOMING (OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		14,050	(11,956)	(22,178)	(2,538)	(15,832)	(24,709)	(2,598)	(1,973)	(6,524)	(3,701)	2,219	**(75,740)**	(8,014)
Transfers		0	11,998	19,772	0	10,000	0	1,440	1,973	6,577	3,701	2,331	**57,794**	37,478
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		14,050	42	(2,406)	(2,538)	(5,832)	(24,709)	(1,158)	0	53	0	4,550	**(17,946)**	29,465
FUND BALANCES:														
At 31 March 2024		738	2	15,586	2,855	11,071	24,709	16,717	0	0	0	0	**71,677**	42,212
Net movement in funds		14,050	42	(2,406)	(2,538)	(5,832)	(24,709)	(1,158)	0	53	0	4,550	**(17,946)**	29,465
At 31 March 2025		14,788	44	13,180	317	5,239	0	15,558	0	53	0	4,550	**53,730**	71,677

Notes to the Accounts

4. INCOME FROM DONATIONS

	2025	2024
	£	£
General donations of cash and similar	**66,759**	87,347
Gift Aid donations of cash and similar	**279,641**	256,795
Gift Aid recoverable	**74,903**	63,599
Other grants receivable	**99,155**	67,096
Government grants (note 4a)	**0**	33,333
	520,457	508,170

a. Government grants comprise:

Swindon Borough Council Grants	**0**	33,333
	0	33,333

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Youth ministry events	**10,947**	8,567
Church retreats and events	**9,836**	14,744
Room hire	**50**	0
	20,833	23,311

6. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2025	2024
	£	£
Bank interest	**1,622**	1,086
	1,622	1,086

7. OTHER INCOME

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gain on disposal of fixed assets	**0**	4,020
Other income	**2,101**	178
	2,101	4,198

Notes to the Accounts

8. CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE

8.1 MINISTRY COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Salaries and pension contributions	**303,479**	249,840
Employer's national insurance	**23,444**	17,106
Visiting ministry costs	**891**	0
UK travel & entertainment (meals, etc.)	**8,505**	4,913
Team building	**2,836**	404
Staff & volunteer training	**11,001**	8,085
Insurance	**2,234**	1,933
Bank charges	**189**	240
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	**0**	0
Write off debts	**435**	0
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	**8,063**	6,017
	361,077	288,538

8.2 OFFICE AND ACCOMMODATION COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Rates, rent, and associated fees	**34,000**	26,063
Utilities	**6,613**	4,260
Repairs, maintenance & building improvements	**9,027**	11,140
Cleaning	**4,742**	4,549
Operations & compliance costs	**1,612**	1,473
Office equipment & software	**4,326**	2,611
Telephone, mobiles & internet	**5,016**	4,827
Printing, photocopying & stationery	**331**	434
Communications & publicity	**2,645**	3,580
Postage	**58**	98
Subscriptions & memberships	**1,387**	1,452
Professional fees	**345**	0
Payroll fees	**446**	356
Hospitality & kitchen supplies	**6,616**	4,352
	77,163	65,194

Notes to the Accounts

8.3 ACTIVITY COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Room hire	**0**	3,280
Gateway Kids (Children's ministry)	**1,465**	1,714
Events	**18,434**	17,971
Authentic (Youth ministry)	**19,194**	16,163
Student Ministry	**1,720**	0
Worship team	**1,734**	1,613
A/V team (incl. equipment)	**882**	3,362
Gateway groups	**739**	1,209
WAY expenses	**41,179**	20,787
International travel - non-mission	**0**	4,498
International travel - mission	**0**	1,051
Transport - minibus & taxi	**26**	0
Other pastoral	**934**	99
Alpha course	**831**	352
Other local outreach	**6,649**	4,675
	93,787	76,776

8.4 GRANTS

	2025		2024	
	Number	£	Number	£
Grants to institutions				
Safe Families	**12**	**2,400**	13	3,000
Hope for Tomorrow Global	**0**	**0**	1	15,000
Regions Beyond	**25**	**12,000**	24	25,721
Gather Movement	**12**	**1,200**	1	1,200
Newday Generation	**0**	**0**	1	1,000
Penhill Community Church	**0**	**0**	1	1,500
Moseley Church Plant	**0**	**0**	1	3,093
WAY UK	**1**	**12,000**	0	0
Dihlabeng Church South Africa	**2**	**800**	0	0
Christ Church Birmingham	**1**	**3,000**	0	0
Total	**53**	**31,400**	42	50,514
Grants to individuals	**33**	**2,785**	55	3,833
Total grants	**86**	**34,185**	97	54,347

8.5 GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Independent examiner's fees	**3,084**	2,940
	3,084	2,940

Fees payable to Stewardship, other than for the cost of the independent examination totalled £220 (2024: £402.50)

Notes to the Accounts

9. STAFF, TRUSTEES, & KEY MANAGEMENT

	2025	2024
	£	£
Gross wages and salaries	**278,815**	231,432
Employer's national insurance costs	**23,444**	17,106
Pension costs	**24,664**	18,408
Total staff costs	**326,924**	266,946

		2025	2024
Number of staff at year end:	Full-time	**4**	6
	Part-time	**5**	5

The average number of staff during the reporting period was 13.9 (2024: 8.5). However, 85% of one staff member and 50% of another staff member was recharged to another charity, WAY UK, due to grant funding for part of their employment being received by WAY UK ahead of a TUPE transfer of the employees at a later date. Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers.

No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

The charity's key management comprise the trustees and the key staff named on the Company Information page. Total employment benefits payable to key management for the year were as follows:

	Wages & salaries	Employer pension contributions	**2025** **£**
Trustees:			
Nigel Howarth	42,600	3,408	**46,008**
Colin Thornton	44,750	3,580	**48,330**
Other members of key management:	81,480	6,518	**87,998**
			182,336

The following amounts were payable in the previous year:

	Wages & salaries	Employer pension contributions	2024 £
Trustees:			
Nigel Howarth	40,000	3,200	43,200
Colin Thornton	42,000	3,360	45,360
Other members of key management:	76,500	6,120	82,620
			171,180

Nigel Howarth and Colin Thornton served as elders of the church and received the above payments for serving in that capacity, not for serving as trustees; these payments are permitted by the charity's governing document.

Notes to the Accounts

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Equipment	Leasehold improvements	**Total**
	£	£	**£**
Cost			
At 01 April 2024	108,590	109,880	**218,469**
Additions	10,494	0	**10,494**
Gains / (losses) on revaluation	0	0	**0**
Disposals	(6,059)	0	**(6,059)**
At 31 March 2025	113,024	109,880	**222,904**
Accumulated depreciation			
At 01 April 2024	(97,261)	(108,925)	**(206,185)**
Charge for the year	(7,420)	(643)	**(8,063)**
Eliminated on disposal	2,070	0	**2,070**
At 31 March 2025	(102,611)	(109,568)	**(212,178)**
Net book value			
At 31 March 2025	**10,413**	**312**	**10,724**
At 31 March 2024	11,329	955	12,284

Equipment comprises musical, public address, translation, sound, kitchen and office equipment and fixtures and fittings.

11. DEBTORS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2025**	2024
	£	£	**£**	£
Debtors	0	0	**0**	210
Gift Aid recoverable	60,865	6,562	**67,427**	61,336
Accrued income	464	150	**614**	1,538
Amounts receivable	0	40,819	**40,819**	15,000
Prepayments	3,571	9,861	**13,432**	14,883
	64,900	57,392	**122,292**	92,966

12. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2025**	2024
	£	£	**£**	£
Bank accounts	31,774	2,224	**33,998**	121,936
Cash in hand	2,170	0	**2,170**	1,579
	33,944	2,224	**36,168**	123,515

13. CREDITORS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2025**	2024
	£	£	**£**	£
Accounts payable	4	43	**47**	443
Deferred income	172	2,436	**2,609**	34,058
Payroll creditors	0	0	**0**	8,161
Accruals	8,057	6,370	**14,427**	9,718
	8,233	8,849	**17,083**	52,381

Notes to the Accounts

14. DEFERRED INCOME

Deferred income comprises the following:	Grants & Repayments	Training & conferences	**2025**	2024
	£	£	**£**	£
Balance at the beginning of the reporting period	32,901	1,157	**34,058**	16,314
Amount released to income	(32,901)	(1,157)	**(34,058)**	(16,314)
Amount deferred in year	2,292	317	**2,609**	34,058
Balance at the end of the reporting period	2,292	317	**2,609**	34,058

The income deferred at the period end will be released to income over the following periods:

Within one year	2,292	317	**2,609**	34,058
After one year	0	0	**0**	0
	2,292	317	**2,609**	34,058

15. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The charity has an operating lease for its church building. The minimum amount payable (until the next break clause and ignoring the potential effect of future rent reviews) in respect of this lease is as follows:

	2025	2024
Payments falling due:	**£**	£
Within one year	**34,000**	34,000
Between one and five years	**14,167**	48,167
After five years	**0**	0
	48,167	82,167

During the year the charity was charged £34,000 (2024: £26,909) for its operating lease.

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	Fixed assets	Bank balances	Other net assets	**2025**	2024
	£	£	£	**£**	£
Restricted funds	2,962	2,224	48,544	**53,730**	71,677
Unrestricted funds	7,762	33,944	56,667	**98,372**	104,708
	10,724	36,168	105,210	**152,102**	176,385

Notes to the Accounts

17. TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

During the year, the charity:

a) received donations totalling £85,703 (2024: £86,682) from related parties (which includes trustees, any oth members of key management, and anyone closely connected to them).

b) No expenses (2024: nil) were paid to, or for, the trustees. Reimbursements for expenses incurred when acting as an agent for the charity or incurred when undertaking employment duties not connected with serving as a trustee are not included in this disclosure.

During the year, the charity also made the following payments to, or for, related parties:

a) Regions Beyond, who is closely related to Nigel Howarth, a trustee of both Regions Beyond and the charit received grants totalling £12,000 (2024: £25,721) for mission activities both overseas and in the UK.

b) E Howarth, who is closely related to Nigel Howarth, a trustee of the charity, received employment benefits totalling £4,725 (2024: nil) for providing administrative services to the charity.

c) J Howarth, who is closely related to Nigel Howarth, a trustee of the charity, received employment benefits totalling £9,450 (2024: £2,700) for providing administrative services to the charity.

d) O Thornton, who is closely related to Colin Thornton, a trustee of the charity, received employment benefit totalling £4,725 (2024: nil) for providing administrative services to the charity.

Except as disclosed in note 9, 'Staff, Trustees & Key Management', there have been no other transactions with rela parties during the year.

18. MEMBERS

Each member of the company commits to contribute if the charity is wound up an amount of £1.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

England & Wales - Charity number 1123831

Accounts

GATEWAY
CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2024

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2024

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GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2024

Company Information

Charity Name	Gateway Church Swindon
Company Registration Number	06541956
Charity Registration Number	1123831
Governing Document	Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 21/03/2008
Trustees	Mark Owen (Chair) Nigel Howarth Colin Thornton Andrew Neale Mallika Ebenezar Thomas Halliwell (appointed 23 January 2024) Hyeladzira Thahal (appointed 12 February 2024)
Company Secretary	Nigel Howarth
Registered Address	The Trinity Centre Stonehill Green Westlea Swindon Wiltshire SN5 7AR
Senior Management Team	Colin Thornton (Chief Executive and Senior Elder) Al Cotton (Elder) Nigel Howarth (Elder) Callum Lympany (Elder) Robert Sinclair (Elder)
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC Barclays Business Centre 10-14 High Street Swindon Wiltshire SN1 3ED
Independent Examiner	Lourens du Plessis ACA CA(SA) Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage London EC1Y 8AB

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2024

Trustees' Report

1. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

1.1. Structure

Gateway Church Swindon ('GCS') was incorporated in March 2008 as a company limited by guarantee and is the successor charity to Swindon Family Church.

GCS is a diverse Christian church based in Swindon, Wiltshire. It is part of Regions Beyond, an international network of churches overseen by Steve Oliver, and is part of the Newfrontiers family of churches. It is also a member of the Evangelical Alliance. No external party, including the Evangelical Alliance, Newfrontiers and Regions Beyond, took decisions or had voting rights in the governance of GCS.

1.2. Governance

The charity is governed by the trustees, who are appointed for the skills and experience that they may offer in contributing to the governance of the charity. Trustees must subscribe and adhere to, in belief and lifestyle, the statement of beliefs set out in the memorandum and articles of association and are typically invited from existing church members.

The trustees have adopted a policy for the induction and training of new trustees, including providing each trustee with the following:

- A copy of the governing documents,
- The most recent annual report and accounts,
- Current job description for trustee or trustee chair (as appropriate),
- A copy of appropriate Charity Commission publications.

New trustees are made aware of the charity's professional advisors, accountants and any current issues. They are also made aware of the organisational management structure, employees and their responsibilities. They are given the opportunity to meet staff members to be appraised of matters of current activities.

The trustees meet at least four times a year, where aims, strategies and policies for achieving the charity's responsibilities and objectives are agreed and reviewed regularly. The trustees have overall legal and financial responsibility for the charity.

The trustees have appointed a senior management team, who have been given delegated responsibility for the spiritual and strategic direction of the church. The senior managers, together with other staff, also meet regularly and deal with the day-to-day management and running of the activities. Senior managers report to the trustees on the progress of activities, performance results and plans.

Trustees' Report

The trustees agree on the salary structure for all staff employed by the charity, which includes the senior management team. All staff have contracts and job descriptions and are paid commensurate with the level of responsibility that they hold. The salary structure is reviewed annually.

As at 31 March 2024, the charity has seven trustees and five elders, who form the senior management team.

1.3. Risk Management

The trustees have recognised the importance of assessing and managing the risk associated with the charity's objectives and have overall responsibility for determining risk management policy, defining what is required and methods of how risks are identified, assessed, handled, reviewed and reported. The senior management team have responsibility for implementing and maintaining systems consistent with this policy. The charity has a set of comprehensive policy and procedure documents in place to ensure on-going identification and management of risks. A system has been implemented whereby potential risks are considered, categorised (financial, external, operational, governance, and legal, regulatory and compliance risks), graded by the likelihood of occurrence and impact and the results recorded in the risk register. The system continues with procedures to mitigate those risks, by minimising the likelihood and any potential impact should those risks materialise, and report and review outstanding medium or high rated risks.

The trustees and the senior management team regularly review progress against budgeted financial plans and non-financial criteria. Accounts are prepared every month so that financial risks can be identified early and appropriate action taken. While it is recognised that the procedures do not provide absolute assurance against loss or material misstatements, the trustees are of the opinion that proper systems of risk management and control are in place within the charity.

1.4. Other Policies and Procedures

The trustees have established, and regularly review, policies on the following:

- Safeguarding for children and young people, and adults at risk of harm,
- Health and safety and related legislation.
- Data protection and related legislation.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2024

Trustees' Report

2. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

2.1. Objectives

The objects of GCS, as stated in the memorandum and articles of association, are as follows:

- To advance the Christian faith in accordance with the statement of beliefs in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees from time to time may think fit.
- To advance education in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees from time to time may think fit.
- To relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind, including through the provision of counselling and support in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees from time to time may think fit.

2.2. Vision & Mission

The trustees note that the Church is not a building, but a gathering of ordinary people of different ages and backgrounds, whose lives have been changed by Jesus Christ, the Son of God. The New Testament reveals the Church as a community of people, properly taught and cared for, who by loving and serving Jesus Christ, were also committed to love and care for each other and to be a blessing to the area in which they lived. GCS, its trustees, elders, and members, are committed to the continuation of those New Testament principles. GCS is not alone in this; it is one of many churches in the area, country, and all over the world who are inviting people to re-discover the excitement of knowing Jesus Christ.

The vision of GCS is to see Swindon come to life in God. We will do this by giving ourselves away through equipping, sending, partnering, & resourcing.

2.3. Values

The Trustees and elders have sought to work out how best to express the vision in the context of week-to-week church activities, values and life. The following ten value statements aim to summarise what GCS prioritises and strives for, as it works out its vision of seeing Swindon come to life in God:

- **We're scattered servants on mission in our communities.** God sends. He sent his Son into the world to save, and Jesus has passed on that mission to us (Matthew 28:19). That means we don't focus on doing things 'our way', but instead we encourage each other to serve where we live and be the Church in our community.
- **We're here for one another's success.** We sacrifice our own time, finance, profile, and success in order that others will benefit. This means we want to equip each person, including our children and young people, to be as effective as possible in the areas Jesus has called them to.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2024

Trustees' Report

- **We're part of a bigger story.** We believe that where trust and unity exist, God moves. Hope for Swindon is found in the unity of his followers. So, we seek to actively support, work with, and love other churches in Swindon, the UK, and across the world. Love and unity on display in the Church is one of our most effective tools.
- **We reflect the diversity of our town & we proclaim the diversity of God's Kingdom.** We're intentional about raising up leaders from other cultures, other social backgrounds, male and female, young and old. We want to learn to serve and love those from different backgrounds better. Society longs for unity and inclusion, but it lacks the power to achieve it. What society is unable to do, God is able to do through the power of the gospel and His Spirit.
- **We go above and beyond to do the impossible.** One of the characteristics of a Christian is that we reflect God's extravagant generosity. Faith-filled generosity allows the disadvantaged to be cared for, the gospel to be preached, and the Church family to be strengthened. We want to be known for our generosity – as those who contribute and not just consume.
- **We're fuelled by the Spirit and faithful to the Word.** We desire that every Christian live in the fullness of life in the Spirit, for the full range of spiritual gifts we read about in the Bible to be exercised amongst us, and for all people to know they are a valued member of the Church and have something to contribute. We're also committed to the faithful preaching and teaching of the Bible and aim to shape all we are and do by it.
- **We're created for community.** The Church is not a club or a business, but a new kind of family. We therefore pursue community-forming activities and gather together regularly. We train, raise, and release men and women into leadership. We also value the importance of biblical eldership – a team of men who seek to father the local church through their leadership. We also delight in the natural expressions of family. We guard biblical marriage and see the raising of children as a responsibility that isn't just for parents but for the entire church community. We also celebrate the gift of singleness and seek to hold it in the same high esteem as the New Testament.
- **We're motivated by grace.** We are a people of grace, because God has poured out his grace upon us. We want to be a Church that expresses God's grace to one another and to the world around us. Freely we've received, so freely we will give. We're a community with a wide front door for anyone to come through, knowing that Jesus ate with the people his society despised. We want to live in the same way, so no matter where people have come from, their background or life circumstances, we want them to encounter the love and grace of Jesus.
- **We're here for the city.** God has placed us in Swindon and all we are and do seeks to bring about the transformation of our town. So, we encourage people to serve in every area of society, seeking its blessing and transformation – whether it's local government, business, healthcare, charity, or something else – knowing that they bring the grace and love of Jesus with them as they serve.
- **We seek to make the last the first.** We seek to continue the directive of the New Testament to 'remember the poor', knowing that we serve a God who 'raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people' (Psalm 113:7-8).

Trustees' Report

2.4. Significant Activities

The significant activities, programmes and projects used by GCS are:

Sunday Gatherings
The focus of Sunday gatherings is to gather together before God in worship, to open the Bible together, to teach, share communion, baptise new believers, and encourage and pray for one another. All are welcome to join a Sunday gathering, whether church members, their families, or visitors.

Groups
Groups are a support network enabling (primarily) those connected to GCS to find community, support, care, and help.

Children and Youth Work
GCS provides different age group meetings on a Sunday and at other points throughout the week for children and young adults. We subsidise the cost of the Newday summer camp for those young adults who attend.

Safeguarding Training
We continue to provide ongoing training in safeguarding for those in GCS working with children and young people, as well as those working with adults with care and support needs.

WAY
WAY is GCS's new young-person-led initiative, developing projects to bring lasting change in the lives of young people and their communities. A separate charity has been established for this activity, and staff and projects will be transferred from GCS over the next two years.

Good News for Swindon
We continue to be actively involved with Good News for Swindon, a network of churches in the town, seeking to work together for the good of Swindon. Colin Thornton leads the Good News for Swindon network.

Outreach Activities
Two employees of GCS give a significant proportion of their employed time to leading and supporting various projects, unity initiatives, and churches around the town. We continue to employ two individuals part-time to work as pastor and outreach worker for another local church in the town, Penhill Community Church. Additionally, GCS set a budget of 'giving away' an equivalent of 10% of its unrestricted income for the purposes of local and international mission – whether through grant-funding, employment, etc. At the year-end, the final figure was slightly under at 9.4% of total unrestricted funds.

2.5. Public Benefit

In planning the activities of the charity, the Trustees have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

Trustees' Report

2.6. Volunteers

Much of the work of GCS continues to be dependent on the unpaid services of church members. The trustees recognise the essential resource provided by the many people within GCS who freely give of their time and would like to continue to acknowledge and thank them. We cannot attempt to place a value on the immensely significant contribution that our volunteers make, and we are grateful to them for their time and commitment.

2.7. Grant-Making Policy

Grants are made by the charity to both external organisations and individuals, as part of achieving its activities and objectives. Grants and gifts are considered on the basis of need and fulfilment of the charitable objectives. There are no upper or lower limits of support.

Trustees' Report

3. ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

3.1. Building a Family of Believers

The church continues to hold public gatherings, where through singing, communion, prayer and teaching the Bible, we encourage people to live as disciples of Jesus. These gatherings also provide an opportunity for individuals to share personal testimony, respond to the claims of the Christian faith, and for new believers' baptisms.

The Sunday gatherings have activities of worship for all ages, not just adults. There is children's work for ages 2-4, 5-8, and 9-11, as well as youth work for those aged 11-18, and a space for parents of 0-2s to bring their children and connect with others. The children's team enjoy serving the children through games, worship, bible teaching, and exploring creativity in arts and craft. Good numbers of children are attending each week and the children's team leaders continue to work hard at building and developing the teams. In each of the groups, we have bright and varied curriculums which are age appropriate. Our children's work is structured to encourage the best from the children and help parents feel comfortable leaving their children in our care. Part of this is a continued commitment to safeguarding children and training our volunteers in safeguarding best practice.

As well as the age-related groups meeting on Sunday mornings, young adults (11-18) continued to meet during the week on a regular basis. We also took 46 young adults to the Newday festival in the summer of 2024.

There are many opportunities which allow most in the congregation to have some involvement in expressing their Christian faith practically as they work together and serve others. This could be through being part of the Welcome Team serving on a Sunday, working as part of the Worship Team, working with Authentic (our youth ministry) on a weekday night, or through volunteering with others we work with in the town.

Through the groups meeting at various points throughout the week, relationships continue to grow and gifts are developed as members care for and encourage one another. Groups provide an opportunity for individuals form the diverse backgrounds at GCS to meet together, often in homes, but also at the building we use. Some groups have a more specific focus when meeting together, such as a morning group for mothers and toddlers or a book club, while others provide an opportunity to form relationships, care for one another practically, and encourage each other in faith. We have also established a thriving new group for students and those in their twenties.

A number from different churches across the town continue to meet on Zoom to pray early every week day. We gather to pray every Sunday before the public meeting, and monthly on a Sunday evening. We also joined in with Thy Kingdom Come, a global ecumenical period of prayer started by the Church of England.

Trustees' Report

3.2. Serving and Influencing Swindon

GCS continues to employ an individual to work as a pastor for Penhill Community Church, with a number of different churches in the town contributing towards his salary. Additionally, we employ another individual to work as an Outreach Worker in the Penhill area, funded by Penhill Community Church.

We believe that Penhill Community Church is a model for planting churches into the town and surrounding areas, with churches from different denominations and traditions in Swindon sending people to help plant it, as well as providing finance in different forms, whether for building renovations or the employment of staff. We believe that this clearly expresses the unity that Jesus desires for his church. Conversations about how we can facilitate similar church plants in the future are ongoing.

This year, we employed an individual as a project manager for a new young-person-led initiative, named WAY, aiming to support young people across the town, particularly with five areas of impact: increased engagement in education, reduced hospital admissions, reduced incidents of violence and crime, sustained employment, and improved mental health and wellbeing. Grant-funding has been received from a number of organisations to facilitate this, and the project manager is currently facilitating three areas of ongoing provision: meeting young people in crisis moments at the Accident and Emergency service at Great Western Hospital; providing ongoing, long-term mentoring in young people's lives; and equipping young people to lead on shaping change in their own communities.

We were also able to give a one-off grant to Penhill Community Church to support their work in one of the poorest areas in Swindon, and to financially support Safe Families, a charity supporting children, young people, and families in Swindon and across the UK.

3.3. Taking the Gospel to the Ends of the Earth

We continue to actively develop links within Regions Beyond, the international network of churches overseen by Steve Oliver and part of the Newfrontiers family. This included making a number of grants to Regions Beyond to facilitate their work in church-planting and serving those in need across the world. Nigel Howarth serves as a trustee of Regions Beyond UK. We were also able to financially support a new Regions Beyond church plant in Birmingham.

Links with Burundi and City Gate Church in Bujumbura remain strong. We were able to grant-fund part of a new ongoing project led by Hope for Tomorrow Global, a UK charity that facilitates much of the work in Burundi that we have an ongoing partnership with. These funds were received through a special offering taken up by members of GCS.

Additionally, we were able to financially support Gather Movement (Transforming Places CIO), a movement of over 8000 churches and charities in over 150 towns and cities that are working together to foster transformation in the places they are based, and Newday Generation, the charity that runs the annual youth event we take many of our young people to each year.

Trustees' Report

4. FINANCIAL REVIEW

4.1. Overview

The year ended 31 March 2024 had a sizeable surplus in unrestricted funds. This was considerably higher than the budgeted surplus for the year and moved the charity substantially closer to its reserves policy.

The purpose of each fund and the classification of balances between 'unrestricted/designated' and 'restricted' are described in Note 1 to the Accounts, with further analysis in the subsequent Notes.

Incoming resources to the General Fund during the year ending 31 March 2024 amounted to £385,744, which represents an increase on the previous year of 6.5%. Income from donations was £302,877. Total expenditure on general activities amounted to £328,761, a 5.1% increase in expenditure from last year.

Transfers from the General Fund to restricted funds amount to £37,478 resulting in a General Fund balance at the year-end of £104,708. £9,556 of the balance consisted of fixed assets.

4.2. Restricted Funds

There are six restricted funds: Burundi Fund, International Mission Fund, Local Mission Fund, the Welfare Fund, the Building Fund, and two new funds for this financial year – the Interns Fund and the WAY Fund.

In the Burundi Fund, the specified income of £15,202 was taken through special offerings and includes Gift Aid recoverable. The Burundi Fund received no transfer of funds from the General Fund. Expenditure was £15,000 for the year, and the fund balance at the year-end was £738.

The International Mission Fund received £7,549 of specified income for the year, taken through a special offering. It received a transfer of £19,223 from the General Fund, equivalent to 5% of General Fund income. Total resources of £26,772 were disbursed during the year, and the fund balance at the year-end was £2.

The Local Mission Fund received total income of £17,323, which includes Gift Aid recoverable and grant income. It received a transfer of £13,815 from the General Fund, equivalent to 3.6% of General Fund income. Total resources of £30,532 were disbursed during the year, and the fund balance at the year-end was £15,586.

The Building Fund received specified income of £1,873 during the year, which includes Gift Aid recoverable. It received no transfer of funds from the General Fund. Expenditure amounted to £8,583 during the year, and the fund balance at the year-end was £2,855.

Trustees' Report

The Welfare Fund received income of £1,980 during the year. It received a transfer of £1,440, equivalent to 0.4% of General Fund income. Resources expended amounted to £3,833, resulting in a year-end fund balance of £16,717.

The Interns Fund received specified income of £19,741 during the year, including gift aid recoverable, which was taken through special offerings. It received no transfer of funds from the General Fund. Resources expended amounted to £8,669, resulting in a year-end fund balance of £11,071.

The WAY Fund received income of £83,333, all through grants. It received a transfer of £3,000 from the General Fund, equivalent to 0.8% of General Fund income. Total resources expended amounted to £61,624, resulting in a year-end fund balance of £24,709.

4.3. Principal Funding Sources

GCS relies heavily on the generosity of the church members to fund its activities. The total of all donations (including in restricted funds) was £344,142.

Grant income of £100,429 was another large source of funding.

4.4. Reserves Policy

The Trustees have set a policy of retaining reserves sufficient for the foreseeable needs of the charity. At the year-end, the contractual obligations to future expenditure were the Trinity Centre lease (a new 3-year-term from October 2023, with break clauses after 1 and 2 years; £34,000 per annum plus associated costs) and regular commitments under contracts of employment. The majority of the charity's commitments will continue to be met out of current income.

The Trustees believe that an amount equivalent to a minimum of three to four months gross expenditure in general reserves is needed. This will provide for regular fluctuation in income and expenditure throughout the year.

The total value of all general reserves at 31 March 2024 was £104,708, of which £9,556 consisted of fixed assets. The general fund expenditure budget for the 2024-25 year is approximately £417,595. Based on the above, ongoing reserves of between £104,399 and £139,198 are appropriate.

While the charity did come back within policy at the end of the year, and in spite of a budgeted surplus of £5,000, the charity now expects a sizeable deficit at the end of 2024-25. Action is being taken to encourage greater gift aid giving and reduce expenditure where possible.

4.5. Pensions

The charity offers membership of a stakeholder pension scheme to all qualifying employees and pays an amount of 8% of the employee's salary into the scheme on a monthly basis.

GCS does not operate a defined benefit or final salary scheme.

Trustees' Report

5. PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

This year ended with a sizeable surplus of £19,505.

The budget to March 2025 indicated a small surplus of £5,000. However, the charity now expects a sizeable deficit at the end of 2024-25. Action is being taken to encourage greater gift aid giving and reduce expenditure where possible.

Because we have a healthy remaining balance in the Welfare Fund, we are prepared to continue supporting those who are in financial need, both within the church and wider in Swindon, over this coming year with the continued cost-of-living crisis and increases to household bills.

In light of the reserves position and expected deficit, our revised intention to 'give away' only a budgeted 10% of general income, plus any restricted income raised from special offerings, will remain for 2024-25. This will continue to be reviewed on an annual basis until reserves are in a stronger and more stable position and we are able to increase again how much we can 'give away' in grant funding to other organisations to a similar position as in previous years.

6. 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).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a 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 that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

They are also reponsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2024

Trustees' Report

7. APPROVAL

This report, which has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies, was approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

N J Howarth
N J Howarth (Dec 18, 2024 09:01 GMT)

.....

Nigel Howarth – Trustees

Dec 18, 2024

.....

Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Gateway Church Swindon ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2024 on pages 15 to 28 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 18 to 20.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act'). Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

- Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- The accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act, other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Lourens du Plessis
Lourens du Plessis (Dec 18, 2024 09:32 GMT)

Lourens du Plessis ACA CA(SA)
Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Dec 18, 2024

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2024

Statement of Financial Activities

Summary Income and Expenditure Account

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	**Total Funds 2024 £**	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:							
Donations and Legacies	4	361,170	147,000	**508,170**	353,531	68,892	422,424
Charitable Activities	5	23,311	0	**23,311**	8,642	0	8,642
Other Trading Activities	6	0	0	**0**	0	50,085	50,085
Investment Income	7	1,086	0	**1,086**	147	0	147
Other Income	8	4,198	0	**4,198**	0	661	661
TOTAL INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		389,764	147,000	**536,764**	362,321	119,639	481,960
EXPENDITURE ON:							
Charitable Activities	9	(332,781)	(155,014)	**(487,795)**	(312,854)	(264,486)	(577,340)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		(332,781)	(155,014)	**(487,795)**	(312,854)	(264,486)	(577,340)
NET INCOMING (OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		56,983	(8,014)	**48,970**	49,467	(144,847)	(95,380)
Transfers Between Funds	3	(37,478)	37,478	**0**	(94,765)	94,765	0
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		19,505	29,465	**48,970**	(45,298)	(50,082)	(95,380)
FUND BALANCES:							
At 31 March 2023		85,202	42,212	**127,414**	130,500	92,294	222,794
Net movement in funds		19,505	29,465	**48,970**	(45,298)	(50,082)	(95,380)
At 31 March 2024		104,708	71,677	**176,385**	85,202	42,212	127,414

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account required by the Companies Act 2006.

The notes on pages 18 to 28 form part of these accounts.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2024

Balance Sheet

At 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2024	2023
		£	£	**£**	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	11	9,556	2,728	**12,284**	11,970
		9,556	2,728	**12,284**	11,970
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	70,213	22,754	**92,966**	53,094
Cash at Bank and in Hand	13	39,982	83,534	**123,515**	90,794
		110,194	106,287	**216,481**	143,888
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(15,042)	(37,338)	**(52,381)**	(28,444)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		95,152	68,950	**164,101**	115,444
NET ASSETS		104,708	71,677	**176,385**	127,414
FUNDS					
General Fund		104,708	0	**104,708**	85,202
Specific Funds					
Burundi Fund	3	0	738	**738**	535
International Mission Fund	3	0	2	**2**	2
Local Mission Fund	3	0	15,586	**15,586**	14,980
Gateway Furniture Fund	3	0	0	**0**	0
Building Fund	3	0	2,855	**2,855**	9,565
Interns Fund	3	0	11,071	**11,071**	0
WAY Fund	3	0	24,709	**24,709**	0
Welfare Fund	3	0	16,717	**16,717**	17,130
TOTAL FUNDS		104,708	71,677	**176,385**	127,414

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 however, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011, the accounts have been examined by an independent examiner and their report has been included in these financial statements.

The directors (who are the charitable company's trustees for the purposes of charity law) acknowledge their responsibilities for:

a. ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

b. preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its net income or expenditure for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on Dec 18, 2024 by:

N J Howarth

N J Howarth (Dec 18, 2024 09:01 GMT)

Nigel Howarth

Company number: 06541956

Charity number: 1123831

The notes on pages 18 to 28 form part of these accounts.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2024

Statement of Cash Flows

	2024 £	2023 £	Note
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	33,945	(40,495)	a
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	1,086	147	
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment	4,020	6,305	
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(6,330)	(9,635)	
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(1,224)	(3,185)	
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	0	0	
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	32,721	(43,679)	
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	90,794	134,473	b
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	123,515	90,794	b

Analysis of changes in net debt:

Note a: Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	48,970	(95,380)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	6,017	4,846
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(1,086)	(147)
Loss/(profit) on the sale of fixed assets	(4,020)	1,400
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	0	10,950
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(39,872)	20,961
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	23,937	16,876
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	33,945	(40,495)

Note b: Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash in hand	123,515	90,794
Total cash and cash equivalents	123,515	90,794

Notes to the Accounts

1. STATUTORY INFORMATION

The charity is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom. The company's registered number and registered office can be found on the Company Information page.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention.

These financial statements 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 United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)' ('the Charities SORP'), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ('FRS 102'), with the Companies Act 2006, and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The following accounting policies have been adopted in the preparation of the financial statements:

2.1. Going Concern

The trustees (who are the charitable company's directors for the purposes of company law) have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular, the trustees have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income and/or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The trustees have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

2.2. Income and Expenditure Recognition

- Income received through general offerings, gift aid and other occasional gifts is recognised when received by the church.
- Gift Aid recoverable in respect of donations under gift aid is accrued during the year in which the income arises – any amount of tax not reclaimed and recovered by the year end is included in debtors.
- Interest income is recognised when it is earned.
- Expenditure is recognised as it is incurred.
- Grants and donations payable are taken into account when they are paid.

Notes to the Accounts

SORP requires charities with income over £500,000 to allocate costs to the various activities undertaken by the charity. The nature of the work of the church is considered to be so integrated that the core charitable activity costs are considered to be for the one activity. The support costs attributable to fundraising activity are considered minimal.

2.3. Fund Accounting

All general, unspecified income and general routine costs are managed through the General Fund. In addition, a number of specific funds have been established in line with the activities of the charity, as noted below. These specific funds comprise a 'designated' element (the net funding via transfers from the General Fund) and a 'restricted' element (the net funding of direct income, less direct costs, plus transfers via the 'designated' element).

The specific funds are:

- **Burundi Fund**. Support of mission activity undertaken in Burundi by individuals or other institutions.
- **International Mission Fund**. Support of mission activity undertaken internationally by individuals or other institutions, excluding mission activity in Burundi.
- **Local Mission Fund**. Support of mission activity undertaken locally and nationally by individuals or other institutions.
- **Building Fund**. This fund was created following a special offering taken up by GCS in a prior financial year to facilitate upgrading the building we lease to make it more suitable for use as a church and by the community.
- **Welfare Fund**. Support of members of the church, associated parties, or those in the local community who are in need.
- **Interns Fund**. This fund was created following a special offering taken up by GCS to enable the part-time employment of a number of interns to serve the church and the wider community.
- **WAY Fund**. This fund was created to facilitate GCS's new young-person-led initiative, developing projects to bring lasting change in the lives of young people and their communities. A separate charity has been established for this activity, and the charity expects staff and projects to be transferred from GCS over the next two years.

2.4. Fixed Assets and Depreciation

- Expenditure on equipment costing in excess of £500 is capitalised and depreciated on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life.
- Most equipment (musical, public address and office equipment, and furniture and fittings) is assumed to have a life of 5-7 years. IT systems and software are assumed to have a life of 3 years.
- Vehicles are assumed to have a life of 7 years.

Notes to the Accounts

2.5. Future Commitments

- The church has a contractual obligation to future expenditure under a new 3-year lease with the Bible Society. The lease was agreed in October 2023 and has break clauses for both parties after 1 and 2 years.
- The only other commitments are those under contracts of employment.

2.6. Pension Costs

The charity operates a defined contribution scheme for its employees. Pension premiums are charged as they are paid.

2.7. Taxation

Gateway Church Swindon is a registered charity and is exempt from taxation under the Income and Corporation Taxes Acts.

2.8. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The trustees do not consider that there are any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

Notes to the Accounts

3. RESTRICTED FUNDS

		Burundi Fund	International Mission Fund	Local Mission Fund	Building Fund	Interns Fund	WAY Fund	Welfare Fund	**2024**	2023
		£	£	£	£			£	**£**	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:										
Donations and Legacies	4	15,202	7,549	17,323	1,873	19,741	83,333	1,980	**147,000**	68,892
Charitable Activities	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	0
Other Trading Activities	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	50,085
Other Income	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	661
TOTAL INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		15,202	7,549	17,323	1,873	19,741	83,333	1,980	**147,000**	119,639
EXPENDITURE ON:										
Charitable Activities	9	(15,000)	(26,772)	(30,532)	(8,583)	(8,669)	(61,624)	(3,833)	**(155,014)**	(264,486)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		(15,000)	(26,772)	(30,532)	(8,583)	(8,669)	(61,624)	(3,833)	**(155,014)**	(264,486)
NET INCOMING (OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		202	(19,223)	(13,209)	(6,710)	11,071	21,709	(1,853)	**(8,014)**	(144,847)
Transfers		0	19,223	13,815	0	0	3,000	1,440	**37,478**	94,765
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		202	0	606	(6,710)	11,071	24,709	(413)	**29,465**	(50,082)
FUND BALANCES:										
At 31 March 2023		535	2	14,980	9,565	0	0	17,130	**42,212**	92,294
Net movement in funds		202	0	606	(6,710)	11,071	24,709	(413)	**29,465**	(50,082)
At 31 March 2024		738	2	15,586	2,855	11,071	24,709	16,717	**71,677**	42,212

Notes to the Accounts

4. INCOME FROM DONATIONS

	2024	2023
	£	£
General donations of cash and similar	**87,347**	63,343
Gift Aid donations of cash and similar	**256,795**	246,913
Gift Aid recoverable	**63,599**	62,547
Other grants receivable	**67,096**	13,421
Donations in kind (note 4a)	**0**	36,100
Government grants (note 4b)	**33,333**	100
	508,170	422,424

a. Donations in kind comprise:

Goods donated for use by the charity	**0**	36,100
	0	36,100

b. Government grants comprise:

Swindon Borough Council Grants	**33,333**	100
	33,333	100

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Youth ministry events	**8,567**	6,737
Church retreats and events	**14,744**	805
Room hire	**0**	1,100
	23,311	8,642

6. INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Sale of donated goods	**0**	50,085
	0	50,085

7. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank interest	**1,086**	147
	1,086	147

Notes to the Accounts

8. OTHER INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gain on disposal of fixed assets	**4,020**	**0**
Building occupancy	**0**	171
Other income	**178**	490
	4,198	661

9. CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE

9.1 MINISTRY COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries and pension contributions	**249,840**	301,912
Employer's national insurance	**17,106**	20,280
Visiting ministry costs	**0**	1,127
UK travel & entertainment (meals, etc.)	**4,913**	3,897
Team building	**404**	513
Staff & volunteer training	**8,085**	1,122
Insurance	**1,933**	3,207
Bank charges	**240**	171
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	**0**	1,400
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	**6,017**	4,846
	288,538	338,475

9.2 OFFICE AND ACCOMMODATION COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Rates, rent, and associated fees	**26,063**	27,689
Utilities	**4,260**	4,760
Repairs, maintenance & building improvements	**11,140**	4,407
Cleaning	**4,549**	4,016
Operations & compliance costs	**1,473**	2,012
Office equipment & software	**2,611**	3,154
Telephone, mobiles & internet	**4,827**	6,934
Printing, photocopying & stationery	**434**	631
Communications & publicity	**3,580**	6,176
Postage	**98**	118
Subscriptions & memberships	**1,452**	1,573
Payroll fees	**356**	416
Hospitality & kitchen supplies	**4,352**	4,576
	65,194	66,462

Notes to the Accounts

9.3 ACTIVITY COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Room hire	**3,280**	5,140
Gateway Kids (Children's ministry)	**1,714**	2,241
Events	**17,971**	7,849
Authentic (Youth ministry)	**16,163**	11,505
Worship team	**1,613**	1,503
A/V team (incl. equipment)	**3,362**	602
Gateway groups	**1,209**	1,604
WAY expenses	**20,787**	0
International travel - non-mission	**4,498**	0
International travel - mission	**1,051**	0
Transport - minibus & taxi	**0**	908
Other pastoral	**99**	1,065
Vehicle costs	**0**	12,381
Beds	**0**	8,928
Furniture Re-Use Network	**0**	2,321
Gifts of furniture	**0**	47,050
Other Gateway Furniture costs	**0**	6,639
Alpha course	**352**	1,010
Other local outreach	**4,675**	3,257
	76,776	114,004

9.4 GRANTS

	2024		2023	
	Number	**£**	Number	£
Grants to institutions				
Safe Families	**13**	**3,000**	12	2,400
Hope for Tomorrow Global	**1**	**15,000**	1	33,102
Regions Beyond	**24**	**25,721**	16	17,421
Gather Movement	**1**	**1,200**	0	0
Newday Generation	**1**	**1,000**	0	0
Penhill Community Church	**1**	**1,500**	0	0
Moseley Church Plant	**1**	**3,093**	0	0
Swindon Youth for Christ	**0**	**0**	1	156
Total	**42**	**50,514**	30	53,079
Grants to individuals	**55**	**3,833**	22	2,980
Total grants	**97**	**54,347**	52	56,059

9.6 GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Independent examiner's fees	**2,940**	2,340
	2,940	2,340

Fees payable to Stewardship, other than for the cost of the independent examination totalled £402.50 (2023: £320

Notes to the Accounts

10. STAFF, TRUSTEES, & KEY MANAGEMENT

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gross wages and salaries	**231,432**	280,611
Employer's national insurance costs	**17,106**	20,280
Pension costs	**18,408**	21,300
Other employment benefits	**0**	0
Total staff costs	**266,946**	322,192

		2024	2023
Number of staff at year end:	Full-time	**6**	5
	Part-time	**5**	2

The average number of staff during the reporting period was 8.5 (2023: 11.33). Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers.

No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

The charity's key management comprise the trustees and the key staff named on the Company Information page. Total employment benefits payable to key management for the year were as follows:

	Wages & salaries	Other employment benefits	Employer pension contributions	**2024** **£**
Trustees:				
Nigel Howarth	40,000	0	3,200	**43,200**
Colin Thornton	42,000	0	3,360	**45,360**
Other members of key management:	76,500	0	6,120	**82,620**
				171,180

The following amounts were payable in the previous year:

	Wages & salaries	Other employment benefits	Employer pension contributions	2023 £
Trustees:				
Nigel Howarth	38,000	0	3,040	41,040
Colin Thornton	40,000	0	3,200	43,200
Other members of key management:	38,000	0	3,040	41,040
				125,280

Nigel Howarth and Colin Thornton served as elders of the church and received the above payments for serving in that capacity, not for serving as trustees; these payments are permitted by the charity's governing document.

Notes to the Accounts

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Vehicles	Equipment	Leasehold improvements	**Total**
	£	£	£	**£**
Cost				
At 01 April 2023	0	116,847	109,880	**226,727**
Additions	0	6,330	0	**6,330**
Gains / (losses) on revaluation	0	0	0	**0**
Disposals	0	(14,587)	0	**(14,587)**
At 31 March 2024	0	108,590	109,880	**218,469**
Accumulated depreciation				
At 01 April 2023	0	(106,660)	(108,096)	**(214,755)**
Charge for the year	0	(5,188)	(828)	**(6,017)**
Eliminated on disposal	0	14,587	0	**14,587**
At 31 March 2024	0	(97,261)	(108,925)	**(206,185)**
Net book value				
At 31 March 2024	**0**	**11,329**	**955**	**12,284**
At 31 March 2023	0	10,187	1,783	11,970

Equipment comprises musical, public address, translation, sound, kitchen and office equipment and fixtures and fittings.

12. DEBTORS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2024**	2023
	£	£	**£**	£
Debtors	0	210	**210**	2,508
Gift Aid recoverable	55,305	6,031	**61,336**	23,057
Accrued income	25	1,513	**1,538**	936
Amounts receivable	0	15,000	**15,000**	17,725
Prepayments	14,883	0	**14,883**	8,869
	70,213	22,754	**92,966**	53,094

13. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2024**	2023
	£	£	**£**	£
Bank accounts	38,403	83,534	**121,936**	90,789
Cash in hand	1,579	0	**1,579**	5
	39,982	83,534	**123,515**	90,794

14. CREDITORS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2024**	2023
	£	£	**£**	£
Accounts payable	157	285	**443**	3,105
Deferred income	1,157	32,901	**34,058**	16,314
Payroll creditors	6,105	2,055	**8,161**	1,242
Accruals	7,622	2,096	**9,718**	7,783
	15,042	37,338	**52,381**	28,444

Notes to the Accounts

15. DEFERRED INCOME

Deferred income comprises the following:	Grants & Repayments	Training & conferences	**2024**	2023
	£	£	**£**	£
Balance at the beginning of the reporting period	14,083	2,231	**16,314**	1,657
Amount released to income	(14,083)	(2,231)	**(16,314)**	(1,657)
Amount deferred in year	32,901	1,157	**34,058**	16,314
Balance at the end of the reporting period	32,901	1,157	**34,058**	16,314

The income deferred at the period end will be released to income over the following periods:

Within one year	32,901	1,157	**34,058**	16,314
After one year	0	0	**0**	0
	32,901	1,157	**34,058**	16,314

16. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The charity has an operating lease for its church building. The minimum amount payable (until the next break clause and ignoring the potential effect of future rent reviews) in respect of this lease is as follows:

	2024	2023
Payments falling due:	**£**	£
Within one year	**34,000**	12,000
Between one and five years	**48,167**	0
After five years	**0**	0
	82,167	12,000

During the year the charity was charged £26,909 (2023: £24,045) for its operating lease.

17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	Fixed assets	Bank balances	Other net assets	**2024**	2023
	£	£	£	**£**	£
Restricted funds	2,728	83,534	(14,584)	**71,677**	42,213
Unrestricted funds	9,556	39,982	55,171	**104,708**	85,202
	12,284	123,515	40,587	**176,385**	127,414

Notes to the Accounts

18. TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

During the year, the charity:

a) received donations totalling £86,682 (2023: £49,488) from related parties (which includes trustees, any ot members of key management, and anyone closely connected to them).

b) No expenses (2023: nil) were paid to, or for, the trustees. Reimbursements for expenses incurred when acting as an agent for the charity or incurred when undertaking employment duties not connected with serving as a trustee are not included in this disclosure.

During the year, the charity also made the following payments to, or for, related parties:

a) Regions Beyond, who is closely related to Nigel Howarth, a trustee of both Regions Beyond and the chari received grants totalling £25,721 (2023: £17,421) for mission activities both overseas and in the UK.

Except as disclosed in note 10, 'Staff, Trustees & Key Management', there have been no other transactions with re parties during the year.

19. MEMBERS

Each member of the company commits to contribute if the charity is wound up an amount of £1.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

England & Wales - Charity number 1123831

Accounts

GATEWAY
CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2023

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2023

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GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2023

Company Information

Charity Name	Gateway Church Swindon
Company Registration Number	06541956
Charity Registration Number	1123831
Governing Document	Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 21/03/2008
Trustees	Mark Owen (Chair) Nigel Howarth Ian Lowe (resigned 4/12/2023) Colin Thornton Andrew Neale Mallika Ebenezar
Company Secretary	Nigel Howarth
Registered Address	The Trinity Centre Stonehill Green Westlea Swindon Wiltshire SN5 7AR
Senior Management Team	Colin Thornton (Chief Executive and Senior Elder) Al Cotton (Elder) Nigel Howarth (Elder)
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC Barclays Business Centre 10-14 High Street Swindon Wiltshire SN1 3ED
Independent Examiner	Lourens du Plessis ACA CA(SA) Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage London EC1Y 8AB

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2023

Trustees' Report

1. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

1.1. Structure

Gateway Church Swindon ('GCS') was incorporated in March 2008 as a company limited by guarantee and is the successor charity to Swindon Family Church.

GCS is a diverse Christian church based in Swindon, Wiltshire. It is part of Regions Beyond, an international network of churches overseen by Steve Oliver, and is part of the Newfrontiers family of churches. It is also a member of the Evangelical Alliance. No external party, including the Evangelical Alliance, Newfrontiers and Regions Beyond, took decisions or had voting rights in the governance of GCS.

1.2. Governance

The charity is governed by the trustees, who are appointed for the skills and experience that they may offer in contributing to the governance of the charity. Trustees must subscribe and adhere to, in belief and lifestyle, the statement of beliefs set out in the memorandum and articles of association and are typically invited from existing church members.

The trustees have adopted a policy for the induction and training of new trustees, including providing each trustee with the following:

- A copy of the governing documents,
- The most recent annual report and accounts,
- Current job description for trustee or trustee chair (as appropriate),
- A copy of appropriate Charity Commission publications.

New trustees are made aware of the charity's professional advisors, accountants and any current issues. They are also made aware of the organisational management structure, employees and their responsibilities. They are given the opportunity to meet staff members to be appraised of matters of current activities.

The trustees meet at least four times a year, where aims, strategies and policies for achieving the charity's responsibilities and objectives are agreed and reviewed regularly. The trustees have overall legal and financial responsibility for the charity.

The trustees have appointed a senior management team, who have been given delegated responsibility for the spiritual and strategic direction of the church. The senior managers, together with other staff, also meet regularly and deal with the day-to-day management and running of the activities. Senior managers report to the trustees on the progress of activities, performance results and plans.

Trustees' Report

The trustees agree on the salary structure for all staff employed by the charity, which includes the senior management team. All staff have contracts and job descriptions and are paid commensurate with the level of responsibility that they hold. The salary structure is reviewed annually.

As at 31 March 2023, the charity has six trustees and three elders, who form the senior management team.

1.3. Risk Management

The trustees have recognised the importance of assessing and managing the risk associated with the charity's objectives and have overall responsibility for determining risk management policy, defining what is required and methods of how risks are identified, assessed, handled, reviewed and reported. The senior management team have responsibility for implementing and maintaining systems consistent with this policy. The charity has a set of comprehensive policy and procedure documents in place to ensure on-going identification and management of risks. A system has been implemented whereby potential risks are considered, categorised (financial, external, operational, governance, and legal, regulatory and compliance risks), graded by the likelihood of occurrence and impact and the results recorded in the risk register. The system continues with procedures to mitigate those risks, by minimising the likelihood and any potential impact should those risks materialise, and report and review outstanding medium or high rated risks.

The trustees and the senior management team regularly review progress against budgeted financial plans and non-financial criteria. Accounts are prepared every month so that financial risks can be identified early and appropriate action taken. While it is recognised that the procedures do not provide absolute assurance against loss or material misstatements, the trustees are of the opinion that proper systems of risk management and control are in place within the charity.

1.4. Other Policies and Procedures

The trustees have established, and regularly review, policies on the following:

- Safeguarding for children and young people, and adults at risk of harm,
- Health and safety and related legislation.
- Data protection and related legislation.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2023

Trustees' Report

2. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

2.1. Objectives

The objects of GCS, as stated in the memorandum and articles of association, are as follows:

- To advance the Christian faith in accordance with the statement of beliefs in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees from time to time may think fit.
- To advance education in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees from time to time may think fit.
- To relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind, including through the provision of counselling and support in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees from time to time may think fit.

2.2. Vision & Mission

The trustees note that the Church is not a building, but a gathering of ordinary people of different ages and backgrounds, whose lives have been changed by Jesus Christ, the Son of God. The New Testament reveals the Church as a community of people, properly taught and cared for, who by loving and serving Jesus Christ, were also committed to love and care for each other and to be a blessing to the area in which they lived. GCS, its trustees, elders, and members, are committed to the continuation of those New Testament principles. GCS is not alone in this; it is one of many churches in the area, country, and all over the world who are inviting people to re-discover the excitement of knowing Jesus Christ.

The vision of GCS is to see Swindon come to life in God. We will do this by giving ourselves away through equipping, sending, partnering, & resourcing.

2.3. Values

The Trustees and elders have sought to work out how best to express the vision in the context of week-to-week church activities, values and life. The following ten value statements aim to summarise what GCS prioritises and strives for, as it works out its vision of seeing Swindon come to life in God:

- **We're scattered servants on mission in our communities.** God sends. He sent his Son into the world to save, and Jesus has passed on that mission to us (Matthew 28:19). That means we don't focus on doing things 'our way', but instead we encourage each other to serve where we live and be the Church in our community.
- **We're here for one another's success.** We sacrifice our own time, finance, profile, and success in order that others will benefit. This means we want to equip each person, including our children and young people, to be as effective as possible in the areas Jesus has called them to.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2023

Trustees' Report

- **We're part of a bigger story.** We believe that where trust and unity exist, God moves. Hope for Swindon is found in the unity of his followers. So, we seek to actively support, work with, and love other churches in Swindon, the UK, and across the world. Love and unity on display in the Church is one of our most effective tools.
- **We reflect the diversity of our town & we proclaim the diversity of God's Kingdom.** We're intentional about raising up leaders from other cultures, other social backgrounds, male and female, young and old. We want to learn to serve and love those from different backgrounds better. Society longs for unity and inclusion, but it lacks the power to achieve it. What society is unable to do, God is able to do through the power of the gospel and His Spirit.
- **We go above and beyond to do the impossible.** One of the characteristics of a Christian is that we reflect God's extravagant generosity. Faith-filled generosity allows the disadvantaged to be cared for, the gospel to be preached, and the Church family to be strengthened. We want to be known for our generosity – as those who contribute and not just consume.
- **We're fuelled by the Spirit and faithful to the Word.** We desire that every Christian live in the fullness of life in the Spirit, for the full range of spiritual gifts we read about in the Bible to be exercised amongst us, and for all people to know they are a valued member of the Church and have something to contribute. We're also committed to the faithful preaching and teaching of the Bible and aim to shape all we are and do by it.
- **We're created for community.** The Church is not a club or a business, but a new kind of family. We therefore pursue community-forming activities and gather together regularly. We train, raise, and release men and women into leadership. We also value the importance of biblical eldership – a team of men who seek to father the local church through their leadership. We also delight in the natural expressions of family. We guard biblical marriage and see the raising of children as a responsibility that isn't just for parents but for the entire church community. We also celebrate the gift of singleness and seek to hold it in the same high esteem as the New Testament.
- **We're motivated by grace.** We are a people of grace, because God has poured out his grace upon us. We want to be a Church that expresses God's grace to one another and to the world around us. Freely we've received, so freely we will give. We're a community with a wide front door for anyone to come through, knowing that Jesus ate with the people his society despised. We want to live in the same way, so no matter where people have come from, their background or life circumstances, we want them to encounter the love and grace of Jesus.
- **We're here for the city.** God has placed us in Swindon and all we are and do seeks to bring about the transformation of our town. So, we encourage people to serve in every area of society, seeking its blessing and transformation – whether it's local government, business, healthcare, charity, or something else – knowing that they bring the grace and love of Jesus with them as they serve.
- **We seek to make the last the first.** We seek to continue the directive of the New Testament to 'remember the poor', knowing that we serve a God who 'raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people' (Psalm 113:7-8).

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2023

Trustees' Report

2.4. Significant Activities

The significant activities, programmes and projects used by GCS are:

Sunday Gatherings
The focus of Sunday gatherings are to gather together before God in worship, to open the Bible together, teaching, and to encourage and pray for one another. All are welcome to join a Sunday gathering, whether church members, their families, or visitors.

Leadership Development
The leadership team of GCS have been regularly meeting throughout the year with two other couples to incorporate them into the leadership team. Since the year-end, two individuals have been appointed to the eldership team.

Groups
Groups are a support network enabling (primarily) those connected to GCS to find community, support, care, and help.

Children and Youth Work
GCS provides different age group meetings on a Sunday and at other points throughout the week for children and young adults. We subsidise the cost of the Newday summer camp for those young adults who attend.

Safeguarding Training
We continue to provide ongoing training in safeguarding for those in GCS working with children and young people, as well as those working with adults with care and support needs.

Good News for Swindon
We continue to be actively involved with Good News for Swindon, a network of churches in the town, seeking to work together for the good of Swindon. Colin Thornton leads the Good News for Swindon network.

Outreach Activities
Two employees of GCS give a large proportion of their employed time to leading and supporting various projects, unity movements, and churches around the town. We continue to employ an individual to work as a pastor for another local church in the town, Penhill Community Church. During the year, we also employed another individual to work as an Outreach Worker for Penhill Community Church. Additionally, GCS set a budget target of 'giving away' an equivalent of 16% of its unrestricted income for the purposes of local and international mission – whether through grant-funding, employment, etc. At the year-end, the final figure was 28.9% of total unrestricted funds, including the costs associated with the closure of Gateway Furniture.

Trustees' Report

2.5. Public Benefit

In planning the activities of the charity, the Trustees have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

2.6. Volunteers

Much of the work of GCS continues to be dependent on the unpaid services of church members. The trustees recognise the essential resource provided by the many people within GCS who freely give of their time and would like to continue to acknowledge and thank them. We cannot attempt to place a value on the immensely significant contribution that our volunteers make, and we are grateful to them for their time and commitment.

2.7. Grant-Making Policy

Grants are made by the charity to both external organisations and individuals, as part of achieving its activities and objectives. Grants and gifts are considered on the basis of need and fulfilment of the charitable objectives. There are no upper or lower limits of support.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2023

Trustees' Report

3. ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

3.1. Building a Family of Believers

The church continues to hold public gatherings, where through singing, communion, prayer and teaching the Bible, we encourage people to live as disciples of Jesus. These gatherings also provide an opportunity for individuals to share personal testimony, respond to the claims of the Christian faith, and for new believers' baptisms.

We have consistently been gathering together physically throughout this year in the west of Swindon. We continue to stream our Sunday gatherings to Zoom for those who are unable to gather physically, or who do not yet feel comfortable doing so.

The Sunday gatherings have activities of worship for all ages, not just adults. There is children's work for ages 2-4, 5-8, and 9-11, as well as youth work for those aged 11-18 and a space for parents of 0-2s to bring their children and connect with others. The children's team enjoy serving the children through games, worship, bible teaching, and exploring creativity in arts and craft. Good numbers of children are attending each week and the children's team leaders continue to work hard at building and developing the teams. In each of the groups, we have bright and varied curriculums which are age appropriate. Our children's work is structured to encourage the best from the children and help parents feel comfortable leaving their children in our care. Part of this is a continued commitment to safeguarding children and training our volunteers in safeguarding best practice. A new online safeguarding course for those working with children and young people has been rolled out to all those working with children and young people.

As well as the age-related groups meeting on Sunday mornings, youth continued to meet during the week on a regular basis. We also took 23 young people to the Newday camp in the summer of 2022.

There are many opportunities which allow most in the congregation to have some involvement in expressing their Christian faith practically as they work together and serve others. This could be through being part of the Welcome Team serving on a Sunday, working as part of the Worship Team, working with Authentic on a weekday night, or through volunteering with others we work with in the town.

Through the groups meeting at various points throughout the week, relationships continue to grow and gifts are developed as members care for and encourage one another. Groups provide an opportunity for individuals form the diverse backgrounds at GCS to meet together, often in homes, but also at the building we use. Some groups have a more specific focus when meeting together, such as a morning group for mothers and toddlers or a book club, while others provide an opportunity to form relationships, care for one another practically, and encourage each other in faith.

A number from different churches across the town continue to meet on Zoom to pray early every week day, which was something we started in the early days of the pandemic in 2020. We also gather every Sunday before the public meeting to pray. We have also gathered on mid-week evenings to pray. We joined in with Thy Kingdom Come, a global ecumenical period of prayer started by the Church of England. In Swindon, we again joined in with this by gathering over Zoom with Christians from churches all across the town at various points, as well as gathering in different church buildings to pray and worship together. Churches across the town, including GCS, hosted prayer spaces that were available for people to use at points during Thy Kingdom Come.

Trustees' Report

3.2. Serving and Influencing Swindon

Sadly, the year saw the closure of Gateway Furniture. In spite of the difficulties in the year, Gateway Furniture continued to provide furniture to those most in need across the town until its closure.

The shop premises provided the main source of income for Gateway Furniture and was vital to sustaining it. Upon a change of ownership, Gateway Furniture was asked to vacate the premises and was not able to find suitable, affordable premises. The trustees made the decision that it was not financially viable to continue the project. Unfortunately, this resulted in a number of redundancies at the charity, for both full-time and part-time staff working on the project.

Throughout the year, we continued to employ someone part-time to invest half of her time into supporting Penhill Community Church and other local initiatives, as well as GCS. She has since left employment at GCS to lead another charitable project in the town working with the homeless. She remains a part of the membership of GCS. We also continued to employ another individual to work as a pastor for Penhill Community Church, with a number of different churches in the town contributing towards his salary. Additionally, we employed another individual to work as an Outreach Worker in the Penhill area, funded by Penhill Community Church.

Penhill Community Church is being held as a model for planting churches into the town and surrounding areas, with churches from different denominations and traditions in Swindon sending people to help plant it, as well as providing finance in different forms, whether for building renovations or the employment of staff. We believe that this clearly expresses the unity that Jesus desires for his church. As such, conversations about how we can facilitate similar church plants in the future are ongoing.

Over Christmas, we again supported the Swindon Christmas Toy Appeal, in partnership with other churches in Swindon, with the Bible Society - our landlords and neighbours - taking a more upfront role this year in organising the appeal. Having started years ago as an opportunity for members of Gateway Church to serve others, it has now become a town-wide toy appeal, delivering presents to many families and children across the town. These items and funds were donated by churches, charities, schools, business, and individuals across the town. As in previous years, many volunteers came to help sort and deliver everything to the families. Families were referred by the council, schools, churches, and other charities.

Following the lockdown in 2020, the Harbour Project, a local charity supporting over 600 asylum seekers and refugees in Swindon, was looking for a building to use in the area. We were able to offer them use of our space for free, which still continues.

Since the year-end, we have employed an individual as a project manager for a new young-person-led initiative, named WAY, aiming to support young people across the town, particularly with five areas of impact: increased engagement in education, reduced hospital admissions, reduced incidents of violence and crime, sustained employment, and improved mental health and wellbeing. Grant-funding has been received from a number of organisations to facilitate this, and the project manager is currently facilitating three areas of ongoing provision: meeting young people in crisis moments at the Accident and Emergency service at Great Western Hospital; providing ongoing, long-term mentoring in young people's lives; and equipping young people to lead on shaping change in their own communities.

We were also able to financially support Safe Families, a charity supporting children, young people, and families in Swindon and across the UK.

Trustees' Report

3.3. Taking the Gospel to the Ends of the Earth

We continue to actively develop links within Regions Beyond, the international network of churches overseen by Steve Oliver and part of the Newfrontiers family. This included making a number of grants to Regions Beyond to facilitate their work in church-planting and serving those in need across the world. Nigel Howarth serves as a trustee of Regions Beyond UK.

Links with Burundi and City Gate Church in Bujumbura remain strong. We were able to grant-fund part of a new ongoing project led by Hope for Tomorrow Global, a UK charity that facilitates much of the work in Burundi that we have an ongoing partnership with. These funds were received through a special offering taken up by members of GCS.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2023

Trustees' Report

4. FINANCIAL REVIEW

4.1. Overview

The year ended 31 March 2023 had a significant deficit in unrestricted funds. This was primarily due to the closure of Gateway Furniture and the associated costs.

The purpose of each fund and the classification of balances between 'unrestricted/designated' and 'restricted' are described in Note 1 to the Accounts, with further analysis in the subsequent Notes.

Incoming resources to the General Fund during the year ending 31 March 2023 amounted to £362,321, which represents an increase on the previous year of 12.1%. Income from donations was £289,213. Total expenditure on general activities amounted to £312,854, a 7.8% increase in expenditure from last year. Again, this was primarily due to the costs of the closure of Gateway Furniture.

Transfers from the General Fund to restricted funds amount to £94,765 resulting in a General Fund balance at the year-end of £85,202. £11,970 of the balance consisted of fixed assets.

4.2. Restricted Funds

There are six restricted funds: Burundi Fund, International Mission Fund, Local Mission Fund, Gateway Furniture Fund, the Welfare Fund, and the Building Fund – a new fund for this financial year.

In the Burundi Fund, the specified income of £3,883 was mostly taken through a special offering and includes Gift Aid recoverable. The Burundi Fund received no transfer of funds from the General Fund. Expenditure was £33,102 for the year, and the fund balance at the year-end was £535.

The International Mission Fund received no income for the year. It received a transfer of £6,750 from the General Fund, equivalent to 1.9% of General Fund income. Total resources of £17,421 were disbursed during the year, and the fund balance at the year-end was £2.

The Local Mission Fund received specified income of £10,846, which includes Gift Aid recoverable. It received a transfer of £11,800 from the General Fund, equivalent to 3.3% of General Fund income. Total resources of £22,069 were disbursed during the year, and the fund balance at the year-end was £14,980.

The Gateway Furniture Fund received income of £93,361 (including donated gifts in kind of furniture with an estimated value of £36,100). It received a transfer of £74,775 from the General Fund, equivalent to 20.6% of General Fund income. Expenditure amounted to a total of £186,891. There were no remaining funds at the year end. Due to the closure of the project and staff redundancies, there is no ongoing income or expenditure for the Gateway Furniture Fund, so it has been closed at the year-end.

The Building Fund received income of £11,049 during the year, which includes Gift Aid recoverable. It received no transfer of funds from the General Fund. Expenditure amounted to £1,484 during the year, and the fund balance at the year-end was £9,565.

The Welfare Fund received income of £500 during the year. It received a transfer of £1,440, equivalent to 0.4% of General Fund income. Resources expended amounted to £3,520, resulting in a year-end fund balance of £17,130.

Trustees' Report

4.3. Principal Funding Sources

GCS relies heavily on the generosity of the church members to fund its activities. The total of all donations (including in restricted funds) were £310,256.

In addition to the estimated £36,100 of donated gifts in kind of furniture, sales from the shop operated by the Gateway Furniture project were also a significant source of funding, bringing in a total of £50,575.

Additionally, grants receivable of £13,521 were another source of funding.

4.4. Reserves Policy

The Trustees have set a policy of retaining reserves sufficient for the foreseeable needs of the charity. At the year-end, the contractual obligations to future expenditure were the Trinity Centre lease (a 9-year term from 30 September 2014, with break clauses at 3 and 6 years; £24,000 per annum plus associated costs) and regular commitments under contracts of employment. The majority of the charity's commitments will continue to be met out of current income.

The Trustees believe that an amount equivalent to a minimum of three to four months gross expenditure in general reserves is needed. This will provide for regular fluctuation in income and expenditure throughout the year.

The total value of all general reserves at 31 March 2023 was £85,204, of which £11,970 consisted of fixed assets. The general fund expenditure budget for the 2023-24 year is approximately £400,174. Based on the above, ongoing reserves of between £100,044 and £133,391 are appropriate.

While falling outside of the reserves policy, the charity recognises that it is exactly for purposes such as the unplanned closure of Gateway Furniture that the reserves are held. Furthermore, because of the closure of Gateway Furniture, there has also been a significant reduction in the ongoing financial risk to the charity. As such, the trustees have reviewed whether the reserves policy needs to be changed to reflect this, but currently intend to continue with the plan to replenish the reserves over the coming years until they are back within policy, starting with a small surplus in the budget for the 2023-24 year.

4.5. Pensions

The charity offers membership of a stakeholder pension scheme to all qualifying employees and pays an amount of 8% of the employee's salary into the scheme on a monthly basis.

GCS does not operate a defined benefit or final salary scheme.

Trustees' Report

5. PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

This year ended with a significant deficit, £15,510 over the budgeted deficit for the year.

The budget to March 2024 indicates a small surplus as we begin the process of replenishing the reserves back to within policy. The planned surplus to March 2024 is for £805.

Because we have a healthy remaining balance in the Welfare Fund, we are prepared to continue supporting those who are in financial need, both within the church and wider in Swindon, over this coming year with the cost-of-living crisis and increase to energy bills.

In light of the reserves position, we have slightly revised our intention to 'give away' in grant funding to other organisations from the budgeted 16% of general income for 2022-23, to a budgeted 10% of general income, plus any restricted income raised from special offerings, in 2023-24. This will be reviewed on an yearly basis until reserves are back within policy and we are able to increase again how much we can 'give away' in grant funding to other organisations to a similar position as the previous number of years.

6. 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).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a 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 that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

They are also reponsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2023

Trustees' Report

7. APPROVAL

This report, which has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies, was approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

N J Howarth
N J Howarth (Dec 14, 2023 16:42 GMT)

.....

Nigel Howarth – Trustees

Dec 14, 2023

.....

Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Gateway Church Swindon ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023 on pages 16 to 29 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 19-21.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act'). Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

- Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- The accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act, other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Lourens du Plessis
Lourens du Plessis (Dec 14, 2023 16:50 GMT)

Lourens du Plessis ACA CA(SA) Dec 14, 2023
Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2023

Statement of Financial Activities

Summary Income and Expenditure Account

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2023	Restricted Funds 2023	**Total Funds 2023**	Unrestricted Funds 2022	Restricted Funds 2022	Total Funds 2022
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:		£	£	**£**	£	£	£
Donations and Legacies	4	353,532	68,892	**422,424**	322,600	147,751	470,351
Charitable Activities	5	8,642	0	**8,642**	712	1,453	2,166
Other Trading Activities	6	0	50,085	**50,085**	0	95,450	95,450
Investment Income	7	147	0	**147**	28	0	28
Other Income	8	0	661	**661**	0	2,615	2,615
TOTAL INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		362,321	119,639	**481,960**	323,341	247,269	570,610
EXPENDITURE ON:							
Charitable Activities	9	(312,854)	(264,486)	**(577,340)**	(289,868)	(337,024)	(626,892)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		(312,854)	(264,486)	**(577,340)**	(289,868)	(337,024)	(626,892)
NET INCOMING (OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		49,467	(144,847)	**(95,380)**	33,473	(89,755)	(56,283)
Transfers Between Funds	3	(94,765)	94,765	**0**	(56,557)	56,557	0
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(45,298)	(50,082)	**(95,380)**	(23,085)	(33,198)	(56,283)
FUND BALANCES:							
At 31 March 2022		130,500	92,294	**222,794**	153,585	125,492	279,077
Net movement in funds		(45,298)	(50,082)	**(95,380)**	(23,085)	(33,198)	(56,283)
At 31 March 2023		85,202	42,212	**127,414**	130,500	92,294	222,794

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account required by the Companies Act 2006.

The notes on pages 19 to 29 form part of these accounts.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2023

Balance Sheet

At 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2023	2022
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	11	11,970	0	**11,970**	14,887
		11,970	0	**11,970**	14,887
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock	12	0	0	**0**	10,950
Debtors	13	36,021	17,073	**53,094**	74,055
Cash at Bank and in Hand	14	48,375	42,419	**90,794**	134,473
		84,396	59,492	**143,888**	219,478
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(11,164)	(17,280)	**(28,444)**	(11,568)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		73,232	42,212	**115,444**	207,910
NET ASSETS		85,202	42,212	**127,414**	222,796
FUNDS					
General Fund		85,202	0	**85,202**	130,502
Specific Funds					
Burundi Fund	3	0	535	**535**	29,755
International Mission Fund	3	0	2	**2**	10,672
Local Mission Fund	3	0	14,980	**14,980**	14,403
Gateway Furniture Fund	3	0	0	**0**	18,754
Building Fund	3	0	9,565	**9,565**	0
Welfare Fund	3	0	17,130	**17,130**	18,710
TOTAL FUNDS		85,202	42,212	**127,414**	222,796

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 however, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011, the accounts have been examined by an independent examiner and their report has been included in these financial statements.

The directors (who are the charitable company's trustees for the purposes of charity law) acknowledge their responsibilities for:

a. ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

b. preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its net income or expenditure for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on Dec 14, 2023 by:

N J Howarth

N J Howarth (Dec 14, 2023 16:42 GMT)

Nigel Howarth

Company number: 06541956

Charity number: 1123831

The notes on pages 19 to 29 form part of these accounts.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2023

Statement of Cash Flows

	2023	2022	Note
	£	£	
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(40,495)	(26,663)	a
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	147	28	
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment	6,303	0	
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(9,635)	(2,255)	
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(3,185)	(2,227)	
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	0	0	
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	(43,679)	(28,890)	
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	134,473	163,363	b
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	90,794	134,473	b

Analysis of changes in net debt:

Note a: Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(95,380)	(56,074)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	4,846	6,182
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(147)	(29)
Loss/(profit) on the sale of fixed assets	1,400	(208)
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	10,950	6,100
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	20,961	16,356
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	16,876	1,010
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(40,495)	(26,663)

Note b: Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash in hand	90,794	134,473
Total cash and cash equivalents	90,794	134,473

Notes to the Accounts

1. STATUTORY INFORMATION

The charity is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom. The company's registered number and registered office can be found on the Company Information page.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention.

These financial statements 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 United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)' ('the Charities SORP'), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ('FRS 102'), with the Companies Act 2006, and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The following accounting policies have been adopted in the preparation of the financial statements:

2.1. Going Concern

The trustees (who are the charitable company's directors for the purposes of company law) have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular, the trustees have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income and/or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The trustees have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

2.2. Income and Expenditure Recognition

- Income received through general offerings, gift aid and other occasional gifts is recognised when received by the church.
- Gift Aid recoverable in respect of donations under gift aid is accrued during the year in which the income arises – any amount of tax not reclaimed and recovered by the year end is included in debtors.
- Interest income is recognised when it is earned.
- Expenditure is recognised as it is incurred.
- Grants and donations payable are taken into account when they are paid.

Notes to the Accounts

SORP requires charities with income over £500,000 to allocate costs to the various activities undertaken by the charity. The nature of the work of the church is considered to be so integrated that the core charitable activity costs are considered to be for the one activity. The support costs attributable to fundraising activity are considered minimal.

2.3. Fund Accounting

All general, unspecified income and general routine costs are managed through the General Fund. In addition, a number of specific funds have been established in line with the activities of the charity, as noted below. These specific funds comprise a 'designated' element (the net funding via transfers from the General Fund) and a 'restricted' element (the net funding of direct income, less direct costs, plus transfers via the 'designated' element).

The specific funds are:

- **Burundi Fund**. Support of mission activity undertaken in Burundi by individuals or other institutions.
- **International Mission Fund**. Support of mission activity undertaken internationally by individuals or other institutions, excluding mission activity in Burundi.
- **Local Mission Fund**. Support of mission activity undertaken locally and nationally by individuals or other institutions.
- **Gateway Furniture Fund**. Support of mission activity undertaken locally through the Gateway Furniture Project. This fund has closed at the year-end.
- **Building Fund**. This is a new fund for 2022-23. It was set up following a special offering taken up by GCS to facilitate upgrading the building we lease to make it more suitable for use as a church and by the community.
- **Welfare Fund**. Support of members of the church, associated parties, or those in the local community who are in need.

2.4. Fixed Assets and Depreciation

- Expenditure on equipment costing in excess of £500 is capitalised and depreciated on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life.
- Most equipment (musical, public address and office equipment, and furniture and fittings) is assumed to have a life of 5-7 years. IT systems and software are assumed to have a life of 3 years.
- Vehicles are assumed to have a life of 7 years.

2.5. Future Commitments

- The church has a contractual obligation to future expenditure under a 9-year lease with the Bible Society. The lease was renewed on 30 September 2014 and has break clauses for both parties at the end of years 3 and 6.
- The only other commitments are those under contracts of employment.

Notes to the Accounts

2.6. Pension Costs

The charity operates a defined contribution scheme for its employees. Pension premiums are charged as they are paid.

2.7. Taxation

Gateway Church Swindon is a registered charity and is exempt from taxation under the Income and Corporation Taxes Acts.

2.8. Donated Goods

An estimated value has been given to the donations of furniture which were received by the charity and then given to those in need through Gateway Furniture.

2.9. Stocks

Stocks of donated items held for distribution to beneficiaries are measured at fair value; the same estimated value per item as donated goods.

2.10. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The trustees do not consider that there are any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

Notes to the Accounts

3. RESTRICTED FUNDS

		Burundi Fund	International Mission Fund	Local Mission Fund	Gateway Furniture Fund	Building Fund	Welfare Fund	**2023**	2022
		£	£	£	£	£	£	**£**	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:									
Donations and Legacies	4	3,883	0	10,846	42,615	11,049	500	**68,892**	147,751
Charitable Activities	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	1,453
Other Trading Activities	6	0	0	0	50,085	0	0	**50,085**	95,450
Other Income	8	0	0	0	661	0	0	**661**	2,615
TOTAL INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		3,883	0	10,846	93,361	11,049	500	**119,639**	247,269
EXPENDITURE ON:									
Charitable Activities	9	(33,102)	(17,421)	(22,069)	(186,891)	(1,484)	(3,520)	**(264,486)**	(337,024)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		(33,102)	(17,421)	(22,069)	(186,891)	(1,484)	(3,520)	**(264,486)**	(337,024)
NET INCOMING (OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		(29,220)	(17,421)	(11,223)	(93,529)	9,565	(3,020)	**(144,847)**	(89,755)
Transfers		0	6,750	11,800	74,775	0	1,440	**94,765**	56,557
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(29,220)	(10,671)	577	(18,754)	9,565	(1,580)	**(50,082)**	(33,198)
FUND BALANCES:									
At 31 March 2022		29,755	10,672	14,403	18,754	0	18,710	**92,294**	125,492
Net movement in funds		(29,220)	(10,671)	577	(18,754)	9,565	(1,580)	**(50,082)**	(33,198)
At 31 March 2023		535	2	14,980	0	9,565	17,130	**42,212**	92,294

Notes to the Accounts

4. INCOME FROM DONATIONS

	2023	2022
	£	£
General donations of cash and similar	**63,343**	71,609
Gift Aid donations of cash and similar	**246,913**	230,211
Gift Aid recoverable	**62,547**	60,379
Other grants receivable	**13,421**	5,350
Donations in kind (note 4a)	**36,100**	90,200
Government grants (note 4b)	**100**	12,602
	422,424	470,351

a. Donations in kind comprise:

Goods donated for use by the charity	**36,100**	90,200
	36,100	90,200

b. Government grants comprise:

Job Retention Scheme grants	**0**	6,602
Swindon Borough Council Grants	**100**	6,000
	100	12,602

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Youth ministry events	**6,737**	462
Church retreats and events	**805**	1,453
Room hire	**1,100**	250
	8,642	2,166

6. INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Sale of donated goods	**50,085**	95,450
	50,085	95,450

7. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2023	2022
	£	£
Bank interest	**147**	28
	147	28

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2023

Notes to the Accounts

8. OTHER INCOME

	2023	2022
	£	£
Building occupancy	**171**	2,056
Other income	**490**	558
	661	2,615

9. CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE

9.1 MINISTRY COSTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries and pension contributions	**301,912**	307,000
Employer's national insurance	**20,280**	21,190
Visiting ministry costs	**1,127**	0
UK travel & entertainment (meals, etc.)	**3,897**	3,834
Team building	**513**	2,722
Staff & volunteer training	**1,122**	2,086
Insurance	**3,207**	3,524
Bank charges	**171**	230
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	**1,400**	0
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	**4,846**	6,182
	338,475	346,767

9.2 OFFICE AND ACCOMMODATION COSTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Rates, rent, and associated fees	**27,689**	27,730
Utilities	**4,760**	2,413
Repairs, maintenance & building improvements	**4,407**	2,536
Cleaning	**4,016**	2,093
Operations & compliance costs	**2,012**	2,086
Office equipment & software	**3,154**	3,680
Telephone, mobiles & internet	**6,934**	8,956
Printing, photocopying & stationery	**631**	1,210
Communications & publicity	**6,176**	5,243
Postage	**118**	220
Subscriptions & memberships	**1,573**	1,254
Payroll fees	**416**	373
Hospitality & kitchen supplies	**4,576**	2,954
	66,462	60,747

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2023

Notes to the Accounts

9.3 ACTIVITY COSTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Room hire	**5,140**	2,560
Gateway Kids (Children's ministry)	**2,241**	564
Events	**7,849**	2,059
Authentic (Youth ministry)	**11,505**	1,143
Worship team	**1,503**	1,289
A/V team (incl. equipment)	**602**	1,367
Gateway groups	**1,604**	1,089
Transport - minibus & taxi	**908**	424
Other pastoral	**1,065**	1,568
Vehicle costs	**12,381**	8,194
Beds	**8,928**	7,067
Furniture Re-Use Network	**2,321**	2,885
Gifts of furniture	**47,050**	96,300
Other Gateway Furniture costs	**6,639**	602
Alpha course	**1,010**	0
Other local outreach	**3,257**	14,038
	114,004	141,151

9.4 GRANTS

	2023		2022	
	Number	£	Number	£
Grants to institutions				
Safe Families	**12**	**2,400**	6	1,200
Mustard Tree / Starting Point	**0**	**0**	1	5,000
Hope for Tomorrow Global	**1**	**33,102**	2	47,704
Regions Beyond	**16**	**17,421**	13	13,000
Keystone Church South Africa	**0**	**0**	2	2,371
Regions Beyond Clarens FS NPC	**0**	**0**	1	2,500
Swindon Youth for Christ	**1**	**156**	0	0
Total	**30**	**53,079**	25	71,776
Grants to individuals	**22**	**2,980**	15	3,453
Total grants	**52**	**56,059**	40	75,228

9.6 GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Independent examiner's fees	**2,340**	3,000
	2,340	3,000

Fees payable to Stewardship, other than for the cost of the independent examination totalled £320 (2022: £425).

Notes to the Accounts

10. STAFF, TRUSTEES, & KEY MANAGEMENT

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gross wages and salaries	**280,611**	285,184
Employer's national insurance costs	**20,280**	21,190
Pension costs	**21,300**	21,816
Other employment benefits	**0**	0
Total staff costs	**322,192**	328,190

		2023	2022
Number of staff at year end:	Full-time	**5**	7
	Part-time	**2**	6

The average number of staff during the reporting period was 11.33 (2022: 12.42). Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers.

No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

The charity's key management comprise the trustees and the key staff named on the Company Information page. Total employment benefits payable to key management for the year were as follows:

	Wages & salaries	Other employment benefits	Employer pension contributions	2023 £
Trustees:				
Nigel Howarth	38,000	0	3,040	**41,040**
Colin Thornton	40,000	0	3,200	**43,200**
Other members of key management:	38,000	0	3,040	**41,040**
				125,280

The following amounts were payable in the previous year:

	Wages & salaries	Other employment benefits	Employer pension contributions	2022 £
Trustees:				
Nigel Howarth	37,575	0	3,006	40,581
Colin Thornton	39,635	0	3,171	42,806
Other members of key management:	37,575	0	3,006	40,581
				123,968

Nigel Howarth and Colin Thornton served as elders of the church and received the above payments for serving in that capacity, not for serving as trustees; these payments are permitted by the charity's governing document.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2023

Notes to the Accounts

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Vehicles	Equipment	Leasehold improvements	**Total**
	£	£	£	**£**
Cost				
At 01 April 2022	11,200	112,464	109,880	**233,543**
Additions	0	9,635	0	**9,635**
Gains / (losses) on revaluation	0	0	0	**0**
Disposals	(11,200)	(5,252)	0	**(16,452)**
At 31 March 2023	0	116,847	109,880	**226,727**
Accumulated depreciation				
At 01 April 2022	(3,733)	(107,655)	(107,268)	**(218,655)**
Charge for the year	(1,200)	(2,818)	(828)	**(4,846)**
Eliminated on disposal	4,933	3,813	0	**8,746**
At 31 March 2023	0	(106,660)	(108,096)	**(214,755)**
Net book value				
At 31 March 2023	**0**	**10,187**	**1,783**	**11,970**
At 31 March 2022	7,467	4,809	2,611	14,887

Equipment comprises musical, public address, translation, sound, kitchen and office equipment and fixtures and fittings.

12. STOCK

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2023**	2022
	£	£	**£**	£
Donated goods	0	0	**0**	10,950
	0	0	**0**	10,950

13. DEBTORS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2023**	2022
	£	£	**£**	£
Debtors	0	2,508	**2,508**	2,456
Gift Aid recoverable	22,585	473	**23,057**	58,414
Accrued income	176	760	**936**	1,035
Amounts receivable	4,392	13,333	**17,725**	0
VAT	0	0	**0**	504
Prepayments	8,869	0	**8,869**	11,645
	36,021	17,073	**53,094**	74,055

14. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2023**	2022
	£	£	**£**	£
Bank accounts	48,370	42,419	**90,789**	133,756
Cash in hand	5	0	**5**	717
	48,375	42,419	**90,794**	134,473

Notes to the Accounts

15. CREDITORS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2023**	2022
	£	£	**£**	£
Accounts payable	0	3,105	**3,105**	0
Deferred income	2,231	14,083	**16,314**	1,657
Payroll creditors	1,157	84	**1,242**	1,663
Accruals	7,776	7	**7,783**	8,248
	11,164	17,280	**28,444**	11,568

16. DEFERRED INCOME

Deferred income comprises the following:	Grants & Repayments	Training & conferences	**2023**	2022
	£	£	**£**	£
Balance at the beginning of the reporting period	882	775	**1,657**	120
Amount released to income	(882)	(775)	**(1,657)**	(120)
Amount deferred in year	14,083	2,231	**16,314**	1,657
Balance at the end of the reporting period	14,083	2,231	**16,314**	1,657

The income deferred at the period end will be released to income over the following periods:

Within one year	14,083	2,231	**16,314**	1,657
After one year	0	0	**0**	0
	14,083	2,231	**16,314**	1,657

17. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The charity has an operating lease for its church building. The minimum amount payable (until the next break clause and ignoring the potential effect of future rent reviews) in respect of this lease is as follows:

	2023	2022
Payments falling due:	**£**	£
Within one year	**12,000**	24,000
Between one and five years	**0**	12,000
After five years	**0**	0
	12,000	36,000

During the year the charity was charged £24,045 (2022: £23,999) for its operating lease.

18. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	Fixed assets	Bank balances	Other net assets	**2023**	2022
	£	£	£	**£**	£
Restricted funds	0	42,419	(207)	**42,213**	92,295
Unrestricted funds	11,970	48,375	24,857	**85,202**	130,502
	11,970	90,794	24,651	**127,415**	222,797

Notes to the Accounts

19. TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

During the year, the charity:

a) received donations totalling £49,488 (2022: £50,850) from related parties (which includes trustees, any other members of key management, and anyone closely connected to them).

b) No expenses (2022: nil) were paid to, or for, the trustees. Reimbursements for expenses incurred when acting as an agent for the charity or incurred when undertaking employment duties not connected with serving as a trustee are not included in this disclosure.

During the year, the charity also made the following payments to, or for, related parties:

a) Regions Beyond, who is closely related to Nigel Howarth, a trustee of both Regions Beyond and the charity, received grants totalling £17,421 (2022: £13,000) for mission activities overseas and in the UK.

Except as disclosed in note 10, 'Staff, Trustees & Key Management', there have been no other transactions with related parties during the year.

20. MEMBERS

Each member of the company commits to contribute if the charity is wound up an amount of £1.

Gateway Church Swindon 2023 accounts - final for signing

Final Audit Report 2023-12-14

Created:	2023-12-14
By:	Lourens du Plessis (lourens.duplessis@stewardship.org.uk)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAADQuOzbJggeRglpjtB6YYtN-M08mlhqWE

"Gateway Church Swindon 2023 accounts - final for signing" History

Document created by Lourens Du Plessis (lourens.duplessis@stewardship.org.uk)
2023-12-14 - 16:36:13 GMT

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2023-12-14 - 16:39:46 GMT

Email viewed by nigel.howarth@gcswindon.org.uk
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Signer nigel.howarth@gcswindon.org.uk entered name at signing as N J Howarth
2023-12-14 - 16:42:40 GMT

Document e-signed by N J Howarth (nigel.howarth@gcswindon.org.uk)
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2023-12-14 - 16:50:29 GMT

Signer Lourens Du Plessis (lourens.duplessis@stewardship.org.uk) entered name at signing as Lourens du Plessis
2023-12-14 - 16:50:55 GMT

Document e-signed by Lourens du Plessis (lourens.duplessis@stewardship.org.uk)
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Agreement completed.

2023-12-14 - 16:50:57 GMT

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GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

England & Wales - Charity number 1123831

Accounts

GATEWAY
CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2022

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2022

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GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2022

Company Information

Charity Name	Gateway Church Swindon
Company Registration Number	06541956
Charity Registration Number	1123831
Governing Document	Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 21/03/2008
Trustees	Mark Owen (Chair) Nigel Howarth Ian Lowe Colin Thornton Andrew Neale Mallika Ebenezar
Company Secretary	Nigel Howarth
Registered Address	The Trinity Centre Stonehill Green Westlea Swindon Wiltshire SN5 7AR
Senior Management Team	Colin Thornton (Chief Executive and Senior Elder) Al Cotton (Elder) Nigel Howarth (Elder)
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC Barclays Business Centre 10-14 High Street Swindon Wiltshire SN1 3ED
Independent Examiner	Lourens du Plessis ACA CA(SA) Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage London EC1Y 8AB

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2022

Trustees' Report

1. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

1.1. Structure

Gateway Church Swindon ('GCS') was incorporated in March 2008 as a company limited by guarantee and is the successor charity to Swindon Family Church.

GCS is a diverse Christian church based in Swindon, Wiltshire. It is part of Regions Beyond, an international network of churches overseen by Steve Oliver, and is part of the Newfrontiers family of churches. It is also a member of the Evangelical Alliance. No external party, including the Evangelical Alliance, Newfrontiers and Regions Beyond, took decisions or had voting rights in the governance of GCS.

1.2. Governance

The charity is governed by the trustees, who are appointed for the skills and experience that they may offer in contributing to the governance of the charity. Trustees must subscribe and adhere to, in belief and lifestyle, the statement of beliefs set out in the memorandum and articles of association and are typically invited from existing church members.

The trustees have adopted a policy for the induction and training of new trustees, including providing each trustee with the following:

- A copy of the governing documents,
- The most recent annual report and accounts,
- Current job description for trustee or trustee chair (as appropriate),
- A copy of appropriate Charity Commission publications.

New trustees are made aware of the charity's professional advisors, accountants and any current issues. They are also made aware of the organisational management structure, employees and their responsibilities. They are given the opportunity to meet staff members to be appraised of matters of current activities.

The trustees meet at least four times a year, where aims, strategies and policies for achieving the charity's responsibilities and objectives are agreed and reviewed regularly. The trustees have overall legal and financial responsibility for the charity.

The trustees have appointed a senior management team, who have been given delegated responsibility for the spiritual and strategic direction of the church. The senior managers, together with other staff, also meet regularly and deal with the day-to-day management and running of the activities. Senior managers report to the trustees on the progress of activities, performance results and plans.

Trustees' Report

The trustees agree on the salary structure for all staff employed by the charity, which includes the senior management team. All staff have contracts and job descriptions and are paid commensurate with the level of responsibility that they hold. The salary structure is reviewed annually.

As at 31 March 2022, the charity has six trustees and three elders, who form the senior management team.

1.3. Risk Management

The trustees have recognised the importance of assessing and managing the risk associated with the charity's objectives and have overall responsibility for determining risk management policy, defining what is required and methods of how risks are identified, assessed, handled, reviewed and reported. The senior management team have responsibility for implementing and maintaining systems consistent with this policy. The charity has a set of comprehensive policy and procedure documents in place to ensure on-going identification and management of risks. A system has been implemented whereby potential risks are considered, categorised (financial, external, operational, governance, and legal, regulatory and compliance risks), graded by the likelihood of occurrence and impact and the results recorded in the risk register. The system continues with procedures to mitigate those risks, by minimising the likelihood and any potential impact should those risks materialise, and report and review outstanding medium or high rated risks.

The trustees and the senior management team regularly review progress against budgeted financial plans and non-financial criteria. Accounts are prepared every month so that financial risks can be identified early and appropriate action taken. While it is recognised that the procedures do not provide absolute assurance against loss or material misstatements, the trustees are of the opinion that proper systems of risk management and control are in place within the charity.

1.4. Other Policies and Procedures

The trustees have established, and regularly review, policies on the following:

- Safeguarding for children and young people, and adults at risk of harm,
- Health and safety and related legislation.
- Data protection and related legislation.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2022

Trustees' Report

2. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

2.1. Objectives

The objects of GCS, as stated in the memorandum and articles of association, are as follows:

- To advance the Christian faith in accordance with the statement of beliefs in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees from time to time may think fit.
- To advance education in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees from time to time may think fit.
- To relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind, including through the provision of counselling and support in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees from time to time may think fit.

2.2. Vision & Mission

The trustees note that the Church is not a building, but a gathering of ordinary people of different ages and backgrounds, whose lives have been changed by Jesus Christ, the Son of God. The New Testament reveals the Church as a community of people, properly taught and cared for, who by loving and serving Jesus Christ, were also committed to love and care for each other and to be a blessing to the area in which they lived. GCS, its trustees, elders, and members, are committed to the continuation of those New Testament principles. GCS is not alone in this; it is one of many churches in the area, country, and all over the world who are inviting people to re-discover the excitement of knowing Jesus Christ.

The vision of GCS is to see Swindon come to life in God. We will do this by giving ourselves away through equipping, sending, partnering, & resourcing.

2.3. Values

The Trustees and elders have sought to work out how best to express the vision in the context of week to week church activities, values and life. The following ten value statements aim to summarise what GCS prioritises and strives for, as it works out its vision of seeing Swindon come to life in God:

- **We're scattered servants on mission in our communities.** God sends. He sent his Son into the world to save, and Jesus has passed on that mission to us (Matthew 28:19). That means we don't focus on doing things 'our way', but instead we encourage each other to serve where we live and be the Church in our community.
- **We're here for one another's success.** We sacrifice our own time, finance, profile, and success in order that others will benefit. This means we want to equip each person, including our children and young people, to be as effective as possible in the areas Jesus has called them to.

Trustees' Report

- **We're part of a bigger story.** We believe that where trust and unity exist, God moves. Hope for Swindon is found in the unity of his followers. So, we seek to actively support, work with, and love other churches in Swindon, the UK, and across the world. Love and unity on display in the Church is one of our most effective tools.
- **We reflect the diversity of our town & we proclaim the diversity of God's Kingdom.** We're intentional about raising up leaders from other cultures, other social backgrounds, male and female, young and old. We want to learn to serve and love those from different backgrounds better. Society longs for unity and inclusion, but it lacks the power to achieve it. What society is unable to do, God is able to do through the power of the gospel and His Spirit.
- **We go above and beyond to do the impossible.** One of the characteristics of a Christian is that we reflect God's extravagant generosity. Faith-filled generosity allows the disadvantaged to be cared for, the gospel to be preached, and the Church family to be strengthened. We want to be known for our generosity – as those who contribute and not just consume.
- **We're fuelled by the Spirit and faithful to the Word.** We desire that every Christian live in the fullness of life in the Spirit, for the full range of spiritual gifts we read about in the Bible to be exercised amongst us, and for all people to know they are a valued member of the Church and have something to contribute. We're also committed to the faithful preaching and teaching of the Bible and aim to shape all we are and do by it.
- **We're created for community.** The Church is not a club or a business, but a new kind of family. We therefore pursue community-forming activities and gather together regularly. We train, raise, and release men and women into leadership. We also value the importance of biblical eldership – a team of men who seek to father the local church through their leadership. We also delight in the natural expressions of family. We guard biblical marriage and see the raising of children as a responsibility that isn't just for parents but for the entire church community. We also celebrate the gift of singleness and seek to hold it in the same high esteem as the New Testament.
- **We're motivated by grace.** We are a people of grace, because God has poured out his grace upon us. We want to be a Church that expresses God's grace to one another and to the world around us. Freely we've received, so freely we will give. We're a community with a wide front door for anyone to come through, knowing that Jesus ate with the people his society despised. We want to live in the same way, so no matter where people have come from, their background or life circumstances, we want them to encounter the love and grace of Jesus.
- **We're here for the city.** God has placed us in Swindon and all we are and do seeks to bring about the transformation of our town. So, we encourage people to serve in every area of society, seeking its blessing and transformation – whether it's local government, business, healthcare, charity, or something else – knowing that they bring the grace and love of Jesus with them as they serve.
- **We seek to make the last the first.** We seek to continue the directive of the New Testament to 'remember the poor', knowing that we serve a God who 'raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people' (Psalm 113:7-8).

Trustees' Report

2.4. Significant Activities

The significant activities, programmes and projects used by GCS are:

Sunday Gatherings
The focus of Sunday gatherings are to gather together before God in worship, to open the Bible together, teaching, and to encourage and pray for one another. All are welcome to join a Sunday gathering, whether church members, their families, or visitors.

Leadership Development
The leadership team of GCS have been meeting twice a month throughout the year with eight other men and women to explore eldership and incorporate them into the leadership team. Since the year-end, a further two individuals have been welcomed into the leadership team.

Groups
Groups are a support network enabling (primarily) those connected to GCS to find community, support, care, and help.

Children and Youth Work
GCS provides different age group meetings on a Sunday and at other points throughout the week for children and young adults. We subsidise the cost of the Newday summer camp for those young adults who attend.

Safeguarding Training
We continue to provide ongoing training in safeguarding for those in GCS working with children and young people, as well as those working with adults with care and support needs.

Gateway Furniture
Gateway Furniture distributes furniture to people in Swindon and the surrounding areas who are most in need.

Good News for Swindon
We continue to be actively involved with Good News for Swindon, a network of churches in the town, seeking to work together for the good of Swindon. Colin Thornton leads the Good News for Swindon network.

Outreach Activities
Two employees of GCS give a large proportion of their employed time to leading and supporting various projects, unity movements, and churches around the town. For the first number of months of the year, we were employing an intern for Starting Point, a charity working with young people in the town. We continue to employ an individual to work as a pastor for another local church in the town, Penhill Community Church. Additionally, GCS set a budget target of 'giving away' an equivalent of 15% of its unrestricted income for the purposes of local and international mission – whether through grant-funding, employment, supporting Gateway Furniture, etc. At the year-end, the final figure was 16.75% of total unrestricted funds.

Trustees' Report

2.5. Public Benefit

In planning the activities of the charity, the Trustees have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

2.6. Volunteers

Much of the work of GCS continues to be dependent on the unpaid services of church members. The trustees recognise the essential resource provided by the many people within GCS who freely give of their time and would like to continue to acknowledge and thank them. We cannot attempt to place a value on the immensely significant contribution that our volunteers make, and we are grateful to them for their time and commitment.

2.7. Grant-Making Policy

Grants are made by the charity to both external organisations and individuals, as part of achieving its activities and objectives. Grants and gifts are considered on the basis of need and fulfilment of the charitable objectives. There are no upper or lower limits of support.

Trustees' Report

3. ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

3.1. Building a Family of Believers

The church continues to hold public gatherings, where through singing, communion, prayer and teaching the Bible, we encourage people to live as disciples of Jesus. These gatherings also provide an opportunity for individuals to share personal testimony, respond to the claims of the Christian faith, and for new believers' baptisms.

We have consistently been gathering together physically throughout this year in the west of Swindon. We continue to stream our Sunday gatherings to Zoom for those who are unable to gather physically, or who do not yet feel comfortable doing so.

The Sunday gatherings have activities of worship for all ages, not just adults. There is children's work for ages 2-4, 5-8, and 9-11, as well as youth work for those aged 11-18 and a space for parents of 0-2s to bring their children and connect with others. The children's team enjoy serving the children through games, worship, bible teaching, and exploring creativity in arts and craft. Good numbers of children are attending each week and the children's team leaders continue to work hard at building and developing the teams. In each of the groups, we have bright and varied curriculums which are age appropriate. Our children's work is structured to encourage the best from the children and help parents feel comfortable leaving their children in our care. Part of this is a continued commitment to safeguarding children and training our volunteers in safeguarding best practice. A new online safeguarding course for those working with children and young people is due to be launched post the year-end.

We continue to hold termly family gatherings – with the sole focus of serving children and parents, and equipping parents with resources to engage and disciple their children throughout the week. As well as the age-related groups meeting on Sunday mornings, youth continued to meet during the week on a regular basis. The Newday summer camp was cancelled again in 2021, so we hosted a watch party for the Newday online event instead.

There are many opportunities which allow most in the congregation to have some involvement in expressing their Christian faith practically as they work together and serve others. This could be through being part of the Welcome Team serving on a Sunday, working as part of the Worship Team, working with Authentic on a weekday night, or through volunteering at Gateway Furniture or others we work with in the town.

Through the groups meeting at various points throughout the week, relationships continue to grow and gifts are developed as members care for and encourage one another. Groups provide an opportunity for individuals form the diverse backgrounds at GCS to meet together, often in homes, but also at the building we use. Some groups have a more specific focus when meeting together, such as the Wednesday morning group for mothers and toddlers, while others provide an opportunity to form relationships, care for one another practically, and encourage each other in faith.

Trustees' Report

A number from different churches across the town continue to meet on Zoom to pray early every week day, which was something we started in the early days of the pandemic in 2020. We also gather every Sunday before the public meeting to pray. We have also gathered on mid-week evenings to pray. We joined in with Thy Kingdom Come, a global ecumenical period of prayer started by the Church of England. In Swindon, we joined in with this by gathering over Zoom with Christians from churches all across the town at various points. Churches across the town, including GCS, hosted prayer spaces that were available for anyone to use at points during Thy Kingdom Come. There have also been gatherings on Zoom with Regions Beyond churches from across the world, every other month, to pray for different areas of the world.

Finally, we also held Worship & Encounter Nights every other Sunday from January to March 2022. These are an opportunity for members to gather together, sing, and pray for one another. These have continued on a monthly basis since the year-end.

3.2. Serving and Influencing Swindon

In addition to the continued support of a number of inter-church projects in the town, Gateway Furniture has continued to provide furniture to those most in need. This initiative began within the church, but now serves people all across Swindon and the surrounding areas, collecting good quality second-hand furniture from those who no longer need it, and distributing it to those in particular need. Gateway Furniture has worked with over 60 different agencies in Swindon, who refer clients having assessed their needs.

Throughout the year, Gateway Furniture also operated a shop in the town centre of Swindon, where excess stock was sold to provide additional funds for the project, as well as providing a connection point with referral clients and the wider public. However, since the year-end, new owners have bought the shop from the previous landlords and have asked Gateway Furniture to vacate the premises. The shop was the main source of income for Gateway Furniture and vital to sustaining it. Discussions remain ongoing as to whether and how we may be able to continue the work of Gateway Furniture.

One of the trustees continues to work with and support the Gateway Furniture Project Manager on a volunteer basis. This was primarily around helping to provide input on direction and oversight but has increasingly become about helping to make connections with other charities in the town, as well as facilitating conversations with Swindon Borough Council. He is heavily involved, along with the Senior Management Team and remainder of the trustees, in discussions about the future of Gateway Furniture.

GCS continues to support a joint church plant into the Penhill area of Swindon, alongside other churches in the town connected to the Good News for Swindon network. Throughout the year, we continued to employ someone to invest her time into supporting Penhill Community Church and other local initiatives. Since the year-end, her job role has changed to be primarily working to support GCS. This year, we also employed another individual to work as a pastor for Penhill Community Church, with a number of different churches in the town contributing towards his salary. Conversations about how we can support the more operational and administrative aspect of Penhill Community Church are continuing.

Trustees' Report

Penhill Community Church is being held as a model for planting churches into the town and surrounding areas, with churches from different denominations and traditions in Swindon sending people to help plant it, as well as providing finance in different forms, whether for building renovations or the employment of staff. We believe that this clearly expresses the unity that Jesus desires for his church.

Over Christmas, we ran the Swindon Christmas Toy Appeal, in partnership with other churches in Swindon. Having started years ago as an opportunity for members of Gateway Church to serve others, it has now become a town-wide toy appeal. This year, the number of presents given away increased again. We were able to deliver presents to over 900 children. These items and funds were donated by churches, charities, schools, business, and individuals across the town. Many volunteers came to help sort and deliver everything to the families. Families were referred to us by the council, schools, churches, and other charities.

Following the lockdown in 2020, the Harbour Project, a local charity supporting over 600 asylum seekers and refugees in Swindon, was looking for a building to use in the area. We were able to offer them use of our space for free, which still continues. This year we hosted a banquet for the Harbour Project team and some of the many asylum seekers and refugees that they serve. This was a fantastic opportunity for those in GCS to connect with those who are feeling isolated and welcome them with the love of God.

We were also able to financially support Starting Point, a charity working with young people in Swindon and Reading, and Safe Families, a charity supporting children, young people, and families in Swindon and across the UK.

3.3. Taking the Gospel to the Ends of the Earth

We continue to actively develop links within Regions Beyond, the international network of churches overseen by Steve Oliver and part of the Newfrontiers family. Nigel Howarth serves as a trustee of Regions Beyond UK, and Colin Thornton is part of the Regions Beyond UK leadership team.

Links with Burundi and City Gate Church in Bujumbura remain strong. We took up an offering in the year, raising a significant amount of money which was given as a grant to Hope for Tomorrow Global.

We were also able to give grants to a number of other charities overseas or working overseas, including Regions Beyond, Keystone Church in South Africa, and Regions Beyond Clarens FS NPC.

Trustees' Report

4. FINANCIAL REVIEW

4.1. Overview

The year ended 31 March 2022 had a reasonable deficit in unrestricted funds.

The purpose of each fund and the classification of balances between 'unrestricted/designated' and 'restricted' are described in Note 1 to the Accounts, with further analysis in the subsequent Notes.

Incoming resources to the General Fund during the year ending 31 March 2022 amounted to £323,341, which represents a decrease on the previous year of 11.4%. Income from donations was £265,732. Total expenditure on general activities amounted to £289,868, a 2.8% decrease in expenditure from last year.

Transfers from the General Fund to restricted funds amount to £56,557 resulting in a General Fund balance at the year-end of £130,502. £7,804 of the balance consisted of fixed assets.

4.2. Restricted Funds

There are five restricted funds: Burundi Fund, International Mission Fund, Local Mission Fund, Gateway Furniture Fund, and the Welfare Fund.

In the Burundi Fund, the specified income of £29,793 was mostly taken through a special offering and includes Gift Aid recoverable. The Burundi Fund also received a transfer of £1,136 from the General Fund, equivalent to 0.3% of General Fund income. Expenditure was £49,217 for the year, and the fund balance at the year-end was £29,755.

The International Mission Fund received specified income of £2,373, which includes Gift Aid recoverable. It received a transfer of £15,500 from the General Fund, equivalent to 4.8% of General Fund income. Total resources of £17,871 were disbursed during the year, and the fund balance at the year-end was £10,672.

The Local Mission Fund received specified income of £14,267, which includes Gift Aid recoverable, mostly related to the Swindon Christmas Toy Appeal and the Harbour Project Banquet. It received a transfer of £20,604 from the General Fund, equivalent to 6.3% of General Fund income. Total resources of £38,178 were disbursed during the year, and the fund balance at the year-end was £14,403.

The Gateway Furniture Fund received income of £200,836 (including donated gifts in kind of furniture with an estimated value of £90,200). It received a transfer of £17,131 from the General Fund, equivalent to 5.5% of General Fund income, plus a fixed asset transfer of £747. Expenditure amounted to a total of £228,999, including £2,010 of depreciation. The fund balance at the year-end was £18,754, consisting of £7,804 of fixed assets and £10,950 of stock.

Trustees' Report

The Welfare Fund received specified no income during the year. It received a transfer of £1,440, equivalent to 0.4% of General Fund income. Resources expended amounted to £2,759, resulting in a year-end fund balance of £18,710.

4.3. Principal Funding Sources

GCS relies heavily on the generosity of the church members to fund its activities. The total of all donations (including in restricted funds) were £301,820.

In addition to the estimated £90,200 of donated gifts in kind of furniture, sales from the shop operated by the Gateway Furniture project were also a significant source of funding, bringing in a total of £95,450.

Additionally, grants receivable of £17,952 were a significant source of funding.

4.4. Reserves Policy

The Trustees have set a policy of retaining reserves sufficient for the foreseeable needs of the charity. At the year-end, the contractual obligations to future expenditure were the Trinity Centre lease (a 9-year term from 30 September 2014, with break clauses at 3 and 6 years; £24,000 per annum plus associated costs) and regular commitments under contracts of employment. The majority of the charity's commitments will continue to be met out of current income.

The Trustees believe that an amount equivalent to a minimum of three to four months gross expenditure in general reserves is needed. This will provide for regular fluctuation in income and expenditure throughout the year.

The total value of all general reserves at 31 March 2022 was £130,502, of which £7,804 consisted of fixed assets. The general fund expenditure budget for the 2022-23 year is approximately £382,330. Based on the above, ongoing reserves of between £95,583 and £127,443 are appropriate.

4.5. Pensions

The charity offers membership of a stakeholder pension scheme to all qualifying employees and pays an amount of 8% of the employee's salary into the scheme on a monthly basis.

GCS does not operate a defined benefit or final salary scheme.

Trustees' Report

5. PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

This year ended with a reasonable deficit, £9,964 over the budgeted deficit for the year.

The budget to March 2023 indicates another year of deficit as we continue to increase our expenditure following the last few years of the pandemic. The planned deficit to March 2023 is for £29,788.

Because we have a healthy remaining balance in the Welfare Fund, we are prepared to increasingly support those who are in financial need, both within the church and wider in Swindon, over this coming year with the cost-of-living crisis and increase to energy bills.

Furthermore, we have budgeted to continue our new intention to increase the amount of grant funding to other organisations. The aim for the last year was to 'give away' a minimum of 15% of our general income, plus any income raised from special offerings. We intend to 'give away' a minimum of 16% of our general income in the coming year, plus any income raised from special offerings. This will also help to bring our reserves back within policy.

Since the year-end, the charity was asked to leave its retail space at short notice, causing the Gateway Furniture Project to lose its largest portion of income. Subsequently, the trustees made the decision to close the Gateway Furniture Project, making six staff redundant, as it was no longer financially viable to support. This will result in a larger deficit to March 2023 than budgeted, but also a large reduction in ongoing financial risk to the charity.

6. 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).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

Trustees' Report

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

They are also reponsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

7. APPROVAL

This report, which has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies, was approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

N Howarth

.....

Nigel Howarth – Trustees

16/12/22

.....

Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Gateway Church Swindon ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2022 on pages 16 to 29 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 19-21.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act'). Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

- Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- The accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act, other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Lourens du Plessis ACA CA(SA) 19 December 2022
Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON
Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2022

Statement of Financial Activities

Summary Income and Expenditure Account

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2022	Restricted Funds 2022	**Total Funds 2022**	Unrestricted Funds 2021	Restricted Funds 2021	Total Funds 2021
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:		£	£	**£**	£	£	£
Donations and Legacies	4	322,600	147,751	**470,351**	363,274	181,359	544,634
Charitable Activities	5	712	1,453	**2,166**	1,097	0	1,097
Other Trading Activities	6	0	95,450	**95,450**	0	30,018	30,018
Investment Income	7	28	0	**28**	43	0	43
Other Income	8	0	2,615	**2,615**	0	8,721	8,721
TOTAL INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		323,341	247,269	**570,610**	364,414	220,098	584,512
EXPENDITURE ON:							
Charitable Activities	9	(289,868)	(337,024)	**(626,892)**	(298,163)	(185,156)	(483,319)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		(289,868)	(337,024)	**(626,892)**	(298,163)	(185,156)	(483,319)
NET INCOMING (OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		33,473	(89,755)	**(56,283)**	66,250	34,943	101,193
Transfers Between Funds	3	(56,557)	56,557	**0**	(59,221)	59,221	0
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(23,085)	(33,198)	**(56,283)**	7,029	94,164	101,193
FUND BALANCES:							
At 31 March 2021		153,586	125,493	**279,078**	104,711	73,176	177,886
Net movement in funds		(23,085)	(33,198)	**(56,283)**	48,875	52,317	101,193
At 31 March 2022		130,502	92,295	**222,796**	153,586	125,493	279,078

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account required by the Companies Act 2006.

The notes on pages 19 to 29 form part of these accounts.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON
Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2022

Balance Sheet

At 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	**Total 2022**	2021
		£	£	**£**	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	11	7,082	7,804	**14,887**	18,813
		7,082	7,804	**14,887**	18,813
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock	12	0	10,950	**10,950**	17,050
Debtors	13	60,008	14,047	**74,055**	90,410
Cash at Bank and in Hand	14	73,485	60,989	**134,473**	163,363
		133,493	85,985	**219,478**	270,824
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(10,073)	(1,494)	**(11,568)**	(10,558)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		123,419	84,491	**207,910**	260,265
NET ASSETS		130,502	92,295	**222,796**	279,078
FUNDS					
General Fund		130,502	0	**130,502**	153,586
Specific Funds					
Burundi Fund	3	0	29,755	**29,755**	48,044
International Mission Fund	3	0	10,672	**10,672**	10,671
Local Mission Fund	3	0	14,403	**14,403**	17,710
Gateway Furniture Fund	3	0	18,754	**18,754**	29,039
Welfare Fund	3	0	18,710	**18,710**	20,029
TOTAL FUNDS		130,502	92,295	**222,796**	279,078

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 however, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011, the accounts have been examined by an independent examiner and their report has been included in these financial statements.

The directors (who are the charitable company's trustees for the purposes of charity law) acknowledge their responsibilities for:

a. *ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and*

b. *preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its net income or expenditure for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.*

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on 16/12/22 by:

N Howarth

Nigel Howarth

Company number: 06541956
Charity number: 1123831

The notes on pages 19 to 29 form part of these accounts.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2021

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2022

Statement of Cash Flows

	2022	2021	Note
	£	£	
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(26,663)	81,083	a
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	28	43	
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(2,255)	(1,083)	
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(2,227)	(1,040)	
Cash flows from financing activities			
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	0	0	
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	(28,890)	80,042	
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	163,363	83,321	b
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	134,473	163,363	b

Analysis of changes in net debt:

Note a: Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(56,074)	101,193
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	6,182	8,110
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(28)	(43)
Loss/(profit) on the sale of fixed assets	(208)	0
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	6,100	(17,050)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	16,356	(1,195)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	1,010	(9,933)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(26,663)	81,083

Note b: Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2022	2021
	£	£
Cash in hand	134,473	163,363
Total cash and cash equivalents	134,473	163,363

Notes to the Accounts

1. STATUTORY INFORMATION

The charity is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom. The company's registered number and registered office can be found on the Company Information page.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention.

These financial statements 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 United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)' ('the Charities SORP'), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ('FRS 102'), with the Companies Act 2006, and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The following accounting policies have been adopted in the preparation of the financial statements:

2.1. Going Concern

The trustees (who are the charitable company's directors for the purposes of company law) have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular, the trustees have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income and/or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The trustees have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements. In making this assessment the trustees have considered the impact of Covid-19 and have concluded that its impact on net income will not be material.

2.2. Income and Expenditure Recognition

- Income received through general offerings, gift aid and other occasional gifts is recognised when received by the church.
- Gift Aid recoverable in respect of donations under gift aid is accrued during the year in which the income arises – any amount of tax not reclaimed and recovered by the year end is included in debtors.
- Interest income is recognised when it is earned.
- Expenditure is recognised as it is incurred.
- Grants and donations payable are taken into account when they are paid.

Notes to the Accounts

SORP requires charities with income over £500,000 to allocate costs to the various activities undertaken by the charity. The nature of the work of the church is considered to be so integrated that the core charitable activity costs are considered to be for the one activity. The support costs attributable to fundraising activity are considered minimal.

2.3. Fund Accounting

All general, unspecified income and general routine costs are managed through the General Fund. In addition, a number of specific funds have been established in line with the activities of the charity, as noted below. These specific funds comprise a 'designated' element (the net funding via transfers from the General Fund) and a 'restricted' element (the net funding of direct income, less direct costs, plus transfers via the 'designated' element).

The specific funds are:

- **Burundi Fund**. Support of mission activity undertaken in Burundi by individuals or other institutions.
- **International Mission Fund**. Support of mission activity undertaken internationally by individuals or other institutions, excluding mission activity in Burundi.
- **Local Mission Fund**. Support of mission activity undertaken locally and nationally by individuals or other institutions.
- **Gateway Furniture Fund**. Support of mission activity undertaken locally through the Gateway Furniture Project.
- **Welfare Fund**. Support of members of the church, associated parties, or those in the local community who are in need.

2.4. Fixed Assets and Depreciation

- Expenditure on equipment costing in excess of £500 is capitalised and depreciated on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life.
- Most equipment (musical, public address and office equipment, and furniture and fittings) is assumed to have a life of 5-7 years. IT systems and software are assumed to have a life of 3 years.
- Vehicles are assumed to have a life of 7 years.

2.5. Future Commitments

- The church has a contractual obligation to future expenditure under a 9-year lease with the Bible Society. The lease was renewed on 30 September 2014 and has break clauses for both parties at the end of years 3 and 6.
- The only other commitments are those under contracts of employment.

Notes to the Accounts

2.6. Pension Costs

The charity operates a defined contribution scheme for its employees. Pension premiums are charged as they are paid.

2.7. Taxation

Gateway Church Swindon is a registered charity and is exempt from taxation under the Income and Corporation Taxes Acts.

2.8. Donated Goods

An estimated value has been given to the donations of furniture which were received by the charity and then given to those in need through Gateway Furniture.

2.9. Stocks

Stocks of donated items held for distribution to beneficiaries are measured at fair value; the same estimated value per item as donated goods.

2.10. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The trustees do not consider that there are any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2022

Notes to the Accounts

3. RESTRICTED FUNDS

		Burundi Fund	International Mission Fund	Local Mission Fund	Gateway Furniture Fund	Welfare Fund	**2022**	2021
		£	£	£	£	£	**£**	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:								
Donations and Legacies	4	29,793	2,373	12,814	102,772	0	**147,751**	181,359
Charitable Activities	5	0	0	1,453	0	0	**1,453**	0
Other Trading Activities	6	0	0	0	95,450	0	**95,450**	30,018
Other Income	8	0	0	0	2,615	0	**2,615**	8,721
TOTAL INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		29,793	2,373	14,267	200,836	0	**247,269**	220,098
EXPENDITURE ON:								
Charitable Activities	9	(49,217)	(17,871)	(38,178)	(228,999)	(2,759)	**(337,024)**	(185,156)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		(49,217)	(17,871)	(38,178)	(228,999)	(2,759)	**(337,024)**	(185,156)
NET INCOMING (OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		(19,424)	(15,498)	(23,910)	(28,163)	(2,759)	**(89,755)**	34,943
Transfers		1,136	15,500	20,604	17,878	1,440	**56,557**	17,375
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(18,289)	2	(3,307)	(10,285)	(1,319)	**(33,198)**	52,317
FUND BALANCES:								
At 31 March 2021		48,044	10,671	17,710	29,039	20,029	**125,492**	73,176
Net movement in funds		(18,289)	2	(3,307)	(10,285)	(1,319)	**(33,198)**	52,317
At 31 March 2022		29,755	10,672	14,403	18,754	18,710	**92,294**	125,493

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Year Ended 31 March 2022

Notes to the Accounts

4. INCOME FROM DONATIONS

	2022	2021
	£	£
General donations of cash and similar	**71,609**	103,951
Gift Aid donations of cash and similar	**230,211**	250,595
Gift Aid recoverable	**60,379**	62,950
Other grants receivable	**5,350**	11,100
Donations in kind (note 4a)	**90,200**	42,800
Government grants (note 4b)	**12,602**	73,238
	470,351	544,634

a. Donations in kind comprise:

Goods donated for use by the charity	**90,200**	42,800
	90,200	42,800

b. Government grants comprise:

Job Retention Scheme grants	**6,602**	49,206
Swindon Borough Council Grants	**6,000**	24,032
	12,602	73,238

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Youth ministry events	**462**	1,005
Church retreats and events	**1,453**	92
Room hire	**250**	0
	2,166	1,097

6. INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Sale of donated goods	**95,450**	30,018
	95,450	30,018

7. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2022	2021
	£	£
Bank interest	**28**	43
	28	43

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Notes to the Accounts

8. OTHER INCOME

	2022	2021
	£	£
Building occupancy	**2,056**	8,370
Other income	**558**	351
	2,615	8,721

9. CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE

9.1 MINISTRY COSTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Salaries and pension contributions	**307,000**	297,384
Employer's national insurance	**21,190**	20,382
Visiting ministry costs	**0**	1,000
UK travel & entertainment (meals, etc.)	**3,834**	248
Team building	**2,722**	514
Staff & volunteer training	**2,086**	2,023
Insurance	**3,524**	3,546
Bank charges	**230**	155
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	**6,182**	8,110
	346,767	333,362

9.2 OFFICE AND ACCOMMODATION COSTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Rates, rent, and associated fees	**27,730**	27,730
Utilities	**2,413**	2,166
Repairs, maintenance & building improvements	**2,536**	1,565
Cleaning	**2,093**	3,171
Operations & compliance costs	**2,086**	1,601
Office equipment & software	**3,680**	3,625
Telephone, mobiles & internet	**8,956**	8,923
Printing, photocopying & stationery	**1,210**	646
Communications & publicity	**5,243**	8,389
Postage	**220**	693
Subscriptions & memberships	**1,254**	2,052
Professional fees	**0**	(534)
Payroll fees	**373**	457
Hospitality & kitchen supplies	**2,954**	471
	60,747	60,954

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9.3 ACTIVITY COSTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Room hire	**2,560**	0
Gateway Kids (Children's ministry)	**564**	403
Events	**2,059**	970
Authentic (Youth ministry)	**1,143**	2,049
Worship team	**1,289**	1,599
A/V team (incl. equipment)	**1,367**	3,429
Gateway groups	**1,089**	725
Transport - minibus & taxi	**424**	398
Other pastoral	**1,568**	1,957
Vehicle costs	**8,194**	3,611
Beds	**7,067**	5,274
Furniture Re-Use Network	**2,885**	6,106
Gifts of furniture	**96,300**	25,750
Other Gateway Furniture costs	**602**	751
Alpha course	**0**	227
Other local outreach	**14,038**	7,055
	141,151	60,305

9.4 GRANTS

	2022		2021	
	Number	£	Number	£
Grants to institutions				
Safe Families	**6**	**1,200**	0	0
Mustard Tree / Starting Point	**1**	**5,000**	0	0
Hope for Tomorrow Global	**2**	**47,704**	0	0
Regions Beyond	**13**	**13,000**	12	15,000
Keystone Church South Africa	**2**	**2,371**	0	0
Regions Beyond Clarens FS NPC	**1**	**2,500**	0	0
Swindon Night Shelter	**0**	**0**	1	2,000
Penhill Community Church	**0**	**0**	1	2,000
Stepping Stone Charitable Society India	**0**	**0**	1	2,000
Total	**25**	**71,776**	15	21,000
Grants to individuals	**15**	**3,453**	27	5,179
Total grants	**40**	**75,228**	42	26,179

9.6 GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Independent examiner's fees	**3,000**	2,520
	3,000	2,520

Fees payable to Stewardship, other than for the cost of the independent examination totalled £425 (2021: £240).

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Notes to the Accounts

10. STAFF, TRUSTEES, & KEY MANAGEMENT

	2022	2021
	£	£
Gross wages and salaries	**285,184**	276,844
Employer's national insurance costs	**21,190**	20,382
Pension costs	**21,816**	20,539
Other employment benefits	**0**	0
Total staff costs	**328,190**	317,765

		2022	2021
Number of staff at year end:	Full-time	**7**	7
	Part-time	**6**	5

The average number of staff during the reporting period was 12.42 (2021: 12.08). Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers.

No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

The charity's key management comprise the trustees and the key staff named on the Company Information page. Total employment benefits payable to key management for the year were as follows:

	Wages & salaries	Other employment benefits	Employer pension contributions	2022 £
Trustees:				
Nigel Howarth	37,575	0	3,006	**40,581**
Colin Thornton	39,635	0	3,171	**42,806**
Other members of key management:	37,575	0	3,006	**40,581**
				123,968

The following amounts were payable in the previous year:

	Wages & salaries	Other employment benefits	Employer pension contributions	2021 £
Trustees:				
Nigel Howarth	36,785	0	2,943	39,728
Colin Thornton	38,885	0	3,111	41,996
Other members of key management:	36,785	0	2,943	39,728
				121,451

Nigel Howarth and Colin Thornton served as elders of the church and received the above payments for serving in that capacity, not for serving as trustees; these payments are permitted by the charity's governing document.

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Notes to the Accounts

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Vehicles	Equipment	Leasehold improvements	**Total 2021**
	£	£	£	**£**
Cost				
At 01 April 2021	11,200	116,534	109,880	**237,613**
Additions	0	2,255	0	**2,255**
Gains / (losses) on revaluation	0	0	0	**0**
Disposals	0	(6,325)	0	**(6,325)**
At 31 March 2022	11,200	112,464	109,880	**233,543**
Accumulated depreciation				
At 01 April 2021	(2,133)	(110,227)	(106,440)	**(218,799)**
Charge for the year	(1,600)	(3,753)	(828)	**(6,182)**
Eliminated on disposal	0	6,325	0	**6,325**
At 31 March 2022	(3,733)	(107,655)	(107,268)	**(218,655)**
Net book value				
At 31 March 2022	**7,467**	**4,809**	**2,611**	**14,887**
At 31 March 2021	9,067	6,307	3,440	18,813

Equipment comprises musical, public address, translation, sound, kitchen and office equipment and fixtures and fittings.

12. STOCK

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2022**	2021
	£	£	**£**	£
Donated goods	0	10,950	**10,950**	17,050
	0	10,950	**10,950**	17,050

13. DEBTORS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2022**	2021
	£	£	**£**	£
Debtors	0	2,456	**2,456**	8,771
Gift Aid recoverable	52,278	6,136	**58,414**	59,928
Accrued income	80	955	**1,035**	14,637
Amounts receivable	0	0	**0**	0
VAT	0	504	**504**	804
Prepayments	7,650	3,995	**11,645**	6,270
	60,008	14,047	**74,055**	90,410

14. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2022**	2021
	£	£	**£**	£
Bank accounts	73,278	60,478	**133,756**	163,018
Cash in hand	207	510	**717**	345
	73,485	60,989	**134,473**	163,363

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Notes to the Accounts

15. CREDITORS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2022**	2021
	£	£	**£**	£
Accounts payable	0	0	**0**	131
Deferred income	907	750	**1,657**	120
Payroll creditors	946	717	**1,663**	1,700
Accruals	8,220	28	**8,248**	8,607
	10,073	1,494	**11,568**	10,558

16. DEFERRED INCOME

Deferred income comprises the following:	Grants & Repayments	Training & conferences	**2022**	2021
	£	£	**£**	£
Balance at the beginning of the reporting period	0	120	**120**	2,241
Amount released to income	0	(120)	**(120)**	(2,241)
Amount deferred in year	882	775	**1,657**	120
Balance at the end of the reporting period	882	775	**1,657**	120

The income deferred at the period end will be released to income over the following periods:

Within one year	882	775	**1,657**	120
After one year	0	0	**0**	0
	882	775	**1,657**	120

17. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The charity has an operating lease for its church building. The minimum amount payable (until the next break clause and ignoring the potential effect of future rent reviews) in respect of this lease is as follows:

	2022	2021
Payments falling due:	**£**	£
Within one year	**24,000**	12,000
Between one and five years	**12,000**	48,000
After five years	**0**	0
	36,000	60,000

During the year the charity was charged £23,999 (2021: £23,999) for its operating lease.

18. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	Fixed assets	Bank balances	Other net assets	**2022**	2021
	£	£	£	**£**	£
Restricted funds	7,804	60,989	23,502	**92,295**	125,493
Unrestricted funds	7,082	73,485	49,934	**130,502**	153,586
	14,887	134,473	73,437	**222,797**	279,079

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19. TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

During the year, the charity:

a) received donations totalling £50,850 (2021: £52,764) from related parties (which includes trustees, any other members of key management, and anyone closely connected to them).

b) No expenses (2021: nil) were paid to, or for, the trustees. Reimbursements for expenses incurred when acting as an agent for the charity or incurred when undertaking employment duties not connected with serving as a trustee are not included in this disclosure.

During the year, the charity also made the following payments to, or for, related parties:

a) Regions Beyond, who is closely related to Nigel Howarth, a trustee of both Regions Beyond and the charity, received grants totalling £13,000 (2021: £15,000) for mission activities both overseas and in the UK.

Except as disclosed in note 10, 'Staff, Trustees & Key Management', there have been no other transactions with related parties during the year.

20. EVENTS SINCE THE YEAR END

In August 2022, the charity was asked to leave its retail space at very short notice, causing the Gateway Furniture project to lose its largest portion of income. In October 2022, the trustees made the decision to close the Gateway Furniture project, making six staff redundant, as it was no longer financially viable to support.

The charity estimates that the closure of the project and staff redundancies will cost c. £64,000 more than it had budgeted to fund Gateway Furniture at the start of the financial year. While this has resulted in a significant portion of the charity's reserves being used, the closure of Gateway Furniture has also caused a large reduction in ongoing financial risk.

21. MEMBERS

Each member of the company commits to contribute if the charity is wound up an amount of £1.

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Company Information

Charity Name	Gateway Church Swindon
Company Registration Number	06541956
Charity Registration Number	1123831
Governing Document	Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 21/03/2008
Trustees	Mark Owen (Chair) Nigel Howarth Ian Lowe Colin Thornton Andrew Neale Mallika Ebenezar
Company Secretary	Nigel Howarth
Registered Address	The Trinity Centre Stonehill Green Westlea Swindon Wiltshire SN5 7AR
Senior Management Team	Colin Thornton (Chief Executive and Senior Elder) Al Cotton (Elder) Nigel Howarth (Elder)
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC Barclays Business Centre 10-14 High Street Swindon Wiltshire SN1 3ED
Independent Examiner	Lourens du Plessis ACA CA(SA) Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage London EC1Y 8AB

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

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Trustees' Report

1. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

1.1. Structure

Gateway Church Swindon ('GCS') was incorporated in March 2008 as a company limited by guarantee and is the successor charity to Swindon Family Church.

GCS is a diverse Christian church based in Swindon, Wiltshire. It is part of Regions Beyond, an international network of churches overseen by Steve Oliver, and is part of the Newfrontiers family of churches. It is also a member of the Evangelical Alliance. No external party, including the Evangelical Alliance, Newfrontiers and Regions Beyond, took decisions or had voting rights in the governance of GCS.

1.2. Governance

The charity is governed by the trustees, who are appointed for the skills and experience that they may offer in contributing to the governance of the charity. Trustees must subscribe and adhere to, in belief and lifestyle, the statement of beliefs set out in the memorandum and articles of association and are typically invited from existing church members.

The trustees have adopted a policy for the induction and training of new trustees, including providing each trustee with the following:

- A copy of the governing documents,
- The most recent annual report and accounts,
- Current job description for trustee or trustee chair (as appropriate),
- A copy of appropriate Charity Commission publications.

New trustees are made aware of the charity's professional advisors, accountants and any current issues. They are also made aware of the organisational management structure, employees and their responsibilities. They are given the opportunity to meet staff members to be appraised of matters of current activities.

The trustees meet at least four times a year, where aims, strategies and policies for achieving the charity's responsibilities and objectives are agreed and reviewed regularly. The trustees have overall legal and financial responsibility for the charity.

The trustees have appointed a senior management team, who have been given delegated responsibility for the spiritual and strategic direction of the church. The senior managers, together with other staff, also meet regularly and deal with the day-to-day management and running of the activities. Senior managers report to the trustees on the progress of activities, performance results and plans.

Trustees' Report

The trustees agree on the salary structure for all staff employed by the charity, which includes the senior management team. All staff have contracts and job descriptions and are paid commensurate with the level of responsibility that they hold. The salary structure is reviewed annually.

As at 31 March 2021, the charity has six trustees and three elders, who form the senior management team.

1.3. Risk Management

The trustees have recognised the importance of assessing and managing the risk associated with the charity's objectives and have overall responsibility for determining risk management policy, defining what is required and methods of how risks are identified, assessed, handled, reviewed and reported. The senior management team have responsibility for implementing and maintaining systems consistent with this policy. The charity has a set of comprehensive policy and procedure documents in place to ensure on-going identification and management of risks. A system has been implemented whereby potential risks are considered, categorised (financial, external, operational, governance, and legal, regulatory and compliance risks), graded by the likelihood of occurrence and impact and the results recorded in the risk register. The system continues with procedures to mitigate those risks, by minimising the likelihood and any potential impact should those risks materialise, and report and review outstanding medium or high rated risks.

The trustees and the senior management team regularly review progress against budgeted financial plans and non-financial criteria. Accounts are prepared every month so that financial risks can be identified early and appropriate action taken. While it is recognised that the procedures do not provide absolute assurance against loss or material misstatements, the trustees are of the opinion that proper systems of risk management and control are in place within the charity.

1.4. Other Policies and Procedures

The trustees have established, and regularly review, policies on the following:

- Safeguarding for children and young people, and adults with care and support needs,
- Health and safety and related legislation.
- Data protection and related legislation.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

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Year Ended 31 March 2021

Trustees' Report

2. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

2.1. Objectives

The objects of GCS, as stated in the memorandum and articles of association, are as follows:

- To advance the Christian faith in accordance with the statement of beliefs in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees from time to time may think fit.
- To advance education in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees from time to time may think fit.
- To relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind, including through the provision of counselling and support in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees from time to time may think fit.

2.2. Vision & Mission

The trustees note that the Church is not a building, but a gathering of ordinary people of different ages and backgrounds, whose lives have been changed by Jesus Christ, the Son of God. The New Testament reveals the Church as a community of people, properly taught and cared for, who by loving and serving Jesus Christ, were also committed to love and care for each other and to be a blessing to the area in which they lived. GCS, its trustees, elders, and members, are committed to the continuation of those New Testament principles. GCS is not alone in this; it is one of many churches in the area, country, and all over the world who are inviting people to re-discover the excitement of knowing Jesus Christ.

The vision of GCS is to see Swindon come to life in God. We will do this by giving ourselves away through equipping, sending, partnering, & resourcing.

2.3. Values

The Trustees and elders have sought to work out how best to express the vision in the context of week to week church activities, values and life. The following ten value statements aim to summarise what GCS prioritises and strives for, as it works out its vision of seeing Swindon come to life in God:

- **We're scattered servants on mission in our communities.** God sends. He sent his Son into the world to save, and Jesus has passed on that mission to us (Matthew 28:19). That means we don't focus on doing things 'our way', but instead we encourage each other to serve where we live and be the Church in our community.
- **We're here for one another's success.** We sacrifice our own time, finance, profile, and success in order that others will benefit. This means we want to equip each person, including our children and young people, to be as effective as possible in the areas Jesus has called them to.

Trustees' Report

- **We're part of a bigger story.** We believe that where trust and unity exist, God moves. Hope for Swindon is found in the unity of his followers. So, we seek to actively support, work with, and love other churches in Swindon, the UK, and across the world. Love and unity on display in the Church is one of our most effective tools.
- **We reflect the diversity of our town & we proclaim the diversity of God's Kingdom.** We're intentional about raising up leaders from other cultures, other social backgrounds, male and female, young and old. We want to learn to serve and love those from different backgrounds better. Society longs for unity and inclusion, but it lacks the power to achieve it. What society is unable to do, God is able to do through the power of the gospel and His Spirit.
- **We go above and beyond to do the impossible.** One of the characteristics of a Christian is that we reflect God's extravagant generosity. Faith-filled generosity allows the disadvantaged to be cared for, the gospel to be preached, and the Church family to be strengthened. We want to be known for our generosity – as those who contribute and not just consume.
- **We're fuelled by the Spirit and faithful to the Word.** We desire that every Christian live in the fullness of life in the Spirit, for the full range of spiritual gifts we read about in the Bible to be exercised amongst us, and for all people to know they are a valued member of the Church and have something to contribute. We're also committed to the faithful preaching and teaching of the Bible and aim to shape all we are and do by it.
- **We're created for community.** The Church is not a club or a business, but a new kind of family. We therefore pursue community-forming activities and gather together regularly. We train, raise, and release men and women into leadership. We also value the importance of biblical eldership – a team of men who seek to father the local church through their leadership. We also delight in the natural expressions of family. We guard biblical marriage and see the raising of children as a responsibility that isn't just for parents but for the entire church community. We also celebrate the gift of singleness and seek to hold it in the same high esteem as the New Testament.
- **We're motivated by grace.** We are a people of grace, because God has poured out his grace upon us. We want to be a Church that expresses God's grace to one another and to the world around us. Freely we've received, so freely we will give. We're a community with a wide front door for anyone to come through, knowing that Jesus ate with the people his society despised. We want to live in the same way, so no matter where people have come from, their background or life circumstances, we want them to encounter the love and grace of Jesus.
- **We're here for the city.** God has placed us in Swindon and all we are and do seeks to bring about the transformation of our town. So, we encourage people to serve in every area of society, seeking its blessing and transformation – whether it's local government, business, healthcare, charity, or something else – knowing that they bring the grace and love of Jesus with them as they serve.
- **We seek to make the last the first.** We seek to continue the directive of the New Testament to 'remember the poor', knowing that we serve a God who 'raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people' (Psalm 113:7-8).

Trustees' Report

2.4. Significant Activities

The significant activities, programmes and projects used by GCS are:

Sunday Gatherings
The focus of Sunday gatherings are to gather together before God in worship, to open the Bible together, teaching, and to encourage and pray for one another. All are welcome to join a Sunday gathering, whether church members, their families, or visitors.

Groups
At the start of the pandemic, we recreated our group structure (meeting at various points throughout the week) to be primarily location-based, to better enable caring for and helping others in the immediate area. Household Groups have been designed primarily to support individuals and provide the opportunity to build relationships with others.

Children and Youth Work
GCS provides different age group meetings on a Sunday and at other points throughout the week for children and young adults. We subsidise the cost of the Newday summer camp for those young adults who attend.

Safeguarding Training
We continue to provide ongoing training in safeguarding for those in GCS working with children and young people, as well as those working with adults with care and support needs.

Gateway Furniture
Gateway Furniture continues to distribute furniture to people in Swindon and the surrounding areas who are most in need. It also continues to operate a shop in the town centre of Swindon, where all proceeds go to the work of the project.

Good News for Swindon
We continue to be actively involved with Good News for Swindon, a network of churches in the town, seeking to work together for the good of Swindon. Colin Thornton is now leading the Good News for Swindon network.

Outreach Activities
One employee of GCS continues to give the majority of her time to leading and supporting various other projects around the town. Additionally, we employed someone during the year as an intern for Starting Point, a charity working with young people in the town. Since the year-end, we have also employed another individual to work as a pastor for another local church in the town, Penhill Community Church.

2.5. Public Benefit

In planning the activities of the charity, the Trustees have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

Trustees' Report

2.6. Volunteers

Much of the work of GCS continues to be dependent on the unpaid services of church members. The trustees recognise the essential resource provided by the many people within GCS who freely give of their time and would like to continue to acknowledge and thank them. We cannot attempt to place a value on the immensely significant contribution that our volunteers make, and we are grateful to them for their time and commitment.

2.7. Grant-Making Policy

Grants are made by the charity to both external organisations and individuals, as part of achieving its activities and objectives. Grants and gifts are considered on the basis of need and fulfilment of the charitable objectives. There are no upper or lower limits of support.

Trustees' Report

3. ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

3.1. Building a Family of Believers

The church continues to hold public gatherings, where through singing, communion, prayer and teaching the Bible, we encourage people to live a life of worship to God. These gatherings also provide an opportunity for individuals to share personal testimony, respond to the claims of the Christian faith, and for adult baptism.

Throughout the pandemic, we were gathering online over Zoom on a Sunday, plus gathering physically when we were able to. During the year, we made the decision to bring both of our sites back together as one. This means that, going forwards, we will only be gathering physically in the west of Swindon. We will continue to also gather online, in some form, at least until everyone is able to gather back in-person.

The Sunday gatherings have activities of worship for all ages, not just adults. Throughout the pandemic, the children's team were gathering online over Zoom prior to the main Sunday gathering to serve children through fun games, worship, bible teaching, and other activities. Each week, an email was sent to parents with the bible story for the upcoming Sunday and a list of suggested activities, songs, and other resources to help parents engage their children at home. At points throughout the pandemic, we also held a number of family gatherings – with the primary focus of serving children and parents. Since we have been able to gather again physically, we have resumed children's work during our Sunday gatherings. Our children's work is structured to encourage the best from the children and help parents feel comfortable leaving their children in our care. Part of this is a continued commitment to safeguarding children and training our volunteers in safeguarding best practice.

Additionally, throughout the pandemic, the youth team has been meeting with young adults from GCS at various points throughout the week – through regular Zoom meetings altogether, online discipleship groups, Instagram Live events, and regular messaging. While the Newday summer camp was cancelled in 2020, we hosted a watch party for Newday online event instead. It has been challenging engaging with young adults over the pandemic and numbers dwindled during the year, however, since the year-end, regular physical gatherings with young adults are proving effective at reengaging many of the young adults within GCS.

The pandemic caused the importance of groups to grow overnight, as fostering community, helping to fight loneliness, and finding ways to support one another practically became much harder. We restructured our groups to better suit the situation, so that they were primarily formed around location. This resulted in c. 75% of the church, plus others from the wider community, being involved in groups.

Trustees' Report

Due to the pandemic, prayer meetings also had to be moved online. However, this provided a real opportunity to reinvigorate our corporate prayer times. From the early days of the pandemic, we began meeting early every week day morning and every Sunday morning on Zoom to pray. This is still continuing, although the Sunday prayer meetings are now being held in person. Additionally, we gathered regularly on mid-week evenings to pray. We also joined in with Thy Kingdom Come, a global ecumenical period of prayer started by the Church of England. In Swindon, we joined in with this by gathering over Zoom with Christians from churches all across the town. In January, we held 40 days of prayer to start the year, where at different points each day to pray for things ranging from children and young people to the government to the nations of the world. We produced a resource for church members to help them develop habits of prayer in their own time as well. Since the year end, we have been gathering with Regions Beyond churches from across the world on Zoom, every other month, to pray for different areas of the world.

3.2. Serving and Influencing Swindon

Throughout large portions of the pandemic, many of the Gateway Furniture staff were furloughed, and the shop had to be closed. All staff have now returned to work and the shop has been reopened. However, Gateway Furniture continued to provide furniture to those most in need whenever it could, in addition to supporting a number of local inter-church projects. This initiative began within the church, but now serves people all across Swindon and the surrounding areas, collecting good quality second-hand furniture from those who no longer need it, and distributing it to those in particular need. Gateway Furniture works with over 60 different agencies in Swindon, who refer clients having assessed their needs. It also runs a shop in the town centre of Swindon, where the excess stock is sold to provide additional funds for the project, and to provide a connection point with referral clients and the wider public.

One of the trustees continues to work with and support the Gateway Furniture Project Manager on a volunteer basis. This was primarily around helping to provide input on direction and oversight but has increasingly become about helping to make connections with other charities in the town, as well as facilitating conversations with Swindon Borough Council.

During the year, the church ran two Alpha courses online. These courses are for people in the local community wanting to explore and investigate Christianity in a relaxed and informal environment.

Gateway continues to support a joint church plant into the Penhill area of Swindon, alongside other churches in the town connected to the Good News for Swindon network. We continue to employ someone to invest her time into supporting Penhill Community Church and other local initiatives. We also gave a small grant to Penhill Community Church to help fund its renovation of a building, alongside a number of other churches. Since the year end, we have also employed another individual to work as a pastor for Penhill Community Church, with a number of different churches in the town contributing towards his salary. Alongside this, conversations about how we can further support the more operational and administrative aspect of Penhill Community Church are continuing.

Trustees' Report

Penhill Community Church is being held as a model for planting churches into the town and surrounding areas, with churches from different denominations and traditions in Swindon sending people to help plant it, as well as providing finance in different forms, whether for building renovations or the employment of staff. We believe that this clearly expresses the unity that Jesus desires for his church.

Over Christmas, we ran the Swindon Christmas Toy Appeal, in partnership with other churches in Swindon. Having started years ago as an opportunity for members of Gateway Church to serve others, it has now become a town-wide toy appeal. This year, over 5,800 main presents were given (three times the amount from 2019), as well as thousands of smaller stocking fillers, and over £10,000. We were able to help over 265 families (double the number of families in 2019), meaning that over 630 children received 3 or 4 presents, 2 books, 3 stocking fillers, and a soft toy. These items and funds were donated by churches, charities, schools, business, and individuals across the town. Over 175 volunteers then came to help sort and deliver everything to the families.

Additionally, one in two of the families received food after Swindon Night Shelter, Swindon Food Collective, and Tesco collected and gave food to Pattern Church, who packed it all and gave it to us for delivery.

Families are referred to us by the council, schools, churches, and other charities.

Additionally, on a smaller scale, we also ran an initiative called 'Little Things With Great Love'. This was a campaign to help members of Gateway Church serve their local community and neighbours over Christmas through small acts of kindness.

Following the lockdown at the start of the year, the Harbour Project, a local charity serving asylum seekers and refugees in Swindon, was looking for a building to use in the area. We were able to offer them use of our space for free, which still continues. As a result of this new relationship, this Easter, we ran an initiative called 'Hampers of Hope', where the church gave easter eggs, toiletries, and money (that was used to buy baby clothes, kids activity books, food, and flowers) to bless the Harbour Project visitors living nearby with hampers.

3.3. Taking the Gospel to the Ends of the Earth

We continue to actively develop links within Regions Beyond, the international network of churches overseen by Steve Oliver and part of the Newfrontiers family. Nigel Howarth serves as a trustee of Regions Beyond UK, and Colin Thornton is part of the Regions Beyond UK leadership team.

Links with Burundi and City Gate Church in Bujumbura remain strong. We took up an offering in the year, raising a significant amount of money, which has been transferred since the year-end.

Trustees' Report

4. FINANCIAL REVIEW

4.1. Overview

The year ended 31 March 2021 had a sizeable surplus in unrestricted funds.

The purpose of each fund and the classification of balances between 'unrestricted/designated' and 'restricted' are described in Note 1 to the Accounts, with further analysis in the subsequent Notes.

Incoming resources to the General Fund during the year ending 31 March 2021 amounted to £364,414, which represents a decrease on the previous year of 7.6%. Income from donations was £306,899. Total expenditure on general activities amounted to £298,163, a 16.8% decrease in expenditure from last year.

Transfers from the General Fund to restricted funds amount to £17,375 resulting in a General Fund balance at the year-end of £153,706. £9,747 of the balance consisted of fixed assets.

4.2. Restricted Funds

There are five restricted funds: Burundi Fund, International Mission Fund, Local Mission Fund, Gateway Furniture Fund, and the Welfare Fund. The Burundi Fund, International Mission Fund, and Local Mission Fund are new this year. Funds remaining in the Mission Fund have been moved into one of the new funds, and the Mission Fund has been closed at the year end.

In the Burundi Fund, the specified income of £22,644 was mostly taken through a special offering and includes Gift Aid recoverable. The Burundi Fund also received a transfer of £25,400 from the Mission Fund. There was no expenditure in the year, and the fund balance at the year-end was £48,044.

The International Mission Fund received specified income of £1,519, which includes Gift Aid recoverable. It received a transfer of £11,772 from the Mission Fund, as well as a transfer of £15,649 from the General Fund, equivalent to 4.3% of General Fund income. Total resources of £18,269 were disbursed during the year, and the fund balance at the year-end was £10,671.

The Local Mission Fund received specified income of £12,367, which includes Gift Aid recoverable, mostly related to the Swindon Christmas Toy Appeal. It received a transfer of £16,399 from the Mission Fund, as well as a transfer of £227 from the General Fund, equivalent to 0.06% of General Fund income. Total resources of £11,282 were disbursed during the year, and the fund balance at the year-end was £17,710.

The Mission Fund received no specified income and disbursed no resources during the year. Transfers to other restricted funds of £53,571 resulted in a year-end fund balance of £0. The Mission Fund has been closed at the year-end.

Trustees' Report

The Gateway Furniture Fund received income of £167,272 (including donated gifts in kind of furniture with an estimated value of £42,800). Expenditure amounted to a total of £151,138, including £1,600 of depreciation. The fund balance at the year-end was £29,039, consisting of £9,067 of fixed assets.

The Welfare Fund received specified income of £16,297, including Gift Aid recoverable. It received a transfer of £1,499, equivalent to 0.4% of General Fund income. Resources expended amounted to £4,467, resulting in a year-end fund balance of £20,029.

4.3. Principal Funding Sources

GCS relies heavily on the generosity of the church members to fund its activities. The total of all donations (including in restricted funds) were £354,545.

In addition to the estimated £42,800 of donated gifts in kind of furniture, sales from the shop operated by the Gateway Furniture project were also a significant source of funding, bringing in a total of £30,018.

Additionally, grants receivable of £84,338 were a significant source of funding.

4.4. Reserves Policy

The Trustees have set a policy of retaining reserves sufficient for the foreseeable needs of the charity. At the year-end, the contractual obligations to future expenditure were the Trinity Centre lease (a 9-year term from 30 September 2014, with break clauses at 3 and 6 years; £24,000 per annum plus associated costs) and regular commitments under contracts of employment. The majority of the charity's commitments will continue to be met out of current income.

The Trustees believe that an amount equivalent to a minimum of three to four months gross expenditure in general reserves is needed. This will provide for regular fluctuation in income and expenditure throughout the year.

The total value of all general reserves at 31 March 2021 was £153,586, of which £9,747 consisted of fixed assets. The general fund expenditure budget for the 2021-22 year is approximately £355,160. Based on the above, ongoing reserves of between £88,790 and £118,387 are appropriate.

4.5. Pensions

The charity offers membership of a stakeholder pension scheme to all qualifying employees and pays an amount of 8% of the employee's salary into the scheme on a monthly basis.

GCS does not operate a defined benefit or final salary scheme.

Trustees' Report

5. PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

This year ended with a sizeable surplus despite a budgeted small deficit.

The budget to March 2022 indicates a year of deficit as we seek to increase our expenditure following the pandemic and begin the process of moving our reserves back within policy. The planned deficit to March 2022 is for £13,121.

With the restrictions of the pandemic continuing to ease, plans have shifted again from operating and meeting primarily online to beginning to do so physically instead. However, given the potential for this to shift, we continue to be ready to adapt if required.

Because members of the church have given generously into the Welfare Fund over the last year, we can continue to support those who are in financial need, both within the church and wider in Swindon.

Additionally, the pandemic has caused us to re-evaluate our priorities, with a new intention to increase the amount of grant funding to other organisations. The aim for the coming year is to give away a minimum of 15% of our general income, plus any income raised from special offerings. This will also help to bring our reserves back within policy.

6. 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).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a 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 that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

Trustees' Report

They are also reponsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

7. APPROVAL

This report, which has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies, was approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

.....

Mark Owen – Chair of Trustees

13/12/2021

Date

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Gateway Church Swindon ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2022 on pages 16 to 29 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 19-21.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act'). Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

- Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- The accounts do not accord with those records; or
- The accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act, other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

14 December 2021

Lourens du Plessis ACA CA(SA) **14 December** 2021
Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2021

Statement of Financial Activities

Summary Income and Expenditure Account

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2021	Restricted Funds 2021	**Total Funds 2021**	Unrestricted Funds 2020	Restricted Funds 2020	Total Funds 2020
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:		£	£	**£**	£	£	£
Donations and Legacies	4	363,274	181,359	**544,634**	385,732	112,554	498,286
Charitable Activities	5	1,097	0	**1,097**	8,635	0	8,635
Other Trading Activities	6	0	30,018	**30,018**	0	100,472	100,472
Investment Income	7	43	0	**43**	93	0	93
Other Income	8	0	8,721	**8,721**	0	4,933	4,933
TOTAL INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		364,414	220,098	**584,512**	394,460	217,959	612,419
EXPENDITURE ON:							
Charitable Activities	9	(298,163)	(185,156)	**(483,319)**	(358,061)	(255,240)	(613,302)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		(298,163)	(185,156)	**(483,319)**	(358,061)	(255,240)	(613,302)
NET INCOMING (OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		66,250	34,943	**101,193**	36,399	(37,281)	(882)
Transfers Between Funds	3	(17,375)	17,375	**0**	(59,221)	59,221	0
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		48,875	52,317	**101,193**	(22,822)	21,940	(882)
FUND BALANCES:							
At 31 March 2020		104,711	73,176	**177,886**	127,533	51,236	178,769
Net movement in funds		48,875	52,317	**101,193**	(22,822)	21,940	(882)
At 31 March 2021		153,586	125,493	**279,078**	104,711	73,176	177,886

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account required by the Companies Act 2006.

The notes on pages 19 to 29 form part of these accounts.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2021

Balance Sheet

At 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2021	2020
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	11	9,747	9,067	**18,813**	25,841
		9,747	9,067	**18,813**	25,841
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock	12	0	17,050	**17,050**	0
Debtors	13	58,798	31,612	**90,410**	89,216
Cash at Bank and in Hand	14	92,394	70,969	**163,363**	83,321
		151,192	119,631	**270,824**	172,537
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	15	(7,353)	(3,205)	**(10,558)**	(20,491)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		143,839	116,426	**260,265**	152,046
NET ASSETS		153,586	125,493	**279,078**	177,885
FUNDS					
General Fund		153,586	0	**153,586**	104,711
Specific Funds					
Mission Fund	3	0	0	**0**	53,571
Burundi Fund	3	0	48,044	**48,044**	0
International Mission Fund	3	0	10,671	**10,671**	0
Local Mission Fund	3	0	17,710	**17,710**	0
Gateway Furniture Fund	3	0	29,039	**29,039**	12,905
Welfare Fund	3	0	20,029	**20,029**	6,700
TOTAL FUNDS		153,586	125,493	**279,078**	177,885

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 however, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011, the accounts have been examined by an independent examiner and their report has been included in these financial statements.

The directors (who are the charitable company's trustees for the purposes of charity law) acknowledge their responsibilities for:

a. *ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and*

b. *preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its net income or expenditure for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.*

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on 13/12/2021 by:

Mark Owen

Company number: 06541956
Charity number: 1123831

The notes on pages 19 to 29 form part of these accounts.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31 March 2021

Statement of Cash Flows

	2021	2020	Note
	£	£	
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	81,083	19,754	a
Cash flows from investing activitie:			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	43	93	
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(1,083)	(14,024)	
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(1,040)	(13,931)	
Cash flows from financing activitie:			
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	0	0	
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	80,042	5,823	
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	83,321	77,498	b
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	163,363	83,321	b

Analysis of changes in net debt:

Note a: Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2021	2020
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	101,193	(882)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	8,110	11,399
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(43)	(93)
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	(17,050)	0
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(1,195)	6,895
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(9,933)	2,436
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	81,083	19,754

Note b: Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2021	2020
	£	£
Cash in hand	163,363	83,321
Total cash and cash equivalents	163,363	83,321

Notes to the Accounts

1. STATUTORY INFORMATION

The charity is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom. The company's registered number and registered office can be found on the Company Information page.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention.

These financial statements 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 United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)' ('the Charities SORP'), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ('FRS 102'), with the Companies Act 2006, and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The following accounting policies have been adopted in the preparation of the financial statements:

2.1. Going Concern

The trustees (who are the charitable company's directors for the purposes of company law) have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular, the trustees have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income and/or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The trustees have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements. In making this assessment the trustees have considered the impact of Covid-19 and have concluded that its impact on net income will not be material.

2.2. Income and Expenditure Recognition

- Income received through general offerings, gift aid and other occasional gifts is recognised when received by the church.
- Gift Aid recoverable in respect of donations under gift aid is accrued during the year in which the income arises – any amount of tax not reclaimed and recovered by the year end is included in debtors.
- Interest income is recognised when it is earned.
- Expenditure is recognised as it is incurred.
- Grants and donations payable are taken into account when they are paid.

Notes to the Accounts

SORP requires charities with income over £500,000 to allocate costs to the various activities undertaken by the charity. The nature of the work of the church is considered to be so integrated that the core charitable activity costs are considered to be for the one activity. The support costs attributable to fundraising activity are considered minimal.

2.3. Fund Accounting

All general, unspecified income and general routine costs are managed through the General Fund. In addition, a number of specific funds have been established in line with the activities of the charity, as noted below. These specific funds comprise a 'designated' element (the net funding via transfers from the General Fund) and a 'restricted' element (the net funding of direct income, less direct costs, plus transfers via the 'designated' element).

The specific funds are:

- **Burundi Fund**. Support of mission activity undertaken in Burundi by individuals or other institutions. This is a new fund this year separated out from the Mission Fund.
- **International Mission Fund**. Support of mission activity undertaken internationally by individuals or other institutions, excluding mission activity in Burundi. This is a new fund this year separated out from the Mission Fund.
- **Local Mission Fund**. Support of mission activity undertaken locally and nationally by individuals or other institutions. This is a new fund this year separated out from the Mission Fund.
- **Mission Fund**. All remaining funds have been transferred into the relevant new fund. This fund has been closed as at the year end.
- **Gateway Furniture Fund**. Support of mission activity undertaken locally through the Gateway Furniture Project.
- **Welfare Fund**. Support of members of the church, associated parties, or those in the local community who are in need.

2.4. Fixed Assets and Depreciation

- Expenditure on equipment costing in excess of £500 is capitalised and depreciated on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life.
- Most equipment (musical, public address and office equipment, and furniture and fittings) is assumed to have a life of 5-7 years. IT systems and software are assumed to have a life of 3 years.
- Vehicles are assumed to have a life of 7 years.

2.5. Future Commitments

- The church has a contractual obligation to future expenditure under a 9-year lease with the Bible Society. The lease was renewed on 30 September 2014 and has break clauses for both parties at the end of years 3 and 6.
- The only other commitments are those under contracts of employment.

Notes to the Accounts

2.6. Pension Costs

The charity operates a defined contribution scheme for its employees. Pension premiums are charged as they are paid.

2.7. Taxation

Gateway Church Swindon is a registered charity and is exempt from taxation under the Income and Corporation Taxes Acts.

2.8. Donated Goods

An estimated value has been given to the donations of furniture which were received by the charity and then given to those in need through Gateway Furniture.

2.9. Stocks

Stocks of donated items held for distribution to beneficiaries are measured at fair value; the same estimated value per item as donated goods.

2.10. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The trustees do not consider that there are any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

Notes to the Accounts

3. SPECIFIC FUNDS

3.1 Restricted Funds

		Burundi Fund	Mission Fund	International Mission Fund	Local Mission Fund	Gateway Furniture Fund	Welfare Fund	**2021**	2020
		£	£	£	£	£	£	**£**	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:									
Donations and Legacies	4	22,644	0	1,519	12,367	128,884	15,946	**181,359**	112,554
Other Trading Activities	6	0	0	0	0	30,018	0	**30,018**	100,472
Other Income	8	0	0	0	0	8,370	351	**8,721**	4,933
TOTAL INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		22,644	0	1,519	12,367	167,272	16,297	**220,098**	217,959
EXPENDITURE ON:									
Charitable Activities	9	0	0	(18,269)	(11,282)	(151,138)	(4,467)	**(185,156)**	(255,240)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		0	0	(18,269)	(11,282)	(151,138)	(4,467)	**(185,156)**	(255,240)
NET INCOMING (OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		22,644	0	(16,750)	1,084	16,134	11,830	**34,943**	(37,281)
Transfers		25,400	(53,571)	27,421	16,625	0	1,499	**17,375**	59,221
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		48,044	(53,571)	10,671	17,710	16,134	13,329	**52,317**	21,940
FUND BALANCES:									
At 31 March 2020		0	53,571	0	0	12,905	6,700	**73,176**	51,236
Net movement in funds		48,044	(53,571)	10,671	17,710	16,134	13,329	**52,317**	21,940
At 31 March 2021		48,044	0	10,671	17,710	29,039	20,029	**125,493**	73,176

The Burundi Fund, International Mission Fund, and Local Mission Fund are new funds this year. Funds remaining in the Mission Fund have been transferred into one of the new funds, and the Mission Fund has been closed at the year-end.

Notes to the Accounts

4. INCOME FROM DONATIONS

	2021	2020
	£	£
General donations of cash and similar	**103,951**	111,087
Gift Aid donations of cash and similar	**250,595**	249,330
Gift Aid recoverable	**62,950**	62,138
Other grants receivable	**11,100**	531
Donations in kind (note 4a)	**42,800**	75,200
Government grants (note 4b)	**73,238**	0
	544,634	498,286

a. Donations in kind comprise:

Goods donated for use by the charity	**42,800**	75,200
	42,800	75,200

b. Government grants comprise:

Job Retention Scheme grants	**49,206**	0
Swindon Borough Council Grants	**24,032**	0
	73,238	0

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2021	2020
	£	£
Youth ministry events	**1,005**	5,703
Church retreats and events	**92**	2,882
Room hire	**0**	50
	1,097	8,635

6. INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2021	2020
	£	£
Sale of donated goods	**30,018**	100,472
	30,018	100,472

7. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2021	2020
	£	£
Bank interest	**43**	93
	43	93

Notes to the Accounts

8. OTHER INCOME

	2021	2020
	£	£
Building occupancy	**8,370**	4,933
Other income	**351**	0
	8,721	4,933

9. CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE

9.1 MINISTRY COSTS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Salaries and pension contributions	**297,384**	300,853
Employer's national insurance	**20,382**	21,177
Visiting ministry costs	**1,000**	3,088
International travel	**0**	1,537
UK travel & entertainment (meals, etc.)	**248**	7,236
Team building	**514**	384
Staff & volunteer training	**2,023**	7,942
Insurance	**3,546**	2,754
Bank charges	**155**	103
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	**8,110**	11,399
	333,362	356,472

9.2 OFFICE AND ACCOMMODATION COSTS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Rates, rent, and associated fees	**27,730**	27,730
Utilities	**2,166**	3,008
Repairs, maintenance & building improvements	**1,565**	2,827
Cleaning	**3,171**	3,810
Operations & compliance costs	**1,601**	2,330
Office equipment & software	**3,625**	4,701
Telephone, mobiles & internet	**8,923**	9,651
Printing, photocopying & stationery	**646**	711
Communications & publicity	**8,389**	7,905
Postage	**693**	226
Subscriptions & memberships	**2,052**	1,159
Professional fees	**(534)**	462
Payroll fees	**457**	332
Hospitality & kitchen supplies	**471**	5,451
	60,954	70,303

Notes to the Accounts

9.3 ACTIVITY COSTS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Room hire	**0**	18,172
Gateway Kids (Children's ministry)	**403**	1,291
Events	**970**	6,278
Authentic (Youth ministry)	**2,049**	10,875
Worship team	**1,599**	1,333
A/V team (incl. equipment)	**3,429**	1,411
Gateway groups	**725**	154
Transport - minibus & taxi	**398**	812
Other pastoral	**1,957**	1,493
Front of House team	**0**	109
Vehicle costs	**3,611**	8,929
Beds	**5,274**	17,994
Furniture Re-Use Network	**6,106**	3,801
Gifts of furniture	**25,750**	75,200
Other Gateway Furniture costs	**751**	5,592
Alpha course	**227**	27
Other local outreach	**7,055**	425
	60,305	153,895

9.4 GRANTS

	2021		2020	
	Number	£	Number	£
Grants to institutions				
Swindon Pregnancy Choices	**0**	**0**	2	300
Nepali Christian Churches UK	**0**	**0**	1	2,000
Burundi - Milk for Transformation	**0**	**0**	1	5,340
Hope for Tomorrow Global	**0**	**0**	1	451
Regions Beyond	**12**	**15,000**	13	20,000
Swindon Night Shelter	**1**	**2,000**	0	0
Penhill Community Church	**1**	**2,000**	0	0
Stepping Stone Charitable Society India	**1**	**2,000**	0	0
Total	**15**	**21,000**	18	28,091
Grants to individuals	**27**	**5,179**	13	1,540
Total grants	**42**	**26,179**	31	29,631

9.6 GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Independent examiner's fees	**2,520**	3,000
	2,520	3,000

Fees payable to Stewardship, other than for the cost of the independent examination totalled £240 (2020: £240).

Notes to the Accounts

10. STAFF, TRUSTEES, & KEY MANAGEMENT

	2021	2020
	£	£
Gross wages and salaries	**276,844**	280,066
Employer's national insurance costs	**20,382**	21,177
Pension costs	**20,539**	20,786
Other employment benefits	**0**	0
Total staff costs	**317,765**	322,030

		2021	2020
Number of staff at year end:	Full-time	**7**	7
	Part-time	**5**	5

The average number of staff during the reporting period was 12.08 (2020: 13.42). Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers.

No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

The charity's key management comprise the trustees and the key staff named on the Company Information page. Total employment benefits payable to key management for the year were as follows:

	Wages & salaries	Other employment benefits	Employer pension contributions	2021 £
Trustees:				
Nigel Howarth	36,785	0	2,943	**39,728**
Colin Thornton	38,885	0	3,111	**41,996**
Other members of key management:	36,785	0	2,943	**39,728**
				121,451

The following amounts were payable in the previous year:

	Wages & salaries	Other employment benefits	Employer pension contributions	2020 £
Trustees:				
Nigel Howarth	36,420	0	2,914	39,334
Colin Thornton	38,500	0	3,080	41,580
Other members of key management:	36,420	0	2,914	39,334
				120,247

Nigel Howarth and Colin Thornton served as elders of the church and received the above payments for serving in that capacity, not for serving as trustees; these payments are permitted by the charity's governing document.

Notes to the Accounts

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Vehicles	Equipment	Leasehold improvements	**Total 2021**
	£	£	£	**£**
Cost				
At 01 April 2020	11,200	115,451	109,880	**236,530**
Additions	0	1,083	0	**1,083**
Gains / (losses) on revaluation	0	0	0	**0**
Disposals	0	0	0	**0**
At 31 March 2021	11,200	116,534	109,880	**237,613**
Accumulated depreciation				
At 01 April 2020	(533)	(105,844)	(104,313)	**(210,689)**
Charge for the year	(1,600)	(4,383)	(2,127)	**(8,110)**
Eliminated on disposal	0	0	0	**0**
At 31 March 2021	(2,133)	(110,227)	(106,440)	**(218,799)**
Net book value				
At 31 March 2021	**9,067**	**6,307**	**3,440**	**18,813**
At 31 March 2020	10,667	9,607	5,567	25,841

Equipment comprises musical, public address, translation, sound, kitchen and office equipment and fixtures and fittings.

12. STOCK

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2021**	2020
	£	£	**£**	£
Donated goods	0	17,050	**17,050**	0
	0	17,050	**17,050**	0

13. DEBTORS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2021**	2020
	£	£	**£**	£
Debtors	0	8,771	**8,771**	4,877
Gift Aid recoverable	53,307	6,621	**59,928**	66,667
Accrued income	462	14,175	**14,637**	1,033
Amounts receivable	0	0	**0**	0
VAT	804	0	**804**	243
Prepayments	4,225	2,045	**6,270**	16,395
	58,798	31,612	**90,410**	89,216

14. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2021**	2020
	£	£	**£**	£
Bank accounts	92,394	70,624	**163,018**	82,568
Cash in hand	0	345	**345**	753
	92,394	70,969	**163,363**	83,321

Notes to the Accounts

15. CREDITORS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	**2021**	2020
	£	£	**£**	£
Accounts payable	0	131	**131**	12
Deferred income	120	0	**120**	2,241
Payroll creditors	1,003	697	**1,700**	7,838
Accruals	6,230	2,377	**8,607**	10,399
	7,353	3,205	**10,558**	20,491

16. DEFERRED INCOME

Deferred income comprises the following:	Training & conferences	Church events and retreats	**2021**	2020
	£	£	**£**	£
Balance at the beginning of the reporting period	104	2,136	**2,241**	0
Amount released to income	(104)	(2,136)	**(2,241)**	0
Amount deferred in year	120	0	**120**	2,241
Balance at the end of the reporting period	120	0	**120**	2,241

The income deferred at the period end will be released to income over the following periods:

Within one year	120	0	**120**	2,241
After one year	0	0	**0**	0
	120	0	**120**	2,241

17. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The charity has an operating lease for its church building. The minimum amount payable (until the next break clause and ignoring the potential effect of future rent reviews) in respect of this lease is as follows:

	2021	2020
Payments falling due:	**£**	£
Within one year	**12,000**	12,000
Between one and five years	**48,000**	0
After five years	**0**	0
	60,000	12,000

During the year the charity was charged £23,999 (2020: £23,999) for its operating lease.

18. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	Fixed assets	Bank balances	Other net assets	**2021**	2020
	£	£	£	**£**	£
Restricted funds	9,067	70,969	45,457	**125,493**	73,176
Unrestricted funds	9,747	92,394	51,445	**153,586**	104,711
	18,813	163,363	96,903	**279,079**	177,885

Notes to the Accounts

19. TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

During the year, the charity:

a) received donations totalling £52,764 (2020: £62,888) from related parties (which includes trustees, any other members of key management, and anyone closely connected to them).

b) no expenses (2020: £166.40) were paid to, or for, the trustees. Reimbursements for expenses incurred when acting as an agent for the charity or incurred when undertaking employment duties not connected with serving as a trustee are not included in this disclosure.

During the year, the charity also made the following payments to, or for, related parties:

a) Regions Beyond, who is closely related to Nigel Howarth, a trustee of both Regions Beyond and the charity, received grants totalling £15,000 (2020: £20,000) for mission activities both overseas and in the UK.

Except as disclosed in note 10, 'Staff, Trustees & Key Management', there have been no other transactions with related parties during the year.

20. MEMBERS

Each member of the company commits to contribute if the charity is wound up an amount of £1.