



Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2021

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2021

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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

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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.

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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.

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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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- **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).

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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They are also responsible 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



Lourens du Plessis ACA CA(SA)

Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

14 December 2021

14 December 2021

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

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Statement of Financial Activities

Summary Income and Expenditure Account

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
		2021	2021	2021	2020	2020	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:

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and 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	<u>81,083</u>	<u>19,754</u>	a
Cash flows from investing activities:			
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	<u>(1,040)</u>	<u>(13,931)</u>	
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
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	<u>163,363</u>	<u>83,321</u>	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	<u>81,083</u>	<u>19,754</u>

Note b: Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash in hand	163,363	83,321
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>163,363</u>	<u>83,321</u>

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2021

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.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2021

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.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2021

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 2021

Notes to the Accounts

3. SPECIFIC FUNDS

3.1 Restricted Funds

		Burundi Fund	International Mission Fund	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.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2021

Notes to the Accounts

4. INCOME FROM DONATIONS

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
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
	<u>544,634</u>	<u>498,286</u>

a. Donations in kind comprise:

Goods donated for use by the charity	42,800	75,200
	<u>42,800</u>	<u>75,200</u>

b. Government grants comprise:

Job Retention Scheme grants	49,206	0
Swindon Borough Council Grants	24,032	0
	<u>73,238</u>	<u>0</u>

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

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

6. INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
Sale of donated goods	30,018	100,472
	<u>30,018</u>	<u>100,472</u>

7. INVESTMENT INCOME

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
Bank interest	43	93
	<u>43</u>	<u>93</u>

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2021

Notes to the Accounts

8. OTHER INCOME

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
Building occupancy	8,370	4,933
Other income	351	0
	8,721	4,933

9. CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE

9.1 MINISTRY COSTS

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
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

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
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

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2021

Notes to the Accounts

9.3 ACTIVITY COSTS

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
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

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

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
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).

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2021

Notes to the Accounts

10. STAFF, TRUSTEES, & KEY MANAGEMENT

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
	£	£
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	<u>317,765</u>	<u>322,030</u>

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
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	<u>2021</u> £
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	<u>39,728</u>
				<u>121,451</u>

The following amounts were payable in the previous year:

	Wages & salaries	Other employment benefits	Employer pension contributions	<u>2020</u> £
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
				<u>120,247</u>

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 2021

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

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2021

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

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2021

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.