



Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2022

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2022

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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 apprised 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 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.

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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.

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.

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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.

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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 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 from 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.

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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.

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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, 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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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 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:


.....
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)

Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

19 December 2022

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
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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
		2022	2022	2022	2021	2021	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 2021

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:

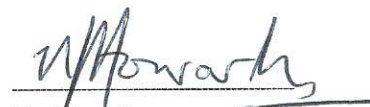
- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its net income 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

16/12/22

by:


Nigel Howarth

Company number: 06541956
Charity number: 1123831

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

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Year Ended 31 March 2021

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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

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31 March 2022

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

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Year Ended 31 March 2022

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.

GATEWAY CHURCH SWINDON

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Year Ended 31 March 2022

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.

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Notes to the Accounts

3. RESTRICTED FUNDS

		International Burundi Fund	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 2021

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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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Year Ended 31 March 2021

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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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Notes to the Accounts

9.3 ACTIVITY COSTS

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
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
	<u>141,151</u>	<u>60,305</u>

9.4 GRANTS

	<u>2022</u>		<u>2021</u>	
	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	<u>25</u>	<u>71,776</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>21,000</u>
Grants to individuals	15	3,453	27	5,179
Total grants	<u>40</u>	<u>75,228</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>26,179</u>

9.6 GOVERNANCE COSTS

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	£	£
Independent examiner's fees	3,000	2,520
	<u>3,000</u>	<u>2,520</u>

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:

	882	775	1,657	120
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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Notes to the Accounts

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.