

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07108916 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1136868

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023
FOR
TAUNTON TEAM CHAPLAINCY LIMITED**

Anthony Doyle
Old Town Hall
Fore Street
Wellington
Somerset
TA21 8LS

TAUNTON TEAM CHAPLAINCY LIMITED

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

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TAUNTON TEAM CHAPLAINCY LIMITED
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

07108916 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1136868

Registered office

East Wing, First Floor
Market House
Fore Street
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 1JD

Trustees

M Newberry (resigned 31/7/2023)
Rev Dr M G W Hayes
Rev T C Osmond
H McFaul
Mrs R Fox

Independent Examiner

Anthony Doyle
Old Town Hall
Fore Street
Wellington
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TA21 8LS

COMPREHENSIVE TRUSTEES REPORT

The trustees have produced a comprehensive report detailing, Organisational operations, a Review of Activities including a chaplains report and statistical information on prayer, presence, outreach, and financial objectives.

This report is attached at the end of the formal accounts.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 13th May 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
TAUNTON TEAM CHAPLAINCY LIMITED**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Taunton Team Chaplaincy Limited ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st December 2023.

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

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. 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
4. 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 UK 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 in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Anthony Doyle

Anthony Doyle
Old Town Hall
Fore Street
Wellington
Somerset
TA21 8LS

13th May 2024

TAUNTON TEAM CHAPLAINCY LIMITED

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	31/12/23 Total funds £	31/12/22 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		<u>27,289</u>	<u>13,638</u>	<u>40,927</u>	<u>31,259</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	2	<u>17,109</u>	<u>13,638</u>	<u>30,747</u>	<u>34,068</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		10,180	-	10,180	(2,809)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>19,029</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,029</u>	<u>21,838</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>29,209</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>29,209</u></u>	<u><u>19,029</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

TAUNTON TEAM CHAPLAINCY LIMITED

**BALANCE SHEET
31ST DECEMBER 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	31/12/23 Total funds £	31/12/22 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	6	1,606	-	1,606	1,024
Cash at bank and in hand		28,017	-	28,017	18,705
		<u>29,623</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,623</u>	<u>19,729</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	(414)	-	(414)	(700)
		<u>29,209</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,209</u>	<u>19,029</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>29,209</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,209</u>	<u>19,029</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>29,209</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,209</u>	<u>19,029</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>29,209</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,209</u>	<u>19,029</u>
FUNDS	8				
Unrestricted funds				29,209	19,029
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>29,209</u>	<u>19,029</u>

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

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

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

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 13th May 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

TAUNTON TEAM CHAPLAINCY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PREPARING THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

INCOME

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

EXPENDITURE

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

TAXATION

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

FUND ACCOUNTING

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. RAISING FUNDS

RAISING DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31/12/23	31/12/22
	£	£
Support costs	<u>30,747</u>	<u>34,068</u>

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st December 2023 nor for the year ended 31st December 2022.

TRUSTEES' EXPENSES

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st December 2023 nor for the year ended 31st December 2022.

TAUNTON TEAM CHAPLAINCY LIMITED

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

4. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31/12/23	31/12/22
Lead Chaplain	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	<u>19,309</u>	<u>11,950</u>	<u>31,259</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	<u>22,118</u>	<u>11,950</u>	<u>34,068</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(2,809)	-	(2,809)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>21,838</u>	-	<u>21,838</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>19,029</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>19,029</u></u>

6. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31/12/23 £	31/12/22 £
Sundry debtors	<u><u>1,606</u></u>	<u><u>1,024</u></u>

TAUNTON TEAM CHAPLAINCY LIMITED

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

7. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31/12/23	31/12/22
	£	£
Sundry creditors & accruals	414	700
	<u>414</u>	<u>700</u>

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/1/23	Net movement in funds	At 31/12/23
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	19,029	10,180	29,209
	<u>19,029</u>	<u>10,180</u>	<u>29,209</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>19,029</u>	<u>10,180</u>	<u>29,209</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	27,289	(17,109)	10,180
Restricted funds			
National Lottery Community Fund - Reaching Communities Programme	13,638	(13,638)	-
	<u>40,927</u>	<u>(30,747)</u>	<u>10,180</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>40,927</u>	<u>(30,747)</u>	<u>10,180</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/1/22	Net movement in funds	At 31/12/22
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	21,838	(2,809)	19,029
	<u>21,838</u>	<u>(2,809)</u>	<u>19,029</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>21,838</u>	<u>(2,809)</u>	<u>19,029</u>

TAUNTON TEAM CHAPLAINCY LIMITED

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	19,309	(22,118)	(2,809)
Restricted funds			
National Lottery Community Fund - Reaching Communities Programme	11,950	(11,950)	-
	<u>31,259</u>	<u>(34,068)</u>	<u>(2,809)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>31,259</u></u>	<u><u>(34,068)</u></u>	<u><u>(2,809)</u></u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1/1/22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	21,838	7,371	29,209
	<u>21,838</u>	<u>7,371</u>	<u>29,209</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>21,838</u></u>	<u><u>7,371</u></u>	<u><u>29,209</u></u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	46,598	(39,227)	7,371
Restricted funds			
National Lottery Community Fund - Reaching Communities Programme	25,588	(25,588)	-
	<u>72,186</u>	<u>(64,815)</u>	<u>7,371</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>72,186</u></u>	<u><u>(64,815)</u></u>	<u><u>7,371</u></u>

TAUNTON TEAM CHAPLAINCY LIMITED

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

9. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31st December 2023.

TAUNTON TEAM CHAPLAINCY LIMITED

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

	31/12/23 £	31/12/22 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Gifts - churches	5,650	7,078
Gifts - individuals	8,451	4,487
Gift aid	1,615	1,016
Grants and other income	11,573	6,728
National Lottery Community Fund grant - Reaching Communities Programme	13,638	11,950
	<u>40,927</u>	<u>31,259</u>
Total incoming resources	40,927	31,259
EXPENDITURE		
Support costs		
Management		
Payroll expenses	23,622	24,157
Other		
Rates and water	232	455
Light and heat	351	294
Telephone & internet	321	585
Uniform expenses	293	373
Misc expenses & hospitality	560	1,109
Insurance	354	331
IT support	334	333
Office rent	110	120
Print post & computer costs	397	261
Administrator fees	3,379	3,851
Training	38	-
Grants payable	-	1,416
	<u>6,369</u>	<u>9,128</u>
Governance costs		
Accountancy fees	756	783
Total resources expended	30,747	34,068
Net income/(expenditure)	10,180	(2,809)

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

TAUNTON TEAM CHAPLAINCY TRUST ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023

Introduction

This is the thirteenth annual report of the Trust and covers the year ending 31st December 2023. It complies with the public benefit reporting requirements of the Charity Commission.

Objectives

The Trust's aim is *"To make the Christian faith relevant and active in the Taunton area for the benefit of the public by engaging or appointing chaplains to provide pastoral care, evangelistic witness and prayer in a variety of workplaces, shops, law courts, public areas and elsewhere."*

Achievements and performance – there have been a number of highs and lows during the year, culminating in October with the recognition of the work of the Chaplaincy by the Bishop of Bath and Wells who installed the Lead Chaplain as a Prebendary in Wells Cathedral.

Despite illness and various set-backs, there have been encouraging developments – the work and efficacy of the Chaplaincy has been reviewed following a survey of volunteers and also of the places where they operate. The Lead Chaplain has secured the services of a professional analyst in early 2024 to work on the 'impact survey' to investigate how we can improve and extend our service in the community. The work of chaplaincy has been promoted via social media and engagement with local churches and organisations thanks to one of our active trustees

Some of the survey comments are given further below, although the response was not as comprehensive as Trustees had wished. Finances have been an issue in the current difficult economic climate, but we have seen new support from some quarters despite reduced funding from others. The most significant donation to TCC was made as a result of increased inter-church and ecumenical interface. This now includes potential collaboration with Taunton Central Mosque on the one hand and various Christian denominations on the other.

Team Chaplains, however, continue to go wherever needed, and although Taunton Team Chaplaincy is a Christian organisation, its volunteers willingly help all people regardless of background, ethnicity or culture. The demand for Chaplains continues to grow as the climate of economic uncertainty and hardship increases pressure on all sectors of society. The Lead Chaplain is working with the diocesan Chaplaincy Adviser to draw up a strategy to recruit and train new chaplains and ensure they are equipped to help people effectively and/or signpost them to various appropriate professional agencies through a heightened awareness of the importance of 'mindfulness/well-being'. This includes physical, emotional and spiritual needs and may require a referral to confidential help-lines for stress, anxiety, depression and short-term psychological services, such as counselling, or any of a huge range of services;

- Budgeting and money-management advice, including debt management, universal credit
- Accessing temporary and more permanent housing
- Relationships, divorce and separation advice
- Family crisis due to health and trauma
- Child and elderly care information services (especially AGE UK)
- Bereavement counselling
- Legal information, guidance and court advice

As at 31st December 2023, we had 36 chaplains, 5 associate chaplains (all serving as volunteers) and one part-time paid Lead chaplain. Chaplains are drawn from 17 different church denominations: most

are **not** ordained ministers. Trustees are indebted to chaplains for giving liberally of their time, expertise and energy - on average half a day each week - some more frequently.

Since the last report, the Crown Court has expressed a wish to engage the support of chaplains, having observed the positive impact made and the calmer atmosphere when chaplains are present in the Magistrates' Courts. The police would also like to have more chaplains to support them in their work, as they recognise the positive influence and support Street Pastors offer officers 'on the beat'. Growth depends on larger numbers of volunteers coming forward, as well as increased finance to support it, and new chaplains are actively being sought. However, even though numbers are slowly increasing, they are not sufficient to match requests for help. Funding is increasingly difficult to obtain with some sponsors having to reduce or withdraw funding, adding further pressure.

The trustees gratefully acknowledge the positive reception that chaplains receive from proprietors, managers and staff in workplaces and community locations. Further affirmation has been given to the work of the chaplaincy by the new Bishop of Bath and Wells, who has expressed a desire to extend this service into other towns in the diocese.

Operational methods

Chaplains operate in clusters, each headed by a volunteer convenor:

Chaplains and Rail Responders meet regularly to train and hone skills, offer mutual encouragement and prayer, fostered under the cluster leader. Some chaplains in other areas, however, would value more sessions with other chaplains on how to share best practice, initiate conversations and better engage with people. As we acquire more chaplains, this could be a format suitable for their induction, for example for some care homes which do not have their own designated chaplain. Volunteers provide the following services:

The clusters are as follows:

- Retail (2 chaplains) - for shop workers in ASDA's Taunton branch of the nationwide chain. Fresh opportunities emerge as new shops open in the Riverside development or re-locate in the high street.
- Offices (3 chaplains) - for office workers at Somerset Council and The United Kingdom Hydrographic Office. The change in Somerset to a unitary authority with its main offices in Taunton has caused a degree of turmoil with the added pressures of overspending on the new Council's budget, etc. The provision of chaplaincy has been made more difficult to connect with potentially needy or isolated workers as people adjust to hybrid working in an office and part-time from home. These changes could entail further redundancies (or relocation) for some staff with accompanying adverse effects on mental health/general well-being, leading to greater potential need for emotional support. These aspects are under review as part of the update of the Chaplaincy's Development Plan.
- Public spaces (1 chaplain) – connecting in the local park with people of all ages and backgrounds about life, well-being and mental health and faith as part of general conversation.
- Marginalised people (2 chaplains) - emotional, practical and spiritual help is offered to residents and staff for the homeless at Taunton Open Door Day-centre for rough sleepers, the YMCA Dulverton Group training hotel and hostel for adult homeless and disadvantaged young adults. Our chaplain formerly at Canonsgrove hostel, who did such valuable work among the residents there, is now working at Open Door, helping adults regain control of their often complicated circumstances. The work has been actively supported in practical ways by local church members via catering, providing clothing, etc., on an ad hoc basis. She is currently looking at setting up a 'team home'.

- Care homes (7 chaplains) - for residents and staff (Calway House, Oak Meadows, Netherclay, Lavender Court, Hamilton Park and the Firs care homes, with associate chaplains serving at The House of St Martin and the Manor). Chaplains visit residents, supporting staff and relatives, fully observing the rules in each establishment and responding to reasonable requests wherever possible, as they support residents, their families, and staff in person and by telephone.
- 'Rail Responders'(9) - for the travelling public. The services of Rail Responders are much in demand, reassuring staff and lost or anxious passengers – most challengingly to help avert a couple of suicide attempts. Regular patrols look out for people in distress near Obridge, - a viaduct over the railway line, canal and river – where suicide attempts are sadly a regular occurrence. Rail Responders work in collaboration with the police and the Samaritans as well as with staff and passengers who may have been witnesses to distressing events.
- Chaplaincy to the Taunton Magistrates court (7 chaplains) became fully functional during 2022, visiting weekly. – The value of having support for those attending the courts is widely recognised: – 'Courts are much calmer when you are around', said one security officer. Chaplains work in pairs to provide reassurance for those who may find appearing in court a daunting or frightening experience. All chaplains have full DBS checks and are sometimes asked by anxious defendants to be present into the courtroom.
- The Chaplaincy continues to spearhead a mental health awareness campaign among local churches and all chaplains have undergone Mental Health First Aid and/or Safeguarding training to be better equipped to recognise issues, offer assistance or signpost individuals to appropriate support and (if appropriate) to contact the emergency services. Volunteers must always be conscious of their own safety. Information from statutory and voluntary agencies has been shared with local churches and chaplains to raise awareness of issues and of the resources available. Our Lead Chaplain has been invited to contribute to the County Council's Public Health team's focus on the issue of suicide.

Other activities

We continue to see an increasing number of people in difficulties, often financial, sometimes leading to severe marital or family problems, including divorce, abuse and domestic violence, self-harm. Chaplains have supported distressed individuals, many of whom present with mental health issues due to anxiety, stress and isolation and are glad to have a sympathetic listener. Chaplains often signpost individuals to specialist services.

- The 16th Business Carol Service for people who work in Taunton took place on 5th December 2023, in St James' Church, but was also available in a video format, broadcast on Facebook, YouTube and (in an extended audio version) twice on Tone FM community radio station. We are extremely grateful to St James' church for hosting the event, which was attended by a good number of people either in person or digitally.

Some of our chaplains volunteer in other organisations and charities not directly managed by us, some of which were started by Christians, but welcome volunteers of any or no faith. Others are simply organisations using their expertise to help the community. These include:

- Taunton Foodbank;
- Avon and Somerset Faith Communities Response to Major Incidents team. This is a team of more than 100 volunteers, coordinated by Police chaplains, who offer help during major incidents.

- Open Door charity for the homeless and the YMCA (Dulverton) group which helps the homeless and disadvantaged young adults;
- The local Sea and Royal Marines Cadets;
- The local Air Cadets;
- The local Army Cadet Force;
- The Poppy of Honour Memorial Group
- The Royal Society of St George (Exmoor and Taunton Branch)
- The Mind Somerset charity for mental health issues.
- The Royal British Legion
- Avon and Somerset Constabulary
- A large housing estate where chaplaincy is offered to building workers by an associate chaplain who is also working with the Parish Church to foster community cohesion among the new residents.

Community links

The Chaplaincy has excellent relationships with the Council and enjoys good links with more than 40 local churches and many voluntary community groups. Our lead chaplain attends the weekly meetings of the "B1" group of church leaders. He, and the Courts Chaplaincy Convener, have both spoken to churches and community groups about the work of the Chaplaincy to raise awareness of our work as well as request support financially or 'in kind'.

About 100 Friends provide regular prayer support via a confidential Prayer Headlines document which is sent out each fortnight to Friends, chaplains and trustees. This anonymously highlights people in need who specifically ask chaplains for prayer. Each Tuesday morning at 10am a prayer meeting is held in person and via Zoom to pray collectively for people and situations mentioned (anonymously) in the Headlines and for the town. An increasing number of answers to prayer during the year were noted.

Chaplains collected statistics about impact of their encounters:

SUMMARY – CHAPLAINS' STATISTICS FOR 2023

1st JANUARY 2023 TO 31st DECEMBER 2023 INCLUSIVE (showing comparison with 2022)

	Year 2022	Year 2023
Significant encounters		
Number of people with whom significant encounters were made.	4887	3464
Average per month	530	289
Proportion of topics discussed		
Community Engagement	Not recorded separately	33%*
Faith (chaplain's faith or theirs)	44%	13%

Prayer offered	Not recorded separately	8%
Family and Relationships (they shared something important)	23%	14%
Work (shared something important)	11%	11%
Health (of anyone discussed)	8%	8%
Signposting (to other agencies)	4%	1%
Other (a variety of other significant information)	10%	12%

*The Significant encounters shown above for 2023 include the Lead Chaplain's significant encounters through community engagement as follows:

- > Sea Cadet Divisions – 80
- > Armed Forces Day – 40
- > Diocesan Lay Ministry Service – 150
- > Scouts Valedictory Service – 120
- > Veterans Breakfast x2 – 74 & 69
- > Salvation Army – 16
- > Wellsprings Church – 61
- > Cadet/Royal British Legion Affiliation Ceremony x2 – 90 & 80
- > Supporting veterans and family members on a weekend in Normandy – Pegasus Bridge 60 & Memorial Service 70
- > Ministering at Dunkirk House care home - 45
- > Taunton-wide 'B1' Service – 900

In addition to the significant encounters above there were also radio broadcasts on Tone FM (3 broadcasts) and BBC Somerset (1 broadcast) for which the minimum weekly reach is 18,600 and 66,000 respectively.

Further measures to record the impact of chaplaincy are being developed as figures become available. We will take advantage of the services of a professional analyst.

Financial review

Placements are not charged for chaplaincy services. TTC offers this as a gift to the town. Full figures are provided in the annual accounts but in summary, the annual accounts show a surplus of £10,180 for the year. Expenditure was £30,747 and income was £40,927.

Grants received in 2023 comprised the Open Mental Health Alliance grant £6,000, Reaching Communities Fund grant instalment (£13,638) and The Fairfield Trust (£5,500) for support of chaplaincy work in the courts. The Trustees are most grateful to all these organisations for their support.

Donations were provided from 8 churches (£5,650) and from individuals (£10,066 with Gift Aid). The annual united act of worship by the B1 Churches generously donated the offering totalling £3,500 to the work of the chaplaincy.

Trustees are very grateful to Somerset Council for their discretionary rates discount. Most of our donations provided steady income each month or quarter. Regular donations are very useful because TTC's expenditure is regular. We are indebted to Andy Hall for his tireless efforts in sourcing funding so that others can benefit from our work. We are extremely grateful to all our donors, whatever the amount. Gift aid is claimed in respect of private donors who are taxpayers and who give consent. We also very much appreciate the contributions made through gifts in kind and churches providing meeting space and other facilities free of charge. We are conscious of the need to keep expenditure to an absolute minimum.

Administrative information

Taunton Team Chaplaincy Ltd is a company limited by guarantee (company number 07108916) and a charity which is registered with the Charity Commission (number 1136868). The Chaplaincy is administered by a board of trustees. The full list of trustees at 31st December is: Harry McFaul (Chair) Rev Dr Michael Hayes (Vice-Chair), Rev Tobie Osmond, Beccy Fox. Potential trustees are being nurtured.

Janice Carrington contracted to provide administrative and IT support with assistance from Beccy Fox but left us at the end of the year. The contract was advertised and Andy Dunningham joined as our new administrator in January 2024. Lynda Marshall helps to assemble the Prayer Headlines. Helen Clegg has served us admirably as our honorary treasurer during the year. Trustees recognise her invaluable contribution behind the scenes.

Approval

This report was approved with the accounts at the AGM on 13 May 2024

HARRY H McFAUL CHAIR OF TAUNTON TEAM CHAPLAINCY TRUST

www.tauntontc.co.uk Facebook –www.facebook.com/TauntonChaplaincy

Appendix A

Impact survey to volunteers

Chaplains were asked about how confident they felt, the degree of difference they felt they made and the support given to aid them and also those they serve, including any training needs.

Volunteers suggested:

1. the opportunity to visit those in custody at the court.
2. occasional visits the County Court and thought it would be useful for duty solicitors and probation officers to know who and why chaplains were there
3. leaflets describing the function of the chaplaincy team in the courts.
4. HSM training.
5. emphasising and exploring the role of chaplain and expectations of home at the beginning of placement
6. renewed emphasis on communications with the church and via social media/website to raise profile, to promote partnership between TTC, the church and the community.
7. all convenors meet as a body three times a year at minimum with the Lead Chaplain and the trustee companion for their cluster.
8. Rail Responders could be more integrated into the Chaplaincy.
9. Trustees and Convenors to be more available.
10. more regular Chaplains' meetings to discuss work and share experiences... for example, how Chaplains open the conversations with people
11. both one-to-one as well as group work to establish links and instil confidence in care homes. Staff all very welcoming.
12. carrying wallet-sized CPO Bible verse cards. TTC might consider funding for all teams to offer them.
13. car parking permits/ ID to be issued to those on duty at Taunton Rail station... and all Rail Responders to eliminate clamping or charges etc while looking for parking.

Group convenors have specific ways of keeping in touch with volunteers, but some chaplains miss regular Team Chaplaincy meetings which help to confirm being part of a significant Christian grouping through corporate identity.

RESPONSES TO IMPACT SURVEY OCT 2023 FROM VOLUNTEERS

Q 1. How confident are you doing your work for TTC?

Very confident 35% Moderately confident 65%

Q2. Do you feel you are making a difference to the emotional & spiritual wellbeing of people you meet as a chaplain or Rail Responder?

Positive difference on all visits 10% most visits 60% ½ visits 35% less than ½ visits 5%

Q3. How well supported do you feel you are in your role as chaplain or Rail Responder? From:

	Prayer support	Lead Chaplain	Convenor	Trustees	Placement
Great support	21%	39%	29%	17 %	33%
Well-supported	58%	33%	57%	17%	33%
When sought	16%	17%	14%	42%	26%
Occasional	5%	11%	0	8%	8%
Rare support	0	0	0	16%	0