



THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2023

Company Limited by Guarantee

Company Registration Number 07892774

Registered Charity Number 1147287

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2023

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THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

The Board of Trustees

G. J. Haynes (Chairman)
A. C. Leakey
R. D. White
J. A. Wainwright – *Resigned 30 March 2023*
A. L. Orr-Ewing
Dr L. Neilson – *Appointed 14 December 2023*

Company Secretary

I. Rowbottom

Chief Executive

A. Hawthorne OBE

Business Centre Manager

S. Hawthorne

Registered Office

6 Harper Road
Sharston
Manchester
Lancashire
M22 4RG

External Auditors

Beever and Struthers
One Express
1 George Leigh Street
Ancoats
Manchester
M4 5DL

Bankers

National Westminster Bank PLC
699 Wilmslow Road
Didsbury
Manchester
M20 6NW

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2023

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report (including the directors' report as required by company law) and the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 August 2023.

The Message Enterprise Centre is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed by its memorandum and articles of association. Charity number 1147287. Company number 07892774. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements, the memorandum and articles of association and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The Message Enterprise Centre was incorporated on 28 December 2011, as a company limited by guarantee, and became a registered charity on 17 May 2012.

The Message Enterprise Centre changed its objects by special resolution on 5 February 2019. Our objective is now:

- To advance the Christian faith and relieve unemployment for the benefit of the public with a specific focus on young people and vulnerable adults who are at risk of re-offending or who have poor employment potential, through education, enterprise, befriending, mentoring, faith-based activities and outreach.

These objects are being worked out in three main areas:

- Building on relationships established by The Message Trust's Prisons team, providing long-term, one-to-one mentoring and support to ex-offenders upon their release from prison.
- Following a period of probation, offering training and employment to prison leavers in one of our businesses (currently on-site café and catering services, property and events management, and building services) as 'apprentices'. In addition, we seek to offer the same training and development opportunities in our businesses to those who have poor employment potential, including those previously homeless or suffering from addictions.
- In partnership with local churches, providing resettlement help and supportive community in local areas across Greater Manchester, especially in areas where the Eden Network has a presence.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The directors of the charitable company ("the charity") are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

The Trustees' recruitment is by personal contact of existing Trustees and the Executive Team. Potential Trustees typically attend board meetings prior to their appointment in order to meet other members of the Board and Executive team to ensure they are a sound match and share the vision and values of the charity. They are then elected by the Board of Trustees in consultation with the Chief Executive, on the basis of their expertise, professional experience and qualifications, wisdom and advice that they can bring to the Management and Administration of the Trust. Training and induction are provided to new Trustees as appropriate.

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

The Board of Trustees has a variety of experience including both Christian ministry and commercial business skills. They meet quarterly to oversee the vision and strategies of the charity. Executive Directors and the Business Centre Manager have been appointed by the Trustees to oversee the day-to-day operations of the charity. The Board is accountable to the Charity Commission for the careful use of charitable and other public funds provided in a variety of forms, and for the achievement of appropriate performance standards in service delivery. The Board also undertakes at least one additional annual away-day for the purposes of further developing The Message Enterprise Centre Mission and Vision, and to concentrate on continuous improvement in performance.

With the growth of activities of the Trust an increasing level of expertise is required on a day-to-day basis and an established senior management team is in place that is capable of running the affairs of the Trust. The Trust's senior management team is the Executive Board, headed by the Chief Executive, Mr A Hawthorne. The Executive Board meets monthly, and its members are both jointly and individually accountable via the Chief Executive to the Board of Trustees.

Day-to-day management matters are further scrutinised by a cross-functional team of internal departmental managers who meet regularly, and monthly management accounts are utilised by the Senior Management team to ensure financial budgets and fundraising targets are being met. This group's work is referred back to the Trustee's whenever a more significant matter of policy or other key decision-making arises.

The Message recognises the importance of our staff and aims to help them to develop their potential, improve their skills and gain greater job satisfaction.

Summary of priorities:

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities.

Our mission is to advance the Christian faith, relieve unemployment and help break the pattern of re-offending through one-to-one mentoring, training and employment, and supportive community.

The Message Enterprise Centre's Executive leadership team seek to achieve this by motivating staff and volunteers with a compelling vision and supporting them within a robust management framework.

Volunteers are crucial to the smooth running of the Centre. Our team of regular volunteers provides support to our businesses, particularly The Mess Café when catering for large functions. We ensure they have comprehensive support in their roles through appropriate policies and procedures, clarifying the extent of their remit and providing checks and balances in relation to the key areas of the Management & HR Strategy.

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2023

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The Message Enterprise Centre: 2022-23 in review

MEC - OUR BUSINESSES

This year, the Message Enterprise Centre continued with its model for training – a model that has skills and discipleship at its heart whilst also aiming to maximise skills development and financial sustainability for our team members. Team member opportunities were offered to individuals in our different social enterprise businesses as well in store, warehouse and logistics roles at the Community Grocery in Sharston.

2022/23 marked the tenth anniversary of the Message Enterprise Centre which first opened its doors and began offering team member opportunities in 2013. In those 10 years:

- 89 team members have received employment, training, housing and discipleship.
- 100% of our graduates have achieved qualifications and entered employment.
- The programme has helped reduce reoffending rates – the Message Enterprise Centre's 10-year reoffending rate is just 13% compared to a national nine-year average of 75%. For many of those we work with who have reoffended, we also know through our continued contact with them that prison is not the end of their story.

This landmark anniversary was celebrated with a Message Business Network dinner event in February 2023. This was an event which supporters who have stood with us to help make enterprise work happen were invited to celebrate all that's been achieved. Attendees got to hear first-hand from team members, who have been part of our enterprise in the Message Enterprise Centre about the transformational impact programme has had on their lives. The guest speaker at the dinner was Sir John Timpson CBE, chairman of Timpson's, who shared a masterclass in upside down management and his experiences in business. The Message Business Network dinner also saw the opening of the larger Sharston Community Grocery store within the enterprise centre.

Demand for the **Community Grocery** in Sharston continues to increase, as more people find it difficult to put food on the tables amidst the soaring food costs and cost-of-living crisis in the UK. The scale of demand means that the grocery located within the Message Enterprise Centre now serves over 4,000 member families and helps keep them fed, whilst also being the location where wrap-around support courses run from. As member numbers grew, space within the initial store became limited, and a larger store space was required to meet surging demand. Around this time, the organisation renting the adjoining larger unit within the enterprise centre made the decision to vacate the premises and this provided the ideal opportunity to relocate the Community Grocery into the space. The new store was opened in February 2023, and the previous space repurposed into a dedicated courses space which now sees community events and support courses, each designed to help members and their families, running every day of the working week.

Growing food poverty has led to demand for further Community Grocery stores across the UK to continue to grow, so in response to this we have continued to open further stores during 2022/23. There are now 22 stores operating across the UK each launched since September 2020 by The

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2023

MEC - OUR BUSINESSES (continued)

Message Trust in partnership with local churches, and there are plans to launch more stores in 2023/24. By the end of August 2023, more than 50,000 member families were relying on Community Grocery stores to keep their families fed.

The location of the Community Grocery next to **The Mess Café**, coupled with growing food offer, media coverage and increasingly positive Trip Advisor reviews saw the café's popularity continue to grow, and footfall continue to build. In early 2023, the positivity of reviews led to The Mess Café being rated the no.1 café in Manchester. Throughout the year further opportunities to ensure the café's efficiency were continually identified and implemented to help reduce costs.

Following the easing of all Covid restrictions, the **MEC Events** business was able to fully operate and host large-scale events such as live acoustic music nights, weddings and conferences again this year. As awareness of the MEC Events offering has grown we have received an increased number of enquiries and bookings for events, helping to increase the profitability of this area of our work. Tenants within the office space this year included the charity Early Essentials, Our Boards and Pure Innovations, with more tenants due to move into the space during 2023/24.

As in 2021/22, the work of the **MEC Building Services** has focused primarily on refurbishment and development projects this year, with the team undertaking projects both for The Message, the shop fitting of Community Grocery stores and the refurbishment of the MEC's rental properties. The team were again involved in the fit out of all the Community Grocery stores that opened this year, as well as continued work on the Sheffield Enterprise Centre in Woodseats and the renovation of the properties to be used by Message School of Evangelism students in 2023/24 due to the course taking on its largest ever intake.

Message School of Evangelism students were housed in MEC properties, with properties also being rented to Message School of Evangelism graduates, team members, some employees of The Message Trust as well as commercial rents.

Following conversations with our Community Grocery church partner in Telford, **Wedding Angels** was transitioned across to All Nations Church. This decision came at a time when demand for the services of the social enterprises had declined slightly locally and gave the church the opportunity to reach out into their community. The space occupied by Wedding Angels in the MEC was repurposed to be used by the Community Grocery.

As partnerships across the UK grow, our vision to expand our enterprise work into other areas of the UK, offering training and discipleship opportunities to team members remains and continued to grow. **Neal Street Espresso**, our speciality coffee shop in Covent Garden, continues to go from strength to strength. The quality of its coffee offer has made it popular with visitors, residents and workers in Covent Garden. A pipeline for team members continues to be developed and in 2022/23 new team members joined the team, we also celebrated the graduation of a team member from the Neal Street Espresso enterprise programme and the transformation that had taken place in his life. The function space within Neal Street Espresso continues to be popular with external clients and has been rented out for meetings and events throughout the year, including to clients who are committing to regular bookings. This provides an extra income stream and gives the opportunity to introduce our enterprise work to a wider audience.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2023

MEC - OUR BUSINESSES (continued)

As the financial stability of the activities associated with the Message Enterprise Centre has increased and the risk reduced, discussions began about transferring the activity to sit within The Message Trust, the charity that the Message Enterprise Centre is a subsidiary of. This transfer of the business activities took place in September 2023, however there are no current plans to close the Message Enterprise Centre charity.

MEC - SUPPORTER EVENTS AND FUNDRAISING

Many individuals, businesses and organisations have chosen to support the Message Enterprise Centre during the past year, and we are very grateful to them all.

The majority of our work is funded by sales income from our various social enterprises and support from our parent charity, The Message Trust, which carries out its own fundraising campaigns and events through a centrally employed team as well as using the services of Chell Perkins Ltd for grant funding applications. Both The Message Trust and Chell Perkins Ltd are registered with the Fundraising Regulator and subscribe to The Code of Fundraising Practice.

In February 2023, we celebrated 10 years of the Message Enterprise Centre with a Message Business Network (MBN) dinner which successfully shared the impact of our work and vision with supporters. To build on this, another MBN event is planned for 2023/24.

MEC Businesses: Outcomes against our 2022 – 2023 goals

MEC Businesses

- **To open the Mess Café 6 days a week, including Saturdays, and so increase gross profits**
Achieved – the Mess Café was opening six days a week for a period of time during 2022/23 however team member availability and the income being received against expenditure meant that the café reverted to opening five days a week.
- **To employ another team member for Neal Street Espresso, and increase gross profits**
Achieved – a new team member joined the team and the profitability of the Neal Street Espresso continued to grow during 2022/23.
- **For the events business to host 100 training bookings and 15 external events (e.g. weddings, conferences, parties)**
Achieved – following the easing of Covid restrictions our events bookings have grown again with the Message Enterprise Centre hosting events of all sizes from training conferences and team away days to weddings and leaving parties.
- **To provide accredited training to 4 team members**
Ongoing – where team members have required accredited training this has been sourced externally, however the training requirements for a number of team members this year centred around skills that can be addressed through internal training.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2023

MEC Businesses: Outcomes against our 2022 – 2023 goals (Continued)

MEC The Oaks

- **For each room to be occupied throughout the year by our Message School of Evangelism students**

Ongoing – the Oaks was used to accommodate a number of students as required by the course numbers. The anticipated course growth for 2023/24 means we anticipate the property being at full capacity next year.

MEC Recruitment Pipeline

- **To recruit another 5 team members**

Ongoing – new team members have continued to join the programme and we are still offering support to ex-offenders looking to turn their lives around, as well as increasingly to those who experience significant barriers to employment.

- **To train a further 50 new volunteers**

Achieved – throughout 2022/23 new volunteers have continued to give their time to not only serve in the Mess Café and our social enterprises but at the Community Grocery in Sharston too.

MEC Supporter events and fundraising

- **To host 2 business networking / fundraising events**

Achieved – a Message Business Network event was held in February 2023 celebrating 10 years of the Message Enterprise Centre as well as a London vision night that informed supporters about our enterprise work.

CHARITABLE GIVING

Our charitable giving this year totalled £39 (2022: £364) which was mainly gifts to staff of The Message Enterprise Centre.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The 2023 accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice) (second edition – October 2019) 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 (FRS102), as published January 2022.

The Trustees have taken the opportunity to review all The Message Enterprise Centre's key accounting policies to ensure that they are in accordance with the requirements of the Charities SORP (FRS 102) and best accounting practice.

Review of the year

The total income for the year was £1,431k (2022: £1,243k), with total expenditure of £1,168k (2022: £1,326k). Leaving Unrestricted total funds carried forward of £3,651k (2022: £3,388k) available for future periods, of which £3,601k (2022: £3,344k) is designated for future projects, and £50k (2022: £40k) is general funds freely available to spend on any of the charity's purposes. There are £nil (2022: £2k) restricted funds carried forward at year-end.

Income and Expenditure

The Message Enterprise Centre' relies on donations as its principal source of funding, whilst the business enterprises are still working towards breaking even. Total donations, including Gift Aid amounted to £122k (2022: £163k).

In addition, The Message Trust gave a separate material item of income to The Message Enterprise Centre totalling £458k (2022: £450k).

Gifts from Foundations and Trusts was £27k (2022: £7k) which is 22.4% (2022: 4%) of all donations. Gifts from individuals (including Gift Aid & Legacies) of £68k (2022: £92k) provided an additional 56.2% (2022: 62%) of all donations, while income from Churches, Ministries and Businesses provided £19k – 15.4% (2022: £12k – 7%). The charity did not receive any government grants in the year £Nil – 0% (2022: £27k – 17%), last year due to COVID the charity received government grants under the furlough scheme. Grants from other sources totalled £1k – 0.8% (2022: £16k – 10%).

Other funds were generated through Charitable Activities, namely the five business enterprises (2022: five), namely The Mess Café, Neal Street Espresso, Property Rental, Building Maintenance, Events & Conferences. Sales, Rental and Event income from the Business Enterprises in the year was £589k (2022: £467k), the increase from prior year is predominantly due to the businesses being able to trade for the full financial year this year, whereas the government-imposed lockdowns during the pandemic restricted trading for parts of the previous year.

Direct costs of the Charitable Activities were £1.1m down £0.2m from prior year (2022: £1.3m), due to the closure of The Oaks project in April 2022, and the transfer of our Wedding Angels business to our Community Grocery church partner in Telford in 2023. 100% was spent on the social enterprises including the salaries of the Apprentices which are partly funded through restricted funds. Support costs were £92k (2022: £70k), and the cost of Raising Funds amounted to £310 in 2023 (2022: £24).

Governance

The £8.7k governance (2022: £7k) includes the expenses associated with Trustee Board meetings, Trustee elections, maintaining our constitution, audit fees and core executive management.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2023

FINANCIAL REVIEW (continued)

Net Expenditure / Income

Net Income before investment gains in the year is £263k (2022: net expenditure £83k) of which £316k net income (2022: net expenditure £2k) is within unrestricted funds and £53k net expenditure (2022: £81k net expenditure) is within restricted funds. During the year the Trustees designated £257k (2022: £184k) to establish sufficient funds for future Message Enterprise projects. In 2023 £51k was transferred from General funds to finance the deficit on Apprentice Funding in the year, while £nil (2022: £145k) funds were released from designated funds.

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2023 ensures that the charity has the assets required to deliver its commitments to the community. Cash at bank is £95k (2022: £29k), Net Current Assets are £50k (2022: Net liability £100k), and Total net assets are £3.65m (2022: £3.39m) demonstrating that the charity is in a strong position and is comfortably able to meet all its liabilities.

Investment Powers and Policies

The Trustees have the power to invest surplus funds of the charity in investments, securities and property as they think fit. The current policy of the Trustees is to invest funds not immediately required by the charity into a range of Deposit accounts which bear competitive rates of interest. This policy is reviewed periodically by the Trustees.

Reserves policy

The Trustees have adopted a reserves policy which they consider appropriate, to ensure the continuing ability of The Message Enterprise Centre to meet its objectives and obligations.

The total funds held by MEC at 31 August 2023 are £3,651k (2022: £3,388k), of which £Nil (2022: £2k) are restricted and not available for the general purposes of the charity.

In order to be prudent, The Message Enterprise Centre aims to accumulate, in general reserves, an amount at least equal to one month's staff costs, approx. £22k (2022: £37k). This has been achieved in the current year. The amount of General Funds, excluding restricted and designated funds, freely available to spend on any of the charity's purposes as at 31 August 2023 was £50k (2022: £40k). Over the coming year the Trustees' have set financial budgets, which aim to increase the amounts held in general reserves, in order to maintain this policy as the charity grows.

In addition, the Trustees have designated funds to Future Projects arising over the next 5 years £3,601k at 31 August 2023 (2022: £3,344k). These designated funds are held in the form of buildings and other fixed assets, which are an ongoing resource for future mission projects across the charity. The designated fund for Future Mission Projects can only be realised by disposing of £3,600,877 (2022: £3,488,642) the amount of tangible fixed assets and investment properties held by The Message Enterprise Centre.

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2023

FINANCIAL POLICIES

Remuneration Policy

The remuneration policy seeks to balance our Christian values and the need to attract and retain staff with appropriate qualifications and skills.

The UK Leadership Team review the organisations pay scales by benchmarking against similar jobs in the North-west and a London weighting is applied where appropriate. We review the retail price and consumer price indices for inflation on an annual basis, before deciding upon any annual increments for inflation. Individual staff salaries are reviewed annually, with mid-term reviews every 6 months. The Executive pay is set within the same pay grade structure.

The Trustees set and approve the salary for the Chief Executive on an annual basis, by benchmarking against similar sized Charities with reference to the Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations (ACEVO) annual Pay and Equalities Survey.

The key management personnel for the Message Enterprise Centre are common to the parent charity The Message Trust. They include the Trustees, Chief Executive Officer and other members of the Executive. The Trustees do not receive any remuneration for their services, whilst the Executive Officers are reimbursed by The Message Trust and their time recharged to The Message Enterprise Centre at cost, as appropriate.

Social Investment Policy

In order to provide appropriate affordable housing for The Message School of Evangelism Students during their one-year course, as well as providing refurbishment and building maintenance opportunities for our Message Enterprise Building Team Members the charity has adopted a policy of investing in local Wythenshawe properties, rather than renting properties from local landlords. This policy started in 2016 and has continued since then.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Trustees have identified four principal risk areas for both The Message Trust and its subsidiary The Message Enterprise Centre. These cover potential risks to the reputation of both charities, financial sustainability, safeguarding of young people & vulnerable adults, and cyber security, arising from both internal and external factors. The principal financial sustainability risks present at the year-end are related to the sustained price rises and high levels of inflation across the UK which are increasing operational costs for the charity, limiting the disposable income of our donors, which has potential impacts on fundraising for The Message Enterprise Centre. The Trustees have adopted a number of measures to counter each of these risks, to reduce the likelihood that they will adversely affect the charity. These strategies are reviewed periodically to ensure they remain effective and are considered sufficient measures to protect the charitable group, its staff, and beneficiaries from significant harm.

The Trustees assessment of these financial risks is discussed in more detail in the 'Going concern' note on page 21.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2023

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Goals for 2023-24

Our teams set the following objectives, for the next financial year. Since the operations of the MEC transferred to the parent charity, The Message Trust, in September 2023, the goals below will remain but will be outworked by The Message Trust and reported on in their 2023-24 Annual report and Financial Statements.

MEC Businesses and fundraising

- To employ another team member for **Mess Café**, and increase gross profits
- To employ another team member for **Neal Street Espresso**, and increase gross profits
- For the events business to host 100 training bookings and 15 external events (e.g. weddings, conferences, parties)
- To continue providing accredited training to 4 team members
- To host 2 business networking / fundraising events

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

YEAR ENDING 31 AUGUST 2023

DIRECTORS AND TRUSTEES

The directors of the charity ("the charity") are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

The Trustees serving during the year and since the year-end were as follows:

G.J. Haynes
A. L. Orr-Ewing
R.D. White

A.C. Leakey
J.A. Wainwright (resigned 20 March 2023)
Dr L. Neilson (appointed 14 December 2023)

RELATED PARTIES

A summary of transactions with related parties is set out in note 19 of the financial statements.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also directors of The Message Enterprise Centre for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees 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 affairs of the charity at the end of the period and of the income and expenditure for the year then ended.

In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies, as described on pages 21 to 26, and then apply them on a consistent basis, making judgements and estimates that are prudent and reasonable. The Trustees must also prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operations.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

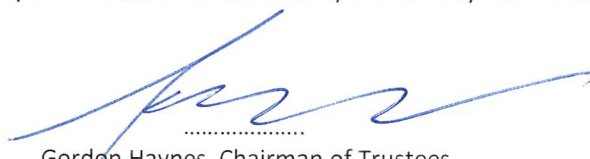
In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The annual report was approved by the Trustees of the charity on 29 May 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Gordon Haynes, Chairman of Trustees
Date: 29 May 2024

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Message Enterprise Centre 'the charitable company' for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise Statement of Financial Activities including the Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources loss for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and the provisions available for small entities, in the circumstances set out in the Trustees' Responsibilities on page 13, we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE (Continued)

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, including the Trustees' report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report within the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the Trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE (Continued)

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 13, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

In identifying and addressing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- We obtained an understanding of laws, regulations and guidance that affect the charitable company, focusing on those that had a direct effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on its operations. Key laws, regulations and guidance that we identified included the Companies Act 2006, tax legislation, health and safety legislation, Charities Act England & Wales and employment legislation.
- We enquired of the Trustees and reviewed correspondence and Trustee meeting minutes for evidence of non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations. We also reviewed controls the Trustees have in place, where necessary, to ensure compliance.
- We gained an understanding of the controls that the Trustees have in place to prevent and detect fraud. We enquired of the Trustees about any incidences of fraud that had taken place during the accounting period.
- The risk of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations was discussed within the audit team and tests were planned and performed to address these risks.

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE (Continued)

- We reviewed financial statements disclosures and supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations discussed above.
- We enquired of the Trustees about actual and potential litigation and claims.
- We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that might indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.
- In addressing the risk of fraud due to management override of internal controls we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates were indicative of a potential bias.

Due to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations and cannot be expected to detect all fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's web-site at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Sue Hutchinson FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of

BEEVER AND STRUTHERS

Statutory Auditor

One Express

1 George Leigh Street

Manchester M4 5DL

Date: 30 May 2024

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(INCLUDING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

YEAR ENDING 31 August 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
INCOME					
Donations and Legacies	3a	86,511	35,003	121,514	162,925
Income from Charitable activities	3b	845,974	-	845,974	627,695
Income from Other trading activities	3c	2,852	2,135	4,987	2,166
Investment Income	3d	768	-	768	59
Separate material item of income	3e	457,612	-	457,612	450,437
TOTAL INCOME		1,393,717	37,138	1,430,855	1,243,282
EXPENDITURE					
Raising Funds	4a	310	-	310	24.00
Charitable Activities	4b	1,077,902	89,839	1,167,741	1,326,135
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		1,078,212	89,839	1,168,051	1,326,159
Net (Expenditure) / Income before Investment gains		315,505	(52,701)	262,804	(82,877)
Net gains on investments		-	-	-	346,155
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE)		315,505	(52,701)	262,804	263,278
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE)					
BEFORE TRANSFERS		315,505	(52,701)	262,804	263,278
Transfers between funds		(50,701)	50,701	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		264,804	(2,000)	262,804	263,278
Total Funds Brought Forward		3,386,473	2,000	3,388,473	3,125,195
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		3,651,277	-	3,651,277	3,388,473

The charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above.

All of the activities of the charity, as shown above, are classed as continuing operations.

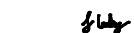
The notes on pages 21 to 34 form an integral part of these financial statements.

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

		The Message Enterprise Centre 2023 £	The Message Enterprise Centre 2022 £
	Note		
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	9	54,496	93,642
Investments	10	<u>3,546,381</u>	<u>3,395,000</u>
Total Fixed assets		<u>3,600,877</u>	<u>3,488,642</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks	11	11,113	6,756
Debtors	12	72,599	65,050
Investments			
Cash at bank and in hand	13	<u>94,581</u>	<u>28,989</u>
Total current assets		<u>178,293</u>	<u>100,795</u>
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(127,893)</u>	<u>(200,964)</u>
NET CURRENT (LIABILITIES) / ASSETS		<u>50,400</u>	<u>(100,169)</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		3,651,277	3,388,473
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>3,651,277</u>	<u>3,388,473</u>
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			
Restricted Income Funds	15a	-	2,000
Unrestricted Funds	15b	<u>3,651,277</u>	<u>3,386,473</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>3,651,277</u>	<u>3,388,473</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The notes on pages 21 to 34 form an integral part of these financial statements, which were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 29 May 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Andrew Leakey (May 29, 2024 15:40 GMT+1)

..... Andrew Leakey, Trustee



..... Gordon Haynes, Trustee

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

Company Registration Number 07892774

STATEMENT of CASH FLOWS YEAR ENDING 31 August 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net movement in funds		262,804	263,278
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation		39,146	41,048
Investment income	3d	(768)	(59)
Revaluation of investments	10	<u>-</u>	<u>(346,155)</u>
		301,182	(41,888)
Working capital adjustments			
Decrease / (Increase) in stocks	11	(4,357)	7,886
Decrease / (Increase) in debtors	12	(7,549)	64,431
Decrease / (Increase) in creditors		(75,921)	92,568
Decrease / (Increase) in deferred income	14	<u>2,850</u>	<u>(1,292)</u>
Net cash flows from operating activities		<u>216,205</u>	<u>121,705</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable and similar income	3d	768	59
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	9	-	(1,375)
Purchase of investments	10	<u>(151,381)</u>	<u>(368,845)</u>
Net cash flows from investing activities		(150,613)	(370,161)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Net cash flows from financing activities		-	-
Net (Decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents		65,592	(248,456)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September		<u>28,989</u>	<u>277,445</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August	13	<u>94,581</u>	<u>28,989</u>

The notes on pages 21 to 34 form an integral part of these financial statements.

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 August 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements of the charity are made up to 31 August 2023.

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice) (second edition – October 2019) 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) as published January 2022, with the Charities Act 2022, the Companies Act 2006 and with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. The Charity exists for the benefit of the public through the promotion of Christian values and spiritual development, providing education, mentoring and enterprise services, in particular to those who have poor employment potential.

Financial statements

The financial statements are presented in GBP and rounded to the nearest £. The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the charity is responsible in law.

Going concern

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue to operate as a going concern, particularly as it continues to have the full support of its parent charity – The Message Trust, having all its Trustees in common with the parent charity.

As the financial stability of the activities associated with the Message Enterprise Centre has increased over the years and the risk reduced, discussions began about transferring the activity to sit within The Message Trust, the charity that the Message Enterprise Centre is a subsidiary of. This transfer of the significant business activities, including The Mess Café and Neal Street Espresso, took place post year-end in September 2023, however there are no current plans to close the Message Enterprise Centre charity. This transfer required the parent charity to assume the principal operating costs, and consequently the financial risks, associated with the business activities of The Message Enterprise Centre.

The Trustees have considered this, as well as the current levels of reserves and cash including general funds available to the Charity, in their assessment and believe the charity is well-placed to manage its risks and continue to operate as a going concern.

Key Judgements and sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charity's accounting policies the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and underlying assumptions are based on historical experience and other relevant factors, including reasonable expectations of future events. However, because balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results may differ from these estimates and assumptions. The main areas which involve such estimates and judgements include the useful lives of fixed assets and the valuation of the Group's investment properties.

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 August 2023

Key Judgements and sources of estimation uncertainty (continued)

The carrying value and annual depreciation charges for tangible assets are sensitive to changes in the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets, which are reviewed annually for their current condition and economic utilisation and amended when necessary to reflect current estimates. Impairment on tangible fixed assets is evaluated when an asset is held for sale. See note 11 for the carrying amount of the tangible fixed assets.

The Trustees have based the charity's investment property valuations on observable market prices, adjusted if necessary for any difference in the nature, location or condition of the specific asset, combined with comparison to movements in Housing Price Indices since their last independent professional valuation – see note 10 for details.

INCOME

Recognition of income

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- it is more likely than not that the Trustees will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donations and Grants

Donations and grants are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 Charities SORP (FRS102)).

In the case of performance related grants, income is only recognised to the extent that the charity has provided the specified goods or services as entitlement to the grant only occurs when the performance related conditions are met (5.16 Charities SORP (FRS 102)).

Income is deferred only when there are conditions to fulfil before becoming entitled to it and where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by the Charities SORP (FRS 102) or FRS 102.

Legacies

Legacies are included in the SOFA when receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

Contractual income

This is only included in the SoFA once the charity has provided the related goods or services.

Donated services and facilities

Donated services and facilities are included in the SOFA when received at the value of the gift to the charity provided the value of the gift can be measured reliably.

Donated services and facilities that are consumed immediately are recognised as income with an equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading in the SOFA.

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 August 2023

Donated goods

Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so.

The cost of any stock of goods donated for distribution to beneficiaries is deemed to be the fair value of those gifts at the time of their receipt and they are recognised on receipt. In the reporting period in which the stocks are distributed, they are recognised as an expense at the carrying amount of the stocks at distribution.

Donated goods for resale are measured at fair value on initial recognition, which is the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale and recognised in 'Income from other trading activities' with the corresponding stock recognised in the balance sheet. On its sale the value of stock is charged against 'Income from other trading activities' and the proceeds from sale are also recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'

Goods donated for on-going use by the charity are recognised as tangible fixed assets and included in the SoFA as incoming resources when receivable.

Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as income from donations when receivable.

Volunteer help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the Trustees' annual report.

Many volunteers give freely of their time in the service of our Lord for the Trust, the value of which is unquantifiable.

Income from interest and royalties

This is included in the accounts when receipt is probable, and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 August 2023

EXPENDITURE and LIABILITIES

Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Governance and support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Grants with performance conditions

Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.

Grants payable without performance conditions

Where there are no conditions attaching to the grant that enables the donor charity to realistically avoid the commitment, a liability for the full funding obligation is recognised.

Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

Basic financial instruments

The charity accounts for basic financial instruments on initial recognition at cost, as per paragraph 11.7 SORP (FRS102). Subsequent measurement is at fair value (their market value), as per paragraphs 11.17 to 11.19, SORP (FRS102).

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 August 2023

ASSETS

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £1,000 (Prior to 1 September 2021, if they cost at least £500). They are valued at cost.

Depreciation is provided in equal annual instalments over the estimated useful lives of the assets and is calculated on the cost or valuation of the assets.

The following annual rates are used:

Leasehold Property	20%
Oaks Fixtures and Fittings	25%
Business Equipment	25%
Motor Vehicles	25%

Depreciation is first charged in the quarter following acquisition and up to the month of disposal. No provision is made for the increased cost of tangible fixed assets.

Investments

Fixed asset investments are valued initially at cost and subsequently at fair value (their market value) at the year-end unless fair value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment.

Investments held for resale (or pending their sale) and cash and cash equivalents with a maturity date of less than 1 year are treated as current asset investments.

Investment properties

Investment properties are carried at fair value, derived from the current market prices for comparable real estate determined by external valuers, with properties being valued on a rolling basis every five years. The valuers use observable market prices, adjusted if necessary for any difference in the nature, location or condition of the specific asset. Changes in fair values are recognised in profit or loss.

Stocks and work in progress

Stocks held for sale as part of non-charitable trade are measured at the lower of cost or net realisable value. Cost is determined using the First-in, First-out (FIFO) methodology.

Goods or services provided as part of a charitable activity are measured at net realisable value based on the service potential provided by items of stock.

Work in progress is valued at cost less any foreseeable loss that is likely to occur on the contract.

Debtors

Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 August 2023

Current asset investments

The charity has investments which it holds for resale (or pending their sale) and cash and cash equivalents with a maturity date less than one year. These include cash on deposit and cash equivalents with a maturity date of less than one year held for investment purposes rather than to meet short term cash commitments as they fall due.

They are valued at fair value except where they qualify as basic financial instruments.

Funds

Funds held by the charity are either:

Unrestricted general funds

These are funds that can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

Designated funds

These are unrestricted funds that have been earmarked for a particular project. This designation is for administrative purposes only and does not restrict the Trustees' discretion to apply the fund within the objects of the charity.

Restricted funds

These are funds that 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.

Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in equal annual instalments over the term of the lease.

Pension costs and other benefits

The pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contributions payable by the company during the period in accordance with FRS 102. The charity provides a defined contribution scheme for staff.

2. LEGAL STATUS OF THE CHARITY

The charity is a private company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and has no share capital. The registered office is 6 Harper Road, Manchester, M22 4RG. The liability of each member in the event of winding-up is limited to £1.

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 August 2023

3. INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds Total £	Restricted Funds Total £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds Total £	Restricted Funds Total £	Total 2022 £
3a Donations and Legacies						
Gifts Individuals	54,084	1,491	55,575	64,565	11,388	75,953
Gifts via Stewardship / CAF	5,239	962	6,201	5,605	3,560	9,165
Gifts Churches, Ministries & Business	11,040	7,691	18,731	3,120	9,229	12,349
Gifts Trusts & Foundations	3,750	23,500	27,250	-	7,000	7,000
Government Grants	-	-	-	12,135	15,112	27,247
Gift Aid	12,398	353	12,751	14,845	866	15,711
Grants	-	1,000	1,000	6,500	9,000	15,500
Sponsored Events	-	6	6	-	-	-
	<u>86,511</u>	<u>35,003</u>	<u>121,514</u>	<u>106,770</u>	<u>56,155</u>	<u>162,925</u>
3b Income from Charitable Activities						
Business Enterprises	491,650	-	491,650	327,339	-	327,339
Rental Income	87,844	-	87,844	133,009	-	133,009
Event Income	9,379	-	9,379	6,918	-	6,918
Sundry Income	257,101	-	257,101	160,429	-	160,429
	<u>845,974</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>845,974</u>	<u>627,695</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>627,695</u>
3c Income from Other trading activities						
Fundraising Events	80.00	2,135	2,215	-	1,040	1,040
Sundry Income	2,772	-	2,772	1,126	-	1,126
	<u>2,852</u>	<u>2,135</u>	<u>4,987</u>	<u>1,126</u>	<u>1,040</u>	<u>2,166</u>
3d Investment Income						
Bank Interest Received	768	-	768	59	-	59
	<u>768</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>768</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59</u>
3e Separate Material Item of Income						
Donation from The Message Trust	457,612	-	457,612	450,437	-	450,437
	<u>457,612</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>457,612</u>	<u>450,437</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>450,437</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>1,393,717</u>	<u>37,138</u>	<u>1,430,855</u>	<u>1,186,087</u>	<u>57,195</u>	<u>1,243,282</u>

Many volunteers give freely of their time in the service of our Lord for the Charity, the value of which is unquantifiable.

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 August 2023

4. EXPENDITURE

	Staff £	Deprecia tion £	Project Costs £	Direct Costs £	Staff £	Deprecia tion £	Other Support Costs £	Total Support Costs £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Unrestricted Funds										
4a Raising Funds										
Fundraising - Events	-	-	310	310	-	-	-	-	310	24
	-	-	310	310	-	-	-	-	310	24
4b Charitable Activities										
Business Enterprises	225,165	1,901	758,859	985,925	46,017	37,244	-	83,261	1,069,186	1,181,253
Governance	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,716	8,716	8,716	6,958
	225,165	1,901	758,859	985,925	46,017	37,244	8,716	91,977	1,077,902	1,188,211
Total Expenditure Unrestricted	225,165	1,901	759,169	986,235	46,017	37,244	8,716	91,977	1,078,212	1,188,235
Restricted Funds										
4b Charitable Activities										
Business Enterprises	3,414	-	-	3,414	-	-	-	-	3,414	8,061
Neal Street Espresso	5,841	-	-	5,841	-	-	-	-	5,841	10,547
Apprentice Funding	80,584	-	-	80,584	-	-	-	-	80,584	98,410
The Oaks	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,243
Wythenshawe Properties	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,663
	89,839	-	-	89,839	-	-	-	-	89,839	137,924
Total Expenditure Restricted	89,839	-	-	89,839	-	-	-	-	89,839	137,924
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	315,004	1,901	759,169	1,076,074	46,017	37,244	8,716	91,977	1,168,051	1,326,159

5. NET INCOME

This is stated after charging / (crediting):

	2023 £	2022 £
Auditors' remuneration	8,452	5,780
Depreciation of owned assets	39,146	41,048
Annual charges from operating leases:		
Building Lease	28,488	31,258
Rental of Property	75,000	31,250
Hire of equipment	1,266	2,012

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 August 2023

6. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

All Support costs have been allocated directly to each project on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

	Admin, HR & Other Support Staff	2023 Total	2022 Total
Business Enterprises	83,261	83,261	62,723
	<u>83,261</u>	<u>83,261</u>	<u>62,723</u>

7. INFORMATION REGARDING TRUSTEES AND EMPLOYEES

	2023 £	2022 £
Employee costs during the year:		
Wages and salaries	334,990	423,664
Social security costs	17,155	31,648
Pension costs	8,876	11,256
	<u>361,021</u>	<u>466,568</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including the senior management team) employed by the charity during the year was 13 (2022: 16). This includes both full-time and part-time staff. When expressed as full-time equivalents this was as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Average number of full-time equivalent staff employed:		
Charitable Activities	12	14
Cost of Generating Funds	0	0
Governance / Management	0	0
Others - Support	1	2
	<u>13</u>	<u>16</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 in the year.

Amounts paid or reimbursed to Trustees £Nil (2022: £Nil)

The key management personnel are defined as the Trustees, CEO and other Executive Directors of the group in office during the year. They do not receive any remuneration from The Message Enterprise Centre, but the services of the Executive Officers for The Message Enterprise Centre are recharged at cost by the parent charity, The Message Trust. Their total remuneration for the year from the parent charity was £380k (2022: £365k) and the total recharges to MEC in the year for the services of the Executive officers, which is not included in the remuneration of employees above is £85k (2022: £85k).

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 August 2023

8. TAX ON SURPLUS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES

	2023 £	2022 £
Corporation tax based on the trading results for the year at Nil% (2022: Nil%)	-	-
	-	-

The company is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation on its charitable activities.

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Leasehold Property £	Property Fixtures & Fittings £	Business Equipment £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 September 2022	140,628	27,935	89,999	7,708	266,270
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 August 2023	140,628	27,935	89,999	7,708	266,270
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2022	70,315	27,602	68,003	6,708	172,628
Charge for year	28,125	333	10,688	-	39,146
At 31 August 2023	98,440	27,935	78,691	6,708	211,774
Net Book Value					
At 31 August 2023	42,188	-	11,308	1,000	54,496
At 31 August 2022	70,313	333	21,996	1,000	93,642

10. INVESTMENTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Investment Properties		
The Oaks	650,000	650,000
Other Wythenshawe Properties	2,896,381	2,745,000
	3,546,381	3,395,000

The Oaks opened in 2016, as a fully refurbished home in Wythenshawe, offering a residential support programme for up to 8 residents, today it houses students on the Message School of Evangelism programme. As at 31 August 2023 the MEC owns 15 Investment Properties in total, including The Oaks (2022: 14 properties). Thirteen of these Investment Properties were revalued by Longden & Cook, members of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) as at 6th January 2023 and 1 other by Spendlove Surveyors, also members of the RICS, as at 25th January 2023, following inspections on those dates. The final property, purchased in March 2023, is held at its cost price of £151k.

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 August 2023

10. INVESTMENTS (continued)

The charity performed analysis of the average property sale prices in the region around the investment properties, as well as the movement in the general house price index, which indicated that the carrying value of the properties in the financial statements may differ by as little 0.57% overall from the independent valuations carried out in the prior year. Therefore, the Trustees consider the investment properties are carried in the Balance Sheet at their fair value as at 31 August 2023, given the independent valuations were carried out within 8 months of the year end and the lack of evidence to suggest a materially different valuation. The Trustees have a policy of using professional independent valuers to revalue investment properties on a rolling basis at least every 5 years.

On an annual basis, the Trustees review these valuations for any significant changes in the local property market and any impairment in the properties and will make adjustments as necessary.

	2023	2022
Valuation	£	£
At 1 September 2022	3,395,000	2,680,000
Revaluation	-	346,155
Additions	151,381	368,845
At 31 August 2023	<u>3,546,381</u>	<u>3,395,000</u>

11. STOCKS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Stocks of finished goods and goods for resale	<u>11,113</u>	<u>6,756</u>
	<u>11,113</u>	<u>6,756</u>

12. DEBTORS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	40,132	26,298
Amounts due from Group undertakings	2,184	-
Other debtors	-	4,315
Prepayments and accrued income	30,283	34,437
	<u>72,599</u>	<u>65,050</u>

13. CASH AT BANK & IN HAND

	2023	2022
	£	£
Reserve Accounts	45,797	6,723
Current Accounts	48,123	21,747
Cash in Hand	661	519
	<u>94,580</u>	<u>28,989</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 August 2023

14. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade Creditors	27,707	44,679
Amounts owed to Group undertakings	-	58,924
Accruals & Deferred Income	73,213	65,113
Taxation and Social Security	25,951	30,723
Other Creditors	1,022	1,525
	<u>127,893</u>	<u>200,964</u>

Included in accruals and deferred income of £73,213 (2022: £65,113) is deferred income of:

	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income brought forward	4,260	5,552
Income released in the year	(80,334)	(18,037)
Amounts added in the year	83,184	16,745
Deferred income carried forward	<u>7,110</u>	<u>4,260</u>

15. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS

	Balance at 01/09/2022 £	Movement in Resources		Transfers Between Funds £	Gains on Revaluation Fixed Assets £	Balance at 31/08/2023 £
		Incoming £	Outgoing £			
15a. Restricted Funds						
Business Enterprises	2,000	1,415	(3,415)	-	-	-
Neal Street Espresso	-	5,841	(5,841)	-	-	-
Apprentice Funding	-	29,882	(80,583)	50,701	-	-
	<u>2,000</u>	<u>37,138</u>	<u>(89,839)</u>	<u>50,701</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
15b. Unrestricted Funds						
General Fund	42,831	1,393,717	(1,078,212)	(307,936)	-	50,400
Designated Funds						
- Revaluation Reserve	1,123,019	-	-	-	-	1,123,019
- Future Projects	2,220,623	-	-	257,235	-	2,477,858
	<u>3,386,473</u>	<u>1,393,717</u>	<u>(1,078,212)</u>	<u>(50,701)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,651,277</u>
	<u>3,388,473</u>	<u>1,430,855</u>	<u>(1,168,051)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,651,277</u>

This year the Trustees have set aside a further £257,235 (2022: £184,172). The aim is to ensure Future Projects are the equivalent of the Net Book Value of Tangible Fixed assets and Investment Properties, to be used for future projects, arising over the next five years

During the year £19,243 (2022: £27,613) was received by way of personal support for employees who work in Unrestricted areas of ministry. The gifts received have been fully utilised by way of a contribution to the salaries and associated costs of the individual employees specifically supported.

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 August 2023

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Tangible Fixed Assets £	Intangible Assets / Investments £	Net Current Assets £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Restricted Funds					
Business Enterprises	-	-	-	-	2,000
	-	-	-	-	2,000
Unrestricted Funds	54,496	3,546,381	50,401	3,651,277	3,386,473
	<u>54,496</u>	<u>3,546,381</u>	<u>50,401</u>	<u>3,651,277</u>	<u>3,388,473</u>

17. PENSIONS

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme on behalf of its employees. All contributions due have been fully paid.

18. CONTINGENCIES

The Trustees have confirmed that there were no contingent liabilities which should be disclosed at 31 August 2023 (2022: £Nil).

19. RELATED PARTIES

The Message Trust (Parent Charity – registered charity number 1081467 and company limited by guarantee, registered in the UK with company number 03961183) sold goods and services to the value of £13,308 (2022: £16,921) at cost to The Message Enterprise Centre during the year. The Message Enterprise Centre sold goods and services to the value of £207,545 (2022: £157,523) at cost to The Message Trust (Parent Charity) during the year. Appropriate expenses totalling £85,847 in 2023 (2022: £85,264) (wages, premises costs, etc) were recharged from The Message Trust (Parent Charity) to The Message Enterprise Centre at cost. The Message Enterprise Centre paid £30,000 (2022: £30,000) in rent to The Message Trust, whilst The Message Trust paid £87,924 (2022: £48,720) in rent to The Message Enterprise Centre for the School of Evangelism students' accommodation and the Community Grocery Distribution Hub in property which is owned by The Message Enterprise Centre for rental purposes. The Message Trust donated £312,612 (2022: £450,437) to The Message Enterprise Centre for general funds and future Message Enterprise projects, to enable the charity to continue to meet the needs of its existing apprentices and new trainees. As at 31 August 2023, The Message Trust owed The Message Enterprise Centre £2,184. (2022: £58,924).

The Message Trust and The Message Enterprise Centre share the same Trustees and Executive directors. Consolidated accounts for the group are available from the Charity Commission or Companies House website.

Collectively the Trustees and their related party companies including gift aid gave £2,168 to The Message Enterprise (2022: £8,031).

THE MESSAGE ENTERPRISE CENTRE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDING 31 August 2023

20. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At the year end the total of future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	Land and Buildings		Other	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Not later than one year	66,077	31,318	-	-
Later than one year and not later than five years	75,000	75,000	1,822	-

21. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

The Trustees have confirmed that there were no capital commitments at 31 August 2023 £Nil.

22. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT

	At 01/09/2022	Cashflows	At 31/08/2023
	£	£	£
Cash	28,989	65,592	94,581
	<u>28,989</u>	<u>65,592</u>	<u>94,581</u>