

TRANSFORMING LIVES TOGETHER

England & Wales · Charity number 1157348

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [08419285](#)

Registered 2014-06-06

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 30 St. Werburgh Street
Chester
CH1 2DY

Phone 01244324756

Email admin@tltogether.org.uk

Website <http://www.tltogether.org.uk/>

Activities

Objects: THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS ARE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC:1. TO PROMOTE THE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF CHRISTIAN BASED CHARITIES IN THE FURTHERANCE OF THEIR OBJECTS OR ANY ONE OF THEM, MAINLY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY, BY THE PROVISION OF INFORMATION, ADVICE, SUPPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROVISION; AND2. THE RELIEF OF FINANCIAL HARDSHIP, EITHER GENERALLY OR INDIVIDUALLY, THROUGH THEPROVISION OF GRANTS, GOODS OR SERVICES.

Activities: Transforming Lives Together (TLT) is about enabling churches to make a greater contribution to the spiritual and social transformation of communities. TLT has been set up jointly by the Diocese of Chester and the Church Urban Fund and is a registered company and registered charity. It is part of Church Urban Fund?s Together Network of similar joint ventures around England.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Cheshire East
- Cheshire West & Chester
- Derbyshire
- Flintshire
- Manchester City
- Warrington
- Wirral

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£91,750	£61,151	-	-
2023-12-31	£70,531	£73,929	-	-
2022-12-31	£107,847	£91,921	-	-
2021-12-31	£69,900	£29,895	-	-
2020-12-31	£27,855	£53,473	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Anne Victoria Wells		2018-01-01
Myrtle Lacey		2019-07-04
Rev Andrew Knight		2019-01-16
Rev Christina Upton		2018-06-14
Rev Margaret Jones		2020-06-10
Revd Canon Dr Anthony James Lees-Smith		2025-01-08

TRANSFORMING LIVES TOGETHER

England & Wales - Charity number 1157348

Accounts

Transforming Lives Together

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements
Year ended:
31st December 2024

Company Number: 08419285

Charity Number: 1157348

Transforming Lives Together

Board of Trustees during the Year to 31st December 2024

Victoria Wells

Rev Christina Phoebe Upton

Rev Dr Andrew Knight

Myrtle Lacey

Rev Dr Margaret Jones

Rev Catherine Cleghorn (appointed 12 June 2024)

Canon Jane Brooke (resigned 7 January 2024)

Kath Leigh (resigned 4 January 2025)

Company Secretary

Victoria Wells

Registered Office

Chester Cathedral

9 Abbey Square

Chester

CH1 2HU

Amended on 2 January 2025 to

30 Werburgh Street

Chester

CH1 2DY

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Year ended 31st December 2024

The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year to 31st December 2023. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) Accounting and Reporting by Charities in preparing the Annual Report and financial statements of the charitable company, which also comply with the charity's governing document and applicable law.

The Charity

Transforming Lives Together (TLT) is constituted as a Company Limited by Guarantee and not having a share capital. The company is registered with Companies House in England and Wales – number 08419285. The principal governing document is the Company Memorandum and Articles of Association. The charity is registered with the Charity Commission – number 1157348.

Objects

The charity's objects are for the benefit of the public:

- To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of Christian based charities in the furtherance of their objects or any one of them, mainly but not exclusively, by the promotion of information, advice, support and infrastructure provision; and
- The relief of financial hardship, either generally or individually, through the provision of grants, goods or services.

Activities and Performance

TLT operates within the geographical area covered by the Diocese of Chester, which includes parts of 11 Local Authority areas including Halton, Wirral, Tameside, Cheshire East, Trafford, Stockport, Warrington, Cheshire West & Chester, Flintshire, Manchester and Wrexham.

This is a very diverse area of over 1000 square miles, which includes dense urban populations, rural heartlands and prosperous suburbs, and has a population of 1.6 million people.

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Year ended 31st December 2024 continued

Who We Are

TLT is a locally based 'faith in action', people-driven, passionate advocate for social justice. We aim to bring people together by stimulating and supporting church social action to help communities flourish and thrive in the Chester Diocese.

We are an independent charity working with Chester Cathedral and Chester Diocese with whom we have a creative and effective partnership meeting our joint aims of physical and spiritual transformation. TLT is also part of the Church Urban Fund Together Network of related faith-based charities across England, linked by faith and driven to tackle poverty, loneliness and social inequality.

What We Do

Outreach work is made possible by focussing on Asset Based Community Development. This encourages local churches to engage with their communities by knowing who they are and responding to local social needs. These fulfil our aim to bring about community engagement and change through mobilisation of people within local churches over the diverse urban and rural diocesan footprint.

In generating church and people-led social action we especially work to respond to food poverty and social isolation issues. Our projects strengthen children's wellbeing, family resilience and bring diverse communities together; combatting child holiday hunger and adult loneliness. We build meaningful relationships between people and their communities, fostering stronger bonds and supportive social networks. Inspired by our Christian values, all the projects and services we provide in communities are open to people from all backgrounds, regardless of their beliefs.

Why We Do It

TLT does its charitable work because it wants to see all people and their communities flourish and enjoy life in all its fullness, with those in poverty having a better chance of realising their unique gifts and potential. Our work is based on God's command to 'Love thy neighbour'.

In setting out our objectives and planning our activities, the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Year ended 31st December 2024 continued

Our Vision

To transform lives and communities through the work of every church across our region, working in and alongside their local community, by tackling poverty in all its forms. TLT aims to inspire, equip and enable churches to tackle poverty, loneliness and social inequality through social action projects and thus enable communities to thrive.

Our Aims

Our aims are to achieve the Vision by:

- partnering with churches to catalyse a movement to tackle poverty, loneliness and social inequality
- providing a framework for good practice
- building relationships with churches and other organisations and charities to foster local engagement within communities

This how we intend to meet our Aims:

- provide long term and sustainable partnerships and guidance for churches and Christians working alongside people profoundly affected by poverty
- enable churches to recognise and utilise the community assets available to them
- assist churches in accessing funds which encourages self-sustainability
- enable churches to articulate and celebrate what they are doing
- use the diversity within the diocese to connect church communities to encounter each other and work collaboratively
- provide access to resources, for example for theological reflection, and tool kits that equip churches for action
- enable access to training courses, for example mental health awareness or food safety
- raise awareness of poverty by providing information about the nature and impact of poverty and sharing stories of transformation and models of good practice
- be an advocate for churches and tell the truth about poverty and wealth and promote a new way of living and acting

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Year ended 31st December 2024 continued

Summary of Work in 2024

The community workers and trustees have been successful in applying for several grants this year, importantly given the current climate some of these grants (£27,500) have been for core funding. Other grants have been awarded enabling us to carry out our work in the community.

In October 2024, 44 attendees from across the Chester Diocese represented 17 of our Places of Welcome gathered for a celebration of the work at Chester Cathedral.

In the summer of 2024 we organised Emergency First Aid Training, equipping 24 Place of Welcome volunteers to better support the safety and well-being of the communities and congregations that they serve.

In the Autumn of 2024, we arranged training in Trauma Awareness and Trauma Informed Practice. The course offered practical tools for recognising and responding to trauma within community contexts, helping individuals and churches become more compassionate and trauma-informed spaces.

We have continued to visit our growing number of Places of Welcome, and Filling the Gap projects tackling hunger in the school holidays. These visits offered encouragement and advice on community outreach, Asset Based Community Development and Engaging Faith, and shared the Church Urban Fund's 'Growing Good' course on community outreach and our prayer resources. We have continued to offer workshops and training to our many Places of Welcome and Filling the Gap volunteers, from active listening skills and dementia awareness to food and hygiene qualifications.

We have been working on arranging an inaugural Rural Community Networking Event to be held in February 2025 to consider how we can work together to tackle poverty and isolation in rural areas.

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Year ended 31st December 2024 continued

Finance Review

Our anonymous principal donor gave £25,000 and a charitable Christian trust donated £10,000 and we won an award for two year's Lottery funding of £10,000 per year which together with several other unrestricted donations, made a total of £77,306. Other restricted funds of £14,444 were received and along with funds received late in 2024 these monies were distributed to food banks and similar organisations for the relief of food poverty and to support social loneliness and mental health issues. The Trustees continue to look for other sources of funding to ensure the stability of the charity.

Directors' Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare Financial Statements each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare Financial Statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the Financial Statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

1. Make suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
2. Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
3. Prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business;

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that Financial Statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking responsible steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Small Company Exemptions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the Small Companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006. This report was approved by the Board on 10 September 2025 and signed on their behalf.

Signed by: Rev. Dr Andrew Knight
Chair: 10 September 2025

Transforming Lives Together

Statement of Financial Activities

(including Income and Expenditure account)

For the Year ended 31st December:

		2024	2023
		£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Grants and Donations	note 4	91,750	70,531
Total Incoming Resources		91,750	70,531
RESOURCES EXPENDED			
Cost of charitable activities	note 5	61,151	73,929
Total Expended Resources		61,151	73,929
Net (Deficit)/ Income for the Year		30,599	(3,398)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>30,599</u>	<u>(3,398)</u>
Total Funds at 1 st January 2024		<u>52,691</u>	52,691
Total Funds at 31 st December 2024		<u>83,290</u>	<u>52,691</u>

Transforming Lives Together

Balance Sheet As at 31st December

	2024 £	2023 £
Current Assets		
Cash at Bank and in hand	98,025	59,966
Prepayments note 6	120	-
Current Liabilities		
Creditors – falling due within one year note 7	4,855	7,275
Net Current Assets	93,290	52,691
Net Assets	<u>93,290</u>	<u>52,691</u>
FUNDS		
Unrestricted Funds	83,290	51,090
Restricted Funds	10,000	1,601
Total Funds	<u>93,290</u>	<u>52,691</u>

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of these financial statements.

For the year ended 31st December 2024, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Responsibilities of directors/trustees:

1. The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
2. The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the Board of Directors and Trustees on 10 September 2025 and signed on their behalf:

Signed by: Rev. Dr Andrew Knight
Chair: 10 September 2025

Transforming Lives Together

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31st December 2024

1. Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are prepared on the historical cost and accruals basis of accounting. The financial statements are also prepared in accordance with the applicable Accounting Standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities".

2. Accounting Policies

a. Grants and Donations

All incoming funds are only included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. All grants that are restricted are spent in the financial year or included within creditors.

b. Resources Expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. Governance costs are those costs incurred in connection with the compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

c. Unrestricted Funds

Current funds under management are all unrestricted.

d. Restricted Funds

All grants that are restricted are spent in the financial year or included within creditors.

3. Company Limited by Guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital.

4. Grants and Donations

	2024	2023
	£	£
Grants unrestricted	27,500	0
Grants restricted	14,444	28,522
Donations	49,806	40,148
Gift Aid refund	<u>0</u>	<u>1,861</u>
	<u>91,750</u>	<u>70,531</u>

Transforming Lives Together

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31st December 2024

5. Cost of Charitable Activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Distribution of Donations	18,341	30,812
Training and Charitable events	368	1,806
Employee Salaries	39,010	37,422
Employee travel and subsistence	2,327	2,613
Office and administration costs	<u>1,105</u>	<u>1,276</u>
	<u>61,151</u>	<u>73,929</u>

The TLT staff are employees of Chester Cathedral.
The Cathedral charges TLT for the cost of their employment but does not charge any administration fee.

6. Current Assets

	2024	2023
	£	£
Prepayment	<u>120</u>	<u>-</u>

7. Current Liabilities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Training and Donations	1,000	1,601
Employee Salaries and expenses	<u>3,855</u>	<u>5,674</u>
	<u>4,855</u>	<u>7,275</u>

Current Liabilities include salaries and staff expenses unpaid at the year end.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees and Directors of Transforming Lives Together for the Year ended 31st December 2024

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 144 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145 of the 2011 Act) and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed by: Sally-Anne Heaford
Dated: 29 September 2025

TRANSFORMING LIVES TOGETHER

England & Wales - Charity number 1157348

Accounts

Transforming Lives Together

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements
Year ended:
31st December 2023

Company Number: 08419285

Charity Number: 1157348

Transforming Lives Together

Board of Trustees during the Year to 31st December 2023

Venerable Ian Bishop Victoria Wells	(resigned 16 th May 2023)
Rev Christina Phoebe Upton Rev Dr Andrew Knight	(appointed Chair 27 th June 2023)
Myrtle Lacey Rev Dr Margaret Jones	(appointed Vice Chair 27 th June 2023)
Canon Jane Brooke Kath Leigh	(resigned 7 January 2024)
Rev Catherine Cleghorn	(appointed 12 June 2024)

Company Secretary

Victoria Wells

Registered Office

Chester Cathedral
9 Abbey Square
Chester
CH1 2HU

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Year ended 31st December 2023

The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year to 31st December 2023. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) Accounting and Reporting by Charities in preparing the Annual Report and financial statements of the charitable company, which also comply with the charity's governing document and applicable law.

The Charity

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Objects

The charity's objects are for the benefit of the public:

- To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of Christian based charities in the furtherance of their objects or any one of them, mainly but not exclusively, by the promotion of information, advice, support and infrastructure provision; and
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Activities and Performance

TLT operates within the geographical area covered by the Diocese of Chester, which includes parts of 11 Local Authority areas including Halton, Wirral, Tameside, Cheshire East, Trafford, Stockport, Warrington, Cheshire West & Chester, Flintshire, Manchester and Wrexham.

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Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Year ended 31st December 2023 continued

Who We Are

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We are an independent charity working with Chester Cathedral and Chester Diocese with whom we have a creative and effective partnership meeting our joint aims of physical and spiritual transformation. TLT is also part of the Church Urban Fund Together Network of related faith-based charities across England, linked by faith and driven to tackle poverty, loneliness and social inequality. Being part of the Together Network gives national support to local action, helping to link churches and other community organisations by providing resources, signposting and support.

What We Do

Outreach work is made possible by focussing on Asset Based Community Development (ABCD). This encourages local churches to engage with their communities by knowing who they are and responding to local social needs. These fulfil our aim to bring about community engagement and change through mobilisation of people within local churches over the diverse urban and rural diocesan footprint.

In generating church and people-led social action we especially work to respond to food poverty and social isolation issues. Our projects strengthen children's wellbeing, family resilience and bring diverse communities together; combatting child holiday hunger and adult loneliness. We build meaningful relationships between people and their communities, fostering stronger bonds and supportive social networks. Inspired by our Christian values, all the projects and services we provide in communities are open to people from all backgrounds, regardless of their beliefs.

Why We Do It

TLT does its charitable work because it wants to see all people and their communities flourish and enjoy life in all its fullness, with those in poverty having a better chance of realising their unique gifts and potential. Our work is based on God's command to 'Love thy neighbour'.

In setting out our objectives and planning our activities, the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Year ended 31st December 2023 continued

Our Vision

To transform lives and communities through the work of every church across our region, working in and alongside their local community, by tackling poverty in all its forms. TLT aims to inspire, equip and enable churches to tackle poverty, loneliness and social inequality through social action projects and thus enable communities to thrive.

Our Aims

Our aims are to achieve the Vision by:

- partnering with churches to catalyse a movement to tackle poverty, loneliness and social inequality
- providing a framework for good practice
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This how we intend to meet our Aims:

- provide long term and sustainable partnerships and guidance for churches and Christians working alongside people profoundly affected by poverty
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- assist churches in accessing funds which encourages self-sustainability
- enable churches to articulate and celebrate what they are doing
- use the diversity within the diocese to connect church communities to encounter each other and work collaboratively
- provide access to resources, for example for theological reflection, and tool kits that equip churches for action
- enable access to training courses, for example mental health awareness or food safety
- raise awareness of poverty by providing information about the nature and impact of poverty and sharing stories of transformation and models of good practice
- be an advocate for churches and tell the truth about poverty and wealth and promote a new way of living and acting

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Year ended 31st December 2023 continued

Summary of Work carried out in 2023

In 2023 our projects grew in number and diversity, as our volunteers grew in confidence and experience, and our Board of Trustees shared its passion and expertise. We are building on the firm foundations of the last 10 years, meeting the growing challenges of today. We used the ten year anniversary celebration in October to thank our volunteers for their hard work commitment and compassion for our neighbourhoods.

TLT have worked with 61 churches this year 29 of which were new to us. Most were Anglican but there were also other denominations including Methodist, Salvation Army, United Reform Church.

Working with them we covered:

- Human Trafficking training
- Mental Health First Aid training
- Brakes Meals and More funding for Filling the Gap
- Real Conversations Growing Good projects

In addition to these events and initiatives we set up new and continued to support existing 'Places of Welcome' and 'Filling the Gap' provisions.

'Places of Welcome' are part of a national network of over 600 spaces in churches and other buildings offering an unconditional welcome to local people to connect and contribute for few hours each week, building mutual support and community resilience, as well as connecting visitors to local services and advice.

'Filling the Gap' is a network of churches delivering food and activities during the school holidays, enabling children and families to eat healthy food and play together, notably children who would usually be in receipt of free school meals in term time.

During the year we have worked in partnership with

- British Red Cross to help us deliver Human Trafficking training
- BeWell supported the Mental Health First Aid training
- Citizens Advice Cheshire to promote energy advice workshops available free to churches
- Greater Together Manchester and the Church Urban Fund on a 'Real Conversations' initiative. Participants were asked to identify good things about their local area and areas for improvement. The information gathered was fed back to policy and decision makers.

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Year ended 31st December 2023 continued

Finance Review

Our principal donor gave £25,000 and a charitable Christian trust donated £10,000 which together with several other unrestricted donations, made a total of £44,008. Other restricted funds of £8,522 were received and along with funds received late in 2022 these monies were distributed to food banks and similar organisations for the relief of food poverty and to support social loneliness and mental health issues. The trustees continue to look for other sources of funding to ensure the stability of the charity.

Directors' Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare Financial Statements each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare Financial Statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the Financial Statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

1. Make suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
2. Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
3. Prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business;

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that Financial Statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking responsible steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Small Company Exemptions

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

This report was approved by the Board on 22 October 2024 and signed on their behalf.

Signed by: Rev'd Andrew Knight 22/10/24

Chair

Transforming Lives Together

Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure account)

For the Year ended 31st December:

		2023	2022
		£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Grants and Donations	note 4	70,531	107,847
Total Incoming Resources		70,531	107,847
RESOURCES EXPENDED			
Cost of charitable activities	note 5	73,929	91,921
Total Expended Resources		73,929	91,921
Net (Deficit)/ Income for the Year		(3,398)	15,926
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(3,398)	15,926
Total Funds at 1 st January 2023		<u>56,089</u>	40,163
Total Funds at 31 st December 2023		<u>52,691</u>	<u>56,089</u>

Transforming Lives Together

Balance Sheet

As at 31st December

	2023 £	2022 £
Current Assets		
Cash at Bank and in hand	59,966	75,047
Current Liabilities		
Creditors – falling due within one year note 6	7,275	18,958
Net Current Assets	52,691	56,089
Net Assets	<u>52,691</u>	<u>56,089</u>
FUNDS		
Unrestricted Funds	51,090	42,705
Restricted Funds	1,601	13,384
Total Funds	<u>52,691</u>	<u>56,089</u>

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of these financial statements.

For the year ended 31st December 2023, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Responsibilities of directors/trustees:

1. The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
2. The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the Board of Directors and Trustees on 22 October 2024 and signed on their behalf:

Rev'd Andrew Knight
Chair

22/10/24

Transforming Lives Together

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31st December 2023

1. Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are prepared on the historical cost and accruals basis of accounting. The financial statements are also prepared in accordance with the applicable Accounting Standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities".

2. Accounting Policies

a. Grants and Donations

All incoming funds are only included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. All grants that are restricted are spent in the financial year or included within creditors.

b. Resources Expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. Governance costs are those costs incurred in connection with the compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

c. Unrestricted Funds

Current funds under management are all unrestricted.

d. Restricted Funds

All grants that are restricted are spent in the financial year or included within creditors.

3. Company Limited by Guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital.

4. Grants and Donations

	2023	2022
	£	£
Grants unrestricted	0	4,700
Grants restricted	20,000	62,732
Donations	48,670	40,415
Gift Aid refund	<u>1,861</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>70,531</u>	<u>107,847</u>

Transforming Lives Together

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31st December 2023

5. Cost of Charitable Activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Distribution of Donations	30,812	61,897
Employee Salaries	37,422	26,388
Employee travel and subsistence	2,613	1,716
Office and administration costs	<u>3,082</u>	<u>1,920</u>
	<u>73,929</u>	<u>91,921</u>

The TLT staff are employees of Chester Cathedral. The Cathedral charges TLT for the cost of their employment but does not charge any administration fee.

6. Current Liabilities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Grants to be Donated	1,601	13,384
Employee Salaries	<u>5,674</u>	<u>5,574</u>
	<u>7,275</u>	<u>18,958</u>

Current Liabilities include salaries unpaid at the year end and in 2022 included amounts of £13,384 that are designated for the supply of Mental Health First Aid training.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees and Directors of Transforming Lives Together for the Year ended 31st December 2023

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner	<p>The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.</p> <p>It is my responsibility to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• examine the accounts under section 144 of the 2011 Act,• to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145 of the 2011 Act) and• to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.
Basis of independent examiner's statement	<p>My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.</p>
Independent examiner's statement	<p>In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and• to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed by: Sally-Anne Heaford

Dated: 21 October 2024

TRANSFORMING LIVES TOGETHER

England & Wales - Charity number 1157348

Accounts

Transforming Lives Together

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements
Year ended:
31st December 2022

Company Number: 08419285
Charity Number: 1157348

Transforming Lives Together

Board of Trustees during the Year to 31st December 2022

Venerable Ian Bishop	(resigned 16 th May 2023)
Victoria Wells	
Rev Christina Phoebe Upton	
Rev Dr Andrew Knight	(appointed Chair 27 th June 2023)
Myrtle Lacey	
Rev Dr Margaret Jones	(appointed Vice Chair 27 th June 2023)
Canon Jane Brooke	
Kath Leigh	(appointed 6 January 2022)

Company Secretary

Victoria Wells

Registered Office

Chester Cathedral
9 Abbey Square
Chester
CH1 2HU

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Period ended 31st December 2022

The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the period to 31st December 2022. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) Accounting and Reporting by Charities in preparing the Annual Report and financial statements of the charitable company, which also comply with the charity's governing document and applicable law.

The Charity

Transforming Lives Together (TLT) is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. The company is registered with Companies House in England and Wales – number 08419285. The principal governing document is the Company Memorandum and Articles of Association. The charity is registered with the Charity Commission – number 1157348.

Objects

The charity's objects are for the benefit of the public:

- To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of Christian based charities in the furtherance of their objects or any one of them, mainly but not exclusively, by the promotion of information, advice, support and infrastructure provision; and
- The relief of financial hardship, either generally or individually, through the provision of grants, goods or services.

Activities and Performance

TLT operates within the geographical area covered by the Diocese of Chester, which includes parts of 11 local authority areas including Halton, Wirral, Tameside, Cheshire East, Trafford, Stockport, Warrington, Cheshire West & Chester, Flintshire, Manchester and Wrexham.

This is a very diverse area of over 1000 square miles, which includes dense urban populations, rural heartlands and prosperous suburbs, and has a population of 1.6 million people.

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Period ended 31st December 2022 continued

Who We Are

Transforming Lives Together is a locally based 'faith in action', people-driven, passionate advocate for social justice. We aim to bring people together by stimulating and supporting church social action to help communities flourish and thrive in the Chester Diocese.

We are an independent charity working with Chester Cathedral and Chester Diocese with whom we have a creative and effective partnerships meeting our joint aims of physical and spiritual transformation. Transforming Lives Together is also part of the Church Urban Fund Together Network of 21 related faith-based charities across England, linked by faith and driven to tackle poverty, loneliness and social inequality. Being part of the Together Network gives national support to local action, helping to link churches and other community organisations by providing resources, signposting and support.

What We Do

Outreach work is made possible by focussing on Asset Based Community Development (ABCD). This encourages local churches to engage with their communities by knowing who they are and responding to local social needs. These fulfil our aim to bring about community engagement and change through mobilisation of people within local churches over the diverse urban and rural diocesan footprint.

In generating church and people-led social action we especially work to respond to food poverty and social isolation issues. Our projects strengthen children's wellbeing, family resilience and bring diverse communities together; combating child holiday hunger and adult loneliness. We build meaningful relationships between people and their communities, fostering stronger bonds and supportive social networks. Inspired by our Christian values, all the projects and services we provide in communities are open to people from all backgrounds, regardless of their beliefs.

Why We Do It

Transforming Lives Together does its charitable work because it wants to see all people and their communities flourish and enjoy life in all its fullness, with those in poverty having a better chance of realising their unique gifts and potential. Our work is based on God's command to 'Love thy neighbour'.

In setting out our objectives and planning our activities, the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Period ended 31st December 2022 continued

Our Vision

To transform lives and communities through the work of every church across our region, working in and alongside their local community, by tackling poverty in all its forms. TLT aims to inspire, equip and enable churches to tackle poverty, loneliness and social inequality through social action projects and thus enable communities to thrive.

Our Aims

Our aims are to achieve the Vision by:

- partnering with churches to catalyse a movement to tackle poverty, loneliness and social inequality
- providing a framework for good practice
- building relationships with churches and other organisations and charities to foster local engagement within communities

This how we intend to meet our Aims:

- provide long term and sustainable partnerships and guidance for churches and Christians working alongside people profoundly affected by poverty
- enable churches to recognise and utilise the community assets available to them
- assist churches in accessing funds which encourages self-sustainability
- enable churches to articulate and celebrate what they are doing
- use the diversity within the diocese to connect church communities to encounter each other and work collaboratively
- provide access to resources, for example for theological reflection, and tool kits that equip churches for action
- enable access to training courses, for example mental health awareness or food safety
- raise awareness of poverty by providing information about the nature and impact of poverty and sharing stories of transformation and models of good practice
- be an advocate for churches and tell the truth about poverty and wealth and promote a new way of living and acting

Finance Review

After the relaunch in 2021 a second community worker was recruited in 2022. A principal donor has committed £25,000 pa which together with several other unrestricted donations, make the total of £45,115 which means the future of TLT is secured for a minimum of the next two years. Other restricted funds of £67,732 were received and distributed to food banks and similar organisations for the relief of food poverty and to support social loneliness and mental health issues. The security of the funding enabled the trustees to employ a part time administrator in 2022.

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Period ended 31st December 2022 continued

Directors' Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

1. Make suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
2. Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
3. Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business;

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking responsible steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Small Company Exemptions

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

This report was approved by the Board on 26th September 2023 and signed on their behalf.

Signed by:

Chair

Transforming Lives Together

Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure account)

For the Year ended 31st December:

		2022	2021
		£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Grants and Donations	note 4	107,847	69,900
Total Incoming Resources		107,847	69,900
RESOURCES EXPENDED			
Cost of charitable activities	note 5	91,921	29,895
Total Expended Resources		91,921	29,895
Net Income for the Year		15,926	40,005
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		15,926	40,005
Total Funds at 1 st January 2022		<u>40,163</u>	<u>158</u>
Total Funds at 31 st December 2022		<u>56,089</u>	<u>40,163</u>

Transforming Lives Together

Balance Sheet

As at 31st December

	2022 £	2021 £
Current Assets		
Cash at Bank and in hand	75,047	41,725
Current Liabilities		
Creditors – falling due within one year note 6	18,958	1,562
Net Current Assets	56,089	40,163
Net Assets	<u>56,089</u>	<u>40,163</u>
FUNDS		
Unrestricted Funds	42,705	40,163
Restricted Funds	13,384	0
Total Funds	<u>56,089</u>	<u>40,163</u>

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of these financial statements.

For the year ended 31st December 2022, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Responsibilities of directors/trustees:

1. The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
2. The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the Board of Directors and Trustees on 26th September 2023 and signed on their behalf:

Chair

Transforming Lives Together

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31st December 2022

1. Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are prepared on the historical cost and accruals basis of accounting. The financial statements are also prepared in accordance with the applicable Accounting Standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities".

2. Accounting Policies

a. Grants and Donations

All incoming funds are only included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. All grants that are restricted are spent in the financial year or included within creditors.

b. Resources Expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. Governance costs are those costs incurred in connection with the compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

c. Unrestricted Funds

Current funds under management are all unrestricted.

d. Restricted Funds

All grants that are restricted are spent in the financial year or included within creditors.

3. Company Limited by Guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital.

4. Grants and Donations

	2022	2021
	£	£
Grants unrestricted	4,700	4,000
Grants restricted	62,732	0
Donations	40,415	65,900
Gift Aid refund	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>107,847</u>	<u>69,900</u>

Transforming Lives Together

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31st December 2022

5. Cost of Charitable Activities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Distribution of Donations	61,897	12,091
Employee Salaries	26,388	15,619
Employee travel and subsistence	1,716	411
Office and administration costs	<u>1,920</u>	<u>1,774</u>
	<u>91,921</u>	<u>29,895</u>

The TLT staff are employees of Chester Cathedral. The Cathedral charges TLT for the cost of their employment but does not charge any administration fee.

6. Current Liabilities

Current Liabilities include salaries unpaid at the year end and in 2023 included amounts of £13,384 that are designated for the supply of Mental Health First Aid training.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees and Directors of Transforming Lives Together for the Year ended 31st December 2022

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.
It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 144 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145 of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed by: Sally Anne Heaton

Dated: 25/9/2023

TRANSFORMING LIVES TOGETHER

England & Wales - Charity number 1157348

Accounts

Transforming Lives Together

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements
Year ended:
31st December 2021

Company Number: 08419285
Charity Number: 1157348

Transforming Lives Together

Board of Trustees during the Year to 31st December 2021

Venerable Ian Bishop

Victoria Wells

Rev Christina Phoebe Upton

Rev Dr Andrew Knight

Myrtle Lacey

Rev Dr Margaret Jones

Canon Jane Brooke

Mr Corniel Quak-Winslow

(resigned 20 October 2021)

Kath Leigh

(appointed 6 January 2022)

Company Secretary

Victoria Wells

Registered Office

Chester Cathedral

9 Abbey Square

Chester

CH1 2HU

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Period ended 31st December 2021

The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the period to 31st December 2021. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) Accounting and Reporting by Charities in preparing the Annual Report and financial statements of the charitable company, which also comply with the charity's governing document and applicable law.

The Charity

Transforming Lives Together (TLT) is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. The company is registered with Companies House in England and Wales – number 08419285. The principal governing document is the Company Memorandum and Articles of Association. The charity is registered with the Charity Commission – number 1157348.

For the period covered by these accounts the charity is a joint venture between the Church Urban Fund (CUF) and the Chester Diocesan Board of Finance.

Objects

The charity's objects are for the benefit of the public:

- To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of Christian based charities in the furtherance of their objects or any one of them, mainly but not exclusively, by the promotion of information, advice, support and infrastructure provision; and
- The relief of financial hardship, either generally or individually, through the provision of grants, goods or services.

Activities and Performance

TLT operates within the geographical area covered by the Diocese of Chester, which spans the Victorian county of Cheshire and includes Wirral, parts of Greater Manchester and the edges of Flintshire and Derbyshire. This is a very diverse area of over 1000 square miles, which includes dense urban populations, rural heartlands and prosperous suburbs, and has a population of 1.6 million people.

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Period ended 31st December 2021 continued

TLT works with similar ventures in the Together Network around England, all of which are working to transform the lives of the poorest and most marginalised. In setting out our objectives and planning our activities, the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Outreach work is made possible by focussing on Asset Based Community Development (ABCD). This encourages local churches to engage with their communities by knowing who they are and responding to local social needs. These fulfil our aim to bring about community engagement and change through mobilisation of people within local churches over the diverse urban and rural diocesan footprint.

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Period ended 31st December 2020 continued

Our Vision

To transform lives and communities through every church in every community tackling poverty.

Our Aims

Our aims are to achieve the Vision by:

- partnering with churches to catalyse a movement to tackle poverty and loneliness
- providing a framework for good practice
- building relationships with churches and other organisations and charities to foster local engagement within communities.

This how we intend to meet our Aims:

- provide long term and sustainable partnerships and guidance for churches and Christians working alongside people profoundly affected by poverty
- enable churches to recognise and utilise the community assets available to them
- enable churches to articulate and celebrate what they're doing
- use the diversity within the diocese to connect church communities to encounter each other and work collaboratively
- provide resources, for example for theological reflection, and tool kits that equip churches for action.
- raise awareness of poverty by providing information about the nature and impact of poverty and sharing stories of transformation and models of good practice.
- advocate for churches and tell the truth about poverty and wealth and promote a new way of living and acting.

Finance Review

Having started the year with little in the bank account the promised donation arrived mid January and TLT was able to relaunch and recruit a community worker. Several other unrestricted donations, making the total over £50,000, were also received which meant our future was secured for a minimum of the next three years. Other restricted funds of £15,500 were received and distributed to food banks and similar organisations for the relief of food poverty.

The security of the funding has enabled the trustees to consider employing a second community worker in 2022.

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Period ended 31st December 2021 continued

Directors' Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

1. Make suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
2. Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
3. Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business;

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking responsible steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Small Company Exemptions

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

This report was approved by the Board on xxx and signed on their behalf.
Signed by:

Ven Ian Bishop
Chair

Transforming Lives Together

Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure account)

For the Year ended 31st December:

		2021	2020
		£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Grants and Donations	note 4	69,900	27,855
Total Incoming Resources		69,900	27,855
RESOURCES EXPENDED			
Cost of charitable activities	note 5	29,895	53,473
Total Expended Resources		29,895	53,473
Net Income/(Deficit) for the Year		40,005	(25,218)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		40,005	(25,218)
Total Funds at 1st January 2021		<u>158</u>	<u>25,776</u>
Total Funds at 31st December 2021		<u>40,163</u>	<u>158</u>

Transforming Lives Together

Balance Sheet As at 31st December

	2021 £	2020 £
Current Assets		
Cash at Bank and in hand	41,725	158
Current Liabilities		
Creditors – falling due within one year	1,562	0
Net Current Assets	40,163	158
Net Assets	<u>40,163</u>	<u>158</u>
FUNDS		
Unrestricted Funds	40,163	158
Total Funds	<u>40,163</u>	<u>158</u>

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of these financial statements.

For the year ended 31st December 2021, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Responsibilities of directors/trustees:

1. The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
2. The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the Board of Directors and Trustees on XXXXX and signed on their behalf:

Ven Ian Bishop
Chair

Transforming Lives Together

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31st December 2021

1. Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are prepared on the historical cost and accruals basis of accounting. The financial statements are also prepared in accordance with the applicable Accounting Standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities".

2. Accounting Policies

a. Grants and Donations

All incoming funds are only included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

b. Resources Expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. Governance costs are those costs incurred in connection with the compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

c. Unrestricted Funds

Current funds under management are all unrestricted.

3. Company Limited by Guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital.

4. Grants and Donations

	2021 £	2020 £
Grant from Church Urban Fund	4,000	3,750
Donations	65,900	22,900
Gift Aid refund	<u>0</u>	<u>1,205</u>
	<u>69,900</u>	<u>33,926</u>

5. Cost of Charitable Activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Distribution of Donations	13,091	20,900
Employee Salaries	15,619	31,496
Employee travel and subsistence	411	541
Office and administration costs	<u>1,774</u>	<u>536</u>
	<u>39,895</u>	<u>53,473</u>

Employees salaries in 2020 include redundancy pay

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees and Directors of Transforming Lives Together for the Year ended 31st December 2021

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner	<p>The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.</p> <p>It is my responsibility to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• examine the accounts under section 144 of the 2011 Act,• to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145 of the 2011 Act, and• to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.
Basis of independent examiner's statement	<p>My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.</p>
Independent examiner's statement	<p>In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and• to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed by:

Dated:

TRANSFORMING LIVES TOGETHER

England & Wales - Charity number 1157348

Accounts

Transforming Lives Together

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements

Year ended:

31st December 2020

Company Number: 08419285

Charity Number: 1157348

Transforming Lives Together

Board of Trustees during the Year to 31st December 2020

Venerable Ian Bishop

Ms Sibylle Eva Nothhelfer-Batten (resigned 19 February 2020)

Victoria Wells

Mr Corniel Quak-Winslow (resigned 20 October 2021)

Rev Christina Phoebe Upton

Rev Dr Andrew Knight

Myrtle Lacey

Rev Dr Margaret Jones (appointed 7 September 2020)

Canon Jane Brooke (appointed 4 December 2020)

Company Secretary

Victoria Wells

Registered Office

Chester Cathedral

9 Abbey Square

Chester

CH1 2HU

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Period ended 31st December 2020

The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the period to 31st December 2020. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) Accounting and Reporting by Charities in preparing the Annual Report and financial statements of the charitable company, which also comply with the charity's governing document and applicable law.

The Charity

Transforming Lives Together (TLT) is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. The company is registered with Companies House in England and Wales – number 08419285. The principal governing document is the Company Memorandum and Articles of Association as amended after the end of this accounting year on 14 January 2021. The charity is registered with the Charity Commission – number 1157348.

For the period covered by these accounts the charity is a joint venture between the Church Urban Fund (CUF) and the Chester Diocesan Board of Finance.

Objects

The charity's objects are for the benefit of the public:

- To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of Christian based charities in the furtherance of their objects or any one of them, mainly but not exclusively, by the promotion of information, advice, support and infrastructure provision; and
- The relief of financial hardship, either generally or individually, through the provision of grants, goods or services.

Activities and Performance

TLT operates within the geographical area covered by the Diocese of Chester, which spans the Victorian county of Cheshire and includes Wirral, parts of Greater Manchester and the edges of Flintshire and Derbyshire. This is a very diverse area of over 1000 square miles, which includes dense urban populations, rural heartlands and prosperous suburbs, and has a population of 1.6 million people.

TLT is part of Church Urban Fund's Together Network of similar joint ventures around England, which are working to transform the lives of the poorest and most marginalised.

In setting out our objectives and planning our activities, the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Period ended 31st December 2020 continued

Outreach work is made possible by focussing on Asset Based Community Development (ABCD). This encourages local churches to engage with their communities by knowing who they are and responding to local social needs. These fulfil our aim to bring about community engagement and change through mobilisation of people within local churches over the diverse urban and rural diocesan footprint.

During 2020 the work of TLT was facilitated by the employment of one part-time worker. In 2019 our aim was to continue to develop the objectives we set ourselves and to making a real difference as we bring people together to engage across communities, however this was deflected slightly as the work undertaken was overwhelmingly dominated by the Covid pandemic. Applications for funding resulted in £20,900 being distributed throughout the diocese. In addition to donations from individuals and churches we received the majority of this money from the Albert Gubay Charitable Foundation Forever Manchester, Action Tameside, the Steve Morgan Foundation and the Cheshire Community Fund.

We have recently made improvements in our communications and social media which was particularly important during the pandemic as everyone was forced to isolate.

We are very thankful that so many people volunteered and at times put themselves at risk of infection in order to deliver the much needed food parcels and school meals. In order to do this in a safe and socially distant manner many places had to become creative and change the way they had delivered food in the past.

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Period ended 31st December 2020 continued

Our Vision

To transform lives and communities through every church in every community tackling poverty.

Our Aims

Our aims are to achieve the Vision by:

- partnering with churches to catalyse a movement to tackle poverty and loneliness
- providing a framework for good practice
- building relationships with churches and other organisations and charities to foster local engagement within communities.

This how we intend to meet our Aims:

- provide long term and sustainable partnerships and guidance for churches and Christians working alongside people profoundly affected by poverty
- enable churches to recognise and utilise the community assets available to them
- enable churches to articulate and celebrate what they're doing
- use the diversity within the diocese to connect church communities to encounter each other and work collaboratively
- provide resources, for example for theological reflection, and tool kits that equip churches for action.
- raise awareness of poverty by providing information about the nature and impact of poverty and sharing stories of transformation and models of good practice.
- advocate for churches and tell the truth about poverty and wealth and promote a new way of living and acting.

Finance Review

Until 2020 the main funding source for Transforming Lives Together has been from the Church Urban Fund (CUF). However during 2019, CUF decided to withdraw funding and were only able to provide a grant of £3,750. As a result of this the trustees had to make the difficult decision to make the community worker redundant at the end of 2020.

There was an excess of expenditure over income of £25,618 for the year. This was funded from reserves brought forward.

The year was focussed on the effect the Covid pandemic had on our communities and funds of £27,855 were raised. £20,900 was distributed to relieve food poverty in the Diocese.

It is to the credit of the community worker that this was achieved despite the threat of the winding up of the charity

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Period ended 31st December 2020 continued

Post Balance sheet event

As a result of losing the CUF funding and being unable to access other funds, the directors considered it was going to be necessary to move to the responsible winding up of the charity. Following this decision notice of redundancy was issued to the community worker 17 September 2020 making her last day 26 November 2020.

However in December 2020 an anonymous donor agreed to provide annual funding over the following three years. The first of these donations was received in January 2021. The directors have agreed to pursue other sources of funding in order to ensure the longevity of the charity.

This funding enabled the charity to continue. With the legal support of CUF the companies within the Together Network were reorganised and are no longer joint ventures. New Articles of Association were adopted on 14 January 2021. There is a maximum of nine Trustees who are also company members, one being the CUF representative and one is the Chester Diocese representative.

Transforming Lives Together

Trustees' Report for the Period ended 31st December 2020 continued

Directors' Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

1. Make suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
2. Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
3. Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business;

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking responsible steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Small Company Exemptions

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

This report was approved by the Board on 12 November 2021 and signed on their behalf.

Signed by:

Ven Ian Bishop
Chair

Transforming Lives Together

Statement of Financial Activities

(including Income and Expenditure account)

For the Year ended 31st December:

		2020	2019
		£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Grants and Donations	note 4	27,855	33,926
Total Incoming Resources		27,855	33,926
RESOURCES EXPENDED			
Cost of charitable activities	note 5	53,473	29,476
Total Expended Resources		53,473	29,476
Net (Deficit) / Income for the Year		(25,618)	4,450
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(25,618)	4,450
Total Funds at 1st January 2020		<u>25,776</u>	<u>21,326</u>
Total Funds at 31st December 2020		<u>158</u>	<u>25,776</u>

Transforming Lives Together

Balance Sheet

As at 31st December

	2020 £	2019 £
Current Assets		
Cash at Bank and in hand	158	25,776
	<u>158</u>	<u>25,776</u>
Current Liabilities		
Creditors – falling due within one year	0	0
Net Current Assets	158	25,776
Net Assets	<u>158</u>	<u>25,776</u>
FUNDS		
Unrestricted Funds	158	25,776
Total Funds	<u>158</u>	<u>25,776</u>

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of these financial statements.

For the year ended 31st December 2020, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Responsibilities of directors/trustees:

1. The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
2. The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the Board of Directors and Trustees on 12 November 2021 and signed on their behalf:

Ven Ian Bishop
Chair

Transforming Lives Together

Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31st December 2020

1. Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are prepared on the historical cost and accruals basis of accounting. The financial statements are also prepared in accordance with the applicable Accounting Standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities".

2. Accounting Policies

a. Grants and Donations

All incoming funds are only included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

b. Resources Expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. Governance costs are those costs incurred in connection with the compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

c. Unrestricted Funds

Current funds under management are all unrestricted.

3. Company Limited by Guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital.

4. Grants and Donations

	2020 £	2019 £
Grant from Church Urban Fund	3,750	20,000
Donations	22,900	4,626
Lottery Fund grant	0	9,300
Gift Aid refund	<u>1,205</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>27,855</u>	<u>33,926</u>

5. Cost of Charitable Activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Distribution of Donations	20,900	0
Employee Salaries	31,496	26,077
Employee travel and subsistence	541	1,609
Office and administration costs	<u>536</u>	<u>1,790</u>
	<u>53,473</u>	<u>29,476</u>

Employees salaries in 2020 include redundancy pay

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees and Directors of Transforming Lives Together for the Year ended 31st December 2020

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.
It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 144 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145 of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed by: R Dean FCA

Dated: 4 December 2021