

Charity Registration Number: 1158604

OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM
(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Year Ending 31st March 2022

OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM

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OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

Registered Charity Name	Oldham Interfaith Forum
Charity Number	1158604
Registered Office	40 Union Street West Oldham OL8 1DL
Trustees	Jitendra Bhimji Kara Rev Philip Thomas Sumner Abdul Basit Shah Ravji Patel (appointed 19/01/23) Betsy Jones (appointed 19/01/23) Rev David Austin (appointed 14/01/21) Mohammed Tufail (resigned 19/01/23) Anil Kara (resigned 05/01/21) Rev James Arthur Read (resigned 21/03/21) Rev Howard Guest Sutcliffe (resigned 19/01/23)
Chair	Ravji Patel
Vice Chair	Betsy Jones
Accountants	Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C. Foxfields 9 Norley Close Chadderton Oldham OL1 2RA
Bankers	The Co-Operative Bank PO Box 250 Delf House Southway Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2022

The trustees present their annual report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year to the 31st of March 2022.

Objects

The Forum operated informally within the Oldham Metropolitan Borough for a number of years before becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with a constitution dated 7th January 2014 and registration with the Charity Commission on 18th September 2014. Its objects are:

“the promotion of religious harmony for the public benefit by:

(a) educating the public in different religious beliefs including an awareness of their distinctive features and their common ground to promote good relations between persons of different faiths;

(b) promoting knowledge and mutual understanding and respect of the beliefs and practices of different religious faiths”.

The trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit, and discuss this at our trustees meetings where we plan and make decisions for the carrying out of our activities to which the guidance is relevant.

Structure

Membership is open to each localised faith community in Oldham, whose representatives are entitled to attend general meetings of the Forum. Operational management is undertaken by a Steering Group, consisting of the Trustees and a small number of other members. The work of the Forum is carried out by the two members of staff with the assistance of volunteers.

Funding and Reserves Policy

The Forum has always depended largely on grant funding, provided (up to 31st March 2022) by Oldham MBC (£36K) and the Lottery (Reaching communities fund), from 1 April up to 31st October 2021 (£18K). Some extra funds were received this year for myth-busting training around Covid 19 and to set up vaccine centres in places of worship. Reserves vary according to the timing of grant receipts, but the aim is to have reserves at least equal to three months' expenditure.

Activities

The last year has seen the Oldham Interfaith Forum restart its face-to-face work after the gradual disappearance of the restrictions brought on by the pandemic. During the year, we managed to engage with almost 4000 pupils and their teachers from across the Borough of Oldham. We exceeded the target set for us by the Local Authority by more than five times.

Of course, at the beginning of the year, we were still involved in helping to dispel the myths around the Covid vaccines and to set up vaccine centres in places of worship.

Sadly, during the year, the pupils of one secondary school began to report on the school authorities failing to provide them with an internal space for prayer. The complaints went viral on social media and were picked up in regional news bulletins, significantly raising tensions in the Borough. The Forum worked with the Local Authority and the school successfully to address the issue. Subsequently, three other educational establishments came to the Forum for advice on the same matter.

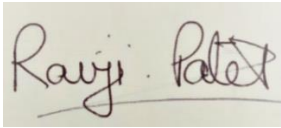
**OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2022

The Women Growing Together group which comes under the umbrella of the Forum were amazing throughout the pandemic, and since, in their determination to meet either by zoom or face to face. A small group meet every month, but that group organises larger events for women of different faiths and none. 180 women were involved over the year in at least one of these meetings. These have been very successful in enabling dialogue.

These are, of course, just the headlines of our year's work. So much is done under the radar to maintain cohesion and to respond quickly and appropriately to any rises in tension.

The report of the members of the board were approved by the board on the 19th of January 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading 'Ravji Patel', is shown on a light-colored background. The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Ravji Patel
Chairperson

OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2022

We report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 set out on pages 6 to 8.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

The charity's trustees consider an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the 2011 Act, and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility as independent examiner to:

- ~ examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- ~ follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- ~ to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiners Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

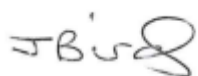
Independent Examiners Statement

I have completed my examination for the year ended 31 March 2022.

I can confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- ~ accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act or
- ~ the accounts do not accord with the accounting records to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



25th January 2023

Miss Jacqueline Bird F.M.A.A.T.

Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C.

Foxfields

9 Norley Close

Chadderton

Oldham

OL1 2RA

OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

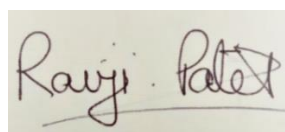
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2022

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
		2022	2022	2022	2021
	Notes	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS					
Grants and Donations	2	91,000	38,000	129,000	71,000
Other Income		-	-	-	-
Interest Received		-	-	-	-
TOTAL RECEIPTS		91,000	38,000	129,000	71,000
PAYMENTS					
Salaries		56,143	840	56,983	47,431
Festival Of Lights		270	-	270	-
Events		621	225	846	503
Community Champions (Covid-19)		1,500	46,000	47,500	9,000
Mobile Telephones		649	-	649	682
Office Costs		4,886	-	4,886	1,011
Refreshments (Meetings)		180	-	180	-
Travel Costs		-	-	-	-
IT & Website		149	-	149	320
Computer Equipment		-	-	-	1,195
Training		-	-	-	-
Accounts Fees		662	-	662	642
Payroll Costs		288	-	288	344
Donations		-	-	-	19
Sundries		-	-	-	-
TOTAL PAYMENTS		65,348	47,065	112,413	61,147
Net of receipts/(payments)		25,652	(9,065)	16,587	9,853
Cash funds at 1st April 2021		37,960	11,000	48,960	39,107
Cash funds at 31 March 2022	3	<u>63,612</u>	<u>1,935</u>	<u>65,547</u>	<u>48,960</u>

OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2022

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
CASH FUNDS	63,612	1,935	65,547	48,960
LIABILITIES – fee for Independent Examination			2022 £	2021 £
Fee for the Independent Examination			662	662
Other fees paid to the Independent Examiner			<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
			<u>662</u>	<u>662</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on the 19th of January 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



Ravji Patel
Chairperson

OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2022

1. Receipts and payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the organisation during the financial year. In this context “cash” includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

2. Grants and Donations

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Lottery Funding	30,000	-	30,000	15,000
Oldham Council Funding	61,000	-	61,000	36,000
Near Neighbours (Women Growing Together)	-	3,000	3,000	-
Action Together - Oldham	-	-	-	-
Community Champions (Covid-19)	-	35,000	35,000	20,000
	<u>91,000</u>	<u>38,000</u>	<u>129,000</u>	<u>71,000</u>

3. Fund Analysis

Fund Name	Balance as at 1st April 2021 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Balance as at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted Funds	37,960	91,000	(65,348)	63,612
Restricted Funds:				
Action Together - Oldham				
Community Champions (Covid-19)	11,000	35,000	(46,000)	-
Near Neighbours (Women Growing Together)	-	3,000	(1,065)	1,935
	<u>11,000</u>	<u>38,000</u>	<u>(47,065)</u>	<u>1,935</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>48,960</u>	<u>129,000</u>	<u>(112,413)</u>	<u>65,547</u>