

**Charity Registration Number: 1158604**

**OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM**  
**(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)**  
**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

# **OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM**

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## OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM

### MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

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

# OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023

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The trustees present their annual report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year to the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2023.

## 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 2023) by Oldham MBC (£36K) and the Lottery (Reaching communities fund). Some extra funds were received this year for providing Covid 19 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.

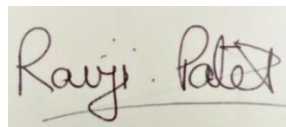
## Activities

The last year has seen the Oldham Interfaith Forum put on two major events to build understanding and cohesion in the Borough. One was a shared Iftar during Ramadan, and the other was the annual celebration of the Festival of Light. We also engaged with almost 4000 pupils and their teachers from across the Borough of Oldham either delivering workshops or enabling visits for pupils to places of worship. Once more we exceeded the target set for us by the Local Authority several times over. During the year, we have had to assist schools or colleges in providing appropriate internal spaces for prayer.

The Women Growing Together group which comes under the umbrella of the Forum organised several events during the year. 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 10<sup>th</sup> of January 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Ravji Patel  
Trustee

## **OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM**

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

**FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023**

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We report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 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.

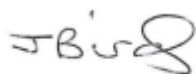
#### **Independent Examiners Statement**

I have completed my examination for the year ended 31 March 2023.

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.



16<sup>th</sup> January 2024

**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

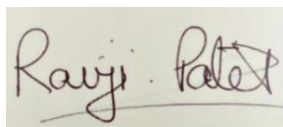
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
		2023	2023	2023	2022
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>RECEIPTS</b>					
Grants and Donations	2	51,000	40,000	91,000	129,000
Other Income		50	-	50	-
Interest Received		-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>51,050</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>91,050</b>	<b>129,000</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>					
Salaries		59,222	1,080	60,302	56,983
Festival Of Lights		1,310	-	1,310	270
Events		535	538	1,073	846
Covid-19 Work		-	15,000	15,000	47,500
Mobile Telephones		691	-	691	649
Office Costs		1,461	-	1,461	4,886
Refreshments (Meetings)		-	-	-	180
Travel Costs		-	-	-	-
IT & Website		105	-	105	149
Training		-	-	-	-
Accounts Fees		662	-	662	662
Payroll Costs		308	-	308	288
Donations		-	-	-	-
Sundries		-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>		<b>64,294</b>	<b>16,618</b>	<b>80,912</b>	<b>112,413</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>		<b>(13,244)</b>	<b>23,382</b>	<b>10,138</b>	<b>16,587</b>
<b>Cash funds at 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022</b>		<b>63,612</b>	<b>1,935</b>	<b>65,547</b>	<b>48,960</b>
<b>Cash funds at 31 March 2023</b>	<b>3</b>	<b><u>50,368</u></b>	<b><u>25,317</u></b>	<b><u>75,685</u></b>	<b><u>65,547</u></b>

**OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM**  
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023**

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>CASH FUNDS</b>	50,368	25,317	75,685	65,547
<b>LIABILITIES – fee for Independent Examination</b>			<b>2023 £</b>	<b>2022 £</b>
Fee for the Independent Examination			620	662
Other fees paid to the Independent Examiner			-	-
			<u><b>620</b></u>	<u><b>662</b></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on the 10<sup>th</sup> of January 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Ravji Patel  
**Trustee**

# OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023

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#### 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 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Lottery Funding	15,000	-	15,000	30,000
Oldham Council Funding	36,000	-	36,000	61,000
Near Neighbours (Women Growing Together)	-	-	-	3,000
Action Together - Oldham (Covid-19 Recovery Work)	-	40,000	40,000	35,000
	<u>51,000</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>91,000</u>	<u>129,000</u>

#### 3. Fund Analysis

Fund Name	Balance as at 1st April 2022 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Balance as at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted Funds	63,612	51,050	(64,294)	50,368
Restricted Funds:				
Action Together - Oldham (Covid-19 Recovery Work)	-	40,000	(15,000)	25,000
Near Neighbours (Women Growing Together)	1,935	-	(1,618)	317
	<u>1,935</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>(16,618)</u>	<u>25,317</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>65,547</u>	<u>91,050</u>	<u>(80,912)</u>	<u>75,685</u>