

**Little Company of Mary  
Congregation CIO**

**Annual Report and Accounts**

31 December 2023

Charity Registration Number  
1161450

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## Reference and administrative details of the charity, its Trustees, and advisers

<b>Trustees</b>	Sister Patricia Mary Bell Sister Esther Myong Soon Shin (appointed July 2023) Sister Monica Whelan (appointed July 2023) Sister Ellen Maseve (appointed July 2023) Sister Bernadette Fitzgerald (resigned July 2023) Sister Susanna Mi Young Park (resigned July 2023) Sister Elizabeth Gilroy (resigned July 2023)
<b>Congregational Leader</b>	Sister Patricia Mary Bell (from July 2023) Sister Bernadette Fitzgerald (to July 2023)
<b>Administrative address</b>	Little Company of Mary Congregation CIO 28 Trinity Crescent Tooting Bec London SW17 7AE
<b>Telephone</b>	020 8682 0928
<b>Charity registration number</b>	1161450
<b>Auditor</b>	Buzzacott LLP 130 Wood Street London EC2V 6DL
<b>Principal bankers</b>	The Royal Bank of Scotland plc 1st Floor, Houblon House 62-63 Threadneedle Street London EC2R 8HP
<b>Solicitors</b>	Stone King LLP Upper Borough Court Upper Borough Walls Bath BA1 1RG

## **Trustees' report** Year to 31 December 2023

The Trustees present their report together with the accounts of Little Company of Mary Congregation CIO for the year to 31 December 2023.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 35 to 39 of the attached accounts and comply with the charity's constitution, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

### **Introduction and mission**

Little Company of Mary Congregation CIO is the administrative centre of the worldwide Congregation of the Little Company of Mary (the "Congregation") (LCM), a Roman Catholic religious congregation which is divided into six Congregational Community/Regions/Province and ministries in eleven countries. The principal mission of the Congregation is to pray and care for the sick, the suffering and the dying.

The ministries of the Congregation are expressed in the provision of health, aged care, and welfare facilities/services, in the countries of Australia, Ireland, Italy, New Zealand, Philippines, South Korea, South Africa, Tonga, United Kingdom, the United States of America and Zimbabwe. Each Congregational Community/Region/Province has a high degree of autonomy and is responsible for its own financial needs. Little Company of Mary Congregation CIO (the "charity") acts as co-ordinator of the Congregation's worldwide activities and provides assistance in an advisory capacity to the Congregational Community/Regions/Province in their work of providing health care within the ethos of the Roman Catholic religion. The charity's expenditure is financed principally by an assessment or annual contribution from each of the Regions/Province.

### **Charitable objects**

The object of the charity is the advancement of the Roman Catholic religion through the religious and other charitable work for the time being carried on anywhere in the world by or under the directions of the Congregation as the Trustees with the approval of the Congregational Leader shall think fit.

### **Activities and achievements**

The charity has continued to provide leadership and assistance to the Congregation in implementing the Chapter Statement of the Congregational Chapter 2023. The Congregational Community/Regions/Province have been supported in their mission and overall responsibility for health care services, hospices, aged care facilities and extensive outreach programmes, as well as the diverse ministries of prison ministry, pastoral ministry in hospitals, hospices, homes and parishes, bereavement ministry, health education ministry, counselling, spiritual direction, and refugee ministry.

**Activities and achievements** (continued)

The 19<sup>th</sup> Congregational Chapter was held in Knock, Ireland in April 2023, attended by the Congregational Leadership, Leaders and Delegates from each Congregational Community/Province and Region and other invited sisters. Through a process of reflective discernment, the Chapter delegates formulated a Chapter Statement, to be implemented over the next six years. All processes are in place to support the activities required to address every aspect of the Chapter Statement entrusted to the Congregational Leadership on election at that Chapter.

The significant ongoing achievements towards achieving the goals discussed at these meetings are summarised below.

***Interculturality***

Members of the Congregation are encouraged to maintain contact with one another and access webinars if they wished.

***Spirituality***

To continue to promote the LCM spirit and charism as a global expression of compassion through prayer and presence, the following actions have been taken:

- ◆ Reflections written by sisters and Associates are shared monthly through the website.
- ◆ Twice yearly Newsletter includes relevant reflections for the times.
- ◆ Prayer requests are received through the Congregational and various Community/Regions/Province websites. These intentions are held in the prayer of the Sisters.
- ◆ When requested, and only in accord with the requirements of GDPR, Novena prayers for the needs of individual sick and dying persons are said throughout the Congregation with the person's request and consent.
- ◆ Continuing our cherished tradition of the annual Motto.

***Care for our Common Home***

At the 2023 Congregational Chapter there was agreement to develop an LCM Congregational Plan so wider representation could be incorporated from the Congregation. A review of the initial Group was completed and our new plan commenced February 2024. The focus is on the Statement that was presented at the recent Chapter and by using the resources of the Laudato Si Action Platform.

**Activities and achievements (continued)**

***Care for our Common Home (continued)***



Pilgrimage for the Planet, London



Mass for the Protection of Creation, South Korea

***Increased promotion of the spirituality, mission, and ministry, including the prayer ministry globally through the use of electronic means***

The Congregational website is regularly updated with monthly reflections, thoughts for the month and news and events. New social media pages have been developed by some Community/Regions/Province who are responsible to moderate content in keeping with relevant privacy laws.

***Promotion of the LCM spirit, through the vowed life***

Each Community/Region/Province continues to explore suitable and effective ways in the issue of promotion of the vowed life in their local culture, if possible. The importance of sharing resources across the Congregation is emphasised. Congregational Leadership supports the various approaches of the Community/Regions/Province.

***Promotion of the LCM spirit through global development of Affiliate and Associate programmes***

The Congregational Leadership continues to facilitate the development of the Associate programs across the Congregation. Responsibility for this rests in the local Congregational Community/Regions/Province Leadership. Creative ways of maintaining connection with groups across the Congregation have been sustained with the use of new digital technology and when possible, prayer group gatherings. The Region of the Southern Cross website indicates - *Many today are called to be Associates or Affiliates and we give thanks for their fidelity to the call and the generous way in which they live out this call through their daily lives and the various ministries they are involved with, where they give expression to the LCM Charism.*

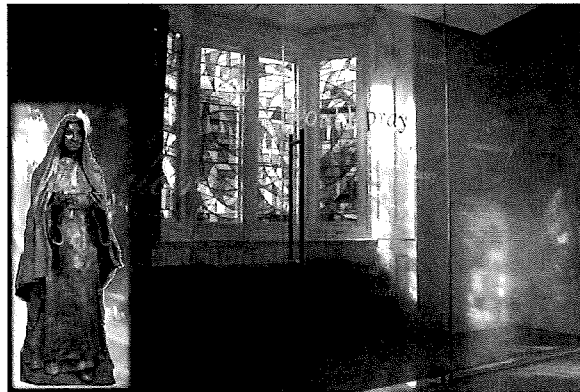
***Congregational Associate Support Fund***

Since January 2023, a fund of £20,000 is held in the Congregational accounts, available on the request of the Congregational Community/Region/Province Leader to support activities to develop, form and promote the LCM Associates and Affiliates. It is for the use of the Region of the Queen of Peace and the Province of the Assumption. This fund is available thanks to the ongoing generosity of the Regions who have been blessed with excess resources.

**Activities and achievements** (continued)

***Sustainability of the LCM Heritage Centre, Nottingham*** (continued)

The sustainability of the Heritage Centre, Nottingham continues to be a focus of Congregational Leadership in collaboration with the Community of the Maternal Heart. Discussions have taken place and the Heritage Centre will, in a staged process, come under the management of the Congregational Leadership with a Trustee as the main contact from February 2024.



Heritage Centre - prayer room

***Stewardship for Mission***

The Congregational Mission Fund has been developed and commenced in January 2023. A policy has been developed to support the management of this fund to support the life and mission of the LCM spirit in the Region of the Queen of Peace and the Province of the Assumption. A formal request was received and granted in May 2023 from the Region of the Queen of Peace requesting support for two Executive positions at St Anne's Hospital.

***LCM Congregational Archive - LCM Postdoctoral Research Fellow Project***

The LCM Postdoctoral Research Fellow Project is progressing well, focusing on the growth during the first sixty years of the Congregation's existence, up to its entry into modern day Zimbabwe. It will consider the early leaders of these international foundations and the stories of the Sisters who pioneered these initiatives. The project focuses on the direction taken by the Congregation in these localities, away from Mary Potter's direct leadership, exploring the story from a cultural, social and spiritual perspective.

Since Dr Eilish Gregory commenced the history project in September 2022, there have been regular updates and presentation given to the Congregational Leadership.

***Stewardship of our Archival Patrimony***

A decision was made at the Congregational Chapter for the Archives held at Tooting Bec to be securely stored at Durham University. An agreement is in the draft stages of development. It is our hope that once the agreement is finalised and signed the LCM Archives will be transferred to Durham University sometime after May 2024.

**Activities and achievements (continued)**

***Effective models of governance at Congregational Community/Regions/Province level through flexible design and ongoing evolution of models to support life and mission***

As Regions/Province take the decision to explore new ways of governance appropriate to reality and the future, the Congregational Leadership Team facilitates this through committees and roles to achieve the transition whilst being guided by the integral principles of inclusivity and relationship. The previous Provinces of the Southern Cross (Australia, New Zealand, and Tonga) and the Immaculate Conception (United States of America) were assisted by the Congregational Leader to transition to a Region in 2018. The previous Province of the Sacred Heart (Ireland and Italy) has been assisted by the Congregational Leader to transition to a Region in December 2021. The previous Region of the Maternal Heart (UK) was assisted by the Congregational Leader to transition to the Community of the Maternal Heart, England in direct relationship with the Congregational Leader in January 2023. The Congregational Leader has been in discussion with the Region of the Immaculate Conception, USA and the Region of the Southern Cross as they consider transition to being Communities in direct relationship to the Congregational Leader. Preparatory work is in progress and this will possibly happen within the next 2 years.

The Congregational Leadership Team has developed and enhanced means of electronic communication and meetings with the introduction of Zooms software, providing flexibility and efficiency in the meeting process.

The CIO has policies in place to fulfil the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). These are reviewed regularly.

Key to the success of any governance is maintaining and adapting processes of governance and management in light of civil requirements and to meet the evolving needs of the times. Enhanced technological capacity as a means of communication is essential to function both at Tooting Bec and in our governance approach of working remotely. The digital banking continues to be of great help. Monitoring of expenditure weekly by Leadership members occurs through the use of the Clear Spend Banking App.

All Trustees continue to support by ongoing conversation with the Congregational Community/Region/Province Leaders and the Sisters in the Congregation.

Congregational Leadership is a pastoral relationship and we endeavour to be in frequent contact with, and offer support for, our Congregational Community/Region/Province Leaders, with regular visits to the various countries of the Congregation.



## Activities and achievements (continued)

### *Mission*

As noted above, the charity provides leadership and guidance to each of the Congregational Community/Regions/Province in facilitating their work.

#### ♦ ***Region of the Southern Cross - Australia/Aotearoa - New Zealand/Tonga***

Conversations have begun to ensure that whatever shape the future Region governance takes or the transition of the Region to any other form, any requirements of the Little Company of Mary for the good functioning of Calvary Ministries has been well considered.

The Region Leadership will look into collaboration with the laity and that of Congregational Leadership will be essential as they look at developing a shape/model of governance that reflects "a collegial model of support for the life of the Sisters and their Mission".

#### *Australia*

The Sisters, across all age ranges, continue to carry out volunteer ministries, including assisting the frail aged, sick and the underprivileged in both residential/hospice and community care, wherever the Sisters are present.

Calvary Ministries, a Pontifical Juridical Person, has the responsibility for the Little Company of Mary Health and Aged Care. The members of Calvary Ministries took up their appointment on 1 January 2011. On a regular basis, the Chairs of the Members Council and the Board of Trustees of Calvary Ministries meet in Rome with representatives of the Holy See.

#### *Tonga*

The LCM spirit continues in Tonga. Sisters are involved in ministry in jails, schools, hospitals and disability services as well as parish support and catechetical work. The ministry is now expressed through offering daily prayers for the sick and dying, holding LCM Affiliates' prayer meetings, visiting prisoners at the Hu'atolitoi Prison, providing Chaplaincy at Vaiola Hospital, supporting older people in their own homes, working with women and children in crisis, school counselling and teaching Christian faith, joining others in actions around the climate crisis, making pastoral visits and participating in the life of the Parish of Pea.



LCM hospital ministry, Tonga

## Activities and achievements (continued)

### *Mission (continued)*

#### ♦ ***Region of the Southern Cross - Australia/Aotearoa - New Zealand/Tonga (continued)***

##### *New Zealand*

The Sisters continue to focus their financial and personnel resources on subsidised housing for the aged and on community support through volunteering. At Mary Potter Courts, people continue to reside in the 47 houses, living independently, watching out for each other and enjoying access to the Mary Potter Community Centre, Christchurch.



Mary Potter apartments,  
accessible rental housing



Mary Potter Community Centre

##### *The Region of the Southern Cross funds*

- ♦ A Palliative Care programme in partnership with the Sisters of St Paul de Chartres, Timor Leste.
- ♦ A Counsellor Training Certificate programme in Tonga to enhance prevention of, and intervention in, domestic violence and social problems.
- ♦ ***The Congregational Community of the Maternal Heart UK***  
Maternal Heart continues to provide a safe, loving environment for our Sisters who have spent their lives in ministry to the sick, the suffering and the dying. Many of these Sisters are beyond the statutory retirement age but are contributing invaluable volunteer ministry.

The Congregational Leader has held discussions with the Community Co-ordinator regarding the on-going support relationship as a community. One of the Trustees is a Collaborator for this community from February 2024.

**Activities and achievements** (continued)

***Mission*** (continued)

♦ ***The Congregational Community of the Maternal Heart UK*** (continued)

The Mary Potter Heritage Centre is the focal point of ministry of the Maternal Heart and is gaining momentum since it re-opened to the public and is receiving more requests for visits and is working on its further development. They also launched the Centre on Facebook which enables reaching out to a broader audience and this helps to ensure that the Mary Potter legacy continues into the future.



The Maternal Heart continues to support the clinic activities in Korce, Albania financially and with administrative/evaluative visits when possible.



The Mary Potter Palliative Care Centre, Albania

♦ ***Region of the Sacred Heart – Ireland and Italy***

The Little Company of Mary retains a significant involvement in the ongoing governance of the Milford Care Centre, Limerick – Hospice and Aged Care Services, as well as Community Palliative Care.



Milford Care Centre, Limerick

The Sisters explored partnership with another organisation to provide a property for provision of services to women at risk in Killarney.

**Activities and achievements** (continued)

***Mission*** (continued)

♦ ***Region of the Sacred Heart – Ireland and Italy*** (continued)

The Sisters continue to minister to the ageing in group housing and community and day care services, care for the aged or frail and sick Sisters. Some are involved in bereavement support groups and environmental work, refugees and homeless, social and pastoral work. This ministry happens in hospitals, hospices and prisons and takes the form of counselling and chaplaincy.

The Region continues to welcome home our Irish Sisters who have spent their lives in South Africa and/or Zimbabwe.

Work is continuing to ensure support for the Sisters in Italy and their Health and Wellbeing. The Region Leadership is spending much time and effort on this and Congregational Leadership acknowledge this and offer support as needed.

♦ ***Province of the Assumption – South Korea and the Philippines***

Hospice and aged care continue to be the main ministries of the Sisters. In each aged care and hospice centre, Sisters are actively involved in hospice education for health care professionals.

The Pocheon Nursing Home provides high quality care to the aged.

Sisters are working as chaplains in three general hospitals to extend the Little Company of Mary charism and spirituality of healing ministry.

The ongoing meeting with the Province Leadership of the Assumption has occurred and matters to be addressed have been identified and are under consideration.

A Province Gathering was held from 7-10 November 2023. The Congregational Leader joined the Sisters via ZOOM to give a welcome address.

The Province celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> Foundation in Korea on 15 August 2023.



**Activities and achievements** (continued)

**Mission** (continued)

♦ **Province of the Assumption – South Korea and the Philippines** (continued)

The Congregational Leader continues to have regular meetings via ZOOM with the Province Leader to offer support and guidance.

Following the report and evaluation of the Baguio Mission, Philippine there will be one more year of discernment about the future of this mission.



♦ **Region of the Queen of Peace – South Africa and Zimbabwe**

The Sisters manage Murambinda Mission Hospital – a generalist health care service in Buhera District, one of the poorest districts of Zimbabwe.

The Sisters continue to provide pastoral care and home visiting in a number of hospitals and local communities where they reside.

Missionvale, founded by an LCM Sister, is effectively managed, and used by the people in the township. Included in its activities are a feeding programme, clothing bank, rural health clinic, and a kindergarten to grade 8 with plans to take it up to grade 12.

**Missionvale newsletter update**

*"We now offer a 6 month training course, after which graduates have the chance to begin a home garden with another 6 months of mentorship from our supervisor. The vegetables are either included in food parcels for families in need or go to our Swap Shop which is one of our new initiatives. Community members can volunteer at the Centre or bring in recycling for which they earn our token "MCC Bucks". MCC Bucks can be exchanged for what they need – so they are able to buy vegetables or other food items, clothing, stationery etc. It has been so encouraging to see the community embrace this new approach of reciprocity and to see how proud they are with what they are able to provide for their families through this exchange program. Donations like these make all of this possible and we simply cannot thank you enough!"*



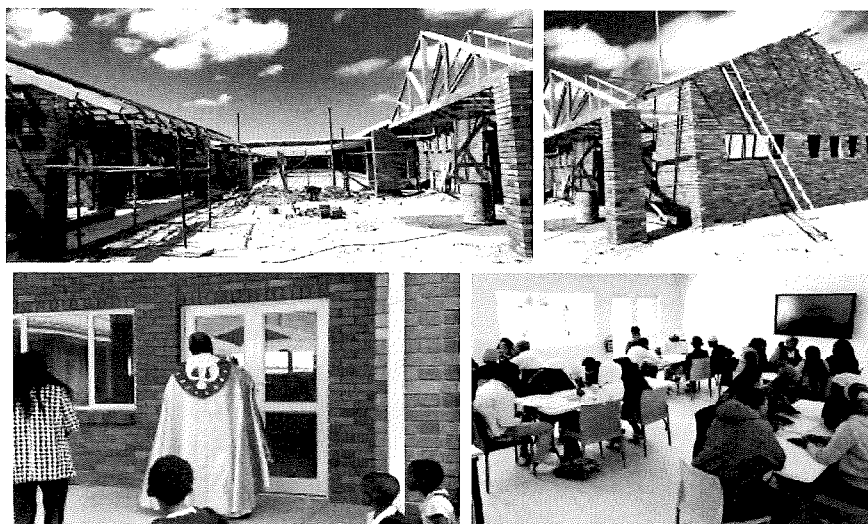
**Activities and achievements (continued)**

***Mission (continued)***

♦ ***Region of the Queen of Peace – South Africa and Zimbabwe (continued)***

***Missionvale newsletter update (continued)***

*In August, we held the official opening of our new Youth Development Centre. It will be home to our Impumelelo Training and Development Centre with five classrooms for learning and acquiring skills that are going to empower the youth in Missionvale. Healthy living, sports, arts and culture activities for children after school as well as meeting spaces for our various support groups and a variety of youth workshops. It will also house a robotics lab and maker space with the existing buildings serving as art and literacy spaces.*



*What a fruitful year we had! Our Christmas distributions were amazing! We were able to give nearly 5000 presents to little ones in Missionvale and surrounds. In addition, 2450 families had a decent meal. We couldn't have done all this without your support. We are so grateful for your love and kindness.*



Distributing food parcels in the community

**Activities and achievements** (continued)

**Mission** (continued)

♦ **Region of the Queen of Peace – South Africa and Zimbabwe** (continued)

**Missionvale newsletter update** (continued)

*For the first time in the history of the Centre, all the staff were able to get together for 4 days workshop to do strategic planning, utilising space kindly provided by Nelson Mandela University's Missionvale Campus".*



Inpatient facilities for HIV/AIDS ministry continue in Mashambanzou Waterfalls, Harare and Murambinda in Zimbabwe. These provide essential medical and social services for the local people in impoverished communities.

The Trustees approved the request from the Region Leadership to partner and provide services through the re-opening of St Anne's' Hospital in Harare, Zimbabwe in 2020 to care for those affected by Covid-19. The Congregational Leadership supported this through the provision of funds and the coordination of financial support from across the Congregation.



Following the opening as a COVID hospital in 2020 St Anne's Hospital later expanded and became a general referral hospital. There were increasing demands being made for the ongoing development and sustainability of the hospital. Mary Mother of Hope Health Care Pvt Limited (St Anne's Hospital) was established with board membership and chair appointments. Congregational Leadership supported this with funding from the Mission Fund for the two Executive positions, of General Manager and Finance Manager.

The LCM's mission funding has ensured continuity and provides for the funding gaps in supporting the poor living with and affected by HIV/AIDS in the high-density suburbs of the Greater Harare.

The Congregational Leadership responded to the request of the last Region Leader in Queen of Peace and initiated a peer support program for the Executive of St Anne's Hospital, Harare with Executives of LCM Health Care in Australia. Feedback has been that this has been very helpful and enjoyable for all, as practical realities are shared and worked through.

Quarterly meetings have been held via Zoom with the Region Leadership and Congregational Leader for support and mentoring of our emerging Leaders.

**Activities and achievements** (continued)

**Mission** (continued)

♦ ***Region of the Queen of Peace – South Africa and Zimbabwe*** (continued)

Congregational Leader continues with regular Zoom meetings with the Region Leader for support and guidance.

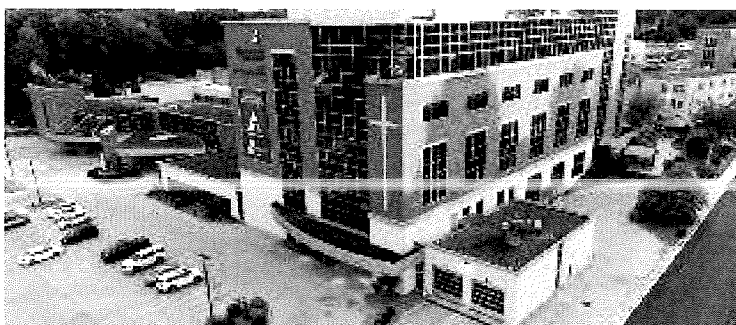
The Congregational Leader visited the Region of Queen of Peace in November 2023 and attended the Region Gathering held on 9-13 November.

♦ ***Region of the Immaculate Conception - United States of America***

While prayer for the suffering and dying is paramount, Sisters are actively engaged in the works of the healing ministry in Evergreen Park (IL); Torrance (CA) and Jasper (IN) in delivering compassionate care to all through their ministry in a variety of ways of nurturing Hospice Nurses, Certified Spiritual Directors, Compassionate Hospital Visitors, Caring Home Visits to Shut-Ins, Food Pantry Worker, Advocate for the Poor, Prayerful presence and support to grieving families.

The Congregational Leader has been in discussion with the Region Leader and it is noted that the Region will delay becoming a community until the process of transfer of sponsorship of Memorial Hospital, Jasper, Indiana is complete. Then the Region would become a Community in direct relationship with the Congregational Leader. At the appropriate time, areas will be delegated to the lay people identified by the Sisters and already working with the Sisters in the current structure, these roles would act with delegation from the Congregational Leader and form an essential important part of Community administration and Sister support, enabling the Sisters to live their LCM life fully.

The Memorial hospital in Jasper Indiana have been sponsored by the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary for many years. The Congregational Leadership supported the Region Leadership decision in 2020 as they explored future stewardship and sustainability of the Memorial Hospital, Jasper, Indiana. In February 2024, that hospital and associated medical centres transitioned to stewardship and ownership by the Deaconess Health System, Indiana – another Catholic health care system.





## Activities and achievements (continued)

### *Mission (continued)*

#### ♦ **Region of the Immaculate Conception - United States of America (continued)**

The Region have been in discussion with the Leadership of OSF Little Company of Mary Foundation and permission is sought to establish an endowment for the on-going education for LCM professionals to help and ensure the quality of care for patients in the communities.



### **Donations policy**

When planning their budget at the beginning of the year, the Trustees agree to set aside a certain amount for the organisations whose work is consistent with the objects of the charity. These organisations are usually known to the Sisters and include the missions of the International Regions and Province of the Little Company of Mary. The donations are decided upon by the Trustees and applications from other organisations are considered on an individual basis.

The donations policy was reviewed and amended in 2019 to increase the amount to be directed to donations with a particular focus on support for refugees, homelessness and eradication of Human Trafficking.

### *Stories of gratitude from Beneficiaries*

**The Passage:** *I'd like to extend our deepest thanks and gratitude to you and everyone at Little Company of Mary Sisters for your donation of £2,000 over the Christmas period. Here at The Passage, each person's journey is unique. We help people to strengthen existing skills and gain new ones, access the entitlements, and support that is right for them, and provide safe and sustainable accommodation. Your contribution will ensure we can continue to give individual and tailored support to anyone experiencing or at risk of becoming homeless. It will be hugely useful as we work towards our vision of a society where street homelessness no longer exists and where everyone has a place to call home. It is not an overstatement to say that your support will get people off the street and into safe and secure accommodation.*

**Salvation Army:** *Thank you very much indeed for your magnificent donation of £2,000 for the work of The Salvation Army, sent on behalf of the Little Company of Mary. Your generous gift will enable us to bring hope into the lives of some of the most vulnerable people you could imagine. Isolated older people will receive the comfort and friendship that we can provide. Families who are facing grinding poverty will receive our practical help and support. And our drop-in centres and Lifehouses will continue to support people who are homeless and have nothing. Supporters like you are the lifeblood of our charity and without you our work would quite literally cease. We are delighted that we can count on your truly generous support – words cannot express how much this means to us and our beneficiaries.*

**Activities and achievements** (continued)

**Donations policy** (continued)

*Stories of gratitude from Beneficiaries (continued)*

**Solidarity Projects Ltd:** *We wish to express appreciation for your generous donation of £5,000 towards the Solidarity with South Sudan initiative. We are deeply grateful for your assistance with the ministry programs which involve Catholic religious congregations from around the world. Thank you for always being by our side and for supporting our work.*

Comunità di Sant'Egidio, Florence: We wish to sincerely thank you, Little Company of Mary Congregation, for the contribution of €7,902.46, intended to support the activities in favour of migrants and refugees welcomed as part of the humanitarian corridors project. In this very particular moment, those who are on the edge of our city, such as migrants, are the most exposed to social exclusion. The initiatives that we carry out in favour of the people most in difficulty and the poor who live in our city are also possible thanks to your help which we feel as a support and an encouragement to continue.

**Aid to the Church in Need:** *Thank you for the generous donation we received from your congregation of £1,000. The kindness of benefactors like yourselves enables us to support the faithful wherever they are persecuted or in need. Every year we respond to more than 5,000 requests for aid in around 140 countries, including emergency help for those fleeing persecution or suffering from natural disasters. As you may be aware, the money that we raise goes directly to bishops, priests and religious sisters and brothers who are involved in projects helping thousands of people who are in desperate need. This includes providing them with food, water, shelter, and spiritual support.*

**Emergency Charitable Fund:** The Little Company of Mary Congregation CIO established an Emergency Charitable Fund of £50,000 within the Congregational budget to support those affected by natural world disasters on behalf of the Congregation. The funds are sourced at the time of the annual assessment from the Congregational Community/Regions/Province with available funds. These monies are extra to the annual assessment and are recorded and managed as a separate cost centre. The annual limit is £50,000 and funds are sought annually to replace what has been dispensed and top up the fund. The Congregational Leader with consent of Council will authorise the use of this fund. The funds will be allocated through reputable Charities / Foundations / Appeals. Receipts are required and expenditure is reported to the Congregation at the time of the donation and in more detail to the Region/Province Leadership in the annual assessment process when top up funds are sought.

Donations from the Congregation coordinated by the CIO Trustees include:

1. Catholic Caring Foundation New Zealand support for cyclone disaster - £5,015.
2. CAFOD – Disaster relief for Turkey and Syria earthquake disaster - £10,000.
3. CAFOD – support Morocco earthquake and Libya flooding disaster - £10,000.
4. Christian Aid - Middle East Crisis Appeal - £5,000.

**Activities and achievements** (continued)

**Donations policy** (continued)

*Stories of gratitude from Beneficiaries (continued)*

5. British Red Cross - Israel and Occupied Palestinian Territory appeal - £5,000.

**Catholic Caring Foundation, Bishop of Auckland:** *Thank you for responding to our Cyclone Relief Appeal 2023 that have devastated so many throughout the North Island. The impact of the cyclone has been catastrophic with loss of life, homes and livelihoods. Your donation will be supporting the cyclone relief in Tairāwhiti/Gisborne area and the Hawkes Bay region through the dioceses of Palmerston North and Hamilton.*

**CAFOD:** *I am writing to express CAFOD's sincerest thanks for your recent incredibly generous donation of £10,000 to support our work with the victims of the recent earthquake in Turkey and Syria.*

**CAFOD:** *I am writing to thank you for your extraordinary generous donation of £10,000. Your generosity will help CAFOD and partners to give hope to people who have lost everything in Morocco and Libya. Thank God for the amazing generosity of supporters like you.*

**Christian Aid:** *Thank you for your donation of £5,000 to our Middle East Crisis Appeal. Your thoughtful gift will help our established partners across the region deliver vital emergency supplies such as medical relief, food, and shelter, to vulnerable families affected by this terrible crisis. It will also help us advocate for a just and lasting peace in this area.*

**British Red Cross:** *Thank you for forwarding to us the donations totalling to £5,000 for our Israel and Occupied Palestinian Territory Appeal. With your help, we'll continue to provide vital humanitarian, individual support for the most vulnerable, and those who fall through the gaps. Your generous donation will make a real difference to people in their hour of need.*

**Fundraising policy**

The charity's fundraising activity is negligible. However, it aims to achieve best practice in the way in which it communicates with donors and other supporters. It takes care with both the tone of its communication and the accuracy of its data to minimise the pressures on supporters. It applies best practice to protect supporters' data and never sells data, it never swaps data and ensures that communication preferences can be changed at any time. The charity manages its own fundraising activities and does not employ the services of professional fundraisers. The charity undertakes to react and to investigate any complaints regarding its fundraising activities and to learn from them and improve its service. During the year, the charity received no complaints about its fundraising activities.

The Trustees continue to fully utilising social media to remain in contact with Sisters throughout the world. The Trustees with this governance model are able to function both in the UK and working remotely from their home countries.

## **Financial review**

### ***Results for the period***

A summary of the year's results can be found on page 32 of the attached accounts.

Total income for the year amounted to £694,418 (2022 - £250,510). This includes assessments from the individual Communities, Regions and Province of the Congregation totalling £355,231 (2022 - £197,613), additional contributions from Communities, Regions and Province of £125,076 (2022 - £49,988), and contributions towards the Chapter from Communities, Regions and Province of £176,388 (2022 - £nil). Bank interest amounted to £17,735 (2022 - £2,909).

Expenditure amounted to £582,157 (2022 - £333,821). Such expenditure includes the cost of co-ordinating and advising the Regions and Province of the Congregation as well as donations payable. Details of donations payable are included in note 4 to the accounts.

Therefore, the net income and the net increase in funds for the year to 31 December 2023 was £112,261 (2022 – net expenditure and net decrease in funds of £83,311). At 31 December 2023, the net assets of the charity amounted to £904,947 (2022 - £792,686).

### ***Investment policy***

The Trustees have considered the cash requirements for the various projects they are involved in and have adopted a policy of keeping available funds in special interest-bearing deposit accounts and a treasury deposit account. An Ethical Investment Policy has been adopted by the charity.

### ***Reserves policy***

The Trustees aim to maintain between two and three years of regular operating expenditure in free reserves (reserves not designated or invested in fixed assets). The Trustees consider this level of free reserves to be appropriate given the charity's responsibility as co-ordinator of the Congregation's worldwide activities, where in the event of an urgent need in any Congregational Community/Region/Province, immediate financial assistance can be provided. The Trustees will continue to keep this policy under review.

### ***Financial position***

The balance sheet shows total reserves of £904,947 (2022 - £792,686). The tangible fixed assets fund totals £155,253 (2022 - £161,953) and is represented by tangible fixed assets used to support the work of the charity. The designated emergency charitable fund totals £14,985 (2022 - £nil). The restricted fund totals £20,000 (2022 - £nil).

Funds available to co-ordinate and provide advice on the Congregation's worldwide activities in the future are shown as general funds on the balance sheet and amount to £714,709 (2022 - £630,733). The Trustees are of the opinion that these free reserves are adequate but not excessive. The continuing worldwide economic uncertainties mean that the Trustees must have the flexibility to react quickly should the Regions or Province have urgent need of financial resources. As such, the Trustees believe it prudent to retain these reserves at the current time. This level of reserves is deemed appropriate, and the Trustees are content that the charity is a going concern.

### **Future plans**

The future plans of the charity are as follows:

- ◆ Trustees continue to attend appropriate educational meetings and webinars that will inform them of recent changes in the charity law that relates to the charity.
- ◆ Exploration and planning to address the future of the Congregation will continue.
- ◆ In February-April 2024 a Trustee will make a Pastoral Visit to Province of Assumption, South Korea
- ◆ On 17-23 March 2024 the Region of the Southern Cross, Australia/New Zealand/Tonga will hold a Region Assembly and a Trustee will attend.
- ◆ On 21-23 May 2024 a proposed pilgrimage to the Mary Potter Heritage Centre, Nottingham is organised for parishioners of St Anselm's Church, Tooting Bec and Trustees will attend.
- ◆ In June 2024 a Trustee will make a Pastoral visit to the Congregational Community of the Maternal Heart, UK.
- ◆ In August/September 2024 a Trustee will make a Pastoral Visit to the Region of the Immaculate Conception, USA.
- ◆ On 20-25 October 2024 the Trustees will attend the meeting in South Korea for Little Company of Mary Sisters 25 years and under Finally Professed.
- ◆ Expressions of interest have been invited in a programme called Thresholds of Transformation sponsored by the Trustees. The programme will be held throughout 2024.
- ◆ Negotiations are underway for the transfer of our archives to Durham University archives. An agreement is in the final stages of development.
- ◆ An Interculturality meeting open to any Sister is planned for 1-7 June 2025 at the Carmelite Retreat Centre USA.
- ◆ The Congregation will celebrate its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation on 2 July 2027.

### **Governance, structure, and management**

#### ***Governing document and background***

Little Company of Mary Congregation CIO is an incorporated charitable organisation, currently governed by a constitution dated 5 March 2018. It is a registered charity, Charity Registration Number: 1161450. The original constitution dated 28 April 2015 was amended by a Resolution dated 5 March 2018.

## **Governance, structure, and management (continued)**

### ***Governing document and background (continued)***

The charity was registered with the Charity Commission on 28 April 2015. The charity's activities commenced on 1 July 2015 following the transfer of activities, assets and liabilities from a charitable trust called the Generalate Community of the Little Company of Mary. From the date of the transfer, the charitable trust became dormant and has since been removed from the Central Register of Charities.

### ***Membership of the CIO***

The Congregational Leader for the time being shall automatically, by virtue of holding that office, be ex-officio the sole member of the CIO. If the CIO is wound up, the member of the CIO has no liability to contribute to its assets and no personal responsibility for settling its debts and liabilities.

### ***Trustees***

The charity has four Trustees: the Congregational Leader and three Congregational Councillors. The Trustees are elected for a term of six years at the Congregational Chapter by the elected delegates of the Congregation's membership. The current Trustees were elected in April 2023 at the Nineteenth Congregational Chapter held in Knock, Ireland, and began their term of office on 2 July 2023 as Trustees of the incorporated charitable organisation.

The names of the Trustees who served during the period are set out as part of the reference and administrative details on page 1 of this annual report and accounts and brief biographical details of each of the Trustees in office at the year-end is given below.

- ♦ ***Sister Patricia Mary Bell*** – Congregational Leader  
Sister Patricia Mary Bell has been a Sister of the Little Company of Mary since 1976 and has a wide range of experience in health care in Australia. Having graduated from Nursing at Lewisham, Sydney, she later undertook her midwifery at St Margaret's Hospital, Darlinghurst, Sydney, and Oncology at the College of Nursing. She has had wide experience in nursing in medical, surgical, midwifery and especially in palliative care, her "great love". Previously, Sister Patricia Mary has held Charge Sister positions at Lewisham, Wagga Wagga, Hobart, Canberra and Coordinator of Hospice Home Care at Bethlehem, Melbourne and was Director of Mission in Hobart from 1996 until 2005. She has Grief Line and Life Line Counselling Certificates. She was elected as Province Councillor for Australia in 2004, a role she held until her election as Congregational Councillor/Trustee in 2005. Returning to Australia in 2011 she ministered as a Volunteer in the Community Palliative Care Team at Kogarah, was involved with ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against Human Trafficking), provided support to refugees and asylum seekers in detention and was the Province Coordinator for the Affiliates and Associates for the Little Company of Mary. In March 2017 she was elected at the Congregational Chapter as a Councillor for 6 years and served as the Congregational Treasurer. In April 2023, at the LCM Congregational Chapter in Knock, Ireland, she was elected as the Congregational Leader for a period of 6 years and consequently is serving as a Trustee of the charity.

**Governance, structure, and management** (continued)

*Trustees (continued)*

♦ *Sister Esther Myong Soon Shin* – Congregational Councillor

Sister Esther Shin entered the Congregation in 1986 in Korea. She has a professional background in Nursing, experience as a general nursing and hospice palliative nursing in hospital and clinics from 1995 to 1999, also Mary Potter Palliative Centre in Albania from 2000 to 2002. She has experience in formation as a Novice Formator and Temporary Professed Sisters Formator from 2005 to 2011. She served as a chaplain for general patients and hospice patients at the hospital from 2011 to 2016. In 2014, she was a postgraduate of Culture and Spirituality at the Catholic University of Korea. She was elected Province Councillor of the Assumption Province from 2005 to 2011 and elected Province Leader and as a Trustee of the Little Company of Mary Sisters South Korea from 2016 to 2021. In April 2023, at the LCM Congregation Chapter in Knock, Ireland, she was elected as the Congregational Councillor for a period of 6 years and consequently is serving as a Trustee of the charity.

♦ *Sister Monica Whelan* – Congregational Councillor

Sister Monica Whelan has been a Sister of the Little Company of Mary since 1990 and has a wide experience in both non-clinical healthcare services and in education as a teacher and school administration. Whilst most of her experience has been in Australia, she also worked at Australian Catholic University as a sessional lecturer as well as facilitating health care programs in Timor Leste for over ten (10) years. She graduated with a Diploma in Teaching, Catholic teachers College, Sydney 1976 and completed a Graduate Diploma in Educational Studies in 1982. Thesis for this degree was titled Integration of Physically Disabled Children into New South Wales State and Catholic Schools. She has wide experience in educational leadership and is always keen to see others learn and succeed in life. Other qualifications include Bachelor of Theology 2002 and Master of Philosophy 2009. Further professional background in health care includes seven (7) years as Director of Mission Calvary Health Care, Canberra. Three (3) years' experience in Pastoral Care, Bethlehem Hospital, Melbourne and twelve (12) years' experience in education for Mission integration with Little Company of Mary Health Care, Australian Province. She was elected as Province Councillor for Australia in 2005 until 2010. In 2017 she was elected as Region Councillor for Australia, New Zealand, Tonga a role she held until her election as Congregational Councillor in April 2023 at LCM Congregational Chapter in Ireland. This role is for a period of 6 years whereby Sister Monica is a Trustee of the charity and Congregational Treasurer.

## Governance, structure, and management (continued)

### Trustees (continued)

- ♦ **Sister Ellen Maseve** – Congregational Councillor  
Sister Ellen Maseve joined the Congregation of the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary in 1997. She trained in Systemic Child Counselling, nursing, psychology, and Religious Formation. Worked in the hospital as a ward nurse and in administration. Journeyed with those in Religious Formation. From 2011-2018, Sister Ellen served as the member of the Leadership and Governance Team within the Queen of Peace Region, South Africa and Zimbabwe and from 2018-2021 she served as the Region Leader. She was the Hospital Executive Manager for Queen of Peace Murambinda Mission Hospital until her election in April 2023 as the Congregational Councillor at the LCM Congregational Chapter in Ireland for a period of 6 years and consequently is serving as a Trustee of the charity.

### Trustee Formation

Representatives of the Congregational Leadership attended the following meetings and conferences during the period:

Date	Details
28 July	Buzzacott webinar; Trustees responsibilities. Sister Ellen Maseve
6 August	Buzzacott webinar; Trustees Responsibilities. Sister Patricia Mary Bell
7 August	Buzzacott videos; Charity Governance Code and Financial Governance. Sister Patricia Mary Bell
8 August	Buzzacott video; Risk and Reserves. Sister Patricia Mary Bell
8 August	Buzzacott video; Trustees Responsibilities. Sister Esther Shin
9 August	Buzzacott video; Public Benefit. Sister Patricia Mary Bell
9 August	Buzzacott videos; Charity Governance Code and Financial Governance. Sister Ellen Maseve
14 August	Buzzacott video; The Charity Governance Code. Sister Esther Shin
15 August	Buzzacott three-part Videos on Accounts for non-Accountants; Trustee's report; Statutory Reporting, Judgmental areas. Sister Patricia Mary Bell
15 August	Buzzacott video; Risk and Reserves. Sister Esther Shin
17 August	Stone King Trustee Training Webinar; The Essential Trustee & Governance in Practice. Sister Monica Whelan



**Governance, structure, and management** (continued)

**Trustee Formation** (continued)

Date	Details
<b>17 August</b>	Stone King Trustee Training Webinar; The Essential Trustee & Governance in Practice. Sister Ellen Maseve
<b>18 August</b>	Catholic Religious Australia Video; Safeguarding. Sister Patricia Mary Bell
<b>21 August</b>	Buzzacott video; Public Benefit. Sister Esther Shin
<b>September</b>	Buzzacott Webinars Trustees Responsibilities: The Charity Governance Code; Financial Governance; Risk and Reserves; Public Benefit. Sister Monica Whelan
<b>12 September</b>	UISG webinar Integral Ecology in Religious Life and Mission. Sister Patricia Mary Bell
<b>14 September</b>	UISG Zoom Communion that Radiates, Synodality. Sister Patricia Mary Bell
<b>14, 24 September and 2 October</b>	UISG ZOOM: Communion that Radiates, Synodality. Sister Patricia Mary Bell
<b>20 September</b>	UISG webinar Conversations on the Synod; Overview and opportunities. Sister Esther Shin
<b>21 September</b>	CAFOD - Afternoon of reflection. Sister Monica Whelan
<b>25 September</b>	USIG Conversations on the Synod – Continental Perspectives. Sister Monica Whelan
<b>25 September</b>	UISG webinar Conversations on the Synod: Continental perspectives. Sister Esther Shin
<b>25 September</b>	UISG webinar Conversations on the Synod: Continental perspectives. Sister Ellen Maseve
<b>5 October</b>	A Pastoral Reflection on Social Media Engagement: Formation on Communication. Sister Monica Whelan
<b>8 October</b>	Day for Religious, Living Consecrated Life as we journey to a Synodal Church. Sister Monica Whelan

**Governance, structure, and management** (continued)

**Trustee Formation** (continued)

Date	Details
<b>12 October</b>	USIG Living the Charism, Reforming the Care: Catholic Care for Children in Eastern Africa. Sister Monica Whelan
<b>17 October</b>	Safeguarding webinar in an International Context, Charity Commission's Expectations. Sister Monica Whelan and Sister Esther Shin
<b>25 October</b>	UISG webinar Canon Law and Basic for Superior Generals. Sister Patricia Mary Bell
<b>25 October</b>	USIG webinar: Canon Law Basics for Superior General. Sister Monica Whelan, Sister Esther Shin and Sister Ellen Maseve
<b>6 November</b>	Webinar Anchoring Faith Consistent Investing in the Experience of Frontline Communities. UISG in collaboration with Laudator Si and Laudato Si Movement. Sister Esther Shin
<b>7 November</b>	Financing a Liveable Future: Church Investment in Climate Solutions Conference, London. Sister Monica Whelan
<b>8 November</b>	Buzzacott Online YouTube Video, Accounts for Non-accountants. Sister Ellen Maseve
<b>16 November</b>	Managing Your Faith Charity, Birmingham. Sister Monica Whelan
<b>6 December</b>	Stone King webinar: Coming to the UK as a Religious Visitor during the festive season. Sisters Patricia Mary Bell and Sister Esther Shin
<b>6 December</b>	UISG webinar: "Sharing from the Synod Assembly 2023" series. Sister Esther Shin and Sister Ellen Maseve
<b>6 December</b>	Stone King webinar: Coming to the UK as a religious visitor during the festive period. Sister Ellen Maseve
<b>12 December</b>	LCWR ZOOM meeting: Leadership for an Increasingly Intercultural Religious Life. Sister Patricia Mary Bell
<b>14/15 December</b>	UISG webinar Canon Law and the role of Congregational Councilors. Sister Patricia Mary Bell

**Governance, structure, and management** (continued)

***Statement of Trustees' responsibilities***

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare accounts for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing the accounts the Trustees are required to:

- ◆ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ◆ observe the methods and principles of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102);
- ◆ make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ◆ state whether applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts;
- ◆ prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011, applicable Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the charity's constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

***Structure and management reporting***

As a result of the international scope of their work and travel, the Trustees meet regularly to review developments with regard to the charity or its activities and make any important decisions. The Trustees use electronic means to be informed and kept up to date with developments within the Congregation and the charity. When necessary, the Trustees seek advice and support from the charity's professional advisers including property consultants, solicitors, and accountants. The day-to-day management of the charity's activities, and the implementation of policies, is delegated to the appropriate members of the Congregation or senior staff.

***Key management***

The Trustees consider that they alone comprise the key management of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running, and operating the charity on a day-to-day basis. All of the Trustees are members of the Little Company of Mary ("the Congregation"). Whilst their living and personal expenses are borne by the charity, they receive no remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in connection with their duties as Trustees.

## **Governance, structure, and management** (continued)

### ***Risk management***

The Trustees undertake an annual review of the principal risks and uncertainties that the charity faces categorising the risks between those affecting the governance and management of the charity, operational risks, financial risks, reputational risks, and those which occur because of circumstances outside of the charity's control such as changes in government policy, laws, and regulations. They regularly review the measures already in place, or needing to be put in place, to establish policies, systems, and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the annual review and ensure that action is taken to implement changes to those policies, systems and procedures should they be needed to minimise or manage any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

In November 2019, the Trustees commenced using the Bankline service of the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) for payments by electronic transfer. This process minimises risk and ensures effective safeguards are in place. A policy for digital banking has been developed.

This work has identified two key risks for the charity which are described below together with the principal ways in which they are mitigated:

- ◆ Operationally the charity works with children and vulnerable adults including older people. The Trustees recognise the absolute necessity of ensuring the protection and safety of all those that the charity serves. This means that sisters engaged in any ministry in Great Britain and all those who work or volunteer for the charity and work with children or vulnerable adults must obtain clearance from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). The Trustees are committed fully to implementing the policies of the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) and the new dedicated Religious Life Safeguarding Standard Service.
- ◆ From time to time, the charity donates significant sums in support of the wider Congregation and other organisations. The vast majority of donations sent overseas are to fund projects administered directly by members of the Congregation. Whether or not the funds are used here in Great Britain or overseas, the Trustees always ensure that they are fully briefed about and familiar with the work of a potential recipient of funds, that funds are transferred via bank transfer, that proof of receipt is obtained and that, wherever possible (and always in the case of monies sent overseas), a full written report is obtained.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



Trustee:

Date: 24 May 2024

**Independent auditor's report to the Trustees of Little Company of Mary Congregation CIO**

**Opinion**

We have audited the accounts of Little Company of Mary Congregation CIO (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows, the principal accounting policies, and the notes to the accounts. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the accounts:

- ◆ give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 December 2023 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- ◆ have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- ◆ have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

**Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the accounts in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the accounts, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the accounts is appropriate.

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

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

### **Other information**

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report and Accounts, other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the accounts does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- ◆ the information given in the Trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the accounts; or
- ◆ sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- ◆ the accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- ◆ we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

### **Responsibilities of Trustees**

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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

**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts**

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

***How the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud***

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- ◆ The engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- ◆ We identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with one of the Trustees and from our knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- ◆ We focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the accounts or the activities of the charity. These included but were not limited to the Charities Act 2011, Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102); and
- ◆ We assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of those charged with governance and review of minutes of Trustees' meetings.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's accounts to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- ◆ Making enquiries of those charged with governance as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- ◆ Considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts** (continued)

***How the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud***  
*(continued)*

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- ◆ Performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- ◆ Tested and reviewed journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- ◆ Carried out substantive testing of expenditure;
- ◆ Assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- ◆ Investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- ◆ Agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- ◆ Reading the minutes of meetings of Trustees; and
- ◆ Enquiring of as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

We did not identify any irregularities, including fraud.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.



## **Independent auditor's report** Year to 31 December 2023

### **Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and with regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Buzzacott LLP  
Statutory Auditor  
130 Wood Street  
London  
EC2V 6DL

24 May 2024

Buzzacott LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

## Statement of financial activities Year to 31 December 2023

	Notes	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £
<b>Income from:</b>							
Donations	1	581,683	95,000	676,683	247,601	—	247,601
Bank interest		17,735	—	17,735	2,909	—	2,909
<b>Total income</b>		<b>599,418</b>	<b>95,000</b>	<b>694,418</b>	<b>250,510</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>250,510</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Charitable activities							
. Co-ordination and direction of, and the provision of advice to, the Regions and Province of the Congregation	2	439,112	—	439,112	250,722	—	250,722
. Donations	4	68,045	75,000	143,045	83,099	—	83,099
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>507,157</b>	<b>75,000</b>	<b>582,157</b>	<b>333,821</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>333,821</b>
<b>Net income (expenditure) and net movement in funds</b>	5	<b>92,261</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>112,261</b>	<b>(83,311)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>(83,311)</b>
Balances brought forward at 1 January 2023		792,686	—	792,686	875,997	—	875,997
<b>Balances carried forward at 31 December 2023</b>		<b>884,947</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>904,947</b>	<b>792,686</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>792,686</b>

All recognised gains and losses are included in the statement of financial activities.

There is no difference between the net movement in funds stated above and the historical cost equivalent.

All activities of the charity derived from continuing operations during the above two financial years.

# **Balance sheet** 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	8		155,253		161,953
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	9	12,190		22,086	
Short term deposits		517,585		—	
Cash at bank and in hand		250,120		627,455	
		<u>779,895</u>		<u>649,541</u>	
<b>Current liabilities</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(30,201)		(18,808)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			749,694		630,733
<b>Total net assets</b>			<u>904,947</u>		<u>792,686</u>
<b>Represented by:</b>					
<b>The funds of the charity</b>					
Restricted funds	12		20,000		—
Unrestricted income funds:					
. General fund		714,709		630,733	
. Tangible fixed assets fund	13	155,253		161,953	
. Emergency charitable fund	13	14,985		—	
			<u>884,947</u>		<u>792,686</u>
	14		<u>904,947</u>		<u>792,686</u>

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Trustee

Approved by the Trustees on:

24 May 2024

## Statement of cash flows Year to 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	A	129,815	(87,515)
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(7,300)	—
Purchase of short term deposits		(517,585)	—
Interest receivable		17,735	2,909
Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities		(507,150)	2,909
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the period</b>		(377,335)	(84,606)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January 2023</b>	B	627,455	712,061
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December 2023</b>	B	250,120	627,455

### Notes to the statement of cash flows for the year ended 31 December 2023

#### A Reconciliation of net income (expenditure) and net movement in funds to net cash used in operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Net expenditure and net movement in funds (as per the statement of financial activities)</b>	112,261	(83,311)
<b>Adjustments:</b>		
Depreciation charge	14,000	14,586
Interest receivable	(17,735)	(2,909)
Decrease (increase) in debtors	9,896	(15,646)
Increase (decrease) in creditors	11,393	(235)
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>129,815</b>	<b>(87,515)</b>

#### B Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	250,120	627,455

No separate statement of changes in net debt has been prepared as there is no difference between the movements in cash and cash equivalents and movement in net cash (debt).

## **Principal accounting policies** Year to 31 December 2023

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the accounts are laid out below.

### **Basis of preparation**

The accounts have been prepared for the year to 31 December 2023 with comparative figures given for the year to 31 December 2022.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (Charities SORP FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policies below or the notes to these accounts.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102).

The accounts are presented in sterling and are rounded to the nearest pound.

### **Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement**

The most significant areas of adjustment and key assumptions that affect items in these accounts are the estimation of the useful life of tangible fixed assets for the purpose of determining the depreciation charge and estimating future income and expenditure flows for the purpose of assessing going concern.

### **Assessment of going concern**

The Trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in preparing these accounts. The Trustees have made this assessment in respect to a period of at least one year from the date of approval of these accounts.

The Trustees are of the opinion that the charity will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due. The most significant areas of judgement that affect items in the accounts are detailed above.

The Trustees of the charity have concluded that there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern.

### **Income recognition**

Income is recognised in the period in which the charity has entitlement to the income, the amount of income can be measured reliably, and it is probable that the income will be received

Income comprises donations and interest receivable.

**Income recognition** (continued)

Donations, including assessments and additional contributions receivable from individual Community Regions and Province, are recognised when the charity has confirmation of both the amount and settlement date. In the event of donations pledged but not received, the amount is accrued for where the receipt is considered probable. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity, and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

The surplus on the disposal of tangible fixed assets is calculated as the difference between disposal proceeds and the net book value of the asset immediately prior to disposal.

**Expenditure recognition and the basis of apportioning costs**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure comprises direct costs and support costs. All expenses, including governance costs, are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings. The classification between activities is as follows:

- ◆ Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs associated with furthering the charitable purposes of the charity through the provision of its charitable activities. Such costs include costs specifically relating to the co-ordination and direction of advice to Regions and Province of the Congregation, donations payable and governance costs.
- ◆ The making of grants and donations is not a central part of the charity's activities. Donations are made only in cases where the Trustees consider there is real need following a review of the details of each particular case and comprise single year payments rather than multi-year grants. Grants and donations are included in the statement of financial activities when approved for payment. Provision is made for grants and donations approved but unpaid at the period end.

All expenditure is stated inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

**Governance costs**

Governance costs comprise the costs involving the public accountability of the charity (including audit costs) and costs in respect to its compliance with regulation and good practice.

## Principal accounting policies Year to 31 December 2023

### Tangible fixed assets

All assets costing more than £1,000 and with an expected useful life exceeding one year are capitalised and valued at historical cost.

#### a. Freehold land and buildings

Freehold land and buildings comprising functional properties used for the direct charitable work of the charity are included in these accounts at their historic cost at their date of acquisition together with the cost of additions and improvements to date.

Functional freehold properties are depreciated at a rate of 2% per annum on a straight-line basis in order to write the buildings off over their estimated useful economic life to the charity.

#### b. Other tangible fixed assets

Other tangible fixed assets are capitalised at cost and depreciated at the following annual rates in order to write them off over their estimated useful lives:

- |                                      |                             |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ♦ Furniture, fittings, and equipment | 20% per annum based on cost |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|

### Debtors

Debtors are recognised at their settlement amount, less any provision for non-recoverability. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash receipt where such discounting is material.

### Short term deposits and cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand represents such accounts and instruments that are available on demand or have a maturity of less than three months from the date of acquisition. Deposits for more than three months but less than one year have been disclosed as short-term deposits i.e. current asset investments. Cash placed on deposit for more than one year is disclosed as a fixed asset investment.

### Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at the amount the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt. They have been discounted to the present value of the future cash payment where such discounting is material.

### Leased assets

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

### Fund structure

General funds represent those monies which are freely available for application towards achieving any charitable purpose that falls within the charity's charitable objects.

**Fund structure** (continued)

The tangible fixed assets fund comprises the net book value of charity's tangible fixed assets, the existence of which is fundamental to the charity being able to perform its charitable work and thereby achieve its charitable objectives. The value represented by such assets should not be regarded, therefore, as realisable.

Designated funds are funds which the Trustees have designated for specific purposes.

Restricted funds comprise monies raised for, or their use restricted to, a specific purpose, or contributions subject to donor-imposed conditions.

**Services provided by members of the Congregation**

For the purposes of these accounts, no value has been placed on administrative and other services provided by the members of the Congregation.

**Pension contributions**

Contributions in respect to the charity's defined contribution 'stakeholder' pension scheme are charged to the statement of financial activities when they are payable to the scheme. The charity's contributions are restricted to the contributions disclosed in note 6. There were no outstanding contributions at the year end.



## Notes to the accounts Year to 31 December 2023

### 1 Income from: Donations

	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £
Contributions from individual Regions and Province of the Congregation	581,683	95,000	676,683	247,601	—	247,601

### 2 Expenditure on: Co-ordination and direction of, and provision of advice to, individual Regions and Province of the Congregation

	Unrestricted funds	
	2023 £	2022 £
Premises costs	43,416	33,340
Sisters' living expenses	63,215	39,001
Other direct costs including travel	322,100	170,002
Governance costs (note 3)	10,381	8,379
	439,112	250,722

### 3 Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds	
	2023 £	2022 £
Auditor's remuneration	10,381	8,379

### 4 Expenditure on: Donations

The charity makes donations to both individuals and institutions in accordance with its donations policy set out in the Trustees' report.

Donations and grants payable to institutions during the period were as follows:

	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £
Donations payable	68,045	75,000	143,045	83,099	—	83,099

#### 4 Expenditure on: Donations (continued)

Donations payable to institutions during the period comprised the following:

	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £
Aid to the Church in Need	1,000	—	1,000	11,015	—	11,015
Barnabas Cathedral	1,000	—	1,000	—	—	—
British Red Cross	5,000	—	5,000	—	—	—
CAFOD	21,000	—	21,000	1,000	—	1,000
CARE Australia	—	—	—	20,024	—	20,024
Catholic Caring Foundation	5,015	—	5,015	—	—	—
Christian Aid	5,000	—	5,000	—	—	—
Comunita'di St' Egidio	7,015	—	7,015	7,015	—	7,015
DIF - Diocese of Lismore	—	—	—	10,015	—	10,015
Durham University	—	75,000	75,000	—	—	—
Little Sisters of the Poor	1,000	—	1,000	1,000	—	1,000
Missionvale Care Centre Trust	3,015	—	3,015	3,015	—	3,015
RCAOS Our Lady of La Salette and St Joseph	1,000	—	1,000	1,000	—	1,000
Saint John of God Hospitaller Services (Olallo House)	1,000	—	1,000	1,000	—	1,000
Solidarity Project	5,000	—	5,000	5,000	—	5,000
Spires	1,000	—	1,000	1,000	—	1,000
St Anne's Church	1,000	—	1,000	1,000	—	1,000
St Anselm's Church	1,000	—	1,000	1,000	—	1,000
St Barnabas Cathedral	—	—	—	1,000	—	1,000
St George's Cathedral (Southwark)	1,000	—	1,000	1,000	—	1,000
St Vincent de Paul Society	2,000	—	2,000	2,000	—	2,000
The Medaille Trust	1,000	—	1,000	1,000	—	1,000
The Most Holy Trinity RC Church Dockhead	1,000	—	1,000	1,000	—	1,000
The Passage	2,000	—	2,000	2,000	—	2,000
The Salvation Army	2,000	—	2,000	2,000	—	2,000
Victorian Flood Appeal (Victoria, New South Wales and Tasmania )	—	—	—	10,015	—	10,015
	<b>68,045</b>	<b>75,000</b>	<b>143,045</b>	<b>83,099</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>83,099</b>

During the year to 31 December 2023, no grants were paid to individuals (2022 - none).

#### 5 Net income (expenditure) and net movement in funds

This is stated after charging:

	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Staff costs (note 6)	<b>41,844</b>	42,493
Auditor's remuneration (including VAT)		
. Statutory audit fees		
.. Current year	<b>8,800</b>	8,379
.. Prior year	<b>1,581</b>	—
Depreciation	<b>14,000</b>	14,586
Operating lease rentals (note 11)	<b>2,005</b>	2,005

## 6 Staff costs and remuneration of key management personnel

	Total funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Gross salaries	36,386	37,536
Pension costs	5,458	4,957
	<b>41,844</b>	<b>42,493</b>

There was one employee during the year (2022 - one employee) who was involved in the co-ordination and direction of, and provision of advice to, individual Regions and Province of the Congregation.

No employees earned £60,000 or more during the year (2022: none).

The Trustees consider that they alone comprise the key management of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running, and operating the charity on a day-to-day basis. All of the Trustees are members of the Little Company of Mary i.e. the Congregation and whilst certain of their living and personal expenses are borne by the charity, they receive no remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in connection with their duties as Trustees (2022 - none).

## 7 Taxation

The Little Company of Mary Congregation CIO is a registered charity and, therefore, is not liable to income tax or corporation tax on income derived from its charitable activities, as it falls within the various exemptions available to registered charities.

## 8 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Furniture, fittings and equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 January 2023 and at 31 December 2023	494,214	32,673	<b>526,887</b>
Additions	—	7,300	<b>7,300</b>
At 31 December 2023	<b>494,214</b>	<b>39,973</b>	<b>534,187</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 January 2023	336,061	28,873	<b>364,934</b>
Charge for the year	9,884	4,116	<b>14,000</b>
At 31 December 2023	<b>345,945</b>	<b>32,989</b>	<b>378,934</b>
<b>Net book values</b>			
At 31 December 2023	<b>148,269</b>	<b>6,984</b>	<b>155,253</b>
At 31 December 2022	158,153	3,800	161,953

It is likely that there are material differences between the open market values of the charity's land and buildings and their book values with the market value being considerably higher than the net book value at 31 December 2023.

At 31 December 2023, the charity had no capital commitments (2022 - none).

## 9 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments	11,669	21,573
Sundry debtors	521	513
	<b>12,190</b>	<b>22,086</b>

## 10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals and deferred income	<b>30,201</b>	18,808

## 11 Financial commitments

At 31 December 2023, the charity had total commitments under non-cancellable operating leases in respect to equipment as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Payable:		
. Within one year	2,005	2,005
. Within two to five years	3,766	5,771
	<b>5,771</b>	<b>7,776</b>

## 12 Restricted funds

	2023 £	2022 £
At 1 January 2023	—	—
Net movements in year	20,000	—
At 31 December 2023	<b>20,000</b>	—

The restricted fund represents the Congregational Associate Support Fund to support activities to develop, form and promote the LCM Associates and Affiliates.

## 13 Designated funds

	Emergency charitable fund £	Tangible fixed asset fund £	2023 £	2022 £
At 1 January 2023	—	161,953	<b>161,953</b>	176,537
Designated in year	50,000	—	<b>50,000</b>	(14,584)
Utilised/released in year	(35,015)	(6,700)	<b>(41,715)</b>	—
At 31 December 2023	<b>14,985</b>	<b>155,253</b>	<b>170,238</b>	161,953

The tangible fixed assets fund represents the net book value of the charity's freehold properties and other tangible fixed assets. A decision was made to separate this fund from the general funds of the charity in recognition of the fact that the tangible fixed assets are essential to the day-to-day work of the charity and as such their value should not be regarded as funds that would be available in order to meet future contingencies.

The Emergency charitable fund represents funds set aside within the Congregational budget to support those affected by natural world disasters on behalf of the Congregation.

#### 14 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	2023 £
Fixed Assets	—	155,253	—	155,253
Current Assets	744,910	14,985	20,000	779,895
Current Liabilities	(30,201)	—	—	(30,201)
Total	714,709	170,238	20,000	904,947

#### Prior Year

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	2022 £
Fixed Assets	—	161,953	—	161,953
Current Assets	649,541	—	—	649,541
Current Liabilities	(18,808)	—	—	(18,808)
Total	630,733	161,953	—	792,686

#### 15 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions during the period (2022 – none) and no donations were received from the Trustees (2022 - none).

#### 16 Membership of the CIO and ultimate control

The Congregational Leader for the time being shall automatically, by virtue of holding that office, be ex-officio the sole member of the CIO. If the CIO is wound up, the member of the CIO has no liability to contribute to its assets and no personal responsibility for settling its debts and liabilities. The Congregational Leader for the time being shall automatically, ex-officio be a Trustee for as long as she holds that office. All other Trustees are appointed by a resolution in writing by the Congregational Leader.

The Congregation does not hold any assets, incur liabilities, or enter into any transactions in its own right. Assets and liabilities of the Congregation are administered in the Trustees of the charity, who undertake all transactions entered into in the course of the Congregation's charitable activities.

