



ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

Contents

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT	3
STRUCTURE, OBJECTS & GOVERNANCE	5
CEO'S REPORT.....	6
SCM BASICS BANK	8
SCM MARKETPLACE	10
SCM SCHOOLS.....	12

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

`For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future` Job 29: 1 NIV.

There are times in any organisation/charity when those who have been the mainstays have to move on. Such has been the overwhelming reality for SCM in the past year. However, the heartening promise from Job 29 has given hope and encouragement for the future.

Jen Ball, 'Front of House', Office Manager and so very knowledgeable in all matters relating to SCM's operations, stepped down after almost 15 faithful years in post. The debt we owe to Jen is incalculable as she brought prayerful wisdom and stability in a role where she was invariably the 'go to person'. Without her insights and Godly resolve, SCM could not have functioned so consistently and successfully.

Two long-standing Trustees also relinquished their positions:

David Wagstaff took on financial responsibility on behalf of the Trustees and in a voluntary role, gave countless hours each week to oversee stability and sensible funding. David fulfilled this role for many years (a role which grew over time) giving countless hours of wisdom and business acumen. We thank God for David and his faithfulness.

David Bartlett also stepped down as a Trustee after a considerable number of years. He always brought discernment and practical advice to such riveting but necessary matters such as the risk register, building regulations and invariably the complexities of our lease renewal. You played a key role David, thank you.

In our disappointment at losing three important players in the working of SCM, we have thanked God for His provision in sending us others who have already made significant, timely and Godly contributions.

Simon Povey was appointed Finance Officer and Steve Johns in the new role of Head of Operations. Both have settled to their posts with enthusiasm and impressive expertise.

It is very difficult to avoid a list of names, but such has been this past year with several new Trustees joining the SCM Board.

Helen Willis and Sue Holt both previously served as SCM volunteers in addition to other roles. David Evans has previous experience working with charities and a role within the Church of England and the fourth new Trustee, Stephen Chapman was previously an accountant and a treasurer at a local church. We thank them for their willingness to be involved, and we look forward to their ongoing contributions.

In all the changes our Chief Executive Officer, Duncan House has remained faithfully and diligently at the helm, and we thank God for him, his leadership and passion.

To all our employees and volunteers, we owe a great deal particularly at a time of such change in personnel.

Thank you to those who give so generously, and please pray that the good hand of our God may bless and use all that we do within the city and beyond.

Chris Ford

Chair of SCM Trustees

STRUCTURE, OBJECTS & GOVERNANCE

Southampton City Mission (CIO) is a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales under charity number 1162099. It was registered on 10 June 2015 and was set up to take forward the activities of Southampton City Mission, established in 1963. The assets and activities of Southampton City Mission (251142) were transferred to SCM (CIO) on 1st April 2016. Its governing document is the constitution adopted on 10 November 2014 as revised on 18 September 2023.

The objects of the CIO are: to advance the Christian faith for the benefit of the public in accordance with the basic tenets of historical Biblical Christianity; to prevent and relieve poverty in the City of Southampton and its neighboring area; and to advance education for persons of any age by providing or assisting in the development of their mental, physical and moral capabilities through work in schools and other educational institutions and by supporting other charities in England, the UK or abroad. The projects and activities outlined in this report are undertaken to support these objects.

The charity is governed by a Board of Trustees, currently numbering 8, who delegate the daily running of the charity to a small staff team. A large team of around 200 dedicated volunteers are also vital to the delivery of all the charity's services.

During 2024/25 the Trustees met 9 times as a full board and held additional sub-group meetings to discharge their duties.

CEO'S REPORT

It is a great honour to facilitate and coordinate the outpouring of love, compassion and service, from so many SCM volunteers every year. Across all of our projects, it is our volunteers who go into schools alongside our school's staff to help deliver Question of Faith days, Transition sessions, leading Grow Communities and CAP money courses. Our four Marketplaces and six Basics Banks are all run by volunteer Supervisors and it is volunteers who chat to our members and clients, make up food parcels, restock the shelves, sort donations in the warehouse, drive our vans across the city and generally do the work of SCM.

To recruit, train, manage and support the volunteers and projects, we have an incredible staff team, which has grown this year to ten people as we have welcomed Simon Povey as our Finance Officer and Steve Johns in the new role of Operations Manager. We had an excellent staff training day in early 2025 using the Gallup StrengthsFinder 2.0 survey to find out and compare our strengths as a team.

We are delighted that our investment into our Schools Team from previous years has resulted in increased delivery of schools work sessions this year. Once a school signs up to our Question of Faith programme they tend to have us in for every year group once a year. This leads to great anticipation and excitement when a year group realise that we are coming in, it builds relationship and trust with our team leaders and volunteers and it opens doors for further involvement in school life; such as being part of summer fetes, running after school clubs, building links between schools and their local churches and even the potential for Christian residential weekends.

It feels like our affordable food club project, SCM Marketplace, has come of age this year. Our four Marketplaces are all slightly different as they are contextualised for their host churches and different members and areas of the city. Each one is now a proven, welcoming, nurturing community, making a real difference in people's lives.

It is looking like the huge drop off in food donations from the public, which occurred after Covid is now the new normal. We are adjusting our Basics Bank project model to have to include the purchase of the majority of the food we give away. We are

committed to continuing to provide free emergency food parcels and clothes to anyone having a crisis in Southampton, all free of charge and given gladly in the grace and love of Jesus.

We were delighted to hold our first ever SCM Day Conference on Sat 1st March, welcoming Natalie Williams from Jubilee Plus as our main speaker. It was wonderful to have such a great Church unity gathering with Christians from many churches all over the city coming to hear, think and pray about how we can cooperate together with God's mission to Southampton.

Thank you to all those who pray, volunteer, give and donate so that we can continue to equip the church to serve the city.

Duncan
CEO

SCM BASICS BANK

Number of 4-day food parcels provided: 17,601

Number of overnight parcels provided: 604

Number of people clothed: 1,803

(Figures shown are for the period 01/04/2024 – 31/03/2025)

The past twelve months have been a time of change, reflection, and continued commitment to serving our community with compassion and dignity. SCM Basics Bank has continued to feel the strain of the ongoing cost of living crisis. These challenging conditions have affected both our operations and the community we serve, resulting in changes in donations and outreach efforts. Despite the continuous pressure, our dedicated team has been amazing with their consistent support for this project offering help with warmth and love to our clients.



Relocation of the Clothes Bank

A major milestone this year was the successful relocation of our Clothes Bank from Ascension Church in Bitterne Park to its new home at Saint Mary's Church, Lodge Road. While we are grateful for the support and years spent at Ascension Church, the relocation to Lodge Road offers our clients easier access to a more central location in the city and we have already witnessed the benefits of the move. There is now a community café running alongside the clothes project where clients contribute what they can, helping to promote a community spirit amongst our clients and local residents. We have regular visits from other services in the city such as social subscribers and charities who help clients attending the Clothes Bank with any housing and benefit support issues. The aim is to create a welcoming and



supportive environment which makes clients feel comfortable and looked after during their time with us at the Clothes Bank.

This transition was not without its challenges, but the team came together to ensure continuity of service and thus far the feedback from our clients has been very encouraging.

Continued decline in food donations

Like many similar charitable organisations we have continued to see a decline in food donations throughout the year. This trend affects our ability to meet demand, and whilst the generosity of our supporters is still deeply felt, the pressures of the wider economic climate are having a significant impact.

We continued to explore new strategies to address this; for example, raising awareness through local partnerships with schools and churches, as well as business and social media engagement. We are also looking into grant opportunities and collaborations to help bridge the gap as we continue to have to buy food weekly to support the project.

Harvest

Harvest season was once again a busy and vital time for SCM Basics Bank, with 45 schools across the city organising collections in support of Basics Bank, donating over 700 crates worth of food. Churches also played a key role, contributing generously throughout the city. Together, these efforts made Harvest a wonderful period for restocking our supplies and getting ready to meet the demand of the winter months.

Thank you to all of our volunteers, those who donate, food, money and prayer. Your continued support makes this project possible. It is a privilege to be part of a team and mission so committed to serving those in need.

Vicky Mckillen
Basics Bank Manager



SCM MARKETPLACE

SCM's Marketplace provides holistic support to those facing food insecurity. Members have weekly access to a choice of fresh foods, allowing them to provide their family with affordable, healthy meals. Marketplace provides a supportive, community setting with space to chat, receive advice and signposting services.

We currently have 154 active members across our four Marketplace venues; each located in an area of deprivation. Over the last 12 months Marketplace members have shopped with us 4663 times, receiving 13 items of food each time. Members pay £5 weekly membership and receive a bag of shopping worth around £25.

This is what one member has told us recently:

"Without this place I would struggle to afford all the food I need for the week."

Members tell us that having to pay a £5 membership fee helps them to learn to budget; they know that if they keep a fiver aside for Marketplace, they will get the best value for their money. As one member said, *"It helps to know that as long as you've got that £5, you're going to have food."*

Alongside the food provision, our members enjoy being amongst the Marketplace community where they find a place to belong, friendship and support. These are just some comments from members.

"I love coming for a chat, to meet friendly people, hearing new ideas and perspectives and sharing problems. People listen to me and accept me for who I am."

"You get to meet different people I would never have met. I know people in the community that I didn't know before."

"Just because of the friendliness of the people you always feel welcomed which makes you feel more positive in yourself."

Over the last year other organisations and services have visited Marketplace to provide advice and signposting to members. These have included The Environment Centre,

CLEAR (providing support to refugees and asylum seekers), Social Prescribers, and Seetec (a government funded back-to-work scheme). Citizen's Advice also provided two training sessions for our volunteers to help them use the CA website to advise and signpost our members. This has proved to be a valuable resource for our volunteers.

We have recently introduced group Supervision Sessions with a trained counsellor for our volunteers to attend if they so wish. This provides space for our volunteers to process some of the difficult situations that they hear about from our members and ensures they are supported and not burdened by their role as a volunteer.

During some school holidays the SCM Schools Team have provided Bible themed activities and craft for the member's children. Many of the children recognise the Schools Team from their visit to their school and this provides an opportunity for greater connection.

Whilst our membership total has remained quite consistent over the last year, we have been encouraged by the number of members who have felt able to give up their place, allowing us to invite others from our waiting lists to join. Even more encouraging is when they continue to come along to the Marketplace community to enjoy a cuppa and a chat, without doing any shopping. And one or two previous members have even become volunteers!

Our longest running Marketplace at Saint Mary's is coming up to four years old and even our newest Marketplace at Weston is about to celebrate its second anniversary. Each of the Marketplaces are now well-established, recognised and celebrated community hubs where people are finding acceptance, encouragement and hope, as well as a healthy bag of shopping.

Jacqueline James

SCM Marketplace Manager

SCM SCHOOLS

The SCM Schools Team are approaching the end of the 2024/25 academic year, which as you will see in the table below is looking to be our busiest year to date!

	Schools Visited	Assemblies	Question of Faith	Transition Support	CAP Money
2024/25*	53	85	208	14	7
2023/24	48	78	158	18	6

** Correct as of April 2025. More bookings and/or cancellations are possible.*

In September Ellie returned from maternity leave to lead the Schools Team, including staff members Joyce and Reuben, volunteer Team Leaders Charis and Teresa, and a host of other wonderful volunteer team members. These volunteers support the Team Leaders in a variety of ways, such as preparing resources, packing boxes, telling Bible stories, helping with games, running quizzes, answering pupils' questions, and supporting children with worksheet activities and crafts.

One other key way in which the Schools Team is supported is through prayer. The SCM Schools Prayer Calendar, produced by Teresa, lists daily prayer points including the name of any schools that we are specifically visiting that day. It is a real encouragement to know that each time we visit a school, there are people covering it in prayer. You can sign up to receive the Schools Prayer Calendar by emailing prayer@southamptoncitymission.co.uk.

"Grow communities work and especially at the age group I'm working with are laying real Jesus centered foundations for kids who might not have got that opportunity before their tricky teenage years otherwise. It's a privilege and a blessing to build relationships with these amazing young people."

Charis - SCM Schools Team Leader

A highlight of the year has to be how 'Believe Club' has continued to thrive. This is our after-school Grow Community that meets every Thursday in term-time at Mansbridge Primary School. Approximately 20 children regularly attend each week, although there is a waiting list of others that want to come. In the sessions the children explore the Bible, pray, and look at how they can share what they 'Believe' in with their friends at school and their communities.

Charis, who leads Believe Club, recently shared an encouraging testimony of a previous member who is now in Year 7 at one of the local Secondary Schools. This child, with our encouragement, is now attending a similar styled club run by YoungLife at her school. We were able to put some of that foundation in place and encourage her to continue her journey in faith.

Following on the success of Mansbridge's Grow Community, we are now focussed on setting up more clubs at other schools. This will begin at the end of April with a new group launching at Bevois Town Primary. We are working with the school's Religious Education Lead to set this up and are in contact with local churches to gain their support and involvement too. We are also in the early discussion stages about a couple of other potential after-school Grow Communities, so watch this space!

This year, The SCM Schools Team have been helping to host 'Southampton Gather', a termly meet up for all those involved in youth/children's/schools' ministry. Our most recent Gather in March was co-hosted by SCM School, Scripture Union and YoungLife and was attended by 17 people. It was a wonderful time to share ideas, pray for each other, and make connections between all that is going on for young people in the city. We look forward to the next of these fruitful meetings next term.

We continue to work closely with Scripture Union, as one of their Mission Partners, and the Schools Team are attending SU's Revealing Jesus Conference this June. The SCM Schools team also continues to link up with other City Missions who have a ministry in schools. In November this year, the team went to Oxford for a CMMUK Schools Hub meet up. We were able to share with other cities an example of a Question of Faith Day and see first-hand how they share the Gospel in schools. This

network is a real encouragement to the team, and we plan to meet again online in the summer term.

This year saw the first school-in-church visit that we helped facilitate, dubbed 'Question of Faith: Out & About'. It involved all of the Year 7 cohort from St Mark's CE School walking down the road to St Mark's Church. Once there, the pupils took part in a treasure hunt around the church, an assembly style presentation on 'Love in the Community' and prayer space reflection activities. Feedback from pupils and staff has been very positive, with discussions already taking place about offering it again next year. Continuing the theme of connecting schools with their local church, Joyce arranged a visit to All Saints Church for Year 2 pupils as part of her Question of Faith Day at Redbridge Primary School. Pupils were able to explore the church, interview the vicar and were set a Lego building challenge. It is wonderful to be able to forge these links between schools and churches and it is definitely something the Schools Team hope to do more of in the future.

Whilst the Schools Team regularly request staff for feedback from our sessions in school, we have recently asked for feedback from pupils too. Examples of quotes from Year 6 pupils who experienced our Question of Faith days are as follows:

<i>"They teach in a fun, interactive and entertaining way and overall it's a great experience."</i>	<i>"They have given me a deeper understanding of religion."</i>	<i>"It helped me with my Christianity beliefs."</i>
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It is such an encouragement to know that all we do as a Schools Team is making a difference to both adults and children in the city.

Ellie Cousins
SCM Schools Lead



Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

**Financial Report
for the Year Ended
31 March 2025**

Basic Information

Southampton City Mission (CIO) ("the CIO") was formally registered with the Charity Commission on 10 June 2015 (registration number 1162099).

Trustees for the year and up to the date of this report were:

Chris Ford (Chairman) (Resigned 1 September 2025)
John Duff (Appointed as Chairman 1 September 2025)
Dave Bartlett (Resigned 1 March 2025)
Stephen Chapman (Appointed 21 January 2025)
David Evans (Appointed 20 May 2024)
Susan Holt (Appointed 20 May 2024)
Temitayo Oloruntuyi
Kelvin Taylor
David Wagstaff (Resigned 16 September 2024)
Helen Willis (Appointed 20 May 2024)

Chief Executive Officer Duncan House
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Statement of Financial Activity

Southampton City Mission (CIO)											
Statement of Financial Activity for the year ended 31 March 2025											
	Restricted income funds					Unrestricted funds			Total all funds	Notes	All funds prior year
	Basics Bank	Poverty relief	Market-place	Schools	Total	Designated funds	General fund	Total			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£		£
Incoming resources										3	
Income and endowments from:											
Donations and legacies:											
Cash from individuals	60,639	29,708	1,285	9,223	100,855	-	72,476	72,476	173,331		171,429
Gift Aid	7,402	5,365	180	380	13,327	-	12,176	12,176	25,503	2.4	25,759
Cash from churches	18,057	-	-	1,200	19,257	-	22,500	22,500	41,757		25,760
Cash from others	7,568	1,525	3,000	635	12,728	-	3,194	3,194	15,921		25,003
Grants	20,791	42,000	37,850	350	100,991	-	26,130	26,130	127,121		95,250
Donated Food	233,244	-	5,184	-	238,428	-	-	-	238,428	2.5	266,972
Donated Clothes	86,336	-	-	-	86,336	-	-	-	86,336	2.5	99,000
Donations and legacies - TOTAL	434,036	78,598	47,499	11,789	571,922	-	136,475	136,475	708,397		709,173
Charitable activities	-	-	23,315	-	23,315	-	735	735	24,050	3.1	25,009
Sale of excess donations	1,258	-	-	-	1,258	-	-	-	1,258	3.2	2,691
Investments	2,342	-	357	-	2,699	-	13,202	13,202	15,901	3.3	14,375
Total	437,636	78,598	71,171	11,789	599,194	-	150,412	150,412	749,606		751,248
Resources expended										4.1	
Expenditure on:											
Charitable activities											
Costs of employment	74,147	-	65,153	96,505	235,804	-	-	-	235,804	5.1	210,214
Premises costs and equipment	21,147	-	2,022	2,313	25,482	-	-	-	25,482		41,012
Admin expenses	1,398	-	936	804	3,138	-	-	-	3,138		5,969
Travelling including volunteers	535	-	696	2,214	3,444	-	-	-	3,444		5,192
Transport	4,447	-	5,296	-	9,743	-	-	-	9,743		8,995
Staff support and training	895	-	1,213	1,039	3,147	-	-	-	3,147		3,284
Schools work materials	-	-	-	3,373	3,373	-	-	-	3,373		748
Depreciation	2,203	-	13,210	431	15,844	387	8	395	16,239		-
Other expenses	10,933	-	2,771	2,658	16,362	-	2,065	2,065	18,427		12,755
Food donated in kind	275,807	-	48,655	-	324,462	-	-	-	324,462	2.5	391,058
Clothes donated in kind	86,336	-	-	-	86,336	-	-	-	86,336	2.5	99,000
Charitable activities - TOTAL	477,847	-	139,951	109,338	727,136	387	2,073	2,460	729,596		778,227
Fundraising Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	19,560	19,560	19,560	4.2	13,071
Governance Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	21,760	21,760	21,760	4.3	-
Total	477,847	-	139,951	109,338	727,136	387	43,393	43,780	770,916		791,298
Net surplus/(deficit)	-40,211	78,598	-68,780	-97,549	-127,942	-387	107,019	106,632	-21,310		-40,050
Transfers between funds	49,106	-83,429	99,056	97,651	162,384	-55,742	-106,642	-162,384	-		-
Net movement in funds	8,895	-4,831	30,276	102	34,442	-56,129	377	-55,752	-21,310		-40,050
Reconciliation of funds:											
Total funds brought forward	145,600	4,831	48,303	-	198,734	56,129	307,558	363,687	562,421		602,471
Total funds carried forward	154,495	0	78,579	102	233,176	-	307,935	307,935	541,111		562,421

Balance Sheet

	Southampton City Mission (CIO)				
	Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025				
	Total Restricted	Total Unrestricted	Total all funds	Notes	All funds prior year
	£	£	£		£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	32,387	91	32,478	6	47,719
Fixed asset investments	-	-	-	7	328,543
	32,387	91	32,478		376,262
Current assets					
Stocks	35,516	-	35,516	8	24,000
Debtors	15,988	7,096	23,084	9	25,734
Investments	146,574	294,491	441,064	7	125,426
Cash at bank and in hand	13,265	8,921	22,186	11	18,856
Total current assets	211,343	310,508	521,851		194,016
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-10,554	-2,665	-13,219	10	-7,857
Net current assets/(liabilities)	200,789	307,843	508,632		186,159
Total net assets	233,176	307,935	541,111		562,421
Funds of the Charity				12	
Restricted income funds	233,176	-	233,176		198,734
Basics Bank	154,495	-	154,495		145,600
Marketplace	78,579	-	78,579		48,303
Poverty Relief	0	-	0		4,831
Schools	102	-	102		-
Unrestricted funds	-	307,935	307,935		363,687
Total funds	233,176	307,935	541,111		562,421

Statement of Cash Flows

Southampton City Mission (CIO)											
Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 March 2025											
	Restricted income funds					Unrestricted funds			Total all funds	Notes	All funds prior year
	Basics Bank	Poverty Relief	Market-place	Schools	Total	Designate d funds	General fund	Total			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£			
Net cash provided/(used) by operating activities	-3,384	-3,470	42,537	-312	35,370	-55,342	-4,505	-59,847	-24,477	Below	-37,332
Interest income	2,342	-	357	-	2,699	-	13,202	13,202	15,901	3	14,375
Investments (made)/realised	2,454	-	-32,297	-	-29,844	51,489	-8,740	42,749	12,906	7	24,477
Purchase of fixed assets	-349	-	-349	-200	-898	-	-100	-100	-998	6	-697
Cash flows from Investing activities	4,446	-	-32,290	-200	-28,043	51,489	4,362	55,851	27,808		38,155
Change in cash in the period	1,062	-3,470	10,247	-512	7,327	-3,853	-143	-3,996	3,333		823
Cash at the start of the period	1,222	3,470	435	812	5,939	3,853	9,064	12,916	18,855		18,033
Cash at end of the period	2,284	0	10,682	300	13,266	-0	8,921	8,921	22,187	11	18,856
Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities											
	Restricted income funds					Unrestricted funds			Total all funds	Notes	All funds prior year
	Basics Bank	Poverty Relief	Market-place	Schools	Total	Designate d funds	General fund	Total			
	£			£	£		£	£			
Net income per SOFA	8,895	-4,831	30,276	102	34,442	-56,129	377	-55,752	-21,310	SOFA	-40,050
Depreciation charge	2,203	-	13,210	431	15,844	387	8	395	16,239	6	17,614
Interest income	-2,342	-	-357	-	-2,699	-	-13,202	-13,202	-15,901	SOFA	-14,375
(Increase)/decrease in stock	-10,291	-	-1,225	-	-11,516	-	-	-	-11,516	8	10,000
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	-2,556	1,361	-2,882	-2,381	-6,458	400	8,708	9,108	2,649	9	-11,434
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	707	-	3,515	1,535	5,758	-	-396	-396	5,362	10	913
Net cash provided/(used) by operating activities	-3,384	-3,470	42,537	-312	35,370	-55,342	-4,505	-59,847	-24,477		-37,332

Approved on behalf of the Board of Trustees:

Chairman Chris Ford

Trustee

Date

Notes to the Accounts

1. Basis of preparation

- 1.1. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the most up to date Statement of Recommended Practice: "FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (September 2024) "
- 1.2. The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention. The activities are dependent on donation income and, as a consequence, the going concern basis for the charitable activities is dependent on donation income continuing.

2. Accounting policies

- 2.1. Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:
 - the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
 - it is more likely than not that the trustees will receive the resources; and
 - the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.
- 2.2. There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS 102 SORP or FRS 102.
- 2.3. Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS 102 SORP).
- 2.4. Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise. Gift Aid in note 3 below includes amounts recovered on donations made via third parties.
- 2.5. Donated goods are measured at fair value (the amount for which the asset could be exchanged) unless impractical to do so, in accordance with FRS 102 SORP. For SCM, the trustees consider that it is impractical to value the stock of goods donated to Basics Bank on receipt. However, it is possible to estimate the fair value of goods distributed with reasonable accuracy and this is recognised as an expense.

In the case of donated food it is also possible to estimate the value of stock on hand at the balance sheet date. Therefore, the value of goods donated for distribution to Basics Bank beneficiaries, which is recognised as income in these accounts, is taken to be the difference between the opening and closing stock and the value of goods distributed, as adjusted for purchased stock which is recorded at cost.

For the Marketplaces, most of the food distributed to members is purchased. It is possible to estimate the value of the small proportion of food donated to the project and the value of food which is acquired at less than cost. In these cases, the value or discount is recorded as income. As for Basics Bank, the value of Marketplace stock on hand at each year end can also be estimated with reasonable accuracy. Therefore, the value of food distributed to Marketplace members can be established and that value is recorded as an expense in these accounts.

In preparing these accounts, replacement cost has been used as the basis for assessing the fair value of goods donated and distributed and for stock valuation with the exception of purchased food which is recorded at cost.

In relation to donated clothes, the trustees have concluded that it is impractical to value the stock. However, it is possible to give an estimate of the value of a typical package of clothes provided to a beneficiary and so this amount multiplied by the number of people clothed has been included in both incoming resources and resources expended.

- 2.6. The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.
- 2.7. Bank interest is included on a receivable basis.
- 2.8. Insurance claims are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.8 to 5.9 FRS 102 SORP) and are netted off against the associated cost where this falls in the same accounting period.
- 2.9. Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.
- 2.10. The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.
- 2.11. Tangible fixed assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £250 and are valued at cost. The depreciation rates and methods used are disclosed in Note 7.2.
- 2.12. Bank deposits are disclosed as Fixed Asset Investments where the term is in excess of 12 months or there is otherwise a commitment to retain the deposit for over 12 months. Other deposits are shown as Current Assets.

3. Analysis of incoming resources

- 3.1. Income from charitable activities represents Marketplace membership fees and tickets for the SCM conference.
- 3.2. Income from sale of excess donations represents sale of stamps and coins and excess donated clothes.
- 3.3. Investment income represents interest on bank deposits.
- 3.4. Of the cash donations to Basics Bank, Poverty Relief and Marketplace, the amount of £38,734 (2024: £35,790) was specifically for the purchase of food.

4. Analysis of resources expended

- 4.1. Costs are apportioned between restricted income funds based on the trustees' estimate of the extent to which the cost relates to the relevant activity. In particular, employment costs are allocated on the basis of time spent and office costs on the basis of usage.
- 4.2. Expenditure on raising funds represents amounts paid directly to a consultant for assistance with grant applications, the cost of staff time in dealing with grant applications and fees paid to third party collection agents.
- 4.3. Governance costs include all expenditure directly related to the administration of the charity including compliance with charitable and statutory requirements. Governance costs may be analysed as follows :

Costs of employment	17,878
Premises costs and equipment	1,326
Admin expenses	97
Travelling	743
Other expenses	817
Independent examiner fees	900
Governance Costs - Total	21,760

5. Paid employees

5.1. Total staff costs were £253,682. (£235,804 allocated to Charitable Activities, £17,878 allocated to Governance Costs) The breakdown of staff costs were:

	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
Salary	222,504	187,498
Employer's Pension contributions	16,783	14,547
Employer's National Insurance	14,395	10,910
Total	253,682	212,955

5.2. The average headcount was 9.3 (6 full-time, 3.3 part-time) (2024: 8.6). This is equivalent to 7.75 FTEs (2024, 7.3). Their employment costs have been allocated to Basics Bank, Marketplace and Schools Work on the basis of the time spent on each activity.

5.3. No employee received remuneration of more than £60,000.

6. Tangible fixed assets

6.1. Details of fixed assets and their associated depreciation are as follows:

	Computers	Vans	Leasehold additions	Basics Bank Equipment	Marketplace equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost at 31 March 2024	8,944	63,300	10,390	3,581	19,753	105,968
Additions	998					998
Cost at 31 March 2025	9,942	63,300	10,390	3,581	19,753	106,966
Depreciation at 31 March 2024	7,741	33,270	8,519	2,204	6,516	58,249
Charge for year	747	9,240	1,585	716	3,951	16,239
Depreciation at 31 March 2025	8,488	42,510	10,104	2,920	10,466	74,488
Net book value at 31 March 2024	1,203	30,030	1,871	1,377	13,237	47,719
Net book value at 31 March 2025	1,454	20,790	286	661	9,287	32,478

6.2 Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis over the following periods:

6.2.1 Computers - four years

6.2.2 Vans - five years

6.2.3 Leasehold additions - remaining life of the lease

6.2.4 Basics Bank and Marketplace equipment - five years

7. Investments

Investments represent bank deposits which can be withdrawn at 120 days' notice or less and various bonds of term not exceeding one year.

Investments				
Brought forward	Additions	Interest Received	Withdrawals	Carried Forward
£	£	£	£	£
453,969	0	15,901	-28,806	441,064

8. Stocks

Stocks are held solely for charitable purposes and the figure represents the value of donated food for distribution to beneficiaries.

	Brought forward	Donations received in period	Purchased in period	Donations made in period	Closing stock
	£	£	£	£	£
Basics Bank	21,000	233,244	52,854	-275,807	31,291
Marketplace	3,000	5,184	44,696	-48,655	4,225
Total	24,000	238,428	97,550	-324,462	35,516

9. Debtors and prepayments

Debtors consist of:		
	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
Rent in advance	4,350	2,484
Other prepayments	1,726	1,579
Gift Aid receivable	6,756	5,374
Accrued interest receivable	3,926	3,824
Due from Stewardship	4,695	11,505
Due from CAF	1,000	-
Due from Paypal	631	-
Other debtors	-	968
Total	23,084	25,734

10. Creditors and accruals

	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
HMRC - PAYE	5,360	2,392
Audit fee	1,800	-
Staff Expenses	652	-
Volunteer Expenses	315	-
Other	5,091	5,465
Total	13,219	7,857

11. Cash at bank and in hand

Cash of £22,187 represents a current account, the balance on prepayment cards and petty cash balances.

12. Funds

The charity has maintained four restricted income funds where donations have been made specifically towards the operation of Basics Bank, Marketplace, Poverty Relief work generally or Schools work.

As at the end of the year, the Poverty Relief fund has been depreciated, and its funds fully assigned to the two poverty relief projects, Basics Bank and Marketplace.

The general unrestricted fund is available to support any of the charitable activities undertaken.

13. Prior year fund movements

The statement of financial activity for the prior year is as follows:

Southampton City Mission (CIO)												
Statement of Financial Activity for the year ended 31 March 2024												
	Restricted income funds					Unrestricted funds				Total all funds	Notes	All funds prior year
	Basics Bank	Poverty relief	Market-place	Schools	Total	Designated Basics Bank	Designated Poverty relief	General fund	Total			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£		£
Incoming resources											2	Note 15
from:												
Donations and legacies	459,385	90,071	30,255	26,960	606,671	0	870	101,632	102,502	709,173	3.1	863,765
Charitable activities	0	0	25,009	0	25,009	0	0	0	0	25,009	3.2	13,849
Other trading activities	2,666	0	0	0	2,666	0	0	25	25	2,691	3.3	3,326
Investments	4,298	1,781	303	0	6,382	0	0	7,993	7,993	14,375	3.4	5,551
Total	466,349	91,852	55,567	26,960	640,728	0	870	109,650	110,520	751,248		886,491
Resources expended											2	
Expenditure on:												
Raising funds	523	281	209	0	1,013	0	13	12,045	12,058	13,071	4.1	8,736
Charitable activities	516,496	0	167,034	94,697	778,227	0	0	0	0	778,227	4.2	723,103
Total	517,019	281	167,243	94,697	779,240	0	13	12,045	12,058	791,298		731,839
Net surplus/(deficit)	-50,670	91,571	-111,676	-67,737	-138,512	0	857	97,605	98,462	-40,050		154,652
Transfers between funds	25,500	-99,575	77,075	67,737	70,737	-1,500	-1,500	-67,737	-70,737	0		0
Net movement in funds	-25,170	-8,004	-34,601	0	-67,775	-1,500	-643	29,868	27,725	-40,050		154,652
Reconciliation of funds:												
Funds brought forward	170,770	12,835	82,904	0	266,509	15,002	43,270	277,690	335,962	602,471		447,819
forward	145,600	4,831	48,303	0	198,734	13,502	42,627	307,558	363,687	562,421		602,471

14. Transactions with related parties

14.1. Transactions with trustees

None of the trustees has been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with this charity or a related entity. None of the trustees has been paid any expenses in the current or in the prior year.

14.2. There were no other related party payments in either the current or prior years.

15. Reserves Policy:

SCM maintains free unrestricted reserves:

- to provide a level of working capital that protects the continuity of our work
- to provide a level of funding for unexpected opportunities
- to provide cover for risks such as unforeseen expenditure or unanticipated loss of income.

The unsolicited extra support which SCM received from the public during the Covid years increased our reserves from a small emergency amount to cover problems and if necessary shutdown, to a larger strategic reserve which the trustees have been making use of for growth.

Following the sharp drop off in food donations following Covid, it has been necessary for our charity to purchase about one third of the food that we give away for free through our projects. While some can be sourced through food redistribution from charities such as FareShare at a discount, the majority of our food purchases has to be sourced from retail, cash & carry and bulk purchasing. It has been a blessing to have the reserves to lean on to meet this large demand.

The trustees have invested in more schools worker staff, in order to expand the provision of Christian education and church equipping in this area of ministry. We have been delighted with the increased reach and impact of this work and the reserves have enabled us to run the schools project at a significant deficit.

Having hit the upper limit of projects, venues and initiatives that the charity can sustain with current staffing levels, the trustees have invested in growth by employing a p/t finance officer, a p/t operations manager and a p/t communications and engagement manager. These new roles will enable the charity to grow our support base, both in terms of finances and volunteers in order to provide the resource for additional Marketplaces, school's provision and undergird the existing emergency support network which the Basics Banks provide Southampton.

Thus the strategic plan to reduce SCM's level of reserves by investing in growth is on track and encouraging.

Statement of Public Benefit:

Because we are legally a “smaller charity” and below the audit threshold, we must include only a brief summary in our Annual Report of the main activities undertaken - you can find that in the main report.

As the Trustees of the charity we confirm that we have had regard to the Charity Commission’s public benefit guidance, where relevant.

The Objects of the Charity – as set out in its Constitution – are:

1. To advance the Christian faith for the benefit of the public in accordance with the basic tenets of historical Biblical Christianity.
2. To prevent and relieve poverty in the City of Southampton and its neighbouring area.
3. To advance education for persons of any age by providing or assisting in the development of their mental, physical and moral capabilities through work in schools and other educational institutions and by supporting other charities in England, the UK or abroad.

We consider that the first object above passes the “public benefit test” because advancing the Christian faith in our community has a positive impact on the moral and ethical behaviour of those with whom we come in contact. Including the Christian obligations of loving your neighbour, looking after the poor, accepting everyone as worthy of respect, love and community.

Objects 2 and 3 are the outworking of this in the provision of emergency food and clothing via Basics Bank, to which referrals are made by public sector agencies and other charities, irrespective of ethnic origin, faith (or none) or other factors, also by the Marketplace initiative of four affordable food club communities, and by the huge work done in schools at the invitation of Head Teachers.

In addition to this, SCM has a vital role across several areas of the city to the benefit of the public:

- In coordinating anti-poverty work (Anti-Poverty Network Chair).
- In coordinating food aid provision (Food Bank Network Chair & Food Aid Forum Chair).
- In enabling academic research into food aid in Southampton (DIET project and FAIR project - University of Southampton).
- In helping to establish the ‘Southampton Food Partnership’.
(<https://www.sustainablefoodplaces.org/members/southampton>)
- Through membership of national bodies such as ‘IFAN’ and ‘Feeding Britain’ bringing national best practice and initiatives into the city, to impact our collective food aid and anti-poverty initiatives.
- In conducting an annual accounting of the total amount of food aid providing by all projects across the city, in a week long ‘snapshot’ survey. Providing this information to SCC and the public.
- Working across all denominations and styles of church for the purpose of Christian unity around the ‘main and plain’ of the Gospel message.

- On the Steering committee of 'One Body Southampton', the church unity group for Southampton.
- Providing free consultancy to church leaders across Southampton on Mission and other aspects of Christian ministry. Helping to plan, initiate and support missional and anti-poverty projects in various churches.
- Providing equipping and training to the whole church in Southampton through an annual SCM day conference.
- Membership of 'City Missions Movement UK & Ireland' bringing expertise from other cities to inform and equip Southampton based initiatives, as well as working in Portsmouth with the churches there to encourage a Portsmouth City Mission to be planted.

**Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Southampton City Mission (CIO)
(Registered Charity number 1162099) on the accounts for the year ended 31 March
2025 set out on pages 2 to 14.**

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of Accounting Technicians.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's statement

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Ken Stratton

Ken Stratton FMAAT

Brewery House, High Street
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SO21 1RG

Date 26 January 2026