



Trustees' Annual Report

for the period ending

31st December 2024

Charity Name: Beacon Evangelical Church

Registered Charity Number: 1163097

Principal address: 47 Sandwell Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, B21 8NH

Trustees who manage the Charity

Name	Office (if any)	Dates in office if not for the whole year
Timothy Turner	Pastor and Elder	
Elaine Salmon	Deacon and Secretary	
Philip Evans	Deacon and Treasurer	
Veronica Johnson	Deacon	

Structure and governance

Beacon Evangelical Church is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with voting members other than its charity trustees and is regulated by a constitution.

Trustees are elected by the members of the church and together constitute the “Leadership Team” of the church. Within the Leadership Team, there are Elders who are responsible for the spiritual and pastoral care of the members and Deacons who assist the Elders in their duties.

The trustees meet on a monthly basis to consider the spiritual and pastoral affairs of the church and on a quarterly basis to manage matters requiring financial and procedural decisions.

The church is a founder member of the Charity, Handsworth and District Christian Outreach also known as Hands Outstretched, a collaboration between local churches for the advancement of the Christian faith.

Objects

The church’s objects, for the public benefit, are to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Faith detailed in the church’s constitution.

To this end, the Leadership Team is committed to enabling the members of the church to communicate the Christian gospel with as many people as possible. This is understood to take place verbally and also by practical demonstration of God’s love through compassionate care for members of the community, the provision of services from the base of the church building on Sandwell Road and through the members’ lifestyle within the community.

In overseeing and developing the activities of the church, the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

Activities

The activities of the church are open to the public.

Worship - Our theme for 2024 was our 'God of hope'.

The church holds one service of worship each Sunday. Members are encouraged to participate in running the service, building their faith and growing their confidence and skills. Our services were live streamed to YouTube during 2024. This has benefitted not just those who cannot leave their homes for reasons of health and vulnerability but has strengthened our connection with many people we might not otherwise have met.

Prayer

The church meets regularly to pray as well as having a week of prayer in January and July, with meetings every evening. An Intercessors prayer group met weekly.

Bible Study

The church provides Bible Study through weekly Fellowship Groups, one-off studies and by studying a theme or Bible book in the Sunday Service. In Sunday services during 2024 we have greatly benefitted from completing our study of Matthew's Gospel, studying Galatians and began to study people of faith in the Bible.

Fellowship groups

The church runs several small groups on weekday evenings for study of the Bible, to develop individual Christian faith and engage in community outreach. From time to time, groups run events to bring the community together and explain the Christian faith. At the end of 2024 there were four evening groups and a daytime group, including a new evening group for young adults.

Drop-in days

With activities, free refreshments and lunch, these days help us welcome and get to know people from our community, especially those who are lonely, isolated or vulnerable in some way. It is a welcoming space with a listening ear. We help people to fill in forms, issue foodbank vouchers and have a 'Dementia Café', run by a Dementia UK ambassador. Representatives of the local DWP, Birmingham City Council's Housing department, or health professionals are invited to visit to provide advice and information. We work with the local Prison Link charity, welcoming some of their service users on occasion, as well as residents at a local men's hostel.

Children and young people

- The church runs a **Sunday Club** for children from Year 1 to 11, teaching Bible knowledge and explaining the Christian faith. We also provide a creche during Sunday services.
- The **12+** group for young people in year 7 to mid-teens, meets fortnightly for games and topical study, once a month for a physical activity in the community, such as climbing, bowling etc.
- Our young people and children are encouraged to take part in 'Family Services' once a month and sometimes lead the whole service.

Food bank

The church continued to support The Handsworth Food Bank, a Trussell Trust Food Bank based locally, providing funds, food and volunteers to staff the food bank.

Sisters of Strength Women's group (SOS)

Sisters of Strength is a women's group which met several times during the year for an evening of worship, teaching and celebration.

Beacon Brothers Together

Brothers Together is an informal group for men, which meets for meals and seeks to support men in the church and outside, in putting their faith into action. It also operates as a support network for men via social media. The group ran a Mother's Day service in 2024.

Safe Families

The church had one volunteer helping with the Safe Families charity during 2024.

Staffing and safeguarding

In July 2024, the church employed a full time Community Development and Outreach Leader, to assist our vision to be more outward looking, to take the good news of Jesus to our community in word and compassionate action to help the most vulnerable.

**Full time
Community
Development &
Outreach
Leader
recruited**

91
**Volunteer
hours per week
= 2.4 full time
workers**

Apart from this role and one part-time cleaner, our activities are organised and staffed by volunteers. It was estimated that in 2024, on average, 91 volunteer hours per week were contributed, the equivalent to 2.4 full time workers.

The church's safeguarding officer ensures that those working with children and vulnerable adults are selected, trained, checked and supervised in accordance with the church's safeguarding policy.

Achievements and performance

Advancement of the Christian Faith

As explained above, the Object of the Church, for the public benefit, is to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Faith. For many this might be seen simply as the provision of worship services, prayer and Christian teaching. However, our ethos recognises that the Christian faith encompasses all aspects of life, so that Christians share their faith both verbally but also by practical demonstration of God's love through compassionate care for members of the community. This is demonstrated in the way we measure achievement and performance, as below, in accordance with the Church's Objects.

Sunday Worship

The church livestreamed 49 Sunday Services via YouTube, allowing members who are housebound, working shifts, sick or away, to remain connected and even take part through the YouTube messaging facility. Service videos remain available after the event, allowing new people to connect with us. Family members and people with past connections have also watched after the event.

112
**Adults
attended
Sunday
Worship onsite
or online**



The number of adults attending Sunday Worship in person was 41, on average in 2024 (42 in 2023) but grew towards the end of the year to around 50. Around 13 others watched live (12 in 2023) and 58 watched afterwards (60 in 2023). Online numbers include host users who interact with those online.

The total number of people joining in with our Sunday Services in some way during 2024 averaged 112, compared to 114 in 2023.

This involved a huge amount of creativity, energy, volunteer hours and commitment from the Sunday Technical and Worship teams.

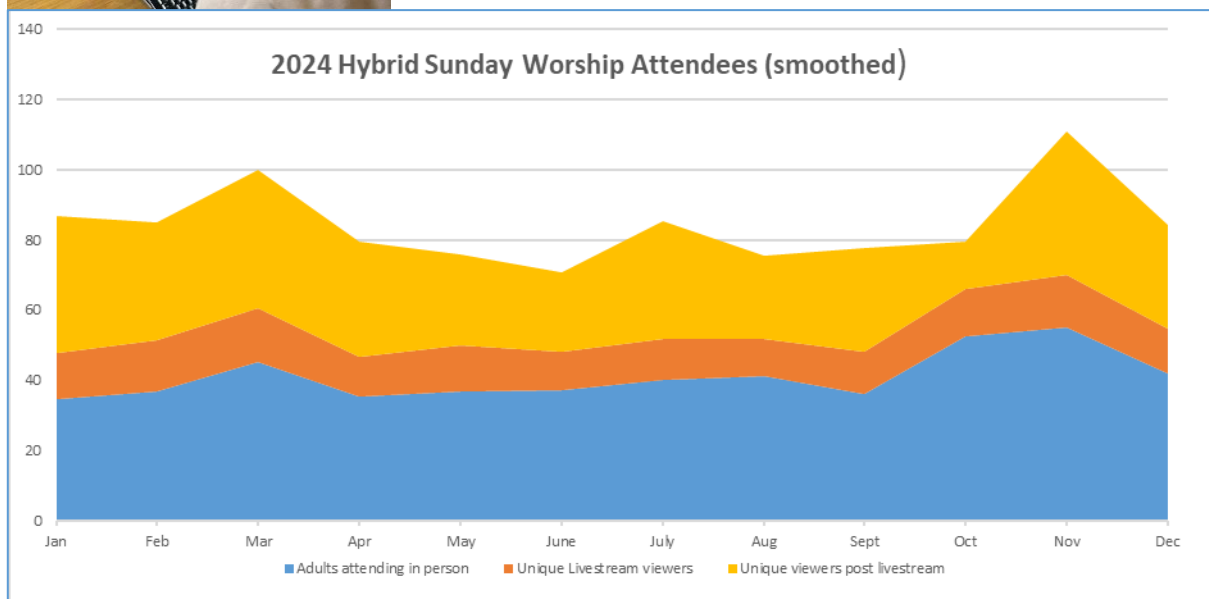


Figure 1 – 2024 Hybrid Sunday worship attendance

The church also conducted a baby dedication, a marriage blessing and 2 adult baptisms in 2024.

The 2020 pandemic left a legacy of people who had ceased to be active members but had not formally resigned. Ten of these were removed from membership in 2024.

Nine new members were welcomed in 2024, giving a membership of seventy-two people at the end of 2024 (73 at the end of 2023). This has been a healthy change giving us a much more active membership than previously.

9
New
members in
2024

Strengthening the Church

Our new Community Development Leader implemented measures to strengthen the church and prepare the members for more active participation in community outreach. He initiated:

- A 'Discipleship' course to prepare people to volunteer for services provided to the community and the church. A group of 7 young adults completed their training in November and were 'commissioned' in December.
- A pastoral care network with leaders supporting 6 groups. 12 leaders were commissioned in December and meet from time to time for training and support.

Prayer & Bible Study

In 2024 we have increased our prayer as a church. The monthly prayer meeting on a Friday now takes place every week. Bible study has also increased. In January/February we had four sessions, on Sunday evenings on the subject of, 'What is the Gospel?'. This was repeated in seminar format in April, on a Saturday.

More prayer and Bible Study in 2024

Our young adults followed a discipleship course in the autumn and have formed a new group which meets weekly.

Children and young people

The total number of children and young people attending Sunday Club and other events increased a little during 2024, especially in the secondary age group. We have restarted a creche during our Sunday morning service and have several babies in attendance. Sunday Club enjoyed one of their sessions out in the community.

Our 12+ group grew in 2024 and can be attended by up to 14 children.

The youth and young adults had a successful weekend away at the end of the autumn half-term, at the Whitemoor Lakes Outdoor Activity Centre, near Lichfield.

One of our members ran a summer holiday club for children onsite, 'Refocus for Kids'. It was mainly for non-church children and funded by Awards For All, through the Prison Link Charity.

SEND training was organised for all the volunteers and members from local churches attended.

The Beacon Centre Project

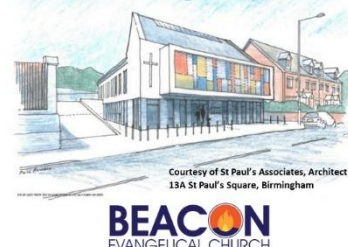
This now incorporates both the **Beacon Centre Building Project** and our new **Beacon Community Project**.

The project team expanded from four to six members in 2024 adding much valuable experience and new skills.

The **Beacon Centre Building Project** aims to rebuild the premises in Sandwell Road to better facilitate our vision to serve the community and give more space for services of worship. The general vision includes expanding or providing for the first time some of the following services:

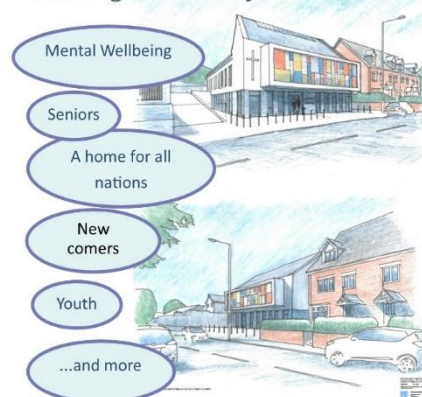
- counselling and support to address mental health needs
- facilities and support for parents with young children
- signposting and language learning to support incomers
- a place for young people to belong, learn and play
- a place for older people to socialise and obtain help

The BEACON CENTRE Is Moving Forward



BE INVOLVED. PRAY GIVE VOLUNTEER

We are restoring lives,
building community:



Then your light will break forth like the dawn. (Isaiah 58:8)

*A light to our community.
Go, be fruitful and multiply*



Three phases planned

Our Architects helped us devise a structure for the building project, in three phases:

- Phase 1 Prepare - building some retaining walls, some excavation, and preparation of utility connections, along with fulfilling some of the essential planning conditions.
- Phase 2 Build the main two-storey part of the building at the front of the site whilst retaining and using the old building during the build.
- Phase 3 Demolish the old building and build the final part of the Beacon Centre in its place, whilst using the Phase 2 building for most activities.

We began Phase 1 in 2024 and fulfilled several planning conditions such as a ground drainage investigation, topographical and geo-technical surveys. Draft plans were created for new retaining walls on two sides of the site and a new manhole and drainage connections to the Severn Trent system. We plan to complete this phase in 2025.

PHASE 1 of our building project began

Beacon Community Project

This new project runs alongside the Building Project and incorporates our existing services – i.e. Drop-in days, Food Bank support, individual and family support, 25:35 fund and partnership with the Birmingham City Mission (BCM) for the Christmas Toylink project. This allows our Community Development Leader to focus on developing new community outreach services regardless of the status of the building project.

Drop-in Days

In 2024 we expanded our monthly Community 'drop-in day' to be fortnightly, planning to make it weekly in 2025. It has continued to be popular, attracting 20 to 30 people, most of whom we have never met before and who would not have come to the church for a service. This is helping us learn about the needs and aspirations of our community as we look to develop the new Beacon Centre. Some of those who come to the Drop-in initially,



Doubled The number of drop-in days



do visit services on a Sunday sometimes. We arranged a Summer trip to Stourport on Severn and invited the community to a special Caribbean Brunch.

General Community Support

Week by week, the Church supported individuals and families in need with contact, food parcels, food bank vouchers, practical help (via our 25:35 fund), transport to appointments, assistance with forms, moving home or to helping to prevent people becoming homeless. We also helped with shopping and contributions to gas and electricity needs. In December we distributed Christmas presents to 25 families via the BCM Toylink scheme. We continue to link with the local primary school by providing advice and practical help for parents and families.

Preparations for new Community Outreach in 2025

In 2024 our Community Development Leader began preparations for several new projects and services planned for 2025. He also began recruiting volunteers for these projects. Plans were made for:

- A weekly seniors' lunch club
- A CAP Job Club
- Partnership with Age UK to expand our Drop-in days to a weekly provision
- Community Chaplaincy to support newly released prisoners
- A children's music school to proactively address mental health
- A potential partnership with local churches to run a Street Pastors Group

Financial Review

A full statement of accounts has been prepared by Data Developments (UK) Ltd, First Floor, The Chubb Buildings, Fryer Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1HT. Data Developments act as the church's independent examiners.

Beacon Church's principal source of funding is donations from members.

The church makes use of the gift aid scheme to claim tax on donations.

Policies and procedures

Prior to 2024 the Church had policies for **Health and Safety**, **Data Protection and Safeguarding**.

In 2024 we added:

Reserves Policy:

The Trustees agreed a new Reserves Policy in 2024, at a meeting on 07/05/2024, that the church's reserve level be set at six months of the typical expenditure required to operate the church. This is calculated using a monthly average from the previous financial year.

In the process of employing a full time Community Development and Outreach Leader we added a Church Worker **Code of Conduct**, Church Worker **Disciplinary Procedure**, Church Worker **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement**, Church Worker **Employee Expenses Policy** and **Church Worker Grievance Procedure**

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the report above

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature



Date: 20/05/2025

Full Name: Timothy John Holden Turner

Position: Chair

Beacon Evangelical Church
Financial Statements for the year ended
31 December 2024

Beacon Evangelical Church
47 Sandwell Road
Handsworth
Birmingham
B21 8NH

Independent Examiner's report to the trustees/members of Beacon Evangelical Church

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024 which are set out on the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

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

It is my responsibility

- to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

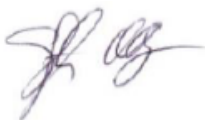
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or 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:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the with the accounting records

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



Signed:

Date: 10th April 2025

Stephen Hendy
Data Developments (UK) Ltd, Fryer Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1HT

Beacon Evangelical Church

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Incoming resources						
Incoming resources from generated funds						
Voluntary income	51,428	35,834	—	—	87,262	80,877
Investment income	21	—	—	—	21	200
Total income	51,449	35,834	—	—	87,283	81,077
Resources used						
Charitable activities	16,263	595	—	—	16,858	13,841
Other resources used	29,660	9,882	—	—	39,542	18,046
Total expenditure	45,923	10,477	—	—	56,401	31,887
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	5,525	25,357	—	—	30,882	49,190
Other recognised gains / losses						
Net movement in funds	5,525	25,357	—	—	30,882	49,190
Total funds brought forward	592,383	313,732	56,065	—	962,180	912,990
Total funds carried forward	597,909	339,089	56,065	—	993,062	962,180
Represented by						
Unrestricted						
General fund	597,909	—	—	—	597,909	592,383
Designated						
25-35 Fund	—	996	—	—	996	1,040
Distress Fund	—	1,973	—	—	1,973	1,036
New Beacon Fund	—	336,120	—	—	336,120	311,656
Restricted						
Building Fund	—	—	56,065	—	56,065	56,065

Statement of assets and liabilities - 2024

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Fixed assets - Heritage assets						
Church Premises -	440,433	—	—	—	440,433	440,433
Totals	440,433	—	—	—	440,433	440,433
Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand						
Beacon CafCash -	30,485	2,980	2,860	—	36,324	123,154
Beacon Gold -	54,824	156,455	1,063	—	212,341	108,044
CAF - Scottish Widows Term deposit -	57,857	20,579	(22,857)	—	55,579	52,897
Cambridge & Counties Bank -	7,656	9,387	75,000	—	92,043	88,069
Lloyds TSB -	6,654	(621)	—	—	6,033	5,823
Redwood Bank -	—	56,407	—	—	56,407	54,363
United Trust Bank Limited -	—	93,902	—	—	93,902	89,398
Totals	157,476	339,089	56,065	—	552,629	521,747
Grand total	597,909	339,089	56,065	—	993,062	962,180

Statement of assets and liabilities - 2023

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Fixed assets - Heritage assets						
Church Premises -	440,433	—	—	—	440,433	440,433
Totals	440,433	—	—	—	440,433	440,433
Current assets - Cash at bank and in hand						
Beacon CafCash -	75,169	45,125	2,860	—	123,154	84,911
Beacon Gold -	4,824	102,157	1,063	—	108,044	105,891
CAF - Scottish Widows Term deposit -	57,857	17,897	(22,857)	—	52,897	51,650
Cambridge & Counties Bank -	7,656	5,5412	75,000	—	88,069	84,849
Lloyds TSB -	6,654	(621)	—	—	5,823	4,983
Redwood Bank -	—	54,363	—	—	54,363	52,721
United Trust Bank Limited -	—	89,398	—	—	89,398	87,551
Totals	151,950	313,732	56,065	—	521,747	472,557
Grand total	592,383	313,732	56,065	—	962,180	912,990

Fund movement by type – 2024

	Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/losses	Journals	Closing
25-35 - 25-35 Fund							
Designated	1,040	551	595	—	—	—	996
Sub-total for 25-35	1,040	551	595	—	—	—	996
BF - Building Fund							
Restricted	56,065	—	—	—	—	—	56,065
Sub-total for BF	56,065	—	—	—	—	—	56,065
Distr - Distress Fund							
Designated	1,036	937	—	—	—	—	1,973
Sub-total for Distr	1,036	937	—	—	—	—	1,973
General - General fund							
Unrestricted	592,383	51,449	45,923	—	—	—	597,909
Sub-total for General	592,383	51,449	45,923	—	—	—	597,909
NBF - New Beacon Fund							
Designated	311,656	34,346	9,882	—	—	—	336,120
Restricted	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sub-total for NBF	311,656	34,346	9,882	—	—	—	336,120
Tra - Travel Fund							
Designated	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sub-total for Tra	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grand total	962,180	87,283	56,401	—	—	—	993,062

Fund movement by type – 2023

		Opening	Incoming	Outgoing	Transfers	Gains/losses	Journals	Closing
25-35 - 25-35 Fund								
Designated		870	569	400	—	—	—	1,039
Sub-total for 25-35		870	569	400	—	—	—	1,039
BF - Building Fund								
Restricted		56,065	—	—	—	—	—	56,065
Sub-total for BF		56,065	—	—	—	—	—	56,065
Distr - Distress Fund								
Designated		1,280	129	373	—	—	—	1,036
Sub-total for Distr		1,280	129	373	—	—	—	1,036
General - General fund								
Unrestricted		565,689	56,006	29,312	—	—	—	592,383
Sub-total for General		565,689	56,006	29,312	—	—	—	592,383
NBF - New Beacon Fund								
Designated		289,084	24,371	1,800	—	—	—	311,656
Restricted		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sub-total for NBF		289,084	24,371	1,800	—	—	—	311,656
Tra - Travel Fund								
Designated		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sub-total for Tra		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grand total		912,990	81,077	31,887	—	—	—	962,180

Analysis of income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2024

					Total	
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year

INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS

Incoming resources from generated funds - Voluntary income

Offerings	36,726	—	—	—	36,726	37,372
Income tax refund	10,569	—	—	—	10,569	14,210
Other Income	4,033	5	—	—	4,038	6,154
Distress fund	—	937	—	—	937	129
25-35	—	546	—	—	546	570
New Beacon Fund Income	100	34,346	—	—	34,446	22,442
Total	51,428	35,834	—	—	87,262	80,877

Incoming resources from generated funds - Investment income

Bank Interest	21	—	—	—	21	200
Total	21	—	—	—	21	200
INCOME TOTAL	51,449	35,834	—	—	87,283	81,077

EXPENDITURE

Charitable activities

Church Gifts	9,069	—	—	—	9,069	7,940
Distress Fund expenses	—	—	—	—	—	374
25-35 expenses	—	595	—	—	595	400
Organisational Support & Events	7,194	—	—	—	7,194	5,127
Total	16,263	595	—	—	16,858	13,841

Other resources used

Salaries:Net Salary	9,638	—	—	—	9,638	—
Salaries:Pensions	671	—	—	—	671	—
Salaries:Employee National Insurance	144	—	—	—	144	—
Payroll:Volunteer Expenses	329	—	—	—	329	760
Preaching fees	220	—	—	—	220	200
Training	175	—	—	—	175	40
Subscriptions	96	—	—	—	96	251
Governance Costs	834	—	—	—	834	346
Establishment costs	2,946	—	—	—	2,946	1,963
Establishment costs:Light & Heat	5,873	—	—	—	5,873	4,627
Establishment costs:Repairs and renewals	1,789	—	—	—	1,789	1,913
Establishment costs:Cleaning & consumables	3,257	—	—	—	3,257	3,290
New Beacon Project cost	—	9,882	—	—	9,882	1,800
Support Costs	3,687	—	—	—	3,687	2,857
Total	29,660	9,882	—	—	39,542	18,046
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	45,923	10,477	—	—	56,401	31,887
GRAND TOTAL	5,525	25,357	—	—	30,882	49,190

Comparative SOFA

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Incoming resources						
Incoming resources from generated funds						
Voluntary income	55,806	25,070	—	—	80,877	57,646
Investment income	200	—	—	—	200	144
Total income	56,006	25,070	—	—	81,076	57,790
Resources used						
Charitable activities	13,066	774	—	—	13,841	10,768
Other resources used	16,245	1,800	—	—	18,046	48,566
Total expenditure	29,312	2,574	—	—	31,887	59,334
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	29,693	22,495	—	—	49,189	(1,544)
Other recognised gains / losses						
Net movement in funds	29,312	22,495	—	—	49,189	(1,544)
Total funds brought forward	565,689	291,235	56,065	—	912,990	914,534
Total funds carried forward	592,383	313,731	56,065	—	962,180	912,990