

CHOICE WORDS CIO

England & Wales · Charity number 1163536

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2015-09-14

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Choice Words CIO
71 Queen Street
Newton Abbot
Devon
TQ12 2AU

Phone 01626334027

Email shop@choicewords.co.uk

Website <https://choicewords.co.uk/>

Activities

Objects: TO RUN THE CHRISTIAN BOOKSHOP, CHOICE WORDS IN THE SOUTH WEST. THE CIO WILL FURTHER THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION AND THE BENEFICIARIES OF THE CIO WILL VBE THOSE PURCHASING BOOKS AND ASSOCIATED CHRISTIAN RESOURCES TO INDIVIDUALS, CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS. CUSTOMERS WILL INCLUDE PASTORS, CHURCH LEADERS, BIBLE STUDENTS, MISSIONARIES, YOUTH WORKERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC. THE MAIN RETAIL OUTLET WILL BE IN NEWTON ABBOT WITH OUTHER OUTLETS IN SOUTH DEVON INCLUDING BOOK AGENTS AND BOOKSTALLS IN CHURCHES TOGETHER WITH BOOKSTALLS AT CONFERENCES, EXHIBITIONS, FESTIVALS AND OTHER OUTSIDE EVENTS.

Activities: To operate the Christian bookshop, Choice Words, and its conference and event support services. To promote the Christian faith and provide publications and resources to educate people about that faith.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NEWTON ABBOT WITH OUTER OUTLETS IN SOUTH DEVON
- Devon

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-01-31	£4,883	£1,860	-	-
2024-01-31	£5,215	£60	-	-
2023-01-31	£5,033	£60	-	-
2022-01-31	£6,072	£96	-	-
2021-01-31	£6,298	£60	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Nigel Brittle	Chair	2017-11-03
ANNE LANDRICOMBE		2015-07-02
EDEL QUINN BRITTLE		2015-07-02
Gordon Nicholas Hook		2026-03-02
PAMELA BRITTLE		2015-07-02
ROY BRITTLE		2015-07-02

CHOICE WORDS CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1163536

Accounts

Choice Words CIO Charity No 1163536

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st January 2025

Objectives and Activities

The purpose of Choice Words CIO as detailed in its constitution is:

To run the Christian bookshop, Choice Words, in the South West of England. The CIO aims to further the Christian religion and the beneficiaries of the CIO will be those purchasing and accessing Christian books and associated resources – and these can be individuals, churches, schools and other organisations. Customers include pastors, church leaders, bible students, missionaries, youth workers and the general public. The main retail outlet is in Newton Abbot, Devon. The CIO also provides bookstalls at conferences, exhibitions, festivals and other community events.

At the date of this report, the CIO has still not fully taken over the operation of Choice Words. The planned schedule to do this was further delayed by the economic consequences of the pandemic experienced from 2020 to 2022 but also due to staff and volunteer health issues and changes during both 2023 and 2024. The long-time bookshop manager stood down due to health reasons and two new joint shop managers were appointed in her place. Bookstall events continued to be scheduled during the reporting period after ceasing altogether during the pandemic. The main Newton Abbot shop continued to open for six days per week (Monday to Saturday) during 2024, after being reduced to 4 days during 2022-2023. An online/telephone order and delivery service continued to be made available for customers.

As per previous public statements confirming the intention of the CIO to take over the day to day running of operations, the trustees have continued to progress planning for this transition and to encourage fundraising activities to support it, including the continuation of the Friends of Choice Words scheme throughout the year where customers and supporters donate on an annual or monthly membership subscription basis to be a Friend, the proceeds of which go directly to the charity, enabling customers to support the charity and accessing specific member benefits at the same time. The Choice Words CIO website, launched in 2019, has continued to be the main public online face of the charity. Ongoing email communications with the Friends, email communications to the local network of South Devon churches and also communications via Choice Words' Facebook page have continued to raise the profile of Choice Words CIO and awareness of the charity's mission and vision.

Total donations for the reporting period for Choice Words CIO were down slightly by just over 6% year over year, partly due to more outstanding HMRC gift aid being reclaimed in the previous reporting period. Net income decreased due to increased expenses required for repair work to the shop during 2024. However, the cash at bank continued to increase by over £3,000 (9%) for the reporting period.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is established by constitution as a Foundation CIO which was registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales on 14th September 2015 and was amended on 25th January 2024. The trustees met together once formally during the year but also remained in regular contact regarding the progress of plans towards the CIO taking over the full operation of Choice Words.

The trustees who served during the year to 31st January 2024 are:

Nigel Brittle (Chair); Edel Brittle; Roy Brittle; Pamela Brittle; Anne Landricombe; Fraser Nute.

Fraser Nute resigned as a trustee towards the end of this reporting period, effective 31st December 2024.

Confirmed on behalf of the Trustees

CHOICE WORDS CIO

Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ended 31st January 2025

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Income	£	£
Donations	4,883	5,215
Expenditure	1,860	60
Net Income	3,023	5,155
Bank balance at beginning of year	<u>33,237</u>	<u>28,022</u>
Bank balance at end of year	<u>36,260</u>	<u>33,237</u>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st January 2025

Cash at bank	<u>36,260</u>	<u>33,237</u>
--------------	---------------	---------------

Note

The trustees confirm, in accordance with the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012, that at the year end the CIO did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured on the assets of the CIO.

Approved by the Trustees on 30 November 2024

And confirmed on their behalf by Nigel Brittle (Chair of Trustees)

CHOICE WORDS CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1163536

Accounts

Choice Words CIO Charity No 1163536

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st January 2024

Objectives and Activities

The purpose of Choice Words CIO as detailed in its constitution is:

To run the Christian bookshop, Choice Words, in the South West of England. The CIO aims to further the Christian religion and the beneficiaries of the CIO will be those purchasing and accessing Christian books and associated resources – and these can be individuals, churches, schools and other organisations. Customers include pastors, church leaders, bible students, missionaries, youth workers and the general public. The main retail outlet is in Newton Abbot, Devon. The CIO also provides bookstalls at conferences, exhibitions, festivals and other community events.

At the date of this report, the CIO has not fully taken over the operation of Choice Words. The planned schedule to do this was further delayed by the economic consequences of the pandemic experienced from 2020 to 2022 but also due to staff and volunteer changes during 2023 and also due to the continuing absence of one of the trustees and co-founders of Choice Words during this reporting period. The latter refers to Pamela Brittle who underwent a further lengthy period of recovery and rehabilitation during 2023 after major surgery in December 2022. Bookstall events began to pick up again during the reporting period after ceasing altogether during the pandemic. Of four previous Choice Words bookstall outlets which existed at local churches and a conference centre before the pandemic, three have now permanently closed – however, two new outlets have since opened. The main Newton Abbot shop continued to operate with reduced opening hours of four days per week throughout most of 2023 due to reduced staff availability but this increased to five days per week before the end of 2023 and has since returned to six days (Monday to Saturday) during 2024. An online/telephone order and delivery service continued to be made available for customers as had been offered throughout the pandemic.

As per previous public statements confirming the intention of the CIO to take over the day to day running of operations, the trustees have continued to encourage fundraising activities to make this happen and staff changes during 2023 resulted in the appointment of a new Development Manager who has taken over management of the Friends of Choice Words scheme throughout the year where customers and supporters donate on an annual or monthly membership subscription basis to be a Friend, the proceeds of which go directly to the charity, enabling customers to support the charity and accessing specific member benefits at the same time. A section of the Newton Abbot shop continued to be dedicated to second hand book sales and a significant proportion of these proceeds went directly to the CIO during the reporting period. The Choice Words CIO website, launched in 2019, has continued to be the main public online face of the charity. Ongoing email communications with the Friends, email communications to the local network of South Devon churches and also communications via Choice Words' Facebook page have continued to raise the profile of Choice Words CIO and awareness of the charity's mission and vision.

Net income for Choice Words CIO was 3.65% up for the 12 months to 31st January 2024 and the cash at bank has continued to increase. As will be shared in the annual report to January 2025, there has been a continued improvement since this time with new staff joining Choice Words, participation in more bookstall events during 2024 and the local Speaking Volumes scheme which enables books and media to be distributed to libraries at schools, prisons and other institutions at no cost to them. In addition, outstanding gift aid applications have been processed with HMRC generating further supplementary income.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is established by constitution as a Foundation CIO which was registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales on 14th September 2015 and was amended on 25th January 2024. The trustees met together once formally during the year but also remained in regular contact regarding the progress of plans towards the CIO taking over the full operation of Choice Words.

The trustees who served during the year to 31st Jan 2024 and up to the date of this report are:

Nigel Brittle (Chair); Edel Brittle; Roy Brittle; Pamela Brittle; Anne Landricombe; Fraser Nute

Confirmed on behalf of the Trustees

CHOICE WORDS CIO

Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ended 31st January 2024

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Income	£	£
Donations	5,215	5,033
Expenditure	60	60
Net Income	5,155	4,973
Bank balance at beginning of year	<u>28,022</u>	<u>23,049</u>
Bank balance at end of year	<u>33,237</u>	<u>28,022</u>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st January 2024

Cash at bank	<u>33,237</u>	<u>28,022</u>
--------------	---------------	---------------

Note

The trustees confirm, in accordance with the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012, that at the year end the CIO did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured on the assets of the CIO.

Approved by the Trustees on 29 November 2024

And confirmed on their behalf by Nigel Brittle (Chair of Trustees)

CHOICE WORDS CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1163536

Accounts

Choice Words CIO Charity No 1163536

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st January 2023

Objectives and Activities

The purpose of Choice Words CIO as detailed in its constitution is:

To run the Christian bookshop, Choice Words, in the South West of England. The CIO aims to further the Christian religion and the beneficiaries of the CIO will be those purchasing and accessing Christian books and associated resources – and these can be individuals, churches, schools and other organisations. Customers include pastors, church leaders, bible students, missionaries, youth workers and the general public. The main retail outlet is in Newton Abbot, Devon. The CIO also provides bookstalls at conferences, exhibitions, festivals and other community events.

At the date of this report, the CIO has not fully taken over the operation of Choice Words. The planned schedule to do this was further delayed by the economic consequences of the pandemic as we moved into 2022 and also due to the continuing absence of one of the trustees and co-founders of Choice Words during this reporting period following her hospitalisation for three months from October 2020 to January 2021 and further hospitalisation and surgery in December 2022. Bookstall events only slowly recommenced during the year after ceasing altogether during the pandemic and of four previous Choice Words bookstall outlets at local churches, only one re-opened after the pandemic. The main Newton Abbot shop also continued to operate with reduced opening hours of four days per week throughout the year due to reduced staff availability. However, an online/telephone order and delivery service continued to be made available for customers as had been offered throughout the pandemic. As per previous public statements confirming the intention of the CIO to take over the day to day running of operations, the trustees have continued to encourage fundraising activities to make this happen.

As part of this process, a section of the Newton Abbot shop continues to be dedicated to second hand book sales, proceeds of which go directly to the CIO. The trustees also continued to operate the Friends of Choice Words scheme throughout the year where customers and supporters donate on an annual or monthly membership subscription basis to be a Friend, the proceeds of which go directly to the charity, enabling customers to support the charity and accessing specific member benefits at the same time. The Choice Words CIO website, launched in 2019, has continued to be the main public online face of the charity. Ongoing email communications with the Friends and also communications via Choice Words' Facebook page have continued to raise the profile of Choice Words CIO and awareness of the charity's mission and vision.

Net income for Choice Words CIO was over 16% down for the 12 months to 31st January 2023 but the cash at bank has continued to increase. As will be shared in the annual report to January 2024, there has been a continued improvement since this time with new staff joining Choice Words, participation in more bookstall events during 2023 and the main shop now opening for six days per week. In addition, outstanding gift aid applications have been processed with HMRC generating further supplementary income.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is established by constitution as a Foundation CIO which was registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales on 14th September 2015. The trustees met together twice during the year but also remained in regular contact regarding the progress of plans towards the CIO taking over the full operation of Choice Words.

The trustees who served during the year to 31st Jan 2023 and up to the date of this report are:

Nigel Brittle (Chair); Edel Brittle; Roy Brittle; Pamela Brittle; Anne Landricombe; Fraser Nute

Confirmed on behalf of the Trustees

Nigel Brittle

27 November 2023

CHOICE WORDS CIO

Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ended 31st January 2023

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Income	£	£
Donations	5,033	6,072
Expenditure	60	96
Net Income	4,973	5,976
Bank balance at beginning of year	<u>23,049</u>	<u>17,073</u>
Bank balance at end of year	<u>28,022</u>	<u>23,049</u>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st January 2023

Cash at bank	<u>28,022</u>	<u>23,049</u>
--------------	---------------	---------------

Note

The trustees confirm, in accordance with the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012, that at the year end the CIO did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured on the assets of the CIO.

Approved by the Trustees on 27 November 2023

And confirmed on their behalf by Nigel Brittle (Chair of Trustees)

CHOICE WORDS CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1163536

Accounts

Choice Words CIO Charity No 1163536

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st January 2022

Objectives and Activities

The purpose of Choice Words CIO as detailed in its constitution is:

To run the Christian bookshop, Choice Words, in the South West of England. The CIO aims to further the Christian religion and the beneficiaries of the CIO will be those purchasing and accessing Christian books and associated resources – and these can be individuals, churches, schools and other organisations. Customers include pastors, church leaders, bible students, missionaries, youth workers and the general public. The main retail outlet is in Newton Abbot, Devon, with other outlets across South Devon including book agents and bookstalls located in churches. The CIO also provides bookstalls at conferences, exhibitions, festivals and other community events.

At the date of this report, the CIO has not fully taken over the operation of Choice Words. The planned schedule to do was further delayed by the ongoing impact of the pandemic during the early part of 2021 and also due to the continuing absence of one of the trustees and co-founders of Choice Words during this reporting period after her hospitalisation for three months from October 2020 to January 2021. Government restrictions continued including a further national lockdown from January to April 2021 and during this period, the shop and outlets remained closed. No bookstall events took place during the year and all of the Choice Words church outlets remained closed throughout the year. The main Newton Abbot shop reduced its opening time from six to four days per week from early November due to the shop manager being hospitalised and off sick. However, an online/telephone order and delivery service was operated for customers. As per the previous public statement confirming the intention of the CIO to take over the day to day running of operations, the trustees have continued to actively operate fundraising activities to make this happen.

As part of this process, a section of the Newton Abbot shop continues to be dedicated to second hand book sales, the proceeds of which all go directly to the CIO. The trustees also continued to operate the Friends of Choice Words scheme throughout the year where customers and supporters pay an annual or monthly membership subscription to be a Friend, the proceeds of which go directly to the charity, enabling customers to support the charity and accessing specific member benefits at the same time. The Choice Words CIO website, launched in 2019, has continued to be the main public online face of the charity. Ongoing email communications with the Friends and also communications via Choice Words' Facebook page have continued to raise the profile of Choice Words CIO and awareness of the charity's mission and vision.

Despite the challenges described during the 12 months to 31st January 2022, the net income for Choice Words CIO was only slightly down on the prior 12 month period and the cash at bank has continued to increase.

Structure, Governance and Management

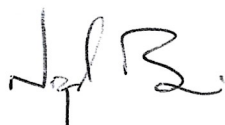
The charity is established by constitution as a Foundation CIO which was registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales on 14th September 2015.

The trustees met together once during the year but have also remained in regular contact despite the pandemic and the

The trustees who served during the year to 31st Jan 2022 and up to the date of this report are:

Nigel Brittle (Chair); Edel Brittle; Roy Brittle; Pamela Brittle; Anne Landricombe; Fraser Nute

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



Nigel Brittle

29 November 2022

CHOICE WORDS CIO

Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ended 31st January 2022

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Income	£	£
Donations	6,072	6,298
Expenditure	96	60
Net Income	5,976	6,238
Bank balance at beginning of year	<u>17,073</u>	<u>10,835</u>
Bank balance at end of year	<u>23,049</u>	<u>17,073</u>

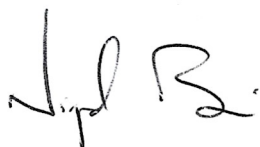
Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st January 2022

Cash at bank	<u>23,049</u>	<u>17,073</u>
--------------	---------------	---------------

Note

The trustees confirm, in accordance with the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012, that at the year end the CIO did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured on the assets of the CIO.

Approved by the Trustees on 29 November 2022



And signed on their behalf by Nigel Brittle (Chair of Trustees)

CHOICE WORDS CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1163536

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31st January 2021

Objectives and Activities

The purpose of Choice Words CIO as detailed in its constitution is:

To run the Christian bookshop, Choice Words, in the South West of England. The CIO aims to further the Christian religion and the beneficiaries of the CIO will be those purchasing and accessing Christian books and associated resources – and these can be individuals, churches, schools and other organisations. Customers include pastors, church leaders, bible students, missionaries, youth workers and the general public. The main retail outlet is in Newton Abbot, Devon, with other outlets across South Devon including book agents and bookstalls located in churches. The CIO will also provide bookstalls at conferences, exhibitions, festivals and other community events.

At the date of this report, the CIO has not fully taken over the operation of Choice Words. The planned schedule to do so has been delayed by the impact of the pandemic during the 12 months to 31st January 2021 and also due to the hospitalisation of one of the trustees and co-founders of Choice Words for three months during this period and also her ongoing absence from Choice Words since discharge from hospital. While government restrictions were in place, the shop and outlets were closed for an extended period of weeks and the conference centre previously hosting a Choice Words outlet closed permanently. However, an online and delivery service was operated for customers. As per the previous public statement confirming the intention of the CIO to take over the day to day running of operations, the trustees have continued to actively operate fundraising activities to make this happen.

As part of this process, a section of the Newton Abbot shop continues to be dedicated to second hand book sales, the proceeds of which all go directly to the CIO. The trustees also continued to operate its Friends of Choice Words scheme throughout the year where customers and supporters pay an annual or monthly membership subscription to be a Friend, the proceeds of which go directly to the charity, enabling customers to support the charity and accessing specific member benefits at the same time. The Choice Words CIO website, launched in 2019, has continued to be the main public online face of the charity. Ongoing email communications with the Friends and also communications via Choice Words' Facebook page have continued to raise the profile of Choice Words CIO and awareness of the charity's mission and vision.

Despite the challenges described during the 12 months to 31st January 2021, the net income for Choice Words CIO increased significantly when compared to the prior 12 month period.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is established by constitution as a Foundation CIO which was registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales on 14th September 2015.

The trustees met together once during the year but have also remained in regular contact despite pandemic restrictions.

The trustees who served during the year to 31st Jan 2021 and up to the date of this report are:

Nigel Brittle – Chair

Anne Landricombe

Edel Brittle

Fraser Nute

Roy Brittle

Ian Barrett (resigned May 2020)

Pamela Brittle

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

Nigel Brittle



23rd November 2021

CHOICE WORDS CIO

Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ended 31st January 2021

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Income	£	£
Donations	6,298	4,590
Expenditure	60	60
Net Income	6,238	4,530
Bank balance at beginning of year	<u>10,835</u>	<u>6,305</u>
Bank balance at end of year	<u>17,073</u>	<u>10,835</u>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31st January 2021

Cash at bank	<u>17,073</u>	<u>10,835</u>
--------------	---------------	---------------

Note

The trustees confirm, in accordance with the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012, that at the year end the CIO did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured on the assets of the CIO.

Approved by the Trustees on 23rd November 2021



And signed on their behalf by Nigel Brittle (Chair of Trustees)