



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

Contents

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION	3
AIMS AND PURPOSE	4
REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES	5
FINANCIAL REVIEW	6
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT	7
STATEMENT of FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	8
ANALYSIS of INCOME	9
ANALYSIS of EXPENDITURE	9
APPENDIX	10

The Trustees present their annual report and the financial statements of the charity for the period ended 31st December 2022

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Registered charity name:	Sandwell Churches Link
Charity registration number:	1167003
Registered address:	Wesley Methodist Church 291 High Street West Bromwich B70 8ND
Trustees:	Mrs. Hazel Bloxham Rev. Bev Thomas Mrs. Esther Spence Rev. Jon Grant Miss Elizabeth Farley Mr. Trevor Palfreyman
Chief Executive Officer:	Mr. James Lynch
Independent Examiner:	Mr. Eric Moore 2, Orchard Way Great Barr Birmingham B43 8PN
Principle Bankers:	Lloyds Bank Ltd.

CHARITY STATUS

The charity is a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) registered in 2016

AIMS AND PURPOSE

The objects of Sandwell Churches Link are to:

- *Play a key strategic role in reducing poverty in all its forms in Sandwell, including homelessness, food poverty, financial exclusion, and loneliness.*
- *Help local churches rooted in neighbourhoods to connect with the wider community including other faiths, businesses, voluntary and community groups and public sector organisations*
- *Help local churches to connect with each other in collaborative learning, shared resources and combined social action*
- *Support churches by offering training, to enable them to use an asset-based approach to working with their local communities.*

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

Sandwell Churches Link is a small charity, with a bold mission to work together to help end poverty in Sandwell. The charity operates with an extensive network of partners all of whom share this mission. Our partnerships start with churches of all denominations, but also extends to other-faith groups and community organisations with no particular faith connection.

During 2022, the core activities of Sandwell Churches' Link were:

- Developing the Sandwell Church Network, in each of the 6 towns
- Supporting 'Places of Welcome' initiative
- Pioneering the 'Warm Spaces' initiative with church and community partners
- Providing support and innovation to the Sandwell Food Power Network
- Working with 40 churches on effective community engagement through the 'Opening New Doors' project.
- Tackling Financial Exclusion
- Pioneering the development of Community Hubs across the borough

Throughout 2022 Sandwell Churches Link continued to work closely in partnership with Transforming Communities Together (Lichfield Diocese) and Thrive Together (Birmingham Diocese)

In 2022 Sandwell Churches' Link worked in partnership with Sandwell Council and Nurture Development to facilitate a further series of Asset Based Community Development workshops, and an 8-week Discovering ABCD Course, which was attended by 22 local partners from churches and community groups.

During 2022 more new food banks and Pantries have sprung up, which reflects both the continuing needs across the communities, and the preparedness of churches and other community organisations to step into the gap. Sandwell Churches Link has continued to play an important role in helping coordinate these projects and helping to share information, resources and learning across the borough. We work alongside Sandwell Council and all the main food networks based in Sandwell, or who deliver services in Sandwell.

Sandwell Churches Link is very grateful for the privilege to work with so many great churches and community partners, and to its sponsors who enable us to operate the charity.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Income generation

The total income for the year was £69,702 (2021: £28,325) which was generated through voluntary donations, grants, and training courses.

Expenditure

Total expenditures were £75,091 (2021: £36,686)

Funds

Overall funds are £17,923 (2021: £23,312) of which restricted funds are £0 (2021: £0)

Reserves policy

The charity holds unrestricted and restricted funds. Restricted funds are held for particular reasons and are usually spent within the financial year. Our overall policy for unrestricted funds is to hold reserves at a minimum threshold necessary to operate the organisation (not more than 3 months expenditure) or higher when specific projects are being planned for subsequent years.

ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES

Rev. Jon Grant as Chair of Trustees

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jon Grant'.

Date: June 2023

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

	CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Independent examiner's report on the accounts
Section A Independent Examiner's Report		
Report to the trustees/ members of	Charity Name Sandwell Churches Link	
On accounts for the year ended	31 December 2022	Charity no (if any) 1167003
Set out on pages	(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)	
I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2020		
Responsibilities and basis of report	As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.	
Independent examiner's statement	I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect: - accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or - the accounts do not accord with the accounting records I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached. <i>* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.</i>	
Signed: [Signature] Date: 8.3.23,		
Name: ERIC MOORE		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	FCA	
Address:	2 Orchard Way Buck Barr Birmingham B43 6PN	

STATEMENT of FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the accounting period 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
Income	1	£	£	£	£
Voluntary income		50,320	19,061	69,381	28,325
Charitable activities		321	-	321	-
Total Income		50,641	19,061	69,702	28,325
Expenditure	2				
Raising funds				100	100
Charitable activities				68,592	36,586
Total Expenses				75,091	36,686
Net Income/Expenditure				(5,389)	(8,360)
Funds brought forward				23,312	31,672
Balance				17,923	23,312

ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES

Rev. Jon Grant as Chair of Trustees

Signed:



Date: June 2023

1. ANALYSIS of INCOME for 2021/2022

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds (2022)	Total Funds (2021)
	£	£	£	£
Voluntary Income				
Charity Donations	113	-	113	-
Grants	50,207	19,061	69,268	28,325
Total Voluntary Income	50,320	19,061	69,381	28,325
Charitable Activities				
Training Courses	321	-	321	
TOTAL INCOME	50,641	19,061	69,702	28,325

2. ANALYSIS of EXPENDITURE for 2021/2022

	Total Expenses (2022)	Total Expenses (2021)
	£	£
Expenditure on raising funds	-	-
Website and Promotion	100	100
Total expenditure on raising funds	100	100
Charitable Activities		
Employee Salaries	32,736	28,571
Sessional Workers Costs	12,206	3,791
Office Rental	975	1,075
Training Courses	3,600	
Events	120	25
Promotional Filming	1,467	632
IT and Comms	1,233	
Legal and Insurance	544	552
HR Support	-	727
Travel and other Expenses	3,049	1,213
Partner Project Support	19,061	-
Total Charitable Activities	75,091	36,686
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	75,091	36,686