

LOVE SOUTHEND

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2021

LOVE SOUTHEND

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2021

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2021

Structure, Governance and Management

Love Southend is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), incorporated on 26 September 2018. It is registered with the Charity Commission. The CIO was established under its Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charity and is governed by its Articles of Association.

Appointment and Induction of Trustees

Trustees are appointed at Annual General Meetings, as set out in the Articles of Association, which provide for a minimum of three trustees. The Trustees are responsible for the appointment of new trustees.

New trustees undergo an induction to brief them on their legal obligations under charity law, the content of the Articles of Association and the decision-making processes and the recent performance of the charity. They meet key employees and the other trustees.

Risk Assessment Policy

The Risk Assessment and Health and Safety policy will be overseen by a designated trustee who reports back to trustees' meetings with appropriate recommendations.

Organisational Policy

The Trustees meet a minimum of four times a year. Sub-committees are formed as and when required. The Love Southend Servant Team oversee the operations of the charity.

Organisation

The Leadership Team structure and responsibilities are as follows:

Being a new and small charity, the organisation is simple.

The Love Southend Servant Team consists of eight individuals, four of whom are ministers of local churches and a further two are in leadership positions in local churches. These have responsibility for the direction and vision of the charity,

Trustees

i. The trustees are responsible for the legal and financial management of the charity; for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. In preparing the financial statements the trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently; make judgements that are reasonable and prudent; and prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in existence.

ii. To advise the Love Southend Servant team on staffing, salaries and employment issues.

iii. To manage the legal responsibilities of the charity.

Salaried staff

There were no salaried staff for the year 2021

Objectives and Activities

LOVE SOUTHEND

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2021

The principal activities of the charity is the relief of those in need; the promotion of the spiritual welfare of the community and the advancement of religion in Southend-on-Sea and its environs.

Review of activities and achievements

Prayer and worship.

We consider prayer to be an indispensable part of the individual's, the church's, and therefore Love Southend's life. We hold monthly prayer and worship weekday morning meetings which are open to any member of the community. These meetings focus on issues of celebration or concern in the life and work of the borough; the work and ministry of churches or individuals and their service in the community.

The 'Loving Southend in Prayer' WhatsApp group continues and draws on contacts within the NHS, Police and Council for updated needs, concerns and encouragements which are quickly and easily communicated to the 37 people in the group. Government restrictions prevented the physical attending of the hospital, so the WhatsApp group turned to the virtual. During their daily exercise one member videoed their walk around the hospital and added some scripture and texts to the final product. This was then circulated to all the group members aiding a prayer baton for those at home and those who wanted to walk, run, or cycle to surround the hospital in continuous prayer for 6 hours on 25/01/21.

The group have also continued to pray for schools and care homes.

In October 2021 the world watched the TV and listened attentively as the news of the tragic murder of one of our MPs was aired. Sir David Amess had been a supporter of Love Southend sharing in network meetings his dreams for our borough. As the borough grieved the Loving Southend in Prayer group responded to some words and pictures and wondered how these could be brought to life. Helen Yousaf was invited to the borough on 25/10/21 to create the 2 pictures shared, during the prayer Zoom call into painted pictures. Helen painted in a community space allowing people to come and watch, pray and also participate in the painting themselves. Helen took the paintings home to finish.

Southend Churches Community Support (SCCS)

SCCS is a Love Southend sponsored activity in collaboration with Southend Borough Council. This happened because the Churches' Winter Night Shelters (CWNS) were closed as a result of Covid and a council decision that they would not reopen. The CWNS was rebranded as Southend Churches Community Support

This period could be considered one of implementation and establishment.

The former Winter Night Shelters have remained closed since the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government advised that communal settings are far too risky after the pandemic. Fortunately, alongside that directive, the "Everyone In" initiative that the council funded, and thanks to some extremely hard work by the Council's Housing team, most of the rough sleepers were accommodated. SCCS was drafted in to help those recently accommodated to live independently, sustain their tenancy and develop life skills. The Befriending Service offers a friendly listening ear and signposts to local support services.

The SCCS Befriending Service launched on Valentine's Day 2021 and works in conjunction with Southend-on-Sea Borough Council, to offer companionship, basic practical help, to enable people to realise their full potential and assist them to participate in activities in the community in the same way that everyone else does. Each client is typically contacted weekly for a 1-hour session, on a one-to-one basis, doing activities of the client's choice. The SCCS website went live on the 8th of February for promotion and recruitment, but actual support did not commence until Thursday the 1st of April 2021. We started off with 5 client referrals and around the same number of certified volunteers, and an additional 12 volunteers who registered their interest. Unfortunately, engagement ceased with most of these previous clients, bar one, because of changes in their circumstances, which subsequently meant we lost their registered volunteer also; and on the rare occasion they left on their own accord.

The current situation is we only have one volunteer, so the manager is doing the majority of the befriending; nevertheless the determination to help as many people as possible remains. Recruitment of volunteers and clients is particularly slow, despite advertisements being in all the local libraries, the Job Centre and the university and new referrals being requested from other agencies.

LOVE SOUTHEND

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2021

An administrator was recruited in December 2021 to assist the manager in their work.

The aim is to have 15 clients in total as per the previous contractable agreement with the council, which should help in the application for council funds for the next financial year.

The Morrisons Foundation authorised the repurposing of their £25k donation to include the acquisition of a vehicle;. The Morrison's Foundation also permitted some refrigeration units to be purchased with the remaining money and also for it to be used for running costs.

Network meetings

Love Southend holds a monthly evening network meeting for church leaders, people who pray regularly for the well-being of the residents, life and work of the borough, and Christians who hold positions of responsibility within the community. In addition, any member of a Christian community interested in borough-wide issues is welcome to attend.

These meetings involve: raising awareness of borough-wide issues by inviting community leaders or those leading borough focussed Christian ministry to inform the network and create opportunities for churches and individuals to engage with the issues raised; to provide mutual support, encouragement and prayer for network members and their ministry. This year, for example, the CEO of Southend Borough Council, those working in addressing mental health issues exacerbated by Covid lockdowns and restrictions, and those working with refugees locally attended network meetings. All worship/prayer and network meetings remained on-line until September when hybrid meetings began.

Engagement with Community Leaders

Members of Love Southend have established strong connections with community leaders to better understand issues for celebration and the needs of the community, and to provide prayerful support and encouragement for those carrying significant responsibility within Southend. Four members of the Servant Team met regularly with a senior member of the Council until they moved to another post outside Southend; and one of them has regular meetings with senior police officers. We kept in close contact with these links throughout the year to support and encourage them in the fulfilment of their responsibilities and to be aware of ways in which we could offer support in prayer for them, their staff and for the borough.

Two members of the Servant Team attended meetings of the Southend Faith and Belief Network (the successor to the Southend Inter-faith Working Group) which provides a very welcome communication conduit between the Council and faith communities in the borough. Fortnightly Microsoft Teams calls requested by the Council enabled faith communities to:

- share their experiences of responding to Covid 19 and the changing pattern of government response
- share initiatives that met the needs of the wider community
- be aware of initiatives and developments by the Council in response to key issues affecting the community and report these to their faith communities
- to hear from, and ask questions of, key officials in the Council.

One significant example of how the Network functioned was a response to approximately 100 Afghan refugees (mainly Muslim families and some single men) being accommodated in a sea-front hotel. Love Southend offered to initiate two responses on behalf of the Network:

- 1) We composed a letter appealing to landlords to consider making accommodation available at Local Authority Housing rates to help families who wished to stay in Southend create a home life. This was signed by many leaders of faith groups across Southend.
- 2) We created and now manage a ring-fenced fund to which anyone in Southend could contribute to support Southend's Afghan guests for needs that Local Authority funds could not cover. In this way a variety of needs were met including the provision of over 30 backpacks containing essential items for children starting their first experience of school in the UK. By 31st Dec £3230.14 had been raised and £1252.71 expended.

LOVE SOUTHEND

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2021

Town centre chaplaincy

As we started the 3rd year of Love Southend being involved in Town Chaplaincy, Covid was still having a significant effect. During the year retail suffered with the Royals shopping centre losing 3 major stores. This necessitated the hours covered in the Royals by chaplaincy to reduce from 3-4 hours a week to 2-3. In the latter part of the year the Methodist half of the team started to do retail chaplaincy in the Victoria Plaza shopping centre at the other end of the high street.

One to ones continued both in public open areas and inside but with full compliance with both Covid and lone worker policies. Whether one to one or encounters with staff and customers much public prayer was shared, signposting and comfort was given. Continued links grew with both those of other faiths, especially the Muslim staff, and those with no faith commitment. Conversations covered areas such as mental health, education, business, finances, physical health, assistance with end of life and mourning.

The link between veterans' groups suffered due to Covid with no meetings held, however due to engagement with them a chaplain was asked to officiate at one veteran's funeral.

Chaplaincy to the YMCA grew, again depending on the restrictions placed by Covid. Weekly reflections were held each Tuesday prior to the working day via zoom with between 3&5 attendees. Later in the year when restrictions were eased, breakfast by the chaplaincy and a member of staff was organized on those Tuesdays to facilitate good relations between the residents/staff and chaplaincy. This led to prayers for similar issues as above but also addictions, relationships, identity and worth. Unfortunately, at the end of the year Covid caused this to stop again. One to ones also continued in this environment but was mostly taken up by staff remotely or in person. This even led to one member of staff who was commuting from Southend and thus could only work 2 days a week to find accommodation with the lead chaplain thus being able to live locally and do a full week of work. Also, some minimal work with the Y's housed refugees came to an end early on and did not restart before the end of the year.

Chaplaincy to refugees is in its infancy still and is linked with an Arab/English friendship group run by local Christians. The group assists both in the local borough but also abroad. The lead chaplain has befriended one family of 5 and visits them fortnightly. It is hoped to organize a shared meal with all the local families at some point in 2022 held in a church hall.

A Chaplaincy Course was held in February and comprised 12 people of whom 10 achieved completion of the course. Two joined Train Pastors and another care home chaplaincy. The other 8 were not able to commit for various reasons. We have reviewed the course and intend to do the next one with a more personal touch. At first this was hoped to be next held in spring of 2022 but will not be till the autumn at the earliest.

Plans for 2022.

The YMCA is growing and will later in 2022 add a children's home to its provision. This development with existing provision is likely to require another chaplain. The YMCA is hoping to be part of a new community hub in the high street starting in the summer of 2022 with which the chaplaincy will be involved.

The chaplain will be working with a YMCA supported mature university student putting together prayer stations for relevant times of the Christian calendar and also a quarterly luncheon for Christian leaders from the local community with a visiting speaker.

Support for NHS and emergency services staff – continuing to boost morale

A member of the Love Southend Servant Team continues to stay in regular contact with hospital staff members and police officers via text messages, emails and letters. As it has been difficult to visit the police station and hospital due to covid restrictions establishing a strong link with a key worker in both the hospital and the police force has successfully facilitated the distribution of letters of thanks, sweets and biscuits on behalf of Love Southend through the year. The response has been that this has helped to raise the morale of workers often under immense pressure.

Other events

Honouring Sir David brings solidarity between the Christian and Muslim communities in Southend

LOVE SOUTHEND

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2021

On Saturday 23rd October a flower laying ceremony as a mark of respect for the life and work of Sir David was made by representatives of Southend's Muslim community and the Conservative Muslim Forum at Sir David's constituency office in Leigh. Members of the Forum travelled four hours from Manchester to attend and the local Muslim group was led by the Imam of UKIM Southend Mosque. Steven Tinning, Assistant Minister of Leigh Road Baptist Church, invited members of other faith communities 'to stand alongside our Muslim friends, and each other, in the wake of the tragic events of last Friday which have been reported as being, at least in part, motivated by extremist religious beliefs.' Ministers or members from Catholic, Anglican, and Quaker congregations attended, as did Ruth Verrinder and Mark Churchward to represent Love Southend. After the flower-laying the Conservative Association invited the group into their lounge area and members of the group wrote in the book of condolence.

First ever virtual Faith and Belief Festival to celebrate cultural diversity of the Borough

Posted on May 20, 2021

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council's Faith and Belief Network, SAVS and Southend Museums are organising the first ever virtual Faith and Belief Festival to celebrate the cultural diversity of the Borough.

Co-produced in collaboration with a diverse range of communities, the Faith and Belief Festival runs from Monday 17 May with an online exhibition and welcomes those who want to showcase their faith or belief and encourages us all as a community to get to know each other a little bit better.

With the festival launching on the same day the country enters Step 3 of the government's roadmap out of lockdown, the festival is also asking contributors to share their experiences of previous national lockdowns and how their faith and belief has helped them.

The coronavirus pandemic saw our connections with the people and support systems we usually rely on become fractured by lockdowns and social distancing. Coronavirus restrictions have forced places of worship to stop or limit services, with many moving to online worship. Weddings and funerals have been curtailed.

Kelly Marks, Community Partnership Officer at Southend-on-Sea Borough Council, has been instrumental in bringing the various faith communities together and is encouraging residents to get involved with the festival. Kelly said: "We encourage people of all faiths and beliefs to share their stories of how their faith and belief has helped them throughout lockdown and how they practiced their faith during this time. Working with our partners in Museums, these stories will be captured and documented as part of a unique time in our history and as a representation of all of our diverse community groups."

The virtual exhibition hosted on the One Southend website will showcase pre-recorded videos presented by local faith and belief leaders about their role, the faith they represent and their community work during the pandemic.

Cllr Ian Gilbert, leader of the Council, said: "Southend's Faith and Belief groups have been a great example of how we have all overcome challenges to support those in need throughout the pandemic. The council is always looking for new ways to engage with the community and this festival is a fantastic opportunity to achieve this and help showcase our diverse community groups."

Gathering of many for Hands Together Southend Against Hatred signing. On a bright but showery morning on Friday 12th November 2021 more than fifty people from across Southend (and Essex) gathered at Twenty One on Southend's seafront to sign the "Hands Together Southend Against Hatred" banner.

Public Benefit

In planning the activities of the charity, the trustees have given consideration to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission in particular to ensure that:

- There are identifiable benefits
- Benefits are to the public or a section of the public
- The benefits relate closely to the charitable objectives.

Plans for 2022

As a Christian CIO we intend to continue to reach out to the population in the Southend area with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Further work on the strategic development of LS;

A review of SCCS and Blaze.

LOVE SOUTHEND

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2021

To engage with other Chaplains in other fields and towns and cities to learn best practice.
To run a chaplaincy course.

Financial Review

Grants: £5,060.00 from Southend Borough Council

Donations over £1,000: None

Reserves Policy

At this stage in the charity's history we do not have a reserves policy

Investment Policy

Under the Articles of Association, the charity has the power to make any investments which the trustees see fit.

Independent Examiner

A resolution will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting that Caroline McGregor be appointed the Independent Examiner to Love Southend for the ensuing year.

Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its financial activities for that period.

In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the activities of the charity will continue.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

On Behalf Of The Trustees



Andy Vincett (Chairman)

Date:

12th October, 2022



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Love Southend

On accounts for the year
ended

2021

Charity no
(if any)

1180977

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 / 2021.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. *Delete [] if not applicable.*

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) 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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

CAROLINE MCGREGOR

Date:

19/02/2022

Name:

CAROLINE MCGREGOR

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Love Southend

No (if any)
1180977

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 1012021	To	Period end date 31122021
------------------------	------------------------------	----	-----------------------------

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
General	1,884 -	-	-	-	1,592 -
SCCS	-	10,718 -	-	-	16,912 -
ASG	-	3,230 -	-	-	-
YwJ	-	-	-	-	-
TC	-	-	-	-	1,226 -
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	1,884 -	13,948 -	-	-	16,818 -
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	1,884 -	13,948 -	-	-	16,818 -
A3 Payments					
General	1,451 -	-	-	-	556 -
SCCS	-	19,093 -	-	-	17,599 -
ASG	-	1,252 -	-	-	-
YwJ	-	-	-	-	500 -
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	1,451 -	20,345 -	-	-	14,533 -
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	1,451 -	20,345 -	-	-	14,533 -
Net of receipts/(payments)	433 -	- 6,401 -	-	-	2,285 -
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	1,781 -	59,796 -	-	-	59,780 -
Cash funds this year end	2,214 -	53,395 -	-	-	61,575 -

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	<div>Love Southend</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div>Total cash funds</div> <div>(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))</div>	<div>2,216 -</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>OK</div>	<div>53,393 -</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>OK</div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>OK</div>
B2 Other monetary assets	<div>Details</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>
B3 Investment assets	<div>Details</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>Fund to which asset belongs</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>Cost (optional)</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>	<div>Current value (optional)</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	<div>Details</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>Fund to which asset belongs</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>Cost (optional)</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>	<div>Current value (optional)</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>
B5 Liabilities	<div>Details</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>Fund to which liability relates</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>Amount due (optional)</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>	<div>When due (optional)</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	<div>Signature</div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>Print Name</div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>Date of approval</div> <div></div> <div></div>	

(if any):

--

Address:

46 Tintern Ave

Westcliff-on-Sea

SS0 9QH

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

No comment - happy with the figures