

AFFIRM: BAPTISTS TOGETHER FOR LGBT+ INCLUSION

England & Wales · Charity number 1183976

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-06-19

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

Contact

Address 23 Bradwell Close
Charlton
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 4EL

Phone 07444 200525

Email contact@affirm.org.uk

Website www.affirm.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE PROMOTION OF EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT BY:(A) SUPPORTING AND AFFIRMING PEOPLE IDENTIFYING AS LGBT+ AND THOSE QUESTIONING THEIR SEXUALITY OR GENDER IDENTITY WITHIN CHURCHES IN GREAT BRITAIN, PARTICULARLY THOSE IN MEMBERSHIP OF THE BAPTIST UNION OF GREAT BRITAIN, THE BAPTIST UNION OF WALES OR THE BAPTIST UNION OF SCOTLAND OR WHICH REFER TO THEMSELVES AS BAPTIST (“THE CHURCHES”) BY GIVING PASTORAL SUPPORT(B) WORKING FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF LOVING SAME-SEX RELATIONSHIPS AS ONE OF A NUMBER OF WAYS OF LIVING FAITHFULLY, THROUGH ENGAGING IN CONSTRUCTIVE DISCUSSIONS IN THE CHURCHES;(C) PROMOTING KNOWLEDGE AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING OF HUMAN SEXUALITY AND GENDER IDENTITY IN THE CHURCHES THROUGH DISCUSSION, STUDY AND THE SHARING OF PEOPLE’S STORIES;(D) SUPPORTING AND STANDING IN SOLIDARITY WITH THOSE CHURCHES THAT INCLUDE AND AFFIRM LGBT+ CHRISTIANS BY PROVIDING THEOLOGICAL RESOURCES AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

Activities: Providing pastoral support to people identifying as LGBT plus within Baptist churches in Great Britain; engaging in constructive discussions within the churches towards acceptance of loving same-sex relationships; promoting discussion, study and sharing people's stories and providing theological resources and networking opportunities.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups

Geography

- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£1,546	£545	-	-
2023-12-31	£886	£383	-	-
2022-12-31	£200	£402	-	-
2021-12-31	£180	£221	-	-
2020-12-31	£180	£360	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Luke Peter Dowding	Chair	2019-06-19
Andreea Gherman		2026-01-23
Rachel Humphrey		2025-06-17
Rev Andrew David Fitchet		2021-07-01
Rev Dawn Cole-Savidge		2019-06-19
Rev Nicolas Hookey		2025-06-17

AFFIRM: BAPTISTS TOGETHER FOR LGBT+ INCLUSION

England & Wales - Charity number 1183976

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From: 1st January 2024 **To:** 31st December 2024

Charity name: *Affirm*: Baptists Together for LGBT+ Inclusion

Charity registration number: 1183976

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>The promotion of equality and diversity for the public benefit by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) supporting and affirming people identifying as LGBT+ and those questioning their sexuality or gender identity within churches in Great Britain, particularly those in membership of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Baptist Union of Wales or the Baptist Union of Scotland or which refer to themselves as Baptist ("the churches") by giving pastoral support(b) working for the acceptance of loving same-sex relationships as one of a number of ways of living faithfully, through engaging in constructive discussions in the churches;(c) promoting knowledge and mutual understanding of human sexuality and gender identity in the churches through discussion, study and the sharing of people's stories;(d) supporting and standing in solidarity with those churches that include and affirm LGBT+ Christians by providing theological resources and networking opportunities
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>Attending events as speakers/advisers Continuing to invite members to transfer their subscriptions to the new bank account, and encouraging new memberships and donations. Continuing to expand our reach to support Baptist ministers, and LGBT+ Baptists through challenging conversations in the life of the Baptist Union of Great Britain. Preparing educational and promotional material.</p>

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Seeking new volunteers and trustees and including them in developing the charity. Management of bank account, overall strategy and direction of the charity.
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>In 2024 the new model of membership and supporters continued to be developed and implemented, which included co-organising an event for Baptist ministers and leaders in Britain to engage with Affirm's work and how to continue progressive Baptist ministry in Great Britain.</p> <p>We have seen growth in both members and supporters thanks to the new model.</p> <p>We continued to engage with the national leadership of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, which included opportunities to speak and contribute to Baptist Council's decision-making process regarding the ministerial rules. Revd Andy Fitchet and Luke Dowding spoke to Council about their experiences of being excluded from Baptist ministry due to the ministerial rules prohibiting people in same-sex relationships from becoming or remaining accredited Baptist ministers.</p>

		<p>We continued to engage at the grassroots level with local churches, ministers, and individuals; supporting them in their theological and practical understanding of LGBT+ inclusion in the life of the Baptist church.</p> <p>Affirm continued to be sought out for pastoral responses to LGBT+ Christians, and our expertise in affirming theology and inclusion in churches.</p>
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	At the end of the period the charity held £2,022 of unencumbered funds.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Funds are held in preparation for events and activities. As there are no paid staff at present, there are no ongoing liabilities.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	As above
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	As above
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	Nil
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	None

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Donations and subscription fees.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed , royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association , CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Founding Trustees and then Election or Co-option

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	<i>Affirm</i> : Baptists Together for LGBT+ Inclusion
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1183976
Charity's principal address	c/o 26 Farthing Drive Letchworth Garden City SG6 2TR

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Luke Dowding	Andy Fitchet
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Co-Director
Date	29 th August 2025	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Affirm: Baptists Together for LGBT+ Inclusion

1183976

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01/01/2024	To	31/12/2024
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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					
Brought forward	1,021	-	-	1,021	518
Subscriptions and donations	1,546	-	-	1,546	878
HMRC Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	8
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	2,567	-	-	2,567	1,404
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	2,567	-	-	2,567	1,404
A3 Payments					
Trustees Travel	345	-	-	345	213
Trustees Accommodation	-	-	-	-	100
Website and IT	200	-	-	200	70
Stall Hire	-	-	-	-	-
Publicity Materials	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	545	-	-	545	383
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	545	-	-	545	383
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,022	-	-	2,022	1,021
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	2,022	-	-	2,022	1,021

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


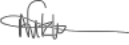
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Held at Bank	2,022	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	2,022	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		Luke Dowding	16/06/2025
		Andy Fitchet	16/06/2025

AFFIRM: BAPTISTS TOGETHER FOR LGBT+ INCLUSION

England & Wales - Charity number 1183976

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From: 1st January 2023 To: 31st December 2023

Charity name: *Affirm*: Baptists Together for LGBT+ Inclusion

Charity registration number: 1183976

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>The promotion of equality and diversity for the public benefit by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) supporting and affirming people identifying as LGBT+ and those questioning their sexuality or gender identity within churches in Great Britain, particularly those in membership of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Baptist Union of Wales or the Baptist Union of Scotland or which refer to themselves as Baptist ("the churches") by giving pastoral support(b) working for the acceptance of loving same-sex relationships as one of a number of ways of living faithfully, through engaging in constructive discussions in the churches;(c) promoting knowledge and mutual understanding of human sexuality and gender identity in the churches through discussion, study and the sharing of people's stories;(d) supporting and standing in solidarity with those churches that include and affirm LGBT+ Christians by providing theological resources and networking opportunities
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>Attending events as speakers/advisers Continuing to invite members to transfer their subscriptions to the new bank account, and encouraging new memberships and donations. Continuing to expand our reach to support Baptist ministers, and LGBT+ Baptists through challenging conversations in the life of the Baptist Union of Great Britain. Preparing educational and promotional material.</p>

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Seeking new volunteers and trustees and including them in developing the charity. Management of bank account, overall strategy and direction of the charity.
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	Throughout 2023 we continued to transition from the old membership and supporter model to the new. We have been an instrumental component in the national conversations regarding ministerial accreditation and same-sex relationships, and been involved both at national leadership and grassroots level dialogue. We have continued to build relationships with churches and individuals, supporting them in their theological and practical understanding of LGBT+ inclusion in the life of the Baptist church.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

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Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	At the end of the period the charity held £1,021 of unencumbered funds
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Funds are held in preparation for events and activities. As there are no paid staff at present, there are no ongoing liabilities
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	As above
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	As above
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	Nil
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	None

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed , royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association , CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Founding Trustees and then Election or Co-option

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	<i>Affirm</i> : Baptists Together for LGBT+ Inclusion
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1183976
Charity's principal address	c/o 26 Farthing Drive Letchworth Garden City SG6 2TR

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Revd Dawn Cole-Savidge	Co-Director		
2	Luke Dowding	Chair		
3	Andrew Fitchett	Co-Director		
4	Martin Stears-Handscomb	Treasurer		
5	Esther Ruddle	Trustee		
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20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	Andy Fitchet	
Full name(s)	Luke Dowding	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Trustee
Date	16.10.24	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Affirm: Baptists Together for LGBT+ Inclusion

1183976

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/01/2023

To

31/12/2023

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					
Brought forward	518	-	-	518	720
Subscriptions and donations	878	-	-	878	200
HMRC Gift Aid	8	-	-	8	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	1,404	-	-	1,404	920
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	1,404	-	-	1,404	920
A3 Payments					
Trustees Travel	213	-	-	213	110
Trustees Accommodation	100	-	-	100	-
Website and IT	70	-	-	70	87
Stall Hire	-	-	-	-	150
Publicity Materials	-	-	-	-	55
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	383	-	-	383	402
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	383	-	-	383	402
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,021	-	-	1,021	518
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	1,021	-	-	1,021	518

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	Held at Bank	1,021	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	1,021	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK



	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Luke Dowding	16.10.24
	Andy Fitchet	16.10.24

AFFIRM: BAPTISTS TOGETHER FOR LGBT+ INCLUSION

England & Wales - Charity number 1183976

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From: 1st January 2022 To: 31st December 2022

Charity name: *Affirm*: Baptists Together for LGBT+ Inclusion

Charity registration number: 1183976

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>The promotion of equality and diversity for the public benefit by:</p> <p>(a) supporting and affirming people identifying as LGBT+ and those questioning their sexuality or gender identity within churches in Great Britain, particularly those in membership of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Baptist Union of Wales or the Baptist Union of Scotland or which refer to themselves as Baptist ("the churches") by giving pastoral support</p> <p>(b) working for the acceptance of loving same-sex relationships as one of a number of ways of living faithfully, through engaging in constructive discussions in the churches;</p> <p>(c) promoting knowledge and mutual understanding of human sexuality and gender identity in the churches through discussion, study and the sharing of people's stories;</p> <p>(d) supporting and standing in solidarity with those churches that include and affirm LGBT+ Christians by providing theological resources and networking opportunities</p>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>Attending events as speakers/advisers</p> <p>Inviting members to transfer their subscriptions to the new Bank Account</p> <p>Reinvigorating the charity after the pandemic</p> <p>Transferring members from the predecessor organisation and preparing to expand the membership</p> <p>Preparing educational and promotional material</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance	Para 1.18	The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit

issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit		
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Seeking new volunteers and trustees and including them in developing the charity
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	The charity has continued to be engaged with beneficiaries in furtherance of its objectives. It had been somewhat delayed in its progress by the slow process of opening a bank account, which is now completed. It has continued to use the bank account of its predecessor and will transfer members to the new account in 2023. Plans are being prepared for a relaunch in 2023 and to review the membership and supporter arrangements. We remain a key partner in national Baptist conversations on the inclusion of LGBT+ people in the life of the Baptist church, and host events for affirming ministers.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
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Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	At the end of the period the charity held £518 of unencumbered funds
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Funds are held in preparation for events and activities. As there are no paid staff at present, there are no ongoing liabilities
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	As above
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	As above
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	Nil
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	None

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed , royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association , CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Founding Trustees and then Election or Co-option

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	<i>Affirm</i> : Baptists Together for LGBT+ Inclusion
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1183976
Charity's principal address	c/o 26 Farthing Drive Letchworth Garden City SG6 2TR

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Revd Dawn Cole-Savidge	Co-Director		
2	Luke Dowding	Chair		
3	Andrew Fitchett	Co-Director	From 16.02.22	
4	Martin Stears-Handscomb	Treasurer		
5	Esther Ruddle	Trustee	From 16.02.22	
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20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

--


Other optional information

--

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Luke Dowding	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	24th October 2023	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Affirm: Baptists Together for LGBT+ Inclusion

1183976

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/01/2022

To

31/12/2022

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					
Brought forward	720	-	-	720	761
Subscriptions and donations	200	-	-	200	180
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	920	-	-	920	941
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	920	-	-	920	941
A3 Payments					
Trustees Travel	110	-	-	110	50
Website and IT	87	-	-	87	171
Stall Hire	150	-	-	150	-
Publicity Materials	55	-	-	55	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	402	-	-	402	221
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	402	-	-	402	221
Net of receipts/(payments)	518	-	-	518	720
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	518	-	-	518	720

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	Held at Bank	518	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	518	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		Luke Dowding	27/02/2024

AFFIRM: BAPTISTS TOGETHER FOR LGBT+ INCLUSION

England & Wales - Charity number 1183976

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From: 1st January 2021 To: 31st December 2021

Charity name: *Affirm*: Baptists Together for LGBT+ Inclusion

Charity registration number: 1183976

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>The promotion of equality and diversity for the public benefit by:</p> <p>(a) supporting and affirming people identifying as LGBT+ and those questioning their sexuality or gender identity within churches in Great Britain, particularly those in membership of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Baptist Union of Wales or the Baptist Union of Scotland or which refer to themselves as Baptist ("the churches") by giving pastoral support</p> <p>(b) working for the acceptance of loving same-sex relationships as one of a number of ways of living faithfully, through engaging in constructive discussions in the churches;</p> <p>(c) promoting knowledge and mutual understanding of human sexuality and gender identity in the churches through discussion, study and the sharing of people's stories;</p> <p>(d) supporting and standing in solidarity with those churches that include and affirm LGBT+ Christians by providing theological resources and networking opportunities</p>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>Attending events as speakers/advisers</p> <p>Finalising the application for the new Bank Account</p> <p>Reinvigorating the charity after the pandemic</p> <p>Transferring members from the predecessor organisation and preparing to expand the membership</p> <p>Preparing educational and promotional material</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance	Para 1.18	<p>The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit</p>

issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit		
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Seeking new volunteers and trustees and including them in developing the charity
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	The charity has continued to be engaged with beneficiaries in furtherance of its objectives. It had been somewhat delayed in its progress by the slow process of opening a bank account, which is now completed. It has continued to use the bank account of its predecessor and will transfer members to the new account in 2022. After the pandemic has restarted its activity and developed plans for the future.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
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Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	At the end of the period the charity held £720 of unencumbered funds
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Funds are held in preparation for events and activities. As there are no paid staff at present, there are no ongoing liabilities
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	As above
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	As above
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	Nil
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	None

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Founding Trustees and then Election or Co-option

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	<i>Affirm</i> : Baptists Together for LGBT+ Inclusion
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1183976
Charity's principal address	c/o Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church 235 Shaftesbury Avenue London WC2H 8EP

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Revd Dawn Cole-Savidge	Co-Director		
2	Luke Dowding	Co-Director		
3	Avril Mackenzie-Parr		to July 2021	
4	Andy Long		to July 2021	
5	Martin Stears-Handscomb	Treasurer		
6				
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12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Luke Dowding	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	30/09/2022	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Affirm: Baptists Together for LGBT+ Inclusion

1183976

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/01/2021

To

31/12/2021

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					
Brought forward	761	-	-	761	941
Subscriptions and donations	180	-	-	180	180
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	941	-	-	941	1,121
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	941	-	-	941	1,121
A3 Payments					
Trustees Travel	50	-	-	50	86
Website and IT	171	-	-	171	274
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	221	-	-	221	360
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	221	-	-	221	360
Net of receipts/(payments)	720	-	-	720	761
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	720	-	-	720	761

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	Held at Bank	720	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	720	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK


Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Luke Dowding	11/10/2022

AFFIRM: BAPTISTS TOGETHER FOR LGBT+ INCLUSION

England & Wales - Charity number 1183976

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From: 1st January 2020 To: 31st December 2020

Charity name: *Affirm*: Baptists Together for LGBT+ Inclusion

Charity registration number: 1183976

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>The promotion of equality and diversity for the public benefit by:</p> <p>(a) supporting and affirming people identifying as LGBT+ and those questioning their sexuality or gender identity within churches in Great Britain, particularly those in membership of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Baptist Union of Wales or the Baptist Union of Scotland or which refer to themselves as Baptist ("the churches") by giving pastoral support</p> <p>(b) working for the acceptance of loving same-sex relationships as one of a number of ways of living faithfully, through engaging in constructive discussions in the churches;</p> <p>(c) promoting knowledge and mutual understanding of human sexuality and gender identity in the churches through discussion, study and the sharing of people's stories;</p> <p>(d) supporting and standing in solidarity with those churches that include and affirm LGBT+ Christians by providing theological resources and networking opportunities</p>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>Attending events as speakers/advisers</p> <p>Pursuing the application for a Bank Account in the name of the charity</p> <p>Maintaining the charity through the pandemic</p> <p>Preparing educational and promotional material</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<p>The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	The charity has continued to be engaged with beneficiaries in furtherance of its objectives. It had been somewhat delayed in its progress by the slow process of opening a bank account and has continued to use the bank account of its predecessor. The pandemic has curtailed its activities until the end of the period but activity started again in 2021.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	

Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	At the end of the period the charity held £761 of unencumbered funds
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Funds are held in preparation for events and activities. As there are no paid staff at present, there are no ongoing liabilities
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	As above
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	As above
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	Nil
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	None

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed , royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association , CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Founding Trustees and then Election or Co-option

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	<i>Affirm</i> : Baptists Together for LGBT+ Inclusion
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1183976
Charity's principal address	c/o Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church 235 Shaftesbury Avenue London WC2H 8EP

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Revd Dawn Cole-Savidge	Co-Director		
2	Luke Dowding	Co-Director		
3	Avril Mackenzie-Parr			
4	Andy Long			
5	Martin Stears-Handscomb	Treasurer		
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

--


Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Luke Dowding	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Co-Director	
Date	11th October 2021	



Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/01/2020

To

31/12/2020

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					
Brought forward	941	-	-	941	-
Subscriptions and donations	180	-	-	180	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	1,121	-	-	1,121	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	1,121	-	-	1,121	-
A3 Payments					
Trustees Travel	86	-	-	86	-
Website and IT	274	-	-	274	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	360	-	-	360	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	360	-	-	360	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	761	-	-	761	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	761	-	-	761	-

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	Held at Bank	761	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	761	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
Luke Dowding	Luke Dowding	29/10/2021