

## **Report of the Provincial Grand Charity Steward**

**W Bro Chris Hicks PJGD, ProvGChStwd**

Once again Essex Freemasons have continued to support both Masonic and non-Masonic charities in 2024 with another wonderful £1.4 million donated, to over 800 charities.

Lodges have continued in their support of local charities in 2024, as can be seen from the above figures, with the split of the donations continuing around 2:1, in favour of non-masonic causes. This continues to emphasise the generosity of Essex Freemasons to local good causes.

During the year the MCF continued to support Essex Freemasons and their dependencies with £534K and they donated a further £55K to local Charities, in small grants in Essex.

The support for the Armed Services Covenant will continue into the new year and more details will be revealed later on this particular subject.

Below are some of the Charities and Good Cause we have supported during the year. Total donations were £216,000.

- £30,000 to Spotlight, Southend Hospital
- £26,226 to other Medical and Healthcare Charities
- £16,608 to various Schools
- £12,588 to Military and Cadet charities
- £11,500 to Get Started Art
- £10,000 to TLC Essex
- £10,000 to Hamilton Court
- £10,000 to Essex Mark Festival 2030
- £8,818 to CHAPS screening
- £5,520 to various Hospices
- £5,000 to Essex Royal & Select Masters

In addition, we have started to support the “250” Good Causes with:

- £20,000 to Essex Wildlife Trust
- £10,000 to Headway
- £5,000 to Friends of Essex and London Homeless

The Charity Stewards’ Lodge, with the re-purposing of Burntwood Lodge 8016, continues from strength to strength. This year the four meetings saw presentations from and donations to, The Crocus Project, Dedham Vale Society, Lennox Children’s Cancer Fund and the Fragile X Society. Four more charities will be supported in 2025 as the Lodge goes around the Province to three other centres. This Lodge is open to all Charity Stewards to join, or to just visit, and they will then be in the forefront of receiving news, information and best practice in matters dealing with the MCF and Charities in Essex.

Training sessions will continue during the next year online and details will be posted

2024 was an interesting year with the launch of “Essex 250”, so the Charity Team will continue their hard work in this and in helping Lodges to support charities and to keep the “fun” in fund raising.

## **Chris Hicks**

Registered No. 1177292

**ESSEX PROVINCIAL CHARITY FUND**

**Reports and Financial Statements**

**for the year ended**

**31st December 2024**

**ESSEX PROVINCIAL CHARITY FUND AND ESSEX FREEMASONS COMMUNITY FUND**

**Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2024**

	General Funds 2024 £		General Funds 2023 £
<b>Income and expenditure</b>			
Donations to EPCF:			
PGLE & PGCE	121,969		65,208
Masonic Charitable Foundation	0		21,390
Lodge Donations	17,873		24,501
Other Donations	6,036		230
Donation to EPCF:			
Lodge Donations	658		8,595
PGLE	0		0
MISC	2,098		93
<b>Total income</b>	<b>148,634</b>		<b>120,017</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>			
Direct charitable expenditure:			
Matched Funding	76,377		34,618
HRA Schools	10,500		9,500
Donations by EPCF	0		9,297
Grants	58,128		108,648
Admin Costs	230		231
Bank Charges	10		14
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>145,245</b>		<b>162,308</b>
<b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources</b>	<b>3,389</b>		<b>(42,291)</b>
<b>Fund balances brought forward @01.01-24</b>	<b>17,996</b>	<b>Fund balances brought forward @01.01-23</b>	<b>58,238</b>
<b>Fund balances carried forward @ 31.12.24</b>	<b>21,385</b>	<b>Fund balances carried forward @ 31.12.23</b>	<b>17,996</b>

# ESSEX PROVINCIAL CHARITY FUND

## Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2024

	31.12.24	31.12.23
	£	£
<b>Current assets</b>		
Debtors		
Cash at bank EPCP	3,912	3,053
Cash at bank EFCF	17,473	14,943
	<u>21,385</u>	<u>17,996</u>
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Creditors	0	0
	<u></u>	<u></u>
Net current assets	21,385	17,966
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>21,385</b>	<b>17,966</b>

Represented by:

### Charity funds:

Unrestricted:

General Fund

21,385

17,966

Restricted:

Masonic Charitable Foundation

0

0

**21,385**

**17,966**

Approved by the trustees on  
and signed on their behalf by:

**C Hicks**  
**Chairman**

**G J Felton**  
**Treasurer**



**ESSEX PROVINCIAL CHARITY FUND**

**Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024**

**1. Accounting Policies**

**1.1**

The annexed accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and using the guidelines given in recognised Statements of Standard Accounting Practice, the Charity Commission’s Statement of Recommended Practice 2005 and the Charities Act 2011.

	31.12.23	31.12.24
Debtors		
	£0	£0

**3 Relief Chest**

These figures are no longer added to the accounts

## **ESSEX PROVINCIAL CHARITY FUND**

### **Independent Examiners' Report to the Trustees of Essex Provincial Charity Fund**

We report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31st December 2024.

#### **Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiners**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is our responsibility to:

Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act.

Follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

#### **Basis of Independent Examiners' Report**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **Independent Examiners' Statement**

In the course of our examination, no matter has come to our attention:

1. which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act, and
  - b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met, or
2. to which, in our opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name:

I Collings



J Caiger



Registered No. 1177292

**ESSEX PROVINCIAL CHARITY FUND**

**Reports and Financial Statements**

**for the year ended**

**31st December 2024**

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