



# 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**

The Further Faster Network

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31 December 2023

**Charity no  
(if any)**

1186278

**Set out on pages**

CC16a report (all pages)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the CIO") for the year ended 31/12/2023.

**Responsibilities and  
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the CIO, 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 CIO'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 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.

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

**Signed:**

**Date:**

28 October 2024

**Name:**

Magdalena Shotter of ATS Accounting & Tax Solutions Ltd

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):**

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales  
(Membership number 2383366)

**Address:**

6 Corfield Close

Finchampstead, Wokingham, Berkshire

RG40 4PA



# Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01-Jan-23	To	31-Dec-23
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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 £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Subscriptions from Founder Members	34,255		0	34,255	37,688
Subscriptions from Other Members	35,754		0	35,754	26,791
Donations from North Point Ministries	51,437		0	51,437	12,776
Beta Test Project	23,910		0	23,910	
Donations Received	52,735		0	52,735	3,121
Grant Income	0		0	0	
Event Income	4,646		0	4,646	5,173
Miscellaneous Income	171		0	171	1,300
Interest Income	2,426		0	2,426	195
			0	0	
			0	0	
			0	0	
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>205,334</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>205,334</b>	<b>87,044</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>205,334</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>205,334</b>	<b>87,044</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Activities			0	0	0
Digital & Web	481		0	481	1,688
Equipment	0		0	0	96
Miscellaneous	318		0	318	286
Professional Fees & Subscriptions	7,274		0	7,274	4,790
Travel & Subsistence	19,147		0	19,147	5,516
			0	0	
People			0	0	
Consulting Fees	10,503			10,503	10,118
Salaries and National Insurance Contributions	65,736			65,736	32,187
Pensions	7,896			7,896	3,009
Events	5,506		0	5,506	17,527
			0	0	
Trustees' Expenses	0		0	0	293
			0	0	
			0	0	
			0	0	
			0	0	
			0	0	
			0	0	
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>116,862</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>116,862</b>	<b>75,510</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>116,862</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>116,862</b>	<b>75,510</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>88,472</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>88,472</b>	<b>11,534</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>63,867</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>63,867</b>	<b>52,333</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>152,339</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>152,339</b>	<b>63,867</b>

## 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 £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	CAF Current Account	9,749		-
	CAF Gold Account	142,590	0	-
				-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>152,339</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-</b>

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))



The Further Faster Network Draft Subject to Independent Examination		No (if any) 1186278
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## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01-Jan-23	To	31-Dec-23
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### B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

### 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 asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

### B5 Liabilities

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

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	JAMES A CUNNINGHAM	21 Oct 24

### NOTES

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# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

		Period start date			Period end date		
From	Day	Month	Year	To	Day	Month	Year
	01	Jan	2023		31	Dec	2023

## Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

Charity's principal address

Postcode

### 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	James Gallagher	Chair		
2	Leon Evans			
3	Christopher Porter			
4	Christopher Simpkins			
5	Stephen Fenning			
6	Lane Jones			
7	Jonathan Corcoran		Appointed 17 May 2023	
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

### Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year



**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address

**Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)**

Duncan Banks, Managing Director

## Section B Structure, governance and management

**Description of the charity's trusts**

Type of governing document  
(eg. trust deed, constitution)

Constitution

How the charity is constituted  
(eg. trust, association, company)

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Trustee selection methods  
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

Appointed by the Trustees

**Additional governance issues (Optional information)**

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Further Faster Network is a charitable incorporated organisation first registered in November 2019. Its trustees and other volunteers are involved in the day-to-day running of the organisation. The organisation employs a director to take responsibility for the day-to-day activities of the network.

The charity is independent. However, it acknowledges and is grateful for the support of North Point Church in Atlanta, Georgia. North Point provides content that we make available within the network and provides financial support. Lane Jones from North Point serves as a trustee of the charity.

### Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The charitable objects of The Network are to the advancement of religious belief for the public good, in particular by helping to create churches in every community that unchurched people love to be part of. The Network does this by establishing a network of founder partner Christian churches who are aligned around this object, and a partner network of autonomous Christian churches focused on reaching unchurched people and helping each other go further faster. The CIO may also engage in other activities to advance the Christian faith as agreed by the board from time to time.

### Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

In considering and evaluating the activities of the charity, the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. The charity seeks to deliver its charitable objects by providing coaching, community and content for like-minded church leaders from varying backgrounds.

- **Connection** includes coaching, conferences, workshops, webinars and calls.
- **Community:** we provide opportunities to build friendship and community with like-minded leaders through video calls and in-person at events for church leadership teams.
- Our **Content** includes sharing best ideas and materials including access to an ever-growing library of teaching material and assets, podcasts and training materials from both North Point Church in the USA and the member churches of the Further Faster Network.

### Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

The charity is grateful to its trustees and other volunteers for their tireless efforts to establish and grow the charity in fulfilment of its objectives. The active engagement of the trustees in the day-to-day operation of the charity is part of its healthy ethos.

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

### Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

2023 was a year of continued re-building of momentum following the pandemic. A further 10 churches were added to the Network, bringing the total to 25 churches. This is ahead of the growth target in the strategic plan approved by the trustees in 2022.

Network growth was already stretching the employed staff – our managing director – and the time commitment that trustees can reasonably make voluntarily. Consequently, the trustees strengthened the staff team with several part-time appointments covering growth, onboarding, ministry area support, and administration.

The charity secured further funding from two sources to fuel further growth:

- USD 60,000/year for 3 years from the Irresistible Churches Network in the USA
- £50,000 from the Exodun Trust

The trustees have developed and are implementing a plan to grow the Network; this includes expanding the paid staff team and increasingly delegating operational responsibility to the staff team.

## Section E

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Trustees have agreed that reserves should be adequate to meet the charity's contractual commitments in the event of it ceasing to trade, estimated as 3 months' normal running costs. At 31 December 2023 the charity reported reserves of over £150,000; 3 months' running costs in 2023 amounted to about £30,000. The trustees support this level of reserves as they look to grow the charity further in 2024.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The charity's receipts in the period were £205,334 and it made payments of £116,862, giving rise to a surplus of £88,472. The surplus in 2022 was £11,534.

Income growth was fuelled by additional funding from North Point Ministries (USD 60,000/year for 3 years) to accelerate the growth of the Network, and a £50,000 one-off donation from the Exodun Trust.

Subscriptions from member churches grew from £64,479 in 2022 to £70,009 in 2023, as the number of member churches grew during the year.

The Network also received donations of 23,910 from 3 churches in North America wishing to pilot partnering with churches in the UK and Ireland – the Beta Test Project. These donations were to the Network with a request that the Trustees use the funds to support the growth of 3 member churches (Lighthouse in Dublin, Andover Community Church and LifeCentral Church in Halesowen. Approximately £7,000 was spent in 2023 to support travel costs for delegates from these churches attending conferences and networking events in North America. The remainder is expected to be spent in 2024.

Expenditure increased from £75,510 in 2022 to £116,862 in 2023. Whilst the cost for events was lower in 2023 (the Network held smaller regional events rather than a single international conference), staff costs (contractor, salaries and associated travel and subsistence) increased significantly.

Average full time equivalent staff members grew from 1.0 FTE in 2022 to 2.1 in 2023.

## Section F


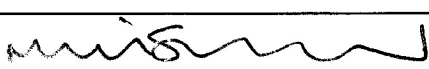
## Other optional information



## Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	James Gallagher	Neil Serjeant
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Secretary

Date	October 2024
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