

THE CONVERT MUSLIM FOUNDATION

England & Wales · Charity number 1187573

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2020-01-24

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

Contact

Address The Convert Muslim Foundation
45 Oakfield Avenue
Leicester
LE67 9WH

Phone 07401378632

Email info@convertmuslimfoundation.org.uk

Website www.convertmuslimfoundation.org.uk

Activities

Objects: A) THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE ISLAMIC RELIGION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC THROUGH THE HOLDING OF PRAYER MEETINGS, LECTURES, PUBLIC CELEBRATION OF RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS, AND PRODUCING AND/OR DISTRIBUTING LITERATURE ON THE ISLAMIC RELIGION TO ENLIGHTEN OTHERS ABOUT THE ISLAMIC RELIGION
B) THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IN THE SUBJECTS OF ISLAM AND OF CONVERSION TO ISLAM AND TO PROMOTE RESEARCH FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT IN ALL ASPECTS OF THOSE SUBJECT AND TO PUBLISH THE USEFUL RESULTS

Activities: The advancement of the Islamic religion in the United Kingdom for the benefit of the public through the holding of prayer meetings, lectures, public celebration of religious festivals, and producing and/or distributing literature on the Islamic religion to enlighten others about the Islamic religion

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Disability, Religious Activities, Economic/community Development/employment, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNITED KINGDOM
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£98,698	£33,556	-	-
2024-03-31	£44,462	£29,607	-	-
2023-03-31	£74,120	£29,324	-	-
2022-03-31	£70,618	£19,536	-	-
2021-03-31	£45,291	£13,798	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Conor Damien Clifford Murphy	Chair	2023-07-29
Lucy Bushill-Matthews		2025-10-01
Mary Batool Al-Toma		2025-10-01

THE CONVERT MUSLIM FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1187573

Accounts

The Convert Muslim Foundation

Annual Report and Financial Statements

Year ended: 31 March 2025

DUA GOVERNANCE

Chartered Accountants and Business Advisors
Bradford Court
123-131 Bradford Street
Digbeth, Birmingham
B12 0NS

Contents	Page
Legal and administrative information	3
Report of the Trustees	4-8
Report of the Independent Examiner	9
Receipts and Payments	10
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	11
Notes forming part of the financial statements	12

Legal and Administrative Information

Name	The Convert Muslim Foundation
Charity number	1187573
Registered address	45 Oakfield Avenue, Leicester, LE67 9WH
Trustees	Conor Murphy – Chair Lucy Bushill-Matthews (Joined 1st October 2025) Batool Al Toma (Joined 1st October 2025) Zoe Hibell (Resigned 30th September 2025) Warren Clementson (Resigned 30th September 2025) Andrew Barson (Resigned 30th September 2025)
Chief Executive	Batool Al Toma (resigned 11 th May 2025) Simon Penfound (from 12 th May 2025)
Independent Examiner	Nasir Rafiq Dua Governance 123-131 Bradford Street Bradford Court Birmingham B12 0NS

The Convert Muslim Foundation
Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees present their annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025.

1. Impact report

Objectives and Activities

In general terms, The Convert Muslim Foundation (CMF) aims to advance the Islamic religion in the United Kingdom for the benefit of the public through the holding of prayer meetings, lectures, public celebration of religious festivals, and producing and/or distributing literature on the Islamic religion to enlighten others about the Islamic religion, specifically (but not exclusively) with the needs of converts and their families in mind.

The charity also looks to advance the education of the wider public in the United Kingdom in the subjects of Islam and of conversion to Islam. We aim to promote research in these subject areas for the public benefit and to publish the relevant results.

Achievements and Performance

During the year ended 31 March 2025, CMF focused on strengthening practical support, education, and capacity-building for people who have recently converted to Islam, as well as for the organisations and professionals that support them. The charity's activities were designed to improve wellbeing, reduce social isolation, and strengthen access to appropriate services for a group that is often under served.

Financial Support and Welfare Assistance (Zakat)

In response to identified gaps in support for new Muslims, CMF implemented a structured financial assistance policy and programme for individuals experiencing hardship at key transition points. This enabled the charity to provide support alongside education and guidance, ensuring beneficiaries were better equipped to stabilise their circumstances and engage positively with their local communities.

Clear eligibility criteria, governance controls, and oversight mechanisms were established to ensure funds were distributed responsibly and in line with the charity's objects. This work directly benefited new Muslims facing financial insecurity, limited family support, or social isolation.

To increase the impact of this initiative, CMF began discussions with the National Zakat Foundation (NZF) a UK Registered Charity 1153719, established in 2013 which enables local Muslims to connect their Zakat to those who need it in the UK. This dialogue led to collaboration beginning 2025.

Capacity-Building and Professional Training

CMF delivered specialist training and resources to professionals and volunteers supporting converts, including within the criminal justice system. During the year, CMF contributed to a national training weekend for Muslim prison chaplains representing approximately 140 UK prisons.

CMF provided educational resources and delivered practical training sessions focused on supporting new Muslims in custodial settings, addressing isolation, and supporting reintegration following release. Feedback indicated improved confidence and effectiveness among chaplains, leading to better outcomes for converts in custody.

Strengthening Local Support Provision

The Convert Care Network expanded during 2024/25 with the addition of 12 new organisations across the UK. These organisations provide locally led services such as mentoring, education, social support, and signposting.

This expansion increased geographic reach and strengthened consistency in service quality, enabling more converts to access appropriate community-based support.

Convert Care Conference and Sector Development

CMF delivered its annual Convert Care Weekend Conference, informed by participant feedback. The programme was well attended by 23 support organisations from across the UK and focused on governance, organisational sustainability, wellbeing, and effective service delivery.

The conference supported skills development and peer learning, strengthening frontline organisations and contributing to improved outcomes for beneficiaries.

Quality Standards and Recognition of Good Practice

For the third consecutive year, CMF sponsored the Beacon Mosque Award for Best Convert Care, promoting good practice in services for new Muslims. CMF advised participating organisations on improving accessibility, safeguarding, and service quality.

The award process involved external assessment against defined criteria, encouraging reflection, accountability, and continuous improvement.

Research and Evidence-Based Practice

In partnership with Cardiff University, CMF continued a multi-year research project examining the longer-term experiences and contributions of converts to Islam in Britain. The research addresses evidence gaps related to leadership, participation, and community engagement.

Dissemination workshops held in several UK cities enabled practitioners and stakeholders to engage with emerging findings, supporting evidence-based service development.

Educational Opportunities

CMF continued its partnership with Qatar University, facilitating funded Arabic language study for selected converts. To date, 43 individuals have benefited, reporting improved skills, confidence, and access to further education or employment opportunities.

Financial Review

Income and fundraising

The CMF's primary income streams are donations and fundraising activities. In 2024/25, total income rose by 122 percent to £98,698 (2023/24: £44,462), driven primarily by the successful Zakat4Converts marketing initiative. This performance reflects the effective diversification of CMF's fundraising strategy following the introduction of its new Zakat Policy, which has been formally endorsed by four Shariah scholars.

CMF has reduced its historical donor concentration by proactively engaging new institutional funding sources, successfully attracting two new major donors. While this represents a meaningful improvement, donor concentration remains a material risk that CMF continues to actively address.

CMF has also observed a modest increase in the number of regular monthly donors, providing greater continuity and predictability of income. This sustained support reflects the continued generosity of UK-

based and international donors and enables CMF to maintain its social support and convert care programmes for new Muslims, while also preserving and promoting the legacy of early converts to Islam.

Expenditure

CMF's expenditure falls into three main categories:

1. Charitable activities: the costs associated with implementing programmes as per CMF's mandate;
2. Marketing costs: expenditure incurred to promote CMF's mission, programmes, and fundraising initiatives, including donor engagement campaigns, digital outreach, communications materials, and activities designed to raise awareness, broaden the donor base, and support income generation.
3. Support costs: this includes expenditure and investment in ensuring that effective governance, people, policies and systems are in place to support the frontline delivery of our projects, and that donations are utilized in an efficient and effective manner.

Direct charitable expenditure decreased by 15%, from £17,575 in 2023/24 to £14,854 in 2024/25. It is noted that 44% of CMF's total expenditure was directed towards charitable activities, representing a decline from 59% in the prior year. This reduction is primarily attributable to two factors: a significant increase in staff time devoted to developing marketing materials for the Zakat4Converts initiative, and additional staff time associated with the recruitment of a new Chief Executive Officer.

This expenditure profile reflects CMF's strategic judgement that increased investment in visibility, marketing, and organisational capacity is necessary to strengthen income generation and support the sustainable funding of its charitable activities. As the organisation continues to grow and these foundational investments mature, CMF expects the proportion of direct charitable expenditure relative to total expenditure to increase in future years.

Of the direct charitable expenditure, 84% was allocated to three main charitable programs:

- 2nd Annual Convert Care Conference
- Best Convert Support Award (Beacon Mosque Awards)
- Collaborative research project between CMF and the University of Cardiff into convert leadership

Public Benefit Statement

The trustees have considered the charity's Objectives and set out above the main activities undertaken by the charity. In conjunction with the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, Trustees have concluded that:

- the aims of the charity continue to be charitable;
- the work done by the charity gives identifiable benefits to the charitable sector and both directly and indirectly to individuals in need;
- the benefits are for the public; not unreasonably restricted in any way;
- there is no detriment or harm arising from the aims or activities.

2. How we operate

The charity is a Charity Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and operates under the rules of its constitution adopted 24 January 2020 and registered with the Charity Commission on the same day (Charity Reg: 1187573).

Our leadership team

Trustees	Conor Murphy – Chair Lucy Bushill-Matthews (Joined 1st October 2025) Batool Al Toma (Joined 1st October 2025) Zoe Hibell (Resigned 30th September 2025) Warren Clementson (Resigned 30th September 2025) Andrew Barson (Resigned 30th September 2025)
Chief Executive	Batool Al Toma (resigned 11th May 2025) Simon Penfound (from 12th May 2025)
Independent Examiner	Nasir Rafiq Dua Governance 123-131 Bradford Street Bradford Court Birmingham B12 0NS
Registered address	45 Oakfield Avenue, Leicester, LE67 9WH

Team effectiveness and diversity

The **Convert Muslim Foundation (CMF)** is an equal opportunities organisation (and employer) that aims to have a diverse mix of skills and backgrounds amongst staff and the members of the Board of Trustees that reflects the diverse community we work with. These values guide the process of selecting new Trustees to the organisation. A document reflecting our values and the role of Trustees is available to all those expressing an interest in the organisation. The CMF has opted to openly advertise positions of Trusteeship amongst its members so that interested parties to make application. A full CV together with details of why an individual considers they have the desire, experience and expertise to be a Trustee is requested. Our Trustee outline is provided and typically an interview is arranged for selection to proceed.

Investments

CMF does not currently maintain an investment portfolio. However, in the future, CMF may consider establishing an investment portfolio to generate sustainable investment returns in support of its long-term financial resilience. Such an approach would aim to reduce reliance on donations and grants by producing a recurring annual yield to help fund CMF's charitable programmes.

Reserves Policy

CMF's Reserve Policy aims to ensure the long-term sustainability of the charity, considering factors such as the stability of donations, the concentration of its donor base, current annual expenditures for core operations, expected charitable activities, and potential financial risks faced by the charity. The reserves are intended to strike a balance between the charity's sustainability and the interests of donors, ensuring maximum impact for beneficiaries.

Free reserves refer to funds that are readily available for mandated charitable activities or operational administration costs. These do not include restricted funds, tangible assets, or amounts designated for planned spending. CMF maintains free reserves to:

- Mitigate unforeseen funding fluctuations,
- Provide working capital and manage the seasonality of income generation for the charity's effective operation,
- Ensure continuity of charitable activities supporting the Convert Muslim community in the face of

unforeseen project expenditures.

Annually, the trustees review the risk profile and Reserve Policy, setting the minimum level of Free Reserves to be maintained.

As of 31st March 2025, CMF's total free, unrestricted reserves stood at £214,167 (2023/24: £149,025), significantly exceeding the minimum reserve level required by the new Reserve Policy. In the forthcoming year, the trustees will keep the level and use of reserves under active review, managing them carefully in alignment with the charity's objectives and its income risk profile.

The Trustee Board has reviewed the year-end reserves and determined that the level of free reserves is more than sufficient, considering CMF's size, operations, and the financial risks it faces.

Zakat management

In the prior financial year (2023/24), CMF collected Zakat funds totalling £8,726. These funds were fully disbursed within 12 months of the financial year end, in full compliance with CMF's Zakat Policy.

During the 2024/25 financial year, Zakat collections increased significantly to £38,874, reflecting the success of the Zakat4Converts marketing initiative. CMF is committed to the timely and appropriate utilisation of these funds and intends to fully disburse the 2024/25 Zakat balance within the subsequent 12 months, exclusively in support of activities permitted under the Zakat Policy.

Risk management

The Board of Trustees has assessed CMF's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees have considered numerous factors when concluding whether the organisation continues to be a going concern and have also considered the key risks, including the ongoing cost of delivery, rising costs and inflation, and the cost-of-living crisis that could negatively impact the charity.

The critical risk in our financial model is the instability of income which could impact our ability to deliver charitable activities and result in insufficient recovery of core costs. We are mitigating this risk by:

- (i) not committing to costly programs until adequate funding is secured,
- (ii) maintaining a healthy level of cash reserves, and
- (iii) deploying new fundraising initiatives to reduce donor concentration.

The financial results reflect the continued generosity of CMF's core donors, alongside successful engagement with new institutional donors, while maintaining more than sufficient unrestricted cash reserves to meet all anticipated charitable and administrative expenditure over the forthcoming 12 months.

Having considered these factors, the Board of Trustees is satisfied that CMF remains a robust going concern and has adequate resources in place to continue delivering its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future.

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities 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 the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees 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.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 22 January 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



.....

Conor Murphy

Chair of Trustees

The Convert Muslim Foundation
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees the Convert Muslim Foundation

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 8 to 12.

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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.


.....
Nasir Rafiq BA FCA
DUA GOVERNANCE

Date: 22 January 2026

Bradford Court
123-131 Bradford Street
Digbeth, Birmingham
B12 0NS

THE CONVERT MUSLIM FOUNDATION
RECEIPT AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FROM 1 APRIL 2024 to 31 MARCH 2025

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Receipts				
Donation	98,226		98,226	41,142
Activities	150		150	2,600
Sundry receipts	322		322	720
Sub total	98,698		98,698	44,462
Assets and Investment sales	-			-
Total receipts	98,698		98,698	44,462
Payments				
Activities & events	14,854		14,854	17,515
Donation	-		-	60
Consultancy	6,891		6,891	8,265
Technical support	218		218	560
Website, phone & postage	954		954	279
Professional fees	1,536		1,536	582
Travel	1,054		1,054	246
Printing & stationery	146		146	-
Trustee expenses - note 1(f)	556		556	580
Trustee remuneration - note 1(f)	500		500	800
Fundraising & marketing	4,514		4,514	-
Sundry payments	1,207		1,207	720
Staff training	93		93	-
Membership fees	200		200	-
Rent & services	331.85		331.85	-
Trustee reimbursements	237.75		237.75	-
Personal payments	121.91		121.91	-
Error payments	142.72		142.72	-
Subtotal	33,556		33,556	29,607
Assets and Investment purchases	-			-
Total payments	33,556		33,556	29,607
Net of receipts/(payments)	65,142		65,142	14,855
Transfers between funds	-			-
Cash funds last year end	149,026		149,026	134,171
Cash funds this year end	214,168		214,168	149,026

THE CONVERT MUSLIM FOUNDATION
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AS AT MARCH 31, 2025

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Cash Funds	214,168	214,168	149,026
Cash at bank	<u>214,168</u>	<u>214,168</u>	<u>149,026</u>
Total cash funds			
 Assets Retained for the Charity's Own Use			
Freehold Land & Building	-	-	-
Laptop	400	400	400
Receivable	265	265	
Total	<u>665</u>	<u>665</u>	<u>400</u>
 Liabilities	<u>2,862</u>	<u>2,862</u>	<u>2,893</u>

Approved by the Board on 22 January 2026 And signed on its behalf by:



.....
 Conor Murphy
 Chair of Trustees

The Convert Muslim Foundation

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

1. Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the receipts and payments basis in accordance with the Charity Commission guidance.

(b) Charity status

The charity is a Charity Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and operates under the rules of its constitution adopted 24 January 2020 and registered with the Charity Commission on the same day (Charity Reg: 1187573).

(c) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

(d) Receipts

All incoming resources are included in the Receipt & payment Accounts when the charity actually receives legally entitled income.

(e) Payments

All expenditure is accounted for on payments basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

(f) Trustees' remuneration and reimbursements

Trustee Zoe Hibell received a consultancy payment of £500 for preparing the conference report for the 2nd Annual Convert Care Conference.

A further £238 was paid to 2 Trustees for reimbursement of travel costs related to the charity's administrative and operational activities, but not for their services.

THE CONVERT MUSLIM FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1187573

Accounts

The Convert Muslim Foundation

Annual Report and Financial Statements

Year ended: 31 March 2024

DUA GOVERNANCE

Chartered Accountants and Business Advisors
Bradford Court
123-131 Bradford Street
Digbeth, Birmingham
B12 0NS

Contents	Page
Legal and administrative information	3
Report of the Trustees	4-8
Report of the Independent Examiner	9
Receipts and Payments	10
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	11
Notes forming part of the financial statements	12

Legal and Administrative Information

Name	The Convert Muslim Foundation
Charity number	1187573
Registered address	45 Oakfield Avenue, Leicester, LE67 9WH
Trustees	Andrew Barson - Chair Conor Murphy Zoe Hibell Warren Clementson Sariya Cheruvallil-Contractor (Resigned 1 st August 2024)
Independent Examiner	Nasir Rafiq Dua Governance 123-131 Bradford Street Bradford Court Birmingham B12 0NS

The Convert Muslim Foundation
Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees present their annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Objectives and Activities

In general terms, The Convert Muslim Foundation (**CMF**) aims to advance the Islamic religion in the United Kingdom for the benefit of the public through the holding of prayer meetings, lectures, public celebration of religious festivals, and producing and/or distributing literature on the Islamic religion to enlighten others about the Islamic religion, specifically (but not exclusively) with the needs of converts and their families in mind.

The charity also looks to advance the education of the wider public in the United Kingdom in the subjects of Islam and of conversion to Islam. We aim to promote research in these subject areas for the public benefit and to publish the relevant results.

Achievements and Performance

The **CMF** is dedicated to delivering top-tier convert care with your steadfast support. Our projects consistently make a profound and widespread impact, enriching the lives of converts throughout the UK and empowering them on their spiritual journeys.

Through the provision of **Shahadah Certificates** and specially curated **Gift Packs** tailored to individual needs, our ongoing support ensures that each new believer feels esteemed, respected, and supported along their spiritual journey.

In collaboration with local **Convert Care** facilitators at **City Retreat** in Leicester, **CMF** hosted a special evening on **Friday 11th November 2023**, featuring **Dr. Asad Tarsin**, acclaimed author of 'Being Muslim.' Dr. Tarsin's book, widely distributed by Convert Care facilitators throughout the UK, serves as an invaluable guide for newcomers to Islam.

The collaboration between the **CMF** and **City Retreat** fostered a warm and inclusive atmosphere, exemplifying hospitality to all attendees. Representing City Retreat, their speaker shared words of wisdom and encouragement, emphasising the importance of staying connected with both organisations and the transformative impact of the support given was emblematic of Convert Care initiatives nationwide.

Following consultation, the **CMF** selected **January 25th to February 5th, 2024**, for a **Seerah Umrah Tour**. A detailed itinerary more than six months in advance ensured the 49 participants ample time to arrange payments and adequately prepare for the journey. The group trip, organised in partnership with **Dome Tours International** and led by scholars both renowned for their captivating delivery of information fostering a desire for continuous learning among the participants, was an unparalleled opportunity.

Two years ago, the **CMF** initiated a pioneer project - '**Convert Care**,' that of establishing a user-friendly website designed to streamline access to information for newcomers and those interested in Islam. The site hosts a comprehensive directory of UK-based Convert Care service providers, simplifying the process of exploring this spiritual path. It empowers organisations to manage their content, actively contributing to a centralised hub of information, events, and activities relevant to new Muslims.

The platform is dedicated to fostering a collective of service providers committed to delivering excellent care. The aim of the launch weekend, 22nd – 24th September 2023, was to unite **Convert Care** service providers, creating a mutually respectful network of individuals and organisations sharing similar goals and values. By sharing experiences, we aim to learn about opportunities, trends, and best practices in serving our growing Convert community, collectively addressing unavoidable challenges.

The **Beacon Mosques Awards**, a nationally recognised project, serves as a benchmark of quality for mosques and Islamic centres across the UK. Through extensive engagement, standards are established to help mosques assess themselves against quality matrices, facilitating self-evaluation and improvement.

For the second consecutive year, the **CMF** has collaborated with Beacon Mosques to sponsor an award for the **Best Convert Care Service**, nominated and voted for by the Muslim community. Leveraging experiential knowledge in service delivery, the **CMF** judges the nominees and presents the award.

While not all converts initially turn to mosques for guidance, they eventually seek support during their spiritual journey. It's crucial for mosques and Islamic organisations to collaborate in understanding and addressing the specific needs, experiences, and challenges faced by converts. During the Mosque Expo, the CMF team provided assistance to mosque representatives in engaging and supporting converts, including the delivery of an enlightening seminar on engagement led by our Executive Officer, Kerry Mannan.

The **CMF's** involvement in this project demonstrates our commitment to building a supportive infrastructure for converts nationwide. By providing access to resources, networking opportunities, and recognition for exemplary service, we strive to empower mosques and organisations to better meet the unique needs of converts within their communities.

In August 2023, an exceptional opportunity arose for converts to Islam to explore various cities in Türkiye, courtesy of an invitation of collaboration between the **CMF** and the **Turkish Diyanet – the Department of Religious Affairs**. The collaborative organisation of the event commenced with an overview of the travel plan and associated costs, garnering immediate interest from converts across the UK. Ultimately, 38 participants, spanning various ages and conversion histories, embarked on the journey.

Cultural trips play a pivotal role in providing converts with firsthand experiences in predominantly Muslim countries, offering insights into daily life as the Muslim population exercise mutual respect and take personal responsibility for themselves as they go about their daily business. The excursion, encompassing visits to museums, mosques, and historical sites in Istanbul, Bursa, and Konya, was met with enthusiastic acclaim from the group. Such trips exemplify the **CMF's** dedication towards providing cultural experiences that develops a deeper appreciation for Islamic heritage and values, fostering a sense of connection and belonging within the global Muslim ummah.

A collaborative research project between **CMF** and the **University of Cardiff – Studies in Britain Islam Department**. Where previously research tended to focus on conversion narratives, vulnerabilities and marginalisation, the aims of this research are profoundly different. These are as follows:

- **Examine** what resources (social, economic, religious) Muslim Converts use to reach and maintain positions of leadership.
- **Explore** the extent to which Muslim Converts in leadership positions feel that they hold unique positions as 'bridge builders' in British society.
- **Understand** the extent to which the 'integral potential' Convert Muslims informs their personal and professional development and
- **Share** the experiences of Muslim Converts in leadership inform and improve recognition of their contributions to British Islam

Interviews with a wide range of Converts to Islam, 30 in total and from diverse backgrounds took place throughout 2023 where each shared their personal experiences of leadership and social change. The findings of this unique and groundbreaking research project will be widely shared and, in doing so, we hope it will improve recognition of the contributions that convert Muslims make to British Muslim communities. The project will end in April 2025.

This project is led by Professor Sophie Gilliat-Ray (Gilliat-Rays@cardiff.ac.uk) and researcher Dr. Asma Khan from Cardiff University and Batool Al-Toma, Founder Director of CMF, (batool@convertmuslimfoundation.org.uk), assisted by Anita Nayyar who is volunteering her expertise as a social psychologist to the project.

Public Benefit Statement

The section of this report below entitled 'Objectives and Activities' sets out the objects and aims of the charity.

The trustees have considered this, in conjunction with the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, and have concluded that:

- the aims of the charity continue to be charitable;
- the work done by the charity gives identifiable benefits to the charitable sector and both directly and indirectly to individuals in need;
- the benefits are for the public; not unreasonably restricted in any way;
- there is no detriment or harm arising from the aims or activities.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a Charity Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and operates under the rules of its constitution adopted 24 January 2020 and registered with the Charity Commission on the same day (Charity Reg: 1187573).

The **Convert Muslim Foundation (CMF)** is an equal opportunities organisation (and employer) that aims to have a diverse mix of skills and backgrounds amongst staff and the members of the Board of Trustees that reflects the diverse community we work with. These values guide the process of selecting new Trustees to the organisation. A document reflecting our values and the role of Trustees is available to all those expressing an interest in the organisation. The CMF has opted to openly advertise positions of Trusteeship amongst its members so that interested parties to make application. A full CV together with details of why an individual feels they have the desire, experience and expertise to be a Trustee is requested. Our Trustee outline is provided and an interview is arranged for selection to proceed.

Financial Review

Income and fundraising

The CMF's primary income sources are donations, legacies, and fundraising. In 2023/24, total income decreased by 40% to £44,462 (2022/23: £74,120), mainly due to a reduction in donations from CMF's largest donor. This highlights a vulnerability in CMF's financial model and underscores the need to diversify its donor base.

Recognizing this risk, CMF has adopted a more conservative Reserve Policy compared to other charities, pending the implementation of new fundraising initiatives to reduce dependence on a narrow set of large donors.

Despite this challenge, CMF's donor base showed resilience, with 60% of donors maintaining their support. This stability reflects the continued generosity of UK and international donors, enabling CMF to sustain its social and care programs for new Muslims and promote the legacy of early converts to Islam.

Expenditure

CMF's expenditure falls into two main categories:

1. Charitable activities: the costs associated with implementing programmes as per CMF's mandate;
2. Support costs: this includes expenditure and investment in ensuring that effective governance, people, policies and systems are in place to support the frontline delivery of our projects, and that donations are utilized in an efficient and effective manner.

Direct charitable expenditure decreased slightly by 4%, from £23,771 in 2022/23 to £22,867 in 2023/24. It is noted that 77% of CMF's total expenditure was directed toward charitable activities, with the remaining portion covering support costs. This reflects effective use of donated funds toward its core charitable mandate. However, we expect the percentage of direct charitable expenditure to total payments to increase in future years as the charity grows.

Of the direct charitable expenditure, 73% was allocated to two main charitable programs:

- 1st Convert Care Conference
- Best Convert Support Award (Beacon Mosque Awards)

Other charitable expenditures were related to services provided by paid staff, including counselling support for recently converted Muslims in areas such as mental well-being, religious guidance, and other forms of convert care.

Investments

CMF does not currently have an investment portfolio. However, CMF may, in the future, consider establishing an investments portfolio with the aim to generate investment returns to support CMF's long-term financial sustainability which will reduce its dependency on donations and grants by generating an annual yield that is used to fund its programming.

Reserves Policy

In September 2024, the Trustee Board approved CMF's first Reserve Policy. The objective of the new policy is to ensure the long-term sustainability of the charity, considering factors such as the stability of donations, the concentration of its donor base, current annual expenditures for core operations, expected charitable activities, and potential financial risks faced by the charity. The reserves are intended to strike a balance between the charity's sustainability and the interests of donors, ensuring maximum impact for beneficiaries.

Free reserves refer to funds that are readily available for mandated charitable activities or operational administration costs. These do not include restricted funds, tangible assets, or amounts designated for planned spending.

Annually, the trustees review the risk profile and Reserve Policy, setting the minimum level of Free Reserves to be maintained.

As of 31st March 2024, CMF's total free, unrestricted reserves stood at £149,025 (2022/23: £134,171), significantly exceeding the minimum reserve level required by the new Reserve Policy. In the upcoming year, CMF's trustees will develop plans to deploy the excess reserves in alignment with the charity's objectives.

CMF maintains free reserves to:

- Mitigate unforeseen funding fluctuations,
- Provide working capital and manage the seasonality of income generation for the charity's effective operation,
- Ensure continuity of charitable activities supporting the Convert Muslim community in the face of unforeseen project expenditures.

The Trustee Board has reviewed the year-end reserves and determined that the level of free reserves is more than sufficient, considering CMF's size, operations, and the financial risks it faces.

Risk management

The Board of Trustees has assessed CMF's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees have considered numerous factors when concluding whether the organisation continues to be a going concern and have also considered the key risks, including the ongoing cost of delivery, rising costs and inflation, and the cost-of-living crisis that could negatively impact the charity.

The critical risk in our financial model is a potential decline in income, which could impact our ability to deliver charitable activities and result in insufficient recovery of core costs. We are mitigating this risk by:

- (i) not committing to costly programs until adequate funding is secured,

- (ii) maintaining a healthy level of cash reserves, and
- (iii) deploying new fundraising initiatives to reduce donor concentration.

Our unrestricted core income is funded by donations, which remained resilient despite the adverse scenarios experienced in 2023/24. This gives CMF confidence that its conservative risk management approach will sustain the charity going forward. The financial results reflect continued generous giving by our core donors, and CMF has more than sufficient unrestricted cash resources to cover all charitable and administrative outflows (at the level of 2023/24) for the forthcoming 12 months.

After considering these factors, the Board of Trustees has concluded that the charity remains a robust going concern and has adequate resources to continue delivering for the foreseeable future.

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities 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 the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees 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.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on ..16/01/2025.. and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Andrew Barson
Chair of Trustees

The Convert Muslim Foundation
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees the Convert Muslim Foundation

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 8 to 12.

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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.


.....
Nasir Rafiq BA FCA
DUA GOVERNANCE

Date: 21 Jan 2025

Bradford Court
123-131 Bradford Street
Digbeth, Birmingham
B12 0NS

The Convert Muslim Foundation
Receipts and Payments Accounts
From 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Receipts				
Donation	41,142	-	41,142	67,901
Activities	2,600	-	2,600	6,121
Sundry receipts	720	-	720	98
Sub total	44,462	-	44,462	74,120
Assets and Investment sales	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	44,462	-	44,462	74,120
Payments				
Activities & events	22,807	-	22,807	23,771
Donation	60	-	60	-
Consultancy	2,973	-	2,973	2,213
Technical support	560	-	560	249
Website, phone & postage	279	-	279	536
Professional fees	582	-	582	552
Travel	246	-	246	1,057
Printing & stationery	-	-	0	478
Trustee expenses - note 1(f)	580	-	580	247
Trustee remuneration - note 1(f)	800	-	800	0
Fundraising & marketing	-	-	0	125
Sundry payments	720	-	720	96
Subtotal	29,607	-	29,607	29,324
Assets and Investment purchases				
	-	-	-	-
Total payments	29,607	-	29,607	29,324
Net of receipts/(payments)	14,855	-	14,855	44,796
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Cash funds last year end	134,171	-	134,171	89,375
Cash funds this year end	149,026	-	149,026	134,171

The Convert Muslim Foundation
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
As at 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Cash Funds			
Cash at Bank	149,026	149,026	134,171
Total Cash funds	149,026	149,026	134,171
 Assets Retained for the Charity's Own Use			
Freehold Land & Building	0	0	0
Laptop	400	400	0
Total	0	0	0
	2,893	2,893	1,704
Liabilities	2,893	2,893	1,704

Approved by the Board on16/01/2025. And signed on its behalf by:



.....
 Andrew Barson
 Chair of Trustees

The Convert Muslim Foundation

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

1. Accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the receipts and payments basis in accordance with the Charity Commission guidance.

(b) Charity status

The charity is a Charity Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and operates under the rules of its constitution adopted 24 January 2020 and registered with the Charity Commission on the same day (Charity Reg: 1187573).

(c) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

(d) Receipts

All incoming resources are included in the Receipt & payment Accounts when the charity actually receives legally entitled income.

(e) Payments

All expenditure is accounted for on payments basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

(f) Trustees' remuneration and reimbursements

Trustee Zoe Hibell received a consultancy payment of £400 for preparing the conference report for the 1st Convert Care Conference.

A further £540 was paid to 3 Trustees for reimbursement of travel costs related to the charity's administrative and operational activities, but not for their services.

THE CONVERT MUSLIM FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1187573

Accounts

The Convert Muslim Foundation
(Registered charity, number 1187573)
Financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Page	Contents
2 - 6	Trustees' annual report
7	Independent examiner's report
8	Receipts & payments account
9	Statement of assets & liabilities
10	Notes to the accounts

**The Convert Muslim Foundation
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

Full name The Convert Muslim Foundation

Organisation type Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Registered charity number 1187573

Principal address

45 Oakfield Avenue, Leicester, LE67 9WH

Trustees

Andrew Barson, Chair

Zoe Hibell

Warren Clementson

Sariya Cheruvallil-Contractor

Conor Murphy, from 29/7/23

Benjamin Abu Ismail, until 2/11/2022

Independent examiner

John O'Brien, employee of Community Accounting Plus, Units 1 & 2 North West, 41 Talbot Street, Nottingham, NG1 5GL

Governance and management

The charity is operated under the rules of its constitution adopted 24 January 2020.

The CMF is an equal opportunities organisation (and employer) that aims to have a diverse mix of skills and backgrounds amongst staff and the members of the Board of Trustees that reflects the diverse community we work with. These values guide the process of selecting new Trustees to the organisation. A document reflecting our values and the role of Trustees is available to all those expressing an interest in the organisation. The CMF has opted to openly advertise positions of Trusteeship amongst its members so that interested parties to make application. A full CV together with details of why an individual feels they have the desire, experience and expertise to be a Trustee is requested. Our Trustee outline is provided and an interview is arranged for selection to proceed.

Objectives and activities

In general terms, The CMF aims to advance the Islamic religion in the United Kingdom for the benefit of the public through the holding of prayer meetings, lectures, public celebration of religious festivals, and producing and/or distributing literature on the Islamic religion to enlighten others about the Islamic religion, specifically (but not exclusively) with the needs of converts and their families in mind.

The charity also looks to advance the education of the wider public in the United Kingdom in the subjects of Islam and of conversion to Islam. We aim to promote

The Convert Muslim Foundation

research in these subject areas for the public benefit and to publish the relevant results.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit

The CMF in the last year has planned several projects to reach our objectives, including (but not restricted to);

- Support for Converts to Islam, their families and other relevant persons, including pastoral support, signposting and financial support (over 900 contacts within the period);
- The CMF have continued to support the Arabic Scholarship for Converts at a prestigious Islamic institution of learning;
- The CMF held the first post-Covid, in person Ramadan Retreat for converts to Islam and their families;
- The CMF have continued to develop projects to serve the Convert population in UK prisons in order to produce a national strategy;
- The CMF have continued the 'Convert Care' initiative, mapping convert care support across the UK and Ireland, bringing together the first ever UK network of organisations providing convert care, developing a website to list support available and planning a Conference to promote best practice to be held in 2023;
- The CMF have worked in collaboration with Beacon Mosques/Faith Associates to produce the first annual 'Best Convert Care' award, to promote better Convert care across the network of UK mosques, attending the exhibition to promote CMF projects and presenting the award;
- Launched new research initiatives in partnership with the University of Cardiff and the University of Coventry, to better understand the legacy and impact of Converts on the Muslim community in the UK;
- The CMF have collaborated on events and trips (as part of the wider 'Caravan of Converts' project) celebrating the history of Converts in the UK, as well as our annual Umrah pilgrimage trip to Mecca (specifically designed for Converts).

Summary of the main achievements during the period

The CMF have continued to push forward with major projects since the end of the 'Covid Era'. It has been a successful and particularly busy year for our young charity, despite the small size of our Trustee board and staff. It is with sadness but thanks that we say goodbye to our treasurer Benjamin Abu Ismail, who has been an integral part of

The Convert Muslim Foundation

the charity since its inception. The Convert Care project has advanced greatly with the website going live, the network now connected with new social media channels and the Convert Care Conference now planned for 2023. In this endeavour, CMF will be the first organization in the UK to bring together Convert Care providers to connect and identify best practice.

A full review of CMF projects can be found as always in the directors' report to the AGM which allowed us to concrete our organisation aims with our current project objectives. This has allowed us to identify key priorities going forward to build upon our current work. Namely:

- The CMF continues to provide support to those who have embraced Islam or are interested in the faith through signposting, information and social media engagement;
- The CMF has taken steps towards ensuring that Converts in the UK are able to find timely, culturally sensitive, local support through a registered network of providers in an accessible way through the Convert Care initiative;
- The CMF have procured and collected resources to be offered to UK prisons to better serve their Convert prisoners, to ensure their spiritual and cultural needs are met. Likewise, plans are being developed for future projects and resources to support Muslim converts whilst in prison and with their rehabilitation into their local Muslim communities;
- The CMF has brought together UK converts through unique social experiences to learn and explore the history of UK converts, reducing isolation and increasing education of the UK convert experience;
- The CMF has strengthened the development of academic interest in beneficial research regarding Converts to better understand their needs and to acknowledge their impact upon the wider Muslim community in the UK;
- The CMF has (and continues to) promote a wider awareness of the need for Convert support and has taken steps to encourage Mosques to play a more active role in this important work;
- The CMF is looking to expand in terms of Trustees and staff, to develop key infrastructure, funding strategy and to ensure it is a robust and resilient charity that can be sustained.

Financial Review:

Income and fundraising

The CMF generates income primarily from donations, legacies and fundraising. In 2022/23, its total income increased by 5 percent to £74,120 (2021/22: £70,618) in the year. This demonstrates strong stability in CMF's donors base and the continued growth in its funding support network.

Our UK and international donors continued to demonstrate their generosity in supporting CMF in supporting its social and care programs for new Muslims and for bringing awareness to rich legacy left behind by early converts to Islam.

The Convert Muslim Foundation

Expenditure

CMF's expenditure falls into two main categories:

- 1) Charitable activities: the costs associated with implementing programmes as per CMF's mandate;
- 2) Support costs: this includes expenditure and investment in ensuring that effective governance, people, policies and systems are in place to support the frontline delivery of our projects, and that donations are utilized in an efficient and effective manner.

Direct charitable expenditure increased significantly to £14,920 in 2022/23 from £2,777 in 2021/22. The large increase was planned and in line with stated charitable objectives set by the Trustees to deliver on its charitable mandate. Of this, 61 percent was expended on 3 main charitable programs: (i) Ramadhan Retreat 2022, (ii) Best Convert Support Award [Beacon Mosque Awards], and (iii) CMF's Prison project.

In addition, CMF has indirect charitable contributions carried out by its paid staff and unpaid volunteers and trustees in providing a number of counselling support to recently converted Muslims and established convert Muslims relating to financial, mental well-being, religious guidance and other forms of convert care.

Investments

CMF does not currently have an investment portfolio. However, CMF may, in the future, consider establishing an investments portfolio with the aim to generate investment returns to support CMF's long-term financial sustainability which will reduce its dependency on donations and grants by generating an annual yield that is used to fund its programming.

Reserves Policy

CMF is in the process of developing its Reserve Policy to establish the level of free reserves required. Free reserves are funds that are freely available to expend for mandated charitable activities or operational administration costs and therefore do not include restricted funds, tangible assets or amounts designated for planned spending. Upon approval of policy, trustees will review annually the minimum reserve calculation and available cash reserves.

The objective of the Reserve Policy will be to ensure long-term sustainability of the charity, taking in account the stability of donations and concentration of donor base, the current annual expenditures for core operational costs and expected charitable activities and an assessment of potential financial risks faced by the charity. The set reserves will be a balance between sustainability of the charity and the interest of donors who contribute to charity to foster charitable impact to its beneficiaries.

On 31st March 2023, CMF's total unrestricted and restricted reserves on 31st March 2023 stood at £134,171. The amount of free reserves will soon be defined by new Reserve Policy and will be reported in next year's accounts.

The Convert Muslim Foundation

CMF plans to hold free reserves to:

- to mitigate against unforeseen funding fluctuations,
- provide working capital and manage the seasonality of income generation for the effective running of the charity,
- provide continuity to its charitable activities of support and care to the convert Muslim community against unforeseen project expenditures.

In absence of current Reserve Policy, the Board of Trustees considers the level of total reserves to be sufficient considering CMF's size, operations and the financial risks to which it is exposed.

Risk Review and Going Concern

The Board of Trustees has assessed CMF's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees have considered numerous factors when concluding whether the organisation continues to be a going concern and have also considered the key risks, including the ongoing cost of delivery, rising costs and inflation, and the cost-of-living crisis that could negatively impact the charity.

The critical risk in our financial model is a fall in income and our ability to deliver charitable activities, leading to the lower recovery of core costs. We are mitigating the risk by (i) not committing to costly programs until adequate funding is secured and (ii) maintaining a healthy level of cash reserves.

Our unrestricted core income is funded by donations which have remained remarkably stable despite ongoing economic challenges. Our financial results continue to see signs of generous giving by our core donors resulting in CMF's highest level of total income to date. CMF has sufficient undesignated cash resources to cover all charitable and administrative outflows (at the level of 2022/23) for the forthcoming 24 months.

After considering these factors, the Board of Trustees has concluded that the charity remains a robust going concern and has adequate resources to continue delivering for the foreseeable future.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed 

Date 16/01/2024

Andrew Barson, Chair of Trustees, Convert Muslim Foundation

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of
The Convert Muslim Foundation
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Convert Muslim Foundation (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity, 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 charity'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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Signed 

Date 19/1/2024

John O'Brien MSc, FAIA, FCCA, FCIE
Employee of Community Accounting Plus

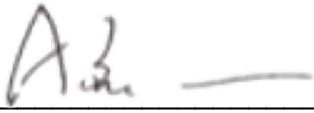
**The Convert Muslim Foundation
Receipts & payments account
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

2022 £		Note	2023 £
	Receipts		
67398	Donations	2	67901
2970	Activities		6121
250	Sundry receipts		98
<u>70618</u>	Total receipts		<u>74120</u>
	Payments		
1777	Activities & events		14920
1000	Donations paid		-
11087	Consultancy		11064
-	Technical support		249
3255	Website, phone & postage		536
540	Professional fees		552
463	Travel		1057
516	Printing & stationery		478
-	Trustee Meetings		147
-	Membership		100
-	Fundraising & marketing		125
898	Sundry payments		96
<u>19536</u>	Total payments		<u>29324</u>
51082	Net receipts/(payments)		44796
<u>38293</u>	Cash funds at start of this period		<u>89375</u>
<u>89375</u>	Cash funds at end of this period		<u>134171</u>

**The Convert Muslim Foundation
Statement of assets and liabilities
at 31 March 2023**

2022			2023
£	Cash assets	Note	£
89375	Bank accounts		134171
<u>89375</u>			<u>134171</u>
	Other monetary assets		
-	Debtors: Consultancy		49
<u>-</u>			<u>49</u>
	Liabilities		
(552)	Creditors	3	(1704)
<u>(552)</u>			<u>(1704)</u>

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed  Dated 18/1/2024
Andrew Barson, Trustee

The Convert Muslim Foundation
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2023

1. Receipts & payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts contain a summary of money received and money spent during the period and a list of assets and liabilities at the end of the period. Usually, cash received and cash spent will include transactions through bank accounts and cash in hand.

2. Grants & donations

	£
Sundry donations	67901
	<u>67901</u>

3. Creditors

	£
Consultancy	1122
Professional fees	582
	<u>1704</u>

4. Trustees' remuneration

Trustees received no expenses, remuneration or benefits in this period.

5. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year.

6. Glossary of terms

Creditors: These are amounts owed by the charity, but not paid during the accounting period.

Debtors: These are amounts owed to the charity, but not received in the accounting period.

THE CONVERT MUSLIM FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1187573

Accounts

Convert Muslim Foundation News update and Congratulations for the Blessed month of RAMADAN

RESETTLEMENT & REHABILITATION

In the height of the Covid pandemic, and during a brief lull in the lockdown restrictions in October 2020, the CMF held a weekend programme based around the plight of the alarming numbers of Muslims in UK prisons and, more importantly for CMF as an organisation that supports those who convert to Islam, what support can be provided to the growing numbers of prisoners who Convert to Islam while serving both short and long-term prison sentences. The attached report was published and, together with other research, will form the backdrop to a series of on-line meetings with stakeholders to establish collaborative initiatives that will address the concerns highlighted.

- [Cover of the report and pdf file for download and reading](#)
- [Pull a quote from the file –](#)
- [Photos and excerpt videos from the event](#)

RESEARCH & PUBICATIONS

The Convert Muslim Foundation and the Centre for the Study of Islam in the UK, University of Cardiff have signed an MOU to conduct research within the field of British Muslim Studies, specifically on the subject of Muslim converts in Britain. Our hope is that this unique area of research, that of leadership roles of Muslim converts in a broad range of social and religious spheres and their contribution to the 'indigenisation' of Islam in Britain, will add value to the existing body of research on Conversion to Islam and conversion narratives. Interviews for this post-doctoral research will begin shortly with a research timescale of three years in duration.

Post-Doctoral Research Project – Job Description.... Please refer to Cardiff University and Convert Muslim Foundation websites in March of this year for full details of this post for Researcher - Grade 6: www.convertmuslimfoundation.org.uk www.cardiff.ac.uk



CONVERT CARE WEBSITE

The Convert Muslim Foundation, having conducted a national mapping exercise of those Muslim Organisation's and individual who provide convert care, have established a new and innovative website: www.convertcare.org

The website provides new Muslims, and those interested in Islam, easy access to registered convert care providers. Each be contacted directly to get the support required towards meeting short and long term needs. For more information, please check out our NEW website: www.convertcare.org

Convert Muslim Foundation continues to direct those who contact them on a daily basis to their nearest convert care facility and assist them towards finding suitable guidance and support. If, having checked out this website you know of a facility that does not appear there, please do kindly get in touch and let us know: info@convertmuslimfoundation.org.uk



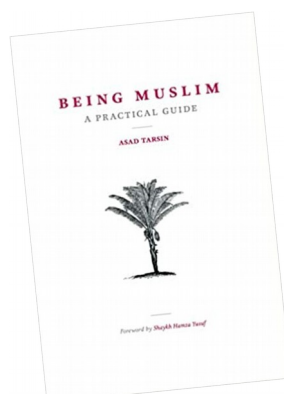
QATAR ARABIC SCHOLARSHIPS

The Convert Muslim Foundation continues to work with its colleagues at Qatar University who have nominated CMF as being one of the organisations selected as a beneficiary of the award of one annual scholarship to their Arabic Program for Non-native Speakers (ANNS) for the Academic year 2022/2023. Our current scholarship student, convert to Islam Irina, is already mid-way through the academic year 2021/2022 while the newly nominated student, Emily, is already working through the scholarship application process for the academic year 2022/2023. This is a truly wonderful opportunity which each student places tremendous value and for which CMF are hugely grateful. Our current student Irina had this to say about her first semester:

BEING MUSLIM

The CMF were fortunate to receive a kind donation of £500 with a request it be used to purchase a suitable book that would form part of an ideal reading list or Gift Pack for those new to Islam. Based on consultation, 50 copies of 'Being Muslim: A Practical Guide' by Dr Asad Tarsin were purchased and delivered FREE to 5 Convert Care facilitators in packs of 10. These included New Beginnings, Cambridge New Muslims, City Retreat Leicester, Edinburgh New Muslims with others posted out to individual New Muslims around the UK. The CMF have placed an order for 500 copies of this title, Being Muslim, for FREE distribution to prisons all over the UK and, though these have been delayed due to COVID and shipping issues with the USA, we remain confident that we can and will deliver, God Willing.

Book Cover image



SEERAH UMRAH TOUR for Converts to Islam – ‘In the Footsteps of Muhammed’ SAW

This unique programme, just completed, was a collaborative initiative between **Dometours International** and the **Convert Muslim Foundation**. The aim of the tour was that those taking part would not only have the blessed opportunity to perform Umrah but would also be immersed in the Seerah – the history of early Islam, the life of Rasul SAW and the events that surrounded this truly unique period in our collective identity as Muslims. Walking tours of the immediate areas surrounding the Haram in Makkah and Madinah, walking in the footsteps of Rasul SAW to Quba Mosque which he did most Saturday mornings after Fajr Salah, bus tours to significant Mosques, museums and places of interest were included in the programme.

Such an event is of vital importance to converts to Islam who have found that visiting the sacred sites and performing the pilgrimages, both Hajj and Umrah, to be a grounding experience that helped them find their spiritual home.

This year's Umrah took place from 10th – 20th February, Next years Umrah is already under discussion!

PHOTOS of UMRAH

ZAKAT DISTRIBUTION

The Convert Muslim Foundation distributed the sum of £5,000 in amounts of up to £250 to needy converts to Islam who requested financial support. The funds were kindly donated by well-wishers, particularly those who wish to revive the category of Zakat mentioned in the Qur'an, ***Al-Mu'allafatu Qulubuhum*** – the support of those who have converted to Islam. We would like to express our very sincere thanks to the kindness of the donors and hope that they will reap the rewards of this as a ***Sadaqa Jariyah*** in this life and in the next.

UPCOMING PROJECTS AND EVENTS

FAITHFUL COMPANIONS

Upon taking the huge step to accept Islam take Shahada, one thing is for certain, their life will never be the same again. Unfortunately, many people are not prepared for the changes that will take place making their journey in Islam painful instead of pleasing and chaotic instead of calming. This is where the help of a companion is invaluable.

The goal of this project is to create a robust method to connect new Muslims with a suitable companion, who can sensitively guide them to advance their faith and knowledge without judgement and in safe space.

While there are already examples of mentoring for New Muslims in existence the Faithful Companions project aims to bring more structure through setting standards and parameters, providing training and guidance to those wishing to mentor so that there is a greater understanding of what it is New Muslims need and how to achieve this in sha Allah.

Watch this space for details of this in the coming months.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

As collaborators with **Cardiff Universities Centre for the Study of Islam** in the UK and with respect to **CMF's Health and Wellbeing** project we would like to draw attention to a **FREE** online course – **Understanding Muslim Mental Health** – Please do take advantage of this opportunity so that Convert Care facilitators arrive at a fuller understanding of mental health and are better equipped to address its effects within the convert Muslim community. Course begins in May 2022. Please follow the link:

<https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/news/view/2591956-free-online-course-exploring-mental-health-in-muslim-communities>

Monthly Fiqh Seminar with scholars

Providing regular opportunities to directly access knowledgeable scholars on particular topics of note for converts.

ONGOING ANNUAL EVENTS

Ramadan Retreat

This annual event has had to be an on-line Zoom initiative for the past two years. Fortunately, this year we are able to have a gathering in person for which we are thrilled and delighted. However, this means that attendance will be higher than usual and of course there will be a huge demand on accommodation which may be bolstered by providing information on local hotels and B&B's. We will do our very best to facilitate attendance for everyone who wants to join us. The event will take place on the weekend of 22nd – 24th April 2022 at the Markfield Conference Centre, LE67 9SY.



UPCOMING EVENTS - planned for the future include **Radio Ramadan**; **New to Islam Residential Weekends**; **Oral Histories Project**, **Collaborative Seminars with Convert Care Providers** and **'Caravan of Converts'** events – the first of which we hope to hold in the **June of 2022**.

NEW TEAM MEMBER

We are pleased to announce our newest team member and a valued member of staff, **Ms Kerry Mannan**, to the position of Executive Officer. A convert of 16 years, mum of 2 teenagers, as well as 5 years of experience in the field of New Muslim Support Kerry joined CMF in July of 2021.

In the course of time, we hope to add new and innovative staff members to our existing team as we continue to grow and develop the organisation and launch the many projects we have in the pipeline. If you have a passion and energy for this work and have particular skills you feel you can bring to the table, please do get in touch with us at info@convertmuslimfoundation.org.uk

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS

We would like to sincerely thank all of you, our funders, who feel that our work is deserving of your support. There are no words that can suitably express our gratitude. We hope that this overview of the work done and what we have yet to accomplish will compel you to continue your kind generosity towards supporting those intending to and have already committed to Islam and their continued support and wellbeing. Thank you and may Allah bless you.

The Convert Muslim Foundation
(Registered charity, number 1187573)
Financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2022

Page	Contents
2 - 5	Trustees' annual report
6	Independent examiner's report
7	Receipts & payments account
8	Statement of assets & liabilities
9	Notes to the accounts

**The Convert Muslim Foundation
Trustees' annual report
for the year ended 31 March 2022**

Full name The Convert Muslim Foundation

Organisation type Charitable incorporated organisation

Registered charity number 1187573

Principal address

45 Oakfield Avenue, Leicester, LE67 9WH

Trustees

Andrew Barson, Chair
Benjamin Abu Ismail
Zoe Hibell
Warren Clementson
Sariya Cheruvallil

Independent examiner

John O'Brien, employee of Community Accounting Plus, Units 1 & 2 North West, 41 Talbot Street, Nottingham, NG1 5GL

Governance and management

The charity is operated under the rules of its constitution adopted 24 January 2020.

The CMF is an equal opportunities organisation (and employer) that aims to have a diverse mix of skills and backgrounds amongst staff and the members of the Board of Trustees that reflects the diverse community we work with. These values guide the process of selecting new Trustees to the organisation. A document reflecting our values and the role of Trustees is available to all those expressing an interest in the organisation. The CMF has opted to openly advertise positions of Trusteeship amongst its members so that interested parties to make application. A full CV together with details of why an individual feels they have the desire, experience and expertise to be a Trustee is requested. Our Trustee outline is provided and an interview is arranged for selection to proceed.

Objectives and activities

In general terms, The CMF aims to advance the Islamic religion in the United Kingdom for the benefit of the public through the holding of prayer meetings, lectures, public celebration of religious festivals, and producing and/or distributing literature on the Islamic religion to enlighten others about the Islamic religion, specifically (but not exclusively) with the needs of converts and their families in mind.

The charity also looks to advance the education of the wider public in the United Kingdom in the subjects of Islam and of conversion to Islam. We aim to promote

The Convert Muslim Foundation

research in these subject areas for the public benefit and to publish the relevant results.

Public benefit statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit

The CMF in the last year has planned several projects to reach our objectives, including (but not restricted to);

- Support for Converts to Islam, their families and other relevant persons, including pastoral support, signposting and financial support (charity and scholarships).
- The CMF looks to further expand the scope of our support offer to converts with the 'Faithful companions' a scheme that will offer peer support through volunteers.
- The CMF holds numerous events/activities such as the annual Ramadan Retreat for converts to Islam and their families.
- The CMF have attended and hosted events to raise the profile of the charity and to promote awareness of the need for Convert support, such as an event to promote best practice.
- Two major pieces of academic research in exploring the practical, social and religious difficulties experienced in the hope to assist in supporting converts pre/post release from prison.
- Set up social media pages as well as designing a website, Convert Care - <https://www.convertcare.org> dedicated to further supporting the wider convert community to promote a positive view of Islam.

Summary of the main achievements during the period

The pandemic and the fact that we had to leave our office and work from home has somewhat delayed the progress of many planned objectives of the CMF for 2021/22. However, despite this the CMF has managed to make headway in beginning to achieve its objectives and goals. A full review of CMF projects can be found in the directors' report to the AGM which allowed us the opportunity to review all of our aims and objectives and to regroup and re-strategise our aims and objectives after the long period of lockdown, but to summarise:

- The CMF provided support to those who have embraced Islam or are interested in the faith.
- The CMF has reduced the isolation, stigma and difficulties often associated with conversion, experienced by converts and their non-Muslim families.
- The CMF gives the opportunity to reflect spiritually and socially engage and promote positive mental health and wellbeing.
- The CMF promotes a wider awareness of the need for Convert support.
- Supporting converts pre/post release from prison.
- Promotes a positive view of Islam.

The Convert Muslim Foundation

We have sought to liaise and network with stakeholders and individuals keen to work with the organisation in achieving our goals, focused on creating a robust organisational and management infrastructure, policy development and expanded consultations with the convert community in terms of its future plans.

Exploring and understanding conversion to Islam in prison and the needs of ex-convict converts was a priority project this year and the CMF continues to make progress in this area, having held conferences and establishing a steering group with the intention of forming a national development plan to offer training to individuals, Islamic organisations and Mosques as to how to welcome 'Returning Citizens' back into the community in the hope of preventing reoffending and creating opportunities for work.

The CMF has progressed with establishing key relationships with academic institutions leading to a research programme looking at the role of converts in positions of leadership and in developing a 'British Islam' - indigenising the faith in Britain. The research plan commenced in early 2021 and is expected to conclude in 2025.

Collaborative work was undertaken to complete the first mapping exercise of all convert support available in the UK, which in turn has now been utilised to create the first convert care website, able to signpost converts to local support.
<https://www.convertcare.co.uk>

Other projects that have been created this year include an oral histories project for which an award of funding has been approved and a plan to capture the experiences of Black Converts in the UK.

The charity's policy on reserves

Given that the CMF is currently still in its early years of development it is already looking at sustainability for the future in terms of utilising a mix of volunteer recruitment and producing a portfolio of chargeable services (e.g. training) as well as fundraising initiatives.

Currently CMF's income is mainly through the generosity of supporters and is modest in its size and makeup. In this light, financial decisions are currently made to reflect what we can afford and what constitutes good value for money spent. We currently have a healthy reserve (particularly needed in these uncertain times) which we plan to utilise for our future projects.

We hope to create a future financial plan that will consider current and future developments of the organisation and the degree and level of work proposed. By the time of our third AGM in March 2023 the CMF hopes to have a reasonable assessment of what its 'baseline' running cost will be, alongside more detailed cost projections of the various projects currently on going (such as maintenance of the convert care website). A detailed Project Proposal and Business Case for each proposed initiative has been drawn up for this purpose and is completed for every project CMF wish to consider taking forward.

The Convert Muslim Foundation

Other than protecting baseline costs, it is the firm intention of the staff and trustees of the CMF to ensure the charity is able to carry out as much work as is possible and needed to complete objectives with appropriate levels of expenditure to match.

The CMF will only give grants if the organisation or individual requesting is using funds that are in line with our aims and objectives and where a detailed application can be clearly seen to be so.

As we present to the public some of the projects being worked upon now and our future vision, the CMF hopes to attract a greater degree of funding that will put us in a position to reach a stable financial position. At that point and, where the Trustees deem appropriate and necessary, the intention will be in a position to create reserve funding where it is considered appropriate to the future development and best interests of the CMF.

Risks are that we may not attract funding for projects we intend to initiate from funders we will approach to financially support such projects; current funding from generous donors may dry up due to cost of living and the need for each to budget carefully given rising utility, rent and mortgage costs; raising salaries in line with inflation will put a strain on funding - in other words the concerns that are being expresses right across the private and public sector and the squeeze everyone is experiencing at this time.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed _____ Date _____
Andrew Barson, Trustee

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of
The Convert Muslim Foundation
for the year ended 31 March 2022**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Convert Muslim Foundation (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity, 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 charity'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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Signed _____ Date _____

John O'Brien MSc, FAIA, FCCA, FCIE
Employee of Community Accounting Plus

**The Convert Muslim Foundation
Receipts & payments account
for the year ended 31 March 2022**

2021 £		Note	2022 £
	Receipts		
6800	Opening transfer	2	-
45291	Donations	2	67398
-	Activities		2970
-	Sundry receipts		250
<u>52091</u>	Total receipts		<u>70618</u>
	Payments		
282	Activities & events		1777
12000	Consultancy fees		11087
1444	Technical support		-
72	Website, phone & postage		3255
-	Donations paid		1000
-	Professional fees		540
-	Travel		463
-	Printing & stationery		516
-	Sundry payments		898
<u>13798</u>	Total payments		<u>19536</u>
38293	Net receipts/(payments)		51082
<u>-</u>	Cash funds at start of this period		<u>38293</u>
<u>38293</u>	Cash funds at end of this period		<u>89375</u>

**The Convert Muslim Foundation
Statement of assets and liabilities
at 31 March 2022**

<i>2021</i>			<i>2022</i>
£	Cash assets	Note	£
<u>38293</u>	Bank accounts		<u>89375</u>
<u>38293</u>			<u>89375</u>
	Liabilities		
<u>(540)</u>	Creditors	3	<u>(552)</u>
<u>(540)</u>			<u>(552)</u>

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed _____ Date _____
Andrew Barson, Trustee

The Convert Muslim Foundation
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2022

1. Receipts & payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts contain a summary of money received and money spent during the period and a list of assets and liabilities at the end of the period. Usually, cash received and cash spent will include transactions through bank accounts and cash in hand.

2. Grants & donations

The opening transfer in the previous period represents cash at bank held at the date of registration accumulated within the previously unregistered association.

All donations received in the period were personal donations.

3. Creditors

	£
Professional fees	(552)
	<u>(552)</u>

4. Trustees' remuneration

Trustees received no expenses, remuneration or benefits in this period.

5. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in this period.

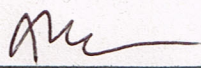
6. Glossary of terms

Creditors: These are amounts owed by the charity, but not paid during the accounting period.

**The Convert Muslim Foundation
Statement of assets and liabilities
at 31 March 2022**

2021			2022
£		Note	£
38293	Cash assets		
<u>38293</u>	Bank accounts		<u>89375</u>
			<u>89375</u>
	Liabilities		
<u>(540)</u>	Creditors	3	<u>(552)</u>
<u>(540)</u>			<u>(552)</u>

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed  Date 15/11/2022
Andrew Barson, Trustee

The Convert Muslim Foundation

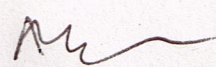
Other than protecting baseline costs, it is the firm intention of the staff and trustees of the CMF to ensure the charity is able to carry out as much work as is possible and needed to complete objectives with appropriate levels of expenditure to match.

The CMF will only give grants if the organisation or individual requesting is using funds that are in line with our aims and objectives and where a detailed application can be clearly seen to be so.

As we present to the public some of the projects being worked upon now and our future vision, the CMF hopes to attract a greater degree of funding that will put us in a position to reach a stable financial position. At that point and, where the Trustees deem appropriate and necessary, the intention will be in a position to create reserve funding where it is considered appropriate to the future development and best interests of the CMF.

Risks are that we may not attract funding for projects we intend to initiate from funders we will approach to financially support such projects; current funding from generous donors may dry up due to cost of living and the need for each to budget carefully given rising utility, rent and mortgage costs; raising salaries in line with inflation will put a strain on funding - in other words the concerns that are being expressed right across the private and public sector and the squeeze everyone is experiencing at this time.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed  Date 15/11/2022
Andrew Barson, Trustee

THE CONVERT MUSLIM FOUNDATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1187573

Accounts

The Convert Muslim Foundation
(Registered charity, number 1187573)
Financial statements
for the period 24 January 2020 - 31 March 2021

Page	Contents
2 - 4	Trustees' annual report
5	Independent examiner's report
6	Receipts & payments account
7	Statement of assets & liabilities
8	Notes to the accounts

**The Convert Muslim Foundation
Trustees' annual report
for the period ended 31 March 2021**

Full name The Convert Muslim Foundation

Organisation type Charitable incorporated organisation

Registered charity number 1187573

Principal address

6 Frog Island, Leicester, LE3 5AG

Trustees

Andrew Barson (from 24/1/20), Chair

Benjamin Abu Ismail (from 24/1/20)

Zoe Hibell (from 24/1/20)

Warren Clementson (from 04/3/20)

Sariya Cheruvallil (from 4/3/20)

Independent examiner

John O'Brien, employee of Community Accounting Plus, Units 1 & 2 North West, 41 Talbot Street, Nottingham, NG1 5GL

Governance and management

The charity is operated under the rules of its constitution adopted 24 January 2020.

The CMF is an equal opportunities organisation (and employer) that aims to have a diverse mix of skills and backgrounds amongst staff and the members of the Board of Trustees that reflects the diverse community we work with. These values guide the process of selecting new Trustees to the organisation. A document reflecting our values and the role of Trustees is available to all those expressing an interest in the organisation. The existing Trustee board is presented with a CV and Bio on the CMF website. Potential Trustees are discussed by the current board and voted in (recorded in meeting minutes) pending all relevant checks and acceptance of the role.

Objectives and activities

In general terms, The CMF aims to advance the Islamic religion in the United Kingdom for the benefit of the public through the holding of prayer meetings, lectures, public celebration of religious festivals, and producing and/or distributing literature on the Islamic religion to enlighten others about the Islamic religion, specifically (but not exclusively) with the needs of converts and their families in mind.

The charity also looks to advance the education of the wider public in the United Kingdom in the subjects of Islam and of conversion to Islam. We aim to promote research in these subject areas for the public benefit and to publish the relevant results.

The Convert Muslim Foundation

Public benefit statement

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit

The CMF in the last year has planned several projects to reach our objectives, including, but not restricted to:

- 1-1 support for converts to Islam, their families and other relevant persons, including pastoral support, signposting and financial support (charity and scholarships). In this way the CMF has reduced the isolation, stigma and difficulties often associated with conversion, experienced by converts and their non-muslim families.
- The CMF looks to further expand the scope of our support offer to converts with the 'Faithful companions' scheme that will offer peer support through volunteers.
- The CMF have attended and hosted events to raise the profile of the charity and to promote awareness of the need for Convert support, such as an event to promote best practice and research in supporting converts pre/post release from prison.
- We have setup social media pages to further support the wider convert community to promote a positive view of Islam.

Summary of the main achievements during the period

The recent Covid-19 pandemic has somewhat delayed the progress of many planned objectives of the CMF for 2020. However, despite the pandemic, the CMF has managed to make headway in beginning to achieve its objectives and goals. A full review of CMF projects can be found in the directors' report to the AGM, but to summarise:

- During our first year as a charity (following our registration) we have sought to lay the foundations of the charity in terms of networking, organisational infrastructure, management structure, policy development and consultations with the convert community in terms of its future plans.
- Exploring and understanding conversion to Islam in prison and the needs of ex-convict converts was a priority project this year and the CMF continues to make progress in this area, having held conferences and establishing a steering group with the intention of forming a national development plan.
- The CMF has progressed with establishing key relationships with academic institutions leading to a research programme looking at the role of converts in developing a 'British Islam'.
- Collaborative work has been undertaken to complete the first mapping exercise of all convert support available in the UK, which in turn will be utilised to create the first convert care website, able to signpost converts to local support.
- Other projects that have been created this year include an oral histories project and a plan to capture the experience of Black Converts in the UK.

The Convert Muslim Foundation

The charity's policy on reserves

Given that the CMF is currently still in its early stages, certain policies are yet to be finalised by the board of Trustees. However, the CMF is already looking at sustainability for the future in terms of utilising a mix of volunteer recruitment and producing a portfolio of chargeable services (training e.g.) as well as fundraising initiatives.

Currently CMF's income is mainly through the generosity of supporters and sympathisers and is modest in its size and makeup. In this light, financial decisions are currently made to reflect what we can afford with a healthy reserve (particularly need in these uncertain times).

We hope to create a future financial plan that will consider current and future developments of the organisation and the degree and level of work proposed. By the time of our second AGM the CMF hopes to have a reasonable assessment of what its 'baseline' running cost will be, alongside more detailed cost projections of the various projects currently on going (such as maintenance of the convert care website e.g.).

However, other than protecting baseline costs, it is the firm intention of the staff and trustees of the CMF to ensure the charity is able to carry out as much work as is possible and needed to complete objectives with appropriate levels of expenditure to match.

As we present to the public some of the projects being worked upon now and our future vision, The CMF hopes to attract a greater degree of funding that will put us in a position to reach a stable financial position. At that point and, where the Trustees deem appropriate and necessary, the intention will be to create reserve funding where it is considered appropriate to the future development and best interests of the CMF.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signed _____ *Andrew Barson* _____ Date 09/09/21 _____
Andrew Barson, Trustee

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of
The Convert Muslim Foundation
for the period ended 31 March 2021**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Convert Muslim Foundation (the charity) for the period ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity, 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 charity'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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Signed



Date 23/09/2021

John O'Brien MSc, FCCA, FCIE
Employee of Community Accounting Plus

**The Convert Muslim Foundation
Receipts & payments account
for the period ended 31 March 2021**

		<i>2021</i>
	Note	£
Receipts		
Opening transfer	2	6800
Donations	2	45291
Total receipts		<u>52091</u>
Payments		
Activities & events		282
Consultancy fees		12000
Technical support		1444
Telephone & postage		72
Total payments		<u>13798</u>
Net receipts/(payments)		38293
Cash funds at start of this period		<u>-</u>
Cash funds at end of this period		<u>38293</u>

The Convert Muslim Foundation
Statement of assets and liabilities
at 31 March 2021

		<i>2021</i>
Cash assets	Note	£
Bank accounts		38293
		<u>38293</u>
 Liabilities		
Creditors	3	(540)
		<u>(540)</u>

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

Signed _____ *Andrew Barson* _____ Date 09/09/21

Andrew Barson, Trustee

The Convert Muslim Foundation
Notes to the accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2021

1. Receipts & payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts contain a summary of money received and money spent during the period and a list of assets and liabilities at the end of the period. Usually, cash received and cash spent will include transactions through bank accounts and cash in hand.

2. Grants & donations

	£
Opening transfer	6800
Sundry donations	45291
	<u>52091</u>

The opening transfer represents cash at bank held at the date of registration accumulated within the previously unregistered association.

3. Creditors

	£
Professional fees	540
	<u>540</u>

4. Trustees' remuneration

Trustees received no expenses, remuneration or benefits in this period.

5. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in this period.

6. Previous period comparison

The previous period's figures have not been included for comparison because this is the charity's first accounting period.

7. Glossary of terms

Creditors: These are amounts owed by the charity, but not paid during the accounting period.