

Gower New Life Church CIO

Charity number: 1188131
Company Number: CE020823

Trustee Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 24th May 2023

Contents

	Page
Legal and administrative information	2
Trustees report	3 - 7
Independent Examiner's report	8
Statement of financial activities	9
Balance sheet	10
Notes to the financial statements	11 – 14

Legal and administrative information

Company Name: Gower New Life Church CIO

Charity Registration Number: 1188131

Company Number: CE020823

Address: Barham Centre
Mount Pisgah
Parkmill, Gower
Swansea
SA3 2EQ

Trustees: Fleman Patrice Aka
Linda Anne Knox
David Bassett Thomas (resigned 5th May 2023)
John Kenneth Tancock

Independent Examiner: Nicola Lewis
EasyBooks Wales Ltd
Unit 4, Dragon 24,
North Dock,
Llanelli,
SA15 2LF

Bankers: HSBC UK Bank PLC
4A Vaughan Street
Llanelli
SA15 3TY

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 24 May 2023

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 24 May 2023. The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 2. The organisation received charitable status approval as a CIO on 24th February 2020.

Structure, governance and management

The Charity is managed by trustees who are appointed and in line with the charity's governing document.

Governing Document

The charity is governed by its Constitution.

Objectives and activities

The main purpose and objects of the charity are set out in the governing document as follows:

The advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrine set out in the underwritten Fourth Schedule and the worship of God in the county of Swansea and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the World and elsewhere by any means whatsoever including (but not by way of limitation) the preaching and proclamation of the Christian gospel, the teaching of the Christian Doctrine and principles, the pastoral care of Christian people and the printing and distribution of the Bible and Christian literature including video, and audio recordings and by any other media which is, or may become, available;

The relief of persons who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress or who are aged or sick and the promotion and preservation of good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind including through the provision of training, counselling and support in the county of Swansea and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the World and elsewhere as the trustees may from time to time think fit;

Achievements and performance

Kingdom Series and Ekklesia

As we saw last year, since the Kingdom of God is within us and is to be lived out through our interactions with our communities and workplaces, we prayed for a practical way to make it a reality. This came in the form of Ed Silvano's book: Ekklesia – Rediscovering God's Instrument for Global Transformation.

As a result, we transitioned from the kingdom series to church and kingdom series. Ekklesia is the Greek word for church. We decided to study it as it helped us have a better understanding of the church and her mission as God's agency of kingdom expansion and community transformation.

We encouraged the church to read Ed Silvano's book Ekklesia as a text book for both Sunday teachings and bible study discussions. There was a real excitement and hunger to learn and apply those fresh revelations. These series encouraged the church to be more outwards looking.

The practical applications are highlighted by activities throughout the year.

In May 2022, we continued our series on Ekklesia with the aim of consolidating what we have learnt so far and bringing it all together. The main topic was 'Ekklesia - Operational Methodology'. Here we looked at how the Ekklesia, the Church was meant to operate practically in the community.

Some of the key points were:

- The concepts of Swamp vs River – both have life in them however a swamp can stagnate while a river doesn't because it is connected to a constant water source which provides a life-giving flow. In order for the church to avoid stagnation, like a river, we need outlets for the Holy Spirit (Source of

rivers of living waters) to flow. Those outlets must be transcultural, transgenerational and trans-denominational.

- The two banks of the River –
 - Bank 1: The 5 pivotal paradigms of transformation – define the what (the great commission), why (the atonement that secured our redemption), how (work is also worship and provides an outlet to believers who are also ministers to minister to others in their workplace), where (Building the Church – It is Jesus who builds His Church, our assignment is to use the keys of the kingdom to lock and unlock, to bind and loose) and what for (Elimination of poverty in all its forms – spiritual, relational, motivational and material)?
 - Bank 2: Prayer Evangelism – define the way to live out the paradigms.
- Seeking first the Kingdom – As we entered 2023, the Lord reminded us that we should focus and the kingdom and his righteousness. In other words, it should be our number 1 priority as church.
- Addressing unexpected challenges – unfortunately as we were preparing to implement the Bank 2 – Prayer evangelism, we face unexpected challenges which needed to be addressed. So we focused on strengthening foundations by going back to teaching the basics of the Christian life such as:
 - The pattern of the church and addressing warning against false teaching.
 - Prince of peace vs warrior king where the peace of God was ministered to the congregation
 - Prophetic utterance which built on the warning message to teach about how to share the prophetic words and what to share prophetic words in the local church with the emphasis on safeguarding the congregation.
 - How does God see authorities? Teaching the church about how to relate and deal with human authorities from God's perspective.
 - God is with Us - Word of comfort and encouragement to the church with key statements such as I know you, I know your works. I have opened the doors that no one can shut. I know you have little strength.

Sunday Services

Our Sunday services help us to fulfil our vision of “Following Jesus and Growing Together...”

Our core activities consist of providing a contemporary worship experience, relevant bible teachings and fellowship. One of the most common feedback we get from our Sunday service visitors is that “it feels like family”. This is a real encouragement as being a church family where all generations can be family and feel at home, is one of our core values.

We continued to meet at Pennard Parish Hall, provided a space for both our main meetings but also has additional spaces for both our kids and youth church as well as prayer.

As previously mentioned, our Sunday messages focused more on the kingdom series, and the church and the kingdom, which led to teaching “Ekklesia”.

Although we were meeting in person (offline), we became aware of the “new normal”, which meant that we needed to make provisions for our online audience too. As a result we continued to invest in digital solutions that enabled us to livestream our services to social media, mainly Facebook and YouTube. This bore fruit, as some people joined our in person (offline) meetings after watching our live streamed services.

Gower New Life Groups

Our midweek life group meetings are vital parts of church expression with the focus on bible study and fellowship. Our life group expressions of church are as important as our Sunday meetings. They offer the opportunity to build meaningful relationships, grow in faith, hope, love and get connected into the life of the church and community. This year we continued to focus our studies on Ed Silvoso's book: Ekklesia, with special emphasis on the first bank of the river and looking at the 5 pivotal paradigms of transformation. This stirred our hearts to be more a mission focused church.

However, moving to Bank 2: Prayer Evangelism which defines the way to live out the paradigms, proved a bit challenging as the idea of stepping out started to cause some apprehensions for some people who needed a bit more time. On the other hand, there were those stirred up who started to be bit impatient because they felt the church was a bit slow. The focus of the leadership was to preserve unity and ensure that no one was left behind. Therefore, the approach was to try to setup an outreach team who would coordinate, lead and model

outreach activities. The hope was that this would be the opportunity for those who felt ready to step out to do so and be an encouragement to those who needed a bit more time.

Bless Mumbles

Before covid, we felt the Lord highlighting Mumbles to us as part of Gower and that it should not be ignored. We had further confirmation when the Lord opened the door to us at Tabernacle chapel. As a result, Bless Mumbles was born – a time for worship, prayer and healing.

Unfortunately, our first meeting coincided with covid 19 and Bless Mumbles was put on hold.

In September 2022, we had relaunched Bless Mumbles in the form worship, vision and prayer meeting.

Bless Mumbles was well attended by from some churches in mumbles as well as outside Mumbles.

It was a safe space where we worshipped, prayed for Mumbles and also prayed for those who needed healing.

Other Activities

Youth Ministry

As a family church, investing in youth is very important to us. Unfortunately, due to lack of youth leaders, haven't been about to run the activities of previous years. However, we have tried to include them in our Sunday services at the beginning of the Sunday service, we integrate the youth by sharing Bible stories via videos, followed by an action song and dance, engaging the whole congregation. We like to call it our "workout" at the beginning of the service!

They also helped with the children's church as volunteers.

Where possible we tried to organize some occasional outings to have some fun activities with the young people of their own age group.

Children Ministry

As a family church, investing in children is very important to us. Our children ministry is called Ignite and is aimed at those between the ages of 5 and 11. We are committed to teaching God's word to all ages, giving children a firm foundation in scripture. Through instructional Bible study, crafts, fun games, and memory verses, we seek to convey God's truth in a lively, interactive, and understandable way. Ignite meets on a Sunday morning during the normal meeting time. .

In May 2021, when we moved the Parish Hall, we transitioned seamlessly, integrating the "Creative Corner" within the main meetings. This area encouraged mainly children, but also youth and adults, to get creative and learn through arts and crafts, within the main meeting hall, during the Sunday service.

At the beginning of the Sunday service, we integrate the children by sharing Bible stories via videos, followed by an action song and dance, engaging the whole congregation. We like to call it our "workout" at the beginning of the service!

At the end of the service, the creative corner was invited to share their amazing arts and crafts with the congregation. It is always encouraging to see our children grow in their faith, their love for Jesus and blossom.

Prayer Ministry

The prayer team meet weekly, bringing church and community needs, issues and requests to God in prayer. As a church we believe that everything we do needs to be underpinned by prayer.

During our prayer meeting, we focus on:

- Committing concerns and requests to God, asking that He would intervene and act to bring about His plans and purposes in situations.
- Listening for His leading and directions so we can act in His power to fulfil His will and not be doing things aimlessly and ineffectively.
- Thanking God for answered prayers, His revelation and direction and acknowledging His power and sovereignty and requesting these be manifest in us as a church and over all that we are and do.

In the future, we plan to make prayer more accessible to our community so they can also experience the power of prayer in their own lives and draw them closer to the love of God. We believe that God cares for every member of our community and wants to meet them at their points of need.

Outreach at the Beaufort Arms

Like last years, it has been as exciting year. We have seen existing groups grow and we can see the hand of our Lord clearly evident in all of them.

Men's Afternoons

We continue to meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in the month and although it was a slow start after the break for Covid a core group remains, and we have got to know each other well. It is always a lovely afternoon with lots of fun and laughter as well as interesting conversations on a myriad of topics. The group is doing what it was always intended to do, to show the love of Jesus in the community, to help prevent feeling of isolation and loneliness within the community, by encouraging men to leave the house and provide a safe and friendly space where they can have a chat, swap stories and where they are also heard. In essence, we aim to make a difference to the lives of all who come.

Knit and Natter

This continues to meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays in the month and since Covid we have lost a few ladies and gained new ones. New friendships have been made and old ones rekindled over their mutual love of knitting or crocheting. Most ladies knit to support the Romanian Aid Foundation Charity (RoAF) which is a small Christian charity taking clothing and humanitarian aid to the needy in Dorohoi, northern Romania and through the sale of new balls of wool we continue to support the RoAF's baby milk fund. However, supporting the RoAF is not obligatory nor expected and we welcome all ladies including those who just want to come along for the company. We are gradually accumulating a lot of wool and a great many needles and patterns through donations so we can knit without it costing anything. It is a lovely afternoon that aims to make a difference to the lives of those who come. A huge thank you must go to Kittle Bakery as it continues to provide, free of charge, all our cakes.

Kittle Carols

It has become a tradition that Kittle Carols happen on the second Sunday in December and this year we gathered in the late afternoon of the 12th. It was the first proper Kittle Carols since Covid although it was cold and damp it was very well attended and with the help of a risk assessment and marshals, we were able to parade with our torches and lanterns around the village stopping to sing on each of the greens. This event was organized by Kittle Events and was the first year that GNLC has been involved and we would like to say a big thank you to the church for its contribution which included the purchase of mulled wine and/or hot chocolate for all 50 adult carollers which was very much appreciated by everyone. As usual the Kittle shopkeepers generously donated all our mince pies. A big thank you to everyone who took part and enabled it to happen.

Daily prayer for the Beaufort in the Beaufort

This began in September 2021 after reading the book entitled Transformation by Ed Silvoso which was recommended, and it continues every day save the odd one. It began because of the dire circumstances, both financial and managerial, in which the pub found itself after Covid. The manager was asked if our Beaufort outreach leader, who leads this work, could come in every day to pray for the pub and he welcomed the idea. By praying in the pub for the pub Jesus was invited daily into the pub, giving him authority to be at the centre of it. In March 2022 a new Tenant took over, an answer to prayer. She has testified as to seeing the transforming work of Jesus evident in the change of atmosphere, felt, and voiced by both staff and customers. There has also been a rapid increase in the takings of the pub since March. Regular customers and staff have asked for prayer and have even brought friends for prayer.

All this outreach has been possible because Jesus has enabled it. Our Beaufort outreach leader feels well supported by GNLC and knows that if she steps out in faith, Jesus does the rest. Thank you, Jesus, thank you GNLC, and thank you to The Beaufort for hosting us because without the generous provision of a free venue, free teas and free coffees these groups would struggle.

Little Nativity – 18th December 2022

We finished the year celebrating Christmas through our first ever Nativity play. It was a very professional and well-organized play by talented church members who wrote, produced, designed and made the costumes.

In order to adhere to Covid restrictions and requirements, the community registered via the Eventbrite. About 80 tickets were sold out within weeks! There was a real interest and the hall was packed. It was an hour of fun and laughter in the Christmas Spirit, celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ with the Gower community. The community stayed within the hall after the performance and continued the Christmas celebrations by enjoying mulled wine, hot drinks and 'Christmassy' sweet treats - our Christmas gift to the community. It proved to be a real success.

Future Plans

During 2023, we continue to focus on four key priorities:

Kingdom Focus

Sunday Church expressions (mainly in person as restrictions allow and online when necessary)

Gower New Life Groups

Bless Gower Initiative, which is essentially our missions and community actions ministry, implemented during the covid as "The Gower Well-Being Project". We will continue to support our community via a range of relevant activities.

Financial review

Policy on reserves

The reserves policy is to keep a minimum in general funds to cover 3 month's operating costs.

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which 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. 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.

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

On behalf of the board

Signed:.....Trustee

Date: 08/07/2024

Print Name: FLEMAN PATRICE AKA

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

I have been appointed as independent examiner under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 145 of that Act.

My responsibility is to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act, to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and to state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

I have examined the financial statements for the year ended 24th May 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. My independent examination work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity's trustees as a body, for any audit work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below)

- Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
- To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: Independent Examiner Date: ...25th June 2024...

Nicola Lewis (EasyBooks Wales Ltd)

Statement of Financial Activities

For the period ended 24th May 2023

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>	
	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>last year</u>
<u>INCOME</u>				
Donations, Legacies & Similar Incoming resources				
Grants Received	0	0	0	0
Regular Donations received	10,089	0	10,089	8,458
Donations from Other Organisations	0	0	0	0
Investment Income				
Bank Interest Received	33	0	33	1
Other Incoming Resources				
Tax Rebate from Gift Aid	0	0	0	0
Other Income	0	0	0	0
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	Note 3 10,122	0	10,122	8,459
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>				
Costs of generating Funds				
Fundraising Costs	0	0	0	0
Charitable Expenditure				
Grants/Gifts in furtherance of objectives	0	0	0	0
Management, Administration & Ministry	Note 4 7,245	0	7,245	7,197
Loss on Sale of Asset	0	0	0	0
Depreciation Charge	2,655	0	2,655	2,517
Professional Fees	0	0	0	0
Accounting & Bookkeeping Fees	Note 6 794	0	794	756
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	10,693	0	10,693	10,470
NET INCOMING RESOURCES Before transfers	(571)	0	(571)	(2,011)
Transfers Between Funds	0	0	0	0
NET INCOMING RESOURCES After transfers	(571)	0	(571)	(2,011)
Gains/Losses on Fixed Assets	0	0	0	0
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	(571)	0	(571)	(2,011)
Total Funds Brought Forward	17,969	0	17,969	19,980
Total Funds Carried Forward	17,398	0	17,398	17,969

Balance Sheet

As at 24th May 2023

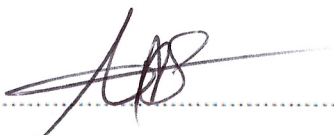
Fixed Assets -Tangible

Fixtures & Equipment

Note 9

<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>	<u>last year</u>
4,518		4,518	6,462
<u>4,518</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,518</u>	<u>6,462</u>
<u>Current Assets</u>			
Debtors & Prepayments	Note 10	0	0
Bank Main a/c & Savings		14,485	13,133
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>14,485</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>14,485</u>	<u>13,133</u>
<u>Current Liabilities</u>			
Creditors & Accruals	Note 11	1,605	1,626
Loan repayments due in 1 year		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
		<u>1,605</u>	<u>1,626</u>
Net Current Assets		<u>12,880</u>	<u>11,507</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		17,398	17,969
Creditors Falling due after 1 year		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Net Assets		<u>17,398</u>	<u>17,969</u>
<u>Fund Balances</u>			
Funds B/fwd		17,969	19,980
Net movement of funds		(571)	(2,011)
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>17,398</u>	<u>17,969</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board and were signed on its behalf by:

Signed by Print Name FLEMAN PATRICE AKADate 08/07/2024

On behalf of the board of Trustees

Notes to the financial statements

for the year ended 24 May 2023

1. Basis of preparation

1.1. Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice' (SORP FRS102) and with the Charities Act.

1.2. Change in Basis of Accounting

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year.

1.3. Changes to previous Accounts

No changes have been made to accounts for the previous years.

2. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year.

2.1 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Gifts donated for resale are included as income when they are sold. Donated assets are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified and a third party is bearing the cost. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included.

Tax Reclaims are included in the SoFA when they are received by the organisation.

Grants, including grants for the purchase of fixed assets, are recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are receivable.

Income from investments is included in the year in which it is receivable.

Legacies are included when the charity is advised by the personal representative of an estate that payment will be made or property transferred and the amount involved can be quantified.

2.2 Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Resources expended are recognised in the year in which they are incurred.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management.

2.3 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Expenditure is capitalised if the asset has a useful life of more than 1 year and its cost exceeds £100.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, on a straight-line basis as follows:

Office Equipment

25%

3. Analysis of Incoming Resources

Donations income consists of regular giving by church members in tithes and offerings, plus “one off” gifts or donations. Where these gifts are given for a specific purpose they are held in a restricted fund.

Incoming resources are as follows:

	<u>This Year</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
Donations Received	10,089	8,458
Grants	0	0
Bank Interest	33	1
	10,122	8,459

There were no grants received in the year.

4. Analysis of Resources Expended

The financial value of volunteer time has not been included in the financial statements but forms a crucial part of the success of the organisation.

Management and Administration Costs are broken down as follows:

	<u>This Year</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
Project Manager Costs	0	0
Rent And Rates	1,353	1,083
Bank Charges	81	37
Memberships and Subscriptions	662	1,295
Repairs and Maintenance	0	440
Stationery, Postage & Advertising	286	226
Small tools & Equipment	1,065	974
Gifts and Donations	3,092	2,297
Travel and Subsistence	0	150
Books & Training	14	80
Insurance	594	463
Uniform	99	153
	7,245	7,197

5. Trustee Expenses

There were no out-of-pocket expenses reimbursed to trustees during the year.

6. Governance Costs

	<u>This year</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
Fee for Examination of Accounts	794	756

7. Staff Expenditure

There were no employees during this financial period.

8. Grant making

Grants awarded – Grants are given in accordance with the objectives of the charity. All decisions on grant awards are considered and decided upon by the trustees.

9. Fixed Assets

No assets have been re-valued during the year.

	Fixtures & Equipment	Total
Cost at 25.5.22	10,264	10,264
Additions	710	710
Disposals	0	0
Cost at 24.5.23	10,974	10,974
Accumulated Depreciation 25.5.22	3,801	3,801
Charge this year	2,655	2,655
Released on disposal	0	0
Accumulated Depreciation 24.5.23	6,456	6,456
Net Book Value 24.5.23	4,518	4,518

10. Debtors and prepayments

Breakdown is as follows:

	<u>This Year</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
Debtors	£ 0	£ 0
Prepayment	£ 0	£ 0
	£ 0	£ 0

11. Creditors and Accruals

Amounts falling due within 1 year are as follows:

	<u>This Year</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
Trade Creditors	£ 55	£ 150
Accruals	£ 1,550	£ 1,476
	£ 1,605	£ 1,626

12. Transactions with related Parties

12.1 Remuneration and benefits

No amounts were paid to trustees as salary in the year.

12.2 Loans

No loans were made to the trustees or related parties during the year.

No loans were made from the trustees during the year.

13. Restricted Funds Summary

There are no restricted transactions during the year.

14. Additional Disclosures

There are no further disclosures for this year.