

Annual Report and Financial Statements

20 November 2020 to 31 December 2021



affinity
gospel churches in partnership

Churches, Agencies and
Christians proclaiming the good
news of Jesus Christ together

Affinity is a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charity
Commission for England and Wales with registered charity number 1192455

Report of the Trustees

Members of the Trust Board have the pleasure of submitting their report and the independently audited financial statements of Affinity for the extended year starting at the formation of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 20 November 2020 and ending 31 December 2021. The trustees have adopted the Provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts following the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) published in October 2019 and comply with the charity's governing document and the Charities Act 2011.

Charity name:	Affinity
Registered charity number:	1192455
Charity's principal address:	PO Box 905, Haywards Heath RH16 9TJ

Constitution

Affinity was constituted in June 1969 as an unincorporated organisation (although it has been a recognised body since 1952) and became a CIO with the same name and charitable purposes within this financial period, November 2020. All assets and funds were transferred to AFFINITY CIO (1192455) and the 'old' Affinity (258924) was removed from the charity register in November 2021. This amalgamation was done with the full support of the trustees from both charities.

Objetives and Activities

The main objective of Affinity is to promote the advancement of the Christian religion, as expressed in Affinity's doctrinal basis, by means of a fellowship of evangelical churches, agencies and individuals. Affinity exists to:

Promote gospel unity among us by engaging in activities that encourage mutual recognition, understanding and respect and that serve to strengthen each other and to help each other maintain and exhibit the highest standards of godly living and Christian discipleship.

Encourage all like-minded churches, agencies and individuals to identify themselves with Affinity. To demonstrate unity to the world by supporting and, where possible, promoting the evangelistic enterprises of Members and Associates. In particular, to be committed to supporting the planting and restoration of Bible-centred, evangelical churches.

Represent our Members and Associates to governments, the media and to those responsible for formulating policy and influencing public morality and social justice. To apply the Word of God to public life and join with others of like persuasion in making representation on these issues where this serves to advance godly, just and wholesome ends.

Engage in theological research and discussion to advance an understanding and acceptance of biblical Christianity. To promote biblical teaching on true ecumenism and to encourage its practice among Members and Associates.

Express our unity and fellowship with like-minded churches and evangelical agencies worldwide.

Governance

Affinity is governed by five trustees who make up the Trust Board, they are supported by the Advisory Council made up of representatives from Corporate, Church and Agency members. The Trustees meet with the Advisory Council twice a year to discuss matters of strategy and planning and to share information about the work of Affinity. Trustees are appointed by existing Trustees.

The Trust Board has considered the general guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit and in particular, its supplementary guidance on the advancement of religion for the public benefit.

Members of the Trust Board

Mr Thomas Brand (Chair)

Rev Paul Yeulett

Rev David Meredith

Rev Mark Thomas

Mr John Stevens

Each member of the Trust Board was elected at the commencement of the CIO in November 2020.

Organisational structure

The Trust Board is responsible for the governance and policy for Affinity. The implementation of the policy and the day-to-day management is delegated to the Director, who is appointed by the Trust Board. Graham Nicholls has been in post as Director since 2018. The Director is supported in his responsibilities by the Assistant to the Director.

Achievements and Performance

Since transitioning to a CIO, Affinity has continued to provide advice, support and services to its member churches and associate agencies in the United Kingdom and Ireland. It provides a focus for co-operation, mutual encouragement and assistance in our united witness.

Resources and advice are provided to churches, agencies and individuals through our website and other published materials.

Key activities are undertaken by teams which work in the areas of theological advocacy, public engagement, social issues and world mission. In particular, the Director has given considerable time to develop Affinity's profile through local and national media, to represent the views of its members on matters of concern to evangelical Christians.

A theological study conference is held every two years as a focus for discussion and debate on matters of mutual concern to Affinity members. The next Study Conference is scheduled for March 2023 and preparations are underway.

The Director and Assistant to the Director have continued to oversee and develop the various ministries of Affinity and have ensured an efficient and cost-effective administration.

Financial Review

Following the amalgamation of the two charities, the newly established CIO remained dormant until 12 July 2021, it was only then that funds were transferred, and Affinity began operation as the CIO (1192455). As this is the first financial review, we do not have previous years to compare it to. However, when compared to the financial accounts of the 'old' Affinity, 2021 shows a deficit of £4,920. The Trustees are aware of the need for minor income growth in 2022 to maintain a modest level of reserves. The Trustees confirm they have exercised careful financial oversight of the charity's resources.

Income

Total income during this period was £57,810 made up of donations from our Corporate members, Churches and Agencies. A significant portion of this income was the transfer of funds from 'old' Affinity (258924) (note 3) – £32,560.

We are very grateful to all our members who provide financially to the ministry of Affinity. Income was, however, lower than had been expected. This was across all income channels as we saw some members fail to resubscribe to the newly formed CIO.

Expenditure

Total expenditure during this period was £25,364. This was in line with what we had expected.

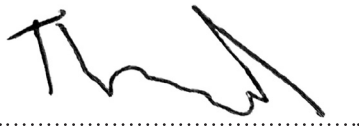
Reserves policy

Affinity aims to maintain free reserves (unrestricted funds less debtors) at a level sufficient to cover three months' general expenditure, to give Affinity time to respond to unexpected developments. At the end of the period available, unrestricted funds were around eight months' general expenditure. A deficit budget was planned for 2022 which will reduce the level of the reserves.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved this Annual Report for 2021.

Signed on behalf of the Trust Board:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas Brand', is written over a horizontal dotted line.

Thomas Brand
Chair

Date:

22 August 2022

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Affinity for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of Affinity 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 Affinity'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 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 Affinity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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:



Aaron Chen
31 Syresham Gardens, Haywards Heath,
West Sussex. RH16 3LB

Date:

16 September 2022

Statement of financial activities

20 November 2020 to 31 December 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Total 2021 funds £
Incoming resources				
Donations and Legacies	2	24,517	0	24,517
Charitable Activities		733	0	733
Other		0	0	0
Transfer of funds from Affinity unincorporated	3	32,560	0	32,560
Total		57,810	0	57,810
Resources expended				
Staff Costs	4	16,957	0	16,957
Charity Management & Administration		2,782	0	2,782
Conference and events		0	0	0
Communications		5,625	0	5,625
Total		25,364	0	25,364
Net movement in funds		32,445	0	32,445
Total funds brought forward		0	0	0
Total funds carried forward		32,445	0	32,445

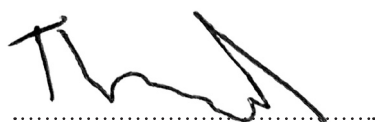
Balance sheet

As at 31 December 2021

	Notes	31/12/2021 £
Current assets		
Bank Balances	4	34,270
Debtors		344
Total		<u>34,614</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Supplier Accounts Payable		510
Payroll Liabilities		1,659
Total		<u>2,169</u>
Total net assets		<u>32,445</u>
Unrestricted funds		
General		32,445
Designated		0
Total funds		<u>32,445</u>

Approved by the trustees on: 22 August 2022

Signed on their behalf:



Thomas Brand

Chair



Graham Nicholls

Company Secretary

Notes to the financial statements

20 November 2020 to 31 December 2021

1. Accounting principles

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

a) Basis of accounting

The accounts are prepared in accordance with the historic cost basis of accounting.

b) Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to, and virtually certain to receive, the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Incoming resources from charitable trading activity are accounted for when earned.

c) Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them. Charity management costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include costs linked to the strategic management of the charity. All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SoFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource.

2. Donations and legacies

	2021 Total £
Corporate members	16,152
Agency members	3,450
Church members	2,880
Affiliates	1,436
One off donations	300
Grants	0
Gift Aid	299
	24,517

3. Income of funds from Affinity unincorporated

On 12 July 2021, *Affinity unincorporated* (charity number: 258924) ceased trading and all assets were transferred to *Affinity CIO*.

4. Staff costs

	2021 Total £
Payroll costs	16,854
Pension contributions	103
	16,957

5. Bank balances

	2021 Total £
Lloyds Bank	34,270
	34,270

6. Custodian & charity trustees' remuneration

During the period the trustees received no remuneration in their capacity as trustees of the charity.