

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ending 31st December 2024

Charity name: **HOTHOUSE**

Charity registration number: 1196722

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees present their report and unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name Hothouse

Registered charity number 1196722

Charity principal office 78 Whalley Rd
Ramsbottom
Bury
BLO ODE

The Trustees Mrs Rebekah Barlow (appointed 12th Feb 24)
Mr P Minney (Appointed 7 July 2021)
Mr David Dawson (appointed 12th Feb 24)
Mr David Wyke (appointed 12th Feb 24)

Treasurer Mr D W Wyke FCMA

Bank Co-operative Bank

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Hothouse

Trustee's Annual Report (continued)

Year ended 31st December 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Hothouse began as a charity in 2021 after many years working in the field as constituted groups. The organisation registered with the Charity Commission, achieving status on 23rd November 2021 (Registered Charity Number 1196722) At the last AGM 2024, Feb 12th, Joy Kilpatrick and Michelle Hyams-Ssekaski both stepped down from being trustees. We are very grateful for their support over the years. Three new trustees stepped up to continue with the work of the charity.

GOVERNING DOCUMENT

Hothouse is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), governed with a foundational model constitution and established in Nov 21. The original constituted group was established in February 2020.

OBJECTIVES

To advance the Christian religion in Bolton, Bury and the surrounding area for the benefit of the public through the holding of prayer meetings, lectures, retreats, pastoral care and through nurturing the development of not-for-profit initiatives which advance the Christian faith either directly or through "good works". Our activities are continually monitored to ensure consideration of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

The Trustees believe that the implementation of the above satisfies the Charity Commission general guidance on Public Benefit

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charity's situation. In preparing these reports, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed.
- Prepare the financial accounts and submit them in line with Charity Commission requirements.
- The Trustees are also responsible for ensuring that the charity has appropriate systems of internal control across the organisation.
- They are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at the time, the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements follow best practice.
- They are further 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 systems of internal control are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute reassurance against material misstatement of loss. Internal control processes implemented by the Trustees include Agreement of policy and service development.
- An annual budget approved by the Trustees. Regular consideration by the Trustees of financial results. Delegation of authority to appropriate levels of management. Identification and management of risk.

ACTIVITIES

In summary, Hothouse enabled changemakers to take root, flourish and grow. Hothouse was an initiative that supported individuals in launching social enterprises, charities, and mission-led projects designed to spark positive change. Its nurturing environment helped many bring their ideas to life through four key areas:

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1. **Community** – Hothouse created vibrant networks by offering regular mentoring groups and networking opportunities, connecting participants, volunteers, and stakeholders.
2. **Christian Discipleship** – Participants received teaching in Christian leadership, equipping them to grow in faith and lead with integrity and spiritual maturity.
3. **Coaching** – Depending on project needs and availability, individuals benefited from early-stage coaching sessions. These were delivered by skilled volunteer coaches from diverse backgrounds.
4. **Participant Programme & Workspace** – Each participant followed a personal development plan and accessed a learning platform covering essential start-up topics like governance, finance, and social impact. Dedicated workspace days encouraged collaboration and peer learning.

A Season of Growth and a Time to Close: Hothouse's Legacy and Final Chapter

In essence, Hothouse provided fertile ground where passion met practical support—and ideas blossomed into meaningful action. From its roots in early 2020, the programme stood as a lifeline to visionaries navigating the uncertainties of the COVID-19 era, especially in Bolton—a town facing some of the UK's most severe levels of deprivation (IMD2019).

Though the programme officially closed to new applicants in December 2024, its impact is still being felt. Now, in 2025, Hothouse has entered its final phase. With a shift in emphasis and changing needs, the decision has been made to close the charity entirely within the year. The model, vital during the pandemic years, is no longer required in the same way it once was.

Achievements and Impact

Hothouse equipped local leaders to develop community-rooted projects, with strong governance and a clear sense of mission. Through one-to-one coaching, mentoring, and faith-based leadership development, participants became more confident, more capable, and more connected.

Key accomplishments included:

- A dedicated media campaign and fully operational website
- Consistent newsletters to keep the network engaged
- Workspace events and social events throughout the year
- Ongoing coaching and mentoring

At the heart of Hothouse's success was its people. The volunteers gave generously of their time and talent, sowing seeds of transformation throughout the community. A heartfelt thank you goes to each one of them—your work mattered. Special thanks also to Kings Bolton for providing workspace and to Create Bolton for resourcing the vision.

Looking Ahead

As a final act of support, Hothouse is producing a reflective journal to help everyone to discern their next steps, because everyone has a purpose for their lives. The interactive journal will help shape individuals and their mission with clarity. This will be written and created during 2025.

While the chapter is closing, the stories it helped begin will continue far beyond the life of the programme.

Hothouse may be drawing to a close, but its legacy will live on through the reflective journal being produced and, in the projects, it helped spark, the lives it helped shape, and the hope it helped grow.

My final thankyou goes to Our Lord Jesus Christ, who without His vision and direction, none of this would have been!!



PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period.

Hothouse is funded through generous philanthropists. Factors likely to affect future financial performance or position are reviewed at each trustee meeting alongside a review of performance against the original approved budget for the year in hand. Forecasts are amended as appropriate at such time. There have been no significant events that have affected our financial performance and position during the year. Our balance sheet remains in credit, and we remain a going concern.

Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held.

Our policy is to accumulate free reserves in proportion to the risk associated with one or more major income streams failing to deliver to expectation. Our free reserves target equates to approximately twelve months operational costs. Any surplus which may be generated more than our reserves target will be reinvested in activities which accord with our charitable objectives.

Reserves are periodically used to cover costs arising from a change or short-term cessation of funding of a project or service, to enable the effective management of change whereby new initiatives need time to become established, or to help fund required investments in facilities from which the charity operates.

RESERVES POLICY

Amount of reserves held - £ £2,404

We remain satisfied that our cash reserves and our reserves target are sufficient to enable the charity to effectively manage contractual risks, issues and organisational change as identified above, or to wind up its affairs in an orderly fashion should the need arise.

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

P. Minney
R. Barlow
D. Wyke
D. Dawson

Full name(s)

P Minney
R Barlow
D Wyke
D Dawson

Position (e.g., Secretary,
Chair, etc)

Trustees

Date

18/7/2025

Hothouse

Annual accounts for year ending 31st December 2024

Income and Expenditure Analysis



HOTHOUSE
GROWING KINGDOM PEOPLE

	2023	2024
Income		
Donations	£150	£2,000
Expenditure		
Networking events	£208	£222
IT equipment & media	£328	
Promotional mat'ls		£51
Stationery		£16
Zoom subscription	£144	£156
Indemnity Insurance	£252	£262
Training / Development	£120	
Sundry	£40	
Total	£1,092	£706
Profit / (Loss)	(£942)	£1,294
Balance Sheet		
Bank Balance	£1,110	£2,404
Reserves	£1,110	£2,404

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18/07/25