

**BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER**

**31 DECEMBER 2022**

**TRUSTEES REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**Registered Charity No: 243931**

# **BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER**

## **INDEX**

- 1. Trustees' Annual Report
- 10. Trustees Responsibilities statement
- 11. Independent Examiner's Report
- 12. Statement of Financial Activities
- 13. Balance sheet
- 14. Accounting Policies and Notes to the Accounts

**The following pages do not form part of the Statutory Financial Statements:**

- 23. Detailed Statement of Financial Activity – Ecumenical Development
- 24. Detailed Statement of Financial Activity – Restore

## **BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER**

**CHARITY NO. 243931**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT**

**31 DECEMBER 2022**

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Constitution and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (updated 1 January 2019).

### **Objectives, activities, achievements and performance**

The object of Birmingham Churches Together is to promote mutual understanding and fellowship among the Churches which accept Jesus Christ as God and Saviour for the wellbeing of all the citizens of Birmingham and surrounding areas.

The objectives are achieved through its Ecumenical Development work and its Restore project detailed below. Public benefit is met by actively encouraging members of different denominations to work and worship together and collectively to support those who are disadvantaged, regardless of their beliefs, thereby enabling them to join in and partake in the benefits of the community.

The Trustees' have reviewed the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission and consider that our aims and activities as set out below fulfil the criteria. The trustees consider the guidance on public benefit each year.

#### **Ecumenical Development**

Birmingham Churches Together (BCT) encourages greater cooperation between Christian churches in order that together they may better serve the people of Birmingham and Solihull. There is increased public benefit when Churches are enabled to partner to serve the whole community, regardless of status, class or ethnicity. Throughout 2022, Robert Mountford worked as BCT Ecumenical Development Enabler, supported by Maud Grainger in the role of BCT Development and Support Worker. Both Robert and Maud were employed on a part-time basis.

During the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (held from 18 to 25 January each year), 'Pray24Brum' brings together churches from across the Christian traditions to pray for the city. Along with a few other partners, Birmingham Churches Together played a coordinative role in the Pray24Brum 24 hours of unbroken prayer which took place at The Church at Carrs Lane on Friday 21/Saturday 22 January 2022.

Throughout 2022, BCT continued to play a central role in the 'Time4Change' anti-racism group that brought Christian leaders from historic-, new- and Black-majority Churches together. Bi-weekly online planning meetings took place through the year, with in-person conference events in Aston on Thursday 30 June and Saturday 12 November, plus an ecumenical service in Handsworth on Sunday 13 October. Robert Mountford also sat on the boards of Churches and Industry Group Birmingham/Solihull (CIGB) and Friends/Neighbours/Changemakers (FNC).

# BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER

CHARITY NO. 243931

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

31 DECEMBER 2022

Robert Mountford chaired the interdenominational planning group that prepared and delivered a number of initiatives during the 2022 Commonwealth Games, which were staged in the West Midlands from Thursday 28 July to Monday 8 August. Prior to the Games, prayer meetings were held during the spring and early summer; 130 chaplains were trained and vetted; monthly e-newsletters were issued; and outreach groups intending to come to the city from around the world were linked and coordinated. During the Games, two weeks of unbroken worship and prayer took place; chaplains were deployed to support athletes, emergency services, volunteers and visitors; outreach groups were supported; and the 'It's a penalty' anti-trafficking campaign promoted.

An ecumenical e-newsletter was issued every six to eight weeks, reaching around 1,000 people on each occasion. Articles, events and job adverts were published on the BCT website on a regular basis. The website was viewed on average by 5,000 users per month. BCT's profile on social media stood at around 650 followers on Facebook and 1,000 on Twitter. The information shared through these media informed local congregations of the wider Christian context and resourced them to engage more effectively in their local neighbourhoods.

In order to be a hub for Birmingham's and Solihull's Christian community, BCT's Ecumenical Development workers continued to strengthen existing relationships with a wide variety of organisations and congregations - and to build new connections. BCT frequently receives enquiries as a first port-of-call from a range of churches and organisations seeking to make connections with people of faith in the city. Wherever possible, each enquirer is offered points of contact and, when appropriate, information is shared across BCT's social media outlets.

During the year, BCT liaised with the following Churches (listed in alphabetical order): The Apostolic Pastoral Congress, Assemblies of God, Church of England Birmingham, Central England Quakers, the Church of God of Prophecy, the Fellowship of the Churches of Christ, the Elim Pentecostal Church, the Heart of England Baptist Association, the New Testament Church of God, the Methodist Church (both the Birmingham Circuit and the Birmingham District), the Redeemed Christian Church of God, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham, the Salvation Army West Midlands Division and the United Reformed Church West Midlands Synod. In addition to these Churches, local independent congregations were also included in the loop.

BCT liaised with the following Christian organisations (listed in alphabetical order): the Adavu Project, Agapé, the As-One campaign, Betel UK, the Bethel Health and Healing Network, the Birmingham Christian Homelessness Forum, the Birmingham City Leaders' Prayer network, Birmingham City Mission, Birmingham Taize, Burn 24/7, CAFOD, Christian Aid, Christians Against Poverty, the Cinnamon Network, the City Centre Churches' group, ChaplaincyPlus, Churches and Industry Group Birmingham/Solihull, Church of Sanctuary, Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, Churches Together in England, Compassion UK, Engage UK, Erdington Churches Together, Eternal Wall of Answered Prayer, The Feast, Forge Missional Training, 'Friends/Neighbours/Changemakers,' the Gather network, GOOD NEWS for Everyone!, HOPE Together, Home for Good, Jericho Foundation, the Ladder Apprenticeship Foundation, LOUDfence, Manresa Link, the Maryvale Institute, the Mission:Mercia network, Near Neighbours, Network Four, Pause for Hope, Places of Welcome, Premier Radio, Queen's Ecumenical Foundation, Safe Families for Children, Safe Spaces for Young People, the Saltmine Theatre Company, the St Peter's

## BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER

CHARITY NO. 243931

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

31 DECEMBER 2022

Saltley Trust, Thrive Together Birmingham, Thy Kingdom Come, Unity Prayer East Birmingham, Urban Devotion, the West Midlands Combined Authority, West Midlands Faith in Action, Westminster Theological College, the World Prayer Centre and Youth with a Mission.

At the regional level, BCT participated in the conversations between workplace chaplaincies CIGB, the Black Country Urban Industrial Mission and Coventry/Warwickshire Workcare. The financial challenges exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic necessitated a serious conversation about the possibility of the merger of the three entities. BCT organised and facilitated the 24-hour summit of the West Midlands most senior Church Leaders at the Woodbrooke Quaker Centre on 2/3 October 2022.

At the national level, BCT continued to connect to Churches Together in England (CTE), the overarching national ecumenical network that had 52 member-Churches and 75 member-organisations. Robert and Maud attended CTE's Triennial Forum at Swanwick (Derbyshire) in March 2022. Robert and Maud attended the CTE Ecumenical Officers' conference in September. Robert attended the CTE Enabling Group meeting at Swanwick in October. Robert is in ongoing contact with CTE's staff members, as well as the National Ecumenical Officers of the historic Churches.

By way of summary, 2022 was an exceptionally busy and fruitful year for Birmingham Churches Together's ecumenical development work.

### Restore

Restore's vision is for a society into which all refugees and asylum seekers are welcomed, valued and integrated. Following the restrictions of 2020 and 2021, Restore's befriending team of staff and over 100 volunteers really appreciated being back to consistent face-to-face interactions with refugees and asylum seekers. This made it far easier to work towards the following outcomes:

- reduced loneliness and social isolation;
- increased friendships and social connections with people from Birmingham;
- improved communication skills in English, particularly conversational English; and
- increased intercultural competence through greater understanding of and adaptation to life in the UK.

Befriending is a 3-way relationship between Restore, the volunteer and the refugee or asylum seeker. Restore received more referrals in 2022 than we did during each of the pandemic years. We received referrals from 33 agencies, referrals from current or former service users and self-referrals. In 2022, **we made 51 new befriending matches**, just exceeding our annual target of 50 new matches. At the year-end, there were **115 ongoing befriending matches** of refugees or asylum seekers from 27 countries including Afghanistan, Syria, Iran, Iraq, Eritrea and El Salvador.



# BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER

CHARITY NO. 243931

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

31 DECEMBER 2022

**What is the impact of befriending?**

**"We share a lot about our culture and daily life. This definitely helped me with knowing more about the city and improved my English. I'm really grateful for the opportunity to have a befriender and appreciate all the work that Restore does for refugees that makes starting a new life in a completely different country a lot easier."**

**"What I love most is the befriending. My befriender is more than a 'Mum' to me. She has been really good to me. She's been like a mentor."**

**"My befriender has introduced a cycling routine, which has helped me mentally and physically, to lessen my worries!"**

**"Meeting my befriender makes some feel less lonely and I am always excited to meet him once in every other week."**

One volunteer befriender wrote about the impact, **"Being able to 'walk' with my befriender in some of her pain, and talk things through, encouraging her in some of the challenges she faces, I believe lightens her burden a little to enable her to carry on. It is a privilege having such a role."**

Another befriender, who is retired, wrote of the mutual benefits, **"My voluntary work has taught me that refugees enrich this country. Also, it helped me to share some of my knowledge and experience and made me feel that I am still able to help my fellow human beings."**

During 2022, we worked at improving our evaluation and monitoring, particularly seeking more feedback from refugees and asylum seekers who were befriended. The results of a survey, with 64 respondents, were very encouraging and indicated that befriending had led to the outcomes we hope for:

- 100% of those who responded indicated that meeting their befriender had helped them to feel more welcomed;
- 97% felt that meeting their befriender had helped them feel less lonely;
- 97% felt that meeting their befriender had helped them improve their English;
- 97% felt that meeting their befriender had helped them learn about life in Birmingham and the UK.

2022 was the first year since 2019 that we were able to run a full complement of group social activities for men, women and families. In 2022, 86 men, 71 women and 134 people from families (52 adults and 82 children) attended at least one event. There was a wide range of activities: 29 for men and 26 for women.

- The aims of all our group activities are similar to those for befriending;
- Reduce isolation and loneliness and isolation through building relationships;
- Provide opportunities to develop and practise English Language skills;
- Provide opportunities to learn about Birmingham – history, culture, recreational opportunities;
- Boost well-being and mental health

## BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER

CHARITY NO. 243931

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

31 DECEMBER 2022

Highlights for the men's activities included attending an Opening Ceremony dress rehearsal for the 2022 Commonwealth Games and playing table tennis outside Shakespeare's birthplace in Stratford-upon-Avon. Highlights for the women included a river cruise in Stratford-upon-Avon and lots of amazing concerts through Celebrating Sanctuary. Restore also re-established a programme of occasional group activities for families including trips to Aston Hall, Beaudesert Activity Centre, Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Think Tank and Birmingham Wildlife Conservation Park.

**What is the impact of group social activities?** The impact of group social activities is encapsulated in this quote: **"I enjoy learning new things and knowing new people."** Here are a few comments relating to men's and women's activities:

**"I made new friends who were full of energy and made me get energy from them too."**

**"I was able to forget what's happening to me personally during the planting exercise and interacting with other women."**

A parent commented after a trip to Beaudesert Outdoor Activity Centre near Cannock, **"It was great, especially for us because we'd not gotten any holiday or picnic during last 3 years in the UK."** Another parent wrote about an Aston Hall trip, **"It was great to see the museum and learn more about history. Sharing with the other families with games and food was magnificent."**

Electronic feedback forms are sent after each event, of those who responded, 94% (159 of 169 responses) stated that they had met new people and made new friends; and almost 87% said they had learnt something new about Birmingham.

We are also grateful to all the organisations who have supported our group activities by providing venues, activities, tours or reduced entry fees or free entry including: Birmingham Museums Trust, Rep Theatre, Birmingham Opera Company, The Exchange, St Mary's Church Moseley, Six Ways Baptist Church, Birmingham Anglican Cathedral, Selly Manor, Celebrating Sanctuary, The Hive, Near Neighbours (Birmingham), Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Birmingham Cathedral, Avon Boating (Stratford-upon-Avon), Fatima House, The MAC and PoliNations.

Restore ran three training and awareness raising courses via Zoom in February, June and October which were attended by 103 participants, some of whom applied to befriend. Feedback included, **"Such clear explanations of the processes for those arriving and ongoing processes. Best I have ever heard. Simple and NOT at all confusing."** And **"Hearing from a befriender (a refugee) was so useful and helped bring what Restore is doing to life. It definitely helped reinforce why I want to volunteer."** Restore also raised awareness of refugee and asylum issues through speaking engagements, social media posts and mailings to supporters. Restore's Annual Celebration, in July, was attended by over 90 refugees, asylum seekers, befrienders and supporters.

# BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER

CHARITY NO. 243931

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

31 DECEMBER 2022

To work for change in the systems and services affecting refugees and asylum seekers, campaigning continued on the provisions within the Government's Nationality and Borders Bill. We worked as part of the Together With Refugees coalition particularly seeking:

- a) that asylum seekers should not be treated differently according to how they travelled to the UK but assessed on their need for protection from persecution;
- b) a numerical annual commitment to resettle at least 10,000 refugees; and
- c) permission to work for asylum seekers, if their asylum claim was not determined within 6 months of applying.

Restore believes that the global refugee challenge requires all nations, including the UK, to play their part in providing solutions and that an 'offshoring policy' for some asylum seekers reneges on our responsibilities under the UN Refugee Convention 1951 which the UK helped to write.

Restore also engaged in working for change through active participation in meetings including: the Birmingham City Council's City of Sanctuary Partnership Board; the Migration Policy and Practice - Birmingham and the Black Country Board and their Opportunities and Communities thematic groups; Birmingham City of Sanctuary

(voluntary) Committee and Birmingham City Council's Working Group for those working with resettled refugees. Restore was a partner in Birmingham's response to destitution through the Hope Projects.

Joshua Smith, part-time Administrative Assistant moved to a full-time post with another organisation in March 2023. The post was reviewed, and Samitha Liyanage was appointed to the new post of Communications and Administrative Officer in September 2022. The part-time post of Befriending Women's Worker was introduced on a 12-month contract in October 2021. This new post effectively increased the capacity of Restore's work with women service users and families. The Management Committee agreed to make the post permanent from October 2023, to maintain that additional capacity and develop the women's work further.

We are extremely grateful for the commitment of befrienders and supporters to Restore's work through monthly standing orders and one-off donations and to several churches who also generously donate to Restore. We give thanks for the service of former longstanding befrienders Heather Le Dieu and Anne Holding (who was also a Management Committee member) who also generously left financial legacies so the work of Restore could continue.

During the year, we were hugely grateful to receive financial support from the following grant-making trusts and organisations: Barrow Cadbury Trust, Eveson Trust, Blakebank Trust, Birmingham City Council, National Emergencies Trust Local Action Fund, South Birmingham Friends Institute Trust, Roughley Trust, 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust, Cole Trust, Richard Kilcuppe's Charity, Grimmitt Trust, John Avins Trust and Mazar's Charitable Trust and Refugee Action.



## **BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER**

**CHARITY NO. 243931**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)**

**31 DECEMBER 2022**

## **Financial review**

The costs of Birmingham Churches Together Ecumenical Development work have been met from income of the constituent Groups as stated in the Statement of Financial Activity. The overall activities of Birmingham Churches Together, including Restore, show a deficit for the year of £45,183 (Ecumenical Development £26,523, Restore £18,660). Total funds are now £203,173 (Ecumenical Development £65,341, Restore £137,832).

### **Reserves Policy**

The level of reserves held by Birmingham Churches Together for its Ecumenical Development work and for Restore should be sufficient to cover six months operating costs in addition to sums set aside for proposed specific initiatives. The unrestricted general reserves for both projects amount to £154,916. Six months operating costs are estimated at £103,000 based on the 2023 budget. The Ecumenical Development project continued to operate reduced subscriptions for members and a consequent deficit to effectively utilise excess reserves.

### **Investments**

Where investments are held, the Trustees' policy is to hold them as ethically as is possible to bring in Growth and Income without undue risk. Currently no investments are held. Surplus cash funds are being held in interest bearing bank accounts.

### **Remuneration and expenses of Trustees**

It is not the policy of Birmingham Churches Together to remunerate its Trustees. No expenses or remuneration have been paid in either the current year or in 2021.

### **Risk**

Trustees have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and satisfied themselves that systems or procedures are established in order to manage those risks. These risks are monitored and regularly reviewed.

## **Structure, Governance & management**

Birmingham Churches Together (BCT) is a charity governed by a constitution. Trustees are appointed at the Annual General Meeting by nominated representatives of the Churches who are full members of BCT. The Presidents of BCT are ex-officio members of the Trustees body. A small group of Trustees are appointed to a Co-ordinating Group who oversee the day to day governance of the charity and scrutinise documents in preparation for Trustee meetings. The Trustees directly oversee and manage the strategic development of its Ecumenical work and the Restore project, which is also supported by separate management group. This group nominates a member to serve as a Trustee.

# BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER

CHARITY NO. 243931

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

31 DECEMBER 2022

### Reference & administrative details

Registered charity name: Birmingham Churches Together

Registered charity number: 243931

Registered address:  
The Jericho Building  
196-198 Edward Road  
Balsall Heath  
Birmingham  
B12 9LX

The Trustees who served during the year were:

#### Presidents

Most Revd. Bernard Longley, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Birmingham  
Rt. Revd. David Urquhart, Anglican Bishop of Birmingham (resigned October 2022)  
Rev Ian Howarth, Free Churches Moderator (resigned August 2022)  
Rev David Emanuel Ellis, Free Churches Moderator (appointed October 2022)

#### Appointed by members through the Annual General Meeting

Rev Steve Faber, URC Moderator  
Mauricio Silva  
Katarzyna Jolliffe (resigned January 2022)  
Venerable Jennifer Tomlinson  
Mgr Timothy Francis Menezes (appointed January 2023)  
Rev Deverton Antony Douglas (appointed January 2023)  
Lieutenant-Colonel Joao Paulo Magalhaes Ramos (appointed January 2023)  
Bishop Boris Paul McCalla (appointed January 2023)  
Rev Novette S Headley (appointed January 2023)

The Membership of Birmingham Churches Together is made up of representatives from:

Anglican Diocese of Birmingham  
Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham  
Birmingham Methodist District  
Heart of England Baptist Association  
West Midlands Synod of the United Reformed Church  
West Midlands Division of the Salvation Army  
The Society of Friends Central England Area Meeting  
Fellowship of Churches of Christ

**BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER****CHARITY NO. 243931****TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)****31 DECEMBER 2022**

The principal staff:

Ecumenical Development Officer, Robert Mountford  
Restore Project Coordinator, Jeremy Thompson

The Principal Bankers:

CAF Bank Ltd  
West Malling  
Kent ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner:

Karen Hanlan, ACA  
1 Saracen Close  
Ettington  
CV37 7SZ

Trustee and Chair of the Annual General Meeting  
Date



6/6/2023

**BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER**  
**CHARITY NO. 243931**  
**31 DECEMBER 2022**

**Trustees' responsibilities statement**

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

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales 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 its income and expenditure 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 principals in the Charities SORP 2015;
- 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;
- Prepare the financial statements on a 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 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 and the provisions of the Constitution. They 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.

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Birmingham Churches Together**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Birmingham Churches Together ('the Charity') for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 12 to 22.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 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 2011 Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I can 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 2011 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.



Karen Hanlan, Institute of Chartered Accountants, England & Wales  
Karen Hanlan Independent Examiner Limited  
1 Saracen Close, Ettington, CV37 7SZ

Date 6.6.2023



## BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 DECEMBER 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<b>Income from:</b>				
Donations and legacies (Note 4)	27,665	135,032	162,697	190,822
Charitable Activities		271	271	105
Investments - Bank interest	124	566	690	16
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>27,789</b>	<b>135,869</b>	<b>163,658</b>	<b>190,943</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Raising funds	3,006	16,982	19,988	16,361
Charitable activities	51,306	137,547	188,853	136,340
<b>Total Expenditure (Note 5)</b>	<b>54,312</b>	<b>154,529</b>	<b>208,841</b>	<b>152,701</b>
<b>Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds</b>	<b>(26,523)</b>	<b>(18,660)</b>	<b>(45,183)</b>	<b>38,242</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward	91,864	156,492	248,356	210,114
Transfer of funds	-	-	-	-
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>65,341</b>	<b>137,832</b>	<b>203,173</b>	<b>248,356</b>

## BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible assets	7	-	-
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	8	5,459	13,893
Cash at bank and in hand	9	206,238	251,193
		<u>211,697</u>	<u>265,086</u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(8,524)	(16,730)
Net current assets		<u>203,173</u>	<u>248,356</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>203,173</u>	<u>248,356</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
Restricted funds	14	137,832	156,492
Unrestricted funds		<u>65,341</u>	<u>91,864</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>		<u><u>203,173</u></u>	<u><u>248,356</u></u>

Approved on behalf of the  
Birmingham Churches Together  
on 6/6 2023



Trustee and Chair of the Annual General Meeting

## BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER

### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

##### **Basis of accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (updated 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS102)) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

In preparing these financial statements Update Bulletin 1 to the Charities SORP (FRS102) has been adopted and consequently a Statement of Cash flows has not been prepared.

Churches Together Birmingham meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historic cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note

##### ***Going Concern statement***

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the charity will continue to operate. The validity of this assumption is dependent upon the continuance of support from the charity's key funders and stakeholders and in response to the progress made by the charity in pursuing a viable budget including the obtaining of further grants and donations. The charity's business plan shows that the charity will be able to operate in the foreseeable future. Based on this understanding the trustees believe that it remains appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. The financial statements do not include any adjustments, which would result from the basis of preparation being inappropriate.

##### **Fund accounting**

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

Restricted funds are restricted to the use that the monies were received for.

The Designated Fund is a Special Purposes Fund for Ecumenical Development work and is currently used to set aside monies for further Promotions and the Ecumenical Development Officers Sabbatical.

##### **Relationship between Ecumenical Development work and the charity's projects**

In preparing these accounts, the Trustees require that the Restore project be self-funding and is not to be supported from the Charity's Ecumenical Development work.

## BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

Within the Statement of Financial Activity all funds received for the projects of Restore are accounted for as Restricted Funds. Within each of the projects some funding may be for specific purposes or for general use, this breakdown is identified in note 14.

Unrestricted Funds:	Donations and Other Income received which is available for use on any project or activity, as the Trustees shall agree. It is the policy of the Trustees to allocate all unrestricted funds to its Ecumenical Development work, since each project is required to be self-funded.
Designated Funds:	The allocation of Unrestricted Funds to a specific activity within its Ecumenical Development work. Such funds which remain after the project has been completed or which have been replaced by Restricted Funds form part of the Unrestricted Funds and may be credited back to that fund.
Restricted Funds:	Donations and Other Income, including Grants, which may be used only for the specific project for which they were made available. Any surplus, except where immaterial, is returned to the Donor.

**Income**

Income represents the amount derived from subscriptions, fundraising, donations and grants and is recognised where the charity is legally entitled to the income, ultimate receipt is probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Donations are recognised when received.

Income relating to future periods, as a result of donor imposed conditions specifying the time period, has been treated as deferred income.

Income dependent on certain conditions, amounting to more than mere administrative requirements, is recognised when the conditions have been fulfilled.

**Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprises the costs of publicity and fundraising activity.
- Expenditure on charitable activity includes the costs of the project delivery undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

**BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER****NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022****1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)****Fixed assets**

Depreciation is provided on Office Furniture, Fittings and Equipment at rates calculated to write off the cost of items of £1,000 or more over the expected life of the asset, usually 3 years. Assets costing Less than £1,000 are written off in the year of purchase.

**Taxation**

As a registered charity no provision is considered necessary for taxation.

**Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at bank and in hand and short term deposits repayable on or within a three month notice period.

**Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

**Creditors**

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

**2. GENERAL ACCUMULATED FUND**

The General Accumulated Fund represent the unrestricted funds of Ecumenical Development only.

**3. DESIGNATED FUNDS**

There are currently no funds designated for a particular purpose.



## BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

## 4. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted	Restricted Total	2022
	£	£	£
Donations - individuals	-	28,825	28,825
Donations - Churches	-	10,341	10,341
Legacies		20,310	20,310
Membership subscriptions	25,359	-	25,359
Grants:			
Barrow Cadbury	-	20,000	20,000
CAF Covid Resilience Fund	-	8,793	8,793
National Emergencies Trust		1,005	1,005
Other Grants	-	34,796	34,796
Other	2,306	10,962	13,268
	<u>27,665</u>	<u>135,032</u>	<u>162,697</u>

Previous year	Unrestricted	Restricted Total	2021
	£	£	£
Donations - individuals	-	36,305	36,305
Donations - Churches	-	15,513	15,513
Legacies		1,000	1,000
Membership subscriptions	49,027	-	49,027
Grants:			
Barrow Cadbury	-	20,000	20,000
CAF Covid Resilience Fund	-	15,286	15,286
National Emergencies Trust		5,335	5,335
Other Grants	-	28,308	28,308
Other	-	20,048	20,048
	<u>49,027</u>	<u>141,795</u>	<u>190,822</u>

## BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

## 5. EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	2022	Total 2021
	£	£		£	£
<b>Cost of raising funds:</b>					
Staff costs	1,386	5,787		7,173	7,071
Allocation of support costs	1,620	11,195		12,815	9,290
	3,006	16,982		19,988	16,361
<b>Cost of charitable activities:</b>					
Staff costs	33,640	126,352		159,992	113,657
Programme activity costs	-	8,254		8,254	2,063
Travel expenses	2,219	-		2,219	731
Rent & insurance	5,926	12,080		18,006	16,489
Meetings/conferences	3,580	-		3,580	5,000
Telephone, print, stationery	38	936		974	1,033
Website development	3,027	-		3,027	780
Subscriptions	525	-		525	525
Sundry expenses	111	680		791	928
Subscriptions cancelled	-	-		-	-
Governance costs - professional fees	860	-		860	984
<sup>1</sup> Accountancy charges	3,000	440		3,440	3,440
Less support costs allocated to raising funds	(1,620)	(11,195)		(12,815)	(9,290)
	51,306	137,547		188,853	136,340
	54,312	154,529		208,841	152,701

**Total expenditure**

<sup>1</sup> Includes fee for Independent Examination of £590 and Finance Support charge of £350

## 6. STAFF COSTS, TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£
Salaries	149,893	98,773
National Insurance	8,015	4,357
Pension costs	9,257	5,690
Freelance staff	0	11,789
Other	0	119
	167,165	120,728

## Staff Numbers

Full-time equivalent excluding trustees:

	2022 Number	2021 Number
Management, fundraising and admin	1.00	0.50
Project Management	3.50	3.50
	4.50	4.00

## BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

No employee had emoluments in excess of £60,000 (2021: £nil).

The charity trustees were not paid or received any benefits from employment with the charity in the year (2021: £nil). No expenses relating to travel or subsistence were reimbursed to any trustee during the year (2021: £nil). No charity trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the charity (2021: £nil).

The charity contributes into Group Personal Pension Plans for most employees. These pension plans are defined contribution in nature and as required under FRS102 the annual cost is recognised as incurred and included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

## 7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Office Equipment £
<b>Cost</b>	
At beginning and end of year	5,288
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At beginning of year	5,288
Charge for the year	-
At end of year	5,288
<b>Net Book Value</b>	
At 31 December 2021 & 2022	-

## 8. DEBTORS

	General £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Income receivable	2,940	567	3,507	11,892
Prepayments	1,023	929	1,952	2,001
	<u>3,963</u>	<u>1,496</u>	<u>5,459</u>	<u>13,893</u>

## 9. BANK BALANCES

	General £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Cash in Interest Bearing Accounts	23,927	137,877	161,804	177,517
Cash in non-interest Bearing Accounts	43,466	968	44,434	73,676
	<u>67,393</u>	<u>138,845</u>	<u>206,238</u>	<u>251,193</u>

## BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

## 10. CREDITORS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Creditors and Accruals	5,722	1,783
Deferred income	2,802	14,947
	<u>8,524</u>	<u>16,730</u>

## 11. CONTROLLING INTERESTS

The charity is controlled by the trustees.

## 12. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There have been no transactions with related parties during the year which require disclosure in these financial statements.

## 13. NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022 Total funds
	£	£	£
Fixed assets	-	-	-
Debtors	3,963	1,496	5,459
Cash	67,393	138,845	206,238
Creditors less than 1 year	(6,015)	(2,509)	(8,524)
	<u>65,341</u>	<u>137,832</u>	<u>203,173</u>

Previous year	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2021 Total funds
	£	£	£
Fixed assets	-	-	-
Debtors	11,005	2,888	13,893
Cash	96,606	154,587	251,193
Creditors less than 1 year	(15,747)	(983)	(16,730)
	<u>91,864</u>	<u>156,492</u>	<u>248,356</u>

## BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

## 14 MOVEMENT IN RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31 December 2022 £
<b>Restore</b>					
Restricted: Barrow Cadbury	6,666	20,000	20,000	-	6,666
Birmingham City Council	-	8,793	7,588	-	1,205
Other work	5,685	5,165	10,850	-	-
Part-time befriender	20,747	20,310	19,175	-	21,882
Befriending	23,700	43,006	47,701	-	19,005
St Johns	284	5,148	5,213	-	219
	<u>57,082</u>	<u>102,422</u>	<u>110,527</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>48,977</u>
General Restore Funds	<u>99,410</u>	<u>33,447</u>	<u>44,002</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>88,855</u>
<b>Total Funds Restore</b>	<b><u>156,492</u></b>	<b><u>135,869</u></b>	<b><u>154,529</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>137,832</u></b>

Note, the General Funds within Restore are unrestricted within that project.

The purpose of the above funds are to support various projects within Restore activity including a befriending scheme and social activities for refugees and asylum seekers and training of volunteers.

Remaining funds from St Johns relates to funds raised to provide emergency food supplies for refugees.



## BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

## 15. Comparative Statement of Financial Activities for 2021

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
<b>Income from:</b>			
Donations and legacies	49,027	141,795	190,822
Charitable activities	-	105	105
Investments - Bank interest	2	14	16
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>49,029</b>	<b>141,914</b>	<b>190,943</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Raising funds	1,460	14,901	16,361
Charitable activities	34,960	101,380	136,340
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>36,420</b>	<b>116,281</b>	<b>152,701</b>
<b>Net income and net movement in funds</b>	<b>12,609</b>	<b>25,633</b>	<b>38,242</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
Total funds brought forward	79,255	130,859	210,114
Transfer of funds	0	0	-
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>91,864</b>	<b>156,492</b>	<b>248,356</b>

**BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER**  
**ECUMENICAL DEVELOPMENT**  
**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Subscriptions - Ecumenical Development	21,658	43,542
Subscriptions WMRCF	3,701	5,485
Other income - Summit	2,306	-
Bank Interest	124	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	27,789	49,029
 <b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Ecumenical Development Officer:</b>		
Salary, National Insurance & Pension	21,169	8,318
Interim cover for EDO	-	9,907
Traveling expenses	2,219	731
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	23,388	18,956
 <b>Office Salary, National Insurance &amp; Pension</b>	 13,857	 0
Communications	0	1,882
Recruitment costs	0	0
Rent, Insurance including Heating	4,923	5,027
Office Repairs and Renewals	1,003	25
Meeting and Conference Expenses	3,580	5,000
Postage and Telephone	0	0
Printing and Stationery	38	33
Website development and maintenance	3,027	780
Churches Together in England	525	525
Sundry Expenses	111	208
Governance costs - professional fees	860	984
Accountancy Charges	3,000	3,000
Subscriptions cancelled	-	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total expenditure	54,312	36,420
 <b>Net Income</b>	 (26,523)	 12,609
 Fund Balance at 1 January 2022	 91,864	 79,255
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Fund Balance at 31 December 2022</b>	<b>65,341</b>	<b>91,864</b>
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

This statement is for information only and does not form part of the Statutory Financial Statements.

## BIRMINGHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER

## RESTORE

## DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	General Fund £	Restricted Fund £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
<b>INCOME</b>				
Grants other	100	35,701	35,801	35,143
Grants - Barrow Cadbury Trust	-	20,000	20,000	20,000
Grants - The National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	-	-
Grants - CAF Resilience Fund	-	-	-	15,286
Grants - Birmingham City Council	-	8,793	8,793	-
Grants - National Emergencies Trust	-	1,005	1,005	5,335
Donations - Individuals	26,869	1,956	28,825	36,305
Donations - Churches	2,401	7,940	10,341	15,513
Gift aid on donations	2,302	2,557	4,859	7,990
Legacies	-	20,310	20,310	1,000
Befriending services	-	4,160	4,160	320
Fundraising	938	-	938	4,903
Bank Interest	566	-	566	14
Other	271	-	271	105
	<u>33,447</u>	<u>102,422</u>	<u>135,869</u>	<u>141,914</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
<b>Salaries &amp; wages</b>				
Befrienders	8,068	80,369	88,437	58,735
Co-ordinator	17,876	23,148	41,024	37,930
Administration	5,933	1,000	6,933	7,868
Employment allowance	(4,255)	-	(4,255)	(3,912)
Office Expenses	8,713	3,367	12,080	11,437
Information and Publicity	936	-	936	1,000
Accountancy Charges	440	-	440	440
Programme Activities	5,611	2,643	8,254	2,063
Training - Staff and Volunteer	680	-	680	720
	<u>44,002</u>	<u>110,527</u>	<u>154,529</u>	<u>116,281</u>
Net expenditure	(10,555)	(8,105)	(18,660)	25,633
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-
Fund Balance at 1 January 2022	99,410	57,082	156,492	130,859
Fund Balance at 31 December 2022	<u>88,855</u>	<u>48,977</u>	<u>137,832</u>	<u>156,492</u>

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