

**Council
of Church
Universities and
Colleges**

**(operating as The Cathedrals
Group)**

Annual Report and Accounts

31 July 2021

Charity Registration Number
801726

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Reference and administrative information

Executive Committee	Professor Peter Neil (Chair) Professor Jackie Dunne (Vice Chair) Professor Jean-Noel Erzingard (Vice Chair) Professor Rama Thirunamachandran Professor Julie Mennell Professor Jane Longmore Paul Barber, Director of Catholic Education Service Garry Neave, HE Adviser, Church of England
Registered/Principal office	York St John University Lord Mayor's Walk York YO31 7EX
Charity registration number	801726
Auditor	Buzzacott LLP 130 Wood Street London EC2V 6DL
Bankers	HSBC Bank plc 22 Victoria Street Westminster London SW1H 0NJ NatWest Bank High Street Lincoln LN2 1AZ
Solicitors	Lee Bolton Monier-Williams 1 The Sanctuary Westminster London SW1P 3JT

Executive Committee report Year to 31 July 2021

The Executive Committee presents the report and accounts of the Council of Church Universities and Colleges (operating as The Cathedrals Group) ("the Council") for the year ended 31 July 2021. Audited accounts are required under the terms of the Council's Constitution.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 15-17 of the attached accounts and the requirements of 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 United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Council has adopted an abbreviated Executive Committee report as it qualifies as a small charity.

Governance, structure and management

Constitution

The Council is governed by a constitution adopted on 1 November 1988, which has been amended in subsequent years, the latest amendment being November 2016. The Council is also a registered charity (charity registration number 801726).

Organisation

The policy and general management of the affairs of the Council is directed by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee consists of the Chair, two Vice-Chairs and two Vice Chancellors/Principals elected by the Members representing the range of Members. The Director of the Catholic Education Service and the Chief Education Officer of the Church of England are entitled to attend.

Representation

Membership of the Council is open to the designated Vice-Chancellor or Principal of each University or Church University College in full membership. One nominee from each of the Catholic Education Service, the Church of England Board of Education, and the Methodist Church in Britain is entitled to attend. Associate membership may be granted to such bodies as are willing and able to subscribe to the principal aims and activities of the Council.

The Members elect the Chair of the Executive Committee to serve for a period of two years or such longer period as the Members may determine. The Honorary Treasurer or Treasurer is elected by the Members to serve for a period of two years.

The members of the Executive Committee are also the trustees of the Council for the purposes of charity law. They are listed on page 1 and have all served in office throughout the year and to the date of this report except where stated.

Executive Committee report Year to 31 July 2021

Governance, structure and management (continued)

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day to day basis comprise the members of the Executive Committee.

No member of the Executive Committee receives any remuneration from the charity in respect of their duties.

Statement of responsibilities of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is responsible for preparing the annual report and accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Executive Committee, as the trustees of the Council (the “charity”), to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the year end and of its income and expenditure for the period. In preparing the accounts, the members of the Executive Committee are required to:

- ◆ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ◆ observe the methods and principles in Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102);
- ◆ make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ◆ state whether applicable United Kingdom accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- ◆ prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Executive Committee is 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 accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the charity’s 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.

When setting the objectives and planning the work of the Council for the year and its future activities, members of the Executive Committee have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission general guidance on public benefit.

Executive Committee report Year to 31 July 2021

Governance, structure and management (continued)

Risk management

The Executive Committee has assessed the major risks to which the Council is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Council and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

As a membership organisation whose income is primarily subscriptions, the major risk facing the Council is the loss of members. The financial consequences of this are mitigated in two respects: the low level of fixed costs with most expenditure being more discretionary project spend; and the level of reserves carried to allow activity to be transitioned to a smaller membership base.

Objectives and activities

Overview

The work of the Cathedrals Group in 2020-21 has been significantly impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic and by the emerging direction of government education policy.

The pandemic has necessitated that almost all Cathedrals Group business is conducted remotely, with all meetings moving online and activities that would have been held in person, adapted, postponed, or cancelled. The pandemic has also diverted attention amongst members, requiring a significant focus on managing COVID-19 implications, and reducing some of the scope to progress joint projects and activities. However, it has also presented opportunities, providing a catalyst for various teams across the members to work together more closely. As discussed below, this has resulted in several initiatives that embrace the strategic objectives of the Cathedrals Group.

The government's policy agenda has challenged members to strengthen their representation and lobbying capacity. This is particularly the case in the field of teacher education – a founding strand of the Group's shared identity – where a major review of national provision has significant implications for members. Several other government or regulatory consultations on important HE sector issues, such as quality and standards, and admissions, have also provided a focal point for joint work and responses. The Group has galvanised its shared positioning on several of these issues, meaning it is well placed to respond to further proposals and developments.

These two external drivers have meant that more of the Group's work in 2020-21 has been reactive. There are some notable exceptions to this, particularly the Cathedrals Group Graduate Careers Fund – a project with joint investment from members designed to support graduates seeking work in the context of the pandemic. The Group has also progressed important areas of joint research and put in place infrastructure, such as its new website and better risk management processes, to ensure it is well placed for longer term development.

Although the Group now faces changes in personnel within its support office, it moves into the post-pandemic period well-placed to continue enhancing its impact and credentials.

Executive Committee report Year to 31 July 2021

Governance, structure and management (continued)

Personnel

In 2020-21, Professor Peter Neil served the second year of his two-year term as Chair of the Cathedrals Group. The Group appointed two new Vice Chairs to its Executive, Professor Jackie Dunne, and Professor Jean-Noel Erzingard. Two Vice Chancellors retired from their universities and therefore from the Group, Professor Margaret House at Leeds Trinity University, and Professor Joy Carter, at the University of Winchester. They were replaced by Professor Charles Egbu and (on an interim basis) Professor Elizabeth Stuart, respectively.

In November 2020 the Group's administrator, Sophie Pointon left her post at the conclusion of her contract. Administrative support was subsequently provided by the Chair's office. In mid-October 2021 the Group's Head of Public Affairs and Corporate Communications also left their post at the conclusion of their contract. At the time of writing a replacement appointment is being sought to the Head of Public Affairs role. These changes mean that the Group is entering a transition period with a new Chair and new support office staff due to be in post by the AGM in December.

Infrastructure

Although the pandemic prevented the development of several areas of work the Group might have carried out, it did provide some opportunities to focus on strengthening the Group's infrastructure to put it on a more stable footing moving forward. This work has three main strands:

- Relaunching the website.
- Conducting a more detailed risk assessment and acting on the outcomes.
- Strengthening the connections between peer groups of staff across member institutions.

The work on the website was initiated during 2019/20. Some delay in the final stages was experienced because of the onset of the pandemic, but in spring 2021 a full refresh of content was completed, and the new site was launched. Analytics data shows that there has been increased engagement with the site since the relaunch and the Group now has a clear and distinctive brand that stands up alongside that of similar Groups in the sector.

At its November 2020 AGM the Group considered a report monitoring compliance against Charity Commission guidance and a wider risk assessment using a PESTLE analysis. These reports enabled the Group to identify areas for development in its business, such as the subsequent development of statements on safeguarding and complaints. The Group has agreed to receive similar reports at its AGM on a bi-annual basis, to steer and review its business.

Executive Committee report Year to 31 July 2021

Governance, structure and management (continued)

Infrastructure (continued)

There has also been a deliberate focus on strengthening the breadth and depth of connections between internal colleagues across the Group. The pandemic has provided a more conducive context for this with the widespread move to online meetings and a reassertion of the value in sharing experiences and approaches across networks. During the year, in addition to the regular meetings of the Group's Education Committee and Research and Enterprise Committee, Group's met to look at Careers support, HR issues, Registry and marketing. This work has raised the profile of Cathedrals Group activities internally and demonstrated the value of membership to a much wider pool of staff.

Policy

2020/21 has been an important year for the Cathedrals Group to progress its work in joint policy-making. The government and the sector regulator, the Office for Students have proposed several changes over the year that present risks and significant implications for Cathedrals Group members. The Group has worked to inform and influence policy makers on several fronts in view of these proposals.

Arguably the most significant proposals impacting the Group are in the area of initial teacher training (ITT). In January 2021 the government launched a review of the ITT market, with a report and recommendations released in July. Teacher training is a cornerstone of member's history and current course portfolios and the proposals, which would see re-accreditation for all providers, increased costs, and a more prescribed curriculum, carry multiple risks. Throughout the year the Group worked closely with other likeminded organisations in the sector, holding joint meetings to discuss views. Member universities worked with the church to lobby Ministers, and senior opposition politicians. This work helped to secure early meetings with the review group. Our Education Committee played a leading role in the review process and has worked closely with the Department for Education to raise member's collective concerns. At the time of writing, the Group has submitted a detailed letter of response to the government's consultation on the review and awaits further detail.

Linked to this work, the Group also considered the opportunity to bid to be part of the new Institute of Teaching the government plans to establish. Education Directors and Vice Chancellors, alongside church representatives, worked together to consider tactics and options, ultimately determining not to pursue the opportunity.

The government's wider agenda has, amongst other issues, seen criticism of what have been presented as 'low quality courses', an emphasis on earnings as a measure of degree success, and a desire to change how student admissions operate. The regulator is developing a more directive role in monitoring these and other issues. The Group has been keen to emphasise the risk in these measures, aligned to the values members share. Members have worked together to submit consultation responses on:

- Quality and Standards
- Monetary penalties.
- Post Qualification Admissions.

Executive Committee report Year to 31 July 2021

Governance, structure and management (continued)

Policy

The Group has also taken a proactive approach to considering other emerging themes in the sector. For example, at its summer Council meeting members held a dedicated session on the emerging skills agenda. A presentation from the Chief Executive of UVAC framed a detailed discussion about the changing nature of funding, policy, and partnership work in relation to skills and the Group has agreed to maintain a collective watching brief and work together on issues of joint interest.

Cathedrals Group meetings have also provided a helpful forum to share intelligence and insights between members in relation to the pandemic and its implications for staff and students.

Projects

The pandemic has meant that the Cathedrals Group has changed its prioritisation of different projects during 2020/21. Historically, the Group held two key face-to-face events within the year – the annual Choirs Festival and an annual lecture (previously called the Dearing Lecture). Given the additional demands placed on members by the pandemic, it was decided not to hold a Dearing lecture during 2021.

Members did however determine to develop an alternative to the Choirs Festival. Rather than meeting in person, members were invited to submit videos of their Choirs performing and these have been combined in a dedicated webpage on the Cathedrals Group website. Seven Cathedrals Group institutions have been able to participate.

Significant time was also allocated to overseeing and completing the Graduate Careers Fund project initiated during the previous year. Using £20,000 allocated by the Cathedrals Group from its core budget, Careers Teams from across the members worked together to develop a fund, bidding process and assessment criteria to allocate funding to 2020 graduates who were experiencing difficulties relating to the pandemic. After receiving more than 430 applications and conducting a thorough assessment process, 33 graduates were awarded with between £250 and £750 each to support their future success. Whilst Vice Chancellors determined that this should be a one-off project rather than an ongoing commitment, it was widely agreed that the project represented a very positive and practical response to the pandemic that reflected the wider objectives and values of the Group.

Finally, throughout the year members have continued to pursue a number of joint research projects together, foremost amongst which is the Communiversity project, funded by the Church Universities Fund following a successful joint bid. The Communiversity Project explores the added value that students experience from doing community-based projects with a social justice dimension at Cathedrals Group universities. A report on the research findings is expected early in 2022.

Executive Committee report Year to 31 July 2021

Governance, structure and management (continued)

Taken together, this body of work highlights that although the pandemic has presented significant challenges during 2020/21, the Cathedrals Group has been able to utilise the talents and resilience of its members to continue doing important joint work. This work has directly impacted students, supported staff and leaders, enhanced the Group's credentials, and contributed to key policy debates in the sector. It lays the foundations to emerge strongly from an irregular and highly challenging year.

Financial review

Total income amounted to £67,085 (2020- £67,133), which included income from membership subscriptions totalling £67,083 (2020- £67,083). Total expenditure amounted to £88,332 (2020 - £96,867).

The net movement in funds was a deficit of £21,247 (2020 – deficit of £29,734). The total net assets at the year end were £88,391 (2020 - £109,638).

Reserves policy

Sufficient free reserves are maintained to enable the Council to meet any unexpected demands for its services and to finance projects undertaken at short notice, broadly defined as equivalent to an average year's expenditure. Should its reserves be insufficient, additional resources would be provided by the universities and colleges that are members of the Council. At the balance sheet date, the free reserves were £88,391 (2020 - £109,638) and so in excess of this policy. It is anticipated that the surplus will be used to fund future projects.

Future plans

The CG plan to continue the advancement of public education in Church universities and colleges in 2022.

Signed on behalf of the Executive Committee on [8 | 12 | 21]



The Reverend Canon Professor Peter Neil
Chair

Independent auditor's report 31 July 2021

Independent auditor's report to the Executive Committee of Council of Church Universities and Colleges (operating as The Cathedrals Group)

We have audited the accounts of Council of Church Universities and Colleges (the "charity") for the year ended 31 July 2021, which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the principal accounting policies 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), including FRS 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland.

In our opinion the accounts:

- ◆ give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 July 2021 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- ◆ have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- ◆ have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the accounts in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the accounts, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the accounts is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the accounts are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The Executive Committee is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the accounts does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the accounts, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the accounts or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the accounts or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- ◆ the information given in the Executive Committee's annual report is inconsistent in any material respect with the accounts; or
- ◆ sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- ◆ the accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- ◆ we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of the Executive Committee

As explained more fully in the Statement of responsibilities of the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee is responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Executive Committee determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the accounts, the Executive Committee is responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Executive Committee either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the accounts as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these accounts.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations; and
- we obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the charity and determined that the most significant frameworks which are directly relevant to specific assertions in the financial statements are those that relate to the reporting framework (Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011).

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships; and
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimate for the investment property valuation were indicative of potential bias.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts (continued)

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- review of the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance; and
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

As a result of our procedures we did not identify any key audit matters relating to irregularities.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's Executive Committee, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and with regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's Executive Committee those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Executive Committee as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Buzzacott LLP
Statutory Auditor
130 Wood Street
London
EC2V 6DL

Date: 9 December 2021

Buzzacott LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Statement of financial activities Year to 31 July 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	
		2021 £	2020 £
Income from			
Charitable activities			
Advancement of public education in Church universities and colleges	1	67,083	67,083
Investments		2	50
Total income		67,085	67,133
Expenditure on			
Charitable activities			
Advancement of public education in Church universities and colleges	2	88,332	96,867
Total expenditure		88,332	96,867
Net expenditure and net movement in funds		(21,247)	(29,734)
Reconciliation of funds			
Balances brought forward at 1 August		109,638	139,372
Balances carried forward at 31 July		88,391	109,638

There is no difference between the net movement in funds stated above, and the historical cost equivalent.

All of the charity's activities derived from continuing operations during the above two financial periods.

Balance sheet 31 July 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Current assets			
Debtors	5	1,533	11,765
Cash at bank and in hand		93,116	179,811
		<u>94,649</u>	<u>191,576</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	6	(6,258)	(81,938)
Net current assets /total net assets		<u>88,391</u>	<u>109,638</u>
The funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
General fund		88,391	109,638
Total funds		<u>88,391</u>	<u>109,638</u>

Approved by the Executive Committee
and signed on its behalf by:

Mr S. Hill

The Reverend Canon Professor Peter Neil
Chair

Approved on: 1/12/21

Principal accounting policies 31 July 2021

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the accounts are laid out below.

Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared for the year to 31 July 2021.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policies below or the notes to these accounts.

The accounts 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 United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP FRS 102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The accounts are presented in sterling and are rounded to the nearest pound.

Assessment of going concern

The trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in preparing these accounts. The trustees have made this assessment in respect to a period of one year from the date of approval of these accounts.

Trustees acknowledge and recognise the potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the future operations of the charity, its beneficiaries, partners and stakeholders and on wider society. The trustees of the charity have concluded that there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees are of the opinion that the charity will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due.

Income recognition

Income is recognised in the period in which the charity has entitlement to the income, the amount of income can be measured reliably, and it is probable that the income will be received.

Income comprises donations, membership subscriptions and bank interest.

Principal accounting policies 31 July 2021

Income recognition (continued)

Donations are recognised when the charity has confirmation of both the amount and settlement date. In the event of donations pledged but not received, the amount is accrued for where the receipt is considered probable. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Membership subscriptions are calculated on an institutional basis, and by reference to student numbers, plus a flat rate, and are accounted for in the period to which they relate. Subscription rates are set annually.

Expenditure recognition

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure on the advancement of public education in Church universities and colleges includes such expenditure as:

- ◆ Accommodation, staff support and office expenses
- ◆ Conferences and meetings
- ◆ Consultancy
- ◆ Support costs including governance costs

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal and constructive obligation to make a payment and includes any attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

Cash flow statement

The accounts do not include a cash flow statement because the charity, as a small reporting entity, is exempt from the requirement to prepare such a statement under the Charities SORP (FRS 102) Update Bulletin 1.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at their settlement amount, less any provision for non-recoverability. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

Principal accounting policies 31 July 2021

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand represents such accounts and instruments that are available on demand or have a maturity of less than three months from the date of acquisition.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at the amount the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt.

Funds structure

Unrestricted funds comprise those funds which the Executive Committee are free to use in accordance with the charitable objects of the Council.

1 Charitable activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Advancement of public education in Church universities and colleges		
Membership subscriptions	67,083	67,083
	67,083	67,083

2 Cost of charitable activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Advancement of public education in Church universities and colleges		
Accommodation, staff support and office expenses	53,134	56,140
Conferences and meetings	2,968	12,824
Funding of research projects	3,620	7,942
CG Class of 2020 Careers fund	19,390	-
Website & Brand Development	4,372	15,252
Policy & Communications	197	1,874
Other costs	(10)	20
Auditor's remuneration	4,661	2,815
	88,332	96,867

3 Taxation

Council of Church Universities and Colleges (operating as The Cathedrals Group) is a registered charity and therefore is not liable to taxation on income or gains derived from its charitable activities, as it falls within the various exemptions available to registered charities.

4 Executive Committee remuneration, expenses and transactions with Members

The members of the Executive Committee consider that they comprise the key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day to day basis.

No member of the Executive Committee, or any persons connected with them, received any remuneration from the Council during the year (2020 - £nil). No expenses were reimbursed to any members of the Executive Committee during the year (2020 - £nil). All travel and subsistence expenses associated with the business of the Executive Committee are met by the members' institutions.

Most of the members of the Executive Committee are employed by universities and colleges who are Members of the charity. Membership fees to these organisations are charged on an arm's length basis. Some of these organisations also provide administrative and other services to the charity. During the year to 31 July 2021, £51,146 was incurred for salary and administration costs, which was incurred by York St John University and Bishop Grosseteste University incurring £46,146 and £5,000 respectively (2020 - £54,363).

Notes to the accounts 31 July 2021

5 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Other debtors and prepayments	1,533	11,765
	1,533	11,765

6 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Accruals	6,258	81,938
	6,258	81,938

7 Related party transactions

Other than the transactions disclosed in note 4, there are no further related party transactions to disclose.

