

Vineyard Church Dungannon

Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Objectives and activities

Public benefit

Through weekly Sunday community celebrations family stability and well being are achieved. The food bank provides relief for those in need. Support and advance education is provided to children through a service on Sunday and youth club. The significant giving provides us with the opportunity to provide assistance to the foodbank, refugee crisis and to India.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland.

As trustees, our primary responsibility is for the sound financial and legal management of the church, creating the foundation from which the ministries of the church can function.

From the trustees

2023 has been a challenging year for Vineyard Church Dungannon. The church continued to recover from the Covid pandemic, and we experienced significant extra demands for pastoral care, and practical help and support.

2023 also saw our Senior Pastors resign from their post after 20 years leading the church. They provided the church with six months notice of them stepping down which was intended to enable the trustees to search for a replacement.

Two rounds of recruitment were operated, and on both occasions the church had credible candidates who were interviewed. On both occasions, however, no person was appointed, and as of December 2023, it was agreed that a Senior Leadership Team would manage the day to day activity of the church, whilst the trustees would continue in their oversight role, ensuring legislative compliance.

Our Associate Pastor decided not to take the role of Senior Pastor and stepped down and left the church in December 2023.

Despite the challenges, the church continued to function and to deliver against its stated aims.

Compassion at the Vineyard

In 2023 we continued to see significant demand at our compassion ministry. Over 7500 individuals received support, including food and household items from Dungannon Foodbank. A 20% increase from 2022.

The food bank operated thanks to the equivalent of 559 volunteer days. It distributed food and household essentials to a retail value of £115 000.

Outward focus and serving

In June 2023 we gathered volunteers to Give a Day to Dungannon. This consisted of 54 people, of all ages, serving the town in practical ways, through sign cleaning, litter picking, painting and maintenance at local facilities.

Outward Focussed Christmas

Vineyard Church Dungannon

Trustees' Report (continued)

Outward Focussed Christmas 2023 was another busy Christmas distributing luxury hampers to our local community. Along with our weekly food bank service, we put together 260 hampers to give to those most in need, through referrals from our local partners; Sure Start; STEP; Women's Aid, Causeway & Mid-Ulster; Family Intervention Team; First Step Women's Centre; PSNI; Clemen Cuthbertson (Councillor); and De Paul Hostel.

On 21 December 2023 we provided 65 Christmas meals for food bank guests on our premises.

Structure, governance and management

Financial instruments

Objectives and policies

The charity's activities expose it to a number of financial risks including credit risk, cash flow risk and liquidity risk. The use of financial derivatives is governed by the charity's policies approved by the board of trustees, which provide written principles on the use of financial derivatives to manage these risks. The charity does not use derivative financial instruments for speculative purposes.

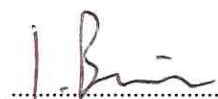
Credit risk

The charity's principal financial assets are bank balances and cash, The credit risk on liquid funds is limited d
The charity has no significant concentration of credit risk,

Liquidity risk

In order to maintain liquidity to ensure that sufficient funds are available for ongoing operations and future developments, the charity uses a mixture of long-term and short-term debt finance.
Further details regarding liquidity risk can be found in the Statement of accounting policies in the financial statements.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 16 October 2024 and signed on its behalf by:


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Mr Jonathan Birnie
Trustee