

**COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER NI680339**

**CHURCH OF IRELAND AND METHODIST  
CHAPLAINCY BELFAST**

**COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR  
ENDED 30TH JUNE 2023**

**Charity Number NIC 108472**

# **CHURCH OF IRELAND AND METHODIST CHAPLAINCY BELFAST COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE**

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**

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**CHURCH OF IRELAND AND METHODIST CHAPLAINCY BELFAST  
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE****MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS**

<b>Registered charity name</b>	Church of Ireland and Methodist Chaplaincy Belfast
<b>Charity registration number</b>	NIC108472
<b>Company number</b>	NI680339
<b>Registered office</b>	22 Elmwood Avenue Belfast BT9 6AY
<b>Directors</b>	Rev Dr J Alderdice Mrs C Baillie Mrs E H Carson Prof F Kee Mrs C Hillcox Mr C S McDowell Mrs G Mercer Dr I Taylor Mr J Unsworth Rev D McCullagh
<b>Independent examiner</b>	GMcG Chartered Accountants 17 Mandeville Street Portadown County Armagh BT62 3PB

# CHURCH OF IRELAND AND METHODIST CHAPLAINCY BELFAST COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

## DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT

### YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

The directors have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 June 2023. The directors have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, Companies Act 2006, Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and SORP (FRS 102).

### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Reference and administrative details are shown in the schedule of members of the board and professional advisers on page 1 of the financial statements.

### THE DIRECTORS

The directors of the charitable company are its trustees for the purpose of charity law.

The directors who served the company during the year were as follows:

Rev Dr J Alderdice	
Mr P F Anderson	resigned on 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2022
Mrs C Baillie	
Mrs E H Carson	
Mr T S J Douglas	resigned on 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2022
Ven B G Forde	resigned on 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2022
Prof F Kee	
Mrs C Hillcox	
Mr C S McDowell	
Mrs G Mercer	
Dr I Taylor	
Mr J Unsworth	
Rev D McCullagh	appointed on 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2023

### PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT

The directors of Church of Ireland and Methodist Chaplaincy Belfast confirm that they have had due regard for the guidance on Public Benefit by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland and are pleased to report that during the year the charity continued to provide the Public Benefits through programmes and services we offer. In particular, the directors consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

### Public Benefits:

The Benefits which flow from Church of Ireland and Methodist Chaplaincy Belfast are:

- The provision of chaplaincy services to students and staff at third-level institutions across the city of Belfast.
- The provision of accommodation in residential chaplaincy communities for, primarily but not exclusively, third-level education students.
- The provision of acts of worship, open to the general public.
- Campus engagement through a public presence, the provision of public facilities, supporting university-led initiatives, ceremonies and events, and organising theological events for the general public.

# CHURCH OF IRELAND AND METHODIST CHAPLAINCY BELFAST COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

## DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT (*continued*)

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

### Public Benefits (*continued*):

- e. Pastoral support to students and staff.

The Benefits identified above are demonstrated by:

- a. The support provided by chaplains, including by attending, and where appropriate sitting on, bodies appointed to further the work of the institutions;
- b. Pastoral & spiritual support offered to students & staff alike, and engagement with university initiatives.
- c. The provision of accommodation in the student centre in South Belfast for up to 50 students annually from a mixture of universities and colleges.
- d. Providing opportunities for spiritual engagement, including church services, events, discipleship & outreach activities, social action, and pastoral support.
- e. Resourcing and encouraging students to participate fully in the life of their campus, through events, volunteering, and fundraising for partner organisations.
- f. Facilitating activities at university accommodation locations.
- g. Running a non-profit cafe to provide a safe space for students to meet, study and volunteer.
- h. Working with and/or independent of university bodies to provide pastoral support to students and staff throughout the academic year.

The benefits are monitored through regular evaluation of the services provided, and through feedback from participants and members of the public.

The purposes do not lead to harm. The only private benefit resulting from the Charity's purposes are related to staff who receive benefits as a result their employment. However, this is incidental and necessary to further our charitable purposes. There are no other private benefits. The charities beneficiaries are the public, and in particular university and college students, as well as those we can support through the work of our charitable partners who share our ethos and purposes. The public benefit further through our engagement with and support for both Christian and other secular organisations, charities and individual members of the public in this way.

## STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

### Governing document

Church of Ireland and Methodist Chaplaincy Belfast is a charitable company limited by guarantee and does not have any share capital. It was incorporated on 25 June 2021 and registered as a charity with The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland on 20 January 2022.

In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

# CHURCH OF IRELAND AND METHODIST CHAPLAINCY BELFAST COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

## DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT (*continued*)

### YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

#### **Recruitment, appointment, induction and training**

The directors regularly review the requirements of the charity and the possibility of a need for additional directors. Any new directors would be appointed by resolution of a meeting of all the directors passed by a majority of those present. Appropriate training and induction is available to all directors.

#### **Risk management**

The directors have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Trust and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate an exposure to major risks. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the charity faces. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff, volunteers, clients and visitors. These procedures are periodically reviewed at least annually to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the charity.

#### **Organisation Structures and related parties**

The directors oversee the running of the charitable company.

### CONTEXT AND STRUCTURAL DETAILS

The organisation is a Charity, registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, number NIC108472.

The Charity was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021 under the terms of its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It was registered with the Charity Commission on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

#### **Members**

The members of the company are the Church of Ireland, and the Methodist Church in Ireland being the church as defined in Section 1 of The Methodist Church in Ireland Act 1928. These two entities are members within the meaning given in section 112 of the Companies Act 2006. These are referred to variously as the 'members', 'denominations', or 'parent denominations', being the two governing entities of their respective church organisations on the island of Ireland.

#### **Trustees**

The Board of Trustees are appointed by the members under the terms given in articles 31-34 of the Articles of Association and serve as the Directors of the company (as listed above). These include the Chaplains appointed, stationed, or licenced by the member organisations, who are remunerated directly by their denomination and not employed by the charity.

#### **History and nomenclature**

The Charity has inherited the charge and remit of chaplaincy ministry on university and college campuses in Belfast, previously managed by both denominations as two distinct unincorporated associations.

The Church of Ireland Student Centre was officially opened on Elmwood Avenue on 11<sup>th</sup> March 1955; the Methodist Chaplaincy opened its doors to students in 1973. In 2012, a Local Covenant Partnership was signed between the denominations to formally commence joint partnership. This has ultimately led to the incorporation of the Church of Ireland and Methodist Chaplaincy Belfast on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

# CHURCH OF IRELAND AND METHODIST CHAPLAINCY BELFAST COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

## DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT (*continued*)

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

### History and nomenclature (*continued*)

Often referred to as the 'Chaplaincy', the charity is also known colloquially as 'The Hub Belfast' or 'The Hub', a brand adopted under the Covenant Partnership in 2012 as shorthand for the much longer formal names. However, all formal and financial activities are carried out under the full charity name.

### OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

In alignment with its Articles of Association and Public Benefit Statement, the Charity seeks to advance the Christian faith amongst third level education, University and College campuses in Belfast in accordance with the principles, practices, and charitable purposes of the Church of Ireland and the Methodist Church in Ireland, through:

1. **the provision of facilities and services with a Christian ethos** that aim to support and benefit the spiritual, social, academic, and professional networks across various University and College campuses.
2. creating, developing, managing, and overseeing one or more **residential chaplaincy communities** through the provision of accommodation for, primarily but not exclusively, third level education students.
3. **working with** Parishes, circuits, missions, other groups, Christian traditions and organisations to further Christian mission and ecumenism;
4. **contributing to the good and welfare of the Universities and Colleges**, their role within the city and impact on wider society.

### ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The Board are mindful of demonstrating how the Charity has served and met its purposes over the course of the academic year. To that end, we wish to highlight and celebrate some of the activities that took place across the year to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

**The Church of the Resurrection** meets throughout the year on Sunday mornings. This is open to all, and regularly gathers existing and former students, local families, and the occasional member of staff of Queen's University. In this past year we have seen a significant growth in the number of young adults joining us on a Sunday morning. Around 50% of the regular congregation is now made up of these young adults, aged 18-30. They consist of local students, graduates, young professionals and a good number of international students.

The **Hub Café** unfortunately had to close for different reasons during the year including the need to do a major upgrade to the cooking and ventilation systems. This fact, alongside it taking time to find a new hospitality lead (rather than a café manager), has meant that for most of the year it has remained closed. The focus in 2023-4 is to try to find the right person to fulfil the vision of hospitality lead. Providing hospitality is one of the ways we show the love of God to people outside of The Hub, for example, the weekly **Free Lunch** provided to students at St Stephen's Parish, next door to Belfast Metropolitan College's Millfield campus. This ministry continues to go from strength to strength. Ulster University's move into Belfast city centre has created the opportunity to run a similar initiative for their students, in space provided by Belfast Cathedral. Between them on a weekly basis staff and students engage with between 100 and 300 individuals.

# CHURCH OF IRELAND AND METHODIST CHAPLAINCY BELFAST COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

## DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT (*continued*)

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

### Achievements and Performance (*continued*)

Hospitality and friendship are also the drivers of our weekly outreach initiatives in Queen's Accommodation. **Toastie and Tunes** – staff and students visit the Treehouse at Elms BT9 (Queen's University owned accommodation) to provide live music, toasties, and conversations for students. We have seen a number of these students become members of the congregation at The Church of The Resurrection on Sunday Mornings, subsequently inviting friends to church.

**Student Residency** – The Church of Ireland and Methodist Chaplaincy continues to provide residency for 49 students on Elmwood Avenue. This is a core part of our ministry on campus, providing a high level of community, social interaction, and pastoral support for residential students.

Throughout the year, there are a variety of events and activities for our residents to take part in. Our residential students play an active role, both in leading and attending. They in turn, invite their peers and classmates to a range of formal and informal events at the Chaplaincy, allowing us to widen our reach to the student community, to offer support, including the following:

- Annual Student residential weekend
- Weekly Bible Study
- In House meal rotas to ensure community and friendship
- Wednesday Night Meal followed by worship and Bible Study
- Prayer Meetings
- Chaplaincy Formal
- Daily dinner provided by chaplaincy staff during exam period.
- One to one Pastoral Care
- End of Year service of Celebration
- Pop up evangelism – Often coinciding with major feasts or Saints days (St Valentine, St Patricks) staff and a team of students, will bring a table out to the street front of The Hub or Student's Union to give away tea coffee, treats, and to share the gospel.

### Outreach to and Engagement with University groups & societies on campuses

- Engagement with Queen's International Students Society on a regular basis to both attend and provide events in The Hub.
- Engagement with University Christian Outreach.
- Hosting of the Christian Medical Fellowship meetings
- Hosting of Queen's Christian Union.
- Hosting of Queen's Students Against Human Trafficking Society.
- Hosting of Queen's ILIVE leadership society.
- Hosting of Queen's the Indonesian Society.
- Attendance at Stranmillis College Christian Union.
- Attendance at Ulster University Christian Union



# CHURCH OF IRELAND AND METHODIST CHAPLAINCY BELFAST COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

## DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT (*continued*)

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

### Achievements and Performance (*continued*)

#### Worship

'The Gathering' is an event hosted on Wednesday evenings throughout the academic year. Our student residents are the primary audience for this, but they are encouraged to invite other students and classmates to join them. The night consists of a free meal cooked by our residents on a house-by-house rota basis, followed by sung worship and Bible teaching. The teaching is delivered by members of staff as well as the occasional guest speaker or student.

'Worship101' is 60-90 minutes of late-night worship on a Thursday evening, and this event attracts up to 200 students on a weekly basis. These students come from right across the city to attend this.

#### Campus Events

**The Hub Community Gospel Choir** – Open to all staff and students and members of Church of the Resurrection. Fortnightly rehearsals and concerts throughout the year.

**Thanksgiving Meal in November** – After realising that American students often feel homesick at this point of the year, we have provided a night of free food, entertainment, and community for several years. This is always well attended with up to 100 people enjoying the evening.

**Around the World Food Fair** – With the aim of integrating international students into the community, we host a night where people from different countries and cultures make and bring food from home to share with others.

**Superbowl Watch Party**- Students are welcome to sit up late with us to watch the Superbowl live, with free refreshments.

**Inter-chaplaincy Carol Service** – A time for staff and students to mark Christmas. Hosted jointly by the chaplaincies in the Great Hall at Queen's.

**St Patrick's Day Ceilidh** – A social night of dancing open to all students. Many of our student residents came, but also invited friends from their classes and from other chaplaincies.

**12 hours of prayer and worship on St Patrick's Day.** Organised, led and hosted by a small group of students. This was open to all students and throughout the 12 hours hundreds of students came for worship and prayer

**Inter-chaplaincy memorial service on the death of Queen Elizabeth II.** – former chaplain, Ven Barry Forde assisted with this service.

**Church of Ireland Theological Lecture** – Theological Lecture – Professor Trevor Cooling of Canterbury Christ Church University delivered the 65th Church of Ireland Annual Theological Lecture at Queen's. The lecture was held in the Drama Theatre at Stranmillis University College and was entitled: The Church and Public Education: A Missionary Encounter? Stranmillis College was the perfect setting for this lecture, as not only did it consider the area of education, but it was an opportunity to continue celebrating the College's recent centenary and our strengthening ties in chaplaincy.

# CHURCH OF IRELAND AND METHODIST CHAPLAINCY BELFAST COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

## DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT (*continued*)

### YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

#### Achievements and Performance (*continued*)

It should be noted that, as Queen's University no longer has a Theology department or degree option, the annual Church of Ireland Theological Lecture is the only formal theological provision on campus.

**End of Year Service of celebration-** A service which takes place in the Church of the Resurrection at the end of May to mark the end of the year. Open to staff, students and family. The Church of the Resurrection was filled with over 200 people who came to join this special service. The service was followed by a BBQ for students, friends and families, and was provided by the congregation of Church of the Resurrection.

#### Chaplaincy Representation

Staff and Students represent the chaplaincy at several events and festivals. At **Summer Madness** a group of volunteer students join chaplaincy staff to set up and run 'Hub' venue. We host social events at night, late night worship each evening, and seminars each day. This offers an opportunity to share the work of chaplaincy with thousands of young people, some of whom have in previous years become residents or interns.

#### Leadership and Service Development Opportunities

**Residential Leadership** - The residential community relies upon the active leadership of senior students, developing their abilities and potential in the process. There are 4 main residential houses, each of which has a House Warden, who is a senior student. There is also a Student Committee who assist with overseeing a wide range of social activities.

**Worship Academy** –Led by James Turner, this is a year long training programme for students who are musicians to help them grow in skill and experience in leading sung worship. The programme involves teaching, mentoring and a residential weekend. Current and past students of worship academy with responsible for providing sung worship at no less than 3 Christian conferences and festivals over the summer.

**Events** – many chaplaincy events – welcome meals, street outreach, Easter Outreach, Foodbank, Charitable fundraising, Church Services, and other activities all provide a range of opportunities and contexts for students to volunteer in a wide variety of roles.

**Mission Trip to Uganda** – A team of 11 Students and 2 staff members spent 2 weeks in Uganda supporting the work of with Waakisa, a charity who support young mothers in crisis pregnancy situations, and Abaana, a charity who support and educate young people living on the streets of Kampala.

**Internships** – the chaplaincy runs an internship program that provides an opportunity for recent graduates / young adults to work in the chaplaincy for one year. This is an excellent opportunity to develop a wide range of skills and abilities, pertaining to ministry, social skills, public presentation, experiencing a workplace environment, and more. This past year, we were joined by 1 Intern.

**South Belfast Foodbank** – Our students and members of Church of the Resurrection are encouraged on an ongoing basis to contribute to and volunteer at the foodbank. Many have made a significant commitment to this.

# CHURCH OF IRELAND AND METHODIST CHAPLAINCY BELFAST COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

## DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT (*continued*)

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

### Achievements and Performance (*continued*)

**Shankill Road Partnership**- we continue to assist with ministries and outreach on the Shankill Road, working with St Stephen's, and St Michael's parishes, providing opportunities for students to assist with their drop-in centre and work with young children, including a weekly homework club.

**St Patrick's Day Outreach** – This year our Outreach worker and several students volunteered to help the PSNI & Community groups in their efforts to maintain peace in the Holyland area of Belfast.

### Inter-Chaplaincy Outreach

**Regular meetings with other chaplains and chaplaincies** at Queen's, Stranmillis and Ulster University. Ulster University works on a model of ecumenical chaplaincy, in which the chaplains comprise one team who share in every ministry. This includes the free chaplaincy lunch and other outreach activities.

At Queen's and Stranmillis, the chaplains and chaplaincies, while separate teams, often get to work together on events, worship and outreach activities. This is borne out of good friendships and working relationships. These activities include:

- **Inter chaplaincy memorial service** on the death of Queen Elizabeth II.
- **Ecumenical Carol Service** co-organised and co-hosted on an annual basis.
- **Agreement25 Prayer Breakfast** hosted in Queen's Students Union in conjunction with the Presbyterian and Catholic chaplaincies.
- **'Toasties and Tunes'** (see outreach activities) This is in conjunction with the Presbyterian chaplaincy and Queen's Christian Union.
- **Queen's University Staff Prayer**, hosted in the Presbyterian Chaplaincy once a month but with regular teaching input by the Church of Ireland and Methodist Chaplaincy staff

### University Interaction

'Toasties and Tunes' – as well as student engagement, we aim to support and engage with the work of the Residential team at Elms, with whom we have come to build good relationships.

The chaplain has attended Student Support Forum Meetings, 2 Public Lectures, has Regular contact with the Student Guidance Centre, the Public Engagement Team, the Student Support Forum, and Eventus.

She has also been involved in and attended Summer and Winter Graduations

An often unseen area of the chaplain's work is the Pastoral Care of staff with Several university staff requesting one-to-one pastoral meetings with the chaplain.

# CHURCH OF IRELAND AND METHODIST CHAPLAINCY BELFAST COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

## DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT (*continued*)

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

### Achievements and Performance (*continued*)

#### Ulster University

This year Ulster University moved into its new campus in Belfast with the building opening just a couple of days before the semester started but with chaplaincy rooms not quite ready and operational, it meant that the chaplaincy team were working in different spaces at the beginning of the new year.

Activities still continued but were spread across the premises and sometimes off campus but students were still engaging with the chaplaincy team. **Staff Coffee & Prayer "Timeout"** happened in a meeting room, the **"Here for You" - Drop-in service** from the Student Wellbeing lounge and an extra tea-time slot over in the residences @ 123 York Street - mainly to support students after a tragic student death the first week of semester. Large numbers of students from both universities are attending the joint chaplaincy late night **Worship 101 in The Hub** on Thursday evenings and weekly **UUB Chaplaincy Community Lunch** is running in the Cathedral Hall on Tuesdays and drawing many international students, local students and staff.

Our Chaplaincy team are given regular slots hosting other acts of hospitality and outreach as part of the **Student Wellbeing, Community Relations, Global Engagement and Students Union** events programmes – lots of coffee, soup and hot chocolate – there's always something brewing! This included a **Joint Chaplaincy Outreach on the Mall** with hot chocolate and a Chaplaincy leaflet drop during Refreshers week, Chocolates on Valentine's Day, Pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, Easter eggs with Easter prayer just before Easter break, hot chocolate and biscuits with exam prayer cards during Revision and exam time in May.

**Chaplaincy seminar events** were planned in partnership with Corrymeela, Contemporary Christianity and CAP (Christians Against Poverty) which all were well attended and opened new horizons for students and staff who attended.

There was a Joint UU Chaplaincy – **Faith and Climate event** - A screening of "The Letter" in UUB lecture theatre with panel discussion facilitated by Trócaire – Chaplains, senior lecturers, UUSU, CU, the Debating Society, and international students and staff all engaged with the discussion afterwards.

4Corners Festival – the Chaplaincy team hosted an annual event - **Faith and Peace Building conference** for 50 sixth year students – involving UU Community Engagement, UUSU and Student volunteers – Theme "Sharing our stories of HOPE via digital photography" led by the UUB Chaplains and Irish News photographer Mal McCann.

The chaplain was involved with other pastoral issues including several **Grief Share events** for staff and students who had lost fellow students or colleagues. There were opportunities to help students through referrals to the Hardship Fund, local foodbanks and other Christian charities that helped those who were struggling and to connect students living off campus with local churches.

# CHURCH OF IRELAND AND METHODIST CHAPLAINCY BELFAST COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

## DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT (*continued*)

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

### Achievements and Performance (*continued*)

The chaplain also represented the NI university chaplains at the **CN3 national 3rd Level Chaplaincy Network Board** meetings including planning the CN3 2023 Online conference with AGM looking at the subject - "Chaplaincy – Changing Religion, Changing Universities & Changing Chaplaincy."

The keynote speakers were Rev Ramona Nash and Grace Davie, University of Exeter. The chaplain also led two further virtual Chaplains' Network events – attended by approximately 25-30 Irish higher education chaplains.

The chaplain also represented the board and churches with her presence along with **UU Community Relations Team** in the Holylands area throughout the month of March. She along with a team of COIMCB staff and volunteers came to prayer walk and to help keep students safe as part of the joint university/ PSNI/BCC operation on 17th March. There were two follow-up home visits to students for whom safeguarding concerns were identified during the St Patrick's Day celebrations.

She has also represented the Chaplaincy on UU's (all campus) Good Relations Council; the UU Health & Soc Sciences Post Graduate Research Ethics' Committee; in the UU Students Union independent Review process and on the Staff Disability Network, BAME + Network (Black, Asian & Minority Ethnic & Friends).

The 3 fulltime chaplains in UUB attended the European Chaplains' Conference in Finland in June (along with a group of Irish chaplains) and led workshops on 'Spiritual Journaling' and 'Residential Chaplaincy'.

### Outreach to and Engagement with University groups and societies on campuses:

- Partnership with UU International Student Advisory service to run weekly Coffee & Chat drop in sessions for new international students on campus and 2 Chaplaincy Away Days to the North Coast and Newcastle.
- Hosting hospitality events with the One World Society for Easter, Christmas, Diwali, Eid, Chinese New Year and Ramadan.
- Hosting the UUB CU weekly small groups and shared weekly Chaplaincy/ CU Prayer time for students and staff
- Partnership with UUSU and the Climate Change Society in delivering their "Sustainable Campus" campaign and free breakfasts in response to the Cost of Living crisis.
- Partnership with UU Student Wellbeing Dept in delivering the annual 'Mind Your Mood' campaign across all campuses.
- Participation and leadership of the University Outreach to students in the Holylands area of Belfast to ensure student safety and addressing the issue of anti-social behaviour during peak party times like Freshers' Weeks, Christmas and St Patrick's Day.

### Worship:

- Weekly campus prayer lunch with CU in UUB Chaplaincy Lounge
- Monthly "Time Out" Chaplaincy facilitated quiet prayer for staff in UUB
- Lenten Bible Studies in the Chaplaincy lounge

# CHURCH OF IRELAND AND METHODIST CHAPLAINCY BELFAST COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

## DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT (*continued*)

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

### Achievements and Performance (*continued*)

- Annual UU Memorial service on campus for students and staff who have passed away.
- Ash Wednesday chaplaincy reflection and distribution of ashes on UUB campus

#### Campus Events:

Exam season Drop-in. Prayer and Hospitality ministry during January and May.

Weekly Chaplaincy Community Lunches across the city in St Anne's Cathedral and St Stephen's Church.

The 'CHRISTMAS STORY' - Chaplaincy Christmas event in St Anne's cathedral crypt - the retelling of the biblical Christmas story to students and staff with special guest, local storyteller Liz Weir.

Time to Think... Chaplaincy lunchtime seminars - this year, Chaplaincy hosted these on issues such as Climate Change, Food Poverty, Human Trafficking and Reflective Journaling.

In a year of much change at Ulster University, the consistency of the chaplain, Gail Mercer, has been of so much benefit to the staff, students and chaplaincy team.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

### Property and Fixed Assets

The most notable thing about the Balance Sheet is perhaps what does *not* appear on it; namely, the capital value of the properties that combine to form the resident student centre at Nr 16-26 Elmwood Avenue, Belfast.

The six properties are held by the members of the charity – Nr 16, 18, 20 and 22 Elmwood Avenue by the Representative Church Body for and on behalf of the Church of Ireland; and Nr 24-26 Elmwood Avenue by the Methodist Church in Ireland.

The title for these two groups of properties remains with the respective denominational bodies, and therefore they remain as assets on their respective Balance Sheets. As such, the members have (for over half a century) allocated their use for the student centre, and this remains the provision within the terms of both the charity's Articles of Association, and under the Local Covenant Partnership agreement between the church bodies, which sets the terms under canon law by which activities have continued.

### Reserves policy

It is the policy of the charity to maintain free reserves which matches the needs of the trust, both at the current time and the foreseeable future. This provides sufficient funds to cover running costs which include management, administration and support costs. Free reserves are those unrestricted reserves not designed nor invested in fixed assets which are available for general use.

# CHURCH OF IRELAND AND METHODIST CHAPLAINCY BELFAST COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

## DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT (*continued*)

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

### Financial Review (*continued*)

#### Funding

In a regular twelve-month period, the principal funding is received from several sources.

1. **Representative Church Body:** The Church of Ireland's governing body make several grants, both restricted and unrestricted. The Belfast Chaplaincy Project grant is restricted funding towards salary costs, which began with the expansion (in 2017) of the chaplaincy's remit to encompass the campuses at Ulster University, Stranmillis College, and Belfast Metropolitan College in addition to the existing remit at Queen's University. Smaller grants are made to unrestricted funds to support core running costs.
2. **Methodist Home Mission:** Through the Home Mission department, the Methodist Church make an annual unrestricted grant.
3. **Residential Fees:** The charity's primary means of generating unrestricted income is through the fees received from students allocated a place in the student residential centre on Elmwood Avenue. A certain amount of individual income may also be received during the summer months from students and groups requiring residential accommodation.
4. **Donations from individuals:** Subscriptions are received from donors, both members of the chaplaincy community and individuals with a past connection (e.g. past residents). Free Will Offering is also received on a weekly basis from the congregation at the Church of the Resurrection.
5. **Church of Ireland dioceses and parishes:** Several gifts are received annually from local churches and dioceses across Northern Ireland.
6. **The Hub Café:** The turnover from the café is received as income generated.

There are several other small sources of income, as recorded in the notes to the financial statements, such as income from investments held in trust by the Church of Ireland because of historical bequests made to the chaplaincy's ministry.

#### Investment Income

Dividends are received on a half-yearly basis from the Representative Church Body, in relation to two bequests held in unit trusts:

- Miss Annie Boyd (Ballycastle) Memorial Endowment
- Mrs S Graham Bequest

A third trust, the Professor JC Beckett Bequest, is also held but does not pay dividends; rather, capital grants have been made against its value from time to time over the past quarter century.

#### Expenditure

The largest area of monthly expenditure is Staff costs and employee benefits.

Other areas of expenditure are outlined on the Detailed Statement of Financial Activities.

# **CHURCH OF IRELAND AND METHODIST CHAPLAINCY BELFAST COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE**

## **DIRECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT (*continued*)**

**YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**

### **Financial Review (*continued*)**

#### **PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS**

The financial year 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023 represents the first full year of activity under the auspices of the new charitable company. It also marks the departure of the long-serving chaplain, Ven. Barry Forde, the appointment of a new chaplain, Rev Danielle McCullagh and the last year of the current three-year funding cycle for the Belfast Chaplaincy Project. Accordingly, the following strategic goals have been prioritised:

1. Conducting a strategic review of the charity's activities, with particular focus on staffing requirements in order to maintain growth in ministry activity.
2. Securing a continuation of the relevant funding for future periods.

#### **Going Concern**

The Board are of the opinion that the Church of Ireland and Methodist Chaplaincy Belfast has sufficient resources at the date of approval of these financial statements to meet commitments which will arise in the year ahead.

#### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIRECTORS**

The trustees (who are also the directors of Church of Ireland and Methodist Chaplaincy Belfast for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Directors' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company 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 charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. The directors are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.



Date: 12/24

# CHURCH OF IRELAND AND METHODIST CHAPLAINCY BELFAST COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CHURCH OF IRELAND AND METHODIST CHAPLAINCY BELFAST

**YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 30 June 2023 as set out on pages 16 to 26.

### RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

The charity's trustees, who are also the directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act any my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

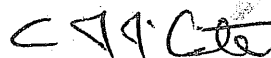
My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the 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.
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to reached.

### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of the institute of Chartered Accountants Ireland which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



C M McCarter FCA (Independent Examiner)  
Chartered Accountants Ireland

17 Mandeville Street  
Portadown  
County Armagh  
BT62 3PB

For and on behalf of  
GMcG Portadown  
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor

Date: 1 March 2024